



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



**Ardee Municipal District**

**Litter Management Plan 2022 - 2024**

**Consultation Draft May 2022**





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When people commit an offence under the Litter Pollution Act 1997, as amended or the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended they are liable to prosecution by Louth County Council. Our team is actively engaged in the issuing of litter fines and prosecutions relating to littering.

The purpose of the Ardee MD Litter Management Plan 2022 to 2024 as set in Section 11 of the Litter Pollution Act is:

- to review the previous Litter Management plan
- to outline the objectives designed to prevent and control litter
- to list the measures and actions required to attain these objectives
- to include information on all waste facilities available to the public for the disposal and recovery of waste

It is essential that all sectors, residential, commercial, community etc., work with the Local Authorities to ensure that the streets and roadways of our towns, villages and county are kept clean, neat and attractive. The concentrated efforts of all groups will help in keeping streets, premises and their environs clean. Clean towns and villages will give a positive impression and enhance the image of the county as a whole.

Louth County Council will work with commitment, supplemented by appropriate awareness and education campaigns to assist in achieving the objectives of this Plan. Part of the Plan will focus on public responsibility and highlight areas where the individual and businesses can play a significant part.

### 1.1 What is Litter?

Under the Litter Pollution Act 1997, as amended, the definition of litter is:

“any substance or object, whether or not intended as waste, that when deposited in a place other than a litter receptacle or other place designated for the deposit is, or likely to become unsightly, deleterious, nauseous or unsanitary, whether by itself or with any other such substance or object, and regardless of its size and volume or the extent of the deposit”

The definition is quite wide and includes graffiti, fly-tipping, domestic refuse placed in a litter bin, casual littering from papers/cigarette butts/chewing gum, advertising and dog fouling as well as anything else which is or is likely to become unsightly.



## 1.2 How does littering occur?

Nature of Littering	Actions
Accidental- this can occur when people inadvertently allow litter to get into public places, such as blown by the wind or falling off trailers.	Education and Awareness
Unawareness – this may occur when people do not realise they are littering, for example: storing bags of waste in a front garden where they are visible from the public roadway is an act of littering. Placing domestic waste in a public bin is an act of littering. Throwing grass cuttings or greenery in a public ditch or hedgerow is an act of littering.	Education and Awareness
Carelessness- this may occur where people or businesses do not store waste in a secure way, such that wind can blow it into a public place. People using unlicensed ‘man-in-a-van’ type operator to remove waste will result in increased fly-tipping	Education and Awareness / Legal Enforcement
Indifference – some people and businesses just do not care if they are causing litter nuisance.	Legal Enforcement
Maliciousness – sometimes littering will occur in a deliberate attempt to cause annoyance and upset with others.	Legal Enforcement
Organised illegal activity – this can be quite serious in scale, such as diesel sludge dumping, dumping of waste soil and stone, fly tipping, advertised illegal waste collection services.	Legal Enforcement

**Table 1:** How littering occurs and how to tackle it.

## 2 Review of Litter Management Plan 2009-2012 and ongoing Work of Louth County Council

### 2.1 Enforcement

Louth County Council has a well resourced and very active litter warden team, yet despite their efforts, litter persists as a problem.

Table 2 below, shows the headline statistics for Louth County Council over recent years.

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of Litter Investigations	1831	3067	2548	1812	2071
Number of Litter Fines Issued	451	928	927	522	410
Tonnes of Litter collected by street cleaning operations	8274	8350	8267	8702	8517
Tonnes of waste collected from Litter bins	838	851	839	1201	1320

**Table 2:** Record of Louth County Council

The level of enforcement described above is one of the highest per capita averages in the state, but it has not translated into the least littered county. This shows that enforcement alone cannot be the answer to the problem of littering. An enhanced focus on education and awareness is necessary.

### 2.2 Education and Awareness

Over recent years Louth County Council has been very active in the community in promoting initiatives which aim to improve awareness and appreciation of our environment.

#### 2.2.1 Anti-Litter and Anti-Graffiti Awareness Initiatives

The Anti-Litter and Anti-Graffiti Awareness scheme seeks to promote greater public awareness and education in relation to litter and graffiti in our communities. Louth County Council continued to receive funding under the scheme in 2019 with €20,000 being provided by the Department of Communications, Climate Action & Environment which covered seven projects.

The projects undertaken ranged from a Christmas Poetry competition for local schools, an anti-graffiti campaign, Adopt a Bring Bank to anti-litter campaigns.

The Greener Christmas Poetry competition which is aimed at all the primary schools in Louth has proven to be successful for many years. Part of the funding was also used to produce a "Cigarette Butts are Litter" advertising campaigns which ran for six weeks on digital media screens at the two M1 service stations. Another successful project was the "Litter League" which once again ran in 2019 and includes all the Tidy Towns groups in Louth who get marks on the absence of litter in their



town and villages. This competition assists our committees to ensure that the county is looking its best when the annual National Tidy Towns competition judging takes place.

### 2.2.2 Gum Litter Taskforce

Louth County Council continue to be part of the Gum Litter Taskforce, which is charged with developing and implementing an action plan to tackle the problem of gum litter in the most sustainable way – by changing the disposal behaviour. This is achieved through encouraging the public to dispose of their gum responsibly in a bin. The campaign includes a set of initiatives including education and awareness raising measures to ensure the greater visibility of the €150 fine for littering.

Research commissioned by the Gum Litter Taskforce has highlighted the campaigns positive effect on people’s behaviour towards gum disposal. The latest results show that 88% of people said that they always dispose of their gum correctly which is up from 54% when the campaign started. Louth County Council has run a number of road shows with the Gum Litter Taskforce in Ardee, Drogheda and Dundalk over the last three years to raise awareness of the issue.



### 2.2.3 National Spring Clean

National Spring Clean is Ireland’s most popular, most recognised and successful anti-litter initiative. It takes place annually during the whole month of April and the campaign encourages every sector of society to actively participate and take responsibility for litter, by conducting clean ups in their local environment. National Spring Clean has been operated by An Taisce since 1999, in partnership with the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

Louth County Council continues to work with local Tidy Towns groups, community groups, businesses and schools in the county to create awareness of the numerous clean ups through social media. The Council supports participants by supplying gloves, litter pickers and hi-viz vests, while also facilitating the collection and disposal of the rubbish collected.



### 2.2.4 GROW- Schools Awards

GROW is an acronym for “Green, Renewable, Organic and Waste Minimisation” and the awards serve to reward the primary schools in Louth for all their valuable work which they undertake annually to make their environment cleaner, greener and more sustainable.

The awards include categories which recognise the schools, students and teachers from across Louth. The students are recognised through the “Junior Environmentalist of the Year award, while a “Teacher of the Year” award is presented a teacher from each of the three municipal areas. The coveted “School of the Year” award is presented to the school which has made significant progress over the previous twelve months.



The awards also include prizes for “Eco Tribes” which is a competition unique to Louth whereby a number of local schools create community gardens in the public areas around their school. The schools partner with their local Tidy Towns group who provide valuable assistance.

### 2.2.5 Tidy Towns in Louth

Louth has a long and proud history in the National Tidy Towns competition. Tidy Towns groups in the county work tirelessly to improve their local environment and reach out to the greater community. They make the county a better place in which to live, work and visit.



In 2019, Louth received four gold medals for Ardee, Blackrock, Drogheda and Dundalk. Louth also received three bronze medals for Carlingford, Knockbridge and Tallanstown. The highlight was the awarding of “Ireland’s Tidiest Small Town”, whilst also claiming the title of “Regional Award Winner for Midlands East”.

Council staff work closely with the Tidy Towns groups throughout the year and provide assistance with the application process. Louth County Council also provides a Tidy Towns Project Scheme which proved small scale capital funding for projects across the county.

### 2.2.6 Green Schools Programme

Green Schools is Ireland’s leading environmental management and education programme for schools. The programme is coordinated by An Taisce in partnership with the local authorities, including Louth County Council. Council staff visits the schools in Louth annually to assess their Green Schools' applications and performance. A number of education workshops are also held in County Hall each year in conjunction with An Taisce for new Green School's teachers.



There are currently ten themes which start with Litter and Waste. The final and most recently introduced theme is on Global Citizenship Food and Biodiversity. According to the most recent Local Authority Performance Indicators, 52% of schools in Louth have been awarded Green Schools status.

### 2.2.7 Looking Good! - Community Awards

A series of awards nights take place in Louth annually for local groups which recognise their contribution to their local areas. The awards are titled “Drogheda Looking Good”, “Dundalk Looking Good” and “Louth Looking Good” and provide recognition for the best gardens, housing estates, businesses, volunteers and tidy towns/community groups across the whole county. The awards are a celebration of the community spirit which is alive in Louth and which ensures that the county looks its best for residents and visitors. The work of these groups contributes significantly to the national Tidy Towns competition results in the county.



Prizes are given out at each of the three ceremonies to many categories including housing estates, best gardens, hospitality and business premises, as well as a number of special awards to reward local community volunteers and groups.

### 2.2.8 Amenity Grants

Amenity grants are provided annually to voluntary groups in Louth who undertake works which aim to achieve an overall improvement in the environmental appearance of their local area. Projects include cleaning, tidying, removal of weeds, presentation of gardens and the provision of seats, shrubs, flowerbeds etc. There are three categories of groups which can apply for Amenity Grants: Community Groups, Residents Associations and Tidy Towns groups.

The works carried out by these groups ensure that their areas remain litter free and contribute positively to the national Tidy Towns results in Louth.

### 2.2.9 Clean Coasts

The Clean Coasts programme works with communities to help protect and care for Ireland’s coastline. There are a number of Clean Coast groups in Louth who organise beach clean ups throughout the year. They remove large quantities of marine litter from our coastline in Louth.

Louth is fortunate to have three Blue Flag beaches at Clogherhead, Port and Templetown and a Green Coast beach at Seapoint (Termonfeckin). Each beach has a local group who work tirelessly towards ensuring that our beaches are clean and welcoming places to visit.



### 2.2.10 Greener Christmas Poetry Competition

The Greener Christmas Poetry Competition is an annual competition which serves to create awareness of waste prevention over the festive season. Christmas is a time where large volumes of waste are generated, particularly in our homes due to the increases in packaging, cans, bottles and food waste. The idea of the competition is to create awareness of the waste created and to send a message that we can all reduce our creation of waste. All the pupils who take part enjoy composing their poems while the competition also serves to reinforce a strong green message.

The competition is open to all the primary schools in Louth and over one hundred entries are received each year. The pupils are also made aware of the benefit of using the civic amenity sites to recycle over the Christmas season. The winning poem is broadcast on the local LMFM radio station as part of the Council's waste reduction advertising which is run over the festive period.

### 2.2.11 Trashion Fashion

Trashion Fashion is an annual fashion competition where the outfits are created out of recycled materials. The competition is open to all secondary school students in Louth. The students are challenged to create couture outfits of any shape and size made from the least of couture of materials – junk!

The event is organised by Louth County Council and Louth Tidy Towns Together and it aims to highlight the fact that much of our everyday items which we discard can be reused or recycled. Trashion Fashion also creates an opportunity for student development and heightens environmental awareness amongst local students. Many of the outfits enter the national Junk Couture competition where students from Louth have been very successful in recent years.



### 3 Plan Development Process



#### 3.1 Consultation

In preparation of the Draft Litter Management Plan for the County the Waste Management & Environment Section of Louth County Council will engage in extensive discussions, both internally and externally; to ensure that the Draft Plan produced is comprehensive but realistic in its objectives, but most importantly it will form a good framework for improving litter management in the Ardee Municipal District for the next three years.

Internal consultations were held with:

- the Community Team, who deliver the awareness message at a local level
- the operations team which includes the litter wardens, litter admin and operations clean-up crews
- the enforcement team, who sit in Waste Management & Environment and enforce legislation over and above the litter fixed penalty notice

Another important consultee was the Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority (WERLA) office for the eastern midlands region. This ensures that Louth County Council's approach is consistent with national & regional policy.

A pre-consultation draft was developed and presented to Climate Action & Energy SPC.

A wider external consultation will be held with interested groups through the Public Participation Network (PPN), these included Tidy Towns and Green Schools among others.

A 21-day period of Public Consultation period will be provided. In order to facilitate public access to the plan:

- Consultation, in accordance with the decision of the SPC, will be advertised in local papers during May 2022
- Copies of the Draft Plan/Consultation Paper will be made available to download from our website at [www.louthcoco.ie](http://www.louthcoco.ie) and will be available in Council Offices.

## 4 Why are we doing it?

### 4.1 Corporate Objective

The Louth County Council Corporate plan 2019 – 2022 outlines many aspirations for the betterment of Louth County, one corporate goal which has led to this current process is under the heading of Quality of Life.

“Making our communities great places to live and volunteer – where everyone takes pride in their local area”

This litter management plan 2022 – 2024 sets out Louth County Council’s plans for managing litter in the Ardee Municipal District to help deliver a great place to live and have pride in.

### 4.2 Legislation

The Litter Pollution Act, 1997 places a responsibility on each local authority to produce and review a litter management plan.

In particular Section 10 (2) states that:

*“A local authority shall review its litter management plan at least once in each period of 3 years after the plan is first implemented and, if the local authority deems it necessary after the review, shall amend or replace the plan.”*

Louth County Council has deemed it is now time to replace the old plan with a new plan, which takes account of new legislation, new technology and new regional co-operation.

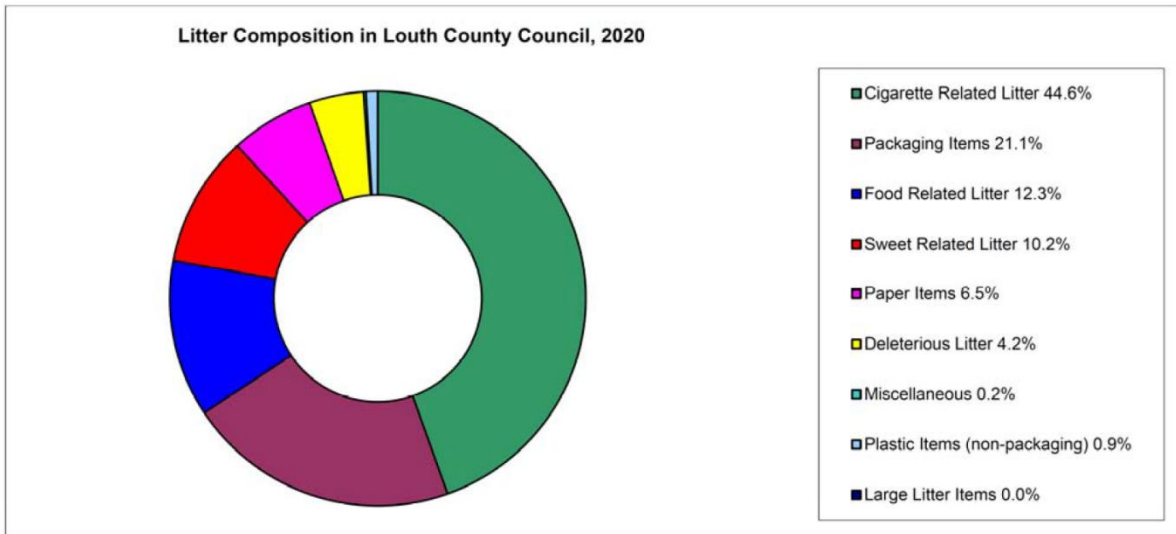


### 4.3 Current Extent of Litter

The National Litter Pollution Monitoring System (NLPMS) is an innovative method developed by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government and Tobin Consulting Engineers to enable local authorities to manage litter pollution in a systematic, structured manner. Using a specially designed Geographical Information System (GIS) application each local authority functional area is mapped and then surveyed annually to plot areas for the carrying out of Litter Quantification Surveys. As part of ongoing efforts to manage litter Louth County Council carry out regular inspections of urban /recreational areas for the purpose of gathering information regarding quantities and types of litter present in these areas.

The information compiled serves to complete the National Litter Pollution Monitoring Surveys which are conducted between March and December each year. The statistics gathered provides valuable

information up a profile of the quantities of litter present in designated areas over an extended period of time.



#### 4.3.1 IBAL Survey

Established in 1996, Irish Business Against Litter (IBAL) is an alliance of companies sharing a belief that continued economic prosperity – notably in the areas of tourism, food and direct foreign investment – is contingent on a clean, litter-free environment. In addition, IBAL believes all citizens have the right to a clean living environment.

Ardee is not currently surveyed as part of the IBAL league.

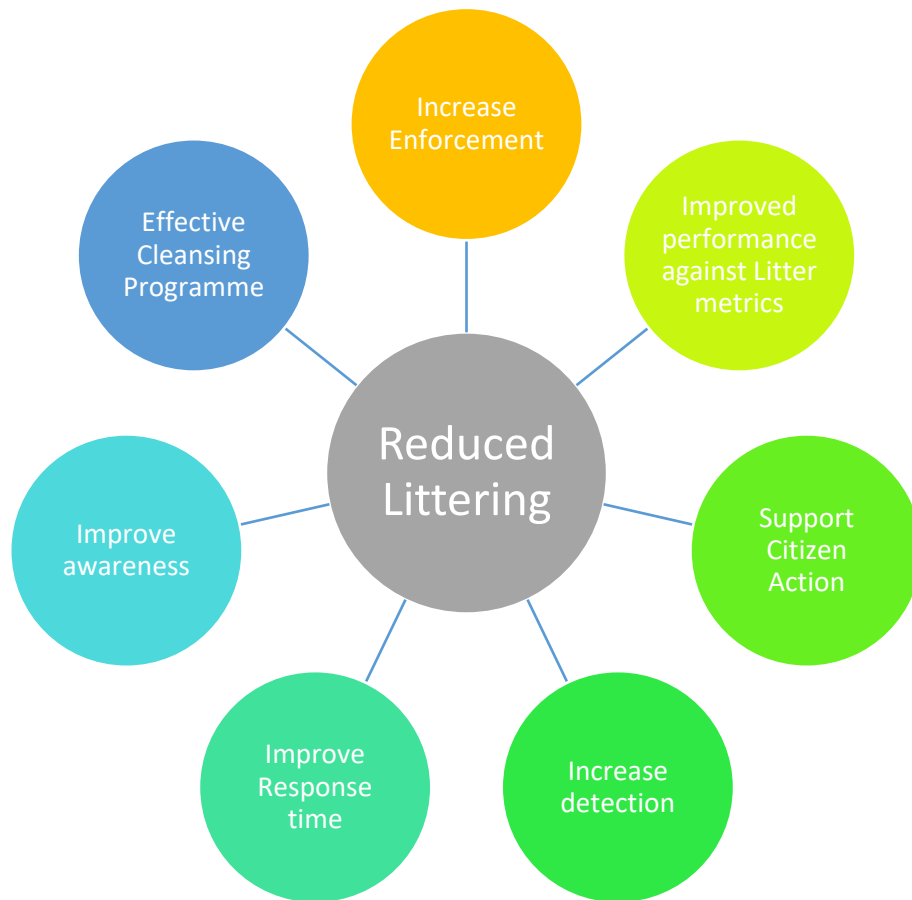
IBAL Results				
	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Drogheda</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>39</b>
<b>Dundalk</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>28</b>

It is a goal of Louth County Council to improve our positions in this IBAL survey going forward and set a high standard which will be apparent in the Ardee MD.

#### 4.4 Litter Related Costs

The considerable financial commitment Louth County Council has shown to keeping Louth Litter free, is evident from the ongoing spend. We currently spend in the region of €2.5 - €3 million per year in this area.

## 5 Objectives & Resources



Louth County Council has identified 7 thematic areas for action to help reduce the litter problem. These are discussed in detail below.

### 5.1 Resources dedicated to Litter in Louth

Louth Local Authorities employ six full time Litter Wardens and two full time administrative staff, supported by the operations section, who continue to ensure that the county is one of the highest enforcers of the litter Pollution Act in the country. In the period 2018-2020 in excess of 2400 litter fines were issued for detected offences in the county and it is proposed that this high level of enforcement will continue during the lifetime of this Plan.

Each Litter Warden has a specific geographic area of responsibility in terms of litter enforcement, but also works as part of a team to provide high profile enforcement activity in the county at large.

Enforcing the Litter Pollution Act, particularly to the level at which it is enforced in Louth comes with a financial cost, but one that can and must be justified in terms of endeavouring to create a Litter Free Louth. The Local Authority provides a dedicated budget annually to cover the cost associated with the Litter Warden service, including, wages, uniforms, vans, equipment etc.



This Plan, in setting and developing its objectives, will:




- appraise the resources of Louth County Council,
- develop actions for tackling the litter problem taking account of the findings of the Litter Monitoring Programme,
- help foster and develop environmental awareness programmes




Special emphasis will be placed on applying strict enforcement of the Litter Pollution Act 1997-2003.

Louth Local Authorities accept their statutory role in tackling the litter problem, but results can only be achieved with the support and co-operation of all the external sectors.

Table 3 below outlines the actions Louth County Council will take under each of the 7 thematic headings identified.

Objective	Actions
 <p>Effective Cleansing Programme</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review current cleansing schedules to ensure optimal deployment of resources.</li> <li>• Improve mapping of routes and frequencies for all areas of the county</li> <li>• Provide records of cleansing in monthly reports</li> </ul>
 <p>Improve awareness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve awareness of Waste Segregation and Presentation bye-laws to reduce fly-tipping and back yard burning.</li> <li>• Employ cost-effective methods to spread the anti litter message e.g. website, regional and national campaigns</li> <li>• Deliver An Taisce’s Green Schools Programme that promotes and acknowledges long term, whole school action of the environment with litter and waste forming a fundamental element of the programme. Encourage those schools not registered to get involved in the programme</li> <li>• Run school competitions / workshops to promote litter awareness</li> <li>• Promote awareness of community wardens and assistance they provide to local groups and schools.</li> <li>• Encourage and support local residents and groups to keep their area clean by provision of equipment and assistance by community wardens.</li> <li>• Examine the feasibility of an “Adopt a Street/Mile” initiative where home and business owners can adopt the public footpath and/or grass margin in front of their home or business premises and keep it clean.</li> <li>• Promote responsible disposal of gum in conjunction with National Gum Litter awareness campaign.</li> <li>• Engage with environmental groups in targeted anti-litter campaigns</li> <li>• Work in partnership with IBAL to reduce littering</li> <li>• Encourage participation in, and promote, Tidy Towns competition</li> <li>• Participate in the National Spring Clean initiative to encourage all sectors of society to actively participate and take responsibility for litter by conducting clean ups in their area.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Promote a clean environment and publicise anti-littering initiatives by utilising all available media</li> <li>● Respond to the problem of dog fouling by promoting responsible dog ownership. Community Wardens will take enforcement action against dog owners where necessary.</li> <li>● Consider the use of audio device systems to remind dog owners to clean up after their dog.</li> <li>● Reinforce the “Any Bag Any Bin” policy in relation to dog fouling.</li> <li>● Consider the provision of dog fouling bag dispensers, subject to resources</li> <li>● Work and liaise with the local business community and local Chamber of Commerce in relation to litter prevention and legal requirements.</li> <li>● Apply for government anti-litter / anti-graffiti grants.</li> <li>● Participate in regional and national litter prevention and awareness programmes.</li> <li>● Increase public awareness of waste facilities i.e. litter bins, bring banks, recycling centres. Advertise and promote waste facilities at every opportunity</li> <li>● Keep council’s website updated with anti-litter initiatives and projects</li> <li>● Promote the use of authorised waste collectors</li> </ul>
 <p>Improve Response time</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Develop and document a litter complaints handling procedure</li> <li>● Use of technology</li> <li>● Improved co-operation between Louth County Council sections.</li> <li>● Provision of public bins</li> <li>● Optimise street cleaning provision</li> <li>● Set ambitions targets on customer complaint response</li> </ul>
 <p>Increase detection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Use of technology</li> <li>● Fix your street</li> <li>● See it say it</li> <li>● Joint operations targeting fly-tipping</li> <li>● Use of CCTV where appropriate</li> </ul>
 <p>Support Citizen Action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Tidy Towns</li> <li>● Green Mile</li> <li>● Blue Mile</li> <li>● Green Schools</li> <li>● Encourage the reporting of littering offences</li> <li>● Ensure Facilities and supports are in place</li> <li>● Provide public recycling banks for glass, cans and textiles available at suitable locations to meet the needs of the County. Maintain, promote and audit Local Authority Waste Facilities which include:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2 no. Civic Amenity Sites in Dundalk &amp; Drogheda</li> <li>○ Bring banks throughout the county</li> <li>○ Street litter bins</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider the provision of additional Bring Banks, subject to available resources</li> <li>• Consider the use of “Smart Bin” systems, subject to available resources</li> </ul>
	<p>This objective is self explanatory, but Louth County Council aim for both Dundalk and Drogheda to rank highly in the IBAL litter league, with a target of ‘clean to European norms’ and ambitions to get to ‘cleaner than European norms’. It is an objective of this plan to develop similar metrics for Ardee, to ensure progress can be quantified.</p>
	<p>Louth County Council will endeavour to investigate the largest number possible of littering incidents and will operate a zero tolerance policy in relation to issuing fines and/or court proceedings against offenders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of Louth County Council Litter Enforcement Policy to ensure fair and consistent exercising of our duties.</li> <li>• Investigate all complaints</li> <li>• Manage complaints through the Environmental Complaints Management System</li> <li>• Deploy CCTV and smart technologies for litter enforcement, where appropriate</li> <li>• Issue on-the-spot fines</li> <li>• Prosecute offenders under the Litter Pollution Act 1997, as amended and Waste Management Act 1996, as amended</li> <li>• Provide high visibility Community Warden service</li> <li>• Take enforcement action against illegal waste collectors</li> <li>• Continue to work with An Garda Síochána to tackle anti-social behaviour relating to illegal dumping</li> <li>• Litter Black Spots to be monitored regularly. Use CCTV surveillance as resources allow</li> </ul>
	<p>The above actions if delivered in combination will result in a county whose population are aware of their responsibilities and have a strong desire to live in a litter free environment. This will be supported by Louth County Council dedicating significant resources to cleansing our streets and enforcing against those who litter.</p>

## 6 How can you do your part?

### 6.1 People of Ardee Municipal District

In outlining Louth County Council's commitments to working towards a litter free environment we would ask that you the people of Ardee Municipal District show your desire to help by:



**Reject**



**Reduce**



**Reuse &  
Recycle**

Reject Reduce Reuse Recycle – don't create waste which could become litter in the first place.

When out and about, if you have waste to dispose of, then Louth County Council would ask that members of the public take their waste home with them. If this is not possible, please dispose of it correctly in a public litter bin.



There are several common misunderstandings which are observed among the general public.

- The Litter Pollution Act puts legal responsibilities on members of the public to control litter. The following are examples of offences under the Act:
  - Failure to keep private property which is visible from a public place free of litter
  - Dropping cigarette butts, chewing gum, paper, food, etc. on the ground
  - Failure to clean up dog litter when walking one's dog in a public place
  - Placing household waste in a public litter bin
  - Burning rubbish in your back garden / fireplace, even if you buy a chiminea or another vessel designed for burning.
  - Throwing grass or garden clippings in a ditch/ up a mountain
  - Put food waste in your black bin
  - Burying waste, such as builders rubble

- Putting electrical goods in your black/green bin, these must be recycled through the WEEE initiative.
- Pouring paint or oil down the drain

Help cut out fly-tipping in our Beauty Spots. Never hire anyone to remove rubbish/ old furniture/ mattresses / builders rubble/ domestic waste without first ensuring they are fully licensed to do so. Using an unauthorised waste collector is illegal and could result in a fine and significant clean-up costs for you.

Another great action people can take is to become involved or support active community groups, such as tidy towns, which work tirelessly throughout the year to keep their areas tidy and litter free.

## 6.2 Business in Ardee Municipal District

The Litter Pollution Act puts legal responsibilities on businesses to control litter. The following are examples of what businesses must do under the Act:

- Keep footpaths, pavements and gutters within 100m of a premises located within a speed limit area free from litter.
- Not put up posters or signs without local authority authorisation
- Not put commercial waste in a public bin
- Failure to secure transported material on a trailer or truck
- Dumping material (fly-tipping) in an area other than a waste receptacle or authorised waste facility
- Placing advertising flyers on cars is an act of littering
- There are additional responsibilities on persons operating mobile outlets and organisers of major events.

## 6.3 Louth County Council Street Cleansing programme

The Ardee Municipal District has a comprehensive street cleansing programme. Appendix B shows the routes and frequencies in which areas in the Ardee Municipal District are maintained.

This programme will be reviewed in the lifetime of this plan to ensure optimal results for the MD.

## 7 Dog Fouling

Why is dog fouling a concern?



Apart from being very unpleasant to have in public places, dog foul also has a very significant threat to public health. The biggest health threat from dog foul is toxocariasis. This is an infection of the roundworm *toxocara canis*. The eggs of the parasite can be found in dog foul or contaminated soil / sand. Symptoms include blindness, nausea, asthma and, in extremely rare cases, seizures/fits. Children under five years are most at risk of infection. Dog mess can also lead to Parvo, which is a potentially fatal disease which is transferred between dogs.

Section 22 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997 requires the person in charge of a dog to clean up when their dog fouls in a public place. Freshly deposited faeces are not infectious because *toxocara* eggs do not become infectious for at least 2 – 3 weeks after the faeces have been deposited. Therefore there is no risk of catching toxocariasis whilst clearing up immediately after your dog.

Dog Fouling has been on the increase in recent years and Louth County Council wish to focus on this particularly unpleasant form of littering through the life of this Litter Management Plan.

While Louth County Council will do all it can to take action against offenders, it is notoriously difficult to detect and enforce against dog fouling, as a litter-warden needs to observe the incident and issue an on the spot fine. Success in this area depends on Citizen Action, whereby all dog owners take responsibility and people remind dog owners of their responsibilities on an ongoing basis. Louth County Council resources may be best deployed towards education and awareness.

One area of interest, which has been shown to be very effective in other local authorities, is that of Audio Messages played in areas with a large volume of dog walkers. Both Limerick and Westmeath have shown very positive results by deploying these devices.

Dog owners should always carry a supply of bags with them when walking their dog so that they can pick up their dog mess. The law makes clear that not having suitable means for removing the faeces is not an acceptable excuse for not cleaning up after your dog.

## 8 Civic Amenity Sites & Bring Banks

Louth County Council has two Civic Amenity Sites available to the public. These sites are run under contract by V&W Recycling

### Dundalk

V&W Recycling

Newry Road

Dundalk

Co Louth

Tel: +353 (0)42 – 9329200

### Drogheda

V&W Recycling

Mell Road

Drogheda

Co Louth

Tel: +353 (0)41 - 9803900

### Opening Hours

Monday - Friday 9.30am - 6.00pm

Saturday 9.00am - 3.00pm

### What you can recycle at the Centre

Cardboard, newspaper, glass (green, brown, clear), aluminium, drink cans, textiles (e.g. clothes), Car batteries, scrap metal, wood, washing machines, fridges, cookers, electrical appliances e.g. TV's, computers, toasters, microwaves, garden greenery. This list is not exhaustive and an up-to-date list can be found on the V&W website.



In addition to the civic amenity sites Louth County Council has an extensive network of bring banks. Table 3 below gives a list of all bring bank locations throughout the Ardee Municipal District and the wider county.

Location of Bring Bank Sites	No. of banks on each site			
	Glass			
	Green	Brown	Clear	Can
<b>Louth County</b>				
1. Car Park, Main St, Blackrock	3	1	3	2
2. Car Park, Carlingford	2	1	4	2
3. Car Park, Louth Co Co Area office, Dunleer.	1	1	2	2
4. Primary Schoole, Walshestown	1	1	2	2
5. Car Park, Tennis Courts, Clogherhead	2	1	2	2
6. Car Park, St Laurences Hall Omeath	1	1	2	2
7. Forecourt Bellurgan Service Station, Bellurgan	2	1	2	1
8. Forecourt Byrnes Service Station, Dromiskin	2	1	2	1
9. Car Park of Church, Louth Village	1	1	2	2
10. Car Park of Graveyard, Kilsaran	1	1	2	2
11. Grounds of Old National School, Kilkerry	1	1	2	2
12. Ferdia Park Housing Estate, Ardee	1	2	2	2
13. Lands Adjacent to Kilcurry Community Centre, Kilcurry	1	1	2	2
14. Grounds of Community Hall, Phillipstown Village, Dunleer	1	1	3	2
15. Car Park of Jenkinstown P.O, Jenkinstown, Dundalk	1	1	2	2
16. Cost Cutters Car Park, Termonfeckin	1	1	2	1
17. Reaghstown Road, Tallanstown	1	1	1	1
<b>Total Sites 17</b>				
<b>Drogheda</b>				
1. Car Park at Abbey Shopping Centre, Drogheda	2	1	1	2
2. Car Park at Bolton Square, Drogheda	2	1	3	2
3. Car Park at Mell	3	2	2	2
4. Open Space at Platin Road, Drogheda	2	2	2	2
5. Car Park at King St, Drogheda	2	1	2	2
6. Wheaton Hall, Drogheda	2	1	2	1
7. St Marys Parochial Hall, Millmount, Drogheda	2	1	3	3
8. Ballsgrove Pharmacy, Drogheda	1	1	2	2
<b>Total Sites 8</b>				
<b>Dundalk Town</b>				
1. Car Park, Community Gardens, Hoeys Lane, M'mor	1	1	2	2
2. Car Park, St Gerards Square, Barrack St, dundalk	2	1	2	2
3. Duffys car park, Long Walk, Dundalk	1	1	1	2
4. Car Park at Tennis Club, Meadow Grove, Dundalk	1	1	2	2
5. Forecourt of Castletown Service Station, Castletown Road	1	1	2	2
6. Car Park along side of Harp Lager Brewery	1	1	2	2
<b>Total Sites 6</b>				
<b>Schools</b>				
1. De la Salle School, Castletown Road, Dundalk				1
2. St Josephs CBS, Newfoundwell, Drogheda				1
3. O'Fiaich College, Dublin Road, Dundalk				2
4. Tullydonnell National School Dunleer				1

**Table 3:** Bring Bank Locations

## 9 Conclusion

In addition to our core objectives outlined in Section 5 of this plan, there are a number of areas where Louth County Council will make improvements over the life of this plan, to increase the effectiveness of our litter management in Ardee Municipal District and throughout the county.

- Improved costs management
- Improved use of technology
- Improved communications with the public
- Improved mapping and recording of street cleansing
- Continued high levels of enforcement
- Development of a litter management policy

Louth County Council has a very active and well resourced Litter Management function, however the problem of littering still persists and Louth County Council intend to maintain a strong focus on this aspect of community life.



## Appendix A What the Legislation says we should do

Under Section 12 of the Litter Pollution Act:

*12.—(1) Where a local authority proposes to make, amend or replace its litter management plan under section 10, it shall—*

*(a) publish in one or more newspapers circulating in its functional area a notice of the proposal and arrange for the broadcasting of an announcement in respect of the proposal at least once on 3 successive days on one or more local radio stations broadcasting in that area, and*

*(b) consult with such voluntary and representative bodies as the local authority deems appropriate concerning the steps which the local authority and the bodies that agree to participate in the consultations are to take in connection with the plan.*

*(2) A notice of proposal under subsection (1)(a) shall indicate—*

*(a) whether the proposal is to make, amend or replace a litter management plan,*

*(b) that a copy of a summary of the proposed plan, amendment or replacement plan, as the case may be, may be obtained from the local authority free of charge, an*

*(c) that written submissions made to the local authority in relation to the proposed plan, amendment or replacement plan will be taken into consideration by the local authority before the plan is made, amended or implemented.*

*(3) A local authority, in its absolute discretion, may permit any person who has made submissions referred to in subsection (2)(c) to make oral presentation on the submissions to, or to discuss specific proposals with, the local authority.*

*(4) After considering the submissions referred to in subsection (2)(c) and any discussions referred to in subsection (3), the local authority may, as the case requires, make and implement the litter management plan, make and implement such amendment to the plan or implement such replacement plan as the local authority deems appropriate in the circumstances.*

*(5) As soon as possible after the making, amendment to or replacement of a litter management plan under this section, the local authority concerned shall publish and distribute the plan, amended plan or replacement plan, or a suitable outline thereof, as widely as possible in its functional area to such extent as will, in its opinion, give adequate publicity to the plan.*

*(6) An outline referred to in subsection (5) shall indicate—*

*(a) the extent and purpose of the plan,*

*(b) the methods by which the plan is proposed to be implemented, and*

*(c) the place where copies of the plan may be obtained.*

Section 11 of the Act states:

*11.—(1) A litter management plan shall—*

*(a) specify such objectives as the local authority deems are appropriate to prevent and control litter in its functional area,*

*(b) specify the measures to encourage public awareness with a view to eliminating litter pollution, including educational and information measures directed at young persons,*

*(c) specify the measures or arrangements that are to be undertaken by the local authority in order to attain the objectives of the plan, and*

*(d) include information on, or be formulated having regard to—*

*(i) an appraisal of all existing litter prevention and control programmes being operated by the local authority,*

*(ii) the policies and objectives of the local authority in relation to the prevention and control of litter,*

*(iii) the measures which, in so far as the local authority can determine, will or may be taken during the relevant period by persons other than the local authority for the purposes of preventing and controlling litter,*

*(iv) the facilities at which waste may be deposited by members of the public for recovery or disposal within the meaning of the Waste Management Act, 1996 ,*

*(v) the steps to be taken by the local authority to enforce the provisions of this Act in its functional area, and*

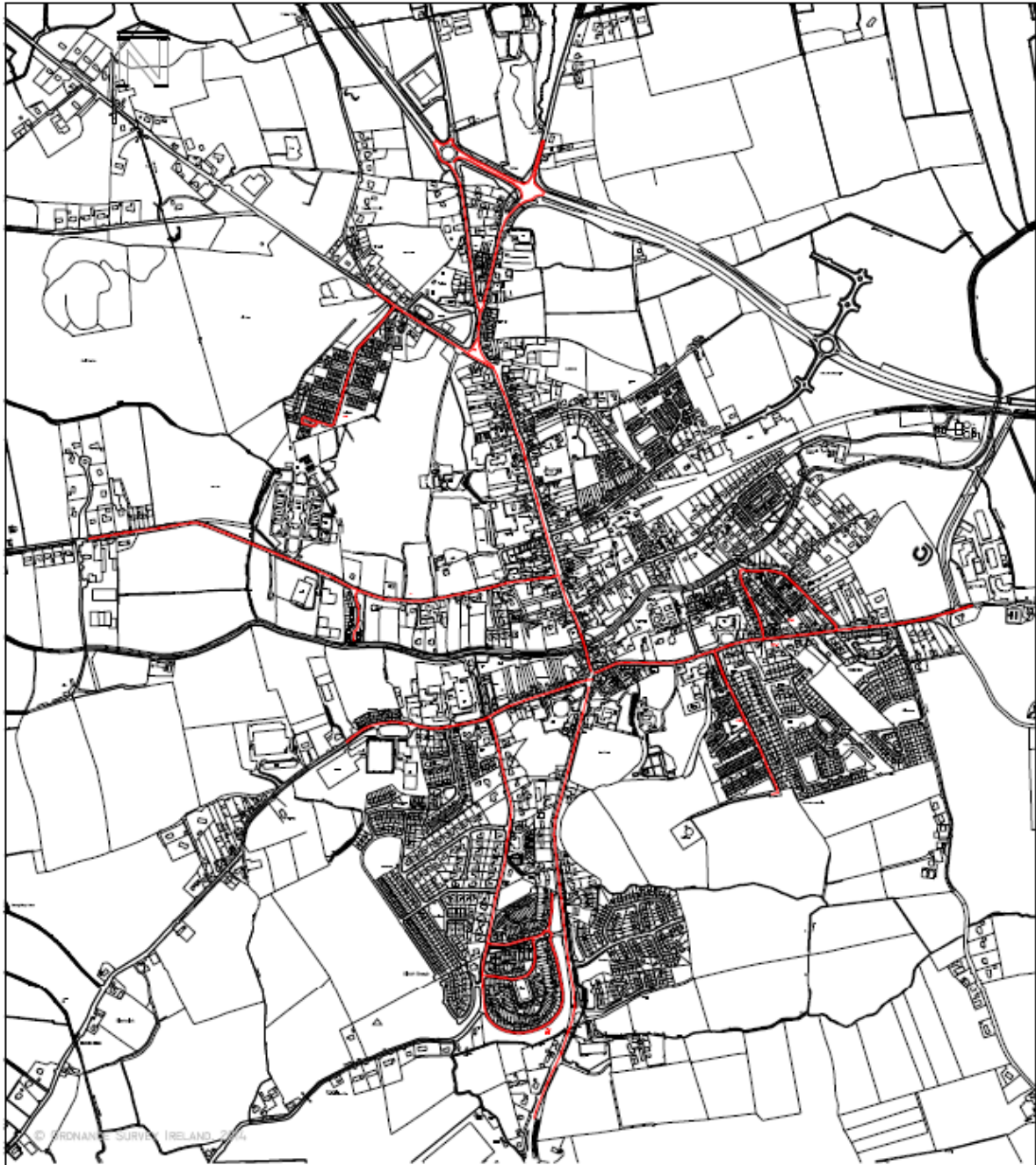
*(vi) any incidental and ancillary matters.*

*(2) A litter management plan may specify objectives to be attained in litter prevention and cleanliness for designated areas within its functional area and different objectives may be specified for different areas or classes of area.*

*(3) In making or reviewing a litter management plan, the local authority shall have regard to the proper planning and development of its functional area and shall, for that purpose, have regard to the provisions of the development plan and any special amenity area order made under the Local Government (Planning and Development) Act, 1963 , for the time being in force in relation to the area and the provisions of any waste management plan made under the Waste Management Act, 1996 .*

*(4) Where objectives referred to in subsection (2) are specified in a litter management plan, the local authority shall take such steps as it deems appropriate and necessary to attain the objectives.*

## Appendix B Maps of Street Cleansing



**KEY: SWEEPING ROUTE** █

**NOTES:**

- TOTAL SWEEPING ROUTE DISTANCE FOR ARDEE = 10.36KM**

**PROJECT:**  
TIDY TOWNS 2016  
ROAD SWEEPING

**TITLE:**  
ARDEE

**JOB NO.:**  
01

**DWS NO.:**  
TT02

**SCALE:**  
NTS

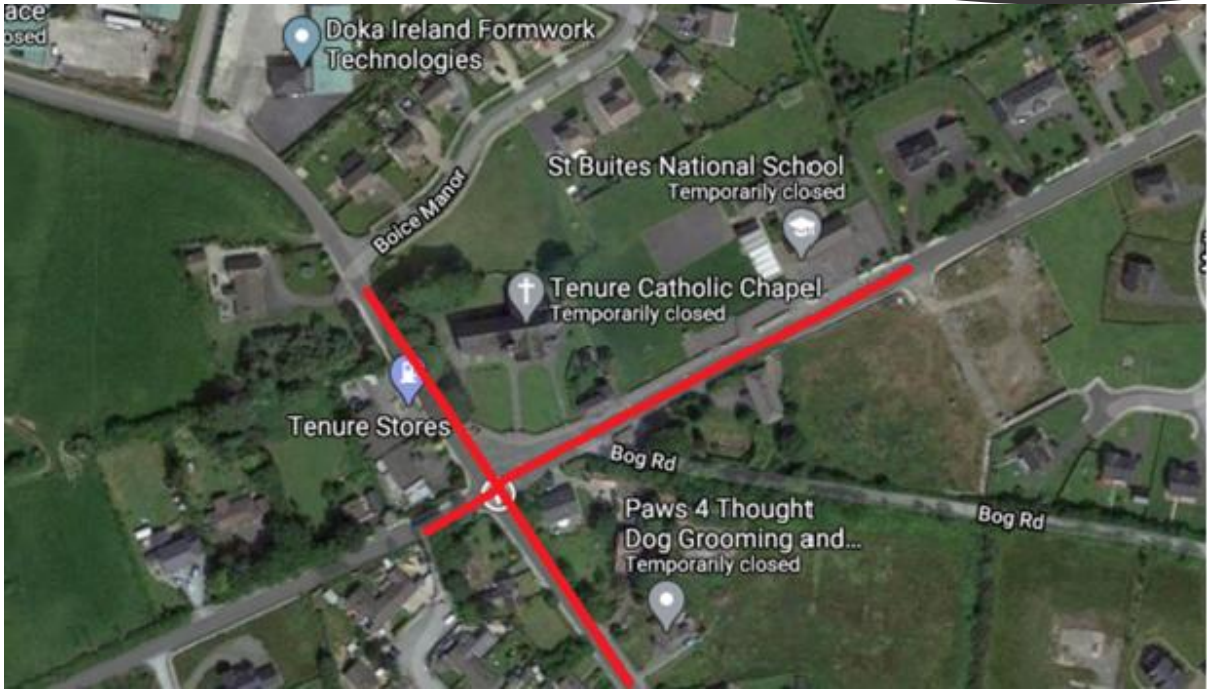
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MAY 2016

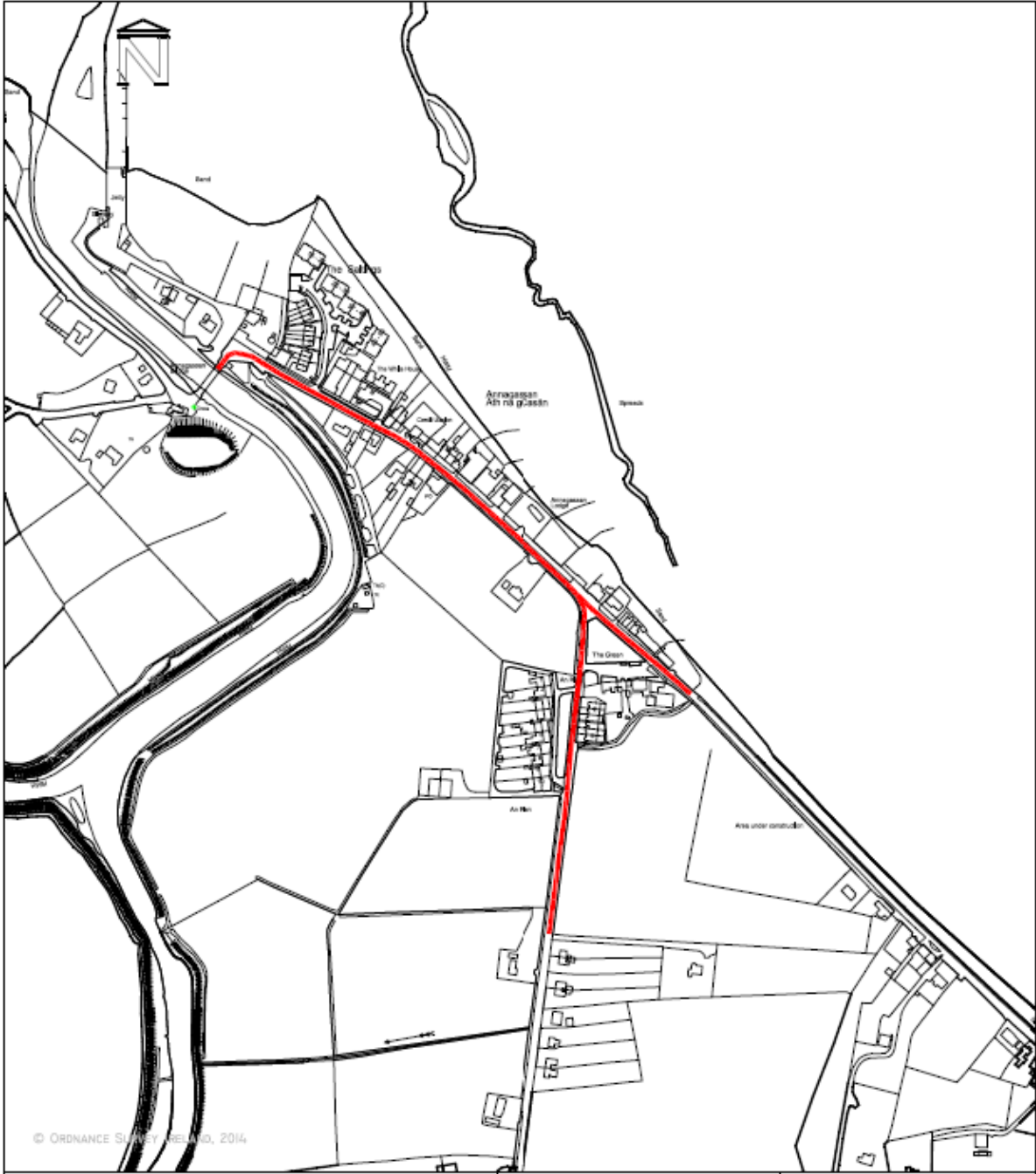


**COMHAIRLE BHOIDAE LUOHAÍ**  
**LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL**

Phone (042) 893467 Fax (042) 893468  
www.louthcoco.ie Email: info@louthcoco.ie

**OPERATIONS**





**KEY: SWEEPING ROUTE** █

**NOTES:**

- 1. TOTAL SWEEPING ROUTE DISTANCE FOR ANNAGASAN = 1KM

**PROJECT:**  
TIDY TOWNS 2016  
ROAD SWEEPING

**TITLE:**  
ANNAGASAN

**JOB NO.:**  
01

**OWD NO.:**  
TT07

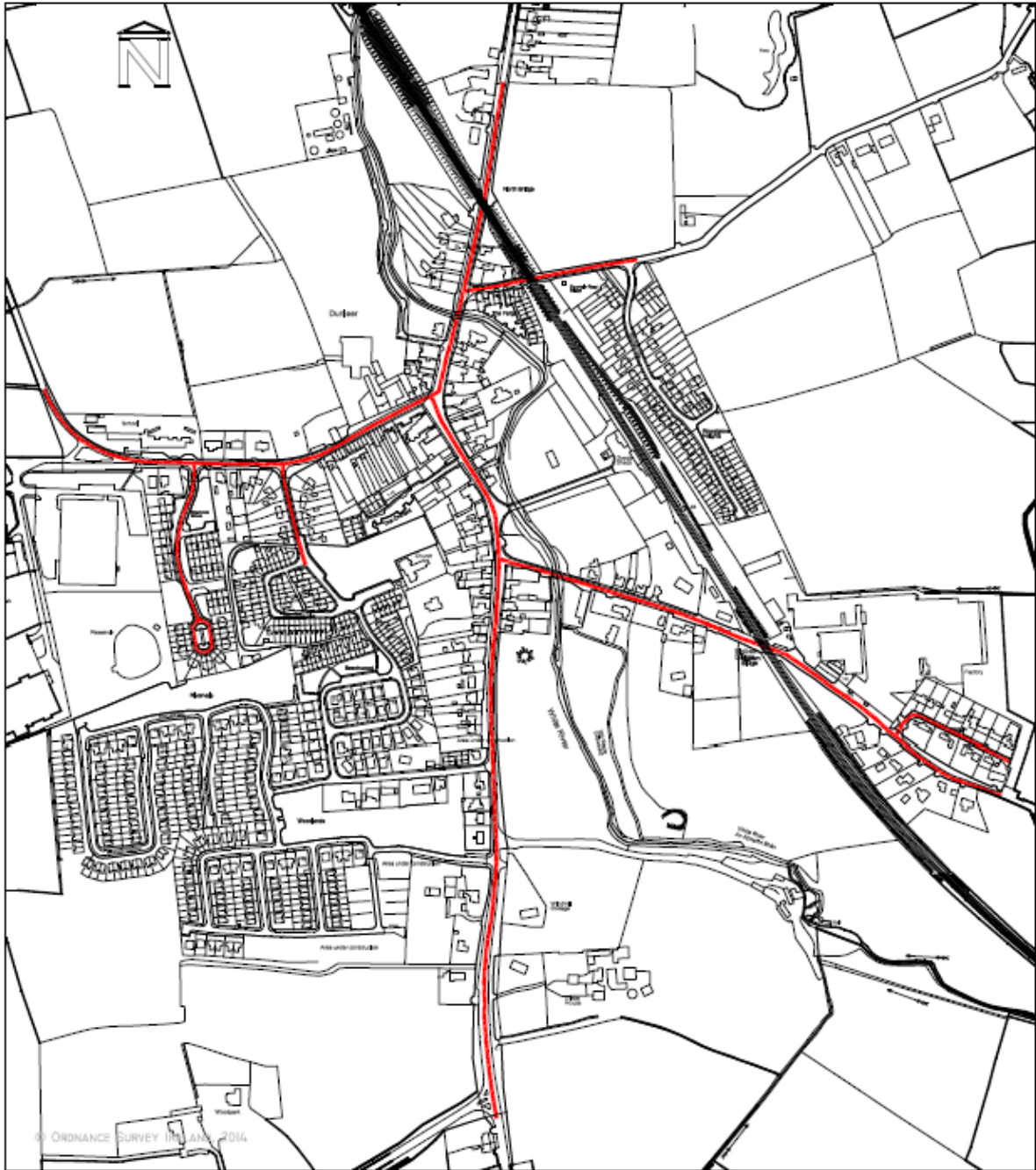
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NTS

**DATE:**  
MAY 2016



**DOMHAIRLE BHOIDAE LUOHAÍ**  
LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL  
Phone (042) 853447 Fax (042) 8544801  
www.louthcoco.ie Tweets by @louthcoco  
Email: info@louthcoco.ie | Email: Mercedes@louthcoco.ie

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**KEY: SWEEPING ROUTE** █

**NOTES:**

1. TOTAL SWEEPING ROUTE DISTANCE FOR DUNLEER = 3.47KM

**PROJECT:**  
TIDY TOWNS 2016  
ROAD SWEEPING

**TITLE:**  
DUNLEER

<b>JOB NO.</b> D1	<b>DWD NO.</b> TT08
<b>SCALE</b> NTS	<b>DATE</b> MAY 2016



**COMHAIRLE CHONDAE LUSHAI**  
**LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL**

Phone (042) 833481 Fax (042) 833480  
www.louth.ie | Tweets by @louthcc  
Email: info@louthcc.ie | Email: Miceala@louthcc.ie

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**KEY: SWEEPING ROUTE** █

**NOTES:**

- 1. TOTAL SWEEPING ROUTE DISTANCE FOR COLLON = 1.58KM

**PROJECT:**  
TIDY TOWNS 2016  
ROAD SWEEPING

**TITLE:**  
COLLON

**JOB NO.:**  
01

**DWD NO.:**  
TT09

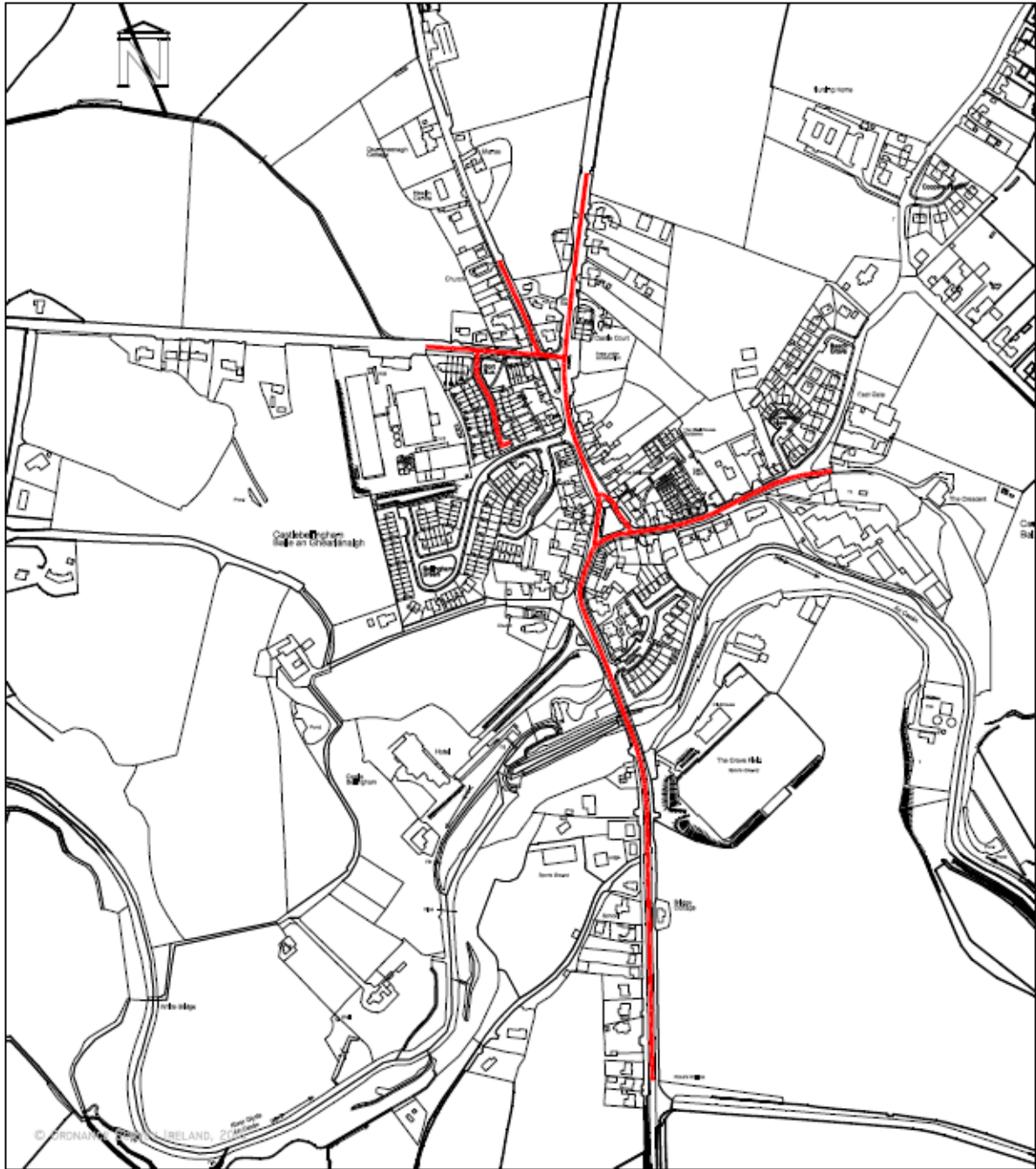
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NTS

**DATE:**  
MAY 2016



**COMHAIRLE CHONDAE LUSHAÍ**  
**LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL**  
Phone (042) 833457 Fax (042) 833456  
www.louthcoco.ie Tweets by @louthcoco  
Email: info@louthcoco.ie | Email: hse@louthcoco.ie

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KEY: SWEEPING ROUTE █

**NOTES:**

1. TOTAL SWEEPING ROUTE DISTANCE FOR CASTLEBELLINGHAM = 1.78KM

PROJECT:  
TIDY TOWNS 2016  
ROAD SWEEPING

TITLE:  
CASTLEBELLINGHAM

JOB NO. <b>01</b>	DWD NO. <b>TT16</b>
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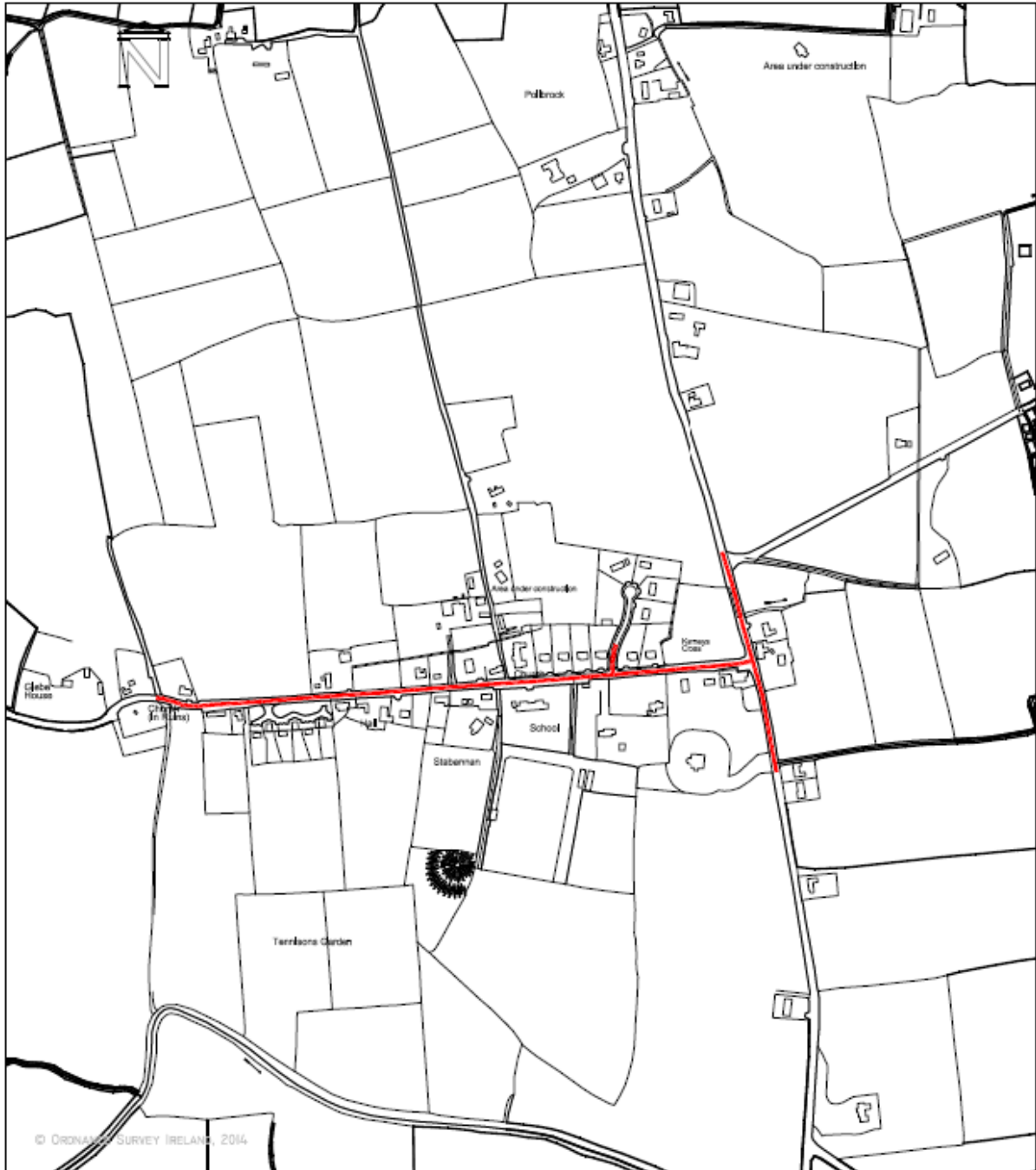
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COMHAIRLE CHONDAE LUGHAI  
LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL  
Phone (042) 8336407 Fax (042) 8336401  
www.louthcouncil.ie Tweets by @louthcouncil  
Email: info@louthcouncil.ie; Press@louthcouncil.ie

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**KEY: SWEEPING ROUTE**

**NOTES:**

- TOTAL SWEEPING ROUTE DISTANCE FOR STABANDON = 1.11KM**

**PROJECT:**  
TIDY TOWNS 2016  
ROAD SWEEPING

**TITLE:**  
STABANDON

<b>JOB NO.</b> 01	<b>DWS NO.</b> TT18
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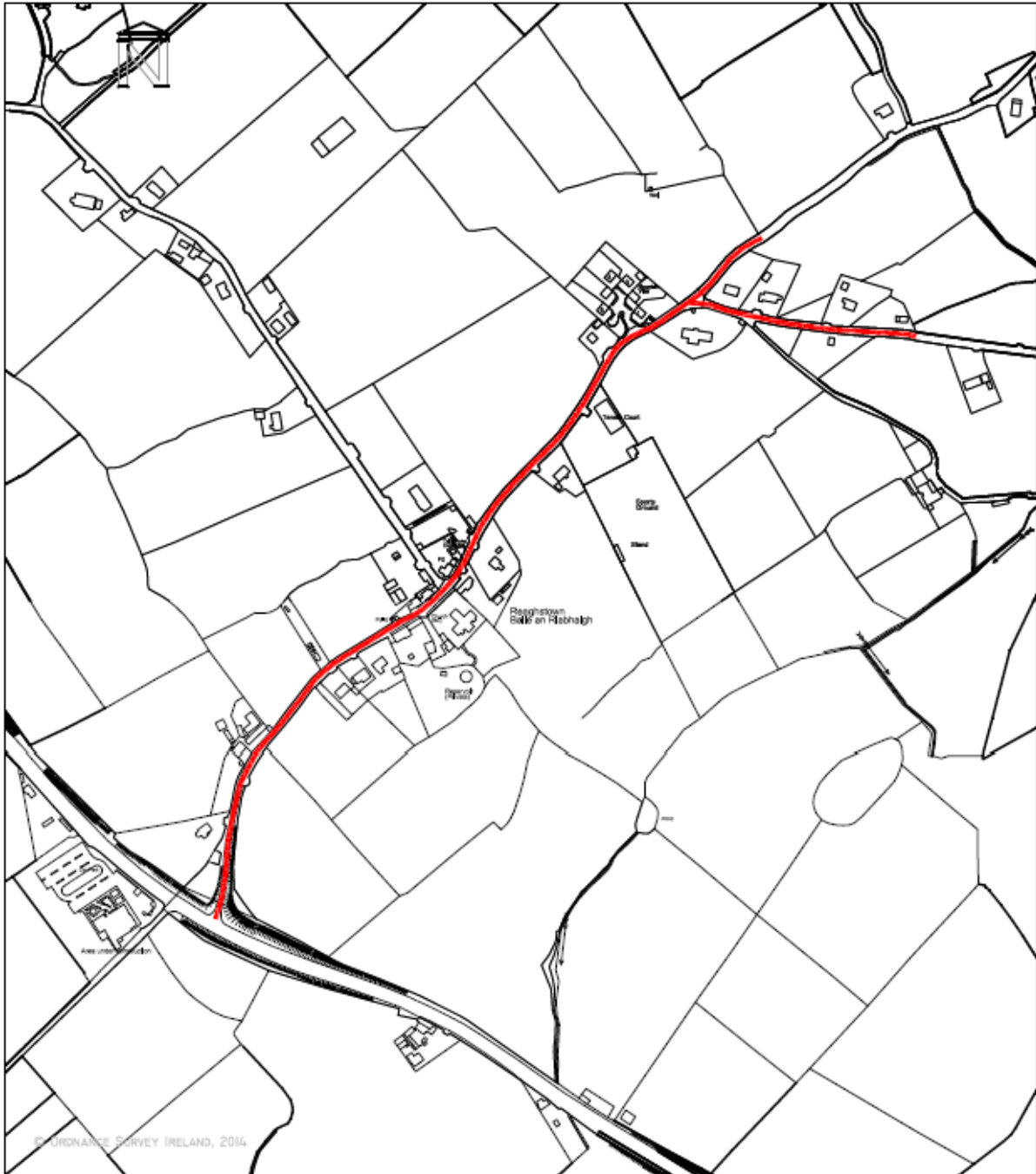
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**COMHAIRLE CHONDAE LUHAJ**  
**LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL**

Phone (042) 833431 Fax (042) 833431  
www.louthcoco.ie Terms by @louthcoco  
Email: info@louthcoco.ie | Email: litter@louthcoco.ie

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**KEY: SWEEPING ROUTE** █

**NOTES:**

- 1. TOTAL SWEEPING ROUTE DISTANCE FOR REAGHSTOWN = 1.20KM

**PROJECT:**  
TIDY TOWNS 2016  
ROAD SWEEPING

**TITLE:**  
REAGHSTOWN

**JOB NO.**  
01

**DWG NO.**  
TT19

**SCALE**  
NTS

**DATE**  
MAY 2016



**COMHAIRLE CHONDAE LUGHAI**  
LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL  
Phone (047) 833687 Fax (047) 833688  
www.louth.ie | Twitter: @louthcc |  
Email: info@louthcc.ie | Email: Media@louthcc.ie

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**KEY: SWEEPING ROUTE** █

**NOTES:**

- TOTAL SWEEPING ROUTE DISTANCE FOR LOUTH VILLAGE = 2.67KM**

**PROJECT:**  
TIDY TOWNS 2016  
ROAD SWEEPING

**TITLE:**  
LOUTH VILLAGE

<b>JOB NO.</b>	<b>DWS NO.</b>
01	TT20

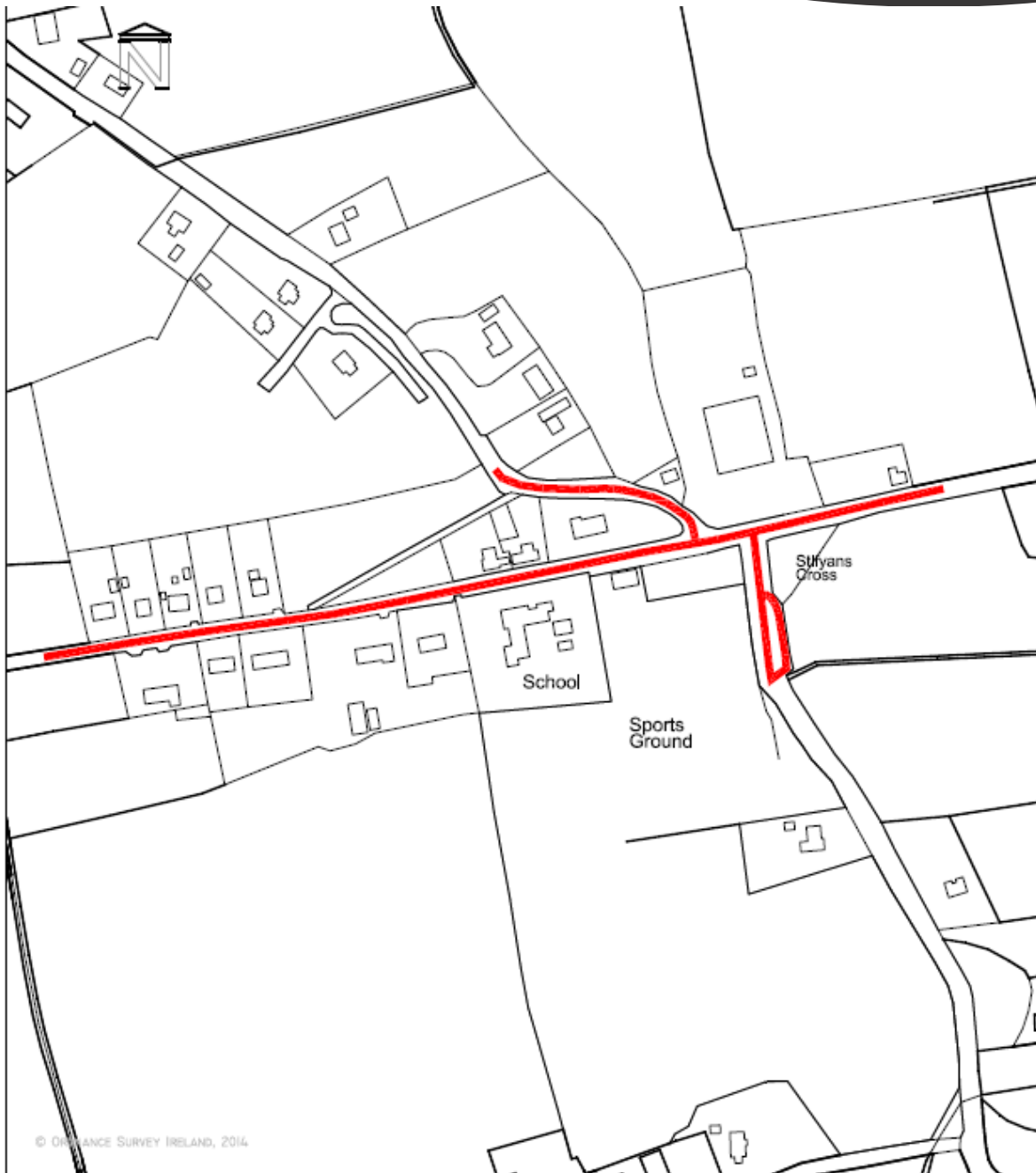
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NTS	MAY 2016



**COMHAIRLE CHONDAE LUSHAI**  
LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL

Phone (042) 933487 Fax (042) 933481  
[www.louth.ie](http://www.louth.ie) | [Township@louth.ie](mailto:Township@louth.ie)  
[Info@louth.ie](mailto:Info@louth.ie) | [Marketing@louth.ie](mailto:Marketing@louth.ie)

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**KEY: SWEEPING ROUTE** █

**NOTES:**

1. TOTAL SWEEPING ROUTE DISTANCE FOR PHILLIPSTOWN = 0.91 KM

**PROJECT:**  
TIDY TOWNS 2016  
ROAD SWEEPING

**TITLE:**  
PHILLIPSTOWN

**JOB NO.:**  
01

**DWS NO.:**  
TT21

**SCALE:**  
NTS

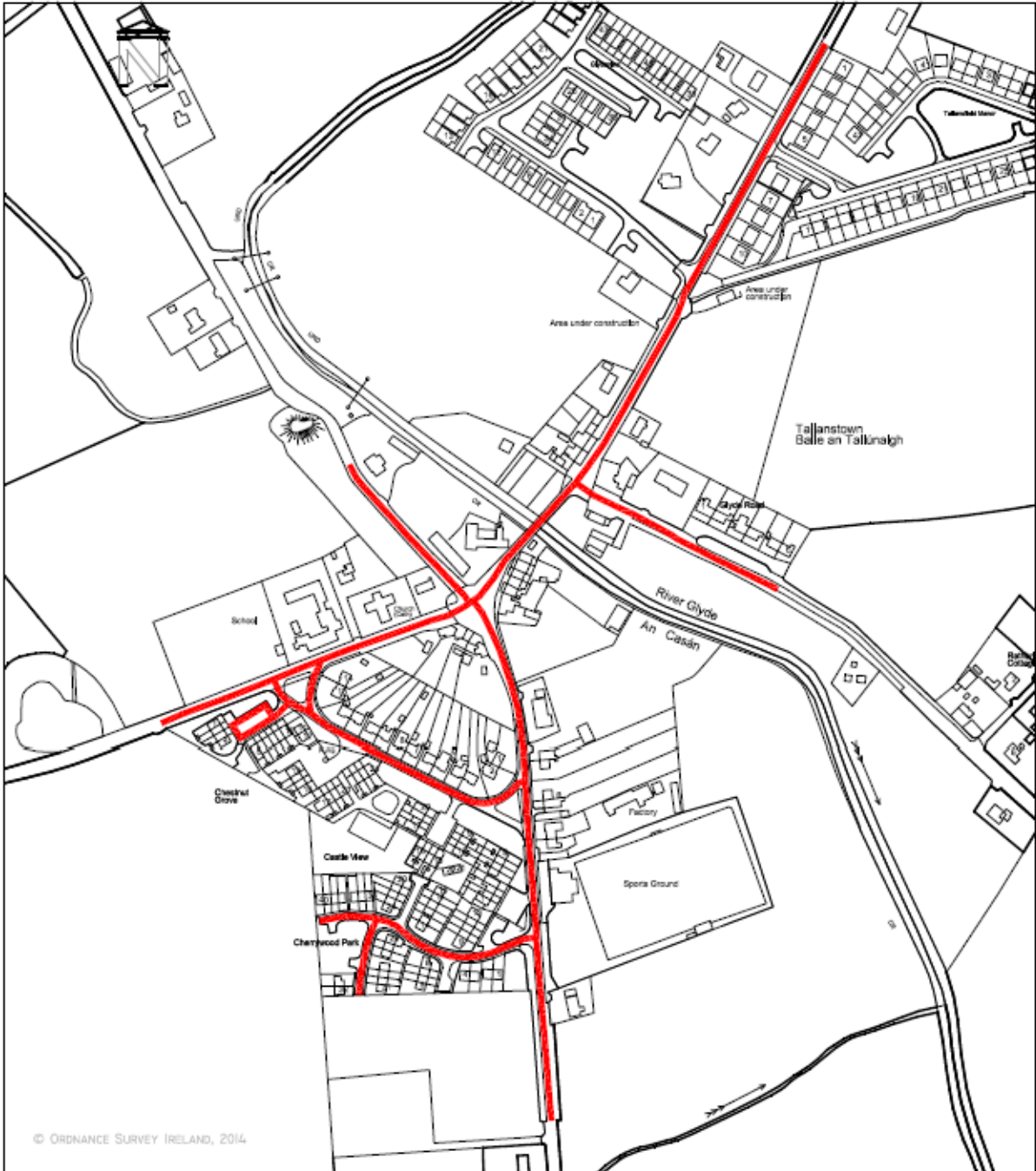
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**COMHAIRLE CHONDAE LÚ**  
**LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL**

Phone (042) 8336457 Fax (042) 8336451  
www.louthcoco.ie/Towns by @louthcoco  
Email: info@louthcoco.ie | 042 8336451

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**KEY: SWEEPING ROUTE** █

**NOTES:**

- 1. TOTAL SWEEPING ROUTE DISTANCE FOR TALLYMORE = 2.20KM

**PROJECT:**  
TIDY TOWNS 2016  
ROAD SWEEPING

**TITLE:**  
TALLYMORE

<b>JOB NO.</b> 01	<b>DWS NO.</b> TT24
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<b>SCALE</b> NTS	<b>DATE</b> MAY 2016
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**COMHAIRLE GHONDAE LUGHAI**  
LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL  
Phone: (042) 858401 Fax: (042) 858481  
www.louthcoco.ie/Town by @louthcoco  
Email: info@louthcoco.ie | Contact@louthcoco.ie

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