



Comhairle Contae **Lú**
Louth County Council

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

**Dated 7 March 2022
7 Márta 2022**

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Finance and Water Services Airgeadas agus Seirbhísí Uisce

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

Other responsibilities include Motor Tax and Water Services.

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

Ina chuid den freagrachtaí eile ná Mótarcháin agus Seirbhísí Uisce.

Bernie Woods
Director / Stiúrthóir



FINANCE

Expenditure to 28th February 2022

Section	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE TO 28/02/22	BUDGET EXPENDITURE 2022	% SPENT TO 28/2/22
Housing	5,408,445	47,728,898	11%
Road Transportation & Safety	3,336,223	26,126,012	13%
Water Services	1,455,224	8,379,633	17%
Development Management	1,963,032	17,331,075	11%
Environmental Services	2,653,881	19,413,023	14%
Recreation and Amenity	1,400,029	9,615,255	15%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	144,265	1,203,454	12%
Miscellaneous	958,139	10,474,400	9%
	17,319,238	140,271,750	12%

Income to 28th February 2022

Section	ACTUAL INCOME TO 28/2/22	BUDGET INCOME 2022	% INVOICED TO 28/2/22
Housing	5,211,119	48,920,854	11%
Road Transportation & Safety	289,019	16,718,183	2%
Water Services	636,934	8,110,634	8%
Development Management	861,980	10,250,958	8%
Environmental Services	306,810	2,253,742	14%
Recreation and Amenity	93,771	1,043,293	9%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	57,092	479,424	12%
Miscellaneous	202,968	7,097,817	3%
Rates	34,988,114	35,030,647	100%
General Purpose Grant (LPT)	1,644,366	9,866,198	17%
Provision for Debit Balance	0	500,000	0%
	44,292,173	140,271,750	32%

The above is the current position as at the 28th February 2022. The allocation of the Central Management Charge is estimated in the above figures as the allocation is not completed till mid-month. The full rates demand for 2022 is included in the above figure.

Collection rates as at 28th February 2022 are as follows:

Debtors as at 28th February 2022

	Opening Balance	Invoices	Receipts	Write Offs	Closing Balance
Government Debtors	9,418,552	4,144,985	(10,161,026)	0	3,402,511
Other Local Authorities	53,434	132,888	(36,853)	0	149,469
Rates	11,034,410	34,988,114	(5,318,182)	(3,134)	40,701,208
Rents	2,517,124	2,032,327	(2,074,788)	0	2,474,663
Loans	241,004	160,974	(291,558)	0	110,420
Development Levies	11,027,277	89,235	(296,191)	(34,306)	10,786,014
Fire Charges	729,055	94,086	(63,653)	0	759,488
Miscellaneous	1,113,000	2,193,519	(764,937)	64	2,541,646
TOTAL DEBTORS	36,133,856	43,836,128	(19,007,188)	(37,376)	60,925,419

Above is the debtor balances as at the 28th February 2022. The Miscellaneous debtor figure includes the Irish Water SLA recoupments, Corporate, Community & Enterprise, LEO, Planning, Enforcement, Environment, Sports, Vets, Arts, Roads, Library, Museum and Finance miscellaneous billings.

2021 Annual Financial Statement

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

Water Services

Note - it is expected that progress of capital schemes and delivery of some services will experience further delays as result of restrictions due to Covid-19.

WATER QUALITY

Intensive monitoring of water supplies in the County is carried out continually by the EPA on behalf of Louth County Council.

WATER CONSERVATION

Water conservation is ongoing throughout the County.

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

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

CAPITAL PROGRAMMES

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

- Gate 1 - Concept Design
- Gate 2 - Detailed design, preparation of contract documents, planning approval and procurement
- Gate 3 - Construction stage
- Gate 4 - Snagging and project sign off

Tallanstown Rationalisation

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

Cavanhill WTW Upgrade

LCC and IW are currently negotiating the phased transition from the DBO contract to Operations control. LCC are currently recruiting additional staff to be trained by the DBO Contractor/IW in order to manage and operate Cavan Hill WTP once the

facility is taken back in charge by the LA under the Service Level Agreement.

Staleen WTW Upgrade

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

Omeeath WWTW

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

Shared Waters Enhancement and Loughs Legacy (SWELL)

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

Regional Sewer Network Rehabilitation.

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

Dundalk Drainage Area Plan (DAP)

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

Dundalk East Strategy – In advance of completion of Dundalk DAP

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

Coe's Road Pumping Station

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

Dundalk LNRP

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

Drogheda LNRP

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

North Drogheda Wastewater Network Strategy

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

Quay St/St. Helena Rising Main, Dundalk

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

Greenmount WTW Upgrade

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

Drogheda WWTP

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

Drogheda Drainage Area Plan (DAP)

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

WATER NETWORKS

Water Networks Programme

Rehabilitation Programme

Work on the four rehabilitation schemes below continued in February.

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

Lead replacement / Back Yard Services

Irish Water's Contractors continued to carry out back yard service replacement in Pearse Park (Lourdes) - Drogheda in February.

First Fix

1 first fix type repairs were undertaken by Irish Water contractors in February.

Find & Fix

Louth County Council crews continued their Find and Fix program in Mell area of Drogheda in February.

Water Scouring Programme 2022

Localised flushing only undertaken in February.

Network Maintenance

50 essential water tasks were carried out in February including 17 under the Find and Fix program (11 in Dundalk, 2 in Carlingford, 1 in Clogherhead, 1 Collon and 2 in Dunbin).

Planning & Water Connections

The Networks Section processed 10 new connections, 12 Pre Connection Enquiries and 35 Planning Applications in February.

Service Maps

The Networks Section prepared 6 Service Maps in February.

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

This Directorate has three key areas of responsibility:

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

Infrastructure, including our roads, bridges, and ports

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

Tá trí eochairfhreagracht ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

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

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

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

Frank Pentony
Director / Stiúrthóir



Planning, Infrastructure & Economic Development

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

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

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

Economic Development

Louth Economic Forum

The next meeting of the Louth Economic Forum will take place at the end of March. It is expected to focus on inputting to the preparation of the 2022 - 2029 LECP. For 2022 each meeting will focus on a presentation on the plans from each Stakeholder group i.e. Regional Skills Forum, Regional Enterprise Plan, etc.

Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme 2022

A budget has been allocated for the scheme. Applications can be made as and from Monday 7th March, with a scheme closing date of Friday, 30th September, 2022.

This year the scheme will be extended to areas not covered by the existing scheme via an expression of interest form which will also be available from Monday 7th March with a return date of Friday 1st April, 2022.

Full details will be available on the Louth County Council website.

Tourism

'sea louth'



Sea Louth plan to run a marketing initiative and competition in the Irish Times 'Something for the Weekend' which is circulated to 170k highly engaged subscribers. The competition is

scheduled for 18th March, next. Further promotion is planned for the coming months.

Fáilte Ireland Funding:

Urban Animation

Work on the project which involves:

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

Tenders are due to be advertised in the coming months.

Destination Towns Capital Investment Programme

Tender evaluation has taken place based on the tenders received for the Manufacture & Installation of the signage and a letter of intent is due to be issued shortly to the successful tenderer.

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

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

Boyne Valley Flavours

A successful AGM of the Boyne Valley Flavours took place on Monday the 28th February at the Monasterboice Inn. Funding from Louth and Meath County Councils has been secured for 2022. There was a presentation made on the feasibility study carried out for the BV Culinary project.

A review of the Food & Drink Strategy for the Boyne Valley region is currently being planned.

Boyne Valley Flavours are taking their members on a FAM trip to Airfield Estate at the end of March

LEO Louth

COVID-19 Business Supports



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

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

'Look for Local' / 'Shop Local'

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

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

Brexit Supports

Brexit Advisory Clinic:

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

Microfinance Ireland Loan:

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

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

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

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



By February, most of the business support programmes launched in 2021 concluded:

The 5 programmes were:

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

Green for Micro



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

Projects may vary from assessing energy, water and waste costs, guidance with environmental management system, to the greening of the product or business to adapt to the changing market place. This programme is being continued throughout 2022.

1 no. Louth business was approved in February with another 1 No. business approved for a 'Phase

II Grant' under the programme. The Grant Covers 50% of eligible costs (net of vat) to a max of €2,500.

LEO Louth continues to welcome new applications.

LEO Louth Client Portfolio Review / Export Adviser Programme

Under this Programme, LEO has procured 3No. Consultants who will engage with LEO's portfolio clients during 2022.

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

Business Training



February was a busy month for training. During the month, 2 no. Start Your Own Business programmes commenced with 32 registered participants. In addition several training workshops were run including, 'Bookkeeping for Small Business', 'Accessing Finance', 'Trading Online Workshop', 'Regional Food Starter', 'Social Media for Small business' and 'Wordpress Design for Beginners'. Combined, these other programmes had 84 registered participants.

March is another busy month with Enterprise Week taking place from 7th to 11th, and the Local Enterprise Office has finalised a great selection of free local, regional and national online events for all types of businesses.

This year's hot topics include business efficiency, sustainability, export and internationalisation, online business and digitalisation, innovation in Retail and much more.

The full programme of events and brochure can be accessed at the link here:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Enterprise-Development/Local-Enterprise-Week/>.

All training courses are available to view and book online:

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

Trading Online Voucher scheme



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

Trading Online training workshops to assist applicants apply continue to be delivered on a regional basis with Cavan and Monaghan LEOs.

There were 5 applications in February.

Business Advice Clinics

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

LEO Louth Mentor Programme



The Mentor Programme is designed to match up the knowledge, skills, insights and entrepreneurial capability of experienced business practitioners

with small business owner / managers who need practical and strategic one-to-one advice and guidance.

22 businesses were appointed Mentors during the month of February.

COVID-19 Microfinance Ireland Business Loan



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

During the month of February, 1 No. loan was approved, an additional 3 No. applications for support received, and 2 No. applications were submitted to MFI.

LEO mentors are continuing to assist applicants.

Micro-Finance Ireland – New Electric Vehicle Taxi Loan



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

Loans of between €5,000 and €25,000 are available, with a 1% reduced APR if the application is made through the Local Enterprise Office. The loans will be up to 5 years.

LEO Louth is accepting applications.

Innovate Accelerate Europe



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

It is a 14 week programme with the primary features:

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

The participants have had access to specialist mentor advice as well as the opportunity to have a short video promoting their company professionally produced.

The final element of the Innovate Accelerate package of supports will be a VIRTUAL BUSINESS TO BUSINESS MEET on 10th March 2022.

At the 'Meet' the participants will have the opportunity to meet two businesses working in their sector from France, Spain, Germany or Italy.

Student Enterprise Programme



The Student Enterprise Programme for the 2021 - 2022 academic year continued during February. Plans are being made for the County Final which

will be held on March 11th during Local Enterprise Week.

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

LEAN for Micro Programme



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

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

LEO received 1 No. application in February.

Co-Innovate Programme



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

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

Craft Sector

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

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

Showcase 2022

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

Showcase 2022 was opened officially by Tánaiste Leo Varadkar, and all 5 No. LEO Louth clients are busy talking to potential customers.



Representing Louth are local makers Caóilfionn Murphy O'Hanlon of Cushla Of Gullion - Irish landscape textile art, Maria Morgan of Esker Fields, Niamh Gillespie of Tidings, Designer Sophie Hunter and Lisa Heaney of AromaBuff. They are proudly supported by Sarah Mallon and Riona McCoy of Local Enterprise Office Louth.

Check out the full news story at: <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/News/Showcase-2022.html>.

Fantastic news for Louth as Niamh Gillespie from 'Tidings', exhibiting for the first time at Showcase, won the Best Product Award for the Local Enterprise Office area.



Niamh Gillespie from Tidings, exhibiting for the first time at Showcase, won the Best Product Award for the Local Enterprise Office area

Louth also had 2 No. other winners at Showcase 2022 from the Design and Craft Council Area of Showcase with Garrett Mallon Jewellery and Martina Scott Designs winning Highly Commended Awards in their respective categories.



Garreth Mallon from Garrett Mallon Jewellery exhibiting at Showcase 2022, got highly commended in the Best Product Awards



Martina Scott from Martina Scott Design exhibiting at Showcase 2022 got highly commended in the Best Product Awards

Online and press coverage was secured for the Showcase story and Sarah Mallon was interviewed with several of the makers on LMFM and Dundalk FM.

North East Regional Enterprise Plan to 2024

On February 24th, 2022, Minister of State for Business, Employment and Retail, Damien English TD and Minister for Social Protection and Rural & Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, officially launched the North- East Regional Enterprise Plan to 2024 in Cavan Digital Hub. Attendees at the launch included Oireachtas members and representatives from the

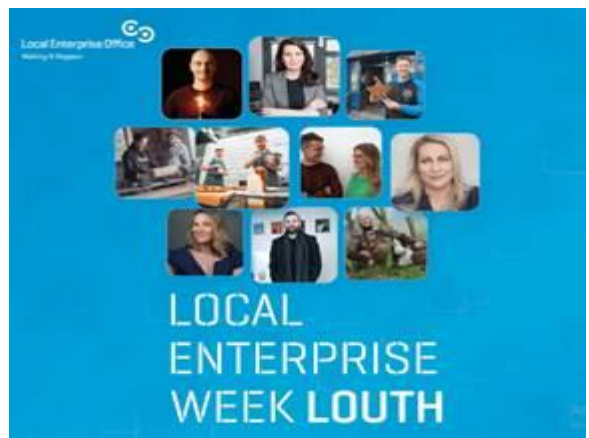
Development Agencies and Local Authorities from across the North-East Region. Both Ministers acknowledged the various stakeholder engagement and collaboration that had taken place over the past twelve months which has culminated in the finalisation and launch of the Plan.

The Working Groups which have been set up to deliver on the Plan will continue to meet throughout March and April. The final working group to be set up relates to the development of the Agri Sector in the region and work has commenced on the establishment of this group. The announcement at the launch that some €180 million will become available over the lifetime of the Plan to support the implementation of the nine Regional Enterprise Plans across the country was welcomed and will help to underpin and support the development and implementation of projects across Cavan, Monaghan and Louth.



The Chief Executive, Director of Service and LEO Louth attended the launch of the North-East Regional Enterprise Plan in Cavan Digital Hub which included members of the Regional Plan's Steering Committee, Minister of State for Business, Employment and Retail, Damien English TD and Minister for Social Protection and Rural & Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD

Local Enterprise Week Louth 2022



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

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Enterprise-Development/Local-Enterprise-Week/LEW-final-brochure.pdf>

Extensive press, radio and online promotion are ongoing for Local Enterprise Week including the following radio interviews:

Thomas McEvoy and Sarah Mallon - LMFM
Sarah Mallon - Dundalk FM

Lunch 'N' Learn

Niamh Dennehy presented on LEO Louth's supports at a Lunch 'N' Learn session with staff and businesses based in Creative Spark, Dundalk, on Thursday, 24th February 2022.

National Enterprise Awards 2022



LEO Louth will be announcing the County winners of the National Enterprise Awards during Local Enterprise Week. Awards will be presented to the Best Start Up Business, Best Established Business, and an Innovation and Sustainability award. One of the winners from these categories will go forward to represent the County at the National Final in June 2022.

Cross Border Conference

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

The Conference will be opened by the Cathaoirleach Pío Smith and will include an address by Minister for Public Expenditure & Reform, Michael McGrath TD.

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

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

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

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

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

European Relations

Peace IV Programme



Project Updates – Shared Spaces and Services

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

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

Opening Event

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



Leadership and Management training - Community Capacity Building Project

The programme participants (100) will include ex-prisoners and their families, displaced people, victims / survivors and those impacted by the conflict. The programme has commenced with workshops and events. The programme will be complete by end of March, 2022.

Ongoing projects

The programme delivery of 'Louth Leading the Way' (Theme: Building Positive Relations) continues with participants from a variety of groups both sides of the border engaging in leadership skills and exchange of experiences. The leadership training element of the programme has also been rolled out to the Councils Senior Management. This programme will be completed by the end of March, 2022.

PEACE PLUS (2021 – 2027)

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

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

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

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

Infrastructure

Roads Projects

Narrow Water Bridge

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

A North South Ministerial Infrastructure Sub Group Meeting was held on 9th February, with a further one to be held in March.

Engagement with DFI Infrastructure, Loughs Agency, etc are ongoing in order to discharge the Conditions of Planning. Works on updating the design are ongoing.

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

The Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) for the scheme was published on www.louthcoco.ie on 14th December 2021, and 13 objections to the CPO were received by An Bord Pleanála by 4.00pm on 8th February 2022.

The design team are engaging with the landowners throughout the process.

N2 Ardee to Castleblayney Road Scheme

Ground Investigation Works have been completed for the scheme, and the outcome of the on-site investigations are being compiled into a detailed report. Initial designs for the route are expected to be available in Q3 2022.

Meaningful discussions with affected landowners to take place from this point with the format for these discussions to be considered over the coming months. The N2 Project Phonenumber is 087 340 3786 or email:

ArdeeCastleblayney@N2MonaghanLouth.ie and website www.N2MonaghanLouth.ie.

N52 Ardee Bypass

Submission/objections to the Part 8 were received by 4.00pm on Friday, 4th February 2022. These submissions are currently being reviewed. The Chief Executive's Report will be presented to the Ardee Municipal District at the April meeting.

However, a local environmental group have issued High Court Proceedings against An Bord Pleanála's directions to Louth County Council. Louth County Council is currently seeking legal advice on the Judicial Review.

TII HD17 Schemes:

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

Funshog: A Feasibility & Options Report for the upgrade of the N2/LS5267-0 junction commenced

in 2021. The DRAFT report is currently on hold until the TII review the results of the RSI's that were carried out recently on the N2 as outlined above.

Safety Barriers - N53 and N52

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

N33 West Pavement Scheme

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

N2 Collon Pavement Scheme

Lining and studs additional works are being planned to address collisions identified by TII. A design report has issued to TII for approval concerning these works.

N2 Short Term Safety Measures

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

Port Access Northern Cross Route

Hedge removal works are completed within the CPO land. These works were carried out within the permitted season, so that if any ongoing discussion is needed with a developer in case funding does become available before the hedge cutting season resumes.

Footpath and cycle path works to facilitate development on the Ballymakenny Road which is part of the PANCR scheme are ongoing. The purchase of land to facilitate the footpath and cycle path has commenced in line with the CPO procedure. Public lighting columns have been erected. Watermain, foul sewer and telecoms

ducting are substantially complete. Kerbing work and footpath work is substantially complete. Cycle lane surfacing is due to commence shortly.

Boyne Enterprise Link Road

The project documents are being updated to reflect the inflation clause in the CWMF documents issued by government prior to advertising for Tender. Ongoing consultations are taking place with stakeholders/ landowners.

R178 Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Route Improvement Scheme

The project has been re-activated with Cavan County Council being the lead authority. Currently the consultants are reviewing the route using a RibGeom method of assessment. This type of assessment will identify sections of the route corridor where the greatest collision risk exists and these will form a basis of a phased improvement strategy for the route corridor.

Currently the consultants are in the process of completing this process and it is envisaged that a Risk Based Safety Improvement Measures Report, subject to approval by DoT, will be completed shortly which will give informed recommendations of the sections of the route corridor that improvements are warranted.

As part of DoT grants, €100k has been awarded under Strategic Regional Local Roads to commence preliminary design work on the Identified Risk sections of the R178, subject to DoT approval of the said report and production of a SARs report.

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

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

CPO submissions have been received and Louth County Council are engaging with affected parties to resolve outstanding issues from submissions. Letter received from ABP pushing back the determination date until 22nd April.

SEUPB have granted a 12 month extension to the project programme and have engaged a third party to independently assess the request for additional funding by the three Greenway projects with a decision expected in early 2022.

Updated submission to N.I. planning department in regards to DFI comments. It is anticipated that Planning Permission in N.I. will be decided upon in Quarter 2 of 2022 once DFI approval has been given.

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

Greenway - Carlingford to Templetown

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

Wintering Bird Survey is ongoing. Scope of Topographical Survey to be confirmed in early February and tender for survey services to be issued thereafter.

TII Funded Greenway: Templetown to Dundalk

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

LIHAF Projects

LIHAF Access Road at Newtown, Drogheda

Engagement ongoing with Department and Developer. Contract documents are substantially complete and ready for tender, subject to the Department's approval.

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

LIHAF Mount Avenue Improvement

Finalisation of tender docs is currently ongoing. Tender documents, for the engagement of a

consultant for the supervision of the works, have been revived and are being assessed.

Meetings have taken place with ESB regarding diversion of overhead network. ESB are currently developing plans and costings for the diversions.

Notice to Treat of the CPO was served on 14th February.

Safety Improvement Works

Retrofit Fencing

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

Ardee Pedestrian Crossing

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

Specific Bridge Improvement Grants

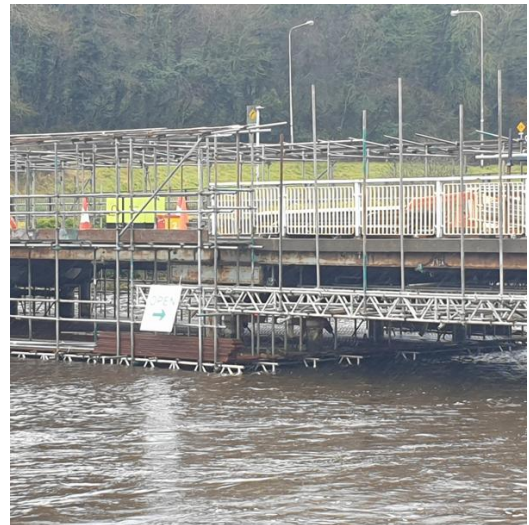
Obelisk Bridge

Tender documents are complete. DTTAS have requested Louth County Council complete a peer review on the tender documents prior to issuing to the Market. This process is now complete and revisions to the Tender Documents are underway by the consultant. Approval from DTTAS to release to the Market will be sought thereafter. Funding of €800k was allocated by DTTAS to progress the scheme.

St. Dominick's Bridge, Drogheda

The Bridge closure has been in place from 1st November 2021 for a period of 6 months and the Council regrets any inconvenience that the bridge

closure will cause. Scaffolding work is ongoing and channels for river users are in place. Encapsulation system is being put in place at present to meet necessary projection measures. Trial holes on the bridge deck have taken place to establish condition of the deck.



St. Dominick's Bridge- Bridge Encapsulation

Public Transport

NTA Bus Shelter Installation Programme 2021-2022

The NTA, through discussions with Bus Operators, their bus shelter supplier, and Louth County Council, have developed a list of 11 schemes detailed below.

The NTA, have approved an allocation of funding for 2021 of c.€13k, with a potential further €198k in 2022, for Louth County Council to bring the civil construction elements to site. Please note NTA will supply the actual shelters through their own contractor

- Drogheda - Donore Road
- Dundalk - Red Barns Road opposite Lennonstown Entrance
- Termonfeckin - Big Street at Credit Union
- Ardee - N2 at Boys School
- Kilsaran - South of Standard Brands
- Drogheda - Rowen Heights, Marley's Lane - Southbound
- Ardee - N2 at Monastery Church
- Clogherhead - John Kirk Park/Chapel Road at Shop
- Clogherhead - Callystown Road

- Drogheda – at Newtown Abbey, Newfoundwell Road (R166)
- Dundalk - Rathmount Estate, Seafield Rd, Blackrock

Town & Village Renewal

Blackrock Footpaths

Additional speed humps have been provided adjacent to pedestrian crossing areas. EIR utilities are due to complete removal of infrastructure.

Airtricity have now completed public lighting with ESB due to connect.

Design works for the 2021 allocation are ongoing.

Dromiskin Footpaths

Design works have been completed and Tender issued for construction of works with a tender return date of 2nd September. Tenders have been received and assessed. The contractor was appointed in October. Works are expected to commence once landowner agreement is put in place.

Infrastructure has been working closely with the Elected Representative/ Community Group to secure the lands required to allow construction the footpath proceed

Stabannon Footpaths

The Contractor commenced works in early November on site and all civil works are completed on site. Public lighting works have been advanced and ESB are to energise the lights along the new footpath in the coming weeks.

Corporate Projects

Ardee Castle RRDF

The public display for the Part 8 application is ongoing until 24th February and plans & particulars of the proposed development may be inspected or purchased, at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, from Thursday, 27th January 2022 until Thursday, 24th February 2022 (inclusive) with submissions before 5.00pm on Thursday, 10th March 2022. Plans and particulars are also available to view online at www.louthcoco.ie .

Redevelopment of Fair Street Offices, Drogheda

Tenders were received on 6th December and have been assessed in terms of quality and monies. The Tender Report is complete and a recommendation has been finalised. Letter of Intent and Letters of Regret were issued to the Tenderers in February. The process of appointing the successful Tenderer is being progressed at present.

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund

Living in Carlingford - Visiting Carlingford

The development of the proposed options is ongoing and will reflect the feedback gained from the first phase of the non-statutory public consultation which will inform these design options.

Omeath Public Realm

Procurement of design team is progressing.

Ardee 2040

The detailed design and the preparation of the EIAR and AA Screening for Development consent application to ABP are progressing.

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Projects

West Gate Vision (Drogheda)

Westgate Vision Project is progressing with agreed planning strategy for EIAR and AA Stage 2 reports for Development consent application to ABP based on the emerging option design.

Long Walk (Dundalk)

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

St. Nicholas Quarter & Backlands Regeneration

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

Dunleer Town Masterplan

The Council awaits official confirmation of the funding and details of any guidelines from the Department of Rural & Community Development.

Active Travel Investment Program

2022 NTA Allocation

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

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

The current statuses of the ongoing projects are as follows:

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

Drogheda 2021 Active Travel Projects

Tender for Consultants for design and planning the schemes (listed below) was received in December. The tender assessment is complete and the tender will be awarded in April to the MEAT (most economically advantageous tender).

- Termonfeckin Rd, Collon Rd, Hill of Rath to Rosehall roundabouts, Rathmullan Rd, Dublin Rd and North Rd
- Drogheda: Boyne Business Park Link Road: reported as above
- Dundalk: R132 Inner Relief Rd: Consultants, Barry Transportation Ltd. are progressing with the development of concept designs and options for the scheme.
- Dublin Road, Dundalk Consultants (OCSC) are progressing with the development of the design. Road Safety Audit and screening for Environmental Assessments are ongoing. This scheme will progress via Part 8.

- Ard Easmuinn Rd to Train Station / Friary School Dundalk & Bus Station to Rail Station. Contract for the planning and design of the scheme has been awarded to Consulting Engineers WSP Ltd. Initial meeting in January with concept development and options assessment to progress over the coming months.
- Transport / Mobility Plans

Drogheda & East Meath Transport Plan

Work on the transport plan is ongoing with the NTA and Meath County Council. Traffic counts to be undertaken at key locations in mid February. Stakeholder engagement and Public consultation (Online survey) is now live and will close on 3rd March 2022.

- R166 Termonfeckin footpath tenders received and procedures to award of contract to MEAT has commenced.
- Footpath Extensions / Links Package B: See Operations Report on Annagassan. Cheerybrook & Knockbridge, tender awarded to the MEAT (most economically advantageous tender) and works are due to commence within the next month.

Active Travel Projects 2022

Funding has been approved by NTA for the following projects:

Allocations to Commence works on designs

- R132 Dublin Road, Dundalk (from the Rank Xerox junction to Greengates) - New Cyclepaths (2.4km)
- R178 Carrickmacross Road Dundalk- New cyclepaths
- New Pedestrian Crossings (two) on R132 Inner relief Rd, at Táin Bridge, Dundalk
- Hoeyes Lane (from junction with Dublin St to Junction Naughtons Close) New Cyclepaths
- Mill Street, Dundalk (from Inner Relief rd junction to Castle Rd junction (New Cyclepath – 440m and upgrade of junctions).
- Hill Street Bridge to Train Station Dundalk- New Cyclepaths
- College Heights to Tom Bellew Ave, Dundalk -New Pedestrian / Cyclepath Link

Allocations for Works Contracts

- Remedial works at Junctions Dundalk for improved accessibility (various locations), refer to Operations for progress.
- Moneymore, Drogheda – New Permeability footpaths to link to schools to residential areas

Flooding General

Louth Flood Relief Projects

Dundalk and Ardee Flood Relief Projects

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

Further necessary environmental, ecological, noise and landscape assessments will continue through Spring 2022.

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

Drogheda & Baltray Flood Relief Project

RPS have commenced works on Stage 1 of the Project, i.e. Options assessment & Scheme Development. Following a Project Surveys Workshop, the Topographical tender process is now complete, a Contractor has been appointed and will commence Survey Works on 28th February. RPS are now progressing preparation of the CCTV Surveys required to assist preparation of the hydraulic models for the Project. Preparation of Tender Documents is also continuing for the necessary environmental & ecological Surveys on the Project.

The first Project Briefing Session for the Drogheda and Baltray Members will be held in April followed shortly by the first Project Consultation Day, details of which will be circulated in local and social media in advance of the event.

Carlingford & Greenore Flood Relief Project

OPW have commenced a data review of the Carlingford & Greenore Flood Defence Project to reappraise the Options identified in the Flood Risk Management Plan. The data review will include additional rainfall data collection and modelling. A temporary rain gauge at Carlingford Fire Station for rainfall data collection is now operational, providing additional data to inform project design and development.

OPW have now completed installation of a second rain gauge at the rear of Carlingford Library and it is now operational also. Investigations are underway to identify a suitable site for a river level gauge in Carlingford.

Balmers Bog Surface Water Pipe

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



Backfilling of Pipeline



Inlet Screen

Marine Projects

Coastal Protection Works

Applications for the 2021 OPW Minor Works Funding have now been submitted for Coastal Protection Projects in 3 separate locations, Omeath, Bellurgan & Ballagan, and the Council is awaiting approval of the funding from the OPW.

Schools Programme Projects

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

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

Ardee E.T.N.S.

Tenders have been received for the construction of the school and are currently being assessed;

tender recommendation will issue to the Department of Education within the coming weeks. *Part 8 for the proposed alterations to the SEN units was published on 7th December. Submissions were received on the Part 8 and the CE Report will be issued to the Ardee Municipal District members for the March Meeting.*

Coláiste Chú Chulainn & Park at Marshes Lower, Dundalk

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

Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP)

A Section 85 Agreement between Kilkenny County Council and Louth County Council has been agreed.

Tender for the proposed works have now been received and are being assessed by Kilkenny County Council as lead for the region.

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

Planning

Development Management / Bainistíocht Forbartha

The Planning service indicators for Louth County Council for the month of January, 2022 are given below in tabular form. There were 67 planning applications received during the month of January of which 58 were valid. In addition there were 26 responses received during the month to requests for further information and 16 Pre-Planning Applications received.

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

(A) Description / Cur Síos	(B) Housing Developments / Forbairtí Tithíochta	(C) Individual Houses / Tithe Aonair	(D) Other applications -not requiring EIA / Iarratais Eile – ní gá MTT	(E) Other applications-requiring EIA / Iarratais Eile - MTT de dhíth	(F) Total for all categories of development in County Area / Iomlán na bhforbairtí sa chontae
(i) Number of applications determined / Líon na n-iarratas a cinneadh	6	30	32	0	68
(ii) No. of decisions determined which required further information / Líon na gcinntí inar iarradh breis eolais	5	17	8	0	30
(iii) Percentage of applications refused / Céatadán na n-iarratas a diúltaíodh	0% (0)	36.67% (11)	6.25% (2)	0% (0)	19.12% (13)
(iv) Number of appeals determined / Líon na n-achomharc a cinneadh	0	3	2	0	5
(v) Percentage of decisions overturned on appeal / Céatadán na gcinntí a cuireadh ar ceal ar achomharc	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)

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

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

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development / Forfheidmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh		Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development / Forfheidmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh	
	January 2022 / Eanáir 2022	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo	January 2021 / Eanáir 2021	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	19	19	15	15
Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which didn't require follow up / Líon na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise	0	0	0	0
Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation / Líon na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht	31	31	12	12
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	18	18	14	14
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	1	1	0	0
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	1	1	0	0
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	0	0	0
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0	0	0

Planning Enforcement – Short Term Lettings Enforcement

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

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to Short Term Lettings	
	February 2022 / Feabhra 2022	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	0	4
Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which didn't require follow up / Líon na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise	1	1
Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation / Líon na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht	5	8
Number of cases currently under investigation / Líon na gcásanna atá á n-imscúdú faoi láthair	41	48
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	1	7
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	1	1
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	0	0
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	0
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0

Forward Planning

Conservation Grants Schemes 2022

The closing date for applications under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme and Historic Structures Fund 2022 expired on 28th January, 2022.

A total of 30 applications were received under both schemes. Applications have since been assessed and forwarded to the Department for consideration.

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

Large-Scale Housing Development (LRD)

The Planning and Development (Amendment) (Large-Scale Residential Development) Act 2021 is an Act that provides for the making of large scale residential development applications to the Planning Authority. It replaces the previous Strategic Housing Developments process where applications went to An Bord Pleanála for determination. Full details available on our website at

<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/planning/large-scale-residential-development-lrd/>.

Response(s) issued to Submissions Received

Responses issued in relation to the Public Consultation phase of the proposed Variation No. 3 and Variation No. 4 of the Monaghan County Development Plan.

Operations and Waste Management

Oibríochtaí agus Bainistíocht Dramháil

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

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

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

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

Catherine Duff
Director / Stiúrthóir



Municipal District of Dundalk

Dundalk and Cooley Area

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

	<p>Cooley -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carlingford • Omeath • Gyles Quay • Templetown • Faughart • Greenore and Lordship.
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	<p>Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract works Dundalk. Town Centre is swept Nightly. Pedestrian centre footpaths including Market Square, Court House Square are swept nightly. Approach Roads are swept every 3 weeks. Estates are swept every 4 weeks • Cooley rural village sweep programming
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	<p>Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract works Dundalk • Dog waste goes into normal bins as numbered above • Cooley as per bin emptying above
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	<p>Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly by Park Operative in Dundalk • Carried out by Water Safety Officer in Cooley
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	<p>Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 no. of playgrounds (not including exercise equipment/outdoor gym or Multi use games areas) • Daily by Parks Operative, repairs in house or contractor.

	Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R173 Ballymascalon/Greenore • R174 Ravensdale <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R132 - Dublin Road • Oakland Park. • Barton Park • Rockmount Gardens • Shore Road • Bay Estate <p>Isolated minor repairs Town Centre</p>	<p>Patching/pothole repairs</p> <p>Repairs</p> <p>Isolated Essential Repairs</p>
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R-132 Old Newry Road • Greenore Village <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <p>Ongoing maintenance to Storm sewer network Town Wide</p>	<p>Drainage Installation and Upgrade Works</p> <p>Essential maintenance Jet Vac</p>
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	<p>Trees and fallen branches removed from Roads and Footpaths at numerous locations throughout the North of the County</p>	<p>Numerous Locations After recent storms</p>
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R174 – Ravensdale • R174- Jenkinstown <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boyd's Car Park 	<p>Essential maintenance</p> <p>Repairs</p>

Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráichta	<u>Dundalk</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avenue Road/Hill Street Bridge • Jocelyn Street <p>Weekly maintenance of all Traffic Lights replacement bulbs (replacement LEDs), vandalism repairs, Etc.</p>	<p>Upgrade Works</p> <p>Vehicular Collision Repairs</p> <p>Ongoing Essential Maintenance</p>
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	<u>Dundalk</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mill Street • Long Walk Car Park • Castletown Road 	<p>Additional Disabled Car Parking</p>
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<u>Cooley</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Repairs and Cleaning <u>Dundalk</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dowdallshill Graveyard • Hoey's Lane • Wolfe Tone Terrace • Avenue Road • Traffic Island Bollards 	<p>Essential Maintenance</p> <p>Opening Times</p> <p>Renewing Signage</p> <p>Within Town Boundary</p>
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<u>Cooley</u> <p>Numerous small amounts and Tyres removed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long Woman's Grave • Mast Road • Omeath • Whitestown <p>Omeath</p> <p>Car Park Clean-ups</p>	<p>Domestic Waste</p> <p>Lifting Waste from Community Clean-ups</p> <p>Templetown, Greenore and Gyles Quay</p>

	<p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castleblayney Road • Castleross • Inner Relief Road • Woodlands Park • Newry Road • Riverside Walk • Racecourse Road • Ramparts and Car Parks • Dublin Road • Avenue Road • Ardee Road • Carrick Road • Castletown road • Quay Street • Point Road 	<p>Dumped Household Waste, Mattresses, Furniture, Construction and Demolition waste</p>
<p>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newry Road • River Walk 	

Louth County Council are currently carrying out refurbishment works on 8 no. public toilets located throughout the County. Works have been completed on the Public Toilets located in Carlingford, Gyles Quay and Omeath.



Completed work in Carlingford and Gyles Quay Public Toilets



A fallen tree in St Helena's after the recent storms

Blackrock, Faughart and North Mid-Louth Area

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

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

Location / Suíomh		Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LS7120 Shanmullagh • LS7108 Annies • LS7100 Whitemills • R172 Loakers to Blackrock Village • LP3122 Maghereagh Cross to County boundary • LS7127 Kilkerley • LS7107 Falmore • LP3095 Mountpleasant • L1205 Lagan Bridge to Churchtown • L5203 N2 to the county boundary (including the former section of the N2) • R166 Tallanstown Village • L1185 Commons Road Dromiskin • L7185 Seabank • L5147 Essexford • L1182 Walterstown Cross to Milltown • L5183 Green Road 	Road repairs and patching

	<p>Dromiskin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L5182 Dromiskin • L1178 Killincoole <p>• LP3161 Marlbog Road Haggardstown</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R171 Knockbridge • L7601 The Ferns Blackrock 	Tree pruning/vegetation maintenance/verge trimming
<p>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L5195 Springhill • LS7162 Clermont Road Haggardstown • LS7184 Green Road Haggardstown and Loughantarve Knockbridge • L1205 Lagan Bridge to Churchtown • L5203 Tully • L7187 Drumeenagh • R166 Mansfieldtown to M1 overpass • L1178 Mansfieldtown to Newtowndarver • L1178 Killincoole <p>• R166 Station Road Castlebellingham</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L7187 Drumeenagh • R132 Castlebellingham • L5195 Springhill. 	<p>Drainage/Improvement works</p> <p>Drainage maintenance –cleansing and gully cleaning opening outlets.</p> <p>Jetting drainage lines</p>
<p>Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L1172 Mills of Louth • L5199 Arthurstown • L7185 Seabank • L5174 Nicholastown • L5203 Aclint 	Clearing fallen trees and debris after storms Dudley, Eunice & Franklin.
<p>Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán</p>	<p>N/A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L7601 The Ferns Blackrock 	<p>Footpath renewal (by contract)</p> <p>Footpath repairs</p>
<p>Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá</p>	Carroll's/Xerox junction	Repairs and maintenance

Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A • N/A 	<p>Renewal of junction markings</p> <p>Renewal of existing and provision of additional road markings</p>
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faughart graveyard and Faughart shrine 	New signage
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LS7162 Clermont Road Haggardstown 	Collection of dumped waste for disposal.
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	N/A	



Footpath repairs in the Ferns Blackrock



Tree maintenance on the Marlbog Road

Ardee Municipal District

South Louth Operations (Rural Area)

<p>Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day) • Clogherhead Car Park daily clean-up around bins 	<p>Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí</p>
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Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ardee Town • Dunleer town 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 32 Daily • 21 Tuesday and Thursday
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day) 	
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrhála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ardee Town River Dee • Salterstown • Port Beach 	
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil
Maintenance and cleaning of Fairgreen and Dunleer parks and playgrounds complete with daily checks of the playground and exercise equipment at both locations.	

Location / Suíomh		Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N52 Kells Road • LP-2223-0 Johnstown • LP-2223-29 Verdonstown • Sean O Carroll Street • LS-5288-0 Coolamoney • LS-5207-0 Stormanstown • Beechwood Drive Dunleer • LP-1260-3 Shanlis Cross • LP 1260 Screedage Bridge • LP 1233-7 Mullanstown 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LS 5210 Cookstown • LS 5234-0 Silver hill • LS 5232-0 Ardee Bog • LS-6219 Salterstown 	
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LP 1233-7 Mullanstown • R170 Dromin • LS-6219 Salterstown 	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean up after Storm Eunice and Franklin. • Tree on N2 Collon to Ardee • Tree on the LP2226 Drumcar • 9 kilometers of Hedge Cutting both sides of the N33 as part of TII Funding 	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán		
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráichta		
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre		
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed sign installed on the N52 Kells Road • Signage on the R165 Shanlis Junction • Bollards at Hammonstown • Signage at ramps in Ferdia Park Estate, De-la-Salle Crescent Ardee, Beechwood Drive Dunleer • Bollards and signage at Lismanus Lane • Washing of Playground at Ardee • Damaged railing at Hale Street • Sign at Johnstown 	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	Crew had to assist Sludge cubes removal from the R169 near Woodlands Depot 21-02-22	
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí		



New Speed ramp installed in Ferdia Park



New flashing Speed Warning Sign Installed on Ardee N52 Kells Road approach to Ardee



N52 Ardee to Kells road Embankment Strengthening Works at Ballygowan



A fallen tree in Collon due to the recent storms



Hedge trimming along 9km of the N33.

Borough District of Drogheda

Drogheda Town Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Steps and lane ways weekly 22 steps when resources allow and green areas.• Hotspots on Monday – decided by Supervisor following inspection.• Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Daily during working week. Also all Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Saturday p.m.• Drogheda Rural Bring banks are cleared daily during working week
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Port Oriel Pier, Clogherhead• Clogherhead Beach• Port Beach• Termonfeckin• Baltray• Seapoint Carpark	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7 Daily• 8 Daily• 6 Daily• 6 Daily• 3 Daily• 3 Daily• Drogheda town centre Litterbins emptied daily circa 60 early mornings.• Installed 6 Number solar powered Compactor Bins around town; 2 West Street, 1 Laurence’s street, 1 Mell river walk, 1 Ramparts walk Meath end, 1 at river walk at Dominic’s Park near bridge of Peace end• New bins installed at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital exit and the Twenties lane along

	<p>footpath abutting football pitch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About 250 litter bin are emptied weekly in town. • Dominic’s Park and Mell river walk emptied daily. • South Louth Drogheda Borough district rural areas, public Litter bins are emptied twice a week or daily when needed especially at beaches/Port Oriel/ Seapoint/Termonfeckin/Baltray – at least 40 bins per day. • Approach roads in Drogheda town emptied twice a week. • Bin upgrade and maintenance ongoing and street furniture.
<p>Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre</p>	<p>Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town centre daily. Approach roads fortnightly. • Public Housing Estates, swept every 2 months. Private Housing estates swept every 3 months. When resources allow. • Hotspots weekly on Monday after weekend – decided daily by supervisor after checking Drogheda urban area. • Villages are swept once per month i.e., Termonfeckin, Baltray, Sandpit, Monasterboice, Tullyallen and Tinure. • Drogheda town Boyne river walkways are swept 3 times per week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday) • Town centre weeds removal. Contractor completed weed killing list for town main roads, some Housing estates and tourist’s locations including steps.
<p>Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / FolmhúAraidí Salachar Madra</p>	<p>Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empty about 35 No. once a week,

washed and disinfected.

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

- 89 ring buoys checked each week Town area (Thursday)
- 9 ring buoys checked each week at Rosehall (Friday)

Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne **Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil**

- Between 4 and 5 daily (4 playgrounds in Drogheda town, Skate Park, Adult Exercise equipment). 3 Playgrounds in Drogheda rural area)

	Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
<p>Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LS-6283 Clogherhead • R170 Dunleer to Grangebellew • R166-48 Termonfeckin • LS-6279-0 The Dale Clogherhead • R167-40 Baltray • LS-6285-0 Galroostown • LS-77009 Old Slane Road Drybridge <p>Drainage Works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Termonfeckin road opening drain. <p>LCC's crew</p> <p>Pot holes repairs around Drogheda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knockbrack Downs, • Laurence's Park • Fountain Hill • The Dale • Old Slane Road • Barrack Lane at Waterunder 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing for expected high wind and Tides 	
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R170 Dunleer to Grangebellew • R166-48 Termonfeckin • LS-6279-0 The Dale Clogherhead • R167-40 Baltray • LS-6285-0 Galroostown • R170-152 Murrays Cross <p>Annual Drogheda Gully cleaning program ongoing</p>	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	Clean up after Storm Eunice and Franklin.	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	Ongoing	
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá		
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	<p>Ongoing throughout town</p> <p>Approach roads yellow boxes done at Bridge of Peace junctions with George's street and Rathmullen Road and the bridge itself</p>	
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Signage at Port Beech car park • Repairs to Bridge of Peace Chevron signs • Hill Of Rath Roundabout • West Street • Laurence's Gate damaged flexibollard replaced • Replacing faulty barriers around town • Ongoing throughout district 	

<p>Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach</p>	<p>January 2022 List sent to wardens</p> <p><u>Bring Banks</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bolton Square • King Street • Mell Car Park • Wheaton Hall • Old Hill • Ballsgrove • IDA Road <p><u>Dumping</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watery Hill Steps • Rathmullen Park • Ballsgrove • IDA Road and Bring Bank • Old Slane Road • Sunday's Gate • Scarlet Crescent • Bolton Street and Square at Bring Banks • Kind Street • Cement Road at Old Halting site • Bessexwell lane, • Mell Bring Banks • Greenlanes • North Strand • Kierans Corner • Dominic Street • Dublin Road <p>Cleaning of Dominic's Park, ramparts walk and Mell river walk. Town centre Steps to north and south sides of river. Litter picking at Trinity street, Mell, link road, North road Leaves removal throughout town and main approach road – ongoing as necessary.</p>	<p>This is an ongoing issue where Supervisors and Litter Wardens check on daily basis; arrange for inspecting illegal waste disposal for evidence and issuing fines and clearance of area. St. Laurence's street litter in basements abutting public footpaths are being followed up with property owners.</p> <p>Public complaints are also checked and followed up as above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 340kg - Illegal waste tonnage disposed and removed by LCC • 25 Shopping Trolleys • 5 Pallets • Concrete Blocks • Tyres
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<p>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí</p>	<p>Seeking prices to remove from public spaces</p>	<p>Updated survey of Graffiti in town completed. Removal of same on public buildings to be progressed. Graffiti on private properties to be followed up – ongoing</p>
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New sign at Port Beach Car Park



New reflective signs on Bridge of Peace



Flood Preparations for storms Dudley



Eunice and Franklin at Ship St Drogheda

North Louth Quarterly Recycling figures

Quarter 4 2021 recycling figures from V&W Recycling Centre in Dundalk are as follows:

Paper/Cardboard	139
Plastic	31
Glass	29
Textiles	5
Batteries	1
Greenery	89
Wood	280
Scrap Metal	55
WEEE	33
Total Tonnes	662

South Louth Quarterly Recycling figures

Quarter 4 2021 recycling figures from V&W Recycling Centre in Drogheda are as follows:

Paper/Cardboard	72
Plastic	82
Glass	56
Textiles	6
Batteries	3
Greenery	174
Wood	26
Scrap Metal	45
WEEE	181
Total Tonnes	645

Waste Management, Environment and Climate Action Report

Waste Management

Waste Enforcement

Cases continue to proceed through the courts. There has been a delay in getting cases heard due to the ongoing pandemic.

A total of 44 waste complaints were received in the month of February, bringing the total number of waste complaints in 2022 so far, to 61.

45 waste complaints have been resolved and 16 remain open, pending further investigations.

Waste Permits: Two (2) new applications have been received and are currently being determined during the month of February.

Litter Enforcement

A total of 25 fines were issued in the month of February. Of these fines, 12 were issued in the Dundalk urban area, 7 in Drogheda urban area and 6 in the remaining County wide area.

There was 1 fine issued for dog fouling in February.

There have been 358 investigations in the year to date with 181 carried out in the month of February.

There have been 70 fines issued in the year to date, 2 of which were for Dog Fouling.

Diesel Laundering Waste

116 IBC's have been recovered in the month of February 2022 so far the approx cost of cleanup is €144,805.70. A total of 140 IBC's of Diesel Sludge were recovered to date in 2022. This compares with 184 IBCs in the entirety of 2021.



My Waste



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

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

As Covid Restrictions are now easing, door to door surveys will commence. To progress this project we require the name of the home occupier in order to issue additional enforcement action in relation to the alleged non-compliance with the *Waste Segregation and Presentation bye-laws*.

Air / Water / Noise Pollution

There were five water pollution complaints received in January with one open and four closed. One legal case under the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1977 has been closed off with remedial works carried out on the pumping station.

Three (3) Air Pollution complaints and seven (7) Noise Pollution complaints were received during February 2022.

Bathing Water

Since the 1970s, the EU has rules in place to safeguard clean bathing waters. These rules were updated and simplified through the 2006 Bathing Water Directive. Experience from best practices in some Member States, as well as latest scientific and technological developments point to some areas for possible improvement.

Also in light of the European Green Deal, the Directive needs to align with new environmental and climate ambitions. A public consultation has begun to hear your public on the Directive, notably concerning possible shortcomings and issues of emerging concerns both for citizens, health and the environment. Public views will feed into the evaluation and impact assessment that will constitute the evidence base for a possible revision of the Directive

The [online public consultation](#) on the [review of the Bathing Water Directive](#) has been launched 28th October 2021.

As part requirement of the Bathing Water regulations 2008 Louth County Council has reported the monitoring calendar and the identified beaches to be monitored in summer 2022 to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This has to be done before the 24th March annually.

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



Air Monitor for Drogheda

The EPA currently monitors air quality from two fixed monitoring stations in Dundalk and Drogheda. The data is available to view at: <https://www.airquality.ie/station/EPA-84>



Air Quality Monitoring Station

Water Framework /River Basin Management Plans

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

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



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

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

RMCEI Inspection Plan

The RMCEI Inspection plan 2022 for County Louth is currently being drafted for submission to the EPA by end of February 2022. The statistical returns for environmental inspections in Louth have been submitted to the EPA

Landfills

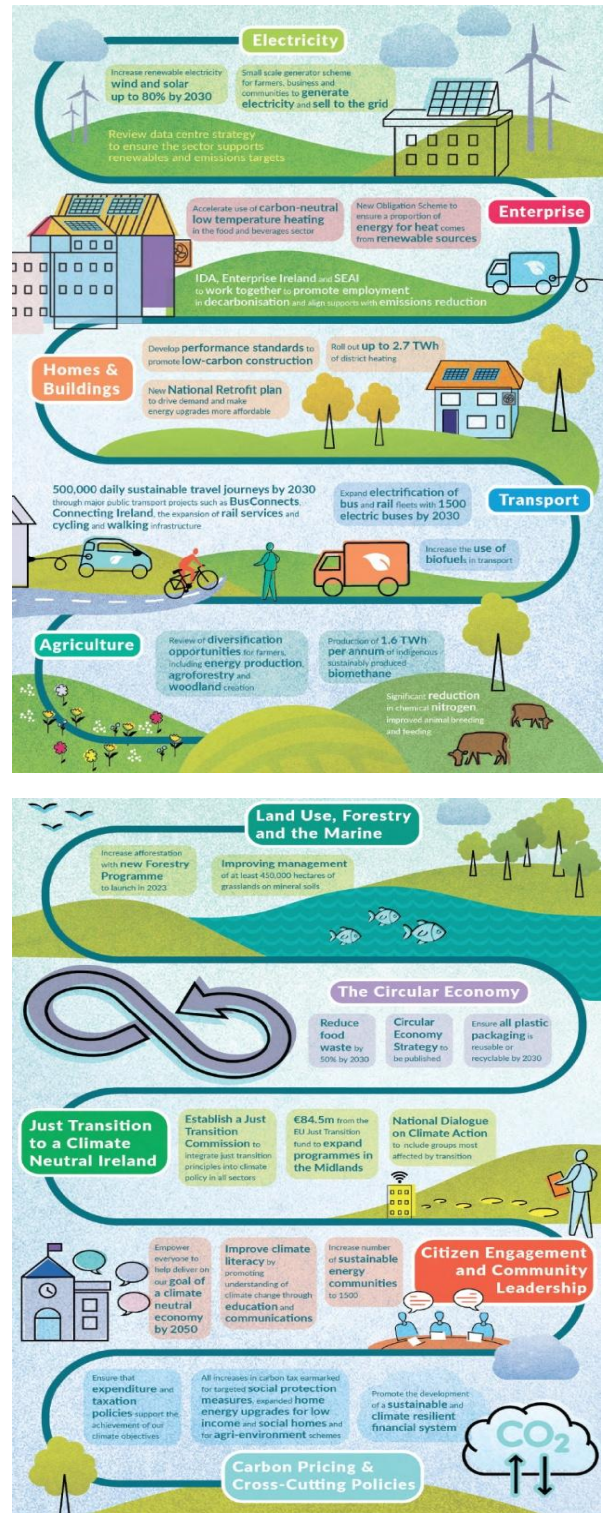
The annual environmental performance reports for the three licensed landfills are being prepared for submission to the EPA by the 31st March 2022. In addition the landfill gas surveys and PRTR reports are also being prepared for the three sites for submission by the 31st March 2022.

Climate Action

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



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



Climate Change Team

A 25 strong team of staff from across all sections of Louth County Council have been nominated and trained to participate on the Climate Action Team.

This ensures that the climate action message spreads throughout the organisation and is considered in all the work we do.

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

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 & Climate Action Plan

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

Work continues on the progress report for Louth County Council on the above strategy for the CARO office which was submitted in early October. This was the second progress report for the strategy. A review of the current goals and objective of the CCAS has commenced and this will form the basis for the development of a comprehensive Climate Action Plan for Louth, to be developed over the next 18 months (timelines not yet fixed nationally).

We are awaiting guidance documents for the complying the Local Authority Climate Action Plans which will incorporate all the relevant National Climate Action targets at a local level. Each section of the Council is now required to report as part of the Monthly Chief Executive Report on Climate Action projects and initiatives that are ongoing.

Electrical Vehicles Charging Points



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

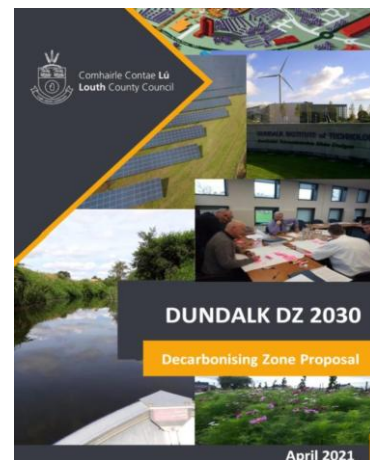
Information is available at the following outlets:

Channel	URL
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/FasterEVCharge
Twitter	https://twitter.com/FasterEVCharge
Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/fasterevcharge/
Linkedin	https://www.linkedin.com/company/faster-project
TikTok	https://www.tiktok.com/@fasterevcharge
YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0FqxddlpA7WXJr9ShzUaxQ



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

Dundalk Decarbonising Zone



The Dundalk Decarbonising Zone project, in common will all such projects around the country, awaits guidance from CARO (Climate Action Regional Office) in order to progress. This is to ensure a common approach with comparable outcomes across the country. Preparatory work is ongoing, in anticipation of guidance early 2022.

Veterinary Services / Seirbhísí Tréidliachta

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

As of 28th February 2022, Louth County Council Veterinary Section, under a Service Level Agreement with the FSAI, enforces food safety standards on two abattoirs and fourteen meat processing plants under its supervision in the County.

Amhail ar an 28ú Feabhra 2022, cuireann Rannóg Tréidliachta Chomhairle Contae Lú caighdeán sábháilteachta bia i bhfeidhm, faoi Chomhaontú Leibhéal Seirbhíse leis an USBÉ, ar dhá sheamlas agus ar ceithre cinn déag de mhonarchana próiseála feola atá faoi mhaoirseacht aige sa chontae.

Control of Dogs / Rialú Madraí

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

Dogs Impounded February 2022 / Madraí curtha i bpóna, Feabhra 2022	
Total dogs impounded / Líon madraí curtha i bpóna	21
Strays / Ar seachrán	10
Surrendered by owners / Tugtha suas ag úinéirí	11
No dogs reclaimed by owners / Líon madraí tógtha ar ais ag úinéirí	6
No of dogs rehomed direct / Líon madraí a bhfuarthas úinéirí nua dóibh go díreach	6
No of dogs rehomed to welfare groups / Líon madraí a aistríodh go grúpaí leasa ainmhithe	2
No of dogs on hand in Pound at 28/02/2022 / Líon madraí faoi chúram sa phóna 28/02/2022	6

Dog Licences February 2022 / Ceadúnais Madraí, Feabhra 2022	
No of Licences sold / Líon ceadúnas díolta	540
Licence Checks / Ceadúnais scrúdaithe:	
House calls / Seiceálacha baile	447
Section 16 Notices issued (request to produce licence within 10 days) / Fógraí Alt 16 eisithe (iarratas ar ceadúnas a thaispeáint roimh deich lá)	113
Fixed Penalty Notices / Fógraí Pionós Socraithe	19

Control of Horses / Rialú Capall

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

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

Horses impounded February 2022 / Capaill curtha i bpóna, Feabhra 2022	
Horses seized / Capaill gafa	0
Reason for seizure: / Cúis na gabhála	0
Horses reclaimed by owner / Líon capaill tógtha ar ais ag úinéirí	0
Horses rehomed / Líon capaill a bhfuarthas úinéirí nua dóibh	0
Horses disposed of / Capaill curtha de láimh	0
No of horses on hand in Pound on 28/02/2022 / Líon capaill faoi chúram sa phóna, 28/02/22	0

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

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

Dog Breeding Establishments February 2022 / Bunachais pórucháin madraí, Feabhra 2022	
Total no of registered DBE's in Louth, 28/02/2022 / Líon BPM i gContae Lú, 28/02/2022	6
Hunt / Conchróite Seilge	2
Boarding Kennels / Conchróite Cinneála	2
Training Kennels / Conchróite Oiliúna	1
Welfare / Leas Ainmhithe	1



*Dogs Impounded during February 2022/ Madraí curtha i
bpóna i mí Feabhra 2022*

Corporate and Emergency Services Seirbhísí Corparáideacha agus Éigeandála

This Directorate has two key areas of responsibility:

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

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

Other responsibilities include Sustainable Energy.

Tá dhá eochairfhreagrachta ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

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

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

Freagracht eile ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo ná Fuinneamh Inbhunaithe.

Joe McGuinness
Director / Stiúrthóir

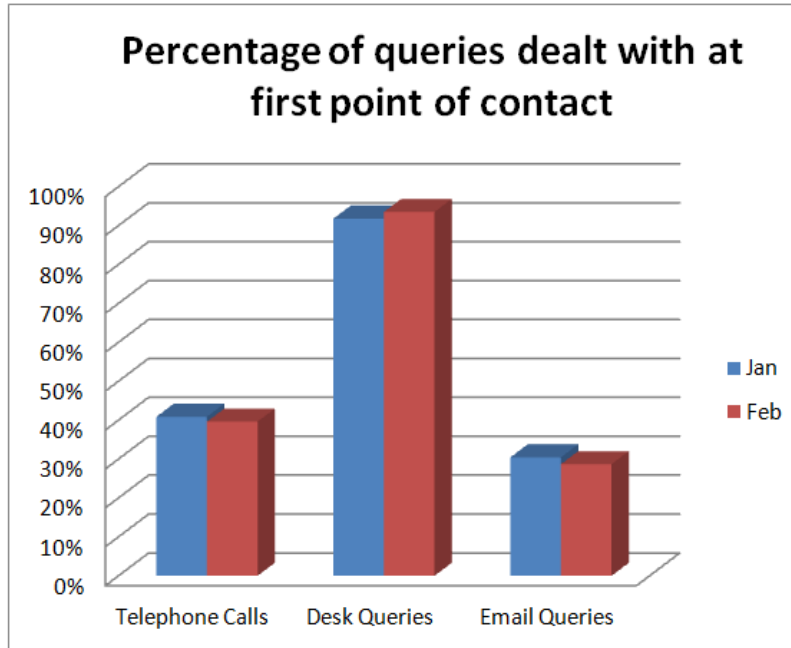


CORPORATE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

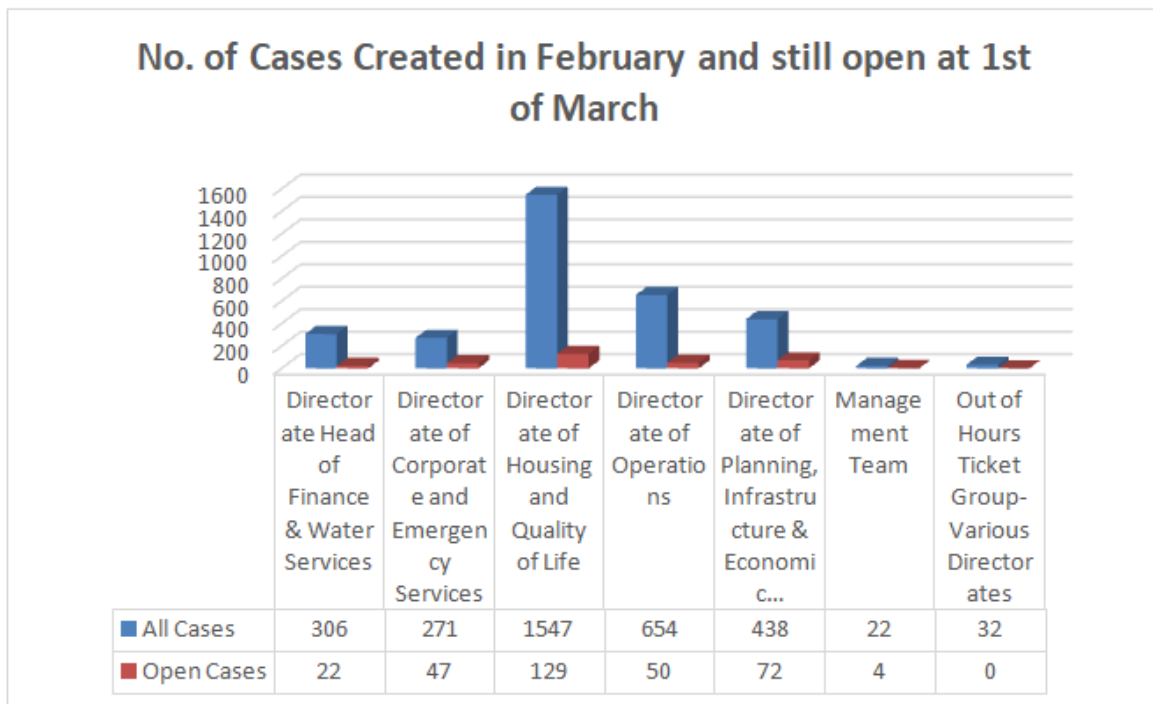
Customer Services Report

February 2022

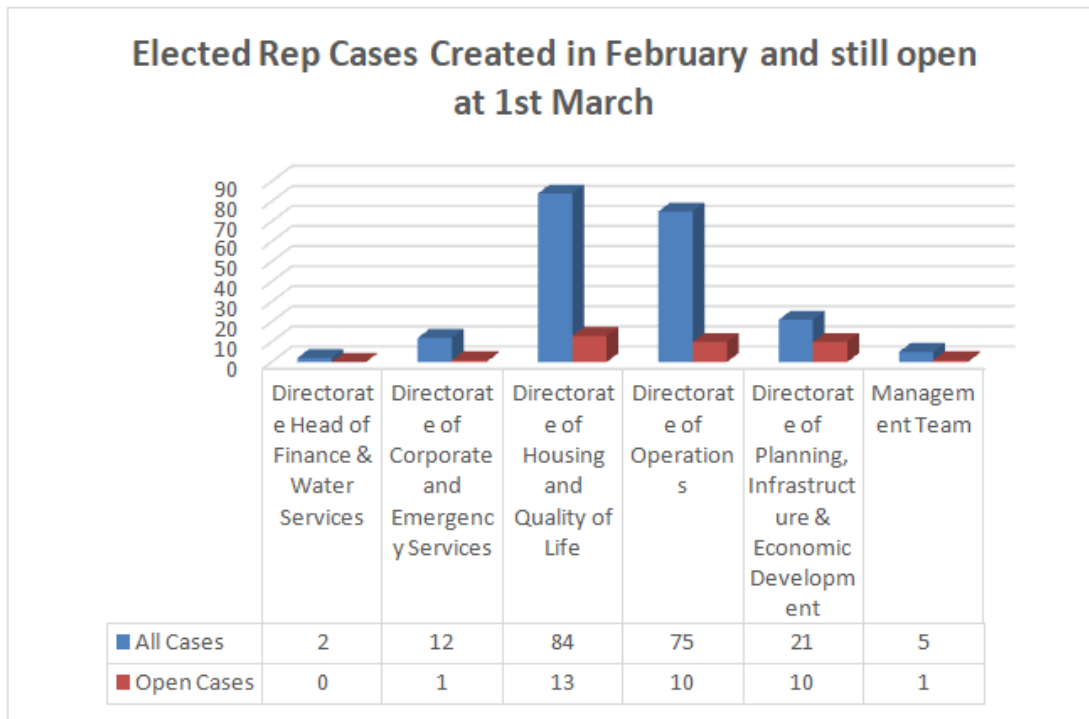
During the month of February Customer Services dealt with 10,995 queries – 6,198 calls, 1,457 e-mails and 3,340 counter queries.



There were 3,270 valid SugarCRM cases recorded during February of which 324 (10%) remain unresolved, broken down by directorate as follows:



During February 199 elected reps. cases were recorded on Sugar of which 35 (18%) remain unresolved broken down by Directorate as follows:



The table below illustrates activity in the redress area.

	Same period 2021	2022 Total	February 2022
Freedom of Information	12	23	13
Data Protection to include DSAR	2	2	0
Access to Information on Environment	0	1	0
Ombudsman	1	2	0
Complaints Policy	5	5	2

Electoral Register

The Live Register of Electors 2022-2023 came into force on the 15th February 2022. There are a total of 94,889 electors registered in County Louth. Electors are strongly encouraged to ensure that their details are correct, this can be checked on www.checktheregister.ie

Work has commenced on the Draft Register of Electors 2023-2024. Field Officers are currently calling to various estates in Drogheda and Dundalk and to the townlands of Sandpitt, Baltry and Bush.

Electoral Register staff are inputting data received and dealing with queries from electors.

Elected members are again encouraged to ask their electorate to submit their details, forms can be picked up from customer services desks in local Council offices or can be posted on request. The register contact details are 042-9324217/4124/register@louthcoco.ie. The online facility has been re-activated on our website for those persons who want to be considered for inclusion in the Draft Register of Electors which publishes in November.

Sustainable Energy

Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance

The Council's energy efficiency at the end of 2020 was 47.36% (, ie the Council's energy use at the end of 2020 has reduced by 47.36%) compared to the baseline, reported by SEA.

The Council is now focusing on a new energy efficiency target for public sector bodies of 50% energy Efficiency by 2030. However, the Council is also required to reduce it's carbon emissions by 51% by 2030 and it is that carbon emissions target that requires increased annual actions by the Council.

9.2 Targets

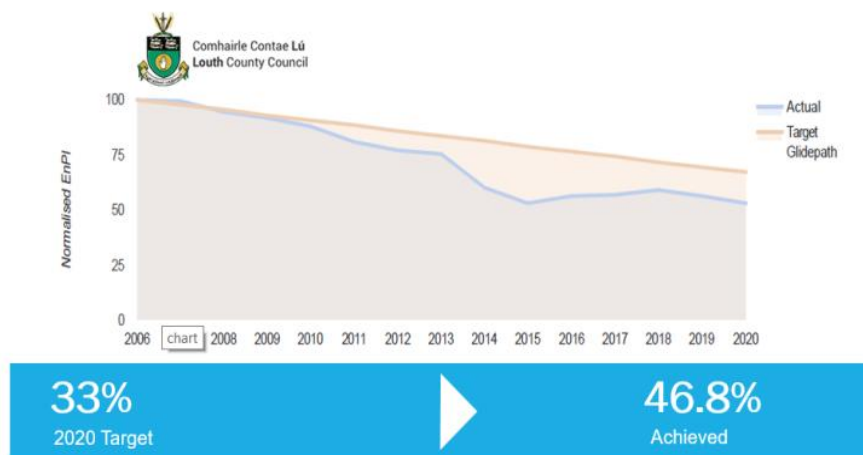
To meet the required level of emissions reduction, by 2030 we will:

- Reduce CO₂eq. from the sector by 51%
- Increase the improvement in energy efficiency in the public sector from the 33% target in 2020 to 50% by 2030
- Mandate public sector employers, colleges, and other public sector bodies to move to 20% home and remote working
- Introduce a Sustainable Mobility Policy in the public sector
- Replace all buses with electric vehicles nationally by 2035
- Triple the length of electrified rail on the network by 2030

Climate Action Plan 2021

Energy Efficiency Improvement (2009-2020)

Progress from Baseline to 2020 Target



Energy Management System

The Council's Energy Management System is compliant with ISO 50,001; 2018.

Council staffs are now planning energy works as part of the Council's Energy Action Plan for 2022. Staffs are developing a Gap to Target Plan to 2030 to identify suitable and sufficient multi-annual energy efficiency works to achieve 51% reduction in Carbon emissions by 2030.

Better Energy Communities Grant 2021

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



Better Energy Communities Grant 2022

The closing date for participation in SEAI's Community Energy Grant Programme in 2022 is somewhat later than previous years and applications for funding have more pre-application work to undertake – commercial participants are required to undertake energy audits of participating buildings by approved auditors using an approved audit format and software.

Energy audits for buildings are therefore required for Council participation in SEAI's Community



Energy Grant Programme in 2022. In order to confirm the suitability of projects for grant funding for inclusion in a grant funding application, energy audits are being completed for high-energy-user Council buildings.

We intend to partner with Dunleer Sustainable Energy Community for participation in their application for grant funding for energy projects in 2022. The list of Council projects to be included in the application for funding will be finalised once the energy audits have been completed.

Varcities H2020 Funded Project

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

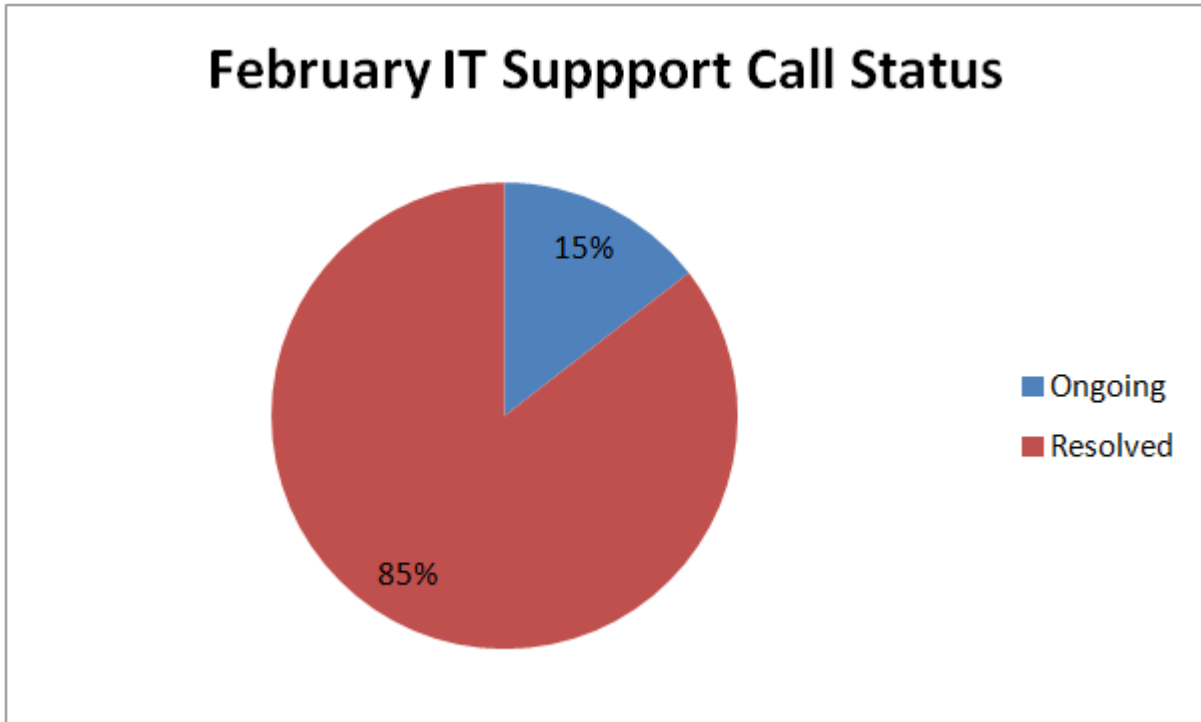
The third Partner Progress meeting for the project was held virtually over two days on Wednesday and Thursday 23rd and 24th February. It was well attended by all partners and pilots with very positive feedback on the progress presented for the Visionary Solutions proposed for the Louth County Council pilot project.

The conceptual design for the project has now been completed. It is intended to bring the project proposals to the Council shortly to seek approval to initiate public consultation for planning permission for the project.

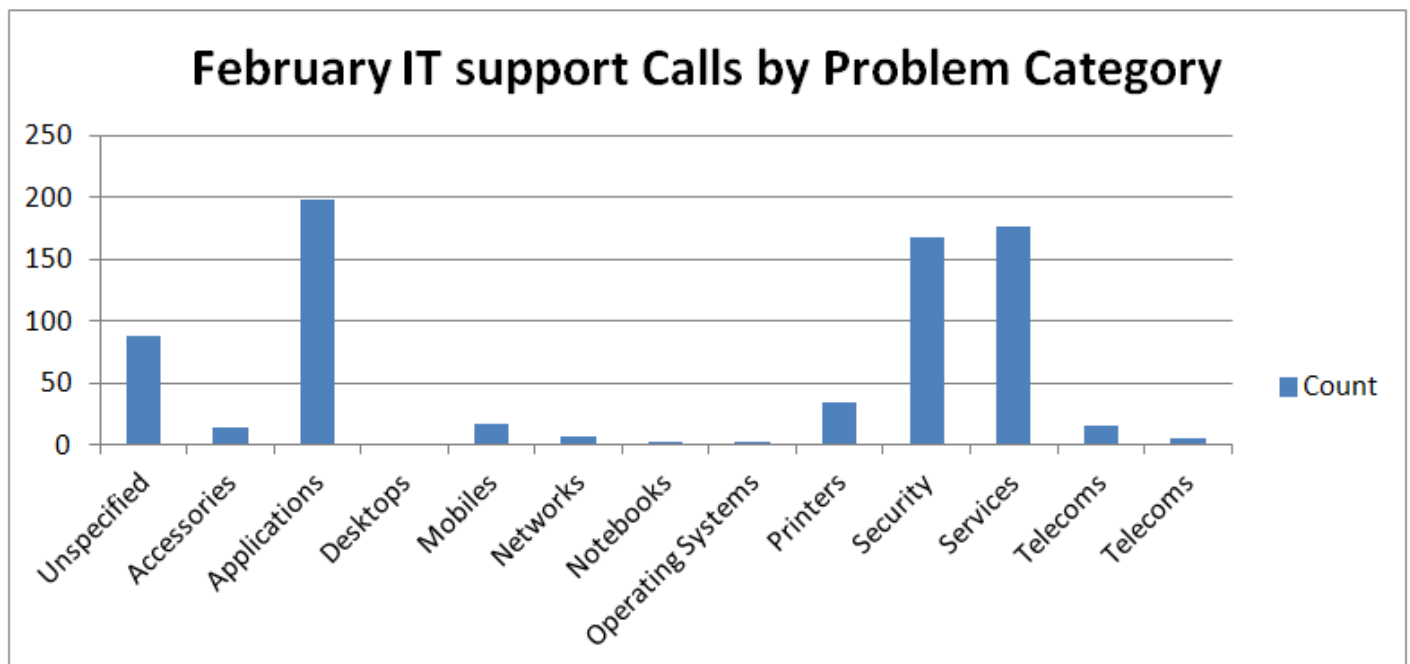
Information Communication Technology

Helpdesk

During the month of February there were 724 support calls logged in the IT support system. 85% of these have been resolved and 15% of these are ongoing.



The below chart indicates the breakdown of calls by Problem Category

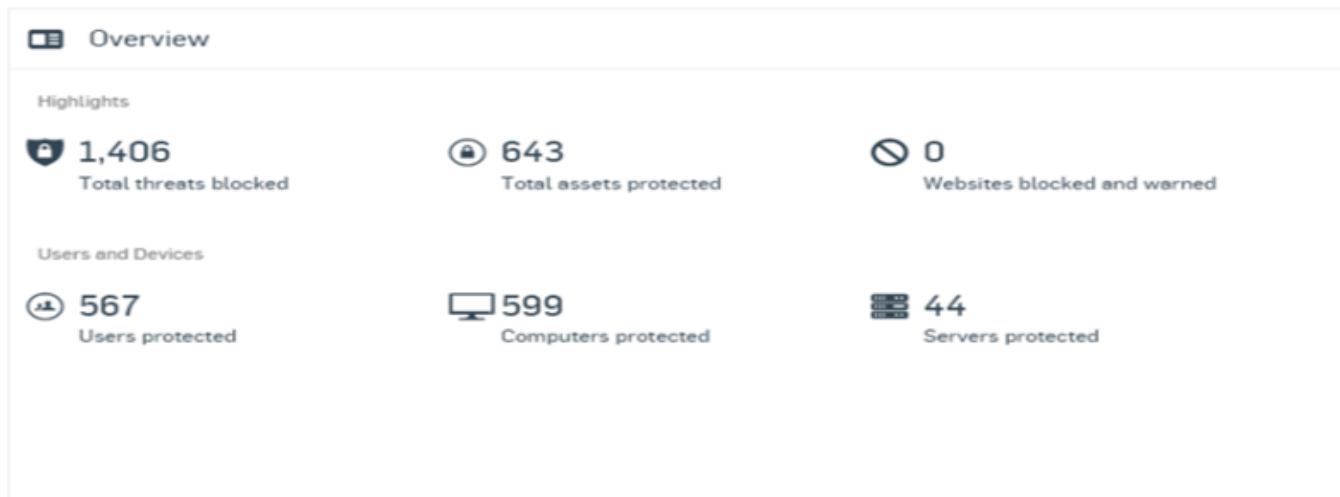


ICT Security

A key element of the ICT Function is maintaining security of our systems to ensure business continuity. This is an evolving and complex area with many challenges. Three aspects of this are the roll out of Sophos, TopSec & CISCO umbrella which are updated below.

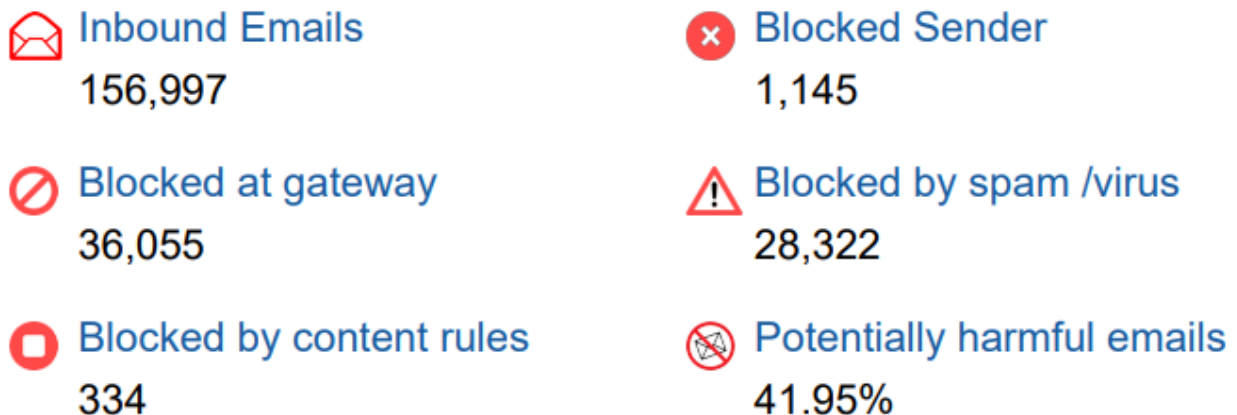
Sophos

IT have been working on the rollout of Sophos to all computers and servers on our network. This is an antivirus system. It scans the Louth Co Co Network to detect potential threats, indicating devices which need attention. The figure below indicates that there are 643 computers and 44 servers protected by Sophos. 1406 threats were blocked in the last 30 days.



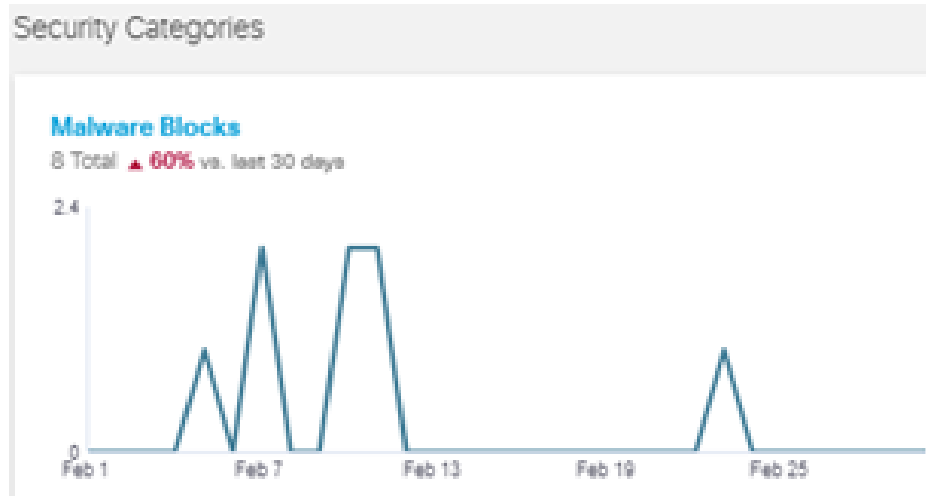
TopSec E-Mail Filtering System

Louth Co Co continues to be targeted with phishing, and spam e-mail. We utilise TopSec to filter and block e-mail being received into the organisation in order to protect our network. Approximately 42% of the e-mail sent to @louthcoco.ie e-mail addresses is potentially harmful.



Cisco Umbrella

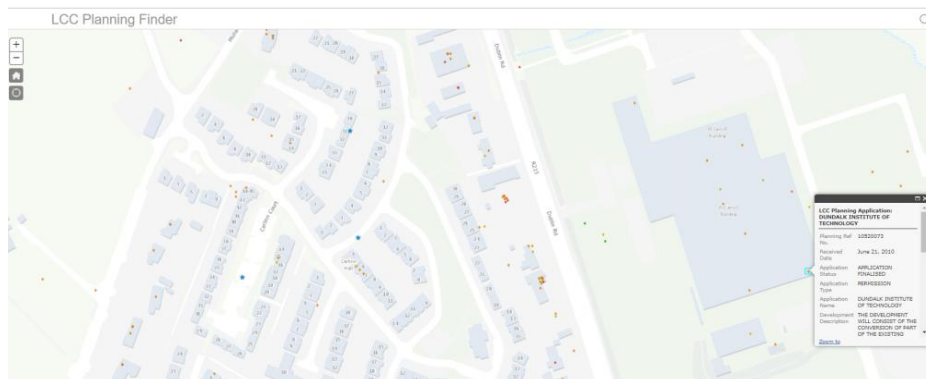
Cisco Umbrella was implemented in 2021 to protect staff and devices accessing website that may be unsafe. The graphic below show malware blocks which occurred in February.



An example of a customer facing service is our planning system which is illustrated below.

ArcGIS Online - Public Planning Register Map Viewer

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



The Planning Map viewer received 2,196 views in the past 30 days and an average of >73 views a day.

Emergency Services and Building Control

Fire Service

Louth Fire Service discontinued most of its Covid precautions on 28th February 2022, the date of the Council reopening. This included most fire crew separation measures and the requirement to complete Covid questionnaires and temperature checks for oncoming crews. Due to the continuing high level of positive Covid cases in Louth, Covid precautions at incidents and during training have been retained for the present.

Training courses and retained drills restarted in February with priority for overdue courses that had been postponed during the November-January period.

DHPLG approval was received in January for a new fire station in Dunleer at a cost of €1.4 million. The Fire Service is working with the Infrastructure Section to finalise tender documentation for the procurement of a design team.

Following the receipt of DHLGH approval for major improvement works to Dundalk Regional Fire Service Training Centre, the design brief and summary cost plan are currently being completed. These will go to the DHLGH for approval and the procurement of a design team will then proceed.

Following a Management Review of the Fire Service Health and Safety Management System in January following an ISO 45001 benchmark audit, the Fire Service is following up with the Corporate Health and Safety Officer to implement some of the audit recommendations.

The Fire Prevention Section has been taking action in relation to a number of large scale unlicensed public assembly events it became aware of. An objective is to ensure such events are properly regulated in the future.

Climate Adaptation Strategy

Work on the Climate Action Plan is continuing, to include Fire Service and Building Control requirements. This will take account of the contribution of Building Control to climate change. The new fire station in Dunleer and the extension to

Dundalk Training Centre will both comply with energy efficiency and carbon emission requirements.

Major Emergency Management

Regional Major Emergency Steering and Working Group meetings in relation to Covid have continued. These meetings have included personnel from the three

Principal Response Agencies, i.e. the Councils, HSE and AGS

Louth County Council has taken over the chairing of the Major Emergency Regional Steering Group and Regional Working Group for the next two years. These Groups will be chaired by Joan Martin as Chief Executive and Joe McGuinness, Director of Services, respectively. Louth County Council will therefore lead the North East Region for this period. The first meetings are scheduled for the first week in March

Building Control

All Disabled Access Certificate applications are being processed and inspections of developments for compliance with the Building Regulations are arranged on a risk assessed basis. Issues found are usually resolved by agreement. The National Building Control Office ran a CPD day in Athlone on Wednesday 23rd Feb. This was a hybrid event attended by approximately 300.

A number of quarries in Louth were inspected by the National Market Surveillance Unit and the Louth Building Control Officer during 2021 for aggregates, concrete and other building materials.

Civil Defence

Normal Civil Defence activities have resumed following a period of suspension.

This includes the following training during February:

- Emergency Medical Technician Training
- Cardiac First Responder Training
- Manual Handling Training
- Drone Training

Housing and Quality of Life Tithíocht agus Cáilíocht na Beatha

This Directorate has two key responsibilities:

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

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

Tá dhá eochairfhreagracht ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

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

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

**Paddy Donnelly
Director / Stiúrthóir**



Housing

Addressing Homelessness

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

Presentations February 2022	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
Number of Person who presented as Homeless	06	195	162	363
Offered advice, support (including fast tracking H.A. for Rent Supplement eligibility)	06	184	156	346
Placed in Temporary Emergency Accommodation	00	08	06	14
Refused Offer of Temporary Emergency Accommodation	00	00	00	00
Not eligible from outside county or non HRC	00	03	00	03

The tables below reflect monthly returns submitted to the Department with regard to Homeless numbers in the NORTH EAST REGION between 21st -27th February 2022 This anonymous and aggregated return of all individuals accessing emergency accommodation is returned to the Department of Housing on a monthly basis.

Table 1: Gender

Gender	Total
Male	60

Female	25
Total	85

Table 2: Age Groups

Age Group	Total
18-24	13
25-44	43
45-64	24
65+	05
Total	85

Table 3: Accommodation Type

Accommodation Type	Total
Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA)	15
Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)	60
Temporary Emergency Accommodation (low support)(TEA)	10
Unique Total (note, clients may have accessed multiple accommodation types during the week)	00
Minus people accessing multiple accommodation types during the week	00
Total unique individuals	85

Table 4: County

County	Total
County Louth	81
County Monaghan	01
County Cavan	03
Total	85

Table 5 - Families with dependent children

	No. of families with dependent children	No. of Individual Adults	No. of Dependents
Individuals with dependent children	09	09	20
Total	09	09	20
Couples with dependent children	04	08	09
Total	04	08	09

Housing First

	Louth	Monaghan	Cavan	Total
Number of tenancies established	24	02	05	31
Number of individuals currently in tenancy	24	02	05	31

Homeless Services and Covid 19

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

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

The Hostels and family Hub continue to operate with reduced capacity, which reflects government guidelines in respect of social and physical distancing.

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

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

Housing Assistance Payment

The total number of applications in HAP is 3219

Ardee Municipal District	Dundalk Municipal District	Drogheda Borough District	Total
318	1693	1208	3219

Accelerate Social Housing

The Governments **Housing For All** plan published in 2021 established a new approach to accelerating housing delivery in the country. Three key actions to taken by the Council have been identified to improve the housing delivery system.

1. The creation of a single multi disciplinary housing delivery team.
2. Active management of a single annual housing delivery programme.
3. Interventions to remove barriers and accelerate delivery.

The Council has been given an ambitious 5 year target of delivering 1323 new build social housing units along with 34 leasing units over the five year period 2022-2026. In addition the Council will in due course receive a target for affordable homes.

The Council is currently in discussion with Department officials concerning these targets and how delivery can be best achieved. This target will include delivery of units from Part V provision, AHB's, Acquisitions, Mortgage to Rents, Long Term Leases, Repair and Lease and Buy & Renew Acquisitions. The 2020 - 2023 pipeline delivery progress report is in tables below.

2022 Housing Allocations up to 28th February 2022

Numbers Allocated	Allocations- Social	Allocations - Voluntary	Refusals – Social	Refusals – Voluntary
Ardee MD	04	16	01	02
Dundalk MD	17	89	10	06
Drogheda BD	16	02	03	02
Total Allocations	37	107	14	10

Social housing transfers facilitated up to 28th February 2022

Year	Ardee	Dundalk	Drogheda
2022	01	00	01

Housing List (excluding HAP Transfers)

Month	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
February	351	681	625	1657

Transfer List from HAP

Month	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
February	318	1693	1208	3219

There are a total of 275 applicants on the approved list for transfer (Non-HAP) within Social Housing including 30 applications from the Approved Housing Bodies

Build More Homes

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

Location	Acres
Mullavalley, Louth Village	8.82
Kilkerley	3.80
Ballymakenny	16.53
Point Road	5.2
Various Individual Sites	0

Rent Management

The number of tenants who pay rent by Household Budget is now 1012

Current Rents as of 28/02/2022	Number of Account	Value
Rents between 4-6 weeks old	216	€78,199.00
Rents between 7-12 weeks old	159	€106,124.00
Rents greater than 12 weeks old	746	€2,594,801.00
TOTAL	1121	€2,779,124.00

Improve the Rented Sector

	Feb	Total
No. of properties inspected Feb 2022	66	72
No. of advisory notes issued to Landlord	54	63
No. of improvement notices Issued	14	17
No. of prohibition notices Issued	00	01
No. of Rent Book Notices	00	00

Issued		
Inspections (HAP)	57	57
Improvement Notices (HAP)	14	17
Virtual Inspections Issued	00	00
Private Inspections Complaints	00	00
HAP Complaints	00	05
RAS Complaints	00	05
Re Inspections HAP	09	10
Re Inspections Hap Compliance	00	00
Re Inspections RAS	00	00
Re Inspections RAS Compliance	00	00
AHB Inspection	00	00

Utilise Existing Housing

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

Maintenance	Total (YTD)	This month
No. of Maintenance Requests Received	1181	480
No. of Maintenance Completed	988	391

Vacant Properties

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

Vacant Properties	Total	
Ardee Municipal District	05	
Dundalk Municipal District	18	
Drogheda Borough District	33	
Total Re Lets		56
Vacant Properties CPO Units not yet ready for occupation (all county)		08
Total No. of CPO Properties (Relets & CPO's)		64

Grant Assistance to the Elderly and Disabled

The private grant process is continuing with some changes to procedure to reflect social distancing guidelines. These changes are reviewed in light of Government announcements.

The following grants are available:

- Housing Adaption Grants - Priority 1, which will assist those who need whole time care in the home
- Housing for Older People - Priority 1 to works that will preserve the integrity of the dwelling
- Mobility Aids Grants - Priority 1, which will assist those who need whole time, care in the home.
- Louth County Council is awaiting notification of the Grant Allocation for 2022 from the Department.

Private House Grants

Status	HOP	HAG	MAG	Total
Applications Completed 2021	174	119	39	332
Applications rolling into 2022	101	363	166	630
New Applications Up to 28/2/22	60	14	07	81

Estate Management

	DBD & AMD	DMD	TOTAL
Tenancy Inspections	01	04	05
Pre tenancy Training	07	10	17
Tenancy Investigations Visits	18	35	53
Tenancy Investigations Remote	09	10	19

Anti Social Behaviour

	DBD	AMD	DMD	TOTAL
ASB Cases	06	05	10	21
ASB Ongoing	06	03	04	13
ASB Completed	07	01	00	08

	DBD	AMD	DMD	TOTAL
Verbal Warning	01	00	00	01
Written Warning	00	00	00	00
Tenancy Notification	00	00	00	00

Climate Action

The newly revised 2021 Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme is the first year of a ten year programme which is expected to grow to meet the Programme for Government retrofit commitment. The new programme sees a significant up scaling (from 'shallow' to 'deep retrofit') on what has been completed by local authorities to date

Currently, staff in the energy efficiency retrofit office is preparing documentation and site selections to ensure that tender packages can be offered to qualifying contractors to expedite these works in 2022.

The Council awaits confirmation from the Department in respect of the 2022 allocation.

Delivery Stream	Housing for All Projected Delivery 2022-2026				
	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
SHIP CONSTRUCTION	00	11	171	80	262
SHIP CONSTRUCTION RAPID	00	00	00	00	00
REGENERATION	22	00	00	00	22
CAS CONSTRUCTION	00	68	00	00	68
CONSTRUCTION BUY & RENEW SHIP CONSTRUCTION SINGLE STAGE	00	00	00	00	00
SHIP CONSTRUCTION SINGLE STAGE	00	09	00	00	09
SHIP CONSTRUCTION TURNKEY	08	27	00	00	35
SHIP Competitive Dialogue	00	00	00	00	00
CAS CONSTRUCTION TURNKEY & CAS SINGLE STAGE	00	00	00	00	00
PPP	00	00	80	00	00
AHB CALF Construction	00	00	00	00	00
AHB CALF Turnkey	228	382	00	00	610
CALF Part V	35	54	00	00	89
LA Part V	04	07	00	00	11
CAS Part V	00	00	00	00	00
Voids (capped)	00	00	00	00	00

DEFINITIONS

AHB = Approved Housing Body

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

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

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

IPS = Incremental Purchase Scheme

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

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

SHIP = Social Housing Investment Programme

Project Name	Project Phase	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Father Finn Park (Phase 2)	1/1	17	Completed	08/04/2021	7no. * 2 bed & 10no. * 3 bed
Cox's Demesne Phase 2B	1/1	22	On-site	01/04//2022	2no. * 2 bed, 4no. * 3 bed, 2no. * 4 bed, 6no. * 1 bed Apt & 8no. * 2 bed Apt.
Muirhevnamor, Dundalk Phase 1	1/1	11	Stage 2 Approved	13/12/2023	3no. * 2 bed & 8no. * 3 bed
Boice Court (Phase 2 - 4)	1/1	72	Stage 2 Approved	06/05/2024	27no. * 3 bed, 4no. * 4 bed, 8no. * 1 bed Apt, 25no. * 2 bed Apt & 8no. * 3 bed Apt
Mount Avenue, Dundalk	1/1	93	Stage 2 Approved	12/03/2024	29no. * 2 bed, 23no. * 3 bed, 9no. * 4 bed, 10no. * 1 bed Apt, 6no. * 2 bed Apt, 16no. * 3 bed Apt
Rathmullen Park, Drogheda Infill	1/1	6	Stage 1 Approved	29/07/2024	To be confirmed
Ballymakenny Road - East Site, Drogheda	1/1	80	Stage 1 Approved	31/12/2025	To be confirmed
Gort Bui, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	1/5	13	Completed	16/10/2020	13no. * 3 bed
Gort Bui, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	2/5	9	Completed	14/12/2020	6no. * 3 bed & 3no. * 4 bed
Termon River, Termonfeckin	1/2	2	Completed	17/12/2020	2no. * 4 bed
Gort Bui, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	3/5	10	Completed	01/03/2021	6no. * 3 bed & 4no. * 4 bed
Gort Bui, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	4/5	9	Completed	16/04/2021	5no. * 3 bed & 4no. * 4 bed

Glyde View, Tallanstown, Drogheda	1/1	2	Completed	10/05/2021	2no. * 3 bed
Termon River, Termonfeckin	2/2	1	Completed	30/11/2021	1no. * 4 bed
Gort Bui, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	5/5	8	Completed	20/05/2021	2no. * 3 bed & 6no. * 4 bed
Moneymore, Drogheda - Infill	1/1	1	Funding Approved Single Stage	30/06/2023	1no. * 2 bed
Gort Uaine, Clogherhead - Infill	1/1	1	Funding Approved Single Stage	30/06/2023	1no. * 4 bed
School Lane, Dunleer - Infill	1/1	1	Funding Approved Single Stage	30/06/2023	1no. * 3 bed
Doire Beag, Collon, Co. Louth - Infill	1/1	6	Funding Approved Single Stage	25/08/2023	6no. * 3 bed
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	1/4	11	Funding Approved Turnkey	30/11/2022	To be confirmed (3no. Part V)
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	2/4	6	Funding Approved Turnkey	31/01/2023	To be confirmed (1no. Part V)
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	3/4	6	Funding Approved Turnkey	28/02/2023	To be confirmed (1no. Part V)
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	4/4	22	Funding Approved Turnkey	31/05/2023	To be confirmed (5no. Part V)
Gort Bui Ballymakenny Rd	1/1	1	Completed	16/04/2021	1no. * 2 bed
Linenfield Ballymakenny	1/2	5	On-site	31/12/2021	5no. * 2 bed
Linenfield Ballymakenny	2/2	1	On-site	31/08/2022	1no. * 2 bed

SUMMARY OF UNITS COMPLETED 2021 VIA CALF

Scheme	D/HPC LG Ref. No	Project Name	Project Phase	Non-Part V Units Expected	Part V Units Expected	Approved Housing Body	Substantial Completion Date	Unit breakdown
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.86 44	Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth	1 OF 5	12	1	Tuath Housing	Completed	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.86 44	Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth	3 OF 5	16		Tuath Housing	Completed	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.86 44	Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth	4 OF 5	11		Tuath Housing	Completed	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.86 44	Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth.	2 OF 5	10		Tuath Housing	Completed	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes,

								14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9139	Clonmore Ardee	1 OF 4	12		Cluid Housing	Completed	2 x 4 beds, 2 x3 bed and 8x 1 beds in this phase
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9139	Clonmore, Ardee	2 OF 4	14	1	Cluid Housing	Completed	2 x 4 bed, 12 x 3 bed and 1 x2 bed units in this phase
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9139	Clonmore, Ardee	3 OF 4	15		Cluid Housing	Completed	8 x 3 bed and 7 x2 bed units in this phase
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9139	Clonmore, Ardee	4 OF 4	13		Cluid Housing	Completed	10 x 3 bed and 3 x 2 bed units in this phase
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9514	Halliday Mills, Quay St, Dundalk	1 OF 1	77	8	CoOperative	Completed	15 x 3 bed apartments, 58 x 2 bed apartments and 12 x 1 bed apartments
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.879	Harbour View, Coulter Place, Dundalk	1 OF 1	24		Cluid Housing	Completed	12 x 1 bed and 12 x 2 bed apartments
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.855	Lismullen Grove, Dundalk, Co Louth	3 OF 3	8		Tuath Housing	Completed	8 x 3 bed units in this phase
AHB CALF Turnkey	2021.1092	Fairways Gardens, Dundalk	1 OF 1	8		Cluid Housing	Completed	8 x 2 bed apartments

SUMMARY OF PROJECTED 2022 CALF DELIVERY

Scheme	D/HP CLG Ref. No	Project Name	Project Phase	Non-Part V Units Expected	Part V Units Expected	Approved Housing Body	Completed	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit breakdown
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8644	Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth	1 OF 5	12		Tuath Housing	On-site	31/10/2022	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9501	Dublin Road, Dundalk	1 OF 1	59	6	Respond	On-site	11/30/2022	5 x 3 bed houses, 7 x 3 bed duplexes, 2 x 3 bed apartments, 16 x 2 bed duplexes, 4 x 2 bed apartments, 4 x 1 bed houses and 27 x 1 bed
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.8939	Duiche Roden, Dundalk, Co Louth	1 OF 2	75	12	Cluid Housing	On-site	30/11/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 18 x 3 bed duplexes, 22 x 3 bed terraced houses, 19 x 2 bed

									aparts 29 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed bungalows and 36 x 1 bed apartments across both phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9681	Newfoundwell Road Drogheda Co Louth	1 OF 2	46	9	Cluid Housing	On-site	3/31/2022	17 x 3 bed terraced houses, 1 x 3 bed duplexes, 25 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed terraced, 4 x 2 bed duplexes, 28 x 2 bed apartments and 19 x 1 bed apartments across both phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8046	Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	2 of 3	10	6	Tuath Housing	On-site	31/03/2022	6 x 2 bed apartments, 32 x 3 bed terraced houses and 8 x 3 bed semi detached across all phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8046	Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	3 of 4	5	8	Tuath Housing	On-site	30/06/2022	6 x 2 bed apartments, 32 x 3 bed terraced

									houses and 8 x 3 bed semi detached across all phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2021.1033	Scotch Hall, Drogheda, Co Louth	1 of 1	21		Respond	Funding Approved	31/10/2022	6 x 1 bed apartments and 15 x 2 bed apartments
AHB CALF Turnkey		Tierney St, Ardee	1 of 2	5		Circle	Proposal	31/08/2022	3 x3 bed bungalow, 2 x 2 bed bungalow, 3 x3 bed terraced and 3 x 2 bed terrace houses across both phases
AHB CALF Turnkey		Tierney St, Ardee	2 of 2	6		Circle	Proposal	01/12/2022	3 x3 bed bungalow, 2 x 2 bed bungalow, 3 x3 bed terraced and 3 x 2 bed terrace houses across both phases

SUMMARY OF PROJECTED 2023 CALF DELIVERY

Scheme	D/H PCL G Ref. No	Project Name	Project Phase	Non-Part V Units Expected	Part V Units Expected	Approved Housing Body	Completed	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Breakdown
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020 .973 9	Donore Road, Drogheda, Co Louth	1 of 1	59	7	Cluid Housing	On-site	9/30/2023	8 x 3 bed apartments, 54 x 2 bed apartments and 4 x 1 bed apartments
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020 .893 9	Duiche Roden, Dundalk, Co Louth	2 of 2	43		Cluid Housing	On-site	8/31/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 18 x 3 bed duplexes, 22 x 3 bed terraced houses, 19 x 2 bed apartments, 29 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed bungalows and 36 x 1 bed apartments across both phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020 .968 1	Newfound well Road Drogheda Co Louth	2 of 2	39		Cluid Housing	On-site	3/31/2023	17 x 3 bed terraced houses, 1 x 3 bed duplexes, 25 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed terraced, 4 x 2 bed duplexes, 28 x 2 bed apartments and 19 x 1 bed aparts across both phases

AHB CALF Turnkey	2020 .897 1	Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda	4 of 4	41	6	Respond	On-site	1/31/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020 .901 5	Oriel Heights, Collon	1 of 1	2	11	North & East Housing	Funding Approved	3/31/2023	4 x 3 bed units and 9 x 2 bed units
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019 .804 6	Racecourse Meadows Dundalk Co Louth	4 of 4	12		Tuath	On Site	31/03/2023	6x 2 bed apts, 32x 3 bed terrace houses, 8 x 3 bed semi detached across all phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020 .897 1	Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda	2 of 4	21	2	Respond	On-site	31/03/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020 .897 1	Newtown View March Rd Drogheda	1 of 4	15	2	Respond	On Site	31/03/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
AHB CALF TURNKEY	2020 .897 1	Newtown View March Rd Drogheda	3 of 4	43	3	Respond	On Site	31/03/2023	6 x 2 bed apartments, 32 x 3 bed terraced houses and 8 x 3 bed semi detached
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020 .979 1	Tullybrook Slane	1 of 1	69	16	Cluid	On site	31/03/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 22 x 3 bed terraced, 24 x 3 bed duplexes, 22 x 2 bed terraced, 7 x 2 bed duplexes and 8 x 2 bed apartments
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019 .807 7	Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	1 of 1	38	7	Clanmil	Funding Approved	3/31/2023	9 x 2 bed apartments and 36 x3 bed houses

Community and Sports

Louth Local Sports Partnership

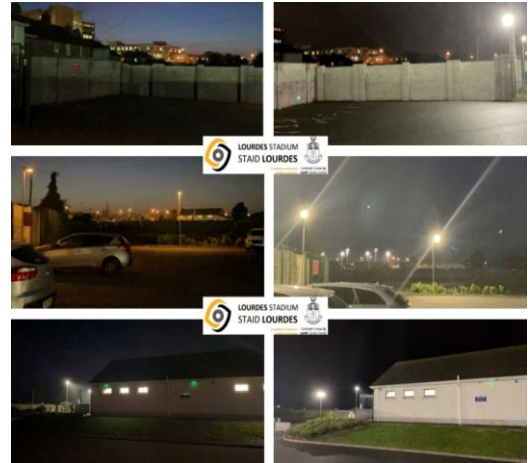
Dundalk Junior Parkrun

Louth Sports Partnership have assisted Dundalk Parkrun in setting up a Junior section on Sunday Mornings. It will be a timed 2km event every Sunday at 9:30am taking place at DKIT for 4-14 years.



Lourdes Stadium Lighting

Lourdes Stadium car park has recently been fitted with new lighting to allow for greater projection of light across the car park during evening hours. Before and after photos are below.



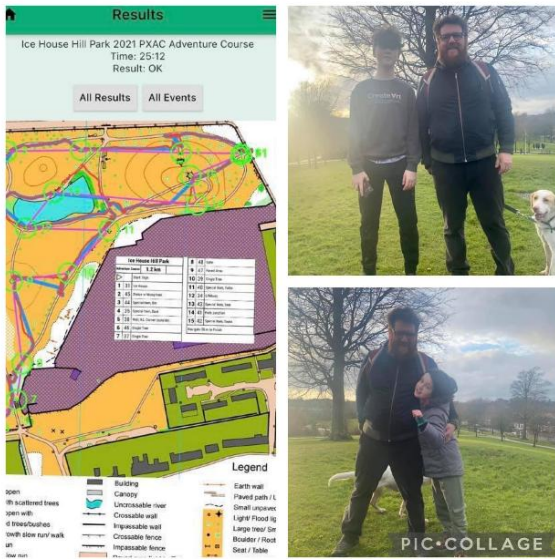
After School Basketball

Our very popular After School Basketball has returned to Dundalk Sports Centre, details below:

**After Schools
Basketball
Boys & Girls
6 - 8 years old
Wednesdays
3.30pm-
4.45pm
€4 pay as you go**

Louth Local Adventures - Orienteering

Louth LSP in collaboration with Louth County Council and Irish Orienteering has mapped out four orienteering locations within Louth. These courses will have permanent posts and will offer the traditional use of a map and your map reading skills. We also have our courses mapped with the latest MapRun6 app. This is suitable for everyone as we have accessible courses and adventure courses in each of the 4 parks.



Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme

Expressions of Interest are sought for the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2022. The deadline for submissions is 21st March 2022.

The Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme provides funding for the development of new outdoor recreational infrastructure. It also provides support for the necessary maintenance,

enhancement or promotion of existing outdoor recreational infrastructure in rural areas across Ireland. The scheme is funded by Department of Rural and Community Development.

The 2022 scheme emphasises the opportunities for recreational amenities located near rivers, lakes and beaches and also seeks to support recreational infrastructure that provides an inclusive approach for communities to deliver outlets that support a diverse range of users, including people with disabilities and older adults.

Further information is available on the Community Section of the Louth County Council website.

CLÁR Funding Scheme

Expressions of Interest are being sought by Louth County Council for applications to the Clár 2022 Funding Scheme. The deadline for submissions is 21st March 2022.

CLÁR is a targeted investment programme for rural areas that aims to provide funding for small infrastructural projects in rural areas that have experienced significant levels of de-population. The funding works in conjunction with local/Agency and other Departmental funding programmes and on the basis of locally identified priorities.

Further information is available on the Community Section of the Louth County Council website.

Comhairle na nÓg

On the 5th February the full Louth County Comhairle na nÓg met for an induction training day in Boomerang Youth Centre, Drogheda. The day focused on team building, exploring the role of youth councillors and in planning for the rest of 2022. Young people were in attendance from all three municipal districts and they left with a great sense of purpose and a clear vision for 2022.

During the county meeting the young people elected their leadership team for 2022 and this includes Aisling McQuillan, Dundalk Municipal

Chair, Ruairi Holohan Drogheda Municipal Chair, Leah Shevlin Mid Louth Municipal Chair and Andrew Rosbotham Dail na nOg Representative. The groups are currently working on their projects with new podcasts being developed, new groups from all over Louth being contacted and the team is looking to organise a youth engagement event for during the summer months.

LEADER Programme

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

Promoter	Amount
Drogheda Tidy Towns – Drogheda Tidy Towns Strategic Plan – Ref. 111846	€2,250.00
Grange & District Residents Association – Community Polytunnel - Ref. 113559	€2,449.96
Louth County Board GAA – Walking Route Upgrade & Additional Lighting - Ref. 114317	€15,000.00
Louth Leader Partnership – Small Streams Characterisation Training Programme - Ref. 112655	€10,000.00
Rape Crisis North East CLG – The purchase of new furniture, equipment & promotional materials – Ref. 112647	€1,365.12
Cooley Connect Well – Heritage Tree Arboriculture Consultancy – Ref. 113536	€675.00
Total	€31,740.08

Tidy Towns Project Scheme

The funding scheme for 2022 closes on 7th March 2022. The scheme provides funding to groups to carry out small scale capital type improvement works in their town or village during 2022.

A new online portal on our website remains open until closing date. Submissions have been encouraged from all tidy towns groups around the county.

Cross Border Community Clean Up 2022

Leas Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council, Councillor James Byrne, welcomed Councillor Mickey Larkin, Slieve Gullion District Electoral area Councillor, to Omeath where they joined pupils from Scoil Naomh Lorcan, Omeath to carry out a clean-up of their shoreline in the village.



This cross border clean-up initiative is part of a number of collaborative activities to be promoted by the Newry, Mourne & Down / Louth Strategic Alliance. The Alliance’s mission is to create connected, supported and sustainable communities with “Climate Change and the Environment” one of its priority goals. Councillors Byrne and Larkin travelled on across the border to Jonesborough, County Armagh, where they met up with pupils from Jonesborough Primary School who were also carrying out a clean-up of in their local area.



Pride of Place 2022

The IPB Pride of Place awards ceremony will now take place on the 16th May, to announce the winners of the 2021 competition, INEC Arena in Killarney, Co. Kerry.

It will also be live streamed on the Pride of Place website on the night. We are confident that it will be a great night as we celebrate together the wonderful work that our two nominees have carried out within their areas. We wish them the best of Luck in the competition.

Amenity Grants

The 2022, Amenity grants scheme is being prepared currently and is due to be announced at the beginning of March 2022.

The on line portal on our website will also be available to receive submissions once the scheme is announced.

The 2021 amenity grant audit continues, groups have being contacted to submit the required documentation.

Green Schools 2022

Schools involved in the Green School programme have been contacted and assessments with their green schools committees will take place over the next few weeks, so they can apply for their Green flag from An Taisce.

Drogheda Spring Clean Up

In collaboration with Meath County Council & V&W recycling centre, Drogheda, the Drogheda Spring clean event will take place over the first weekend in March. Planning for this event is at an advanced stage, advertising for this event took place on local radio with daily announcements (LMFM), through the Friday communiqué and through social media throughout February. Many groups have contacted us and registered for the event.

Town & Village 2021 Renewal Scheme

The projects that were successful in securing funding under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2021 have been announced by Minister Heather Humphreys, T.D. today, 25th February 2022.

The Town & Village Renewal Scheme provides funding for projects that make our towns and villages more attractive and sustainable.

Baltray

The proposed project will result in the enhancement of a recently developed successful community garden in Baltray Village. The Baltray Community Garden became operational in summer 2019. **€46,148**

Carlingford

The proposed project will enhance recreational facilities in the town and help the village reach its potential as a tourist destination. **€93,755**

Collon

The proposed project will involve the development of a much-needed playground and recreational area in the grounds of the former Parish Hall in Collon Village centre, as well as undertaking a feasibility study for the provision of a Community Hub/Multiuse Facility. **€180,000**

Dunleer

Development of remote working facilities, provision of an outdoor, partially covered multipurpose space and a central outdoor exhibition detailing Dunleer's journey to becoming a 'flagship greener, smarter, energy efficient town', sustainable street lighting and biodiversity led planting. **€316,563**

Termonfeckin The proposed project will involve the development of a much needed playground and recreational area in Termonfeckin. The project has been designed to result in considerable social, economic and environmental benefits for the local community. **€207,000**

Quality of Life Service

Climate Change Adaption Strategy 2019-2024

Library

Amanda Branigan & Brendan McSherry are the Quality of Life reps on the LCC Climate Action Team.

Archives

The Co Archives supports corporate Climate Action Goals. Operations are currently implementing energy upgrades to the Archives

building including an air to water heat pump, improvements to doors and several windows and low energy lighting to reduce energy use.

Louth Library Service

Following recent government guidance on the lifting of most Covid restrictions, Library Services are enjoying a resumption of full in-house services

Housebound Service

The Library service continues to offer the housebound delivery service to our elderly or vulnerable customers who are cocooning or in isolation with 52 deliveries made during February.

Housebound Book Delivery Service

Louth Library Service is currently offering a Housebound book delivery service for those who require it

Anyone interested in having books delivered to their door on a long loan basis can contact their local branch

Ardee Library 041-6859023
Dundalk Library 042-9353190
Dunleer Library 041-6859016
Drogheda Library 041-9876162
Carlingford Library 042-9324113

A collection of books will be put together based on your reading interests and will be delivered safely to your door

Includes logos for Louth County Council and Reading Agency.

EServices

BORROWBOX IS ALWAYS OPEN

DOWNLOAD THE APP NOW

Includes logos for Louth County Council and Borrow Box.

There is a wide range of eServices available to library members, including free eBooks & eAudiobooks through Borrow Box.



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

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

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

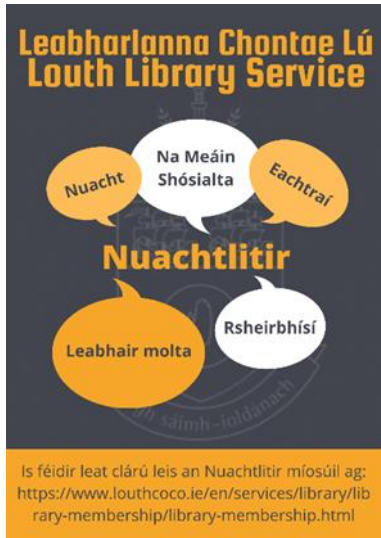
LOTE New eService



LOTE Online for Kids

LOTE Online for Kids (LOTE) is the latest eService offered by Louth Library Service. Launched in February as part of the Ireland Reads initiative, LOTE is a database for Primary School aged children of digital books, stories, and activities, which boasts over 1,200 digital picture books in more than 40 world languages, including English translations. Just like the other eServices, LOTE, which stands for 'Languages Other Than English', is absolutely free to all Louth Library Service members.

For more information, or to get started click here: <https://lote4kids.com/uk-louth-county-council/>



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

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

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

Click here to read this month's newsletter

<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/blog-and-newsletter/louth-library-newsletter-march-2022.pdf>

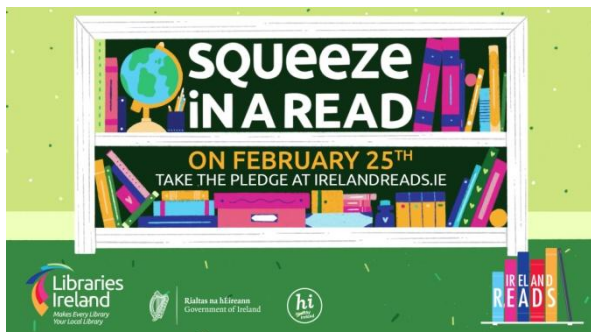
Louth Library Service delivered a successful Ireland Reads Campaign in February. Social media gained over 2,000 views which featured Reading Ambassadors such as Luke O'Neill, Dr Niamh Shaw, Garda Anita O'Shea from Drogheda Garda Station, Comedian Gearoid Farrelly and many more. Blog Interviews from the author of Leonard and Hungry, Paul Rónán Hession; Author Meg Grehan; Blogger, Creative Writer and Bookseller Ross Kelly, and many more.

Louth Library Staff facilitated arts & crafts, storytimes, book recommendations, and library users even sent in photos of their pets reading!




Right to Read at your Library

Ireland Reads



"If you liked *Song of Achilles*, Madeleine Miller's *Circe* is just the read for you. *Circe*, daughter of a god, is exiled by Zeus who is threatened by her witchcraft. This retelling explores how *Circe* plays a pivotal role in some of the greatest Greek myths."

- Ray, Drogheda Library



Drogheda Library designed a very popular Reading Tree where children can add a pledge card with the amount of time they will read on Ireland Reads Day, February 25th.



Dundalk Library designed an hour glass where readers can add the time they were going to read on February 25th.



Ireland Reads campaign nationally pledged 246,598 minutes to read on the 25th of February.

Let's Get Reading...

Our monthly Let's Get Reading schedule continues during March, with lots of fun stories, chapter readings and crafts.

Let's Get Reading

Join us throughout the month of March for some super storytimes and crafts right here on our Facebook page

Saturday March 5th @11am
Crafts with Amy

Thursday March 10th @6.30pm
Exploring Non Fiction with Eilish
A Chapter read from "Island of Adventures" by Jennifer Farley
Followed by "Let's See Ireland" by Sarah Bowie

Saturday March 12th @11am
Crafts with Eileen

Wednesday March 16th @10.30am
Babies Love Books!
Baby Book Club with Ted & Annemarie

Wednesday March 23rd @6.30pm
Chapter Reading with Lisa
"Fionn and the Fianna: Small Kid, Big Legend" By Ronan Moore

Tuesday March 29th @6.30pm
Chapter Reading with Annemarie
A traditional story from "Boom Chick A Boom" by Liz Weir

Right to Read at your Library

Comhairle Ceantair Leath-Chontae Council

Little Library Book Bags

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

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



This 3rd phase sees a number of elements including 2 dedicated events for the sector.

- Little Library-Ireland Reads event in February which featured three pre recorded Storytime's delivered by

Simone Schuemmelfeder to all ELC's in Louth County.

- In addition a Friendship themed event will be delivered during March/April to all ELC's.
- Lastly a Friendship themed book bag available for each Registered ELC/childminders in March.

Parent & Toddler Morning

Every Thursday at 10am in Dundalk & Drogheda libraries were delighted to resume the parent and toddler mornings, on Thursday 17th February, the first since the pandemic began. These will run every Thursday from 10am-12noon. The parent and toddler mornings will resume in Ardee Library from Wednesday 02nd March and will run every Wednesday from 10.30am-12.30pm.



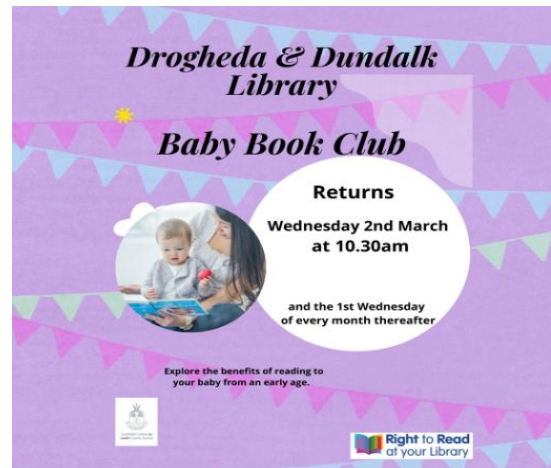
Enjoying the Parent & Toddler Morning in Dundalk Library



Enjoying the Parent & Toddler Morning in Drogheda Library

Baby Book Club

Baby Book Club takes Wednesday 2nd of March at 10:30am. Explore the benefits of reading to your baby from an early age as Baby Book Club returns to Dundalk & Drogheda Libraries on Wednesday 2nd March at 10.30am and on the first Wednesday of every month thereafter.



Mothers Day Arts & Crafts

Mothers Day Arts & Crafts takes place Dundalk Library on Saturday 26th of March at 3pm. Attendees will create a unique work of art in this creative workshop that will be the perfect gift for Mother's Day. Booking via Timify

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

Ciorcal Cómhrá / Irish Conversation

Ar mhaith leat do chuid Gaeilge a úsáid nó a chleachtadh? Tá an Ciorcal Cómhrá i leabharlann Dhún Dealgan ar ais! Beidh sé ar siúl ar an gcéad Máirt chuile mhí ag 4 sa leabharlann. Tá sé dírithe ar dhaoine fásta ar mhaith leo an Ghaeilge a fhoghlaim nó a úsáid.

Would you like to use or practice your Irish skills? The Ciorcal Cómhrá in Dundalk Library is back! Taking place on the first Tuesday of every month at 4pm in Dundalk Library, the group is aimed at adults who would like to learn or practice Irish.

For more information, contact Dundalk Library on 042 935 3190.

**Gioréal Cómhrá
Irish Conversation**

Ar mhaith leat do chuid Gaeilge a úsáid nó a chleachtadh?

Would you like to use or practice your Irish skills?

Beidh gioréal cómhra ar siúl ar an geóad Máirt chulle mhí ag 4 i Leabharlann Dhún Dealgan.

The Irish conversation group meets at 4pm on the first Tuesday of every month in Dundalk Library.

For more information, contact Dundalk Library on 042 935 3190.



Comhairle Contae Lá
South County Council

**Seachtain na Gaeilge
01st-17th March**



Ag Léamh faoin mBinse Scoile: Scéal Chathail Uí Shándair / Reading under the School Desk: The Story of Cathal Ó Sándair
An Exhibition in Dundalk Library, March 1-26 with launch on Thursday March 10th at 6:30pm

For forty years Cathal Ó Sándair (1922-1996) got Ireland's teenagers enthusiastic about reading books in Irish – sometimes even under the school desk. Detectives, adventure, cowboys, sci-fi – Ó Sándair tried his hand at every genre to engage young readers, and succeeded. This bilingual exhibition, part of a centenary celebration of Cathal Ó Sándair, tells the story of the best-selling Irish-language author you've probably never heard of. Bealach iontach le ceiliúradh a dhéanamh ar Sheachtain na Gaeilge!

St. Patrick's Day Crafts

St. Patrick's Day Crafts for Children takes place in Drogheda Library on Saturday 05th March at 10am. Library staff will host a St Patrick's Day themed crafts workshop for children age 5-7yrs on Saturday 05th March at 10am. To book a place contact Drogheda Library on 041 9876162.

St. Patrick's Day Crafts
with Eileen and Eilish
Suitable for ages 5-7

Venue: Drogheda Library
Saturday 5th March @10am
Booking Essential!
To book your place
Contact Drogheda Library
@ 041-9876162
Or Pop In
New Members Always
Welcome

Right to Read
at your Library

Scéalaíocht do pháistí!

In collaboration with the Drogheda Branch of Conradh na Gaeilge there will be music, stories and song 'as gaeilge' for all the family to enjoy. No booking required.

Drogheda Library

Saturday 5th of March at 12noon

**SCÉALAIÓCHT
DO PHÁISTÍ**

Dáta: 5ú Márta
Am: 12i.n.
Áit: Leabharlann,
Droichead Átha

Seachtain na Gaeilge Le enéigí

Conradh na Gaeilge
Craobh na Bóinne
Droichead Átha

Schools events for Seachtain na Gaeilge

Invited school groups will be invited to attend bilingual storytelling workshops and puzzles in Dundalk Library.

World Book Day

World Book Day takes place on Thursday 3rd March. Louth Library Service will celebrate with storytelling, art and library tours for invited school groups.

International Women's Day



Louth Library Service will celebrate International Women's Day with videos posted throughout the day on our social media platforms with speakers discussing this year's theme "Break The Bias" and book displays in libraries. The speakers will also discuss their roles in Irish life and the issues facing women today.

To celebrate
International Women's Day
Louth Library Service Presents

"Wild Women in Mythology"

A conversation with An Tain
Artist in Residence
Tara Tine
Drogheda Library
@ 6pm
on March 8th

To book a space contact Drogheda Library
on 0419876162

For more celebrations
Join Louth Library Service
on Facebook, Instagram & Twitter for
speakers discussing this year's theme
"Break The Bias"



"Wild Women in Mythology"

Tara Tine - Artist in Residence in An Tain Arts Centre. Tuesday, 8th of March at 6pm, Drogheda Library.

This International Women's Day, Drogheda Library will sit down and chat to Tara all about her work, including the fascinating story of An Tain Bó Cúailnge, which she also plans on exploring during her three month artist in residency in An Tain Arts Centre.

Tara has published a number of novels, released EPs, and, during Covid, she found a way to bring her craft to YouTube where she expanded and created 'The Diary of a Ditch Witch' which began looking at local legends, folklore and history.

To book a place contact Drogheda Library on 041 9876162.

Other Events

Computer Classes



Age Action Computer Classes

This five week course with Age Action will begin in Drogheda Library on Friday, March 4th and Dundalk Library from Wednesday, March 16th . The course offers free one-to-one tuition for people over the age of 55 who have little or no computer experience.

To book email gettingstarted@ageaction.ie or telephone 01 4756989.

Primary Schools Service

Primary School virtual visits are continuing throughout March, beginning on World Book Day, March 03rd. Virtual or in-person visits are now open for booking. For more details, contact your local branch library, or email aoife.carberry@louthcoco.ie.

Secondary Schools Service

Literacy Week

Louth Library Service is delighted to be supporting Coláiste Chú Chulainn as they celebrate Literacy Week in early March. First year students will get a chance to virtually meet with one of our Librarians, who will talk about the wealth of services, both online and offline, that the libraries offer. Students will also be given the opportunity to join the library.

Other News

Quiet Time

Quiet Time has resumed in Dundalk, Drogheda, and Ardee Libraries, providing a peaceful hour for those who may ordinarily find the library to be an overwhelming environment.

Dundalk & Drogheda Libraries: every Monday 6pm-7pm

Ardee library: Every Saturday 10am-11am

Phones will be turned down, lights dimmed, and sensory equipment and toys will be laid out. For more information, contact your local branch library.



LGMA Skills-Sharing Webinar

Louth Library Service will be represented at upcoming skills-share webinars for library staff, organised by the LGMA's Service Delivery Committee and Workforce Development Working Group. In March, the team will present on Primary and Secondary School services, and how they have adapted to suit the ever-changing need of our school communities.

In April, Louth Library Service staff will present on the 'Let's Get Reading' online initiative, and other ways in which Louth Library Service promotes books and reading in our younger borrowers. These sessions will take place online, and will be available to library staff all over Ireland.

Louth County Archives



National Retention Policy Records Management Working Group

The draft revisions for Community, IT, and Library are in progress, while Environment is close to being finalised. To date, Health & Safety, Planning & Development, Housing, Procurement, Finance, HR, Water, Corporate and Enterprise & Economic Development have been completed, approved and issued out to local authorities.

The Co Archivist assists staff on an ongoing basis with queries on the management of records and advises on the preparation of records both for destruction and for transfer to the Records Centre and the Co Archives. Work on reviewing

and appraising records for archives or destruction is being carried out.

Research Enquiries

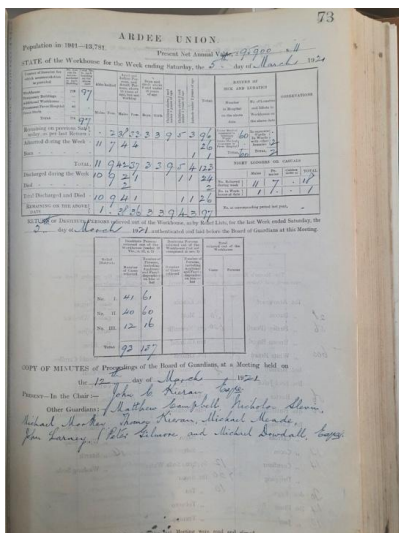
The Archivist has been assisting researchers with various enquiries relating to local history and family history.

Donating Archives

The Service welcomes donations of archives and records from the public that relate to all aspects of the development of County Louth including material from community groups, clubs and societies, national schools, individuals, local organizations and local businesses. These collections make available unique and valuable research sources for the study of Louth's heritage. If you have a collection that you would be willing to donate, or know of someone who would, please contact the County Archivist by email at archive@louthcoco.ie or by telephone at 042-9324358.

Decade of Centenaries

The County Archives has submitted an application under the 2022 programme involving the minute books of the Board of Guardians and Rural District Councils dating to the centenary period. The proposed project will develop curated digital content that will support research and scholarship.



The County Archives will launch its short-film and accompanying booklet on 'Dundalk Jail during the Civil War period' on 23rd March. This centenary project was produced in 2021 and is a definitive account of the events in the jail and local area at the time. It will be made available online and copies of the booklet will be available from the County Archives or libraries.

Climate Action

The Co Archives supports corporate Climate Action Goals.

Arts Service

CreateLouth Arts Grants 2022

This year's arts grants are now open for application. Grants include the Tyrone Guthrie Residency, Schools Musical Instrument Scheme and Drama League of Ireland Summer School Scholarship. Closing date is Wednesday 6th April at 4.p.m and application forms can be found here:

<https://www.createlouth.ie/fundinginfo/>

Creative Ireland

Planning is underway for the 'Lullaby Leaf' project which is a cross county collaboration between the Creative Ireland teams in Louth, Meath, Monaghan and Cavan. 'Lullaby Leaf' is an immersive theatre experience which is being specially commissioned for the Down



Syndrome Ireland branches in the 4 counties. The project will be researched and devised especially for the participants and over the course of 4 weeks in October members from each county will be invited to take part in a series of workshops in their local area.

<https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/en/event/the-lullaby-leaf-project-for-children-with-down->

[syndrome-a-collaboration-between-the-creative-ireland-teams-in-cavan-monaghan-louth-and-meath/](https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/en/louth/)

For information on all our other Creative Ireland projects being delivered this year check out the Louth page of Creative Ireland <https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/en/louth/> or follow us on Facebook at Creative Ireland Louth.

First Fortnight

Workshops continued throughout February between Art Therapist Jenny Slater and service users of local mental health providers. These workshops are allowing the participants to immerse themselves in art and express themselves in a secure and safe space.

An Tain Arts Centre

The Bystander Effect exhibition by Alison Lowry continues until the end of March in the Basement Gallery in An Táin. The exhibition examines the role that we, as a society, had in allowing an 'architecture of containment' to develop in Northern Ireland with Industrial Schools, Magdalene Laundries and Mother & Baby Institutes. The exhibition is free and can be viewed Tues-Sat 10a.m – 4p.m

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



Droichead Arts Centre

DRAWDA - a curated multidisciplinary public arts programme that has been taking place since November and will finish at the end of March. The project is supported by the Arts Council of Ireland under their Faoin Spéir Initiative, Louth County Council, Drogheda BIDS and Town & Village Accelerated Measures funding.

The project is delivering 6 murals based on some of the key figures rooted in mythology the Boyne Valley Region. The project will be fully inclusive working with local communities and supporting 14 artists in total.

<https://www.droichead.com/show-detail/?id=87362803>

Drogheda Classical Music Festival

The final installment of the DCM presents a delightful concert of works for voice and piano. Pianists Lance Coburn and Soo Jung Ann are joined by Rachel Croash soprano, Sharon Carty mezzo soprano, Gavan Ring tenor and Rory Musgrave baritone for duos, trios and quartets. The programme features a selection of familiar works by Schubert, Liza Lehmann & Brahms's.

<https://www.droichead.com/show-detail/?id=873630771>



Music Generation Louth

This year marks the 10th Anniversary of Music Generation Louth and what a great way to start. The Senior Strings made their way to the National Concert hall on 19th February to take part in the National Festival of Youth Orchestras. They had an amazing day and even featured in RTE's 'News2Day' in the run up to the big event.

Platform 31 - COUNTY Artists - Call for Applications

Platform 31 is a nationwide artist development scheme by the 31 Local Authority Arts Offices in collaboration with the @Arts Council of Ireland,

designed to support and enable career development for 31 mid-career artists, all art forms. In 2022,

participating artists will receive an €8,000 bursary to invest in themselves and their practice, combined with participation in a developmental and networking framework. The programme lasts for approx 6 months from May to October 2022.

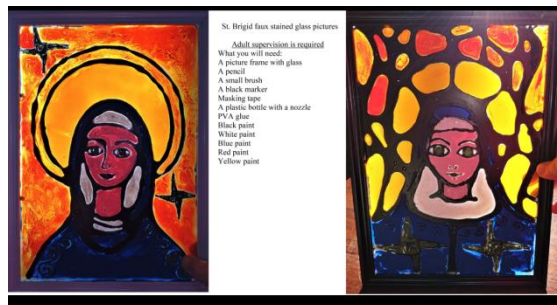
Closing date is Wednesday 30th March 2022- see <https://platform31.localartsireland.ie/> for details of scheme and how to apply.

County Museum

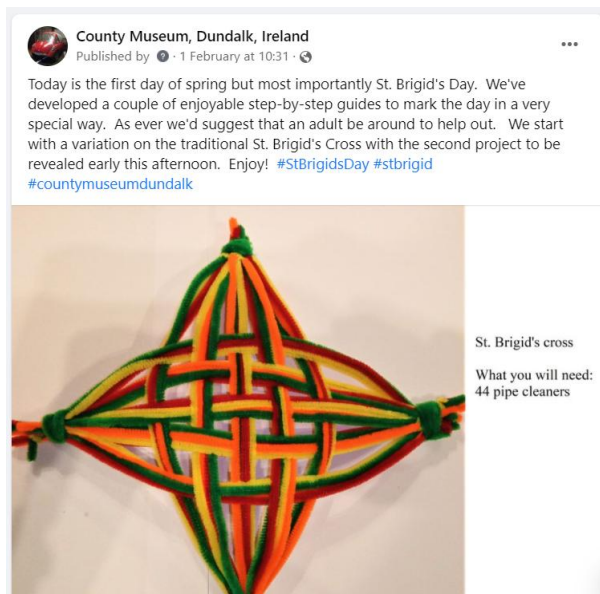
The Museum welcomed its first set of school visitors in two years earlier this month with three classes from Bush Post-Primary School enjoying their visit.

Online

The Museum’s Facebook pages continue to provide a welcome resource for stakeholders. To mark St. Brigid’s Day the Museum uploaded two online education projects. The first invited viewers to make a less familiar Brigid’s Cross to striking effect. The second project featured a step-by-step guide to create a faux stained glass window.



Recent Acquisitions



Earlier this month the Museum was presented with the goalkeeper’s jersey worn by Charlie Tizard. Though born in England Tizard played for Dundalk in the late 1930s. The donated jersey was the one he wore playing for a League of Ireland XI in a match against the Irish League during the Emergency. The jersey had previously featured in the One Team, One Dream exhibition.

Climate Action

As a member of the Quality of Life team the Museum continues to support corporate Climate Action Goals.

Heritage Office

The Heritage Officer received an Outstanding Achievement Award from the National Biodiversity Data Centre for having submitted more than one thousand biological records during 2021.

February's work was dominated by developing funding applications to: The Community Monuments Fund; the Irish Walled Towns Network's funds and the (renamed) Local Biodiversity Action Plan Fund, both directly for the local authority's own projects and in support of local community groups and their ambitions. The Heritage Officer continued to collaborate with the Carlingford Lough Heritage Trust on their plans for events to mark Saint Patrick's Day at the Tholsel, with funding support from the social media company Tik-Tok.

The Heritage Officer signed off on the final designs for the interpretation panels for Castletown motte and the Hill of Faughart, as part of the LEADER-funded tourism development project. The objective is to have the interpretation signage in place by May but this depends on the receipt of consent from the statutory agencies responsible for these sites.

Liaison continued in relation to the draft new Monuments and Archaeology Heritage Bill.

The Heritage Officer attended a meeting with NMDDC in Newry, to discuss cross-border working. Discussions were also held with staff in NMDDC's Ring of Gullion office about cross-border footpaths. Support was also provided to planning (including site inspections and reporting).