



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 April 2022  
7 Aibreáin 2022**

Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report - 31 March 2022  
Tuairisc Bainistíochta ag an bPríomhfheidhmeannach - 31 Marta 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 31st March 2022

Section	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE TO 31/03/22	BUDGET EXPENDITURE 2022	% SPENT TO 31/03/22
Housing	8,072,540	47,728,898	17%
Road Transportation & Safety	5,507,214	26,126,012	21%
Water Services	2,119,501	8,379,633	25%
Development Management	3,282,983	17,331,075	19%
Environmental Services	3,753,473	19,413,023	19%
Recreation and Amenity	1,990,175	9,615,255	21%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	217,367	1,203,454	18%
Miscellaneous	2,416,131	10,474,400	23%
	<b>27,359,384</b>	<b>140,271,750</b>	<b>20%</b>

### Income to 31st March 2022

Section	ACTUAL INCOME TO 31/03/22	BUDGET INCOME 2022	% INVOICED TO 31/03/22
Housing	8,216,614	48,920,854	17%
Road Transportation & Safety	513,873	16,718,183	3%
Water Services	1,279,120	8,110,634	16%
Development Management	1,646,912	10,250,958	16%
Environmental Services	444,882	2,253,742	20%
Recreation and Amenity	162,436	1,043,293	16%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	65,971	479,424	14%
Miscellaneous	1,530,783	7,097,817	22%
Rates	34,988,114	35,030,647	100%
General Purpose Grant (LPT)	3,288,732	9,866,198	33%
Provision for Debit Balance	0	500,000	0%
	<b>52,137,437</b>	<b>140,271,750</b>	<b>37%</b>

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

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

### Debtors as at 31st March 2022

	Opening Balance	Invoices	Receipts	Write Offs	Closing Balance
<b>Government Debtors</b>	<b>10,304,674</b>	9,065,737	(15,283,353)	0	<b>4,087,058</b>
<b>Other Local Authorities</b>	<b>53,434</b>	234,974	(161,328)	0	<b>127,080</b>
<b>Rates</b>	<b>10,273,724</b>	34,988,114	(7,989,007)	(1,199,904)	<b>36,072,927</b>
<b>Rents</b>	<b>2,517,135</b>	3,313,665	(3,234,718)	0	<b>2,596,082</b>
<b>Loans</b>	<b>241,004</b>	466,523	(451,185)	0	<b>256,342</b>
<b>Development Levies</b>	<b>11,451,043</b>	850,022	(651,822)	(174,143)	<b>11,475,100</b>
<b>Fire Charges</b>	<b>707,144</b>	142,545	(93,734)	(20,041)	<b>735,914</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>2,513,794</b>	2,460,523	(1,846,569)	(21,347)	<b>3,106,401</b>
<b>TOTAL DEBTORS</b>	<b>38,061,952</b>	<b>51,522,103</b>	<b>(29,711,716)</b>	<b>(1,415,435)</b>	<b>58,456,904</b>

Above are the debtor balances as at 31st March 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.

The write off figure for Rates includes the Quarter 1 2022 Rates Waiver of €998.7k which is funded and is the final rates waiver.

The development levies debtors figures includes €862k long term debtors transferring to current debtors.

### 2021 Annual Financial Statement

The 2021 Annual Financial Statement is now completed and it is on the agenda for the April meeting of the Council. The monthly report for December is updated below with the final figures for 2021.

### Expenditure to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

Section	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE TO 31/12/21	BUDGET EXPENDITURE 2021	% SPENT TO 31/12/21
Housing	38,565,896	<b>39,706,362</b>	97%
Road Transportation & Safety	26,673,307	<b>26,232,178</b>	102%
Water Services	6,424,044	<b>7,854,289</b>	82%
Development Management	17,709,920	<b>17,057,986</b>	104%
Environmental Services	18,087,954	<b>18,475,519</b>	98%
Recreation and Amenity	9,161,901	<b>9,425,077</b>	97%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,089,780	<b>1,180,833</b>	92%
Miscellaneous	19,476,957	<b>10,604,375</b>	184%
	<b>137,189,759</b>	<b>130,536,619</b>	<b>105%</b>

### Income to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

<b>Section</b>	<b>ACTUAL INCOME TO 31/12/21</b>	<b>BUDGET INCOME 2021</b>	<b>% INVOICED TO 31/12/21</b>
Housing	38,741,184	<b>40,590,850</b>	95%
Road Transportation & Safety	15,346,113	<b>16,802,175</b>	91%
Water Services	6,181,391	<b>7,598,460</b>	81%
Development Management	11,411,400	<b>10,177,060</b>	112%
Environmental Services	2,518,212	<b>2,150,427</b>	117%
Recreation and Amenity	1,093,556	<b>962,409</b>	114%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	517,854	<b>455,146</b>	114%
Miscellaneous	17,642,992	<b>6,496,645</b>	272%
Rates	35,233,676	<b>35,437,249</b>	99%
General Purpose Grant (LPT)	9,866,198	<b>9,866,198</b>	100%
	<b>138,552,876</b>	<b>130,536,619</b>	<b>106%</b>

Collection rates as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 are as follows:

### Debtors as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

	<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>Invoices</b>	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Write Offs</b>	<b>Closing Balance</b>
<b>Government Debtors</b>	<b>9,101,755</b>	128,941,342	(127,738,272)	(152)	<b>10,304,673</b>
<b>Other Local Authorities</b>	<b>111,441</b>	802,535	(860,542)	0	<b>53,434</b>
<b>Rates</b>	<b>11,030,292</b>	35,233,677	(23,665,140)	(12,325,104)	<b>10,273,724</b>
<b>Rents</b>	<b>2,968,564</b>	12,878,525	(13,231,193)	(98,761)	<b>2,517,135</b>
<b>Loans</b>	<b>283,360</b>	1,754,210	(1,796,566)	0	<b>241,004</b>
<b>Development Levies</b>	<b>10,622,066</b>	4,824,198	(3,396,687)	(598,534)	<b>11,475,043</b>
<b>Fire Charges</b>	<b>750,804</b>	435,386	(327,959)	(151,087)	<b>707,144</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>1,847,991</b>	11,275,401	(10,981,539)	(181,499)	<b>1,960,354</b>
<b>TOTAL DEBTORS</b>	<b>36,716,273</b>	<b>196,145,274</b>	<b>(181,997,898)</b>	<b>(13,355,138)</b>	<b>37,508,511</b>

# Water Services

## 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 Operations Section continues to engage with IW and the design team to support the project. Land acquisition currently being progressed. Project to include works at Mullacrew Reservoir, new PS at Allardstown and new PS at Bannons Cross.

### Cavanhill WTW Upgrade

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

### Staleen WTW Upgrade

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

### Omeath WWTW

Site mobilisation and setup of site compound has been completed. Construction Phase has commenced. Project programmed for completion 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. Phase 1 of SWELL Project is complete.

### Regional Sewer Network Rehabilitation

Programme for 2021 completed. Further network surveys to be progressed under 2022 programme for Louth. Works have commenced in Drogheda and Dundalk.

### Dundalk Drainage Area Plan (DAP)

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.

Detailed Strategic Model to be complete by end of Q2.

### **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. Design Review meeting completed on 23rd March 2022.

### **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 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 Q2 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 Q2 and project to progress through 2022.

### **Cockle Hill PS Upgrade**

Workshop 4 has been completed and contractor has been appointed. Works to be progressed in Q3 2022.

## **Water Networks**

### **Water Networks Programme**

### **Rehabilitation Programme**

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

- Cast iron network replacement in Pearse Park Drogheda - 95% Completed
- Cast iron network replacement in Sliabh Breagh – Ardee 95% Completed
- Cast iron network replacement in Tallanstown - Phase 1 Completed, Phase 2 at detail design
- Design development for the slip lining of the watermain through the Bridge of Peace – Design ongoing.

### **Lead replacement / Back Yard Services**

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

### **First Fix**

2 first fix type repairs were undertaken by Irish Water contractors in March.

### **Find & Fix**

Louth County Council crews undertook Find and Fix activities in Drogheda, Colon, Dunbin, Lordship and Jenkinstown during March.

### **Water Scouring Programme 2022**

Localised flushing only in March.

### **Network Maintenance**

52 essential water tasks were carried out in March including 50 arising out of the Find and Fix program (all in Drogheda).

50 wastewater issues were resolved during March involving attendance by IW jetting contractor on 28 of these (16 Dundalk, 22 Drogheda and 12 in the County Area).

### **Planning & Water Connections**

The Networks Section processed 18 new connections, 28 Pre-Connection Enquiries and 26 Planning Applications in March.

### **Service Maps**

The Networks Section prepared 13 Service Maps in March.

## **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**

**Thomas McEvoy  
A/Director / G/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 on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April. There will be a presentation on the Regional Enterprise Plan to 2024 from the N.E. Regional Manager of the Dept of Enterprise, Trade and Employment

#### **Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme 2022**

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

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

Full details available on the Louth County Council website at <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/economic-development/business-incentive-schemes-retail-prospectus/>.

### **Tourism**

**'sea louth'**



Sea Louth ran a successful competition in the Irish Times which has raised the profile of the trail. There are some press visits in the pipeline for later

this month and further press competitions and promotions planned.

### **Fáilte Ireland Funding:**

#### **Urban Animation**

Work on the project which involves:

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

Tender for the first stage will be advertised this month

#### **Destination Towns Capital Investment Programme**

Tender evaluation has taken place based on the tenders received for the Manufacture & Installation of the signage. However, as the tenders received did not fulfil all the requirements of the Request for Tender, the works need to be re-tendered.

Further works are ongoing on the project which is due to be completed in 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**

Plans are under to further develop the Boyne Valley Culinary project together with a review of the Food & Drink Strategy for the Boyne Valley region to ensure the Boyne Valley region continues to be recognised as the leading national food and craft drinks destination and to stand out food region within Ireland's Ancient East

## LEO Louth

### COVID-19 Business Supports



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

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

### 'Look for Local' / 'Shop Local'

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

New businesses can be included on the Louth online directory by emailing: [tradingonline@leo.louthcoco.ie](mailto:tradingonline@leo.louthcoco.ie).

### Local Enterprise Week Louth 2022



LEO Louth delivered Local Enterprise Week from 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> March with a wide range of national, regional and Louth based seminars and workshops on key areas of interest to businesses. The events were well attended across the board and it is hoped

next year that we may be able to move back to a hybrid version with some events in person.

LEO Louth hosted one of the National Spotlight Events focusing on the Retail sector and the event was opened by Minister Damien English, Minister for Business, Employment and Retail on 7<sup>th</sup> March.

Featured are three of the events that took place during Local Enterprise Week.

### National Enterprise Awards 2022



LEO Louth announced county winners of the National Enterprise Awards during Local Enterprise Week. Awards were presented to the Best Start-Up Business, Best Established Business, and an Innovation and Sustainability Award. With an Overall county finalist picked to represent Louth in the national final.

### Innovation Award & Overall Winner



*Joan Martin, CE Louth County Council presenting the Innovation Award to Conor Kerley, Setanta Nutrition Ltd., T/A Phytaphix*

Conor Kerley, Setanta Nutrition Ltd., T/A Phytaphix won the Innovation Award and were also chosen as Overall County Winner to represent County Louth

in the National Final to be held in Mansion House in June.



**Conor Kerley, Setanta Nutrition Ltd., T/A Phytaphix with both his Innovation Award and Overall County Winner Award**

Joan Martin, CE Louth County Council presents the award for Best Start-Up Business to Nathanael Cooney from Digital Design Consultancy.

**Sustainability Award**



**Joan Martin, CE Louth County Council and Sarah McKenna from Sarah McKenna Ceramics**

**Best Established Business**



**Thomas McEvoy, Local Enterprise Office and Colm O'Hagan from Project Engineering**

Thomas McEvoy, LEO Louth presents the Best Established Business Award to Colm O'Hagan, Project Engineering.

Joan Martin, CE Louth County Council presents the Sustainability Award to Sarah McKenna from Sarah McKenna Ceramics.

**Drogheda Implementation Board**

The Enterprise Business & Employment Sub-Group chaired by LEO Louth met on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

**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 held a virtual Cross Border Conference on the morning of Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March. Interest in this event was particularly high over 300 attending the event virtually.

**Best Start-up Business**



**Joan Martin, CE Louth County Council and Nathanael Cooney, Digital Design Consultancy**

The Conference was opened by the Leas Cathaoirleach James Byrne and included an address by Minister for Public Expenditure & Reform, Michael McGrath TD.

This Cross-Border Conference provided businesses with among other things an update on the challenges, opportunities and supports available.

## Student Enterprise Programme



The Student Enterprise Programme for the 2021 - 2022 academic year culminated in the Final being held on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March during Local Enterprise Week. There were numerous winners across a wide range of categories. The County Winners going forward to the National Final in May are:

- Senior Winner - Roci Sport, Ardee Community School
- Intermediate Winner - Jewellery by Saoirse, Our Lady's College, Drogheda
- Junior Winner - Handmade by Laoise, Scoil Uí Mhuire, Dunleer
- My Entrepreneurial Journey - Pottery by D. St. Vincent's, Dundalk

The award ceremony was held virtually on 11<sup>th</sup> March. Preparations are currently underway to present the students with their awards in the Town Hall, Dundalk.

## Trading in a Post Brexit Environment

Drogheda Chamber of Commerce co-hosted a virtual Brexit event on 29<sup>th</sup> March. Both LEO Louth and InterTrade Ireland presented on supports available to businesses.

## 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.

### Microfinance Ireland Loan:

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

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

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

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



During March all of the 5 no. business support programmes launched in 2021 concluded.

## 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 will continue to be delivered throughout 2022.

**1 no.** Louth business was approved in March bringing our approvals YTD to 5 no.

LEO Louth continues to welcome new applications.

## LEO Louth Client Portfolio Review / Export Adviser Programme

Under this Programme LEO has procured 3 no. consultants who have commenced engagements with our portfolio clients.

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



March was a busy month for training with **9 no.** workshops in total. Workshops included TikTok for Your Business, Marketing for Your Business and Developing a Winning Mindset.

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 **2 no.** applications for Trading Online support received in March. **9 no.** Vouchers have been approved YTD.

## Business Advice Clinics

**46** business advice appointments were provided by telephone and video conference to entrepreneurs throughout the County during March.

## 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.

**13** businesses were appointed Mentors during the month of March.

## 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 March, **4 no.** applications for support were received, and **1 no.** application was submitted to MFI.

LEO mentors are continuing to assist applicants.

### Micro-Finance Ireland – New Electric Vehicle Taxi Loan



Microfinance Ireland has a 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.

Its primary features are:

- 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 is a Virtual Business to Business Meet. The first group had their virtual B2B on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2022. The remainder are due to have their Business to Business Meet on the 26<sup>th</sup> April.

### LEAN for Micro Programme



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

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

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

### 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 **74** 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.

## **European Relations**

### **Peace IV Programme**



### **Ongoing Projects**

The programme delivery of 'Community Capacity Building' (Theme: Building Positive Relations) is continuing. The closing event is being held on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022. The other Building Positive Relations Project "Leading the Way" will complete in April, 2022.

Works have commenced on the Shared Spaces Project "Dundalk War Memorial". The memorial is under construction with an estimated completion by end of April 2022. 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 May, 2022.

Peters Hill Tender – replies were received on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2022



*Commencement of the installation of the Dundalk War Memorial*

### **PEACE PLUS (2021 – 2027)**

The development of a new Partnership committee for PEACE PLUS is ongoing.

## **Infrastructure**

### **Roads Projects**

#### **Narrow Water Bridge**

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

A North South Ministerial Infrastructure Sub Group meeting was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> March, with a further one to be held in April.

Engagement with DFI Infrastructure, Loughs Agency, NPW, etc. is ongoing in order to discharge the Conditions of Planning. Tenders for wind tunnel modelling, bathymetric / topographical surveys have been received and are being assessed. Detailed design and environmental management plans are currently being updated.

#### **N53 - Dundalk to Castleblayney Road Phase 4. Hackballscross to Rassin**

Louth County Council await correspondence from An Bord Pleanála regarding the CPO process, 13 objections were received by ABP. 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, and the format for these discussions will be considered over the coming months. N2 Project Phonenumber 087 340 3786, or email: [ArdeeCastleblayney@N2MonaghanLouth.ie](mailto:ArdeeCastleblayney@N2MonaghanLouth.ie) [www.N2MonaghanLouth.ie](http://www.N2MonaghanLouth.ie).

### **N52 Ardee Bypass**

The submissions on the Part 8 have been assessed and it is intended to bring this Part 8 to Ardee MD on the 7<sup>th</sup> April for resolution. Note: A local environmental group are seeking leave for a Judicial Review against An Bord Pleanála and their directions to Louth County Council concerning the preparations of an EIAR and NIS. This application is to be heard at the end of April.

### **TII HD17 Schemes**

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

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

### **Safety Barriers - N53 and N52**

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

### **N33 & N51 Pavement Scheme**

Surfacing Works are near complete on the N33 in the vicinity of M1 interchange.

Surfacing Works are ongoing on the N51 near the tie in to the M1 Interchange.

### **N2 Collon Safety Scheme**

TII have now approved the preliminary design report for the safety scheme in Collon, these works are at detail design stage.

### **Port Access Northern Cross Route**

Hedge removal works are completed within the CPO land. These works were carried out within the permitted season such that if any ongoing discussion with developers 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**

Tender documents have been reviewed and updated to reflect the inflation clause in the CWMF documents issued by the government. It is expected to advertise for Tender in mid-April. Ongoing consultations are taking place with stakeholders / landowner.

### **R178 Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Route Improvement Scheme**

The project has been reactivated with Cavan County Council being the lead authority. Currently the consultants are reviewing the route using a RibGeom method of assessment. This type of assessment will identify sections of the route corridor where the greatest collision risk exists and these will form a basis of a phased improvement strategy for the route corridor. Currently the consultants are in the process of completing this process and it's envisaged a Risk Based Safety Improvement Measures Report, subject to approval by DoT, will be completed early in the New Year 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 the identified Risk sections of the R178, subject 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 received and Louth County Council engaging with affected parties to resolve outstanding issues from submissions. Letter received from ABP pushing back the determination date until the 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 border Interreg Greenway projects with a decision expected in 2022.

Updated submission to NI Planning Department in regards to DFI comments. It is anticipated that Planning Permission in N.I. will be decided upon in 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**

Consultant is preparing for Public Consultation No.1 - Constraints Study with view of a date in May.

Wintering Bird survey ongoing.

Scope being prepared for drone survey of route corridors and tender to be issued thereafter.

Traffic counts being carried out at several locations by Louth County Council.

### **TII Funded Greenway: Templetown to Dundalk**

TII have allocated monies towards the feasibility of a new greenway from Templetown to Dundalk. A meeting with National Road Design Office on 3<sup>rd</sup> March to discuss possibility of resources to assist in the project and a site visit is planned for early April.

### **LiHAF Projects**

#### **LIHAF Access Road at Newtown, Drogheda**

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

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

#### **LIHAF Mount Avenue Improvement**

Finalisation of tender documents is currently ongoing. Tender document to be issued early April to the market for construction.

Notice to Treat of the CPO was served on the 14<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Safety Improvement Works**

#### **Retrofit Fencing**

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

#### **Ardee Pedestrian Crossing**

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

## Specific Bridge Improvement Grants

### **Obelisk Bridge**

Requested peer review by DTTAS is now completed. The design team are finalising revised tender documents prior to issuing to the market. 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 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2021 for a period of 6 months and the Council regrets any inconvenience that the bridge closure will cause. Scaffolding system now fully in place and channel for river users are in place. Encapsulation system is now in place to meet necessary protection measures. Trial holes on the bridge deck have taken place to establish condition of the deck.

Works are progressing on the main bridge structure. Removing of rust and paint layers from the bridge structure is ongoing. Approx. 10 tonnes of rust material has been removed from the steel structure to date. New steel members are being put in place. Masonry stone work at approaches is being removed to allow for removal of vegetation and rebuilding. Layout of paving agreed and finish.



*St. Dominick's Bridge- Bridge Encapsulation*



*Steel members and splices plates on underside of bridge to be upgraded*

## Public Transport

### **NTA Bus Shelter Installation Programme 2021 – 2022**

The NTA have, through discussions with Bus Operators, their bus shelter supplier, and Louth County Council developed a revised list of 10 proposed schemes detailed below. Louth County Council have issued tender documents for the civil construction elements of the Works with a return date of 31<sup>st</sup> March. Louth County Council will then prepare a Tender Assessment Report in April and will seek NTA Approval to proceed with the Works. 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
- 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 - Callstown Road
- Drogheda – at Newtown Abbey, Newfoundwell Road (R166)
- Dundalk - Rathmount Estate, Seafield Road, Blackrock

## Town & Village Renewal

### **Blackrock Footpaths**

Design works for the 2021 allocation are ongoing.

## **Dromiskin Footpaths**

The contractor has been appointed in October. The works 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**

T&V complete.

## **Corporate Projects**

### **Ardee Castle RRDF**

The public display for the Part 8 application and the period for consultation have closed. The submissions are being assessed and the report is being prepared. It will be brought to the Ardee MD meeting in April for resolution.

### **Redevelopment Fair Street Offices, Drogheda**

Contract signing took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Commencement notice has been submitted by design team, Louth County Council and the successful contractor, Townlink Ltd., who will commence work on site on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2022.



*Contract signing*

## **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 will inform these design options.

## **Omeath Public Realm**

Preferred bidder has been identified and notified and their appointment is progressing.

### **Ardee 2040**

The detailed design and the preparation of the EIAR and AA Screening for Development consent application to ABP are progressing. The report into the Public Engagement Process will be uploaded onto the website early April, [www.ardee2040.ie](http://www.ardee2040.ie).

## **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. The report into the Engagement process has been uploaded to [www.westgatevision.ie](http://www.westgatevision.ie).

### **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**

Works will commence on the development of the Masterplan in early April.

## **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 and Cycling infrastructure and development of transport studies. The current statuses of the ongoing projects are as follows:

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

### **Drogheda 2021 Active Travel Projects**

Tender for Consultants for design and planning the schemes (listed below) was received in December. The tender assessment is complete and the tender has been awarded.

- *Termonfeckin Road, Collon Road, Hill of Rath to Rosehall roundabouts, Rathmullan Road, Dublin Road and North Road*
- Drogheda: Boyne Business Park Link Road: reported as above
- Dundalk: R132 Inner Relief Road: Consultants, Barry Transportation Ltd., are progressing with the development of concept designs and options for the scheme.
- Dublin Road, Dundalk: Consultants (OCSC) are progressing with the development of the design. Road Safety Audit and screening for Environmental Assessments are ongoing.
- Ard Easmuinn Road to Train Station / Friary School Dundalk and Bus Station to Rail Station. Contract for the planning and design of the scheme has been awarded to Consulting Engineers WSP Ltd. Initial meeting in January with concept development and options assessment to progress over the coming months.
- Transport / Mobility Plans:
- **Drogheda & East Meath Transport Plan.** Work on the transport plan is ongoing with the NTA and Meath County Council. Traffic counts to be undertaken at key locations. The results of Stakeholder engagement and Public consultation (Online survey) are being collated.
- R166 Termonfeckin footpath tenders received and procedures to award of contract to MEAT

has been completed. Louth County Council are awaiting on contractor to mobilise and commence work on site.

- Footpath Extensions / Links Package B: See Operations Report on Annagassan. Cheerybrook and Knockbridge, tender awarded to MEAT and works. Louth County Council are awaiting on contractor to mobilise and commence work on site.

### **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 Cycle paths (2.4km)
- R178 Carrickmacross Road Dundalk - New cycle paths
- New Pedestrian Crossings (two) on R132 Inner Relief Road, at Táin Bridge, Dundalk
- Hoeyes Lane (from junction with Dublin Street to junction Naughtons Close) - New Cycle paths
- Mill Street, Dundalk (from Inner Relief Road junction to Castle Road junction (New Cycle path – 440m and upgrade of junctions)
- Hill Street Bridge to Train Station Dundalk - New Cycle paths
- College Heights to Tom Bellew Avenue, Dundalk - New Pedestrian / Cycle path Link

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 and 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](http://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 and Scheme Development. Topographical Surveys have now commenced on site and will continue until May. RPS are now progressing preparation of the CCTV Surveys required to assist preparation of the hydraulic models for the Project. Preparation of tender documents is also continuing for the necessary environmental and ecological surveys on the Project.

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 and 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.

### **Balmers Bog Surface Water Pipe**

Works on pipe laying and trench reinstatement are now complete with surplus flows now diverted through the pipeline. Landscaping works will be

finalised in Spring 2022. Manhole and Inlet Chamber Construction are also complete. Installation of M&E screens, adjustable weir, Penstock and Electrical Control Cabinets are complete. Final Commissioning of the Works is now intended in April 2022 subject to provision of electrical supply.



*Backfilling of Pipeline*



*Inlet Screen*

## **Marine Projects**

### **Coastal Protection Works**

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

### **Schools Programme Projects**

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

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

#### **Ardee E.T.N.S.**

Tender have been received for the construction of the school and is currently being assessed, and the design team are awaiting documentation from the preferred contractor.

Part 8 for the proposed alterations to the SEN units was resolved at the Ardee MD 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 to be completed also.

### **Planning**

#### **Development Management / Bainistíocht Forbartha**

The Planning service indicators for Louth County Council for the month of February, 2022 are given below in tabular form. There were 88 planning applications received during the month of February of which 82 were valid. In addition there were 31 responses received during the month to requests for further information and 30 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	3	26	44	0	73
(ii) No. of decisions determined which required further information / Líon na gcinntí inar iarradh breis eolais	1	10	14	0	25
(iii) Percentage of applications refused / Céatadán na n-	0% (0)	26.92% (7)	4.55% (2)	0% (0)	12.33% (9)

### **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 Co. Louth will be carried out during the design process.

iarratas a diúltaíodh (iv) Number of appeals determined / Líon na n-achomharc a cinneadh	1	3	2	0	6
(v) Percentage of decisions overturned on appeal / Céatadán na gcinntí a cuireadh ar ceal ar achomharc	0% (0)	0% (0)	50% (1)	0% (0)	16.66% (1)

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

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

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development / Forfheidhmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh		Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development / Forfheidhmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh	
	February 2022 / Feabhra 2022	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo	February 2021 / Feabhra 2021	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	29	48	17	32
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	15	46	31	43
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	14	32	12	26
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	1	2	0	0
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	0	1	2	2
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	0	1	1
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	
	March 2022 / Márta 2022	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	2	6
Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which didn't require follow up / Líon na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise	0	1
Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation / Líon na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht	0	8
Number of cases currently under investigation / Líon na gcásanna atá á n-imscúdú faoi láthair	42	48
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	3	10
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	0	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

## **Planning Enforcement – Dangerous Structures / Forfheidhmiú Pleanála – Déanmhais Chontúirteacha**

The Planning Indicators listed below are in relation to Notices issued under the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act, 1964 for the period January to March, 2022.

Tá na Táscairí Pleanála thíos liostaithe bainteach le Fógraí a eisíodh faoin Acht Rialtais Áitiúil (Seirbhísí Sláintíochta) 1964 sa tréimhse Eanáir go Márta, 2022.

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to Dangerous Structures/ Forfheidhmiú maidir le Déanmhais Contúirteacha	
	January - March Eanáir go Márta 2022	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Dangerous Structures files opened / Líon na gcomhad Déanmhais Contúirteach a osclaíodh	12	12
Number of Section 3 (1)(a) Notices – Directing Owner to carry out work / Líon na bhFógraí Alt 3 (1)(a) – Ag Tabhairt ordú d’úinéir obair a dhéanamh	10	10
Number of Section 3 (2)(b) Notices – LCC carry out works / Líon na bhFógraí Alt 3 (2)(b) – Obair le déanamh ag CCL	0	0
Number of Section 2 Notices – Dangerous Place / Líon na bhFógraí Alt 2 – Áit Chontúirteach	1	1
Number of Dangerous Structures entered on the DS Register/Uimhir Dhéanmhais Chontúirteacha curtha leis an gClár na nDéanmhais Chontúirteacha	7	7
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na gcásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	6	6
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0
Number of Dangerous Structures Removed on the DS Register/Uimhir Dhéanmhais Chontúirteacha bainte den Chlár na nDéanmhais Chontúirteacha	13	13
Number of cases closed /Líon na gcásanna a dúnadh	22	22

## **Forward Planning**

### **Conservation Grant Schemes 2022**

A total of 13 projects have received provisional grant funding under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) 2022, with a further 4 projects awarded provisional grant funding under the Historic Structures Fund (HSF) 2022, totalling €296, 596 for the county.

Full details available at

<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/planning/conservation/>.

<b>BHIS - Louth County Council</b>	<b>Grant Awarded</b>
Bellews Castle, Castletown, Dundalk	€12,674
Beaulieu House, Beaulieu Cross, Drogheda	€4,500
Townley Hall, Drogheda	€14,550
The Thatch Public House, Donore Road, Drogheda	€10,000

19 St. Mary's Cottages, Drogheda	€6,356
2 The Sycamores, Greenhills, Drogheda	€12,913
The Red Door Project, St. Mary's Convent, Drogheda	€14,000
Monvallet House , Louth Village, Dundalk	€15,000
Outbuilding, Canontown, Termonfeckin	€13,000
27 Euston Street, Greenore	€5,107
Banktown, Baltray	€4,500
Lisrenny, Tallanstown	€10,600
Whiterath Cottage, Dromiskin	€3,200

### Strategic Housing Development (SHD)

A Strategic Housing Development application has been received by An Bord Pleanála for 272 residential units including associated infrastructure.

HSF - Louth County Council	Grant Awarded
Stream 1	
Carrickadoon Thatch, Carrickadoon, Louth Village	€36,000
Stream 1 - Public	
Louth Co. Archives, Old Gaol, Ardee Road, Dundalk	€18,000
Stream 1	
St. Joseph's Church, St. Alphonsus Road, Dundalk	€40,000
Stream 2	
Foresters Hall, Market Street, Dundalk	€76,196

## 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

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

<b>Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre</b>	<b>Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contract works Dundalk.</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Cooley rural village sweep programming</li> </ul>
<b>Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra</b>	<b>Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contract works Dundalk</li> <li>• Dog waste goes into normal bins as numbered above</li> <li>• Cooley as per bin emptying above</li> </ul>
<b>Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrhála</b>	<b>Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly by Park Operative in Dundalk</li> <li>• Carried out by Water Safety Officer in Cooley</li> </ul>
<b>Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne</b>	<b>Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25 no. of playgrounds (not including exercise equipment/outdoor gym or Multi use games areas)</li> <li>• Daily by Parks Operative, repairs in house or contractor.</li> </ul>

	Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
<b>Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre</b>	<p><b><u>Cooley</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• R132 Old Newry Road</li> <li>• L-3056-0 Knocknagoran</li> </ul> <p>Isolated Pot Holes at various locations</p> <p><b><u>Dundalk</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• L-2101-0 Point Road</li> <li>• L-20027-30 Toberona</li> <li>• L-20022-114 Greenacres</li> <li>• L-21021-1 Elm Grove</li> <li>• R-215-20 Crowe Street</li> <li>• L-21015-1 Pinewood Grove</li> <li>• L-21001-1 Shore Road</li> <li>• L-20018-30 Meeting House Lane</li> <li>• L-20016 Blackwater Court</li> <li>• L-20048 Tom Bellew Ave</li> <li>• L-2013-0 Hoeyes Lane</li> <li>• L-2000-990 Coes Road</li> <li>• L-20022-10 Oaklawns</li> <li>• L-20024-80 Rockmount Gardens</li> <li>• L-20015-81 Lennonstown Manor</li> <li>• L-20034-4 Barton Park</li> <li>• R-215-14 Dublin Road</li> </ul>	<p>Patching/pothole repairs</p> <p>Repairs</p>
<b>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</b>	<p><b><u>Cooley</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• R-132 Old Newry Road</li> <li>• R-175-41 Greenore Village</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Dundalk</u></b></p> <p>Ongoing maintenance to Storm sewer network Town Wide</p>	<p>Drainage Installation and Upgrade Works</p> <p>Essential maintenance Jet Vac</p>
<b>Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha</b>	<p>None this month</p>	
<b>Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán</b>	<p><b><u>Dundalk</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• L-20023-20 Philip Street</li> <li>• R-172-5 Jocelyn Street</li> </ul>	<p>Repairs</p>
<b>Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá</b>	<p><b><u>Dundalk</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• L-20011-10/R215 Church Street</li> </ul>	<p>Upgrade Works</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>L-20051-10/L-20051-12 Rampart Road/Marshes</li> </ul> <p>Weekly maintenance of all Traffic Lights replacement bulbs (replacement LEDs), vandalism repairs, Etc.</p>	<p>Vehicular Collision Repairs</p> <p>Ongoing Essential Maintenance</p>
<b>Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre</b>	<p><b><u>Dundalk</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>R-132-53 Old Newry Road</li> </ul>	Cats Eye Replacement
<b>Signage / Comharthaíocht</b>	<p><b><u>Cooley</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General Repairs and Cleaning</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Dundalk</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roundabouts</li> </ul>	Essential Maintenance
<b>Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach</b>	<p><b><u>Cooley</u></b></p> <p>Numerous small amounts and Tyres removed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long Woman's Grave</li> <li>Mast Road</li> <li>Omeath</li> <li>Whitestown</li> </ul> <p>• Cooley</p> <p><b><u>Dundalk</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Castleross</li> <li>Woodlands Park</li> <li>Newry Road</li> <li>Riverside Walk</li> <li>Racecourse Road</li> <li>Ramparts and Car Parks</li> <li>Dublin Road</li> <li>Avenue Road</li> <li>Ardee Road</li> <li>Carrick Road</li> <li>Castletown Road</li> <li>Castleblayney Road</li> <li>Quay Street</li> <li>Point Road</li> <li>Inner Relief Road</li> </ul>	<p>Domestic Waste</p> <p>Lifting Waste from Community Clean-ups</p> <p>Dumped Household Waste, Mattresses, Furniture, Construction and Demolition waste</p>
<b>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None this month</li> </ul>	



*New Public Water Dispenser at Templetown Beach*



*Footpath reinstatement at Jocelyn Street*

## Blackrock, Faughart and North Mid-Louth Area

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

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

<b>Location / Suíomh</b>		<b>Notes / Nótaí</b>
<b>Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LS-7108 Balrigan</li> <li>• LS-7102 Annies</li> <li>• LS-7121 Killyclessy</li> <li>• L-1178 Killincoole</li> <li>• L-11702 Green Road (Louth Village)</li> <li>• Dromiskin Village</li> <li>• L-1185 Commons Road</li> <li>• L-5202 Nicholastown</li> <li>• L-1178 Newtowndarver</li> <li>• L-5196 Roseybrook</li> <li>• L-1205 Flowery Cross to County Boundary</li> <li>• L-5176 Kilcrouney</li> <li>• L-5197 Rathneestin</li> <li>• Various locations</li> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>	<p>Road repairs and patching, preparation for surface dressing.</p> <p>Tree pruning/vegetation maintenance/verge trimming</p> <p>Resurfacing/overlay works (by contract)</p>
<b>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• L-3113 Drumbilla</li> <li>• L-7121 Killyclessy</li> <li>• L-3161 Rock Road Blackrock</li> <li>• L-7112 Castleroche</li> <li>• L-3104 Carrickedmond</li> <li>• L-7120 Shanmullagh</li> <li>• L-7103 Raskeagh Kilcurry</li> <li>• L-7106 Lennonstown</li> </ul>	<p>Drainage/Improvement works</p> <p>Drainage maintenance –cleansing and gully cleaning opening outlets and storm drains, preparation for surface dressing.</p>

	<p>Kilcurry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• L-3122 Maghereagh</li> <li>• L-7108 Balriggeran Kilcurry</li> <li>• L-2215 Bolies to M1 overpass</li> <li>• L-1170 Green Road (Louth Village)</li> <li>• L-5202 Nicholastown to Reaghstown</li> <li>• L-1178 Mansfieldtown to Newtowndarver</li> <li>• L-5190 Five Crossroads to Watery Cross</li> <li>• Knockbridge housing estates: Loughantarve Lisroland Lisheen Park Cloonanna</li> </ul>	
<b>Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>	Clearing fallen trees and debris
<b>Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• R132 Greengates to Fane Bridge</li> </ul>	Footpath maintenance/clearing encroaching vegetation/kerb line maintenance and cleaning
<b>Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• R132 junction with Old Golf Links Road (Felda junction)</li> </ul>	Lights out of operation, significant damage due to collision with vehicle and rodent infestation – major repairs and replacement parts required.
<b>Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>	
<b>Signage / Comharthaíocht</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• R215 Walterstown Cross</li> <li>• R132 Castlebellingham</li> <li>• Dromiskin Village</li> <li>• R166 Knockbridge - Louth Village</li> <li>• L6216 Williamstown</li> <li>• Litter League signs (updating decals) – various locations</li> </ul>	<p>Cleansing/repair/replacement</p> <p>New signage</p>
<b>Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• R132 Castlebellingham – Dundalk</li> <li>• L7184 Green Road (Dromiskin)</li> </ul>	Collection of dumped waste for disposal.
<b>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí</b>	N/A	



*Drainage works at Drumbilla Sky Hill*



*Footpath maintenance/clearing at Greengates*

## Ardee Municipal District

### South Louth Operations (Rural Area)

<p><b>Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day)</li> <li>• Clogherhead Car Park daily clean-up around bins</li> </ul>	<p><b>Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí</b></p>
<p><b>Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ardee Town</li> <li>• Dunleer town</li> </ul>	<p><b>Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 32 Daily</li> <li>• 21 Tuesday and Thursday</li> </ul>
<p><b>Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain</b></p>
<p><b>Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra</b></p>	<p><b>Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain</b></p>

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

- Ardee Town River Dee
- Salterstown
- Port Beach

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

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
<p><b>Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LP-1233-7 Glack Cross</li> <li>• LS-6272-0 Mosstown</li> <li>• LP-1260-0 Stoney Lane – Shanlis Cross</li> <li>• LP-1260-31 Screedoge Bridge</li> <li>• LP-2215-0 Mansfieldtown</li> <li>• LS-6237-0 Cappogue</li> <li>• LP-1212-0 Stabannon Road</li> <li>• LP-1228-14 Stickillin</li> <li>• LP-2214-30 Kaigs Cross</li> <li>• LS-5268-0 Mullaghash</li> <li>• L-1222-36 Richardstown</li> <li>• LP-1233-7 Mullanstown Ardee</li> <li>• LS-6237-0 Cappogue</li> <li>• L-1222-36 Richardstown</li> </ul>
<p><b>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LP-1233-7 Mullanstown</li> <li>• LS-5266-0 Anaglog</li> <li>• L-1297-27 Collon to Kells Road</li> <li>• LP-1233-7 Mullanstown Ardee</li> <li>• L-1222-36 Richardstown</li> <li>• R166 Martinstown</li> <li>• R166 Annagassan</li> <li>• R165 Culvert crossing</li> </ul>

	<p>road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LP1288-14 Richardson Road</li> <li>• Papel Drive Collon - Gullies and pipe work</li> </ul>	
<b>Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 number dead trees removed from Fair Green Ardee to replace with 3 new trees</li> </ul>	
<b>Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Footpath works Main Street Ardee – addressing Trip Hazzards</li> </ul>	
<b>Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ardee Main Street, Pedestrian Crossing – 8/3/2022.</li> </ul>	Vehicle phase lamp fail, Amber.
<b>Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre</b>		
<b>Signage / Comharthaíocht</b>		
<b>Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach</b>		
<b>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí</b>		



*N52 Embankment at Ballygowan substantially completed*

## **Borough District of Drogheda**

### **Drogheda Town Area**

<b>Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair</b>	<b>Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Steps and lane ways weekly 22 steps when resources allow and green areas.</li><li>• Hotspots on Monday – decided by Supervisor following inspection.</li><li>• 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.</li><li>• Drogheda Rural Bring banks are cleared daily during working week</li></ul>
<b>Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Port Oriel Pier, Clogherhead</li><li>• Clogherhead Beach</li><li>• Port Beach</li><li>• Termonfeckin</li><li>• Baltray</li><li>• Seapoint Carpark</li></ul>	<b>Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 7 Daily</li><li>• 8 Daily</li><li>• 6 Daily</li><li>• 6 Daily</li><li>• 3 Daily</li><li>• 3 Daily</li><li>• Drogheda town centre Litterbins emptied daily circa 60 early mornings.</li><li>• 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</li><li>• New bins installed at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital exit and the Twenties lane along footpath abutting football pitch</li><li>• About 250 litter bin are emptied weekly in town.</li><li>• Dominic’s Park and Mell river walk emptied daily.</li><li>• South Louth Drogheda Borough district rural areas, public Litter bins are emptied twice a week or daily when</li></ul>

	<p>needed especially at beaches/Port Oriel/ Seapoint/Termonfeckin/Baltray – at least 40 bins per day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approach roads in Drogheda town emptied twice a week.</li> </ul> <p>Bin upgrade and maintenance ongoing and street furniture.</p>
<p><b>Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre</b></p>	<p><b>Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Housing Estates, swept every 2 months. Private Housing estates swept every 3 months. When resources allow.</li> <li>• Town centre daily. Approach roads fortnightly.</li> <li>• Hotspots weekly on Monday after weekend – decided daily by supervisor after checking Drogheda urban area.</li> <li>• Villages are swept once per month i.e., Termonfeckin, Baltray, Sandpit, Monasterboice, Tullyallen and Tinure.</li> <li>• Drogheda town Boyne river walkways are swept 3 times per week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday)</li> <li>• Town centre weeds removal.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra</b></p>	<p><b>Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Empty about 35 No. once a week, washed and disinfected</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála</b></p>	<p><b>Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 89 ring buoys checked each week Town area (Thursday)</li> <li>• 9 ring buoys checked each week at Rosehall (Friday)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sagartha agus Corpacmhainne</b></p>	<p><b>Number of sites checked daily / Seiceáilte Laethúil</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Between 4 and 5 daily (4 playgrounds in Drogheda town, Skate Park, Adult Exercise equipment). 3 Playgrounds in Drogheda rural area)</li> </ul> <p><b>Suíomhanna</b></p>

Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
<b>Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre</b>	<b>LCC's crew</b> Pot holes repairs around Drogheda. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fair Green</li> <li>• North Quay</li> <li>• Georges Quay</li> <li>• Donore Road</li> <li>• Shop Street</li> <li>• Dyer Street</li> <li>• Patrick Street</li> <li>• Palace Street</li> <li>• Dual Carriageway</li> </ul> Preparation for St. Patrick's Day Parade.  Preparation for Fair Street refurbishment works.
<b>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</b>	Annual Drogheda Gully cleaning program ongoing
<b>Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha</b>	N/A
<b>Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán</b>	Ongoing
<b>Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráichta</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Westgate Junction – 8/3/2022.</li> <li>2. Termonfeckin Bridge – 8/3/2022</li> <li>3. Dublin Road at Scotch Hall – 10/3/2022.</li> <li>4. North Quay Pedestrian Crossing – 16/3/2022</li> <li>5. Marley's Lane – 16/3/2022</li> <li>6. Greenhills Pedestrian Crossing.</li> <li>7. Beamore Road – 22/3/2022</li> <li>8. Kieran's Corner – 22/3/2022</li> <li>9. Wheaton Hall – 24/3/2022</li> </ol> Cement Road / Crosslanes – 25/3/2022
<b>Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre</b>	Ongoing throughout town

<b>Signage / Comharthaíocht</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drogheda Town Centre general maintenance</li> <li>• Replacing faulty barriers around town</li> <li>• Ongoing throughout district</li> </ul>	
<b>Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach</b>	<p><b>March 2022: <u>List sent to wardens</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Bring Banks</u></b> Bolton Square, King Street, Mell Car Park, Wheaton Hall, Old Hill, Ballsgrove and IDA Road</p> <p><b><u>Dumping</u></b> 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> <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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Public complaints are also checked and followed up as above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>340kg</b> --Illegal waste tonnage disposed and removed by LCC</li> <li>• <b>25</b> Shopping Trolleys</li> <li>• <b>5</b> Pallets</li> <li>• Concrete Blocks</li> <li>• Tyres</li> </ul>

<b>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí</b>	Seeking prices to remove from public spaces	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
--	---	--

## Cycle Lanes

1.9km of cycle lanes have been completed on the R132 North road in Drogheda R132 between Rosehall roundabout and the Cross Lanes junction.

The temporary measure is in advance of the main active travel measures at same location which will follow in near future. As a pilot trial initiative it will be monitored over the coming months by engineers to gauge effectiveness or if to extend to other suitable roads affording adequate width of carriageway. The cycle lanes will be swept regularly by the Environment team to prevent the accumulation of chippings and debris.



*Cycle lanes on the North Road Drogheda*



*New Traffic Light Radar installed at Monasterboice pedestrian crossing giving added protection to pedestrians - lights will not turn red when close convoy of vehicles approaching*

## Veterinary Services / Seirbhísí Tréidliachta

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

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

Amhail ar an 31ú Márta 2022, cuireann Rannóg Tréidliachta Chomhairle Contae Lú caighdeáin 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 March 2022 / Madraí curtha i bpóna, Márta 2022

Total dogs impounded / Líon madraí curtha i bpóna	23
Strays / Ar seachrán	15

Surrendered by owners / Tugtha suas ag úinéirí	8
No dogs reclaimed by owners / Líon madraí tógtha ar ais ag úinéirí	3
No of dogs rehomed direct / Líon madraí a bhfuarthas úinéirí nua dóibh go díreach	3
No of dogs rehomed to welfare groups / Líon madraí a aistríodh go grúpaí leasa ainmhithe	11
No of dogs on hand in Pound at 31/03/2022 / Líon madraí faoi chúram sa phóna 31/03/2022	3

#### Dog Licences March 2022 / Ceadúnais Madraí, Márta 2022

No of Licences sold / Líon ceadúnas díolta	451
Licence Checks / Ceadúnais scrúdaithe:	
House calls / Seiceálacha baile	202
Section 16 Notices issued (request to produce licence within 10 days) / Fógraí Alt 16 eisiithe (iarratas ar ceadúnas a thaispeáint roimh deich lá)	51
Fixed Penalty Notices / Fógraí Pionós Socraithe	10

#### 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 March 2022 / Capaill curtha i bpóna, Márta 2022	
Horses seized / Capaill gafa	2 Donkeys
Reason for seizure: / Cúis na gabhála	Straying on private property
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, 31/03/22	0

#### Dog Breeding Establishments (DBE) / Bunachais Pórúcháin Madraí (BPM)

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

#### Dog Breeding Establishments March 2022 / Bunachais pórúcháin madraí, Márta 2022

Total no of registered DBE's in Louth, 31/03/2022 / Líon BPM i gContae Lú, 31/03/2022	6
Hunt / Conchróite Seilge	2
Boarding Kennels / Conchróite Cinneála	2
Training Kennels / Conchróite Oiliúna	1
Welfare / Leas Ainmhithe	1



*Donkeys impounded during March 2022 (above)  
Asail curtha i bpóna i mhí Márta 2022 (thuas)*



# Waste Management and Environment Report

## Waste Enforcement

### Waste Enforcement

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

Complaint Type	Match 2022	In 2022
Air & Noise	10	20
Farm	7	15
Waste	29	102
Water Quality	3	6

A total of 49 complaints were received in the month of March. Bringing the total number of complaints in 2022 so far, to 134.

45 waste complaints have been resolved and 16 remain open, pending further investigations. Waste Permits: Two (2) new applications have are currently being determined during the month of March.

### Litter Enforcement

A total of 29 fines were issued in the month of March. Of these fines, 14 were issued in the Dundalk urban area, 12 in Drogheda urban area and 3 in the remaining County wide area.

There was 3 fines issued for dog fouling in March. There have been 495 investigations in the year to date with 137 carried out in the month of March. There have been 99 fines issued in the year to date, 5 of which were for Dog Fouling.

### Diesel Laundering Waste

3 IBC's were located in March 2022 with the approximate recovery cost of €3744.98. So far in 2022 there has been 143 ibcs located costing approximately €178,510.48.



### 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	35
Letters sent out to date	108	921	544	1573
Reminders letter sent out	92	289	397	798
No. of Replies	56	159	186	401

As Covid Restrictions have now been lifted, door to door surveys will be commencing once all the required procedures etc are in place. 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 by-laws.

## Air / Water / Noise Pollution

There were eight water pollution complaints received in March with seven complaints closed and one open. 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

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 24<sup>th</sup> March annually. The four beaches identified are the designated beaches of Templetown Port, Clogherhead and Seapoint

Further information on beaches and water quality can be found on the EPA hosted website - [www.beaches.ie](http://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>

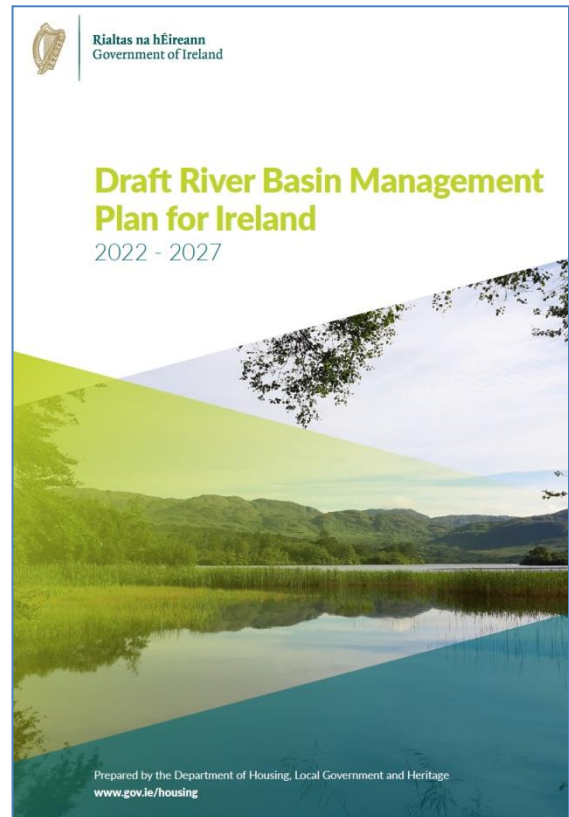


## Water Framework/River Basin Management Plans

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

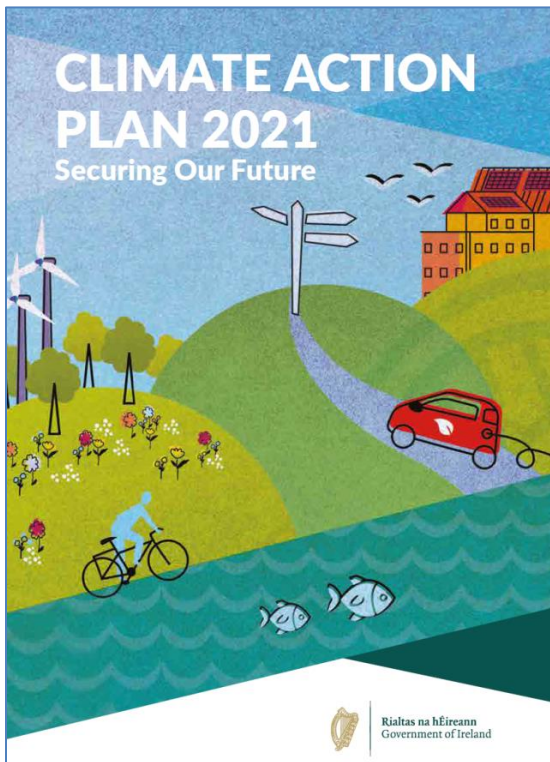
The RMCEI Inspection plan 2022 for County Louth was submitted to the EPA at the end of February 2022. The statistical returns for environmental inspections in Louth have also been submitted to the EPA.

## Landfills

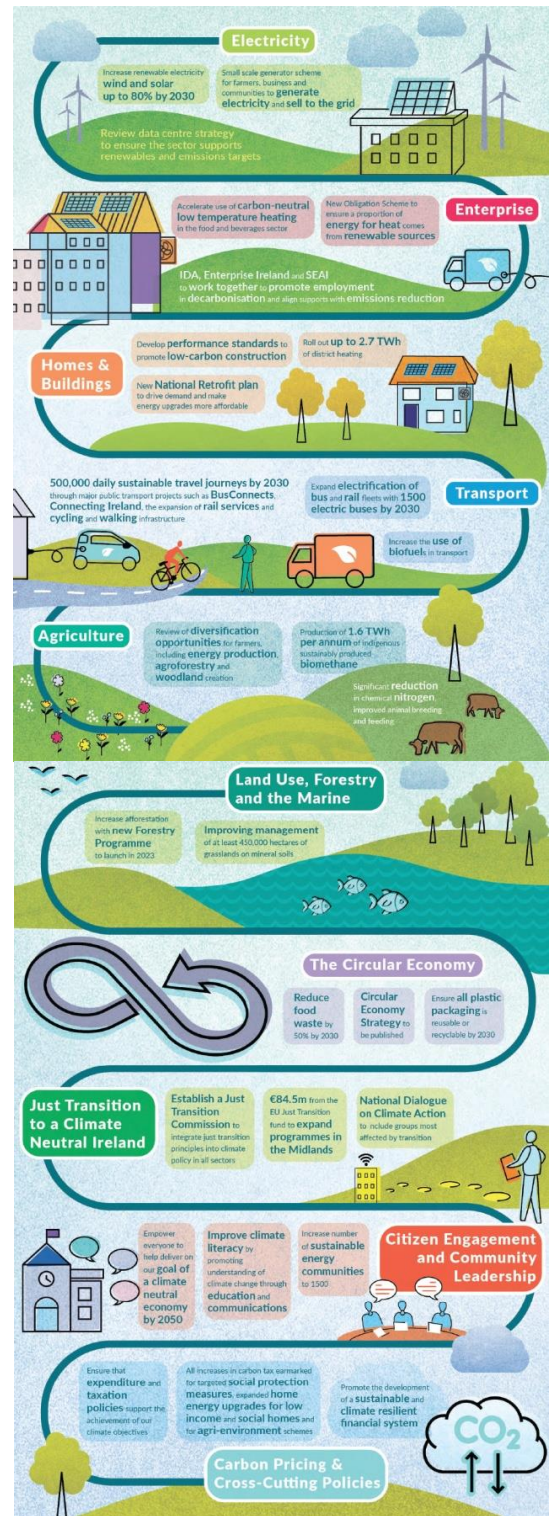
The annual environmental performance reports for the three licensed landfills are being prepared for submission to the EPA by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. In addition the landfill gas surveys and PRTR reports are also being prepared for the three sites for submission by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

## Climate Action

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



The info-graphic below gives an outline of the 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 been completed for the position of Climate Action Co-ordinator, which will be a 5 year post at Senior Executive level. It is expected that the successful candidate will commence with Louth County Council before the end of April. This 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.

It is expected that a recruitment of a Climate Action Community Officer will be sanctioned during 2022 and this person will support communities to take climate actions and to access funding through the Community Climate Action Programme. See <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/de5d3-climate-action-fund/#community-climate-action-programme> for more detail.

### 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.

A review of the current goals and objectives 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). Draft Guidance documents were issued to help Local Authorities prepare for the development of 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 have completed preliminary assessments of sites to

generate an approved site list 25 EV Rapid Chargers across the border counties.

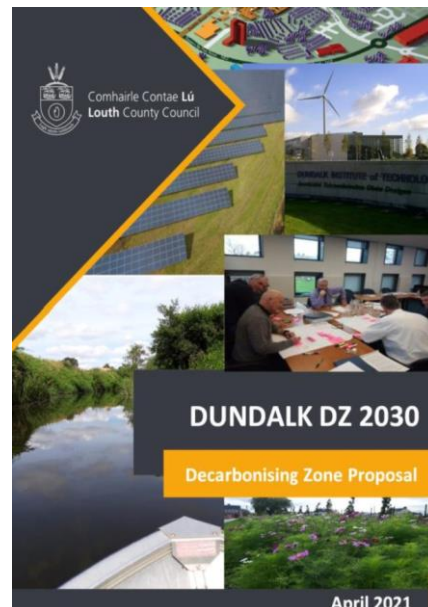
Information is available at the following outlets:

Channel	URL
Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/FasterEVCharge">https://www.facebook.com/FasterEVCharge</a>
Twitter	<a href="https://twitter.com/FasterEVCharge">https://twitter.com/FasterEVCharge</a>
Instagram	<a href="https://www.instagram.com/fasterevcharge/">https://www.instagram.com/fasterevcharge/</a>
LinkedIn	<a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company/faster-project">https://www.linkedin.com/company/faster-project</a>
TikTok	<a href="https://www.tiktok.com/@fasterevcharge">https://www.tiktok.com/@fasterevcharge</a>
YouTube	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0FqxddlpA7WXJr9ShzUaxQ">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0FqxddlpA7WXJr9ShzUaxQ</a>



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

### Dundalk Decarbonising Zone



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

This is to ensure a common approach with comparable outcomes across the country. Preparatory work is ongoing, in anticipation of guidance early 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**

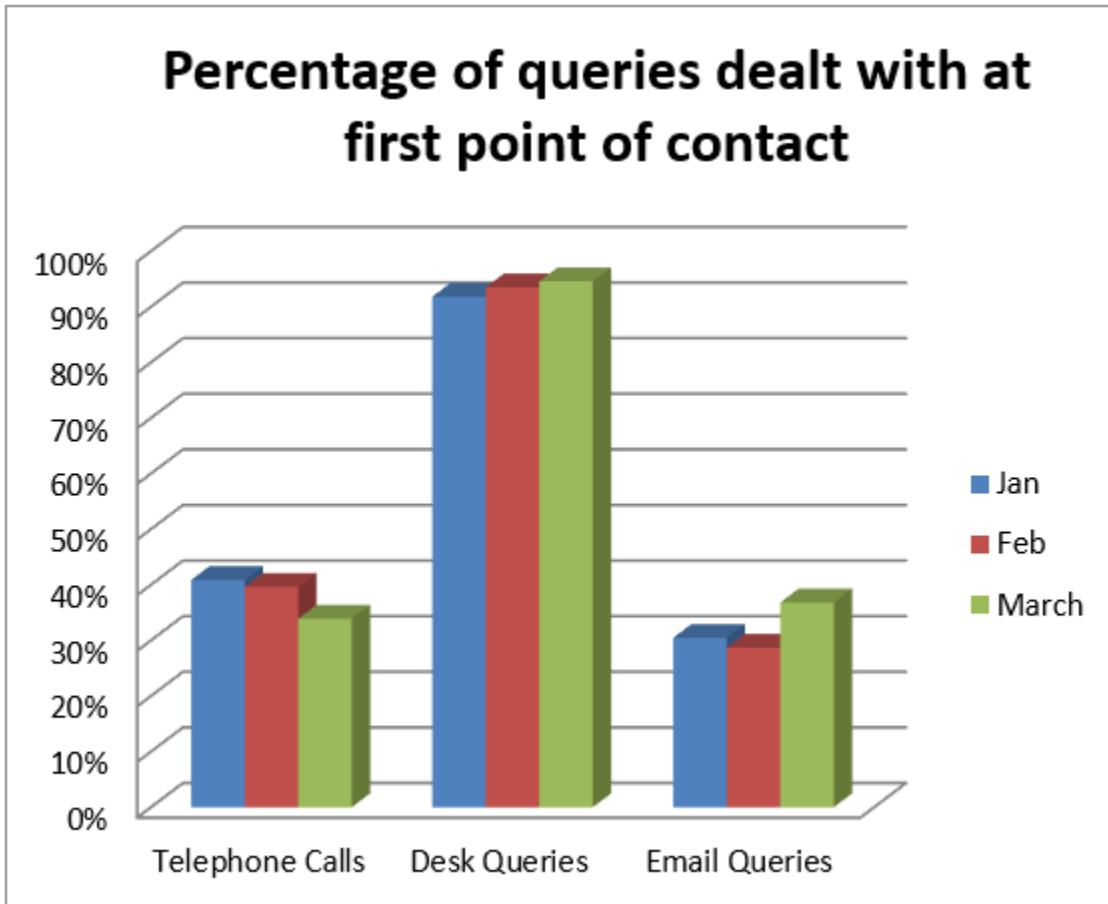


# Corporate and Emergency Services

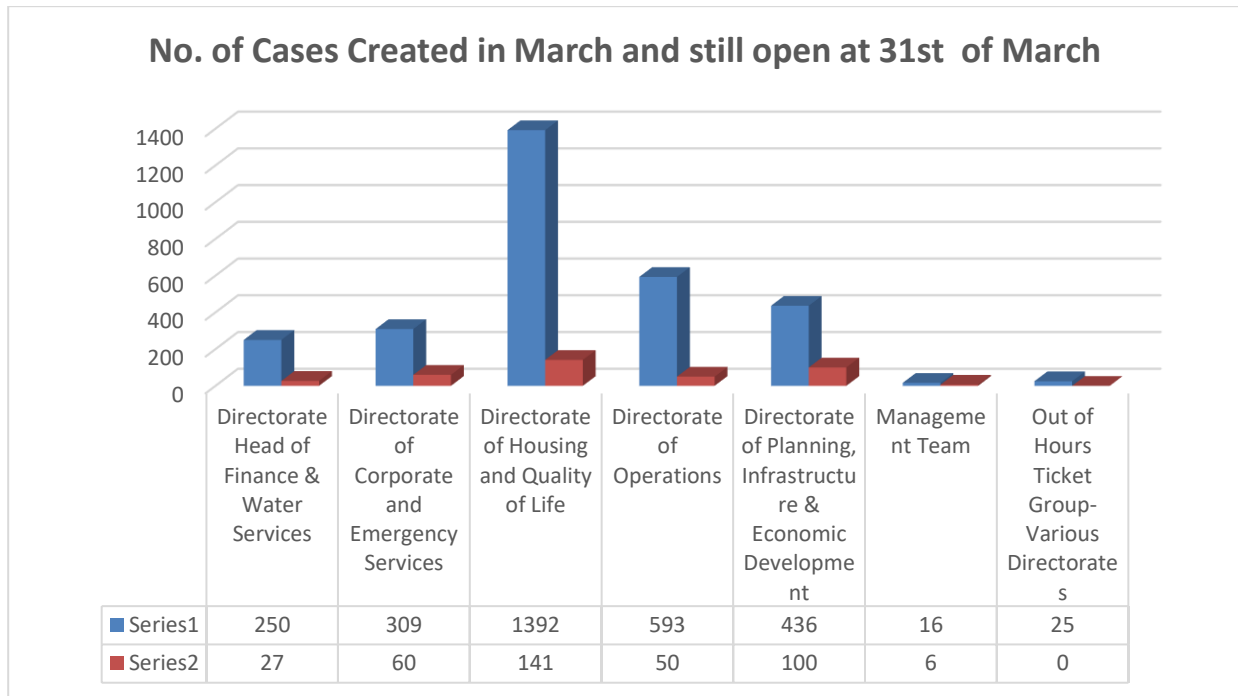
## Customer Services Report

### March 2022

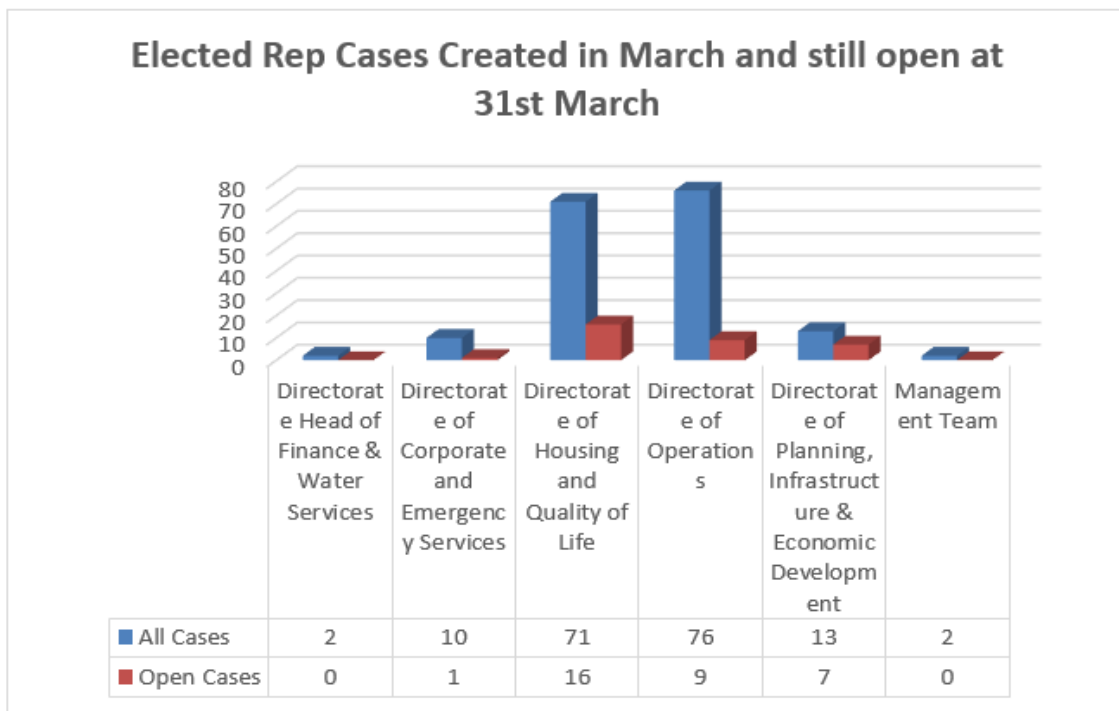
During the month of March Customer Services dealt with 11,522 queries - 6,408 calls, 1,464 e-mails and 3,650 counter queries.



There were 3,021 valid SugarCRM cases recorded during March of which 384 (13%) remain unresolved, broken down by directorate as follows:



During March 174 elected reps. cases were recorded on Sugar of which 33 (19%) remain unresolved broken down by Directorate as follows:



The table below illustrates activity in the redress area.

	Same period 2021	2022 Total	March 2022
Freedom of Information	24	32	9
Data Protection to include DSAR	2	2	0
Access to Information on Environment	1	3	2
Ombudsman	1	3	1
Complaints Policy	5	11	3

## Electoral Register

Since publication of the Live Register of Electors in February, work is continuing on the preparation of the Draft Register of Electors 2023-2024. Field Officers are calling to a number of Polling Districts throughout the county and forms received from electors are being processed.

Elected Members are once again asked to encourage their electorate to check all their details are correct on [www.checktheregister.ie](http://www.checktheregister.ie). If details are not up-to-date electors are asked to complete the relevant form which can be picked up from Customer Services desks or requested from the Franchise Section (email: [register@louthcoco.ie](mailto:register@louthcoco.ie)). Electors can register on-line via the Louth County Council website [www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/electoral-register/online-registration/](http://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/electoral-register/online-registration/)

## SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

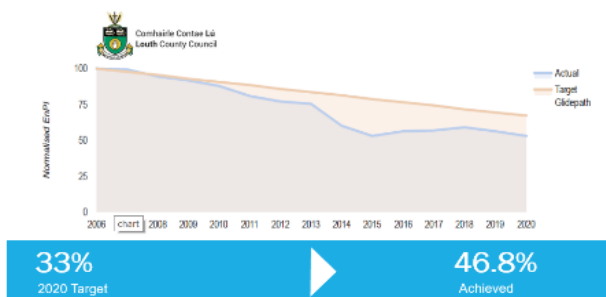
### Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance

The Council's energy efficiency at the end of 2020 was 47.36% (i.e. the Council's energy use at the end of 2020 has reduced by 47.36%) compared to the baseline, reported by SEA. The preliminary results for 2021 are expected within the next number of months.

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 its carbon emissions by 51% by 2030 and it is that carbon emissions target that requires increased annual actions by the Council.

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 staff are now planning energy works as part of the Council's Energy Action Plan for 2022. Staff 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.

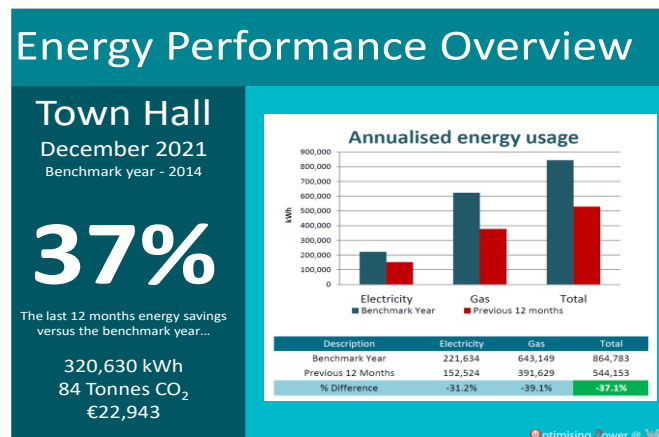
## Energy Savings

Our new energy projects are demonstrating energy savings, most recently the projects completed in 2021. These new project savings, together with our annual projects, combine to continue our journey of improving our energy efficiency towards 2030 and 2050.



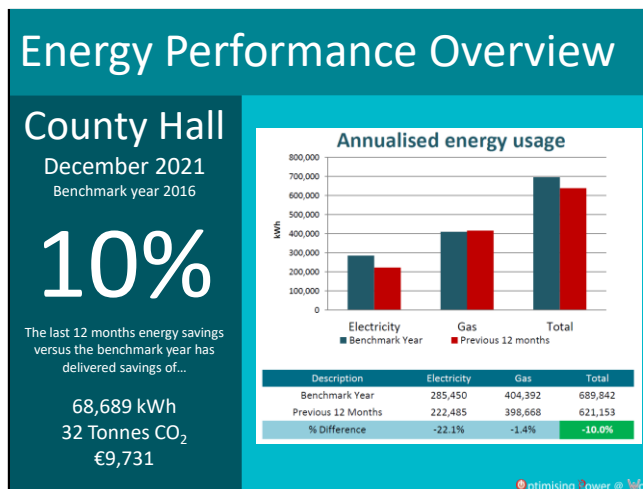
The annual energy projects we have in place are:

- partnership with OPW for participation in it's Optimising Power at Work Programme for energy use behaviour change by our staff;
- use of fuel cards by all our drivers to manage and control fuel; and
- replacing faulty public lights with low energy lights as existing maintenance funding permits.
- 



Above: Energy savings for Dundalk Town Hall are 37% (320,630kWh less energy used, 84 Tonnes less of CO<sub>2</sub> emitted) compared to our benchmark year of 2014. The last **12 months compared to** the benchmark year have also provided **financial savings of** some €22,943 in the Town Hall Building (arising from reduced consumption of gas and electricity).

County Hall joined OPW's Optimising Programme @Work in 2016.



Above: Annual savings for County Hall are 10% (68,689kWh less energy used, 32 Tonnes less CO<sub>2</sub> emitted) compared to our benchmark year of 2014. **Energy savings in the last 12 months, compared to the benchmark year** have also provided **financial savings of** and €9,731 in the Town Hall Building from lower consumption of gas and electricity.

### 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. To confirm the suitability of projects for grant funding for inclusion in a grant funding application, energy audits are being undertaken for high energy-user Council buildings. The results of those energy audits are expected shortly. Once they come to hand, we expect to finalise the Energy Action Plan for 2022.

We intend to partner with Dunleer Sustainable Energy Community for participation in their application for grant funding for energy projects in 2022.

### 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 and Health and Well Being. The project has now reached another key milestone: Work Package 3, has been successfully completed and submitted. This Work package was specifically dedicated to identifying problems affecting the VARCITIES pilot areas (Dundalk's site at the County Library is such a Pilot) and providing the common knowledge framework needed to refine and prepare for the implementation of the

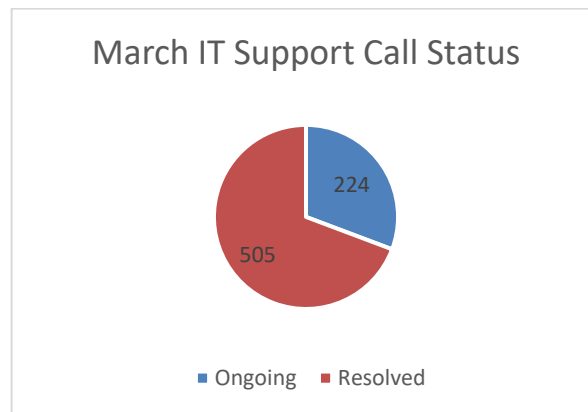
Visionary Solutions (VSs) proposed by the project. Specifically, Deliverable 3.3 highlights the main drivers and barriers that can affect the implementation of the Visionary Solutions, how they can be detected, and how the main impacts can be assessed.

The report submitted contains all the analysis and findings based on outcomes of the 1st and 2nd (co-creation) workshops held in each pilot area with our local stakeholders. The workshops for Dundalk pilot, held in June and November 2021, demonstrate how the co-creation process represents a fundamental component of the VARCITIES project. The input by our stakeholders was positive and all welcomed the proposals shown. Council staff are now in the process of preparing the Part 8 consultation drawings which will go on public display in the very near future.

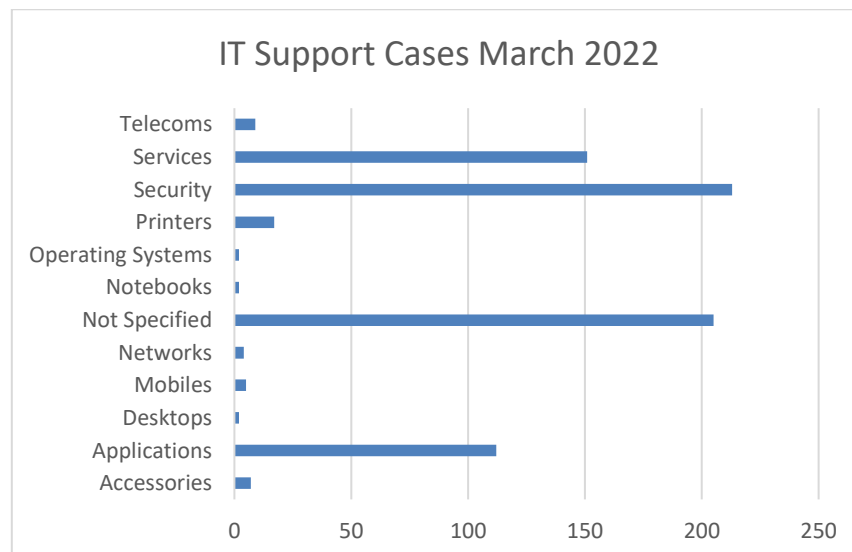
## Information Communication Technology

### Helpdesk

During the month of March there were 729 support calls logged in the IT support system. 70% of these have been resolved and 30% of these are ongoing.

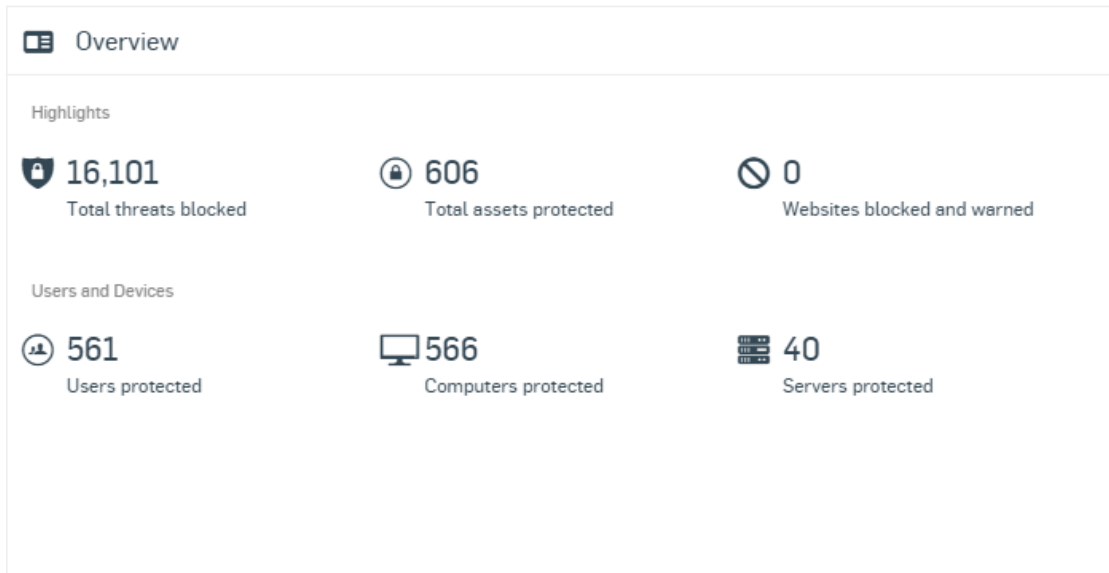


The below chart indicates the breakdown of calls by Problem Category



## Rollout of Sophos Intercept X

IT have completed 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 606 computers and 40 servers protected by Sophos.



## TopSec E-Mail Filtering System

Louth County Council 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 43% of the e-mail sent to [@louthcoco.ie](mailto:@louthcoco.ie) e-mail addresses is potentially harmful.

Inbound Email count <b>147,213</b>	Blocked Sender <b>1,165</b>	Blocked at gateway <b>36,806</b>
Total blocked by spam/virus <b>24,351</b>	Blocked by content rules <b>634</b>	Potentially harmful emails <b>42.8%</b>

## Louth County Council Website

The below report shows the totals views and the top three sections of the website viewed from March 1<sup>st</sup> to March 28<sup>th</sup>:

Page	Page Views	Unique Page Views	Avg. Time on Page	Entrances
	<b>19,398</b> % of Total: 100.00% (19,398)	<b>15,470</b> % of Total: 100.00% (15,470)	<b>00:01:17</b> Avg for View: 00:01:17 (0.00%)	<b>6,839</b> % of Total: 100.00% (6,839)
1. <a href="#">/en/</a>	<b>2,018</b> (10.40%)	<b>1,729</b> (11.18%)	00:00:41	<b>1,581</b> (23.12%)
2. <a href="#">/en/services/planning/online-planning-maps/</a>	<b>1,692</b> (8.72%)	<b>1,418</b> (9.17%)	00:03:50	<b>971</b> (14.20%)
3. <a href="#">/en/services/dog-pound/</a>	<b>923</b> (4.76%)	<b>609</b> (3.94%)	00:01:31	<b>533</b> (7.79%)
4. <a href="#">/en/louth_county_council/vacancies/</a>	<b>839</b> (4.33%)	<b>575</b> (3.72%)	00:01:24	<b>373</b> (5.45%)

The most accessed section of the website is the online planning maps. The Dog Pound and Vacancies Section are 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> most accessed sections of the website.

## EMERGENCY SERVICES AND BUILDING CONTROL

### Fire Service

Louth Fire Service's Covid precautions are unchanged since they were scaled back on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022, the date of the Council reopening. Due to the continuing high level of positive Covid cases in Louth, Covid precautions at incidents and during training were retained.

Louth Fire Service is trying to catch up with essential training courses which had to be deferred due to Covid. During March there were two winch courses and an emergency service driving instructor course. Numbers on the winch courses were reduced due to Covid. The programme to increase the number of heavy vehicle drivers in the Fire Service is continuing with driving lessons from a local company, testing, and two-week emergency service driving courses.

The Fire Service is working with the Infrastructure Section to finalise tender documentation for the procurement of a design team for Dunleer Fire Station. The Fire Service is also finalising the purchase of the new station site with the vendor. 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.

The fire service recruitment and retention campaign has yielded results with new recruits in Carlingford, Ardee and Dunleer brigades. Two Carlingford recruits and a Dunleer recruit successfully completed a three-week QQI Accredited Firefighting Skills in Newbridge Fire Station. A Drogheda recruit successfully completed a BA Wearers course in Tullamore Training Centre. The number of Fire Service vacancies has reduced over the past six months.

The Fire Prevention Section has been given details of future large scale public assembly marquee and other events to ensure proper regulation occurs. The objective is to ensure such events are properly regulated and safe 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. The first such Working Group meeting was on 1<sup>st</sup> March last.

## **Civil Defence**

Louth Civil Defence has started assisting at rest centres used to accommodate Ukrainian refugees. Medical assistance was provided at the Council Covid commemorations in Dundalk and Drogheda. Volunteers also helped at an Irish Blood Transfusion Service clinic.

Training during March as follows:

- EMT Training
- CFR Training
- First Aid Responder Training
- Radiation Monitoring Training
- PHECC Tutor Workshop
- Weekly Training

## **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. The Building Control Officer is aiming to increase the level of inspections. The Building Control Officer issued notices in respect of several developments requiring improvements to comply with the Building Regulations.

## **Water Safety**

Beach Lifeguard activity ceased from mid-September. All water safety infrastructure continues to be checked on a scheduled basis.

## 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 March 2022	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
Number of Person who presented as Homeless	03	89	61	153
Offered advice, support (including fast tracking H.A. for Rent Supplement eligibility)	03	73	43	119
Placed in Temporary Emergency Accommodation	00	13	08	21
Refused Offer of Temporary Emergency Accommodation	00	03	08	11
Not eligible from outside county or non HRC	n/a	n/a	2	2

The tables below reflect monthly returns submitted to the Department with regard to Homeless numbers in the NORTH EAST REGION between 21<sup>st</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> March 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	26

<b>Total</b>	<b>86</b>
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**Table 2: Age Groups**

Age Group	Total
18-24	15
25-44	45
45-64	21
65+	05
<b>Total</b>	<b>86</b>

**Table 3: Accommodation Type**

Accommodation Type	Total
Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA)	23
Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)	52
Temporary Emergency Accommodation (low support)(TEA)	11
Unique Total (note, clients may have accessed multiple accommodation types during the week)	00
Minus people accessing multiple accommodation types during the week	00
<b>Total unique individuals</b>	<b>86</b>

**Table 4: County**

County	Total
County Louth	81
County Monaghan	02
County Cavan	03
<b>Total</b>	<b>86</b>

**Table 5 - Families with dependent children**

	No. of families with dependent children	No. of Individual Adults	No. of Dependents
Individuals with	08	08	19

dependent children			
Couples with dependent children	04	08	09
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>28</b>

### Housing First

	Louth	Monaghan	Cavan	Total
<b>Number of tenancies established</b>	24	02	05	31
<b>Number of individuals currently in tenancy</b>	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.
- 4.

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  
24<sup>th</sup> of March 2022**

Numbers Allocated	Allocations - Social	Allocations - Voluntary	Refusals - Social	Refusals - Voluntary
Ardee MD	06	17	01	02
Dundalk MD	44	91	10	09
Drogheda BD	28	05	07	02
<b>Total Allocations</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>13</b>

Social housing transfers facilitated up to 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Year	Ardee	Dundalk	Drogheda
<b>2022</b>	02	01	01

**Housing List (excluding HAP Transfers)**

Month	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
March	354	653	619	1626

**Transfer List from HAP**

Month	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
March	315	1706	1216	3237

There are a total of 273 applicants on the approved list for transfer (**Non-HAP**) within Social Housing including **31** 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 Arrears as of 31/03/22	Number of Account	Value
Rents between 4-6 weeks old	150	€48,465
Rents between 7-12 weeks old	153	€106,778
Rents greater than 12 weeks old	738	€2,539,563
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1041</b>	<b>€2,694,806</b>

**Improve the Rented Sector**

	Mar	Total
No. of properties inspected monthly	52	124
No. of advisory notes issued to Landlord	64	157
No. of improvement notices Issued	3	20
No. of prohibition notices Issued	00	01
No. of Rent Book Notices Issued	00	00
Inspections ( HAP )	31	88
Improvement Notices ( HAP)	14	31
Virtual Inspections Issued	00	00
Private Inspections Complaints	01	01
HAP Complaints	05	10

RAS Complaints	00	00
Re Inspections HAP	02	12
Re Inspections Hap Achieving compliance	02	02
Re Inspections RAS	00	00
Re Inspections RAS Compliance	00	00
AHB Inspection	13	13
Number where compliance was achieved without requirement for further inspection.	00	00
Number where compliance was achieved following further inspection or inspections.	02	02

### Utilise Existing Housing

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

Maintenance	Total (YTD)	Up to 31 <sup>st</sup> of March
No. of Maintenance Requests Received	1664	483
No. of Maintenance Completed	1350	362
No. of Maintenance Requests in Progress (March)	85	
No of Maintenance Requests Refused	36	

### 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 on 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Total	
Ardee Municipal District	05	
Dundalk Municipal District	16	
Drogheda Borough District	35	
<b>Total Re Lets</b>		<b>56</b>
Vacant Properties		

CPO Units not yet ready for occupation (all county)		08
<b>Total No. of CPO Properties (Relets &amp; CPO's)</b>		<b>64</b>

### 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
<b>Applications Completed 2021</b>	174	119	39	332
<b>Applications rolling into 2022</b>	101	363	166	630
<b>New Applications Up to 28/2/22</b>	97	44	10	151

## Estate Management

	<b>DBD &amp; AMD</b>	<b>DMD</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Tenancy Inspections</b>	12	22	34
<b>Pre tenancy Training</b>	12	40	52
<b>Tenancy Investigations Visits</b>	39	40	79
<b>Tenancy Investigations Remote</b>	00	19	19

## Anti-Social Behaviour

	<b>DBD</b>	<b>AMD</b>	<b>DMD</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>ASB Cases</b>	13	07	15	35
<b>ASB Ongoing</b>	8	4	07	19
<b>ASB Completed</b>	05	03	08	16

	<b>DBD</b>	<b>AMD</b>	<b>DMD</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Verbal Warning</b>	01	01	01	03
<b>Written Warning</b>	00	00	00	00
<b>Tenancy Notification</b>	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 upscaling (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	239	344	00	00	583
CALF Part V	35	47	00	00	82
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
Cox's Demesne Phase 2B	1/1	22	On-site	20/05/2022	2no. * 2 bed, 4no. * 3 bed, 2no. * 4 bed, 6no. * 1 bed Apt & 8no. * 2 bed Apt.
Muirhevnamore, 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	2no. * 2 bed Apt, 2no. * 2 bed, 2no. * 3 bed
Ballymakenny Road - East Site, Drogheda	1/1	80	Stage 1 Approved	31/12/2025	To be confirmed
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	11no. * 2 bed (3no. Part V of 11)
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	2/4	6	Funding Approved Turnkey	31/01/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt. (1no. Part V of 6)
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	3/4	6	Funding Approved Turnkey	28/02/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt. (1no. Part V of 6)

Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	4/4	22	Funding Approved Turnkey	31/05/2023	11no. * 2 bed, 5no. * 2 bed Apt, 6no. * 3 bed Apt. (5no. Part V of 22)
Linenfield Ballymakenny	2/2	1	On-site	31/08/2022	1no. * 2 bed

**SUMMARY OF UNITS COMPLETED 2021 VIA CALF**

Scheme	D/HPCL G Ref. No	Project Name	Project Phase	Non-Part V Units Expected	Part V Units Expected	Approved Housing Body	Sustantial Completion Date	Unit breakdown
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.86 44	Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth	1 OF 5	15	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/HPC LG Ref. No	Project Name	Project Phase	Non-Part V Units Expected	Part V Units Expected	Approved Housing Body	Completed	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit breakdown
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8644	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 4	10		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 terraced houses across both phases

AHB CALF Turnkey		Tierney St, Ardee	2 of 2	6		Circle	Proposal	01/12/2022	3 x3 bed bungalow, 2 x 2 bed bungalow, 3 x3 bed terraced and 3 x 2 bed terraced houses across both phases
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**SUMMARY OF PROJECTED 2023 CALF DELIVERY**

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

									across both phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9681	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	2020.8971	Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda	4 of 4	41	6	Respond	On-site	1/31/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9015	Oriel Heights, Collon	1 of 1	2	11	North & East Housing	Funding Approved	3/31/2023	4 x 3 bed units and 9 x 2 bed units
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8077	Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	1 of 1	38	7	Clanmil	Funding Approved	3/31/2023	9 x 2 bed apartments and 36 x3 bed houses
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8046	Racecourse Meadows Dundalk Co Louth	4 of 4	12		Tuath	On Site	31/03/2023	6x 2 bed apts, 32x 3 bed terrace houses, 8 x 3 bed semi detached across all phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.8971	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	2020.8971	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	2020.8971	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	2020.9791	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

## Community and Sports

### Drogheda Spring Clean-up Event

There was a marvellous response by the community to the Drogheda Spring Clean weekend event that took place over the first weekend in March. This event was organised by the community support team, in collaboration with Meath County Council & V&W recycling centre, Drogheda.

A total of 425 Bags of rubbish were collected by the volunteers, who worked tirelessly during the weekend to make their community shine a litter brighter.

40 groups registered and got involved, covering a large part of the town and surrounding areas, that included the Community, Voluntary and Business sectors, in addition interested individual's joined in to make a difference in their neighbourhoods.

Louth and Meath County Council provided litter pickers, bags, gloves, hi viz vests and a selection of sapling trees were offered to all those who registered. V&W recycling centre, in Drogheda, supported this initiative and facilitated the collection of the clean-up packs from their facility.



### Tidy Towns Project Scheme

The funding scheme for 2022 closed 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.

There was a total of 20 submissions received with 7 applications being submitted through the online portal.

Successful groups will be informed in April and can commence work on their proposed projects.

### Pride of Place 2022

The IPB Pride of Place 2022 competition is now open. The two nominees chosen to represent Louth County Council are "The Red Door Project, under the Community Wellbeing category and "Creative Spark", under the Creative Place Initiative, category.

Entry forms are to be submitted by 13<sup>th</sup> May followed with summaries and photographs by the 10<sup>th</sup> June. Judging will take place during the summer season (June-September). Nominees have been informed and are delighted to have been chosen and are looking forward to representing the County, in this year's national competition.

### Amenity Grants

The 2022, Amenity grants scheme was announced in March and is closing on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022. Applicants are being encouraged to submit online through the portal, however, groups can submit through the usual traditional methods. We have had a good response to date but are expecting more in the coming days.

### Green Schools 2022

There are a number of schools who are involved in the Green school programme being assessed this month by Louth County Council staff members. These assessments are taking place virtually with each school's green schools committees. Schools have been very engaged in the process, assessment will continue throughout April.

### Clar Projects

The call for Expressions of Interest for the CLÁR 2022 scheme has now closed. We had four applications which will go forward for

consideration and then be submitted to the Department for consideration.

### **ORIS projects**

The call for Expressions of Interest for the ORIS 2022 scheme has now closed. We had five applications which will go forward for consideration and then be submitted to the Department for consideration.

### **Louth Local Sports Partnership**

#### **Disabled Learn to Cycle Programme**

Through our funding partners Healthy Ireland, Child and Family Agency - Tusla & CYPSC Louth we have completed a Learn to Cycle programme with 11 Autistic Classes in Louth. This week Louth Sports Partnership delivered 50 bikes and helmets to the schools within the programme. We have also got our very own Cycle Right Tutor qualified to help us deliver more programmes over the coming years and we will be running our own learn to cycle programmes shortly. Finally, to ensure the sustainability of the programme we offered over 70 SNA's/Teachers training in Disability Learn to Cycle course.



#### **Mindful Movement**

Our weekly activity programme for adults with Intellectual Disabilities has returned to Dundalk Sports Centre after almost 2 years.





### Grant Scheme for Clubs

Louth Sports Partnership will be rolling out several grant schemes in April for all sporting clubs and non NGB clubs across the County. Full information will be emailed to all representatives when released.

### LEADER

The LCDDC/LAG at its meeting in February approved funding support, in the amount of €68,300.94 for four LEADER projects, under the Transitional LEADER Programme, 2021-2022. These projects were in Drogheda, Dundalk with one project having a county wide reach.

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

Promoter	Amount
Louth Leader Partnership – Rivers Invasive Species Training – Ref 113729	€3,997.50
Rape Crisis North East CLG – Purchase of new furniture, equipment & promotional materials – Ref 112241	€2,779.12
Gyles Quay Caravan Park Ltd – Multi purpose MUGA pitch development – Ref 113821	€9,128.89
Oriel River Catchments & Coastal Assoc – Salmonid Monitoring System – Ref 113660	€240.13
Geraldines GFC – Extension & Improvement of walkway – Ref 112305	€26,048.25
Louth Leader Partnership –	€3,950.00

Appreciation of the hills – Ref 113535	
Jeremy & Alona Humeau T/A Merci Beaucoup – Chiller & freezer room upgrade – Ref 115011	€8,561.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>€54,705.14</b>

### Comhairle na nÓg

Representatives from Louth Comhairle na Óg attended Dáil na nÓg on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March in the Convention Centre, Dublin. It was Dáil na nÓg's first in-person event in over two years. Minister Roderic O'Gorman TD addressed the convention and met with the Louth delegation afterwards. Included on the programme agenda was an equality workshop.

Discussions were held on addressing inequality, gender inequality and barriers to education. There was a vote held to agree on a work programme over the next two years and the result was an expression to see 'a more inclusive relationships and sexuality education'. Some of the Louth and Meath representatives went on to speak about the event on LMFM radio later that week.



*Louth representatives at Dáil na nÓg at Convention Centre, Dublin on 26<sup>th</sup> March*



**Louth Comhairle na NÓg reps at Dáil na nÓg**

### **Age Friendly**

Preparations are underway for the Age Friendly Older Peoples Council Annual Convention which takes place in Trim, Co. Meath 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> May where representatives from Louth will be attending. Louth will also attend Croke Park on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April at the launch of the Croke Park Age Friendly Stadium, and also the launch of the Age Friendly Ambassador Programme.

### **Louth Community Response Forum**



In response to the crisis in Ukraine and to co-ordinate provision of services and assistance to Ukrainian refugees arriving into Louth, the Louth Covid-19 Community Response Forum was reconvened on March 29<sup>th</sup>. Addressing needs including accommodation, food, education, transport and language issues has been a priority for this stakeholder group, as well as collating a database of services and information signposting supports that can be provided over the coming weeks and months. The forum can be reached via email: [communityforum@louthcoco.ie](mailto:communityforum@louthcoco.ie) If you are aware of any individual, group or organisation that can assist in any way, please advise them to get in touch with the Louth County Council Community Office - we appreciate any help that

is offered in this collaborative humanitarian response.

### **Quality of Life Service**

#### **Climate Change Adaption Strategy 2019-2024**

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

Amanda & Moya Hodgers, Arts Officer, recently attended a 2 day training course in Portlaoise, Empowering Change, delivered by the local Authority Services National training Group.. The focus of the training programme is to empower Local Authority staff to promote behavioural change and encourage positive climate action across local communities.

The training has been designed and developed to offer participants the knowledge and tools to become leaders in climate action by raising awareness, encouraging participation, and inspiring action within and across local communities. The course invites people to connect with local communities to better tell the story of climate change, engage with local leaders to seek out opportunities to take positive action and inspire and support local initiatives that place communities at the forefront of a movement for positive climate action

### **Archives**

The County 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

### New Library Management System

**Your new and improved online library system is now available**

The new and improved online library system is here!

When you log in for the first time, you will be asked to reset your PIN.

Thank you for bearing with us during the switch.

Libraries Ireland has launched a new nationwide Library Management System, Spydus. This new improved system has a new fresh look with many more user friendly features;

- easier to use catalogue with images and recommendations.
- will work great on mobile phones and tablets.
- users can renew their membership online and access a host of other great features offered by the Library service

### Housebound Service

The Library service continues to offer the Housebound delivery service to our elderly customers with over 160 deliveries made since January 2022.

**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

## eServices

**Borrow, download and enjoy here**  
Your library in one app.



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



**LIBBY**  
**RECOMMENDATIONS** MAGAZINES



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](#)

### Library Newsletter

**Leabharlanna Chontae Lú**  
**Louth Library Service**

Nuacht Na Meáin Shóisialta Eachtraí  
**Nuachtlitir**  
Leabhair molta Rsheirbhísi

Is féidir leat clárú leis an Nuachtlitir míosúil ag:  
<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/library-membership/library-membership.html>

The April 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/>

## A Welcome for Ukraine



Dundalk Library hosted a welcome for Ukrainians and their host families in the Dundalk area on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> of March at 4pm. This informal gathering is an opportunity for Ukrainians of all ages and host families to meet others in the same position. Louth Library Service provided refreshments, information on library services and supports, games for younger attendees and most of all a safe warm welcome for all who attended.

Dundalk Library intend to keep this a weekly event every Thursday from 4pm-6pm.

A welcome brochure, in Ukrainian, is now available in all of our branches and on our website. The brochure can be accessed here:

<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/library-membership/welcome-brochure-ukrainian.pdf>

## Eduroam



Louth Library Service Eduroam (education roaming) partnership with HEAnet in Dundalk, Drogheda and Ardee Libraries is proving to be very successful now that libraries have fully reopened and study spaces are available again. Covid 19 has resulted in more remote learning off-campus with not all locations having access to good quality Broadband.

This initiative aims to create extended virtual campuses and offer students multiple options to go online and connect to their Further and Higher Education institutions while studying in the library.

In March 276 devices connected to Eduroam in our libraries with DKIT and TU Dublin the most prominent home institutions, with a wide variety of other colleges such as TCD, UCD RCSI, DCU, IADT, UL as well as international institutions.

## Digital Learning Space Drogheda Library

Work has commenced on the installation of the new digital learning space in Drogheda Library. The rollout of the equipment will progress to Dundalk and Ardee Libraries in the coming weeks. Our customers can look forward to the use of new PCs, iMacs, HP Sprouts and gaming zones.

## Creative Ireland

### Library led multi- agency project with Fighting Words



This project, funded by Creative Ireland's Excellence Grants, got underway in Drogheda Library on March 24<sup>th</sup> with young people Cable Youth Diversion Project and Boyne Youth Project groups. In partnership with Garda Anita O'Shea (Juvenile Liaison Officer, Drogheda) and facilitators from Fighting Words the evening was a great success with lots of creative ideas formed. We look forward to working further with these groups in the coming weeks.



### Spring Into Storytime



The annual national storytelling initiative which celebrates the importance of families reading together and sharing stories will be running throughout April. Louth Library Service has a host of fun events planned to help children and their families enjoy the magic of reading and stories.

As well as a range of events for invited groups our Libraries will be hosting the following public events and bookable events.

### Dundalk Library



- Baby Book Club Storytelling 6th April at 10am
- Storytelling 9th April at 3pm.
- Lego Brickx Club 20<sup>th</sup> April at 11am  
Booking via Timify  
<https://book.timify.com/?accountId=5f9a9eb964916511fcceae5f&hideCloseButton=true>
- Go Fly Your Kite Workshop April 19<sup>th</sup> at 2PM Bookings via Timify  
<https://book.timify.com/?accountId=5f9a9eb964916511fcceae5f&hideCloseButton=true>
- Storytelling 23rd April at 3pm.

### Carlingford Library

- Storytelling 9th April at 11am.

### Dunleer Library

- Storytelling 23rd April at 11am.

### Ardee Library

- Storytimes Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am. All welcome.
- Lego Brickx April 12<sup>th</sup> at 11am. Booking via timify
- <https://book.timify.com/?accountId=5f9a9eb964916511fcceae5f&hideCloseButton=true>

## Drogheda Library



- Storytime's April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2:30 29<sup>th</sup> at 3.30, all welcome
- Toddler group every Thursday from 10am-12pm
- Baby Book Club April 6<sup>th</sup> 10:30am
- Lego Brickx Club April 13<sup>th</sup> 11am-12pm Bookings via Timify or <https://book.timify.com/?accountId=5f9a9eb964916511fcceae5f&hideCloseButton=true>
- Crafts with Eilish April 13<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am
- Go Fly Your Kite Workshop April 19<sup>th</sup> at 10AM Bookings via Timify <https://book.timify.com/?accountId=5f9a9eb964916511fcceae5f&hideCloseButton=true>

## Autism Awareness Month & Spring Into Storytime

April is Autism Awareness month and to celebrate this the Library service will be running

the following dedicated events as part of Spring into Storytime

- Online Sensory Gel Bag workshop on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11am
- Sensory Storytime Monday evening, April 4<sup>th</sup> Dundalk Library during Quiet Time; 6pm – 7pm
- Sensory crafts with Amy Dundalk Library on April 9<sup>th</sup> at 11am

## Little Library Book Bags

The 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> phases of the Little Library Book Bags Initiative funded by The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Inclusion and Youth (DECDIY) and DRCD will be running throughout April.

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.



These 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> phases sees a number of elements:

- 4/5 year old book bags for all ELC registered children aged 4/5 and commencing school September 2022. Parents and their children will be invited to collect their special bags in their local library.
- Little Library Friendship book bag available for each Registered ELC/childminders with accompanying friendship themed events (both in-house and online) will be delivered during April to all ELC's. Dates to be finalised.

## Parent & Toddler Mornings



*Exploring all around at toddler group*

- Every Thursday at 10am-12pm in Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries
- Every Wednesday 10.30-12.30 in Ardee Library

## Baby Book Club

Explore the benefits of reading to your baby from an early age during Baby Book Club, first Wednesday of each month in Dundalk & Drogheda Libraries.



*Enjoying the Parent & Toddler morning*

## Primary Schools Service

Throughout the month of April the schools service are welcoming classes for both virtual and in-person visits with Louth Library Service. So far this year, we've had numerous classes in Ardee, Drogheda and Dundalk, and we're now reaching out to rural schools, as well as schools in the Dunleer and Carlingford area, to provide virtual services including class visits, book clinics and storytimes.

## Ciorcal Cómhrá / Irish Conversation first Tuesday of every month at 4pm in Dundalk

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 group is aimed at adults who would like to learn or practice Irish.

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



**Ciorcal Cómhrá  
Irish Conversation**

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

Would you like to use or practice your Irish skills?

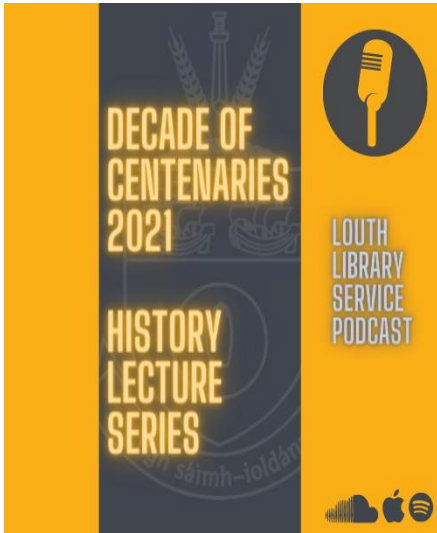
Beidh ciorcal cómhrá ar siúl ar an gcéad Máirt chuile mhí ag 4 i Leabharlann Dhún Dealgan.

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 Lú  
Louth County Council

## Decade of Centenaries History Lecture Series



The full programme of talks relating to the LCC 2021 Decade of Centenaries Programme is now available as podcasts via Spotify. <https://open.spotify.com/show/52FI238xrRbDKKOFrUxy2b?si=PvHWxAJPSEaRkoBL--aBGQ>

## Other Events

- A Loving Relationship with Self Part 2 with Helen Corbett, Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> of April at 7pm



In this talk, Helen will explore the importance of getting to know our own story in reference to our past and how this has impacted on who we are now and how we live our lives today. Helen Corbett has worked in the area of Psychology and personal counselling for over thirty years. Her most recent training has been in Co-Creational Psychotherapy with Dr Tony Humphreys. Booking via Timify <https://book.timify.com/?accountId=5f9a9eb964916511fcceae5f&hideCloseButton=true>

## Computer Classes



## Age Action Computer Classes

This five week course with Age Action continues until April 1<sup>st</sup> in Drogheda Library and until April 13<sup>th</sup> in Dundalk Library. 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](mailto:gettingstarted@ageaction.ie) or telephone 01 4756989.

## Art Exhibition

Larry Steen's *Where the Eye Leads Me* will be exhibited in Ardee Library from April 26<sup>th</sup>-April 30<sup>th</sup>. All welcome during Library hours.



*Larry Steen during a previous exhibition in Ardee Library*

## Romanian Community Drogheda

This group runs Romanian language classes every Saturday in Drogheda Library from 10:30am-2pm for Romanian children aged 3-12 years old, born in Ireland, who have lost connection with their native culture.

*Romanian Community Drogheda* aims are to empower children within the Romanian community to find value in their own identity, culture and language.



**Natasa Stal, Romanian Language Tutor**

The benefit of bilingual reading and writing skills will have a long-lasting effect on the participants literacy development.

Feedback from the group has been extremely positive and they have contacted staff to express their gratitude for the use of the library space.

## Volunteer Centre



On Thursday April 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> Karen Donlon from Louth Volunteers will be visiting Ardee Library from 10AM-1PM. Anyone interested in volunteering can call in to speak with Karen to discuss opportunities in the locality. Further details from Ardee Library 041 6859023.

## Sensory Library Service

### Magic Table

Available in Ardee, Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries this facility is ideal for those with sensory difficulties, for Autistic people or people on the Autism Spectrum, and for people with Dementia.

Family/Group bookings to use the Magic Table can be made by emailing [libraryhelpdesk@louthcoco.ie](mailto:libraryhelpdesk@louthcoco.ie) or contacting your local branch.



**Members of the Irish Wheelchair Association having fun with the Magic Table**

### Quiet Time

Quiet Time in Dundalk and Drogheda libraries every Monday 6pm-7pm. Ardee library every Saturday 10am-11am.



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

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



*Sensory area with dimmed lights*

### **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.

On April 5<sup>th</sup> at 2PM 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. This session 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.

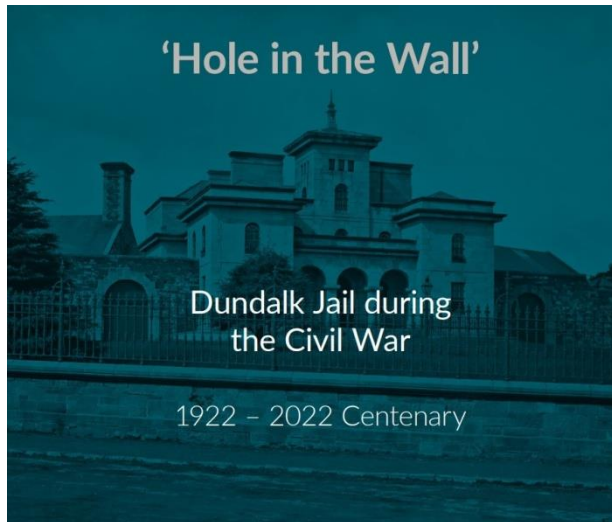
### **Donating Archives**

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](mailto:archive@louthcoco.ie) or by telephone at 042-9324358.

### **Decade of Centenaries**

The County Archives launched its short-film and accompanying booklet on 'Dundalk Jail during the Civil War period' on 23<sup>rd</sup> March. This centenary project was produced as part of the Louth County Council Decade of Centenaries Programme 2021 in collaboration with the County Louth Archaeological & Historical Society. It commemorates the forthcoming centenary of the 'Hole in the Wall' escape that occurred on 27 July

1922. The Decade of Centenaries Programme is funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.



The film and booklet contain a definitive account of the events that led up to the mass escape by Frank Aiken and over one hundred of his men. The short-film is now available on Louth County Archives YouTube channel at [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbO\\_FV17Rb408fJeBb1qC3Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbO_FV17Rb408fJeBb1qC3Q) and both the booklet and film can be accessed on the web-page <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/archives/louth-1916-1923/dundalk-jail-during-the-civil-war.html>, while hard-copies of the booklet are available from Louth Libraries and Louth County Archives.

## Arts Service

### Drogheda Arts Festival

Drogheda Arts Festival are back live and in person for 2022!! Kicking off on Thursday April 28<sup>th</sup> and running until Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, we have a huge range of activities and entertainment to cater for all. We have music from Rónán Ó Snodaigh and Myles O'Reilly who perform their new album 'Tá Go Maith'. We also will have internationally acclaimed musician Scott McCloud performing with his band Paramount Styles for their first ever Irish gig. Quintessence will be in Droichead Arts Centre with their theatre performance and A92 will be working with

musicians in the Boomerang Cafe. There will be a Fire Show in Millmount and our renowned Family Fun Day will take place in Dominics Park on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May featuring workshops and entertainment for all. Check out all the details and booking information [HERE](#) or follow us on FaceBook @DroghedaArtsFestival, Instagram @droghedaartsfestival and twitter @drogartsfest

### Local Live Performance Scheme Phase III

The first of Louths events under Phase III of the Local Live Performance Scheme kicks off on Sunday April 24<sup>th</sup> at 4p.m in Carlingford Heritage Centre. This 3<sup>rd</sup> phase of the Live Performance Scheme is to provide support to artists and technicians in the live entertainment industry while bringing music back to towns and villages. This event entitled 'Airs and Arias' features Carlingford resident & the internationally acclaimed Gavan Ring in concert with Davide Forte and Francesca De Nardi, also known as Sonas Duo. This renowned classical duo from Italy who is now resident in Dundalk, brought together with Gavan Ring, make this a concert not to be missed. Details for this event and other upcoming events in Carlingford Heritage Centre under this scheme can be found [HERE](#)

### An Táin Arts Centre

**Basement Gallery** - following the successful run of Alison Lowrys exhibition in March, the gallery welcomes 2 new tenants for April. Running from 5<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> April the North East branch of the Irish Patchwork Society celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary exhibiting quilts and wall hangings of varying size and age. Following them will be the Dundalk Photographic Society who opens their annual exhibition on 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

*MAD Youth Theatre* took to the stage with their new musical '*Sophistry*', performing to packed houses between 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March. This new musical was supported by the Arts Council of Ireland and Creative Ireland Louth.

April will see Dolmen Theatre company opening on 6<sup>th</sup> April with their production of *Arthur Millars 'The Crucible'*. Also coming in April will be '*The Examination*' by *Brokentaklers* who will perform

on 15<sup>th</sup> April. This play explores mental health and human rights in the prison system.

### Highlanes Gallery

March saw the 'We Are Here' exhibition open in Highlanes and it runs until 16<sup>th</sup> April. A collaborative partnership with the Golden Thread Gallery in Belfast, the exhibition presents 'WE ARE HERE, SONGS OF A FORGOTTEN PAST' Artists Moving Image from the British Council Collection and LUX. Exploring themes of marginality and its representation, community, storytelling, world-building and critically reframing histories, these linked exhibitions are separate but in conversation with each other. The works include a range of media including moving image, sculpture, painting and photography and will include works from artists such as Ayo Akingbade, Tom Fitzgerald, Cliona Harmey and Colin Martin.

More details can be found [HERE](#)

### Drogheda Classical Music

Drogheda Classical Music takes to Droicheads stage again on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April featuring a song recital where internationally celebrated pianist Julius Drake is joined by two standout stars of classical music today, mezzo soprano Beth Taylor and viola player Timothy Ridout for a programme of glorious works by Schumann and Brahms. Tickets & info are available [Here](#)

### Droichead Arts Centre

#### Exhibition: Walking Peripheral Lines, Rodney Thornton.

Rodney is the First Solo Recipient of 2022. The First Solo Award offers support and funding to a North East artist at a key point in their career allowing them to present their first solo exhibition. Thornton lives and works in Drogheda. His drawings and paintings explore our surroundings and investigate the liminal spaces where urban meets suburban meets rural. The exhibition runs until 16<sup>th</sup> April in the gallery space. For information call 041 9833946 or check out the details [HERE](#)

The First Solo Awards for 2023/2024 are now open for application and details can be found [HERE](#) on Droicheads website. Closing date for artists to apply is Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

### Louth Contemporary Music Society

Tickets are now on sale for LCMS next concert on Sunday May 8<sup>th</sup> at 3p.m in the Carlingford Heritage Centre. LCMS has secured the Irish première of a major work by the American composer **Michael Pisaro**: his ninety-minute voyage into sound and silence "asleep, wind, voice, poe". Taking part also will be finely tuned musicians; members of the London group **Apartment House** appearing in Ireland for the first time. On this occasion Apartment House will be joined by **David Bremner**, piano and **David Stalling**, electronics and field recordings. The distinguished Irish actress **Olwen Fouéré** will voice the dissociated words and syllables of thoughts on solitude by Edgar Allan Poe and the Belgian writer Raoul Vaneigem. Tickets available from. <https://carlingfordheritagecentre.com>

Funded by the Arts Council and financially supported by Create Louth

### Other Funding Opportunities

Current funding opportunities available are:

- The Music Capital Scheme with Music Networks Ireland, closing date is Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022. Details can be found [HERE](#)
- Creative Schools Initiative - funding of up to €4,000 can now be applied for through the Arts Council for the Creative Schools Initiative. Successful schools will be provided with a range of supports that includes working with a Creative Associate, training and networking to support them to create their Creative School Plan. Guidelines and application form can be found [HERE](#) Closing date for applications is Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022.

## Business to Arts Awards

The annual Business to Arts Awards is open for nominations. This year is the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Awards which recognises businesses, artists and arts organisations that develop creative partnerships. Applications are open until Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April. Details can be found [HERE](#)

## County Museum

During March the Museum has welcomed both Primary and Post-Primary schools and many teachers have expressed their joy to avail of the opportunity to engage with other institutions. This is something that the Museum will build on over the coming months.



County Museum, Dundalk, Ireland

Published by · 9 March at 09:14 ·

Seanfhocal an lae / Proverb of the day

Seachtain na Gaeilge le Energia @CnaGaeilge

Tá do chaiscín meilte agat – You've milled your flour (i.e. you've burnt your bridges)... See more



As part of activities to mark Seachtain na Gaeilge the Museum posted a number of feature items online. Over the course of the SnaG fortnight the Museum posted a series of images of items from its collection (both display and in storage)

combined with an appropriate saying or seanfhocal as well as a translation.

## Recent Acquisition



As life returns to a more familiar normality there is a markedly greater interest and increase in enquiries pertaining to possible and actual donations to the Museum. Earlier this month the

Museum received a generous donation of a Purple Heart medal awarded posthumously to Pte. Patrick White who was killed in action during the Korean War. Other items to be presented to the Museum included Pte. White's beret, Korean War service medal as well as his Certificate of Citizenship. The American flag presented to his family at his funeral was also given to the Museum. Pte. White was buried in St. Patrick's Cemetery in March 1952. The items are currently being prepared for display; it is hoped to exhibit them before Easter.

## Heritage Office

March'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 that they had obtained 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.

Liaison continued in relation to the draft new Monuments and Archaeology Heritage Bill and the proposed new National Biodiversity Action Plan.

The Architectural and Wildlife Officers of the Heritage Council were welcomed to Louth to discuss proposed collaborations in Drogheda and Dundalk, respectively.

The Heritage Officer continued to support the Council's Planning function (including site inspections and reporting).