



Comhairle Contae **Lú**  
**Louth** County Council

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

**Dated 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023  
6<sup>ú</sup> Eanáir 2023**

**Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**  
**Tuairisc Bainistíochta ag an bPríomhfheidhmeannach – 31 Mí na Nollag 2022**

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## Support Services Seirbhís Tacaíochta

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, Water Services and Information & Communication Technology

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, Seirbhísí Uisce, agus Techneolaíocht Faisnéise agus Chumarsáide

**Bernie Woods**  
Director / Stiúrthóir



## Finance

### Expenditure to 31st December 2022 / Caiteachas go dtí 31ú Nollaig 2022

<b>Section/Rannóg</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure to/Caiteachas Iarbhír go dtí 31/12/2022</b>	<b>Budget Expenditure/ Caiteachas Buiséadaithe 2022</b>	<b>% Spent to/ % Caite go 31/12/2022</b>
Housing/Tithíocht	€43,029,384	€47,728,898	90%
Road Transportation & Safety/Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht	€22,957,087	€26,126,012	88%
Water Services/Seirbhísí Uisce	€7,466,775	€8,379,633	89%
Development Management/Bainistíocht Forbartha	€18,106,919	€17,331,075	104%
Environmental Services/Seirbhísí Timpeallachta	€18,664,750	€19,413,023	96%
Recreation and Amenity/Áineas agus Conláiste	€9,738,953	€9,615,255	101%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare/Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas	€1,043,716	€1,203,454	87%
Miscellaneous/Ighnéitheach	€9,895,612	€10,474,400	94%
	<b>€130,903,196</b>	<b>€140,271,750</b>	<b>93%</b>

### Income to 31st December 2022 / Ioncam go 31ú Nollaig 2022

<b>Section/Rannóg</b>	<b>Actual Income to/Ioncam Iarbhír go dtí 31/12/22</b>	<b>Budget Income/Ioncam Buiséadaithe 2022</b>	<b>% Invoiced to/ % Sonraisc Curtha do dtí 31/12/22</b>
Housing/Tithíocht	€44,710,358	€48,920,854	91%
Road Transportation & Safety/Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht	€12,193,703	€16,718,183	73%
Water Services/Seirbhísí Uisce	€6,766,840	€8,110,634	83%
Development Management/Bainistíocht Forbartha	€8,869,651	€10,250,958	87%
Environmental Services/Seirbhísí Timpeallachta	€1,925,749	€2,253,742	85%
Recreation and Amenity/Áineas agus Conláiste	€1,493,139	€1,043,293	143%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas	€395,046	€479,424	82%
Miscellaneous/Ighnéitheach	€5,384,374	€7,097,818	76%
Rates/Rátaí	€34,351,127	€35,030,647	98%
General Purpose Grant (LPT)/Deontas Ilfheidhmeach	€9,866,196	€9,866,198	100%
Provision for Debit Balance/Soláthar faoi Iarmhéid Dochair	€0	€500,000	0%
	<b>€125,956,183</b>	<b>€140,271,750</b>	<b>90%</b>

The above is the current position as of the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 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 of 31st December 2022 are as follows:

**Debtors as of 31st December 2022/Féichiúnaithe mar atá 31ú Nollaig 2022**

	<b>Opening Balance /Iarmhéid Tosaigh</b>	<b>Invoices/ Sonraisc</b>	<b>Receipts/ Fáltais</b>	<b>Write Offs/ Díscriobhanna</b>	<b>Closing Balance/ Iarmhéid Deiridh</b>
<b>Government Debtors/Féichiúnaithe Rialtais</b>	<b>€10,304,674</b>	€155,254,937	(€106,730,602)	(€22)	<b>€4,828,987</b>
<b>Other Local Authorities/Uadaráis Áitiúla Eile</b>	<b>€53,434</b>	€731,601	(€737,508)	(€9,020)	<b>€38,507</b>
<b>Rates/Rataí</b>	<b>€10,273,724</b>	€34,351,127	(€32,618,081)	(€3,330,746)	<b>€8,676,024</b>
<b>Rents/Cíosanna</b>	<b>€2,517,135</b>	€13,895,281	(€13,448,601)	(€24,897)	<b>€2,938,918</b>
<b>Loans/Iasachtal</b>	<b>€241,004</b>	€1,912,685	(€1,831,118)	€8	<b>€322,579</b>
<b>Development Levies/Tobhaigh Forbartha</b>	<b>€11,451,043</b>	€5,397,675	(€3,707,724)	(€1,342,166)	<b>€11,798,827</b>
<b>Fire Charges/Táilí Seirbhíse Dóiteáin</b>	<b>€707,144</b>	€552,521	(€406,436)	(€114,951)	<b>€738,278</b>
<b>Miscellaneous/Ilghnéitheach</b>	<b>€2,513,794</b>	€14,936,299	(€14,380,008)	(€188,849)	<b>€2,881,236</b>
<b>Total Debtors / Féichiúnaithe Iomlána</b>	<b>€38,061,952</b>	<b>€227,032,126</b>	<b>(€227,860,078)</b>	<b>(€5,010,643)</b>	<b>€32,223,356</b>

Above are the debtor balances as of 31<sup>st</sup> of December 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 €1.1m which is funded and is the final rates waiver.

As we were closed over the Christmas period the above accounts still have to be updated for funds received over this period.

**Annual Financial Statement**

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

## **WATER SERVICES / SEIRBHÍSÍ UISCE**

### **Irish Water**

Elected members/customers are reminded to contact Irish Water directly to log a query or any issue with water supply or quality or wastewater issues. Customers should contact the Irish Water customer care helpline, which is open 24/7, on 1800 278 278 or 1890 378 378 (For hearing impaired customers with minicom equipment) or via Twitter @IWCare or @IrishWater or go to [www.water.ie](http://www.water.ie).

### **Water Quality / Cáilíocht Uisce**

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

### **Water Conservation / Caomhnú Uisce**

Water conservation is ongoing throughout the County.

### **Climate Change Adaptation Strategy /An Straitéis um Oiriúnú don Athrú Aeráide**

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

### **Capital Programmes/Cláir Chaipitiúla**

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 / Cuíchóiriú Bhaile an Tallúnaigh**

Detailed Design is being progressed by Ryan Hanley Consulting Engineers. LCC are liaising with Irish Water and their consultants to advance the project. Land acquisition is currently being

progressed by IW. Project to include works at Mullacrew Reservoir, new Pumping Station at Allardstown and new Pumping Station at Bannons Cross. Planning permission has been granted.

### **Omeath WWTW / Córas Cóireála Fuíolluisce Ó Méith**

The Construction Phase at both the Pumping Station and Wastewater Treatment plant is currently progressing. The associated rising main is substantially complete. The Project is programmed for completion in May 2023.

### **Shared Waters Enhancement and Loughs Legacy (SWELL)**

Irish Water are to consider further surface water separation. Phase 1 of SWELL Project is complete.

### **Regional Sewer Network Rehabilitation / Athshlánú an Líonra Séaraigh Aitiúil**

A new schedule for 2023 to follow.

### **Dundalk Drainage Area Plan (DAP)/Plean Limistéar Draenála Dhún Dealgan**

LCC continue to liaise with Irish Water and their consultants on the Dundalk Drainage Area Plan (DAP). The Project Consultants are currently progressing the Hydraulic Model for the agglomeration.

### **Dundalk East Strategy - In advance of completion of Dundalk DAP/ Straitéis Dhún Dealgan Thoir**

Consultants are currently progressing the design with Irish Water, in consultation with Louth County Council. The project is currently at Detailed Design stage.

### **Coe's Road Pumping Station / Staisiún Ceadéalacháin Bhóthair Uí Chofaigh**

Operational modifications to the Pumping Station were undertaken by EPS. Options for cleaning of existing large diameter sewer are being progressed within IW.

## **Dundalk LNRP / Clár um Atreisiúchan Líonra Áitiúil Dhún Dealgan**

A Strategic Review is underway for Dundalk Wastewater Treatment Plant and Blackrock Wastewater Treatment Plant. LCC staff are assisting Irish Water with this assessment. The Local Network Reinforcement Project (LNRP) will progress following the completion of the Blackrock/Dundalk Strategic Drainage Study.

## **North Drogheda Wastewater Network Strategy/Straitéis Líonra Fuíolluisce Dhroichead Átha Thuaidh**

Atkins Consulting Engineers are progressing the detailed design of the North Drogheda Strategic Wastewater Network. The planning and procurement process was progressed in 2022, including extensive engagement with developers and landowners' representatives. The Planning Submission for the proposed Pumping Station is being progressed with procurement to follow in 2023.

## **Quay St. / St. Helena Rising Main, Dundalk/Príomhphíobán Aníos Shráid na Cé/Naomh Helena, Dún Dealgan**

Construction has been completed along the Inner Relief Road and is currently progressing along Quay Street with anticipated project completion in early 2023.

## **Greenmount WTW Upgrade/Uasghrádú Ionad Cóireála Uisce Dhroim Chatha**

Irish Water are progressing the design of proposed Upgrade Works at Greenmount WTW. LCC continue to engage with the design team on relevant data gathering and site visits. Planning application is programmed for Q2 2023 with procurement to follow in late 2023.

## **Drogheda WWTP/Córas Cóireála Fuíolluisce Dhroichead Átha**

Irish Water are 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.

Irish Water continues to work closely with EPS Limited who operate the plant on behalf of Irish Water.

## **Drogheda Drainage Area Plan (DAP)/Plean Limistéar Draenála Dhroichead Átha**

Irish Water have appointed consultants to undertake the Drogheda Drainage Area Plan (DAP). The Catchment Appreciation Workshop has completed and LCC staff are currently liaising with Irish Water and the project consultants in various aspects of the project. Workshop 1 programmed for Jan 2023.

## **Cockle Hill PS Upgrade / Uasghrádú Stáisiún Ceadalacháin Chnoic na Ruachan**

Contractor has been appointed to undertake Upgrade Works at Cockle Hill Pumping Station. Preliminary investigation and assessment have been undertaken. Date for commencement on site is to be confirmed. The Scope of Works has been expanded. Commencement on site Q1 2023.

## **Greenhills Sewer Replacement Project/ Tionscadal an Áthsholáthair Séarachais na nGlaschnoc**

IW contractors are expected to commence on site early 2023. Project duration is anticipated to be 8 months.

## **South Drogheda Wastewater Network Upgrade/ Uasghrádú ar Líonra Fuíolluisce Dhroichead Átha Theas**

The site investigation for the South Drogheda Wastewater Network has been completed and the draft design is nearing completion.

## **Water Networks / Líonraí Uisce**

### **Water Networks Programme/Clár Líonraí Uisce**

### **Rehabilitation Programme/Clár Athshlánúcháin**

No rehabilitation works undertaken by Irish Water in December

**Lead replacement / Ionadú Luaidhe  
Back Yard Services / Seirbhísí Cúlchlóis**

Irish Water's Contractors completed replacement of back yard service in Pearse Park Drogheda.

**First Fix / Chéad Shocrú**

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

**Find & Fix / Aimsigh agus Deisigh**

Louth County Council crews undertook Find and Fix activities in Cooley, Annagassan, Drogheda and Dundalk in December.

**Water Scouring Programme 2022 / Clar Sciúrtha Uisce 2022**

Louth County Council Crew undertook uni-directional network flushing in Dundalk in December.

**Network Maintenance / Cothabháil Líonra**

40 essential water tasks were carried out in December including 5 arising out of our Find and Fix program (1 in Cooley, 3 in Annagassan, 1 in Drogheda)

**Planning & Water Connections / Pleanáil agus Ceangail Uisce**

The Networks Section processed 12 new connections, 16 Pre-Connection Enquiries and 17 Planning Applications in December.

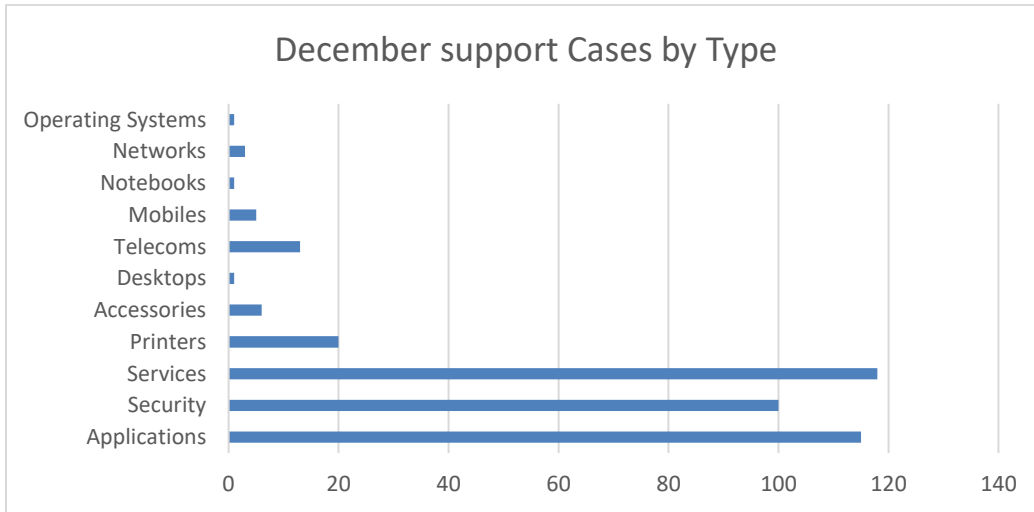
**Service Maps / Léarscáileanna Seirbhíse**

The Networks Section prepared 19 Service Maps in December.

# Information & Communication Technology

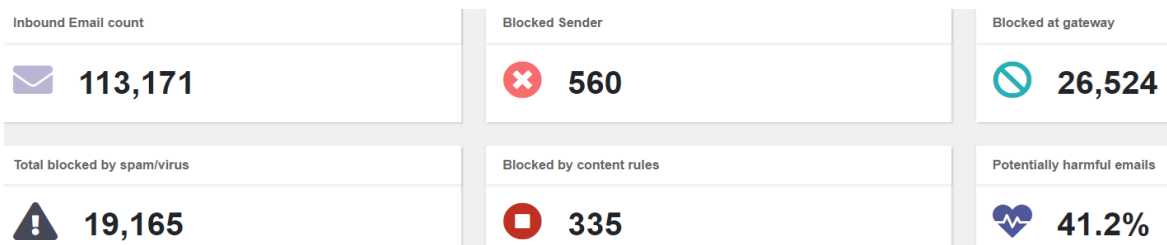
## Helpdesk

Between 01/12/2022 and the 22/12/2022 there were 383 support calls logged in the IT support system.



## E-Mail Filtering System

Louth County Council continues to be targeted with phishing, and spam e-mail. We utilise an e-mail filtering system to scan all e-mail being received into the organisation. To date in December over 41% of inbound e-mails were identified as potentially harmful.



## Louth County Council Website

There were 9,564 unique page views of [www.louthcoco.ie](http://www.louthcoco.ie) to date in December.

### Visits Overview



## ArcGIS Online – Public Planning Register Map Viewer

LCC provide an online Planning Register Map Viewer which can be accessed from the Online Planning Application and Maps section user Services> Planning on the Louth County council website. This application is updated regularly to include all planning applications. There were 1069 views to date in December, an average of 49 views a day.

Start Date:  End Date:

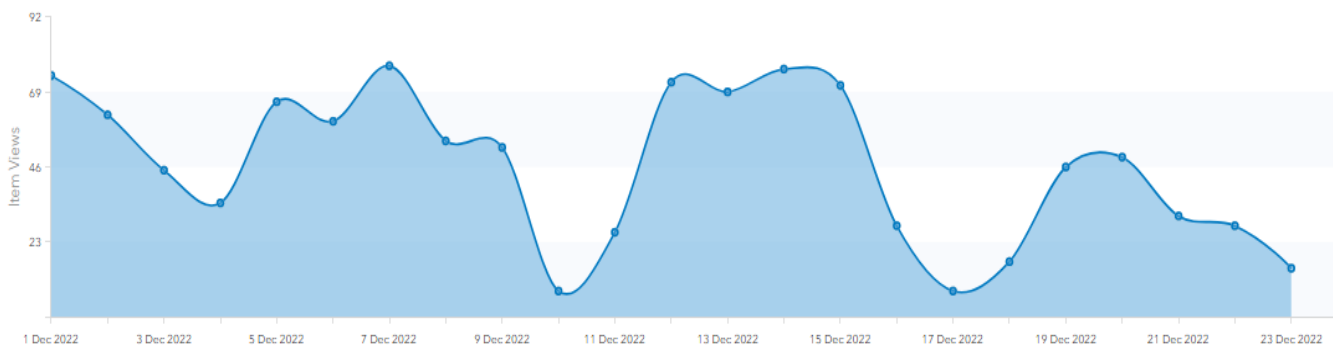
Item Views this Period

1,069

Avg Item Views Per Day

48.59

### Usage Time Series



**This Directorate has three key areas of responsibility:**

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

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

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

**Tá trí eochairfhreagracht ag an Stiúrtóireacht seo:**

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

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

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

**Thomas McEvoy  
Director / Stiúrtóir**



## 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>.

### Louth Economic Forum

The next meeting of the Louth Economic Forum will take place on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2023.

### Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2022

24 applications were received by Louth County Council under the Streetscape Enhancement Scheme. Minister Humphreys, Department of Rural and Community Development, announced on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2022 that she was giving the green light for works to take place in Omeath under the Streetscape Enhancement Scheme. Louth County Council are awaiting the Letter of Undertaking from the Department and once received applicants will be contacted with an update on their application.



*Minister Humphreys, Department of Rural and Community Development, at the Streetscape Enhancement Scheme announcement*

## Tourism

### 'sea louth'



*sea louth producer 'Cooley Oysters' gift box*

Two sea louth blogs were published last month:

- 'The sea louth Christmas gift guide' which promoted our participant producers, restaurants and hotels along with a number of related craft makers in Co. Louth.
- 'Ten Cosy Restaurants along the sea louth Trail' which highlighted some of our favourite cosiest restaurants offering some of the tastiest local seafood along the sea louth trail.

sea louth and Visit Louth will have a stand at the 'Dublin Holiday World Show' in the RDS from the 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2023. Look out for us on stand Q2.

The social media campaign for sea louth is ongoing; please follow us on twitter, facebook and instagram.

### St. Brigid 1500

A meeting was held between Louth County Council, Kildare County Council and the Ceann Comhairle, Seán Ó Feargháil, to arrange a series of promotional events leading up to February 2024, St. Brigid's 1,500 year anniversary.



*Brigid of Faughart Mural, Bridge Street, Dundalk*

## **Funding Opportunities**

### **Shared Island Development Fund**

Talks have commenced with the various stakeholders who are part of the successful funding application where Louth County Council is the lead authority. A *draft* Request for Tender for a consultant to carry out the feasibility study is currently being prepared.

### **Night-Time Economy Adviser for Drogheda**

Following a competitive process involving over 40 towns and cities in Ireland, Louth County Council's application to recruit a new Night-Time Economy Adviser was chosen. The Department are currently compiling the job specification and once this is finalised an open recruitment process will commence.

## **Boyne Valley Flavours**

Meath County Council together with Louth County Council are running an open competition for the following 2 no. roles: Boyne Valley - Centre for Food Culture Project Manager and a Food Business Development Officer.

Boyne Valley Flavours held 7 events in December, starting off our Christmas Markets with Solstice Christmas Fair, the Christmas Cottage Market at Scotch Hall and ending off with Rock Farm Christmas Market. Slane Castle held the Flavours of Christmas, with collaboration from Slemish Market Supper Club and Food on Fire, which was a huge success and also held the Christmas Craft Fair at Slane Castle over two weekends and had indoor and outdoor stalls.

Boyne Valley Flavours published a festive blog on the variety of Christmas Hampers available from their producers, for further information please follow link: [Christmas Hampers in the Boyne Valley – Boyne Valley Flavours](#).

## **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.

### **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/>.

### **Look For Local Christmas Campaign 2022**

From late November and through December, LEO Louth ran a successful campaign to encourage people to shop local to 'Look For Local - Look For Louth'.

New businesses were added to the shopping directory (link below) and people were encouraged to consult the directory and support their local businesses:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Enterprise-Development/look-for-local-look-for-louth/>.

A campaign was run across the period including print, radio interviews and advertising, and a social media campaign that highlighted shopping areas across the county. A competition was run where 2 x €250 prizes were awarded of shop local vouchers and the winner could choose where they wanted the vouchers for. LMFM also ran a competition and gave away 2 x €250 prizes which were split between the winning company who was nominated for their customer service and the person who nominated them. Overall the campaign was very successful.



*Wayne Macken and Sarah Mallon, Local Enterprise Office, Louth promoting the #LookForLouth competition*

### 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.

The projects 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 marketplace. In 2022, 16 no. Louth businesses were approved. 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.

The advisers are now actively engaging with 19 no. LEO Louth portfolio clients for up to 5 days each.

### Business Training



The 2023 - 2024 training supports tender is currently at final review stage. Initial training courses for 2023 are available to view and book online at: <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. 44 vouchers have been approved year to date and applications are still being received.

## Business Advice Clinics

10 no. business advice appointments were provided by telephone and video conference to entrepreneurs throughout the county during December.

## 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.

9 no. businesses were appointed mentors during the month of December.

## 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 December 2 no. applications for support were received.

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.

## 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. 10 companies have been approved year to date.

## Student Enterprise Programme



The Student Enterprise Programme is in full swing for the 2022 - 2023 academic year. All 19 secondary schools in the county have registered to take part this year.

## Craft Sector

Showcase 2023, the largest Irish trade fair for the craft and gift sector, will run from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2023. LEO Louth will be supporting 5 makers to exhibit in the Local Enterprise Office area and will be providing training and mentoring support in conjunction with the Design and Craft Council Ireland over the coming months.

## Local Enterprise Week

Local Enterprise Week will run from 6<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> March,



2023 and initial planning for the week of events has started. There will be several online National Spotlight Events again this year and LEO Louth will run a number of events throughout the week, mostly in person with some virtual.



## North East Regional Development Plan to 2024

The North East Regional Development Plan working groups that have been set up in respect of four of the five strategic objectives continue to work together.

### Ardee Business Park AGM

On 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2022, Gráinne McKeown represented LEO Louth at the Ardee Business Park AGM which took place in Ardee Business Park.

### Dundalk Chamber of Commerce Christmas is Coming Event

On 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2022, Thomas McEvoy represented Louth County Council at the Dundalk Chamber of Commerce Christmas is Coming event promoting the importance of shopping local this Christmas and half price parking for the month of December.



*Una McGoey, President of Dundalk Chamber of Commerce with Thomas McEvoy, Louth County Council*

## European Relations

### Peace IV Programme

### Project Updates – Shared Spaces and Services

Construction work continues at shared spaces sites Peter's Hill, Drogheda and Muirhevnamór Community Centre, Dundalk. Construction work is ongoing and is due to be finished in Q1, 2023.

### PEACE PLUS



Special EU Programmes Body  
Foras Um Chláir Speisialta An AE  
Boord O Owre Ocht UE Projects

The fourth PEACEPLUS Partnership meeting was held on 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2022. The Partnership were given an update on the PEACEPLUS Public Consultations that took place in November and December 2022. A high level, preliminary analysis of need revealed by the consultations was presented.

There was an impressive turnout across the 18 consultations, from approx. 6 - 35 people at each session, with over 250 participants across all meetings.

Further consultation sessions will be held in Q1 2023. Please keep an eye on our website, via PEACEPLUS page (<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/economic-development/peaceplus/>) and on the SEUPB website ([www.SEUPB.ie](http://www.SEUPB.ie)). Alternatively contact 042 93 24240 or [peaceplus@louthcoco.ie](mailto:peaceplus@louthcoco.ie) for further information.

We thank all those who contributed to these consultations; your input is invaluable to the PEACEPLUS Action Plan.

## **Peace Plus Survey**

In addition to the Public Consultations held across November and December 2022, a survey has been made public to capture peace-building needs in Louth.

As part of the design of the PEACEPLUS Action Plan, the PEACEPLUS Partnership wants to hear your views on how the €4.6 million allocation in principle for PEACEPLUS should be spent in Louth.

Please could you take a few minutes to share your views on what you feel are the peace building priorities for the area and how you might become engaged in the programme.

The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete - **Louth County Council PEACEPLUS Survey** (<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LouthPEACEPLUSSurvey>) – the link is available via the Louth County Council website.

The closing date for this survey is Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2023.

Please share this survey with your contacts and encourage them to #HAVETHEIRSAY

## **Heritage**

**Community Monuments Fund 2023** opened for applications on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November. Applications from community groups or private owners must be provided to the Heritage Officer by 4pm on Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2023. For full details please visit: [https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/heritage/news\\_and\\_events/funding-open-for-applications/](https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/heritage/news_and_events/funding-open-for-applications/).

## **Fire & Emergency Services**

### **Fire Service**

The Fire Prevention Section inspected a range of buildings in Dundalk, Drogheda and throughout County Louth during November and December to assess their suitability for the accommodation of

Ukrainian refugees. The Section has been working closely with the Ukrainian Accommodation Section in relation to these inspections.

The delivery of Louth Fire Service's training plan continued during December. This included the following:

- Road Traffic Collision course
- Road Traffic Collision Refresher courses
- Water Awareness Training
- Breathing Apparatus Maintenance course
- Attendance at UK Breathing Apparatus Instructor course by Drogheda Sub Officer

An Officer Development Day took place on 14<sup>th</sup> December for Senior Officers and Station Officers. This included external and internal speakers. Included in the attendance was Station Officer Michael Donnelly who retires at the end of December after 32 years of valuable service in Louth.



*Officer Development Day Attendance*

The Summary Cost Plan for Dundalk Training Centre extension and upgrade was received from the Quantity Surveyor. The cost is well in excess of the approved funding of €1,145,000. Taking account of the impact of construction inflation, the full amount will be sought from the DHLGH.

Three tenders have been received for the design of a new fire station for Dunleer. These have been assessed and it is expected that the design will proceed shortly.

### **Climate Adaptation Strategy**

Work on the Climate Action Plan is continuing, to include Fire Service and Building Control requirements. Two Fire Service members attended the NSAI energy audit on Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

Senior Executive Engineer Padraig O’Hora presented at the Officers Development Day about Louth County Council’s ISO 5001 energy conservation and all of the ISO 5001 projects and initiatives. Also discussed was the Fire Service contribution to this.

## **Major Emergency Management**

A Major Emergency Management briefing took place in The Council Chamber on 12<sup>th</sup> December. This was attended by the Management Team, the Seniors Group and Severe Weather Assessment Team members. It was delivered by the Major Emergency Management Officer, SACFO Joe Lumsden. The briefing covered emergency procedures and staff roles and also an example scenario.

The information provided will be tested in an exercise for the same staff during 2023.

## **Civil Defence**

The Minister for Defence and Foreign Affairs, Simon Coveney T.D. honoured Civil Defence volunteers for their work during the COVID-19 pandemic at a ceremony in Croke Park on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> November. The Minister presented the volunteers with specially commissioned COVID-19 medals.

A total of 20 volunteers from Louth Civil Defence completed more than 200 taskings during the Covid-19 pandemic. These included;

- Transporting people to and from hospital and other essential appointments
- Assisting the HSE at testing centres
- Assisting the Irish Blood Transfusion Service
- Delivering essential foodstuff and medications to vulnerable households

The Civil Defence Officer and six volunteers were awarded their medals by the Minister. The other volunteers will be presented with their medals separately at a locally organised ceremony.



*Civil Defence personnel with Minister Coveney and Secretary General Jacqui McCrum*

## **Building Control**

The Chief Fire Officer attended the National Building Control Advisory Committee meeting in Dublin on 15<sup>th</sup> December. There was discussion on the new Building Control Regulator and the impact of Market Surveillance Regulations on local authorities.

The Building Control Section continues to carry out on site inspections throughout the county aiming to meet national targets.

Certificates of Compliance on Completion continue to be assessed and validated weekly. Currently there is a high volume being submitted due to the year-end deadline.

## Planning

### Development Management / Bainistíocht Forbartha

The Planning service indicators for Louth County Council for the month of November, 2022 are given below in tabular form. There were 77 planning applications received during the month of November of which 69 were valid. In addition, there were 30 responses received during the month to requests for further information and 16 Pre-Planning Applications received.

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

(A) Description / Cur Síos	(B) Housing Developments / Forbairtí Tithíochta	(C) Individual Houses / Tithe Aonair	(D) Other applications -not requiring EIA / Iarratais Eile – ní gá MTT	(E) Other applications-requiring EIA / Iarratais Eile - MTT de dhíth	(F) Total for all categories of development in County Area / Iomlán na bhforbairtí sa chontae
(i) Number of applications determined / Líon na n-iarratas a cinneadh	9	7	47	0	63
(ii) No. of decisions determined which required further information / Líon na gcinntí inar iarradh breis eolais	4	1	20	0	25
(iii) Percentage of applications refused / Céatadán na n-iarratas a diúltaíodh	44.44% (4)	71.43% (5)	8.51% (4)	0% (0)	20.63% (13)
(iv) Number of appeals determined / Líon na n-achomharc a cinneadh	1	0	0	0	1
(v) Percentage of decisions overturned on appeal / Céatadán na gcinntí a cuireadh ar ceal ar achomharc	100% (1)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	100% (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	
	November 2022 / Samhain 2022	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo	November 2021 / Samhain 2021	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	20	244	19	295
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	16	255	55	314
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	12	203	14	230
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	4	23	4	14
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	0	5	0	5
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	0	0	0
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0	0	0

## **Planning Enforcement – Dangerous Structures / Forfheidmiú 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 October to December, 2022.

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

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to Dangerous Structures/ Forfheidmiú maidir le Déanmhais Contúirteacha	
	October - December Deireadh Fómhair go Nollaig 2022	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Dangerous Structures files opened / Líon na gcomhad Déanmhais Contúirteach a osclaíodh	9	49
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	11	38
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	0	3
Number of Dangerous Structures entered on the DS Register	9	26
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na gcásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	1	17
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0
Number of Dangerous Structures Removed from the DS Register	11	34
Number of cases closed / Líon na gcásanna a dúnadh	13	58

## **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	
	December 2022 / Nollaig 2022	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	0	9
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	24
Number of cases currently under investigation / Líon na gcásanna atá á n-imscúdu faoi láthair	23	48
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	3 re-issued (hand delivery)	26
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	0	5
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	0	0
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	0
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0

## **Forward Planning**

### **New - Conservation Grants 2023**

The closing date for applications for the **Historic Structures Fund** and **Built Heritage Investment Schemes** (BHIS) is **4.30pm on Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2023**. Full details are available to view / download on the Louth County Council website: [www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/planning/conservation/](http://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/planning/conservation/).

The **Vernacular and Historic Shopfronts** stream will continue again for HSF 2023 and will fund what can be termed 'informal' traditional buildings, which are a significant part of our intangible cultural heritage. The Historic Shopfronts stream is introduced to incentivise the conservation of historic shopfronts and will fund small capital works to their facades, windows, signage and other associated details.

Under the 2023 **Built Heritage Investment Scheme** the minimum funding award will be €2,500, up to a maximum of €15,000. Successful applicants

will be required to, at a minimum, match their funding award i.e. 50/50. The overall allocation for County Louth in 2023 is €126,400.

The 2023 BHIS will also include ring-fenced funding of €500,000 nationally for conservation repairs to **thatched structures** to maximise the availability of financial assistance to such owners, helping them offset other costs. Louth has been allocated €14,392 under this measure.

## Placemaking and Physical Development

### Deanamh Áite agus Forbairt Fhisiciúil

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:

- Roads and Local Services and Physical Development

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:

- Seirbhísí Bóithre agus Áitiúla, agus Forbairt Fhisiciúil

Catherine Duff  
Director / Stiúrthóir



## Roads and Local Services

### 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>
All Areas Town Centre	
Ramparts	
Inner Relief Rd	
Newry Rd	
Racecourse Rd	
By Pass	
Centenery Rd	
Dublin Rd	
Mourne View Walkway	
Ardee Rd	
Carrick Rd	
Castletown Rd,	
Ecco Rd ,	
Market Sq, Borders and Planters	
Mount Ave	
Litter pick and maintenance of open spaces and carparks in Templetown, Greenore and Gyles Quay .	
<b>Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí</b>	<b>Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht</b>
Nightly 200 Bins	By Contractor
Bins repaired at Market Sq	

Bin collection in Carlingford, Omeath, Greenore, Templetown, Gyles Quay,

also playgrounds - Omeath, Carlingford, Lordship.

**Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre**

**Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain**

Contract Sweeper as per contract and if there is an extra littering extra sweeps are carried out

**Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra**

**Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain**

By Contractor Nightly as part of the street bin collections

**Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála**

**Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain**

Ring Buoys checked Weekly Report sent to Water Safety Officer for Dundalk

No replacements in December, all checked and ok

**Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne**

**Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil**

Daily/Weekly Check lists carried out by Parks caretaker

27 Life Buoys checked

This is done on a weekly basis, Carlingford, Omeath, Lordship and Cooley, Carlingford, Omeath.

Weekly

	Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
<b>Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre</b>	<p><b><u>Cooley</u></b> Ongoing pothole patching within the general Cooley area.</p> <p><b><u>Dundalk</u></b> None</p>	
<b>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</b>	<p><b><u>Cooley</u></b> Cleaning of guillies / culverts Sweeping of leaves. Cleaning of back Drains at lady Greenore, Watercross also at templetown</p> <p><b><u>Dundalk</u></b> River cleaned at the Ramparts removing weed growth</p>	
<b>Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha</b>	<p>None This Month in Dundalk or Cooley</p>	
<b>Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán</b>	<p><b><u>Cooley</u></b> Cleaning of leaves and debris off footpaths</p> <p><b><u>Dundalk</u></b> Footpath Repairs Riverside Crescent, Tactile Paving</p>	
<b>Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráichta</b>	<p>On Going Repairs Traffic lights faults at Crown Plaza McSweeney St</p>	
<b>Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre</b>	<p><b><u>Cooley</u></b> None</p>	

	<b><u>Dundalk</u></b>	
<b>Signage / Comharthaíocht</b>	<p><b><u>Cooley</u></b> Ongoing program replacing, damage or faded or missing signs on minor roads. Also reflective chevrons replaced on the R173 Carlingford to Omeath</p> <p><b><u>Dundalk</u></b> New Street Signage in the Town Centre for Pay Parking Replaced Damaged Yield Signs</p>	
<b>Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach</b>	<p><b><u>Cooley</u></b> None</p> <p><b><u>Dundalk</u></b> Dundalk usual Areas Hoey's Lane, Mooreland Rd Inner Relief Rd Mount Ave By Pass at Wuxi Roundabout Mattresses at Castle Rd and QUAY St Bags of litter picked up from all estates weekly</p>	
<b>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí</b>	Cleaned Graffiti Off Road Signs	



*Improved accessibility at River Lane*



*Footpath improvements at Greenore*

## 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> Blackrock	<b>Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht</b> Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday
<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>

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

Location / Suíomh		Notes / Nótaí
<b>Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre</b>	<p>Tar patching pothole repairs carried out on the:</p> <p>LT-31671 Rathiddy Knockbridge</p> <p>LS-7100 White Mill Faughart</p>	
<b>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</b>	<p>Opening outlets, cleaning gullies and storm drains at:</p> <p>Dungooly Cross to R177 Hackballscross LP-3133/LP-3125</p> <p>Hackballscross to R178 Carrick Road LP-3136</p> <p>L7100 Faughart Upper LP-3167 Wallace's Road Blackrock</p> <p>LP-3161 Rock Road Blackrock</p>	
<b>Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha</b>		

<b>Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán</b>		
<b>Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráichta</b>		
<b>Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre</b>		
<b>Signage / Comharthaíocht</b>		
<b>Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach</b>		
<b>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí</b>		

### Ardee Municipal District

#### South Louth Operations (Rural Area)

<b>Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair</b>	<b>Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí</b>			
All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day)				
Clogherhead Car Park daily cleanup around bins				

<b>Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí</b>	<b>Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht</b>
Ardee Town Dunleer town Collon	37 Daily 20 Tuesday and Thursday 3 Tuesday and Thursday
<b>Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre</b>	<b>Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain</b>
All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day)	
<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>
Ardee town River Dee  Salterstown  Port Beach	
<b>Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne</b>	<b>Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil</b>
Maintenance and cleaning of Fairgreen and Dunleer parks and playgrounds complete with daily checks of the playground, & exercise equipment at both locations.	

Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
<b>Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre</b>	LP 1209-0 Glack LS 5232-0 Ardee Bog LS 5232-30 Cooley bog LS 5257-0 Roestown LP 2256-0 Philipstown LT 62742-0 Burren N52 Dundalk to Ardee road Repair to sunken section of the N52 at Mapastown Leveling 804 at Pop up Swimming pool location in Ardee
<b>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</b>	Opening outlets on the Glack Road LP-1209-0 Opening outlets on the R166 Dunleer, Opening outlets on bog road Ardee LS-5232-0 Opening outlet at Harristown LP- 1233-7 Flooding Richardstown road LP- 1228-14 Opening outlets on the Philipstown to Dunleer road Opening outlets on the Stabannon road Ardee, Opening outlets on the N52 Ardee to Dundalk <a href="#">Road</a> Manhole cover on the Kells road Ardee
<b>Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha</b>	
<b>Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán</b>	Salting of footpaths in Town and villages after heavy frost

<b>Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráichta</b>		
<b>Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre</b>		
<b>Signage / Comharthaíocht</b>	<p>Poles for life Buoy cherry Brook and Cuir na hAbhainn</p> <p>Bollards replaced in Lismanus lane</p> <p>Bridge repairs at Bridge street, barriers and signs for Christmas lights Ardee.</p> <p>80Kph sign on the R165 Ardee</p> <p>Removing of stage at church</p>	
<b>Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach</b>		
<b>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí</b>		



*Road repairs in Gallstown*



*Road repairs on the N52*

## 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>
Port Oriel Pier, Clogherhead	7 Daily
Clogherhead Beach	8 Daily
Port Beach	6 Daily
Termonfeckin	6 Daily
Baltray	3 Daily
Seapoint Carpark	3 Daily
Steps and lane ways weekly 22 steps when recourses allow and green areas.	
Hotspots on Monday – decided by Supervisor following inspection.	
Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Daily during working week. Also all Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Saturday p.m.	
Drogheda Rural Bring banks are cleared daily during working week.	
Placing / up-grade of litter bin slip way at St Dominicks Bridge.	
Graffiti removal at West St and Dublin Rd.	
Bonfire clean ups.	
Gritting footpaths, town centre, approach roads, footpaths outside bus-station & Train Station, School areas, Bridge of Peace, St Marys Bridge and Haymarket Bridge.	
Gates removed from Old Abbey Lane.	
<b>Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí</b>	<b>Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht</b>
	Drogheda town centre Litterbins emptied daily circa 60 early mornings.
	234 litter bin (including 10 no. Solar bins) are emptied weekly in town.
	Dominic's Park & Mell river walk emptied daily.

	<p>South Louth Drogheda Municipal district rural area's public Litter Bins are emptied twice a week or daily when needed especially at beaches/Portoriel/Seapoint/Termonfeckin/Baltray – at least 40 bins per day.</p> <p>Approach roads in Drogheda town emptied twice a week</p> <p>Bin upgrade and maintenance ongoing + street furniture</p>
<p><b>Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre</b></p>	<p><b>Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain</b></p> <p>Town centre daily. Approach roads fortnightly.</p> <p>Public Housing Estates, swept every 2 months. Private Housing estates swept every 3 months. When resources allow.</p> <p>Hotspots weekly on Monday after weekend – decided daily by supervisor after checking Drogheda urban area.</p> <p>Villages are swept once per month – i.e., Teromonfeckin, Baltray, Sandpit, Monasterboice, Tullyallen &amp; Tenure.</p> <p>Drogheda town Boyne river walkways are swept 3 times per week (Monday, Wednesday &amp; Friday).</p>
<p><b>Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / FolmhúAraidí Salachar Madra</b></p>	<p><b>Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain</b></p> <p>Empty about 35 No. once a week, washed and disinfected.</p>
<p><b>Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála</b></p>	<p><b>Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain</b></p> <p>89 ring buoys checked each week Town area (Thursday)</p> <p>9 ring buoys checked each week at Rosehall (Friday)</p> <p>New Ringbuoys placed on St Dominick's Bridge.</p>

**Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne**

**Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil**

Between 4 & 5 daily (4 playgrounds in Drogheda town, Skate park, adult exercise equipment). 3 Playgrounds in Drogheda rural area) + disinfected

Location / Suíomh		Notes / Nótaí
<b>Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre</b>	<p>Gallstown road</p> <p>Patching on L-6323-0 Waterunder LS-6320 Littlegrange of the N51 John Kirk Park Clogherhead Orchad Villas Termonfeckin</p> <p>Putting salt on the following roads outside the gritting route</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Newtownstalaban L-2307</li> <li>• Sandpit to Blackhall LP-2278-32</li> <li>• Galroostown L-6285-0.</li> <li>• Gallstown to Ballymakenny LP-2275-0.</li> <li>• Grangbellew to Nanny Keenan's Cross. L-2250-1</li> <li>• Dysart L-6248-0</li> <li>• Nanny Keanans to Dunleer L-2239-0</li> <li>• Speed ramp and signage completed at Congress Avenue</li> <li>• Speed ramp and signage in progress at Rowan Heights</li> <li>• Traffic calming signage at Bothar Brugha</li> <li>• Road markings complete at Beamore Road</li> </ul>	<p>Kilsaran</p> <p>JCB Pro JCB Pro</p>
<b>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</b>	<p>L-6243-0 Nicolastown opening outlets LP-2299 Timullen Drianage opening outlets LP-2275 opening outlets Kellystown to Grangebellew</p>	

	<p>LS-6302-24 opening outlets Hamlinstown Annual Drogheda Gully cleaning program ongoing Gully cleaning on-going on approach roads, town centre streets and estates. Drainage repairs aco channels Grove Hill. Drainage openings at Newtown Road.</p>	
<p><b>Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha</b></p>		
<p><b>Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán</b></p>	<p>Salting footpaths and roads in dangerous conditions as follows: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools at Sandpit and Clogherhead</li> <li>• Cockle roads after RTA and request from Gardaí for road to be salted.</li> <li>• Bus routes requested in Drogheda plus St Paul's and St John's School.</li> </ul> <p>Footpath repairs at Forest Hills Ballsgrove – footpath repairs – trip hazards</p>	
<p><b>Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá</b></p>	<p>James St / Scotch Hall.  Patrick St / Georges St. Crosslanes / Cement Rd. Greenhills Rd.  Termonfeckin Rd / Kieran's Corner. Beamore Rd, Pedestrian Crossing. West gate junction. Donore / IDA junction. Sunday's gate. Donore Rd / Bottle Lane. Walshestown N.S.</p>	<p>Lights out due to electrical power outage. Pedestrian phase lamp fail, RED. Pedestrian phase lamp fail, RED. Pedestrian crossing, lights out due to electrical fault. Check timings. PBU faulty. Controller fault. ESB Power failure. BU repair. Vehicle phase lamp fail, amber</p>

	Pedestrian Crossing N2 Ardee at Sliabh Breagh	
<b>Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre</b>	Road marking survey in progress. New Markings at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beamore Rd</li> <li>• Rowan Heights</li> <li>• Congress Avenue</li> </ul>	
<b>Signage / Comharthaíocht</b>	Automated External Defibrillator (AED) installed at Port Beach General maintenance of signage in the town centre and approach roads Pay parking signage on approach roads	
<b>Weed killing / Marú fiailí</b>		
<b>Litterbin cleaning disinfecting / Díghalrú glantacháin boscaí bruscair</b>	Dog bin disinfecting complete on approach roads	
<b>Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach</b>	Side of 1 Park View, Church St., Drogheda. Mill Lane  Ballymakenny Road  Beamore Road  The Twenties  Glenmore drive  Watery Hill steps	Dumping at location removed FPN issues Reports of lane been poor. Roads checked and found to be in good state. Muck on road various FPN issued towards contactors Dumping investigated no evidence. Muck on road various FPN issued towards contactors Overflowing bins notice of removal requested to waste contractors Serious level of littering. Cleansing cleaned location no evidence available

	<p>Laurence Park and Moneymore.</p> <p>George's Street in Drogheda</p> <p>Saint Finians Park in Drogheda</p> <p>Dual carriage ways retail units</p>	<p>Dumping investigated no evidence</p> <p>Issues revolving around night club.MGT spoken to regarding cleaning outside premises</p> <p>Issues reading waste contractor process of collection.. Waste contractor contacted regarding collections process</p> <p>Major issues regarding the littering from premises.FPN issued despite various communications</p>
<b>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí</b>		

### **Sustainable Management of Inland Waterways**

Louth County Council is committed to the ongoing sustainable management of our inland waterways. In 2022 we invested in some AS-Motor weed-ex units for each town footpaths crews, in support of our dedicated Operations Teams. These devices are helping us migrate from herbicide usage which protects biodiversity and showcases our commitment as a partner of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and in the delivery of the Louth County Council Biodiversity Plan and help deliver on our Climate Action Plan ambitions.

## **Physical Development**

### **Roads Projects**

#### **Narrow Water Bridge**

On the 18th of Nov. The Taoiseach, Micheál Martin, announced, at an event near Narrow Water Keep, that the Government have approved the project to proceed to the tender process.

The Suitability Assessment Documentation submissions, to prequalify a panel of Contractors capable of constructing the project, were received on the 23rd of Nov. These submissions are currently being assessed for their suitability and then will form a restricted panel of Contractors.

A North South Ministerial Infrastructure Sub Group meeting was held on the 29<sup>th</sup> Sept. Engagement with DFI Infrastructure, Loughs Agency, NPW, etc. is ongoing in order to discharge the Conditions of Planning. Wind tunnel modelling is nearing completion, and the design has been updated accordingly.



*CE explains the Narrow Water Bridge Project to An Taoiseach, Michael Martin on Nov 18<sup>th</sup> last*

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

Louth County Council received correspondence from An Bord Pleanála regarding the CPO process, the Board intends to hold an Oral Hearing on the 10<sup>th</sup> of January,

this hearing will be virtual. The design team are engaging with the landowners and their agents throughout the process.

#### **N2 Ardee to Castleblayney Road Scheme**

The initial design was published on the project website [www.N2MonaghanLouth.ie](http://www.N2MonaghanLouth.ie) and the project team remains available to speak with landowners and stakeholders who have queries about the project. Landowners, stakeholders and members of the public are welcome to submit comments to Jacobs in relation to the initial design – this feedback will be considered by the project team as the design process develops.

Focused geophysical surveys are planned to take place at approximately 20 locations of potential archaeological interest. They are non-intrusive surveys and no on-site works are required, however access to lands is required for equipment and staff. Shanarc are engaging and working with relevant landowners in relation to access.

In 2023 the project team will focus on drafting an Environmental Impact Assessment Report and CPO documentation – these are due for completion by mid-2023. Subject to approval, would then be submitted to An Bord Pleanála as part of the planning approval process.

Funding for 2023 has been requested from TII to close out the current Phase 3 design process, with a view to proceeding to Phase 4 Statutory Approvals in Q3 2023. Grant allocations are expected to be announced by TII in mid/late December 2023.

The N2 Project Team can be contacted by landowners and members of the public via the N2 Project Phonenumber 087 340 3786, or email: [ArdeeCastleblayney@N2MonaghanLouth.ie](mailto:ArdeeCastleblayney@N2MonaghanLouth.ie).

#### **N52 Ardee Bypass**

A local environmental group were granted leave in the High Court for a Judicial Review against An Bord Pleanála (ABP) and the

Boards directions to Louth County Council concerning the preparations of an EIAR and NIS. The matter came before the High Court on the 29<sup>th</sup> Nov. for mention and then adjourned to Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023. The Scheme is currently at a standstill until the resolutions to these proceedings are overcome.

## **N2 Collon Safety Scheme**

Civil works on the crossing are now substantially complete. M&E works are substantially complete. Connection of the signals to the ESB network is awaited.

## **Port Access Northern Cross Route**

A Notice to enter was issued by Louth Co. Council to the landowners affected by this phase of the project.

The consortium has appointed a contractor and works have commenced for the section of road R132 to the Ballymakenny Road including upgrades to the Ballymakenny Rd and Twenties Lane. Stream works are now complete and earthworks are ongoing. Works are expected to take 18 months. Realignment of the Twenties Lane has commenced in partnership with CFS Homes.

## **Boyne Enterprise Link Road**

Tender documents for construction of the works were received and have been assessed. Ongoing consultations are taking place with stakeholders / landowners. Valuation process has started. Letter of Intent has been issued to the preferred contractor. Letter of acceptance will be issued in early 2023.

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

Tenders have been received seeking consultants to prepare a Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) for DTTAs progress two of the schemes, namely D7 & D6 towards feasibility

stage. A letter of Intent has been issued to the preferred consultant. Letter of acceptance will be issued in early 2023.

## **Greenways**

**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 finalised for completion prior to Christmas.

The Oral hearing relating to the CPO was held by An Bord Pleanála, (ABP) online on the 26<sup>th</sup> October. ABP Confirmed the Compulsory Purchase Order with modifications on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

Updated submission to NI planning department in regard to DFI comments. Liaison with DFI ongoing. It is anticipated that Planning Permission in N.I. will be decided upon in Q2 2023 The project partners are continuing to meet on a monthly basis to review and assess the various aspects of the project.

## **TII Funded Greenways**

### **Carlingford to Templetown**

Public Consultation for the proposed Carlingford to Templetown Greenway, an information event was held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2022 at the Carlingford Heritage Centre. The drop-in event is Public Consultation No. 1 for the Carlingford to Templetown Greenway. This was well attended by elected members, members of the public and stakeholders. Closing date for submissions was 8<sup>th</sup> August. These submissions have been compiled for further consideration. Full details at [https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/louth\\_county\\_council/latest-news/greenway-carlingford-to-templetown-public-consultation-1.html](https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/louth_county_council/latest-news/greenway-carlingford-to-templetown-public-consultation-1.html)

Wintering Bird survey completed. 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 have provided funding for route assessment and discussions are taking place on delivery of this scheme going forward under the TII Project Management Guidelines. Going forward this scheme is to be combined with Dundalk Bay Greenway as a single project.

### **Dundalk Bay Greenway- Templetown to Dundalk**

TII have allocated monies towards the feasibility of a new greenway from Templetown to Dundalk. Discussions are taking place on delivery of this scheme going forward under the TII Project Management Guidelines. A single strategic assessment report (SAR) is being prepared for the route from Carlingford to Dundalk. Following approval of the SAR tender documents will be finalized for the appointment of consultants for environmental studies.

### **ORIS Scheme**

The Beach Accessibility Project relates to better accessibility to the beach areas at Templetown, Clogherhead and Port beaches. The Preliminary designs are now complete. These prelim designs now enable the consultant to complete environmental screenings which are anticipated to be completed by February. The results of these screening reports will inform if the projects required a consent process.

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

Following discussion with the developer and the Department of Housing this scheme will be progressed by the developer assisted by offset of development levies under agreement with LCC

### **LIHAF Mount Avenue Improvement**

The tender assessment report has been accepted by the Department of Housing. A letter of intent has issued to the lowest tenderer. It is envisaged that, subject to submission of appropriate insurances etc, that the preferred Contractor will be appointed early in the New Year. Appointment of a consultant to supervise the works has been advertised.

### **Specific Bridge Improvement Grants**

#### **Obelisk Bridge**

Requested peer review by DTTAS is now completed. Final Tender documents and additional queries have been reviewed by DTTAS. We are now waiting on their approval to go to tender in early 2023.

#### **St. Dominic's Bridge, Drogheda**

Substantial completion has been reached and the bridge is open to foot and cycle traffic permitted on the bridge.

### **Public Transport**

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

The civil works for the 9 site are essentially complete, bar snagging, and shelters installed by the NTA.

### **Corporate Projects**

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

##### **Existing Building Block C:**

Dismantling and Demolition of Western Elevation Block C Community Services Building and Temporary Support Structures installed. All Roof slates and battens stripped off roof. Existing Trusses removed to be stored and reinstated on completion of new walls.

**Existing Building Block B:**

Block B Council Chamber Eastern Elevation Brick work raked out for repointing. Concrete subfloor poured in Block B

**New Works and Link Building:**

Temporary Works Sheet Piling and Mini Piles for Eastern Retaining Wall installed. Continuation of Ground beam pours to Westside of New Link Building and Reinforcement for Lower Floor Slab installed ESB overhead Services diverted on Fair Street and undergrounded. Attenuation Tank Ancillary Pipework and Manholes constructed Northern Retaining Wall Reinforcement at North West corner of development installed and base poured. Yard Shed Steel frame installation has commenced



***Concrete Pour Block B***



***Removed Trusses from demolished section of Block C, to be reinstated within the new build.***



***Mini Piling Rig driving piles to Underpin adjacent boundary walls with no foundations***



***Subsided North and West Elevations of East Wing of Block C removed***

**Dunleer Fire Station**

A re-tender Document for design consultants was received on the 28<sup>th</sup> of Nov. with 3 tenders been received. These tender submissions are currently being assessed.

**Louth Flood defence and Coastal Erosion Projects**

**Dundalk and Ardee Flood Relief Projects**

Stage 1 of the Project is continuing, i.e. Options assessment, Scheme Development. Hydrological is now completed. Hydraulic modelling is nearing completion for both Ardee and Dundalk in tandem with the processing of information from the recently completed CCTV and Topographical surveys. Preliminary Option Assessment to consider and assess a

range of possible Flood Relief Measures has commenced and will continue throughout the next few months. The Public Consultation Days programmed for 25th November has taken place and submissions are being reviewed. In Ardee the WFD, Geomorphology & Soils/Geology analysis is underway. Tender Documents for the Project Site Investigations have also commenced.

Further necessary environmental, ecological, noise and landscape assessments will continue through Q4, 2022.

Monthly project briefing notes are being issued to the current relevant stakeholders. The Project website being hosted by OPW can be reached at:  
[www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/dundalk/home](http://www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/dundalk/home).

### **Drogheda and Baltray Flood Relief Project**

RPS are continuing works on Stage 1 of the Project, i.e. Options Assessment and Scheme Development and work continues on this. Topographical Surveys have been completed on site and post-processing works continue. CCTV surveys are now complete and the recorded data is being processed into the models. Tender Documents for the Project Site Investigations have also commenced, with final locations be agreed. Preparation of Tender Documents is also continuing for the necessary environmental and ecological surveys. The Project website being hosted by OPW is now complete and can be reached at:  
[www.droghedabaltrayfrs.ie](http://www.droghedabaltrayfrs.ie)

A brief note has also been circulated to the elected representatives

### **Carlingford and 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. Two temporary rain gauges are now operational, installed at

Carlingford Fire Station and at the rear of Carlingford Library for rainfall data collection, providing additional data to inform project design and development

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

All works are now complete with surplus flows now diverted through the pipeline from Balmers Bog.

### **Marine Projects**

#### **Coastal Protection Works**

Applications for the 2021 OPW Minor Works funding were submitted for Coastal Protection Projects in 3 separate locations, Omeath, Bellurgan and Ballagan.

OPW have confirmed Funding Approval of €62k for Omeath and an Ecologist will now be procured to prepare an AA Screening Report for this Project.

OPW have requested further comments in mid December from LCC on the Bellurgan and Ballagan applications, LCC will be preparing a response to these queries.

### **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.**

A tender assessment has been completed and a recommendation to award has been issued to the Dept of Education.

Part 8 for the proposed alterations to the SEN units was resolved at the Ardee MD members for the March meeting. Negotiations are now taking place with the most economically advantageous tenderer to deliver the school extension under the main contract.



**3D Visual of proposed SEN unit extension**

**Coláiste Chú Chulainn and Park at Marshes Lower, Dundalk**

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

**Electrical Vehicles Charging Points**



Louth County Council and other associate partners have completed preliminary assessments of sites to generate an approved site list of 25 EV Rapid Chargers across the border counties. All Section 85 Agreements with other LAs are in place and Stage 1 AA screening reports completed. Louth are also in the process of paying for ESB connections are approved sites.

Louth County Council has received tenders for a Multidisciplinary Consultancy Services for the project and are in the process of appointing a consultant which will commence in Jan 2023. The tender for legal services have been received and assessed and Louth are in the process of appointing the successful legal team to commence Jan 2023.

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 is 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. <https://www.seai.ie/grants/home-energy-grants/>

**Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP)**

The Construction Contract has now been signed by Kilkenny Co. Council (as lead partner) for the Eastern Region. The PLEEP Eastern Region will upgrade approximately 73,500 public lights across 9 local authorities, Carlow, Kildare, Kilkenny, Louth, Meath, Offaly, Tipperary, Westmeath and Wicklow County Councils, as well as Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII). A works contractor has been appointed by the lead authority for a 30-month contract for the Eastern Region. It is anticipated that works will commence in Co Louth mid-2024.

## **Active Travel Investment Program**

### **2022 Budget Allocation**

The National Transport Authority (NTA) has awarded Louth County Council an allocation of €6.53 million to advance several projects from preliminary design phase to construction phase. The fourteen projects that commenced in 2021 will continue and an additional nine new projects have been allocated funding for this year (2022).

The Active Travel Projects funded are for promoting Walking and Cycling Infrastructure and development of transport studies.

The status of ongoing Active Travel projects is as outlined in the table below. For ease of referencing, the National Transport Authority (NTA) allocate projects into particular Cost Bands depending on the total estimated project cost including, fees, land acquisitions and constructions as follows;

Band 1	€0 - €0.5M;
Band 2	€0.5 - €10M;
Band 3	> €10M;

They also divide the evolution of a Capital Investment project into a seven Phase process, (Phase 1 to Phase 7 inclusive) with seven Gateways Reports i.e. hold points, where local authorities are to prepare and submit Gateway Reports for sign-off before obtaining approval to advance to the next phase. The seven different phases are as outlined below...

- PHASE 1: Scope and Purpose
- PHASE 2: Concept Development and Option Selection
- PHASE 3: Preliminary Design
- PHASE 4: Statutory Processes
- PHASE 5: Detailed Design and Procurement
- PHASE 6: Construction and Implementation
- PHASE 7: Close-out and Review

On the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022, the Council were informed that we were successful with our two

nominated projects for **Pathfinder** Status, namely...

- Dundalk Inner Relief Road Active Travel Corridor
- Drogheda Active Travel Enhancement (Rathmullan Rd & Marley's Lane)

An introductory meeting was held with the Sustainable Mobility Management and Implementation Division on the 8th November 2022 and design has commenced on the above two nominated projects.

The Pathfinder Programme is a key part of bringing urgency to the delivery of demonstration projects of scale at a local level. It is intended that our projects will provide a template which can be replicated and scaled up elsewhere, with a strong emphasis on experimental and innovative approaches. A key criterion in selecting these projects is their capacity to be delivered within the next 3 years.

## Active Travel Projects

Project Name	Allocation 2022	Project Band (see foot note 1 below)	Current Phase (see foot note 2 below)	October 2022- Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions
Drogheda: St. Dominick's Bridge.	€2,163,347	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Works are 100% completed. The Bridge is open to pedestrian and cycle traffic. LCC have requested attendee / invite list for an official opening i.e. Minister of Transport and/or NTA personnel.	Construction completed in November 2022
Drogheda: R132, Bridge of Peace to Train Station (incorporating Marsh Road)	€170,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	LCC received draft Gateway 2 Report from Design Consultant on the 13th October 2022. We have reviewed and returned our observations to the consultant and are awaiting the final version. The Gateway 2 Report was submitted to the NTA on the 2nd Dec 2022.	Proposed Part 8 displayed in Q2 2023
Ballymakenny Rd Drogheda	€380,432	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 6 - Construction	1. Road surfacing and line marking works completed adjacent to the school entrances. 2. Process of land acquisition as part of the CPO process of PANCR ongoing.	Construction completed
Drogheda: R166 Termonfeckin Rd, design.	€110,345	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	RPS have commenced design and are currently developing options. 1. GPS surveys have all been completed 2. Traffic surveys, junction modelling & Archaeologist assessment have all been completed in Nov 2022.	Proposed Part 8 displayed in Q2 2023
Drogheda: R168 Collon rd, Hill of Rath RAB and Rosehall RAB.	€282,132	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	RPS have commenced design and are currently developing options. 1. GPS surveys have all been completed 2. Traffic surveys, junction modelling & Archaeologist assessment have all been completed in Nov 2022.	Proposed Part 8 displayed in Q2 2023
Drogheda: Rathmullan Road from Marley's Lane junction, design.	€144,201	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	RPS have commenced design and are currently developing options. 1. GPS surveys have all been completed 2. Traffic surveys, junction modelling & Archaeologist assessment have all been completed in Nov 2022.	This has received Pathfinder status approval on the 14 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2022

Project Name	Allocation 2022	Project Band (see foot note 1 below)	Current Phase (see foot note 2 below)	October 2022- Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions
Drogheda Dublin and North roads, design.	€263,323	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	RPS has commenced design and are currently developing options. As above	Proposed Part 8 displayed in Q2 2023
Drogheda: Boyne Business Park Link Road.	€250,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 5 - Detailed Design and Tender	Tenders Received and are currently being assessed. There is an issue with a third party land owner, which LCC are engaging with the Landowner to resolve.	
Dundalk: R132 Inner Relief Rd. (Pathfinder Project)	€250,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	Gateway 2 Status Report was submitted to the NTA on the 12th August 2022. Gateway 2 Report liaison meeting held with the NTA on 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2022. Awaiting NTA signed Project Control Document for Gateway 2 sign-off.	Proposed Part 8 displayed in Q3 2023
Dundalk: Dublin Rd Xerox Junction to Ladywell Bridge	€200,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 3 - Preliminary Design	OCSC have received comments from the NTA. Draft Part 8 drawings sent to the NTA in September 2022 for review to get sign-off on Gateway 3.	Proposed Part 8 displayed in Q2 2023
Dundalk: Ard Easmuinn Rd to Train Station / Friary School Dundalk & Dundalk Bus Station to Rail Station.	€335,000	Band 3 >10mil	Phase 3 - Preliminary Design	Received Phase 2 Gateway status approval from the NTA in early August 2022. This project quickly commenced Phase 3 Preliminary Design in August 2022. Phase 3 Preliminary Design has progressed well and it is hoped to have a Gateway 3 Report finalised and submitted to the NTA by the end of December 2022.	Proposed Part 8 displayed in Q1 2023

Project Name	Allocation 2022	Project Band (see foot note 1 below)	Current Phase (see foot note 2 below)	October 2022- Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions
Transport / Mobility Plans: Including Dundalk, Drogheda, Ardee, Clogherhead, Dunleer, Termonfeckin & Castlebellingham	€175,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	Online survey completed and synopsis. ATOS completed and GIS specialist has prepared new drawing and superimposed "Proposed Active Travel Links" as a layer to each of the ATOS Results maps.	N/A
Footpath Extensions / Links Package A: Termonfeckin & Cherrybrook.	€281,881	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 6 - Construction	Cherrybrook Complete It is anticipated that the Termonfeckin footpath will be delivered in 2023	N/A
Footpath Extensions / Links Package B: Knockbridge, Tullyallen & Dromiskin.	€177,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 6 - Construction	<b>Knockbridge:</b> Works completed. <b>Tullyallen</b> Works Completed <b>Dromiskin:</b> LCC are unable to reach agreement with landowner in order to commence scheme, hence the project is not progressing.	N/A
2 no. pedestrian Crossings on R132 Inner Relief Road, Tain Bridge, Dundalk	€112,500	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	Procurement competition for design consultants for Dundalk Active Travel Projects closed on the 30th September 2022. Tender Report completed and sent to the NTA for approval.	2024
Hoey's Lane, Dundalk	€100,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	As above	2024

Project Name	Allocation 2022	Project Band (see foot note 1 below)	Current Phase (see foot note 2 below)	October 2022- Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions
Mill Street, Dundalk	€100,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	As above	2024
Hill Street Bridge to Train Station, Dundalk	€100,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	As above	2024
College Heights and Tom Bellew Ave. Dundalk	€150,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	As above	2024
R132 Dublin Road, (Rank Xerox Junction to Greengates)	€200,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	As above	2024
R178 Carrickmacross Road, Dundalk	€100,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	As above	2024
Remedial Junction Works, Dundalk	€150,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	Works all completed in December 2022	N/A
Footpaths, Money more, Drogheda	€68,200	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 2 - Concept Proposals	Consultants are preparing options and preliminary design proposals	N/A

Project Name	Allocation 2022	Project Band (see foot note 1 below)	Current Phase (see foot note 2 below)	October 2022- Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions
Safe Routes to Schools	€0		Phase 2 – Concept Proposals	All four projects reviewed. St Louis, Dundalk - Meeting held with An Taisce and Principal. Action plan in draft format. Rehab, Mill Rd, Dundalk to be incorporated into LHCC/22/0003 above Drogheda x 2 - Preliminary Design / Concepts developed.	No part 8's but possible Section 38's

## **Place Making**

### **Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF)**

#### **Living in Carlingford Visiting Carlingford**

The proposed planning approval route including environmental impacts is currently being considered. Design drawings and reports for planning stage are at the initial stages.

#### **Ardee Castle**

Detailed design and production of tendering documentation is ongoing. The bill of quantities has begun being drafted which will form part of the tender package. Work is ongoing on the Ministerial Consent application following a site meeting held with the National Monuments Service.

#### **Omeath Public Realm**

The detailed design and tender documents for contractor appointment are well advanced. The final concept for the scheme has been agreed and stakeholder engagement has continued with local community groups and businesses.

#### **Ardee 2040**

The design of Ardee 2040 key character areas has been presented to the Ardee Municipal Meeting on December 1<sup>st</sup> 2022. This presentation is ahead of the preparation of final planning information including EIAR and AA Screening reports by the appointed Consultants Turley

Planning, to be submitted for planning consent to An Bord Pleanála. The report into the Public Engagement Process to date is uploaded on the website here: [www.ardee2040.ie](http://www.ardee2040.ie).

## **Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Projects (URDF)**

### **West Gate Vision (Drogheda)**

The preparation of final drawings, EIAR and AA Stage 2 reports for the Westgate Vision

Project by the appointed consultants Turley Planning are to be submitted for internal review, in advance of the Development consent application to An Bord Pleanála.

<https://www.westgatevision.ie/>

### **St. Nicholas Quarter and Backlands Regeneration (Dundalk)**

Tenders have been received for Phase 1 of the project, which involves the enhancement of the public realm. The quality assessment is due to be completed in January 2023.

### **Town Centre First - Dunleer Town Masterplan**

A public consultation event was held in the Market House, Dunleer over a 2-day period in early December. The event was very well attended by both the public and key community stakeholders. The online public consultation phase will remain open until the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2023 for members of the community who were unable to attend the in-person event, see <http://consult.louthcoco.ie>

The feedback and ideas received will be collated and form the basis of the draft masterplan.



## Weatherproofing and Outdoor Dining (Failte Ireland) - The Green, Carlingford

Groundwork for the new outdoor dining facility are significantly complete on site. The new tensile fabric canopy has been installed with the new resin bound gravel finish to be completed in the new year.



### Additional projects

#### St Peter's Hill PEACE IV

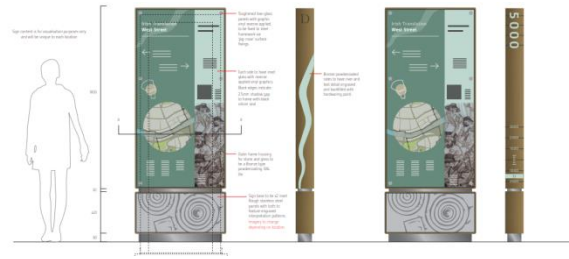
GLAS Civil Engineering progressed the new meeting space at Peters Hill to substantial completion. The installation of the sculpture piece will take place in January as agreed programme



#### Destination Town, Drogheda - LCC/ Failte Ireland

The Signage, Wayfinding and public realm works contract Letter of Acceptance has been

issued. The manufacture of the bespoke signage and wayfinding features will commence in the coming weeks.



#### St Laurence's Gate Plaza, Drogheda

Draft reports for the Part 8 Planning process for St Laurence's Gate Plaza have been received by the Consulting Archaeologists and Conservation Architects Grade 1 ahead of Pre planning departmental consultation in the coming weeks



#### Play Spaces

Work is progressing on tender documents for three play space sites in the villages of Collon, Termonfeckin and upgrade of the playground in St Dominic's Park, Drogheda. Tender documents are due to be published on eTenders/ OJEU in January 2023.

## Organisational Development

### Forbairt Na hEagraíochta

The Organisational Development Directorate includes the central services required to maintain and administer this Local Authority. This includes Corporate and Human Resources. It also includes the Community and Climate functions and all aspects of Waste Management Services and Veterinary Services.

This Directorate has four key areas of responsibility

- Corporate Services
- Community Support & Sports
- Waste Management, Environment & Climate Action
- Veterinary Services

Áiríonn an Stiúrtóireacht um Fhorbairt na hEagraíochta na seirbhísí lárnacha a theastaíonn chun an tÚdarás Áitiúil seo a chothabháil agus a riaradh. Áirítear leis seo Acmhainní Corparáideacha agus Daonna. Áiríonn sé freisin na feidhmeanna Pobail agus Aeráide agus gach gné de Sheirbhísí Bainistíochta Dramhaíola agus Sheirbhísí Tréidliachta.

Tá ceathair eochairfhreagrachta ag an Stiúrtóireacht seo:

- Seirbhísí Corparáideacha
- Tacaíocht Pobail agus Spóirt
- Bainistíocht Dramháil, Gníomh Comhshaoil & Aeráide
- Seirbhísí Tréidliachta

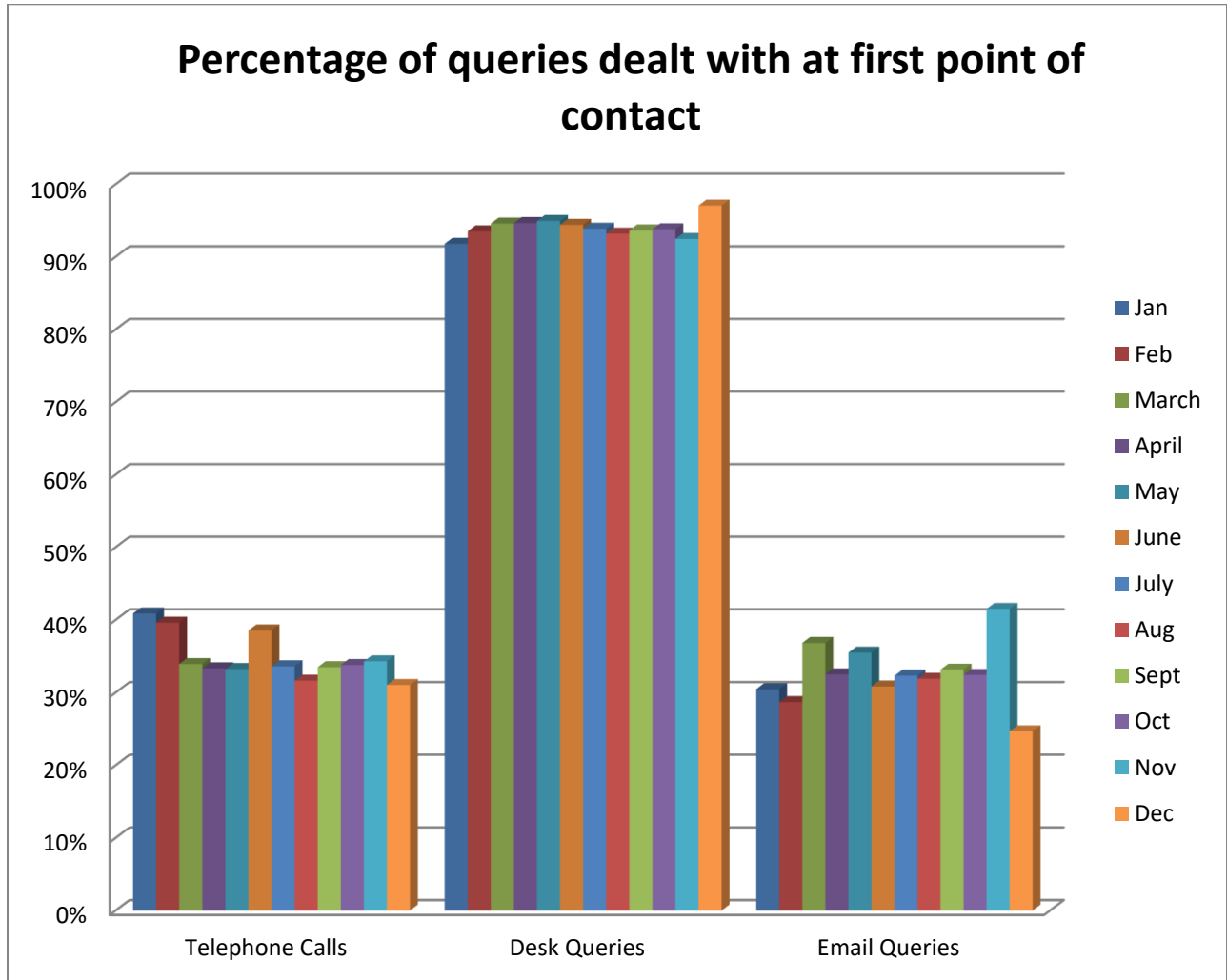


**Joe McGuinness**  
Director / Stiúrtóir

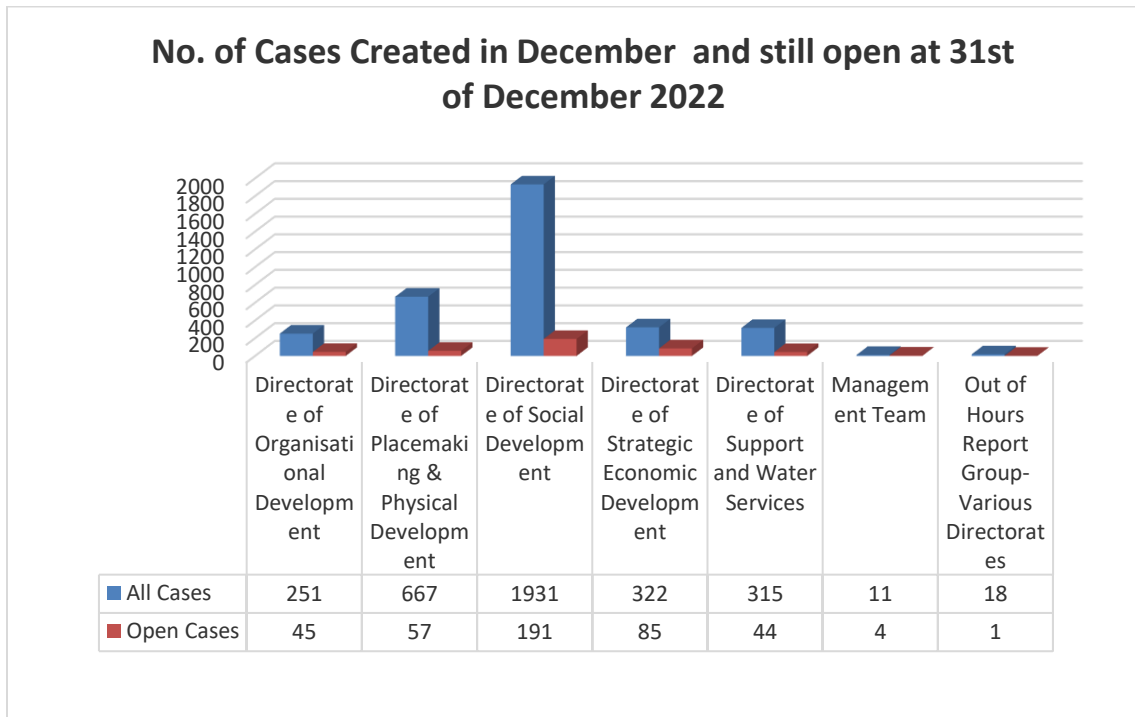
# Corporate Services

## Customer Services Report December 2022

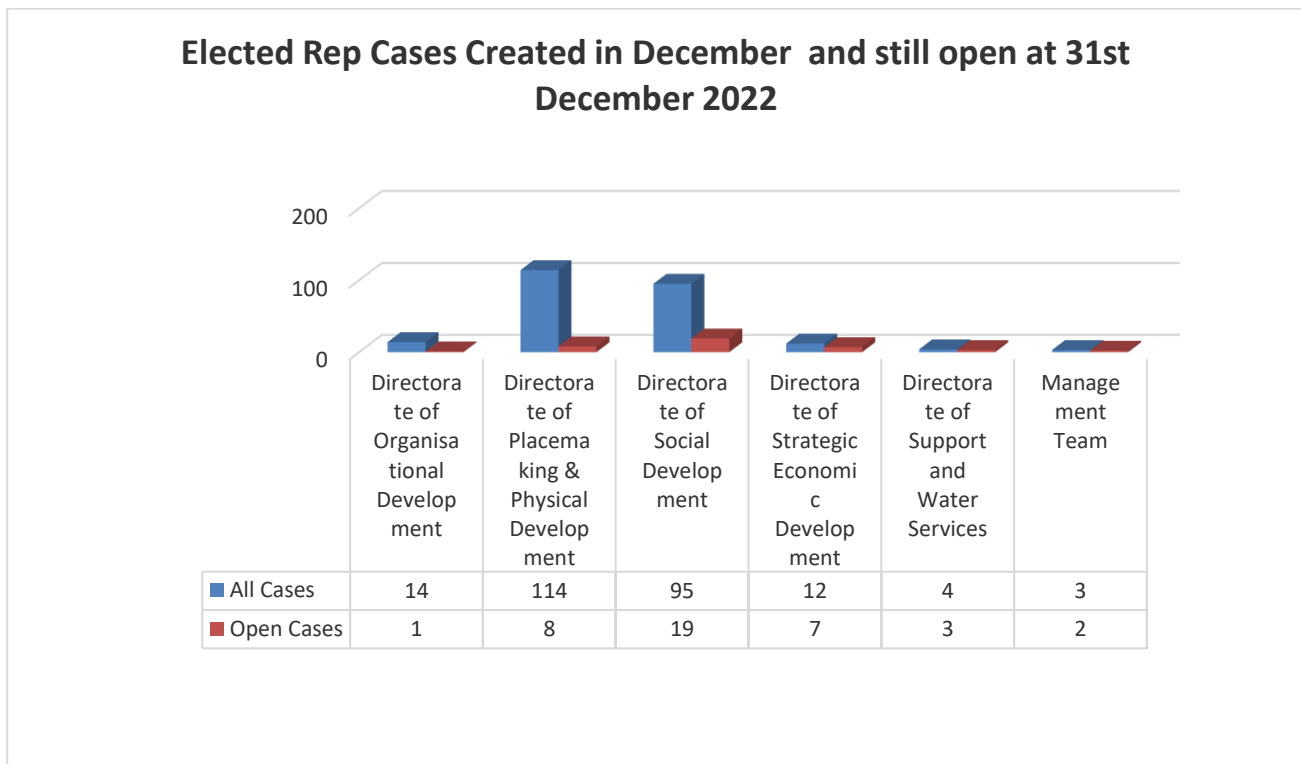
During the month of December Customer Services dealt with queries – 4579 calls, 1562 e-mails and 3087 counter queries.



There were 3515 valid SugarCRM cases recorded during December of which 427 (12.%) remain unresolved, broken down by directorate as follows:



During December 242 elected reps. cases were recorded on Sugar of which 40 (16%) remain unresolved broken down by Directorate as follows:



The table below illustrates activity in the redress area.

Requests Received	Same period 2021 (JAN to end of DEC only 2021)	2022 Total (JAN to end of DEC only 2022)	DEC 2022 (Month of Dec only)
Freedom of Information	128	111	4
Data Protection Request	2	3	0
Data Subject Access Request	12	11	1
Access to Information on Environment	5	12	1
Ombudsman Complaints	15	12	0
LCC Complaints Policy	32	28	1

### Electoral Register

The electoral registration process has changed which resulted in a National media campaign running during November/December to create awareness of the changes, generating in excess of 900 amendments/additions in Louth alone. While the media campaign has ceased, electors should continuously be encouraged to log onto [www.checktheregister.ie](http://www.checktheregister.ie) to ensure all their details are correct.

Awareness posters have been sent to all public offices and we will continue to Tweet the importance of checking the register.

Even if you are already registered, you now need to add your PPSN, date of birth and Eircode. This will allow the Franchise Section in Louth County Council to confirm your details and help to ensure the accuracy of the electoral register.

Copies of the application forms can be downloaded from [www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/electoral-register/](http://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/electoral-register/) and sent to: Franchise Section, Louth County Council, County Hall, Millennium Centre, Dundalk, Co. Louth. A91 KFW6 or emailed to [register@louthcoco.ie](mailto:register@louthcoco.ie)

### School Visit

On 15<sup>th</sup> December, 20 Leaving Certificate Students from the Marist Secondary School, Dundalk visited

the Council Chamber to learn about the planning process, services and careers which Louth County Council provide.



### Ardee Civic Awards

On 8<sup>th</sup> December, the Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District of Ardee Councillor Paula Butterly conferred Civic Awards on the following:

- Leonard Hatrick
- Enda Matthews
- Eoghan McCabe
- The Louth Beekeepers Association
- St Vincent DePaul, Dunleer
- Padraig McCullough
- SAFE (Suicide Awareness for Everyone)
- Stabannon Parnells GFC
- Tommy Burns

- Ardee & District Cancer Support Group
- St Mary GFC Senior & Minor Teams



helps with energy costs such as electricity and gas costs, refuse charges, and operating costs such as existing rental/lease costs and insurance bills. The funding will also assist with necessary repairs and improvements to their facilities purchase of equipment and training and development. Louth County Council has been allocated €323,952.

Some funding has been ring fenced to support Women's Sheds to help with their energy costs such as electricity costs, refuse charges, heating charges and operating costs such as existing rental/lease costs, insurance bills. The fund is opening on 12th December 2022 and the Closing date is 3rd February 2023 at 4.00pm. Louth County Council is now taking applications from Community and Voluntary Groups in Louth. Application Forms and further information available at:

[https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/louth\\_county\\_council/latest-news/community-support-fund-2022111.html](https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/louth_county_council/latest-news/community-support-fund-2022111.html)

For more information please phone 042 9392929 or email [csf2022@louthcoco.ie](mailto:csf2022@louthcoco.ie)

## Community

### Community Support Fund



### Louth Meath Joint Migrant Integration Strategy

The Louth Meath Joint Migrant Integration Strategy Forum held a meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022 on Zoom to discuss and agree the annual report for presentation to LCDC in January 2023. Forum members have agreed to provide updates for the last year as lead/partner on actions in the joint strategy. Another meeting is scheduled for 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023 to discuss final Annual Report for presentation to LCDC and proposal regarding extension of strategy. It is proposed that the strategy will be extended for another year due to Covid, thereafter a review and new strategy will be prepared pending agreement of LCDC in each county.

### Community Response Forum

The Community Response Forum has been re-established to ensure that there is a coordinated community response to the Ukrainian Emergency and to enable all community and voluntary agencies to collaborate in support of the needs of the Ukrainian Community. The Community response Forum met by zoom on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Forum members provided an update on the many actions and activities they are undertaking to assist

The Community Support Fund 2022 (CSF) is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development. It was launched at a national level by the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, and the Minister of State with responsibility for Community Development and Charities, Joe O'Brien TD on 18th November 2022.

The CSF provides funding to locally based community and voluntary groups in disadvantaged urban and rural areas across Co. Louth. The CSF

members of the Ukrainian community access necessary services and supports in Co Louth and assist the Ukrainian community with integration into local communities in Co Louth.

### **Age Friendly Louth Christmas Bags**

Age Friendly Louth supported by the team from the Community Office in Louth County Council packed over 500 Christmas bags for older and vulnerable people in Co Louth. The Christmas Bags included a selection of treats and goodies which will be delivered by An Garda Síochána, Meals on Wheels, Drogheda Homeless Aid, Alone, Disability Louth, Redeemer Family Resource Centre, The Birches & Drogheda Alzheimer's Society and our other partners to older and vulnerable people across Co Louth before Christmas.



***Photo Community Gardai delivering Christmas Bags to older people across Co Louth***



***Photo of Age Friendly Team & Community Team in Louth County Council who took part in Christmas Bag pack***



### **Age Friendly Louth Older People's Council Open Day**

Age Friendly Louth welcomed over 75 older people to an Open Day in the Crowne Plaza Hotel Dundalk on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022. The aim of the open day was to help reinvigorate the Older People's Council in Co Louth after the pandemic, and to welcome back current members and invite new members to join the OPC. There was a packed programme of presentations, surveys and workshops on the day and issues discussed at the workshop included safety and security in home & community and how best to communicate with older people. The Older Peoples Council provides a platform for older people to actively participate in their community. The Older People's Council will work closely with the Age Friendly Team in Co Louth to deliver the Age Friendly Programme and prepare a new Age Friendly Strategy for Co Louth in 2023.



**Age Friendly Louth Older People's Council Open Day**



**(Right to left back row) Cathaoirleach Cllr Conor Keelan, Finbar Gethins, SEO Louth County Council, are joined with pupils from the 3 Municipal District winning schools, Scoil Bhríde, Dunleer, St. Buites National School, Tenure Drogheda and St. Oliver's National School, in Carlingford.**

### **Green Christmas Poetry Competition**

Louth County Council hosted an awards presentation ceremony for the three winning schools in the annual 'Greener Christmas Poetry Competition 2022', on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December in County Hall. This competition, which is open to all primary schools in the county, aims to promote a festive season where we try to reduce waste and recycle more. The theme this year was Biodiversity.

This year prizes were awarded to schools from the three Municipal Districts of Drogheda, Dundalk and Ardee, with the winning school from each of the three areas receiving a prize of €200. There were individual pupil awards for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prize-winners. The winning poems were recorded by the pupils during the ceremony and these poems form part of Louth County Councils 'Greener Christmas' advertising campaign, which will be broadcast by LMFM Radio over the festive period. The poems of the runners up will be available on our website and through our social media channel.

Louth County Council would like to congratulate all the winners and participants in the competition, in helping them spread the Green Message, across the three Municipal Districts.

### **Town and Village Renewal Scheme**

Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, announced the projects funded under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2022 on 14<sup>th</sup> December. The announcement including funding of €436,731 for three projects in Louth:

<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Funding</b>
Stephenstown Knockbridge	To carry out alterations to the existing entrance to Stephenstown Pond.	€36,731
SEM Omeath	Funding under the Streetscape Enhancement Measure in Omeath	€100,000
Dunleer	Purchase of the former Bank of Ireland building for the potential provision of library services/multi-purpose community spaces	€300,000

## Blue Flag Beach Applications

The Blue Flag Beach applications for Clogherhead, Templetown and Port were submitted before the closing date of 8<sup>th</sup> December to an Taisce for 2023 approval. An evaluation process of applications has now commenced with the National Jury. Once evaluated, the sites will be forwarded to the international jury for their evaluation and final decision. The National operator will then advise on their decision, followed by an awards presentation.

## Anti-graffiti Competition

Louth County Council is delighted to announce a brand-new competition in partnership with DKIT, in support of keeping Louth Graffiti-Free. The competition was opened in December to all students of DKIT with an overall prize fund of €2,000.

The aim of the competition is to give an emerging web design / app developer student the opportunity to design and build a new mobile app and web page based on assigned specifications. The app needs to be a vehicle through which the public may submit locations of graffiti within the environs of Louth, with the option of uploading a photo and co-ordinates of said graffiti. It needs to be user friendly and easy to use. The web page will be hosted on the Louth County Council website, within the Community Services Section. It needs to work in conjunction with the app and contain the option to note co-ordinates of graffiti with all of the relevant information on the app.

There are two stages of this competition, Phase 1: will see the submission of a visual prototype and proposal for the app and web page and how it will function and how it will look, by 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2023. The two best prototypes and these two entries will go forward to the final stage. Each of these two entries will receive €250 in order to progress their apps to the final stage.

Phase 2 (Final Stage): The two finalists will be expected to design, develop and produce a fully functioning app and web page that can be used by Louth County Council and the citizens of Louth, by the 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023. The winner will receive an award of €1,500 once the winning app and webpage

designs have been successfully implemented and put in use. Louth County Council will Judge the entries and their decisions are final.



## Louth EU\_SHAFE

### Are we ageist?

The EU\_SHAFE Project launched its Survey on Ageism at the Older People's Council Open Day on December 5<sup>th</sup>. Tackling ageism is vital for creating a more equal world where every human being is respected and protected regardless of their age.

The survey has been distributed through the PPN and Older People's groups. A social media campaign has also been launched along with coverage in the local papers. The survey will remain open until the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023. This is your chance to help make a change in how older people are viewed and treated in Irish society by completing the **EU\_SHAFE Louth Survey on Ageism**. The survey will help to establish levels of ageism in County Louth and to use this information to raise awareness of the issue and to improve our policies. The survey is available online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CQZPQM9>



## Healthy Ireland Fund 2023-2025

Phase 2 of the Public Consultation is now complete. Five very successful Focus Groups were held in December to raise and identify key issues from Phase 1. Phase 3 will commence in January, where the Healthy Ireland Steering group will use the information learnt in Phase 1 & Phase 2 to design Healthy Ireland Fund 2023-2025 Local Strategy for Louth

### Louth PPN

In light of the current situation with increasing energy costs Louth PPN and Age-Friendly Louth hosted an Energy Conservation Workshop in the Market House in Dunleer on Thursday, December 15th 2022 from 1 - 2pm. Participants were invited to participate both in-person and online.

The workshop covered the following:

- Advice and guidance on achieving conservation and greater efficiency from your energy use
- Reading and interpreting energy bills so as to assist in choosing efficient solutions
- Good practice to apply when using home electrical appliances and methods of heating
- Understand what renewable energy is and what the sources of renewable energy are
- Up to date technologies and products people could use in managing the energy needs in their homes
- Sharing knowledge and providing advice to communities on how to work together to achieve energy savings and how to maximise energy efficiencies in community facilities



*Energy Conservation Workshop in the Market House in Dunleer*

## LEADER

The LAG at its recent meeting approved funding support, in the amount of €84,147.60 for three LEADER projects, under the Transitional LEADER Programme, 2021-2022. These projects were in Ardee, Dundalk and Tullyallen

Louth County Council in recent times have paid out funding to beneficiaries under the LEADER 2014-2022 Programme:-

Promoter	Amount
Tullyallen Men's Shed - Workshop Upgrade Ref: 115760	€5,067.13
Louth County Board GAA – Walking Route Upgrade and Additional Lighting Ref 114317	€42,936.88
Fit is an Attitude Limited:- The Juice Works Production & Storage Expansion Ref 115464	€8,655.41
St. Fechains GFC: - Lift, Sound Dampening and Upstairs Kit Out Ref 115004	€42,542.06
Drogheda Tidy Towns: - The Glen Bio Diversity Project Ref: 111099	€14,848.07
Louth Leader Partnership:- Appreciation of the Hills Training Programme 2022 Ref: 116978	€7,900.00
Louth Leader Partnership:- Appreciation of our Estuaries and Sea Shore Training Programme Ref: 114108	€24,880.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>€146,829.55</b>

## SICAP

The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018 – 2023 provides funding to tackle poverty and social exclusion through local engagement and partnerships between disadvantaged individuals, community organisations and public sector agencies. Louth has received a budget increase of 3%, €45,053.00 for 2023. It was also announced on 12<sup>th</sup> December that in addition to the main budget, the Ukrainian budget allocation for Louth, under SICAP is €206,913.

# Sports

## Dundalk Sports Centre

### NQS

For the fourth year running Dundalk Sports Centre has achieved the Outstanding Award from Ireland Active. This is a fantastic accomplishment for the centre and reflects the entire team over the last couple of challenging years.



*After Schools Futsal at Dundalk Sports Centre*

### Development Basketball 3v3 Tournament

DSC Development Basketball, a collaboration project between Dundalk Sports Centre and the Dundalk Ravens, held its first 3v3 tournament. The tournament was held on Saturday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2022, with over 30 teenagers participating in the event. Games lasted 6 minutes and the atmosphere was electric, as all 8 teams competed for a spot in the knockouts.



*Gerard McGahey and Richard English of Dundalk Sports Centre receiving Outstanding Award from Ireland Active*

The red team went unbeaten and topped the table, whilst pink narrowly made it to the top 4, securing a spot in the knockouts. Pink team stepped their game up though and made it to the final! However, yellow team got the overall victory and had both the male and female MVP (Most Valuable Player) of the day. Development basketball training sessions will resume in 2023 for ages 13-17.

### After Schools Futsal

On Monday the 12<sup>th</sup> of December, After Schools Futsal had its last training session of the year. It was fantastic to see such a great turn out for the last session and the children were each surprised with a selection box. Training will recommence on the 9<sup>th</sup> of January 2023.



*Development Basketball 3v3 Tournament*

## Sister Sister Club:

The 'Sister Sister Club' was developed to allow teenage girls who have dropped out of sport, a chance to socialise through the sport of Basketball. To mark the last session of 2022, the girls enjoyed a Christmas movie night! The club is held every Wednesday evening from 7 to 9pm. It is for girls aged 13-17. Basketball experience is not required.



## Mindful Movement Christmas Party.

Mindful Movement, a program designed to allow adults with intellectual disabilities to exercise in a fun, safe and welcoming environment, had its Christmas party on Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup> of December. Everyone enjoyed some games and music before a surprise visit from Santa himself.



*Mindful Movement Christmas Party.*

## Lourdes Stadium

### Outdoor Bootcamp

Lourdes Stadium Outdoor Bootcamp commenced on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November and finished on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December. The bootcamp took place every Tuesday and Thursday from 5-6pm. Participants enjoyed a mix of strength and cardio based sessions with many partaking in the bootcamp in preparation for Drogheda and Districts 5k Christmas Run on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December in the Lourdes Stadium.



### Teenage After Schools Athletics

A new 'After Schools Athletics' program started on the 30<sup>th</sup> November. The programme, which takes place every Wednesday from 4:15pm - 5:30pm, is aimed at secondary school students aged 13-17 who have an interest in athletics or want to try different athletics disciplines. The sessions are varied weekly and consist of javelin, shot put, long jump, high jump, 60m, 80m, 100m and relays.

The programme finished up for the Christmas period on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December and will recommence in 2023.



### Upcoming programme

Lourdes Stadium New Year Outdoor Bootcamp  
 Lourdes Stadium New Year Outdoor Bootcamp will start on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023. The bootcamp, which consists of 12 sessions, will cost €50 and will take place every Tuesday and Thursday from 5-6pm for 6 weeks.

Tailored to all fitness levels, the bootcamp is a fun way to get back to fitness, make new friends and become gradually stronger and fitter both mentally and physically. We have limited availability left for this Bootcamp.



## Louth Local Sports Partnership

### Coach & Volunteer Education Programmes 2023

Louth Local Sports Partnership will be facilitating the following Volunteer & Coach Education workshops in the coming months for volunteers and sports coaches in Louth

### Safeguarding

Activity	Date & Time	Venue
Safeguarding Level 1	January 19 <sup>th</sup> 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	February 2 <sup>nd</sup> 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	March 9 <sup>th</sup> 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	March 23 <sup>rd</sup> 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	April 13 <sup>th</sup> 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	April 27 <sup>th</sup> 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	May 11 <sup>th</sup> 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	May 25 <sup>th</sup> 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 2023 6:30pm	Online

### Disability Inclusion

Activity	Date & Time	Venue
Autism in Sport	February 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2023 6:30pm	Online
Autism in Sport	October 18 <sup>th</sup> 2023 6:30pm	Online

### First Aid

Activity	Date & Time	Venue
First Aid Online	February 7 <sup>th</sup> 2023 6:30pm	Online

## Volunteer Support Workshops

Activity	Date & Time	Venue
Volunteer Support, Supervision & Recognition	January 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 6:30pm	Online
Dealing with Difficult Behaviour	January 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 6:30pm	Online
Involving & Managing volunteers with additional support needs	February 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 6:30pm	Online
Social Media for Community Groups	February 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2023 6:30pm	Online

For further information on volunteer and coach education workshops please email [louthlsp@louthcoco.ie](mailto:louthlsp@louthcoco.ie) or telephone Louth Local Sports Partnership 042-9324318.

### Coaching Teenage Girls

Louth Local Sports Partnership is delighted to facilitate the Sport Ireland Coaching Teenage Girls in Sport Workshop, designed specifically to support coaches of girls aged 12-17 years on March 8<sup>th</sup> 2023. The workshop will provide a wealth of knowledge with realistic outcomes that promotes positive working relationships with young female player/athletes. The workshop will cover the following topics:

- The needs of Teenage Girls
- Retention Rates
- Positive Coaching Environments
- Communication & Relationships
- Maturation/Body Image & Sport

For further information please email [louthlsp@louthcoco.ie](mailto:louthlsp@louthcoco.ie) or telephone Louth Local Sports Partnership 042-9324318



### Sport Ireland Winter Initiative

A major new national campaign has been launched to get as many people as possible out exercising and participating in physical activity this New Year.

This 'Winter Initiative' calls on women, men, children, grandparents, cousins, neighbours, friends, work colleagues who haven't yet 'got going' to get out walking, running, cycling or participating in some form of physical activity.

Local clubs and groups are also encouraged to post and advertise their events and activities online to spread the word about the Winter Initiative and encourage new people to try out different sports which they may have felt were outside their comfort zone before now. Please use the link below to explore the activities that are taking place in Louth as part of this initiative.

<https://www.sportireland.ie/winter-initiative/winter-initiative-lsp-activities>

For further information please email [louthlsp@louthcoco.ie](mailto:louthlsp@louthcoco.ie) or telephone Louth Local Sports Partnership 042-9324318



## Women's Social Soccer

Louth LSP will be delivering a 7 Week Women's Social Soccer every Monday evening 7pm - 8pm from January 16th to February 27th 2023 at DKIT Sport Indoor pitches in Dundalk. This programme is for women who do not currently play competitive Soccer at club level, and for women who want to enjoy some exercise in a fun and relaxed environment.

For further information please email [louthlsp@louthcoco.ie](mailto:louthlsp@louthcoco.ie) or telephone Louth Local Sports Partnership 042-9324318



## Men on the Move Programmes – Cooley & Termonfeckin

Louth Local Sports Partnership will be facilitating two new Men on the Move Programmes in January 2023 in Cooley Kickhams GAA Club, and St Fechins GAA Club Termonfeckin.

Men on the Move is a wellness programme with a primary focus on physical activity. The purpose of

the programme is to use Physical Activity as a 'hook' to engage men in their health with a view to improving their overall health and wellbeing.

It consists of structured group exercise twice a week, two facilitated experiential workshops, a twenty-four-page health information booklet, a pedometer for independent sessions, weekly phone contact, a customised wallet card to record measures taken and a 5 km celebration event at the end.

For further information please email [louthlsp@louthcoco.ie](mailto:louthlsp@louthcoco.ie) or telephone Louth Local Sports Partnership 042-9324318



## **Waste Management, Environment & Climate Action**

### **Waste Enforcement**

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

<b>Complaint Type</b>	<b>Dec 2022</b>	<b>In 2022</b>
Air & Noise	2	96
Farm	2	31
Waste/C&D	3	98
Water Quality	2	75

A total of 9 complaints were received in the month of December 2022, bringing the total number of complaints in 2022 so far, to 300. 8 complaints have been resolved and 1 remains open, pending further investigations.

### **Waste Facility Permits & Certificate of Registration**

One transfer Waste facility permit application has been granted in December and 1 new Waste Facility Permit application is currently being assessed. Currently there are 25 Waste Facility Permits and 5 Certificates of Registration in operation in Louth.

### **Annual Return Validations**

All Waste Facility Permit (WFP) and Certificate of Registration (CoR) holders are required to submit Annual Returns (AR) where they collected / processed waste in any given year. The National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO) Eden Portal opened to Local Authorities from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022. Waste Enforcement Officers have started working on AR validations. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) identifies a list of waste facilities which must be prioritised for validation by Local Authorities. There is a total of 24 WFP and 5 CoR holders in Louth that require desk-top data validation in 2022.

### **Producer Responsibility Initiatives**

Significant Producer Responsibility Initiatives have been introduced in relation to packaging waste, end of life vehicles (ELV's), tyres, food waste, farm plastic waste and waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) with inspections underway in 2022 by Louth County Council waste enforcement officers to ensure compliance with Regulations. The Irish Farm Film Producers Group Ltd (IFFPG) is the national farm plastics recycling compliance scheme <https://www.farmplastics.ie> The scheme was made available in Louth during the month of May. Bring-centre dates and locations for 2022 are available on IFFPG website. Farm plastic inspections were conducted on a number of premises in Co. Louth in July 2022 with the assistance of IFFPG. Full compliance was noted in our inspections.

### **Anti-Dumping Initiative**

The Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications announced that funding is available through the WERLA's to support Local Authorities in 2022 Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI). The 2022 ADI aims to reduce incidents of illegal dumping by identifying and delivering projects aimed at tackling illegal dumping 'black spots' throughout the County and adhere to key measures of prevention, abatement, education & awareness and enforcement. The Department continues to strongly encourage innovative projects, which recognise waste as a resource that can be repurposed for use in a Circular Economy. All ADI claims were submitted to Department and are pending approval. A Grant of €80,500 was received, which is an 83% reduction from the Grant received 2 years ago and 36% reduction from the 2021 Grant. A total spend of €80,463.50 was submitted for approval.

### **Construction & Demolition (C & D) Waste**

The EPA published Best Practice Guidelines on the Preparation of Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Waste Projects in 2021. Waste Enforcement Officers are required to complete both desktop and site-based inspections of construction and demolition projects in Co. Louth to ensure compliance with the relevant Regulations including enforcement actions where necessary. As

part of site inspections, Waste Enforcement Officers ensure that waste is being managed appropriately and that any export or import of waste on site in collected by an authorised waste collector and destined to authorised facilities. Information in relation to unauthorised sites or illegal collectors can be forward to [info@louthcoco.ie](mailto:info@louthcoco.ie).

### Litter Enforcement

A total of 13 fixed penalty notices were issued in the month of December. Of these, 5 were issued in the Dundalk urban area, 4 in Drogheda urban area and 4 in the remaining County wide area.

There have been 1518 investigations in the year to date with 74 carried out in the month of December. There have been 324 fixed penalty notices issued in the year to date, 9 of which were for Dog Fouling.

### Diesel Laundering Waste

3 IBC's were located in the month of December. So far in 2022 there has been 245 IBC's located within Louth with an approximate cost of €305,837.32.



*IBC's located by Louth County Council*

### Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning

The Waste Management Act (Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning) Regulations 2009 allows farmers as a last resort, to dispose of green waste by burning i.e. untreated/uncontaminated wood, trees, tree trimmings, leaves and brush or other similar waste generated by agricultural practices. New amending Regulations have now been

introduced extending the exemptions to burn waste generated by Agricultural practices until the 1st January 2023.

From January 2022 to end of November 2022 a total of 101 Waste Disposal by Burning applications were received.

In December we received 22 applications bringing the total number of applications in 2022 so far to 123.

### My Waste



When resources allow the MyWaste campaign will be looking to move to more focused interactions with individual dwellings, to establish compliance with the Waste Presentation and Segregation Byelaws. Initial focus will be on dwellings which have not responded to previous requests for information and in areas where problem dumping exists.

After several recent reports around dumping in specific area, letters have been sent to residents.

### Air / Water / Noise Pollution

There was 1 water pollution complaint received in December which has been closed. One (1) Air Pollution complaint and one (1) Noise Pollution complaint were received during December 2022.

### Bathing Water

The annual monitoring of the four designated beaches in Co Louth has been completed for 2022; the final sample was taken on 5<sup>th</sup> September. Results for all the beaches are available on [www.beaches.ie](http://www.beaches.ie).

The four beaches identified as designated bathing waters are Templetown, Port, Clogherhead and Seapoint. The public participation for the identification of new bathing waters ended on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2022. Three submissions were received and are currently being assessed.

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://airquality.ie/station/EPA-84>

### **Section 4 Discharge Licences**

Currently in Louth there are 33 active Section 4 discharge licences. All licence holders must comply with licence conditions and submit regular monitoring results to the Council for assessment. The Council also carries out compliance monitoring on the licensed sites which includes compliance sampling and on-site inspections. Sampling and inspections of these sites is on schedule as per the 2022 inspection plan submitted to the EPA.

### **Water Framework/River Basin Management Plans**

The EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) is an important piece of environmental legislation which aims to improve our water quality. It applies to rivers, lakes, groundwater, estuaries and coastal waters. The Water Framework Directive was agreed by all individual EU member states in 2000, and its first cycle ran from 2009 – 2015. The Directive runs in 6-year cycles, so the second cycle runs from 2016 – 2021 and the third cycle runs from 2022-2027.

Rivers, lakes, estuaries, and coastal waters can be awarded one of five statuses: High, Good, Moderate, Poor & Bad.

Groundwater has just two statuses – Good and Poor.

### **Supporting Ecological Status**

Standards for general physico-chemical parameters, specific pollutants and hydromorphology are set at levels in order that they are sufficient to support the status of the BQEs. Physico-chemical assessment looks at elements such as temperature and the level of nutrients, which support the biology. Hydromorphological quality looks at water flow, sediment composition and movement, continuity (in rivers) and the structure of physical habitat.

### **Chemical Status**

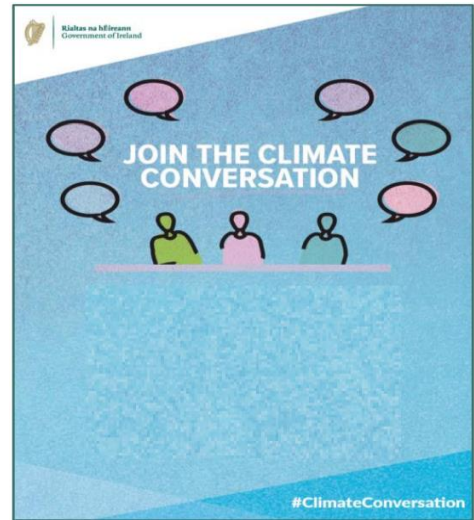
Chemical status is defined as either: 'Good' or 'failing to achieve good'. Chemical status is based on environmental quality standards for annual average and maximum allowable concentrations of certain Priority Substances.

### **Public Participation**

A key part of the Water Framework Directive is Article 14, which requires all member states to engage with the people who live, work and play in a catchment.

To do this, it is important to understand how local communities live in their catchments and use their water. Therefore, it is critical that local communities are involved in management and decision making related to protecting and, where necessary, improving their water resources.

The Community Water Office have of the 1<sup>st</sup> of December launched the Community Water Development Fund 2023. Guidelines are available from the following websites. Any proposals for funding are advised to contact the local Community Water Officer at Monaghan County Council, Civic Offices, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan. Grants are available towards water, biodiversity and climate initiatives  
<https://lawaters.ie/community-water-development-fund-2023/>  
<https://lawaters.ie/app/uploads/2022/11/CWDF-Guidelines-2023.pdf>



Louth County Council will be co-operating with LAWPRO and Dundalk Tidy Towns, who have been awarded a grant to progress an assessment of the Ramparts River in Dundalk employing a process-based approach which aims to reset / enhance the natural habitat template of a river, to achieve options which are sustainable and require minimal long-term management.

**Landfills**

All monitoring and inspections required by the conditions of the three landfill licences have been completed and are up to-date and on schedule as per the RMCEI inspection plan. Work is currently ongoing on historic landfills in the County including surveying and planning application of site at Carlingford, revised Tier 1 and Tier 2 assessment of site in Ardee and initial works at Bolies, Stabannon.

**Climate Action**

The Climate Action Team intends to roll out short videos / photos / information segments on Climate Action at a local level to All Staff in LCC to help promote Climate Action engagement and education across our organisation.

Preparation of a Baseline Emissions Inventory for County Louth has been ongoing. The Climate Action Team have been collecting information on how much CO<sub>2</sub> is emitted by all business, buildings, houses, industry, transport / travel and agriculture in the county. This information will form the base for decision making when the preparation of the Local Authority Climate Action Plan for Louth commences later this year.

Members of the Climate Action Team presented prizes to the winners of the UN Sustainability Goals Primary Schools art competition run earlier in the year.



As a requirement of the National Climate Action Plan, 2021, all Local Authorities are required to produce a County-level Climate Action plan. Louth County Council has begun preparation for this process which will formally start in Q1 of 2023.

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

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.

### **Climate Action Plan Process 2024 – 2029**

Under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 all Local Authorities are required to produce a Climate Action plan to cover a five-year period.

The Climate Action Team has completed a Tier 2 emissions baseline for the entire county. This evidence base will be used to develop actions to allow the county to decarbonise in accordance with the 2030 national target of a 51% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> and to achieve net zero by 2050.

A meeting of the Louth County Council climate action team was held. This was attended by representatives from across the LCC sections. Presentations were given on the climate action plan process and the baseline emissions inventory for County Louth.

Louth County Council have signed up as signatories to the EU Mission on Adaptation, this was announced on the 29<sup>th</sup> September at the R&I Research Days online webinar.



*Climate Adapt 2022*

### **V&W Circular Economy Project**

V&W operate the Civic Amenity Site on behalf of Louth County Council. Part of their contract stipulates that they must carry out initiatives to foster the Circular Economy.

V&W continues to progress a number of Climate Action initiatives, focused on the circular economy. V&W continue to supply Drogheda Men's Sheds, with Organic Compost and Garden Tools for their work projects.



*Men's Shed, Drogheda*

After the success of the "African Bicycle Appeal", V & W officially launched the "Ukraine Appeal". V&W have joined forces with a local bike repair business which fix and donate used bicycles for refugees from Ukraine, around the Dundalk area. V&W have

allocated an area at the recycling centre to accept suitable bicycles from the public. They grade, sort and organise delivery of these bikes to the local bike repair business. Repaired bicycles are then distributed to Ukraine refugees in the area.



**Ukraine Appeal, V&W Centre Dundalk**

### **Education and Awareness Initiatives**

V & W continue with onsite School visits, linking in with their green school projects. They explain the process involved in Recycling and what becomes of the different materials. Each group is presented with a Certificate of Attendance.

V & W's Education Officers continue to work with Tidy Towns groups and Community groups promoting the benefits of recycling.

### **SUSTAINABLE ENERGY**

#### **Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance**

The Council's energy efficiency at the end of 2021 was 47.84%, according to SEAI, which will be confirmed shortly in SEAI's Annual Report for Public Sector Bodies for 2021.

#### **Gap-To-Target Plan to 2030**

Council staff are progressing energy works as part of the Council's Energy Action Plan for 2022. Staff are also 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. The improvements will focus on our highest energy users.

#### **Varcities H2020 Funded Project**

Dundalk is a pilot city for this project. 3 Visionary Solutions are proposed as part of the EU Horizon

2020 Funded varcities project at the outdoor space at the County Library and Museum, Dundalk, known as 'The Dundalk Pilot'. Louth County Council manages the project for the 'Dundalk Pilot'.

At present the project is approaching construction stage. However, the construction market, like many other markets at present, shows evidence of significantly increased costs for construction. For that reason, the Council has decided to seek expert advice on the estimated construction costs for the project and the construction stage duration. A tender process was undertaken, and a Quantity Surveying firm is being appointed for that work. It is hoped that the Quantity Surveyor's Report will be completed quickly.

Contract documents have been prepared for procurement of a contractor for the construction stage of the project. However, formal initiation of that tender process, to engage a contractor for the works, has been delayed, pending a report by the Quantity Surveyor.

It is now expected that the works will be constructed in Q2 of 2023. Further liaison with landowners and tenants adjacent to the site is planned to update them on the next stage of the project and to minimise any disruption for tenants of adjacent properties who have right-of-access through the site.

#### **Louth County Council's Energy Management System and ISO 50001:2018**

The Council's Energy Management System (EnMS) continues to be compliant with ISO 50,001; 2018. A 1-day surveillance energy audit was undertaken by NSAI on Friday 2nd December 2022, to confirm compliance with ISO 50,001. Arising from that, NSAI, confirmed as follows that the recommendation of the Lead Auditor is that the client:

*Can be recommended for continued registration – NSAI Report Dec 2022*

The Council has developed a Heat Plan for Council buildings, to ensure that space heating in Council buildings is maintained at 19°C, in accordance with Government direction for public buildings. That plan provides for scheduled heat times at various times of the year. The next stage of the heat plan – heat

schedule for the winter season, has now been implemented and will remain in place until end March 2023.

### **Better Energy Communities Grant 2022**

LCC has partnered with Dunleer Sustainable Energy Community for participation in their application for grant funding for energy projects in 2022. SEAI has indicated an intention to grant-fund the Council's energy projects and confirmation of that is expected shortly from SEAI. Once the decision on that is confirmed we intend to progress the procurement of new energy projects for 2022. The Council will have until end Q2 2023 to draw-down that grant funding.

### **Veterinary Services**

#### **Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI)**

As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 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. The number of food safety inspections carried out by Louth County Council in the year to date is 119.

#### **Control of Dogs**

Control of Dogs Act 1986

<b>Dogs impounded December 2022</b>	
<b>Total dogs impounded</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Seized under Section 16</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Strays</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Surrendered by owners</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>No dogs reclaimed by owners</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>No of dogs rehomed direct</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>No of dogs rehomed to welfare groups</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>No of dogs on hand in Pound at 31/12/2022</b>	<b>9</b>

<b>Dog Licences December 2022</b>	
<b>No of Licences sold</b>	<b>314</b>
<b>Licence Checks:</b>	
<b>House calls</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Section 16 Notices issued (request to produce licence within 10 days)</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Fixed Penalty Notices</b>	<b>9</b>

#### **Control of Horses**

Control of Horses Act 1996

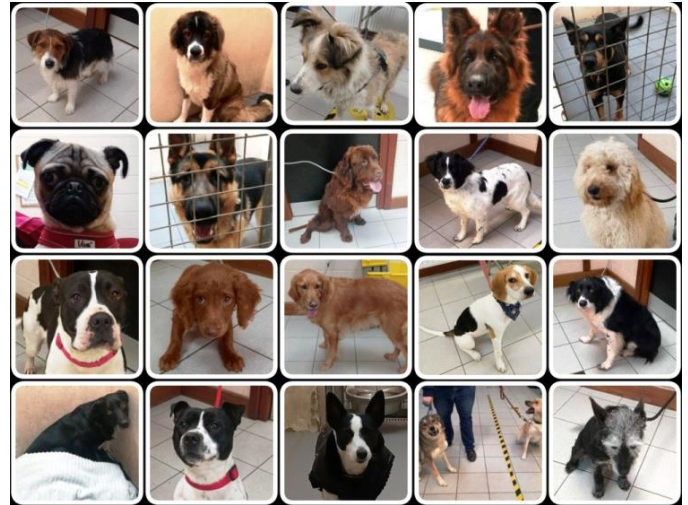
Control of Horses Bye-Laws 2003

<b>Horses impounded December 2022</b>	
<b>Horses seized, and reason for seizure:</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Horses reclaimed by owner</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Horses rehomed</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Horses disposed of</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>No of horses on hand in Pound on 31/12/2022</b>	<b>0</b>

## Dog Breeding Establishments

Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010

<b>Dog Breeding Establishments December 2022</b>	
<b>Total no of registered DBE's in Louth (as at 31/12/2022)</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Hunt</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Boarding Kennels</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Training Kennels</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Welfare</b>	<b>1</b>



*Dogs impounded during December 2022 (above)*

## Social Development Forbairt Shóisialta

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, 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, 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 County Louth in the period 1<sup>st</sup> December – 19<sup>th</sup> December can be summarised as follows:

<b>Presentations of December 2022</b>	<b>Ardee MD</b>	<b>Dundalk MD</b>	<b>Drogheda MD</b>	<b>Total</b>
Number of Person who presented as Homeless	0	121	109	<b>230</b>
Offered advice, support (including fast tracking H.A. for Rent Supplement eligibility)	0	88	81	<b>169</b>
Placed in Temporary Emergency Accommodation	0	26	21	<b>47</b>
Refused Offer of Temporary Emergency Accommodation	0	5	5	<b>10</b>
Not eligible from outside county or non HRC	0	2	2	<b>4</b>

The tables below reflects details for Louth for the period 1<sup>st</sup> December – 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022. This figure shows the number of adults accessing emergency accommodation during the above period.

**Table 1: Gender**

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Total</b>
Male	82
Female	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>

**Table 2: Age Groups**

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Total</b>
18-24	22
25-44	67
45-64	30
65+	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>

**Table 3: Accommodation Type**

<b>Accommodation Type</b>	<b>Total</b>
Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA)	45
Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)	80
Temporary Emergency Accommodation (low support)(TEA)	0
Unique Total (note, clients may have accessed multiple accommodation types during the week)	125
Minus people accessing multiple accommodation types during the period	0
<b>Total unique individuals</b>	<b>125</b>

**Table 4: North East Region by County**

<b>County</b>	<b>Total</b>
County Louth	125
County Monaghan	7
County Cavan	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>139</b>

**Table 5 - Families with dependent children**

	No. of families with dependent children	No. of Individual Adults	No. of Dependents
Individuals with dependent children in Louth	13	16	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>29</b>
Couples with dependent children in Louth	12	27	27
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>

**Housing First**

	County Louth
Number of tenancies established	32
Number of individuals currently in tenancy	26

**Housing Assistance Payment**

The total number of applications in HAP is 3117

Ardee Municipal District	Drogheda Borough District	Dundalk Municipal District	Total
305	1174	1638	3117

**Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 -2027**

Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 -2027 aims to facilitate disabled people to live independently and further enable equal access for disabled people to housing with integrated services. The Strategy includes targets for social housing provision to disabled people, measures for strengthening inter-agency collaboration to facilitate provision of housing and related supports in an aligned manner, actions to facilitate disabled people

to continue living in their own homes and communities.

In 2022 the target is to allocate 15% of all social housing allocations to disabled people. Up to 19th December 2022, Louth County Council has made 16.4% of the overall allocations to disabled people and is achieving the set target. The housing allocations were made for the following types of disability; 8% physical disability, 1% sensory disability, 4% mental health disability and 3% intellectual disability of the overall allocations. 79 units of accommodation were provided to disabled people and consisted of 28 single storey dwellings (5 wheelchair accessible and 23 adapted) 29 apartments (20 standard and 9 adapted) and 22 two-storey dwellings (19 standard and 3 adapted)

**2022 Housing Allocations up to 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2022**

District	LA	LA Refusal	AHB	AHB Refusal
Ardee	15	4	23	3
Drogheda	117	34	74	8
Dundalk	107	18	175	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>26</b>

**Transfers**

District	Number
Ardee	6
Drogheda	17
Dundalk	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>

**Housing List**

19 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Ardee	Drogheda	Dundalk	Total
Housing List	352	536	687	1575
HAP Transfer List	305	1174	1638	3117
<b>Total Housing List</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>1710</b>	<b>2325</b>	<b>4692</b>

There are a total of **267** applications on the transfer list (Non HAP) within Social Housing including **38** applications from the Approved Housing Bodies.

### Rent Management

The total number currently paying rent by Household Budget is **942**.

Current Rents Arrears as at 19 <sup>th</sup> December	No of Accounts	Value
Rents between 4-6 weeks old	193	€71,224
Rents between 7-12 weeks old	151	€98,965
Rents greater than 12 weeks old	804	€2,733,600
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1148</b>	<b>€2,903,789</b>

Vacant Properties on 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Total
Ardee Municipal District	3
Dundalk Municipal District	14
Drogheda Municipal Borough District	26
<b>Subtotal (re-lets) Vacant Properties</b>	<b>43</b>
Vacant Properties (CPO units not yet ready for occupation) (All County)	5
<b>Total Number of Properties (Relets &amp; CPO)</b>	<b>48</b>

Currently **9** number social units are being used as temporary accommodation for homeless or emergency and are not included in the above figures.

### Maintenance Calls

Maintenance	1 <sup>st</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2022	Total (YTD)
No. of Maintenance Requests Received	716	6,513
No. of Maintenance Requests Completed	584	5,138
No. of Maintenance Requests in Progress	77	N/A
No. of Maintenance Requests Refused	55	503

### Improve the Rented Sector

Description	1 <sup>st</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2022	Year to Date
Properties Inspected	40	902
Advisory Letters Issued	33	777
Improvement Notices Issued	2	62
Prohibition Notices Served	1	5
Private Inspections	0	5
HAP Inspections	31	607
RAS Inspections	2	2
AHB Inspections	7	200
Private Re-Inspections	0	0
HAP Re-Inspections	1	55
RAS Re-Inspections	0	2
AHB Re-Inspections	0	0
Inspections from Complaints	0	32
Virtual Re-Inspections	0	0
Properties made Compliant	1	35

### Grant Assistance to the Elderly and Disabled

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.

#### Private House Grants to 20th December, 2022

Status	HOP	HAG	MAG	Total
Applications completed 2022	175	42	17	234
Applications Rolling into 2023	278	230	71	579
Applications received 1/12/2022 to 20/12/2022	6	6	1	13
Total Applications received to 20/12/2022	313	177	51	541



*Housing Adaptation Grant, Level Access Shower*

#### Estate Management 1<sup>st</sup> December to 20<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Description	Drogheda a BD	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Monthly Total
Tenancy Inspections Completed	5	0	14	19
Pre tenancy Training	10	1	12	23
Tenancy Investigations Visits	19	2	29	50
Tenancy Investigations Remote	4	0	11	15

#### Anti Social Behaviour 1<sup>st</sup> December to 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2022

Description	Drogheda BD	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Monthly Total
ASB Cases received	5	2	1	8
ASB Ongoing	6	3	6	15
ASB Completed	5	1	4	10

Description	Drogheda BD	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Monthly Total
Verbal Warning	3	0	1	4
Written Warning	0	0	0	0
Tenancy Notification	0	0	1	1

## Climate Action

The newly revised **Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme** is now in the second year of a ten year programme which is expected to grow to meet the Programme for Government retrofit commitment. The new programme sees a significant up scaling (from 'shallow' to 'deep retrofit') on what has been completed by local authorities to date. The Council received an initial allocation of €3.654 million which was increased to €5.238 million, to retrofit a minimum of 164 properties in 2022.

## Housing Acquisitions

Louth County Council has been given approval for targeted acquisitions for both homeless and disability need in 2022. To date Louth County Council has acquired **33** properties for Homeless and **6** properties for Disability.

## New: Affordable Housing

Louth County Council are conducting an online survey to determine the level of interest in Affordable Housing in County Louth - this will help us to establish the need in Louth and plan the delivery of affordable housing in the County. The Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements survey is now live on Louth County Council website. The survey will close on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023. The link for the survey is:

<https://consult.louthcoco.ie/en/content/louth-county-council%E2%80%99s-scheme-priority-affordable-dwelling-purchase-arrangements-survey>

## Capital Housing Delivery

### New Housing Scheme – Gort Uaine, Clogherhead, Co. Louth

Louth County Council Housing Capital Section recently commenced construction of 1 social housing units at Gort Uaine, Clogherhead, Co. Louth. The unit is a 4-bedroom detached house. This house is scheduled to be completed in the second half of 2023.



*Foundations for new housing unit-Gort Uaine, Clogherhead*

### New Housing Scheme - Doire Beag Phase 2, Collon, Co. Louth

Louth County Council Housing Capital Section is progressing with the construction of 6 social housing units at the Doire Beag residential estate in Collon, Co. Louth. The units comprise 4 no. 3-bedroom terraced houses and 2 no. 3-bedroom bungalows. This development is scheduled to be completed in the second half of 2023.



*Construction progress new housing units – Doire Beag, Collon*

### New Turnkey Housing Units

Louth County Council Housing Capital Section received new turnkey housing units in a number of

locations in the county, such as Park Green, Coulter Place in Dundalk and Cuirt Na Cloch, Stoneylane in Ardee. These turnkeys comprise a combination of 2 and 3 bed units.



*Turnkey Units in Park Green Coulter Place Dundalk*



## SHIP DELIVERY

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	Completed	30/09/2022	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 3 Approved	16/02/2024	3no. * 2 bed & 8no. * 3 bed
Boice Court (Phase 2 - 4)	1/1	72	Stage 3 Approved	08/07/2024	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 3 Approved	31/07/2024	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	02/09/2024	2no. * 2 bed Apt, 2no. * 2 bed, 2no. * 3 bed
Ballymakenny Road - East Site, Drogheda	1/1	80	PPP Bundle 5 Funding Approved	30/06/2026	To be confirmed
Moneymore, Drogheda - Infill	1/1	1	Funding Approved Single Stage	27/10/2023	1no. * 3 bed
Gort Uaine, Clogherhead - Infill	1/1	1	On-site	29/09/2023	1no. * 4 bed
School Lane, Dunleer - Infill	1/1	1	Contract Awarded	29/09/2023	1no. * 3 bed
Doire Beag, Collon, Co. Louth - Infill	1/1	6	On-site	24/11/2023	6no. * 3 bed
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	1/4	11	Completed	31/12/2022	11no. * 2 bed (3no. Part V of 11)

Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	2/4	6	On-site	31/01/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt. (1no. Part V of 6)
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	3/4	6	On-site	28/02/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt. (1no. Part V of 6)
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	4/4	22	On-site	31/05/2023	11no. * 2 bed, 5no. * 2 bed Apt, 6no. * 3 bed Apt. (5no. Part V of 22)
Linenfield Ballymakenny	2/2	1	Completed	04/11/2022	1no. * 2 bed
Listoke Avenue Ballymakenny	1/1	6	Completed	30/09/2022	6no. * 3 bed
Tullybrook, Slane Road, Drogheda	1/1	3	Completed	30/11/2022	1no. * 3 bed, 2no. * 2 bed.
Cuirt Na Gloch, Stoneylane, Ardee	1/1	14	Completed	31/12/2022	14no. * 2 bed
Park Green, Coulter Place, Dundalk	1/1	24	Completed	31/12/2022	24no. * 3 bed.
Rath Na Gloine, Dromiskin	1/1	1	Completed	31/12/2022	1no. * 3 bed
Balfeddock Manor, Termonfeckin	1/1	8	Completed	31/12/2022	1no. * 3 bed, 7no. * 2 bed.
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	1/5	1	Completed	31/12/2022	1no. * 3 bed
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	2/5	2	Completed	31/12/2022	2no. * 2 bed
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	2/5	1	On-site	31/03/2023	1no. * 2 bed
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	3/5	1	Funding Approved	30/09/2023	1no. * 3 bed
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	4/5	9	Funding Approved	30/06/2024	4no. * 3 bed, 5no. * 2 bed
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	5/5	8	Funding Approved	31/12/2024	6no. * 3 bed, 2no. * 1 bed

## CALF DELIVERY

Project Name	Project Phase	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Tierney Street, Ardee Circle Housing	1/2	5	On site	31/3/2023	2no. *2 bed Bungalow, 1no. * 3 bed Bungalow, 2no. *3 bed semi detached
Tierney Street, Ardee Circle Housing	2/2	6	On site	31/12/2023	2no. *3 bed Bungalow, 1no. *3 bed semi detached & 3no. *2 bed terraced houses
Newfoundwell Road, Drogheda Cluid Housing	2/2	39	On site	31/3/2023	12no.*1 bed apt & 27no.*2 bed apt
Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda Respond Housing	1/3	40	On site	30/6/2023	1no.*3 bed detached, 10no.*2 bed terraced, 14no.*3 bed semi detached & 15no.*3 bed terraced
Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda Respond Housing	2/3	46	On site	30/9/2023	13no.*2 bed terraced, 18no.*3 bed semi detached & 15no.*3 bed terraced
Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda Respond Housing	3/3	47	On site	31/12/2023	2no.*4 bed detached, 11no.*2 bed terraced, 1no.*3 bed detached, 22no.*3 bed semi detached & 11 no.*3 bed terraced
Tullybrook, Drogheda Cluid Housing	1/1	85	On site	31/5/2023	8no.*2 bed apt, 7no.*2 bed duplex, 24no.*3 bed duplex, 22no.*3 bed terraced, 22no.*2 bed terraced & 2no*4 bed terraced
Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk Tuath	4/4	12	Funding approved	31/12/2023	12no.*3 bed house
Dublin Road, Dundalk Respond Housing	1/2	49	On site	30/6/2023	18no.*1 bed apt, 7no.*3 bed duplex, 5no.*3 bed terraced, 5no.*2 bed apt & 14.no*2 bed duplex
Duiche Roden, Dundalk Cluid Housing	2/3	24	On site	30/1/2023	6no.*1 bed apt, 8no.*2 bed apt, 6no.*2 bed terraced & 4no.*3 bed terraced

Donore Road Drogheda Cluid Housing	1/1	66	On site	30/9/2023	4 no.*1 bed apt, 54no.*2 bed apt & 8 no.*3 bed apt
Bellewsbridge Dundalk Circle Housing	1/1	5	On site	31/3/2023	3 no.*1 bed apt & 2 no.*2 bed apt
Duiche Roden, Dundalk Cluid Housing	3/3	59	On site	1/8/2023	30no.*1 bed apt, 11no.*2 bed apt & 18no.*3 bed duplex
Drybridge, Drogheda North & East Housing	1/1	16	On site	31/3/2023	2no.*3 bed apt, 10no.*2 bed apt & 4 no.*1 bed apt
Dublin Road, Dundalk Respond Housing	2/2	16	On site	30/9/2023	9no.*1 bed apt, 2no.*3 bed apt, 1no.*2 bed duplex & 4no.1*bed semi

### CAS Delivery

Project Name	AHB	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Four Winds, Mullacapple, Collon	SJoG	4	Completed & tenanted	01/09/2022	1 No 4 Bed House
Coulter Park, Dundalk,	Tuath	10	Stage 3 Approved	03/03/2024	5 x No 2 Bed, 1 x No 2 Bed ambulant unit, 1 x No 4 Bed Communal unit
Riverwell Close, Dundalk, Co Louth	Respond	1	Stage 2 Approved	30/07/2024	1 No 4 Bed House
10-16 The Alleys, St Peters Place, Drogheda	P McVerry	14	Stage 2 Approved	30/01/2024	14 No Studio apartments
Barrack Street, Dundalk, Co Louth	Dublin Simon	30	Stage 2 Approved	15/01/2025	19 No 1 Bed units 3 No accessible units 8 No Studio
St John's Home, Peters Street, Drogheda	North & East	4	Stage 3 Approved	30/01/2024	4 x 1 Bed units

Kincora House, 1-2 Seatown	P McVerry	8	Stage 1 approved	30/01/2024	8 No x 1 Bed apartments
Highfield, Newry Road, Dundalk, Co Louth	Womens Aid Dundalk	12	Stage 1 approved	02/06/2024	No 5 x 1 bed No 7 x 2 bed
3 Paradise Place	P McVerry	4	Stage 1 approved	01/01/2024	4 No x 1 Bed apartments

## **Quality of Life**

## **Archives**



*Archives Entrance Gate Sign*

### **National Retention Policy Records Management Working Group**

The Co Archivist is assisting with the draft revisions for Community, Library, and Legal Services which are currently in progress and is working with staff in relation to same. Environment and IT have been forwarded for approval and adoption. To date, Health & Safety, Planning & Development, Housing, Procurement, Finance, HR, Water, Transport and Infrastructure, 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. Much work is currently taking place in reviewing and appraising records for archives or destruction.

### **Louth: History and Society**

The Co Archivist submitted a chapter towards this volume which is due for publication in 2023. The Louth volume is part of a series of county histories that contain a collection of essays on aspects of the county's history. It was started by Professor William

Nolan in 1985 and Louth will be the 30<sup>th</sup> county to be produced.

### **Mother and Baby Institutions Payment Scheme**

This Scheme is operated by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth and is part of the Government's Action Plan for survivors and former residents. The scheme is due to open in June 2023 and central to it is a National Centre for Research and Remembrance (NCRR) which will form part of the National Archives. It will be a centre with a space for survivors to research. The Co Archivist completed an audit for the National Archives' NCRR Archives sub-group. The audit identifies at file series level potential archives for the NCRR that are held in the County Archives (1922-1992).

### **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.

### **Research Enquiries**

The Archivist continues to assist researchers with various enquiries including those from private individuals, academics, professionals and state agencies.

### **Climate Action**

The Co Archives supports corporate Climate Action Goals. Environmental conditions in the Co Archives building are being monitored and reviewed by Facilities staff.

## **Libraries**

### **Library of Sanctuary Award**



Louth Library Service is delighted to announce that we have been awarded national recognition as a Library of Sanctuary. Portlaoise library is the only other public library to have been awarded Sanctuary status in Ireland, but Louth Library Service is the first to gain the award for a library service as a whole. Following the application process, the staff and board of Places of Sanctuary Ireland in consultation with experts in the field, assessed the library service. This award recognises the good practice that takes place in Louth Library Service and the contribution libraries make to build a community of welcome and sanctuary across County Louth, welcoming people seeking sanctuary and all new arrivals in the community. Welcome and inclusion are core principles of Louth Library Service and the vision going forward is to ensure that Louth libraries continue to be safe and nurturing spaces for all and to support other local organisations such as schools to gain Sanctuary status.

Members of the appraisal team and the community have endorsed this award:

“These libraries are doing amazing and commendable work and I would agree on the designation.”

### **Sanctuary Ambassador with Libraries of Sanctuary experience.**

“When I moved to Dundalk with my children, the library soon become our safe haven. We received a hearty welcome and felt such a sense of belonging,

it was a wonderful way to start integrating in Dundalk”.

### **Dundalk teacher originally from Zimbabwe.**

“Louth County Library does wonderful pioneering work to make refugees and people seeking international protection feel welcome in the community there. That work should be a guiding light to libraries throughout Ireland.”

### **Places of Sanctuary Ireland Board Member.**



The My Open Library service has seen an incredible uptake since its reintroduction following the pandemic in Ardee and its launch in Drogheda earlier this year. Since August, 56 My Open Library borrowers registered in Ardee, with 112 individual visits or logins. In the same timeframe, 60 borrowers signed up for the My Open Library service in Drogheda, with over 250 logins.

The My Open Library service is available from 8am – 10pm, 7 days per week, 365 days a year and provides access to the library outside of staffed hours for browsing, borrowing, studying, using IT equipment, or having a meeting. Staffed hours combined with the My Open Library Service will ensure the best delivery of Library services, support for customers, community engagement and the development of programming activities.

For further details or to sign up for My Open Library, contact Ardee Library on 041 6859023 or Drogheda Library on 041 9876162

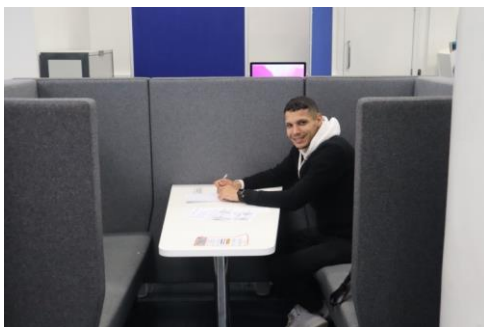


**Helen Clinton inducting a borrower to the My Open Library service in Ardee Library.**

**Eduroam**



To add to our digital learning spaces, Louth Library Service has introduced Eduroam (education roaming) in partnership with HEAnet in Dundalk, Drogheda and Ardee Libraries. 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. DKIT and TU Dublin are the most prominent home institutions devices connect to, with other colleges such as TCD, UCD RCSI, DCU, IADT, UL and international institutions also featuring.



**Student using the Digital Space in Drogheda Library**

**Creative Ireland**

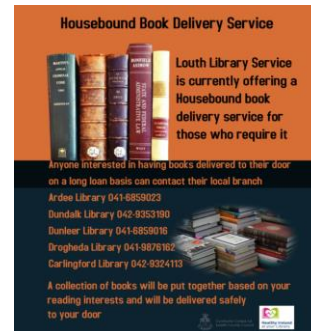


Phase 2 of the Fighting Words project, funded by Creative Ireland's Legacy Grants, continues in Drogheda Library.

Participants from Boomerang, Southside Project and Boyne Youth Project are creating a visual aspect to the stories they produced in Phase 1, with great engagement from all of the groups.

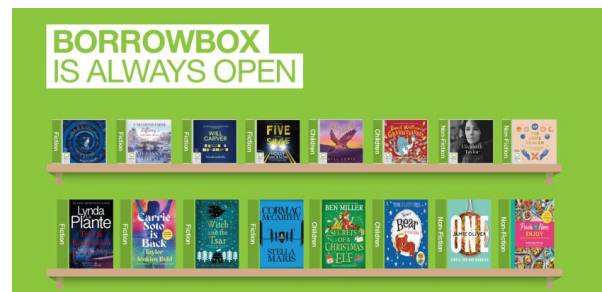
This project is in partnership with Garda Anita O'Shea (Juvenile Liaison Officer, Drogheda), youth leaders and facilitators from Fighting Words.

**Library Housebound Service**



The Library Service will continue in 2023 to offer the Housebound Delivery Service to our elderly customers.

**eServices**



There are a wide range of eServices available to library members, including free eBooks & eAudiobooks through Borrow Box. Louth Library Service has over 5,000 users. Every month new titles are added to Borrow Box. Start the New Year with a brand new free eBook or eAudiobook.



# Libby.

Brought to you by your local library and built with  by OverDrive.



In addition, free newspapers, magazines and Comic Books are available through Press Reader and Libby. Lastly, there is a host of courses with Universal Class and Transparent Language online. For more information on these services click [here](#)

Monthly eServices demonstrations will continue in January 2023 in Dundalk, Drogheda and Ardee libraries. If you need any help with the range of eServices Louth Library Service provides, pop into Dundalk, Drogheda or Ardee libraries on these dates:

Dundalk Library: 27th January 11am-12noon  
Drogheda Library: 26<sup>th</sup> January 2.30pm-3.30pm  
Ardee Library: 27th January 10.30am-11.30am

For more information contact  
Dundalk Library 042-9353190  
Drogheda Library 041-9876162  
Ardee Library 041-6859023

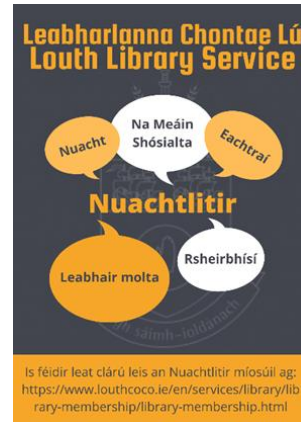


A new beginner's English course for Ukrainian speakers is now available on Transparent

Languages. The course has over 100+ hours of content and 187 basic vocabulary lessons covering everything from doctor's visits to grocery shopping. You can access the class here: <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/online-services/>

Contact your local library branch or email [Libraryhelpdesk@louthcoco.ie](mailto:Libraryhelpdesk@louthcoco.ie) if you need any assistance.

## Library Newsletter



The January edition contains the latest news, events, services, and recommendations from our libraries. Anyone interested in receiving this monthly newsletter to their inbox can sign up here:

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

Click here to read this month's newsletter

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

## Louth Library Service Information Leaflets Translated In Ukrainian



All Louth Library Service Information Leaflets have been translated into Ukrainian and are available in all of our branches. A welcome brochure, in Ukrainian, is also available branches and on our website. The brochure can be accessed here:

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

## Hublets

The Samsung Hublet station containing 6 Samsung tablets is now operational in Drogheda Library. This is a customized learning tool with Apps suitable for adults and children with additional or sensory needs. For more information contact Drogheda Library on 041 987 6162

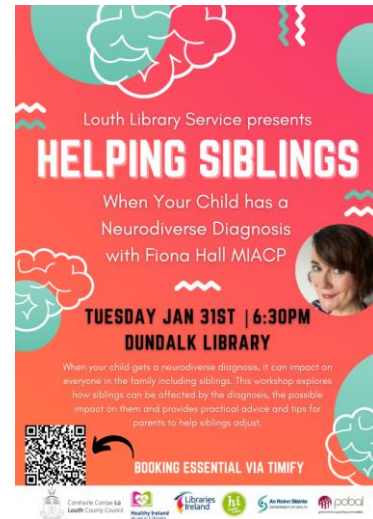


*Borrower using the Hublets in Drogheda Library*



**Healthy Ireland**  
at your Library

## Healthy Ireland Events

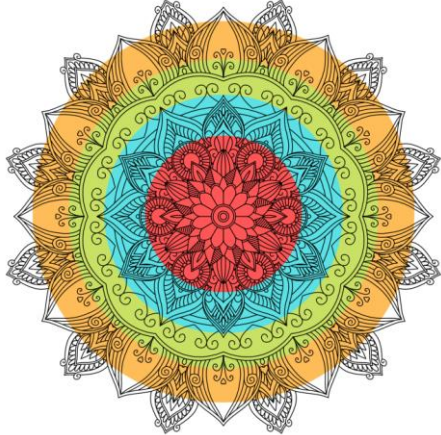


## Helping Siblings – When Your Child has a Neurodiverse Diagnosis

Presented by Fiona Hall MIACP, Counsellor and Psychotherapist in Dundalk Library on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> of January at 6:30pm.

When your child gets a neurodiverse diagnosis, it can impact on everyone in the family including siblings. This workshop explores how siblings can be affected by the diagnosis, the possible impact on them and provides practical advice and tips for parents to help siblings adjust. Booking via Timify <https://book.timify.com/?accountId=5f9a9eb964916511fcceae5f&hideCloseButton=true>

MINDFULNESS COLOURING  
GROUP FOR ADULTS



DUNDALK LIBRARY  
COMMENCING WEDNESDAY 11TH OF  
JANUARY AT 3PM



### Mindful Colouring Group for Adults

Join us for a relaxed and relaxing colouring group launching in Dundalk Library on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> of January at 3pm and weekly thereafter. Colouring is a simple activity that has a myriad of benefits – relaxation, clarity, focus etc. No booking required.



### Mosney Visits

Louth Library Service held a Storytime and arts and crafts session in Mosney as part of the 'Family Time at your Library' initiative during December. The *Family Time at your Library* events aim to support a family-focused approach to reading with children as part of the national Right to Read programme and to increase awareness of the benefits of reading and to promote reading as a fun, recreational activity for children.



**Annemarie & Eilish at the 'Family Time at Your Library' event in Mosney**

### Louth Library Service held an E-Services Roadshow

Louth Library Service held an e-services roadshow in Mosney during December. Louth Libraries are collaborating with Meath Library Service on a joint literacy initiative aimed at those living in Mosney, as one of the actions under the Drogheda Implementation Plan. Library staff provided information on library services and signed up new borrowers while promoting the wide range of digital services, online resources and My Open Library facilities available in Drogheda Library.



**Katie at the Louth Library Service e-services roadshow event in Mosney**



### Dundalk Library Storytime's

- Wednesday 4th of January at 10:30am featuring Squirrel's Snowman by Julia Donaldson. All welcome, no booking required.

### Drogheda Library Storytime's & Craft

- Storytime with Annemarie on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> of January at 11:30am. All welcome, no booking required.
- Crafts with Eileen on 21<sup>st</sup> January from 11:30-12:30. Booking is required; please contact Drogheda Library 041 987 6162.

### Author Workshops in Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries



How well do you think you know Ireland? Author and illustrator Alan Nolan will bring invited classes in Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries on a whirlwind trip

around Ireland's lost landmarks and creepiest crypts – as featured in his new children's historical novel, Molly Malone and Bram Stoker in The Sackville Street Caper – attendees will meet the 'real-life' Molly and Bram, and learn how to draw the deadliest Dubliner of all ... Dracula!

### Parent & Toddler Mornings



*Toddler Morning in Drogheda Library*

- Every Thursday 10am-12pm in Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries
- Every Wednesday 10.30am-12.30pm 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.



*Baby Book Club in Dundalk Library*

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

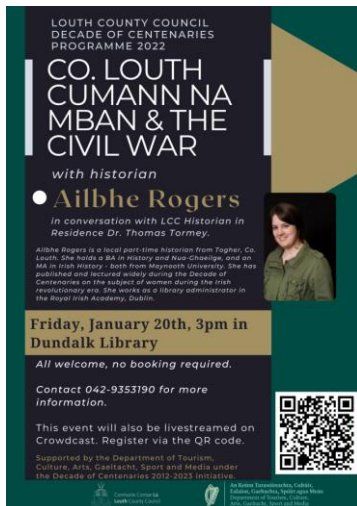


Ar mhaith leat do chuid Gaeilge a úsáid nó a chleachtadh? Tá an Ciorcal Cómhrá i leabharlann Dhún Dealgan ar ais! Beidh sé ar siúl ar an gcéad Máirt chuile mhí ag 4 sa leabharlann. Tá sé dírithe ar dhaoine fásta ar mhaith leo an Ghaeilge a fhoghlaim nó a úsáid.

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



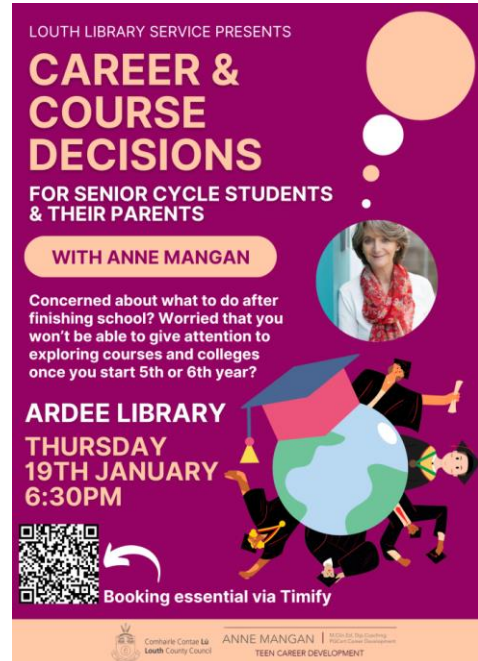
**An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán**  
Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media



The rescheduled Ailbhe Rogers talk 'Co Louth Cumann na mBan and the Civil War' in Dundalk Library is on Friday January 20<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. All welcome, no booking required. To watch this online, scan the QR code in the above picture or click here to save your space <https://www.crowdcast.io/louthlibraryservice>

**Other Events**

**Career & Course Decisions in Ardee Library**



Presented by Anne Mangan in Ardee Library on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> of January at 6:30pm. Booking via Timify <https://book.timify.com/?accountId=5f9a9eb964916511f6ceae5f&hideCloseButton=true>

Anne will host information monthly sessions in 2023 from 4.30pm-6.30pm in Drogheda Library. This "Drop In" Service will give the students using the study space in Drogheda library the opportunity to approach a Teen Career Development Coach to talk about their opportunities after school, be it researching CAO applications or focusing on exam work.

## Wellness Recovery Action Plan



Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) is a simple and powerful process for creating the life and wellness you want. The course will be run by Mental Health Ireland on Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th January 2023 10.00 am - 4.00pm in Drogheda Library. To sign up please fill out the registration form here

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeyCsNIOhE6xy8yjwpGYJUZ\\_kLyvF92H\\_B2u-8sgVjllz0DQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeyCsNIOhE6xy8yjwpGYJUZ_kLyvF92H_B2u-8sgVjllz0DQ/viewform)

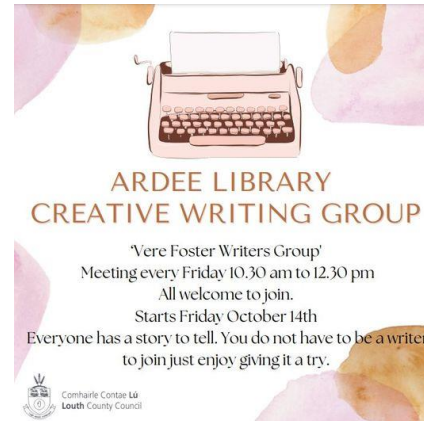
## Lego Workshops with The Brickx Club



Clodagh from the Brickx Club in Drogheda Library, Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> of January at 6pm, Dundalk Library, Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> of January at 6pm and Ardee Library

on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> of January at 6pm. Participants will design a Lego themed scene from their favourite book. Booking via Timify <https://book.timify.com/?accountId=5f9a9eb964916511f1ccea5f&hideCloseButton=true>

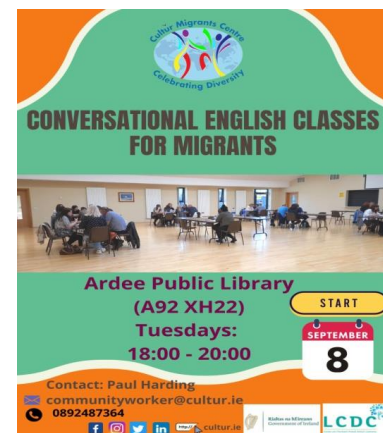
## 'Vere Foster' Writers Group in Ardee Library



Ardee Library welcomed the start of their newest group – The 'Vere Foster' Writer's Group; the group meets every Friday morning 10.30 am to 12.30 pm and welcomes all writing abilities.

Have you always fancied getting that story you have running around your head down on paper? Why not give it a go with the support of your peers at the Ardee Library 'Vere Foster' Writers Group. For more information, contact Ardee Library (041) 685 9023.

## English Language Learning in Ardee Library



Conversational English classes for migrants and refugees started in Ardee Library on Tuesday 8th September and will continue every Tuesday between 6pm and 8pm - this class is lead by volunteer tutors. The classes are ideal for migrants who want to practice and learn more English. Classes are organised by Cultúr Migrants Centre. Please contact Angel at [angel@cultur.ie](mailto:angel@cultur.ie) or 0873315169 for further information.

### **Migrant Women's Group Meetings in Ardee Library**

A women's group for migrant and refugee women will meet every Tuesday morning from 11am to 1pm in Ardee Library. This is a safe space for migrant and refugee women and mothers, who want to meet other people, establish social interactions and share common issues and concerns. This is facilitated by Cultúr Migrants Centre. If you are interested, please contact Viktoriia or Angel at [angel@cultur.ie](mailto:angel@cultur.ie) or 0873315169. All welcome.

### **Knitting & Crochet Group in Ardee Library**



Louth Library Service is delighted to welcome our new Knitting & Crochet Group to Ardee Library, every Thursday at 2:30pm For more information contact Ardee Library (041) 685 9023. No booking required, just pop along.

### **Age Action Computer Classes**



Louth Library Service continues to welcome people over the age of 55 to age action classes in 2023. A five week course will commence on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> of January at 2pm in Dundalk Library.

Drogheda library will commence the 6<sup>th</sup> of January and continue every Friday from 10:30-12:30.

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)

### **Louth Library Primary Schools Service**

The school's mobile is fully stocked and back on the road, ready to serve our local schools. All schools will receive a visit over the coming months and will be contacted in due course. Class sets/novels are also available to borrow throughout the school year. Teachers can also book a visit to the HQ Store in Dundalk from 3:30pm – 5pm Tuesday – Friday to view our full school's collection.

Any enquiries regarding the school's service, please contact Orla on [orla.muckian@louthcoco.ie](mailto:orla.muckian@louthcoco.ie)



Schools Mobile is ready to visit all the schools

## Libfocus Library Blog



Ray Gainford completed his MSc in Information & Library Management in Dublin Business School, graduating in 2020 and currently works as a Library Assistant in Drogheda Library.

In addition to Ray's library assistant role he also began working with Junior Achievement Ireland at the start of 2022. This Continued Professional Development opportunity is supported by Louth County Council with all staff encouraged to take part.

Ray was selected to present at the IFLA WLIC 2022 conference in Dublin on his experience with the Junior Achievement initiative:

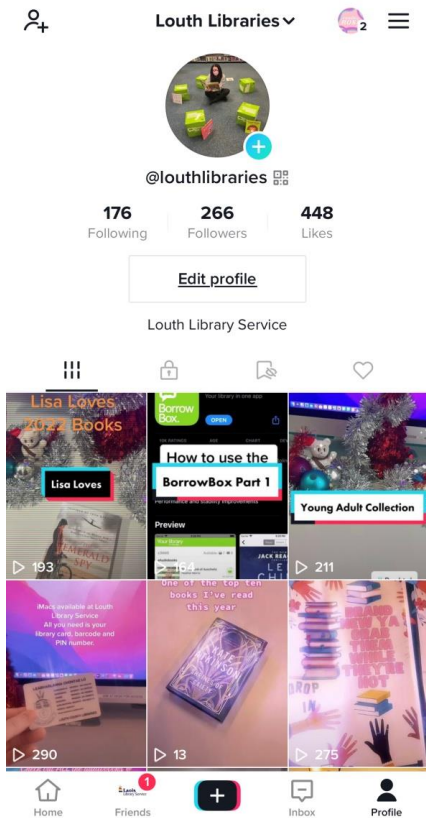
"I was delighted to be selected to present at the IFLA WLIC 2022 poster sessions in Dublin. Participating in the conference is a fantastic experience, you learn a lot of new information from attending talks and seminars, which help form new ideas that you can then implement within Louth Library Service"

He was subsequently invited to do a guest post on the LibFocus blog:

"I am delighted to share my experience even more when I received an invitation to make a guest post on the LibFocus blog. It is a fantastic resource for any library professionals, and I encourage library staff to enquire about writing a guest post

## Other News

### Louth Library Service Tik Tok



Louth Library Service has joined the social media platform Tik Tok to create, and share short videos of the library service including our Young Adult book collection, new Adult Fiction stock, and to create short videos that are trending on #booktok. Follow Louth Library Service on Tik Tok @louthlibraries.

themselves if they have library experience or information they would like to share". To view Ray Gainford's post click the following link <https://www.libfocus.com/2022/11/guest-post-by-ray-gainford.html>

## Sensory Library Service

### Magic Table

Available in Ardee, Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries this facility is ideal for those with sensory difficulties, 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.



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. Drogheda and Dundalk Libraries Monday 6pm – 7pm, Ardee Library Saturday 10am – 11am



*Sensory area with dimmed lights*

## Arts

### Louth Arts Development Plan

The new Louth Arts Development Plan was announced at the start of December in all the local papers and on social media. Following an 18 month process which involved workshops with strategic partners and a public survey the plan provides the arts office with a roadmap for the provision of arts services up to and including 2026. The plan can be viewed online in digital format or should you wish to read a printed version, there are printed copies, for viewing only, in all county council offices at customer services, all libraries and the county museum. The link to the digital versions can be found [here](#). Any queries can be emailed to [arts@louthcoco.ie](mailto:arts@louthcoco.ie)



*Aisling Morgan & Michele Haechler from the Arts Office alongside Cathaoirleach Conor Keelan, Chief Executive Joan Martin, Arts Officer Moya Rodgers and Director of Services Paddy Donnelly at the launch of the new Arts Development Plan 2022-2026*

### Brigid1500

Louth County Council announced plans for their Brigid1500 program which will run between February 2023 and February 2024. The program which will commemorate the Faughart native will include an Artist in the Community Residency, a gala concert and a number of workshops and lectures. There will also be an opportunity for us to partner with our counterparts in Kildare for some events later in the year.

## Creative Ireland

### Creative Ireland Initiative extended for 5 years

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022 it was announced by the government that the Creative Ireland Initiative has been extended for another 5 years from 2023-2027 inclusive. Along with established programmes of work in Creative Communities and Creative Youth over the past 5 years, new priorities will be pursued in the Creative Industries, Creative Health and Wellbeing and Climate Action and Social Sustainability. The programme will also develop a major Shared Island dimension with support from the Department of the Taoiseach. The new Culture and Creative Strategy for Louth is in the final stages and will be launched along with the national policy and all other county strategies in late February 2023. For more details please contact [arts@louthcoco.ie](mailto:arts@louthcoco.ie)



*'Pride of Place' – one of the Creativity in Older Persons programmes run by Creative Ireland Louth during the last term of the Creative Ireland Initiative.*

### St. Brigid's Project

Artist Shauna Swords has begun working with students at St. Brigid's Special school in Dundalk on a mixed media piece that will commemorate the native of Faughart. Shauna will deliver weekly workshops in the school with some of the senior students who are studying for their junior cert. The creations will then be on display for the 2023 festival in February and in the annual St Brigid's exhibition in An Táin Basement Gallery in May.

December saw **Highlanes Gallery** in Drogheda present a fabulous Christmas Fair with live music, Christmas Craft workshops and much more. Castlebellingham & Drogheda Ukulele Group was among the performers along with the Tredagh

Singers. Outside in the cold and frosty weather under the canopy they also had Susan from Flowers at the Gate and Dolores from Listoke Flower Boutique demonstrating a seasonal floral display that was sustainable, eco-conscious and considered recycling and the idea of handcraft. The 5 foods café provided much needed coffees and mince pies as everyone got into the Christmas spirit!

### Drogheda Classical Music Series

DCMS finished of 2022 in St Peter's Church of Ireland, Drogheda with the Irish Baroque Orchestra & Chamber Choir on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Performing Handel's epic Messiah under the direction of Peter Whelan this was an ideal lead up to the Christmas season for audiences. The next concert in the series will be on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 with the fantastic Irish Mezzo-soprano Tara Erraught returning to Drogheda to lead a weekend of vocal training with lectures, workshops, master classes and concert. Full details of this event can be found [here](#)

### Other News –

The Arts Council have released the funding dates for their 2023 schemes. All details can be found on the Arts Council funding page [here](#)

## Arts Council 2023 Funding Schedule

FUNDING PROGRAMME	OPEN	CLOSE
Liam O'Flynn Award	6-Dec-22	19-Jan-23
Touring 2023, Round 2 and Advance Planning 2024	20-Dec-22	2-Feb-23
Agility Award 2023, Round 1	3-Jan-23	9-Feb-23
Bursary Award, 2023, Round 1	3-Jan-23	9-Feb-23
Markievicz Award	17-Jan-23	16-Feb-23
Deis Recording & Publication	17-Jan-23	16-Feb-23
Dance Artist Residency Scheme	24-Jan-23	23-Feb-23
Commissions	24-Jan-23	23-Feb-23
Young Ensembles Scheme	31-Jan-23	2-Mar-23
Opera Projects & Production 2024	21-Feb-23	23-Mar-23
Project Award 2023, Round 2	21-Feb-23	23-Mar-23
Creative Places	28-Feb-23	30-Mar-23
International Residency Scheme	7-Mar-23	6-Apr-23
Teacher Education University Residencies (YPCE)	7-Mar-23	6-Apr-23
Next Generation Artists Award	14-Mar-23	13-Apr-23
Culture Night Late	14-Mar-23	13-Apr-23
Arts Grant Funding 2024	21-Mar-23	11-May-23
Capacity Building Support Scheme	4-Apr-23	4-May-23
Creative Schools (2023/24)	11-Apr-23	15-Jun-23
Festivals Investment Scheme 2024, Round 1	2-May-23	1-Jun-23
Authored Works	9-May-23	8-Jun-23
Reel Art	9-May-23	8-Jun-23
Agility Award 2023, Round 2	23-May-23	22-Jun-23
Bursary Award, 2023, Round 2	23-May-23	22-Jun-23
Touring 2024, Advance Planning 2025	TBC	TBC
Full-time Islandwide Dance Company	27-Jun-23	27-Jul-23
Strategic Funding 2024	27-Jun-23	7-Sep-23
Arts Centres 2024	4-Jul-23	14-Sep-23
Creative Production Supports	18-Jul-23	31-Aug-23
Partnership Funding 2024	25-Jul-23	5-Oct-23
Visual Arts Workspace Scheme	15-Aug-23	14-Sep-23
Invitation to Collaboration	15-Aug-23	14-Sep-23
Open Call 2024	TBC	TBC
Project Award 2024	10-Oct-23	16-Nov-23
Festivals Investment Scheme 2024, Round 2	24-Oct-23	23-Nov-23
Co-funding Awards	7-Nov-23	7-Dec-23

\*Please note that dates or schemes could change over the course of the year. We will update this list accordingly as soon as possible. Make sure to read the guidelines carefully for each award for any updates

Date of Issue: 06/12/2022

### Summary sheet of Arts Council Funding Dates

## Museum

### Exhibition



*The opening of the Peace Heroines exhibition.*

The exhibition Peace Heroines was opened by the Chief Executive, Ms Joan Martin, on December 8<sup>th</sup>. The exhibition celebrates the role of women in the peace process including Monica McWilliams, Pearl Sagar, Linda Ervine MBE, Pat Hume, Baroness May Blood MBE, Mo Mowlam and Saidie Patterson. The

exhibition runs to December 23<sup>rd</sup> before heading to Derry, Belfast and then New York.



*Peace Heroines*

### Christmas

A number of years ago the Museum received a donation of the Christmas Crib which was displayed in the PJ Carroll factory in Clanbrassil Street. Ever since the crib has been put on display, and this year is no different.



### Other activities

The Museum hosted a special event variety of events over the past month including:

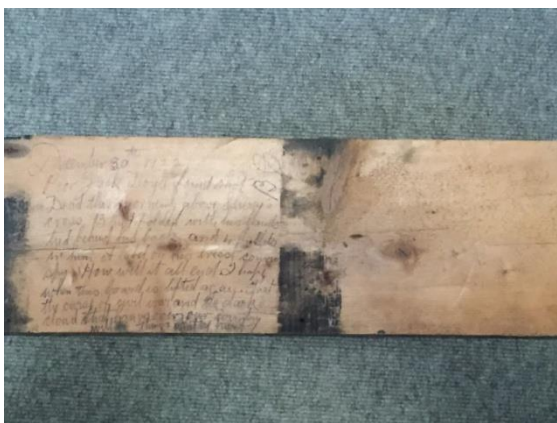
- A lecture with the Old Dundalk Society. Entitled "The Changing of the Guard" the lecture recounted the story of one hundred years of policing rural Ireland.

- A special showing of a film developed by and screened to students from Coláiste Cú Chulainn and Belfast's Lagan College. The film was part of the Futures Entwined project operated by Co-operation Ireland. Coincidentally Lagan College celebrates the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its foundation this year. (In a strange twist of fate one of its champions May Blood (who unfortunately died recently) features prominently in the Peace Heroines exhibition, a fact that was noted and commented upon during Lagan's visit to the Museum.

### Recent acquisitions

The Museum received a particularly poignant donation during December. This was a floorboard upon which a note written. Dated 30 December 1922, it reads:

"Poor Jack Doyle, found shot Dead [sic] this morning above Sherry's cross. Folded with his hands tied behind his back and 4 bullets in him. A label on his breast convicted spy. How will it all end I hope when this board is lifted again. That the curse of civil war and the dark cloud that hangs over our country will be things ----- [writing is obscured]"



### Climate Action

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