

APPENDIX 5

Social Infrastructure Audit - Dundalk

1. Purpose

The following Social Infrastructure Audit was prepared by Louth County Council for the purpose of informing the preparation of the Dundalk Local Area Plan 2025-2031.

Social Infrastructure relates to the provision of services and facilities which are essential for health, wellbeing and social development of a town / place.

In addition to the actual activity and function, social infrastructure facilities can provide an invisible platform of community and social interaction, which some residents may rely upon for personal well-being. The provision of the requisite levels of social infrastructure within the town is therefore vital to support the planned growth in the residential base.

2. Education and Training

2.1 Existing

A desk top analysis of Primary Schools, Post-Primary Schools, Third Level Institutions and Training Facilities within Dundalk has been conducted.

Table 1: National Schools

Name of School	Location	No. of students (enrolled Feb 2024)
St. Malachy's Infant School	Anne Street	Boys:138 Girls: 108
St. Malachy's Girls National School	Anne Street	Girls: 244
St. Malachy's Boys National School	Anne Street	Boys: 228
St. Brigid's Special School	Ard Easmuinn	Boys: 62 Girls: 35
Mhuire na nGael NS/ Bay Estate National School	Bay Estate	Boys: 310 Girls: 327
Scoil na Greagacha Dubha/ St. Oliver Plunkett NS	Sandy Lane, Blackrock	Boys: 235 Girls: 221
Castletown Girls School NS	Castletown Road	Girls: 191
Scoil na mBraithre / CBS Primary	Chapel Street	Boys: 209 Girls: 232
Realt na Mara School	Mill Street	Boys: 245 Girls: 205
Redeemer Girls National School	Ard Easmuinn	Boys: 5 Girls: 126
Redeemer Boys National School	Ard Easmuinn	Boys: 162
Scoil Naisiunta Eoin Baiste	Fatima, Castletown	Boys: 86 Girls: 89
Scoil Fhursa / St. Fursey's National School	Marlbog Road, Haggardstown	Boys: 116 Girls: 120
St. Joesph's National School	Tom Bellew Avenue	Boys: 306 Girls: 259
Gaelscoil Dhún Dealgan	Muirtheimhne Mór	Boys: 107 Girls: 109
San Nioclas / St. Nicholas' National School	Nicholas Street	Boys: 82 Girls: 74
St. Francis National School	Rock Road, Blackrock	Boys: 234 Girls: 190
Dun Dealgan National School	Jocelyn Street	Boys: 50 Girls: 48
St. Nicholas' Monastery National School, De la Salle Boys	Philip Street	Boys: 161

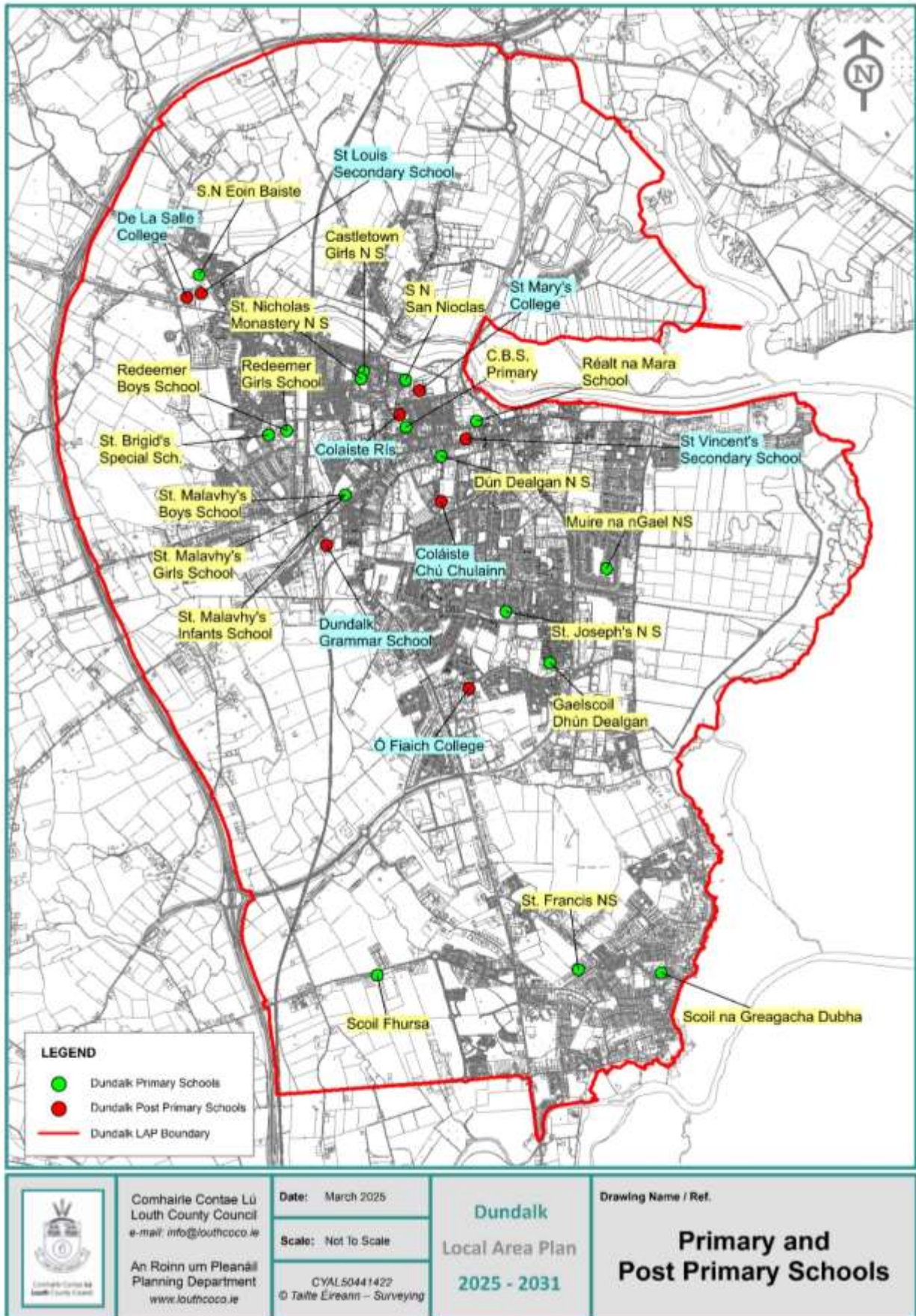
Table 2: Secondary Schools

Name of School	Location	No. of Students Enrolled (Feb 2024)
Coláiste Chú Chulainn	Chapel Street / Lower Marshes	Boys: 454 Girls: 359
Colaiste Rís	Stráid an Tséipéil	Boys: 393 Girls: 226
De La Salle College	Castleblaney Road	Boys: 704
Dundalk Grammar School	The Crescent	Boys: 333 Girls: 246
Ó Fiaich College	Dublin Road	Boys: 156 Girls: 115
St. Louis Secondary School	Dun Lughaidh	Girls: 510
St. Mary's College (Marist)	St. Mary's Road	Boys: 516 Girls: 329
St. Vincent's Secondary School	Seatown Place	Girls: 919

Table 3: Third Level Facilities

Name of Facility	Type of Service	Address
Dundalk Institute of Technology	5,124 full time and 1000 part time students	Marshes Upper
Ó Fiaich Institute of Further Education	50+ full time courses 6no. Schools; Art and Media, Childcare and Health Care, Engineering and Science, Beauty, Sport and Well Being, Business and Computing as well as offering Pre- University Courses	Dublin Road
Regional Skills Training Centre, Dundalk (LMETB)	Offers further Education courses and apprenticeships	Coes Road Industrial Estate
The Advanced Manufacturing and Training Centre of Excellence (AMTCE)(LMETB)	Supports people to upskill in Engineering, Pharma, BioPharma, Food and Drink sectors. Provides opportunities to gain QQI Level 5/6 certifications or vendor certified technology skills.	Xerox Technology Park
Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme	Full time courses - learners gain certification at QQI Levels 3, 4, 5 or Leaving Certificate	Chapel Street
Pitman Training Dundalk	Adult Education and Career Development Courses	Ramparts Dundalk

Map 1: Primary and Secondary Schools Dundalk



3. Childcare Facilities

3.1 Existing

Childcare facilities are an important piece of social infrastructure in any community, as they facilitate participation in education and employment and promote healthcare and wellbeing. Childcare facilities should be located in areas where there is a demand, thereby reducing unsustainable traffic movements.

Within Dundalk childcare facilities are well distributed spatially with 31 registered childcare facilities in the town at the time of writing. Of those registered childcare facilities, 2 are managed by community/ voluntary organisations and are located in or immediately adjoining areas described as being 'very disadvantaged'. The childcare facilities provided include full day, sessional, part time, early childhood care and education as well as school age childcare. Figures obtained from Louth Childcare Committee show in March 2023 there were 1553 children enrolled in childcare facilities and there were only 85 vacancies.

Table 4: Childcare Vacancies in Dundalk March

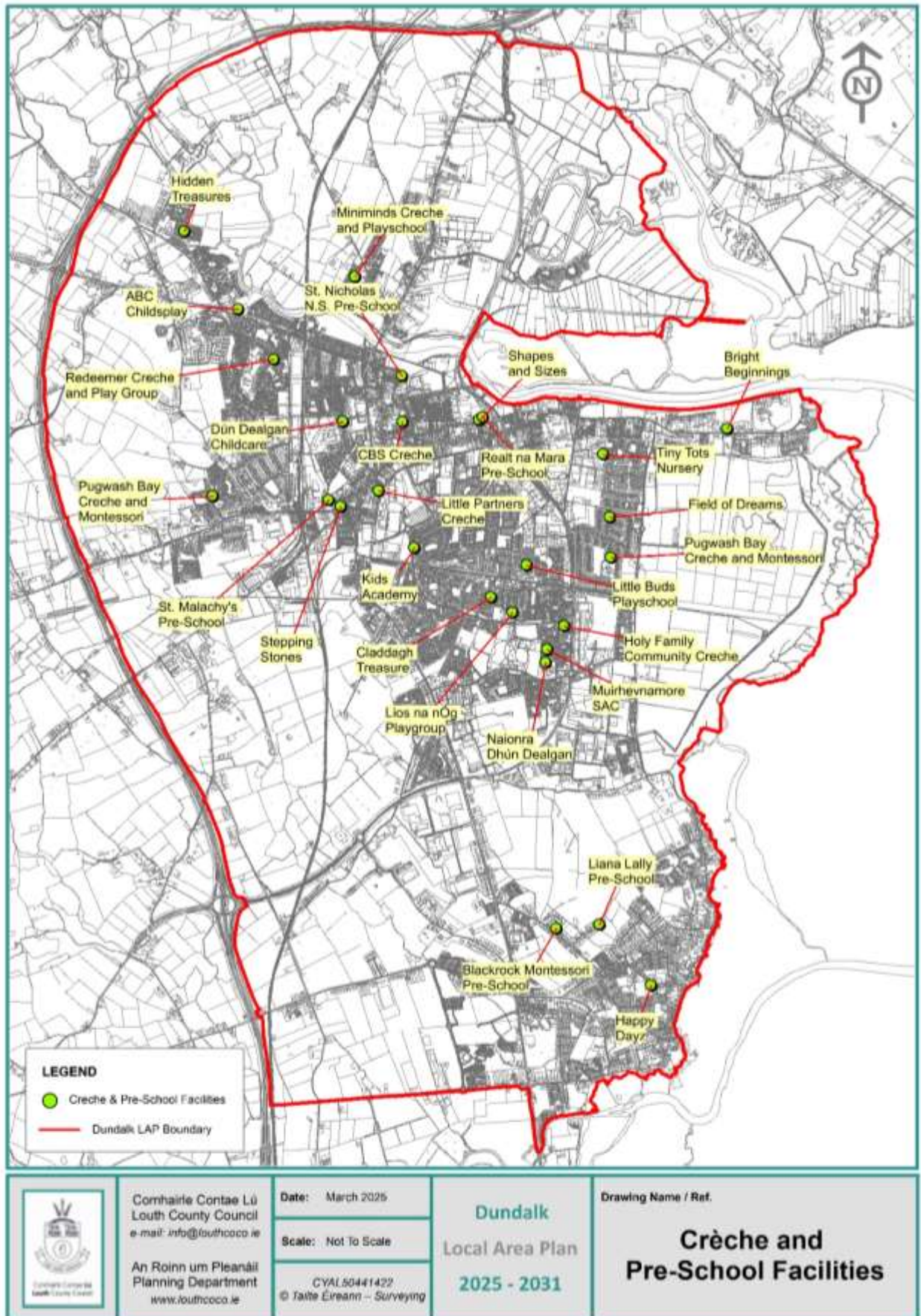
	Vacancies				
	Under 1	1-2 Years	2 ECCE ¹	ECCE	SAC ²
Aine Danbury LTD (Bright Beginnings)	0	0	6	3	9
Castletown Girls Preschool	0	0	0	5	0
CBS Preschool	0	0	0	1	0
Claddagh Treasures	0	0	0	5	0
Cox's Demesne Youth & Community Project Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0
De la Salle Preschool	0	0	0	0	0
Dun Dealgan Childcare	0	0	0	1	0
Dundalk Creche	0	0	0	0	0
Dundalk Tiny Tots Nursery Ltd.	0	1	6	13	4
Field of Dreams Montessori	0	0	0	2	0
Holy Family Parish Community Creche/Claddagh's Treasures	0	0	0	0	0
Kidz Academy Ltd.	0	0	0	3	0
Lios na nÓg Playgroup	0	0	0	0	0
Little Buds Playschool	0	0	0	0	4
MiniMinds Preschool	0	0	0	4	0
Muirhevnamor Community Youth Project Ltd.	0	0	0	0	8

¹ Early Childhood Care and Education

² School Age Childcare

Vacancies					
	Under 1	1-2 Years	2 ECCE ¹	ECCE	SAC ²
Pugwash Bay Preschool Bay Estate	0	0	0	0	0
Pugwash Bay Preschool Lis na Dara	0	0	0	0	0
Realt na Mara Preschool & Afterschool	0	0	0	0	0
Redeemer Centre and Playgroup Ltd.	0	0	0	2	0
Respond School Age Service, Riverwell Close (Toberona)	0	0	5	4	0
Shapes and Sizes Creche	0	0	0	0	0
St. Nicholas National School Preschool	0	0	0	5	0
Stepping Stones	0	0	3	14	6
The Playroom Project	0	0	0	2	9
Total	0	1	20	67	40

Map 2: Crèche and Pre-Schools Facilities



4. Health Care Facilities

4.1 Existing

Healthcare facilities include hospitals, general practitioners, health centres, dentists, physiotherapists, pharmacies, care and other related facilities. New health care facilities may be provided by both the public and private sector.

The Louth County Hospital provides acute medical services, whilst St. Oliver Plunkett Hospital offers older persons' services.

The provision of health care services in Dundalk is ultimately the responsibility of the Health Service Executive (HSE) along with other private and voluntary agencies. However, Louth County Council will continue to support expansion of existing and provision of additional healthcare facilities in appropriate locations.

Table 5: Health Care Facilities

Name	Address
HSE Dundalk	Dublin Road Health Centre
HSE Dundalk	Primary Care Centre, Barrack Street, Dundalk
HSE Muirhevnamor Health Centre	Muirhevnamor, Co. Louth

Table 6: Child and Family Services

Name	Address	Phone Number
Probation Service, Government Offices	St. Alphonsus Road	042 9370900
Rape Crisis North East CLG	The Great Northern Distillery Offices, Dundalk	042 939491
Women's Aid Dundalk	Saint Monicas, Avenue Rd, Townparks, Dundalk, Co. Louth	24Hr Helpline 042 933244

Table 7: Disability Support Groups

Name	Address	Phone Number
Autism Initiatives	Mill Street, Dundalk	042 933 0252
Rape Crisis North East CLG	The Great Northern Distillery Offices, Dundalk	042 939491
Women's Aid Dundalk	24Hr Helpline	042 933244

Table 8: Medical Centres and GP Surgeries

Medical Centres and GP Surgeries	
Name	Address
The Square Medical, Centric Health	Elgee Building
Carrick Road Medical Centre	Lis na Dara, Carrick Road
Dundalk Primary Health Care Centre	Marshes Lower, Dundalk
Lugh Medical Centre	College Heights
Church Street Medical Centre	Church Street
The Laurels Primary Health Care Centre	Laurel Brook Court
Roden Court Medical Clinic	Roden Place
Castletown Clinic	Castletown Road
Medical Eye and Health Centre	The Demesne Shopping Centre
Neighbourhood Medical Practice	Inner Relief Road
Specialist Medical Care	Distillery Lane
All Care Clinics	Main Street, Blackrock, Dundalk
Carrol Village Medical Centre	Carrol Village, Dundalk
Medical Centre	Demesne Road
South Beach Medical Centre	Main Street, Blackrock
Clermont Health	Unit 5 & 6 Fairways Centre, Dublin Road
Blackrock Family Practice	Main Street, Blackrock
The Byrne Family Practice	Francis Street
GP Surgery	Jocelyn Street
GP Surgery	Seatown Place
GP Surgery	Park Avenue
GP Surgery	General Practice, Main Street, Blackrock

Table 9: Residential Care

Residential Care	
Name	Address
Curam Care Home	Castletown Dundalk
Silver Stream Dundalk	Inner Relief Road, Marsh South, Marshes Upper
Dundalk Care Centre	Inner Relief Road
Blackrock Abbey Nursing Home	Ard Shee Haggardstown

Table 10: Dental Surgeries

Dental Surgeries	
Name	Address
Dublin Street Dental Surgery	43 Dublin Street
Maxillo Dental Surgery	Lis na Dara Medical Centre
Begley Dental	25 Anne Street
Smiles Dental	22 Park Street – Temp Closed
Friel and McGahon Dentist	Avenue Road Centre
Faron Michael P Dental Surgeons	Roden Place
Dundalk Denture Laboratory	33 Castletown Road
ORTHO Dundalk	22 Park Street
Blackrock Dental Surgery	Main Street, Blackrock
William Stanley & Associates	6 Anne Street
Oriel Orthodontics,	64 Castletown Road
Italian Implants Clinic	6 Anne Street

Table 11: Physiotherapists

Physiotherapists	
Name	Address
Louth Physiotherapy Clinic Dundalk	45 Barrack St, Marshes Lower, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 XP44
Dundalk, Physical Therapy	Carrick Road Medical Centre, Lis Na Dara, Dundalk, Co. Louth
Physio Ireland Clinic	59 Mill St, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 KTR2
Physio Care	10b Roden Pl, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 A504
Elite Physiotherapy	Church St, Dundalk, Co. Louth
Perform Physiotherapy,	Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 FY8K
The Physio Rooms	Demesne Shopping Centre, The Demesne, Dundalk
Precision Physiotherapy Clinic	Blackthorn Business Park, 11A Coes Rd, Marshes Lower
Louth Sports Injury Clinic	58 Park Street, Dundalk, A91 KPD6
SB Physiotherapy and Pilates	Balrobin, Dundalk, A91 W704

Table 12: Pharmacies

Pharmacies	
Name	Address
Smyth's Life Pharmacy Dundalk	Seatown Pl, Marshes Lower, Dundalk, Co. Louth
Byrnes Late Night Pharmacy	1-3 Church St, Townparks, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 P7E
McCabes Pharmacy Dundalk	Unit 2 Adelphi Mall, Adelphi Court, The Long Walk, Townparks,
Leavy's Pharmacy	94 Clanbrassil St, Townparks, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 XY45
Anne Smyth Pharmacy	86 Clanbrassil St, Townparks, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 VA00
Magee's Pharmacy	15 Earl St, Townparks, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 V593
Pure Pharmacy Dundalk	Elgee Building, 1 Magnet Rd, Townparks, Dundalk, Co. Louth
Castletown Pharmacy	135 Castletown Rd, Moorland, Dundalk, Co. Louth
Cogaslan Pharmacy	Unit 10/11, Clanbrassil Centre, Clanbrassil St, Dundalk
Connolly's Pharmacy	Greenacres Shopping Centre, Avenue Rd, Marshes Lower
Kelly's Staywell Pharmacy	2B College Heights, Marshes Upper, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 R940
Kevin Matthews Pharmacy	37/38 Park St, Townparks, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 XP8R
Townparks Pharmacy	Unit 2 Canessa Building, Castletown Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth
Tippings Neighbourhood Centre	Unit 2A, Dunnes Neighbourhood Centre Inner Relief Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 AW27
McGuinness Pharmacy	14 Park St, Townparks, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 YC63
McCormack's Pharmacy	3 Fairways Shopping Centre, Dublin Rd, Haggardstown
Backhouse Pharmacy	71 Clanbrassil St, Townparks, Dundalk, Co. Louth
Hickey's Pharmacy	Tesco Extra, Dundalk Shopping Centre
McCormacks Pharmacy	Lis na Dara Medical Centre, Carrick Road
McQuillan's Pharmacy	1 Main Street, Blackrock
Allcare Pharmacy	Main Street, Blackrock

5. Social and Community Facilities/Services

5.1 Existing Demand

Social and community facilities encourage social interaction within the community and promote self-development, they also promote public participation and social inclusion and are an important factor in economic and social wellbeing. A range of projects, initiatives, activities, and events are managed and delivered within the various centres. Several groups and organisations also operate within the town providing support for the mental and physical wellbeing of those residing in the town.

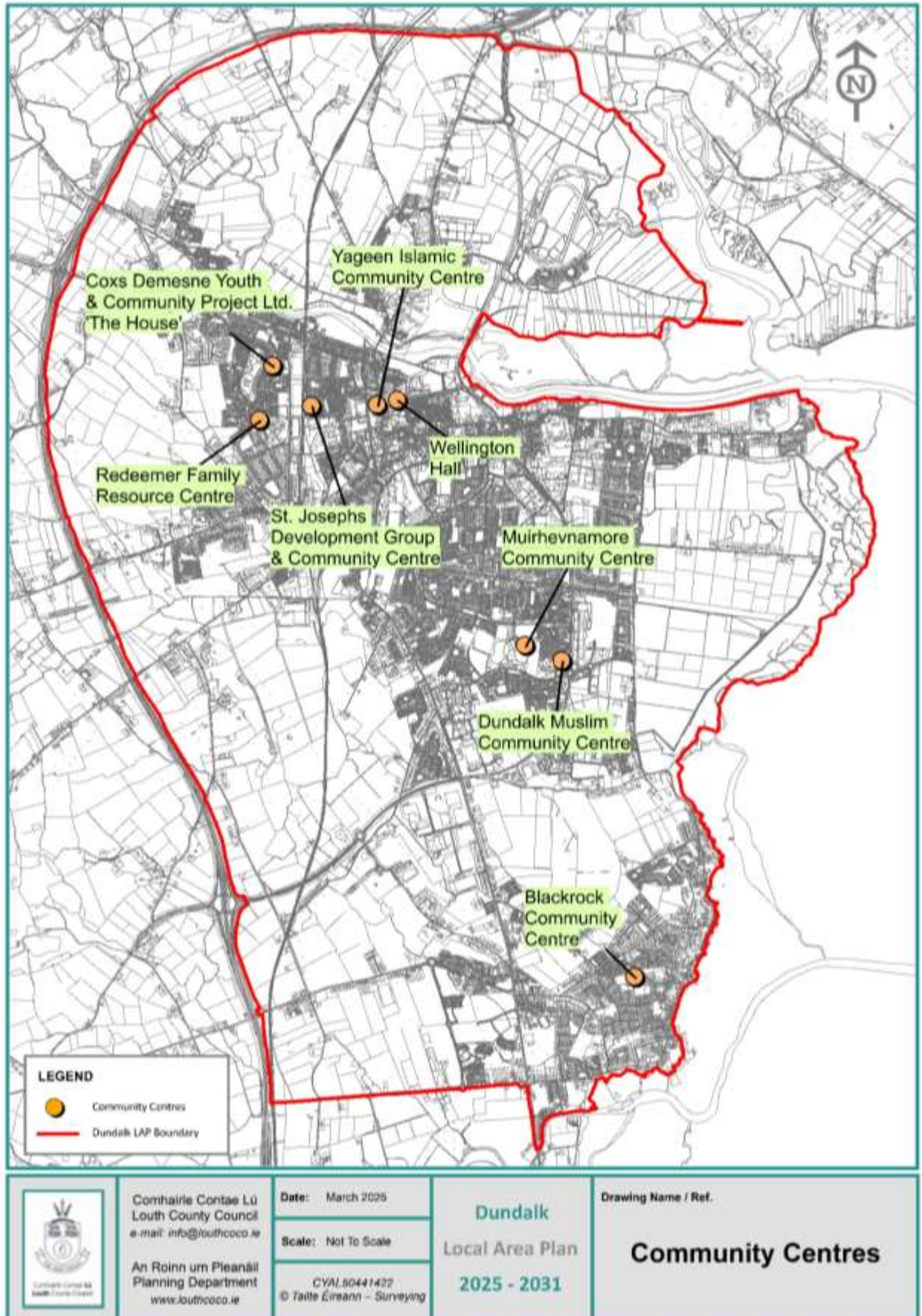
There are also a range of emergency services operating within the town serving Dundalk itself and also the wider hinterland.

Table 13: Social and Community Facilities

Type	Service	Location
Library	Library	Roden Place Townparks
Courthouse	Dundalk Courthouse	Magnet Rd, Townparks
Emergency Services	Garda Station	The Crescent, Demesne
	Fire Station	Rampart Ln, Marshes Lower
	Dundalk Ambulance Station (National Ambulance Service)	Hospital, Marshes Upper, Dundalk, Co. Louth
	Irish Red Cross	26 Jocelyn St, Townparks
	Dundalk Sub Aqua Search and Rescue	Quay Street, Dundalk
	Order of Malta	1 Sutton Ct, Seatown Pl, Marshes Lower
Community Centres	Muirhevnamor Community Centre	District Park, Muirhevnamor
	St Joseph's Development Group and Community Centre	The Demesne
	Blackrock Community Centre	Sandy Lane, Blackrock
	Redeemer Family Resource Centre	Ard Easmuinn, Dundalk
	Wellington Hall Dundalk	St Mary's Rd, Townparks, Dundalk
	Dundalk Muslim Community Centre	59 Glenmore Park, Marshes Upper
	Yageen Islamic Community Centre	Unit 52 Carroll House, Carroll's Village
	Coxs Demesne Youth & Community Project Ltd. "The House"	16 Oakland Park, Demesne
	Dundalk Islamic Culture Centre	Eimear Court, 11/12 Magnet Road
Family Services	Dundalk Simon Community	Seatown House, Jocelyn Place
	Tulsa Child & family Agency	Priorland Dundalk
	Rock Family Support	Seatown Place, Dundalk
	Family Mediation Service	2nd Floor, Condil House
	Irish Family Planning Association Louth	45 Barrack Street

Type	Service	Location
	Extern Janus Programme	Redeemer Family Resource Centre, Ard Easmuinn
	The Genesis Programme	Partnership Court, Park Street
	The Birches Alzheimer Day Care Centre	The Birches Day Care Centre, Priorland Road
Youth Services	Dundalk Youth Centre	Roden Place Townparks
	Coxs Demesne Youth and Community Project	16 Oakland Park
	Croabh Rua CYP Youth Work Ireland	36 Doolargy Avenue, Muirhevnamor
Women's Sheds	Dundalk Women's Shed	St. Mary's Road, Townparks
Men's Sheds	Dundalk Men's Shed	Seatown, Townparks
Addiction Services	North East Drug Task Force	Clanbrassil Street
	Narcotics Anonymous	Muirhevnamor Community Centre Redeemer Family Resource Centre, Cox's Demesne
	Alcoholics Anonymous	St. Patrick's Church, Rampart Lane
	Turas Counselling Services	Clanbrassil Street
	Family Addiction Support Network (FASN)	Armagh Road, Dundalk
Disability Services	Louth Disability Services	Carrickmacross Road
	Dundalk Resource Centre – Rehab Group	Rehab Care – Coes Road, Marshes Lower
	NCBI - working with people with sight loss	14 Jocelyn Street, Town Parks
Health and Wellbeing	Dundalk Counselling Centre	3 Seatown Place
	Turas Counselling Services	59 Clanbrassil Street
	Counselling Connections	27 Seatown Place
	Chime Resource Centre (The national charity for deafness and hearing loss)	14 Jocelyn Street, Townparks
	Connected Health Ireland	Block 5, Quayside Business Park, 1 st Floor
	Sosad	42 Jocelyn Street
	Women's Aid	Saint Monicas, Avenue Road
Other	Dundalk Simon Community	Seatown House, Jocelyn Street
	Louth LEADER Partnership	Partnership Court, Park Street

Map 3: Community Centres Dundalk



6. Open Space and Sports / Recreation

6.1 Existing

Sports and recreation infrastructure includes open spaces such as greenways, parks/ walkways, play areas, amenity open spaces and civic spaces. There are also a range of indoor sports facilities including leisure centres, gyms, training amenities and a swimming pool, which are set out in Chapter 5, Table 5.6 as well a range of outdoor sports facilities including sports grounds and playing fields associated with sports clubs and Dundalk Stadium, refer to Chapter 5, Table 5.7.

7. Arts & Culture

7.1 Existing

Dundalk offers an extensive range of arts activity including theatre, music, film, visual arts, literature, and festivals. There is an agglomeration of arts and cultural facilities in the vicinity of the town centre reflective of the town's importance in the promotion of culture. Additionally, various events festivals take place throughout the town including; Frostival, Christmas Markets, and Pride.

Table 14: Arts and Cultural Facilities

Name	Address	Service
An Tain Arts Centre	Crowe Street Dundalk	Literary Arts, Literature, Music, Photography, Theatre, Visual Arts
County Museum Dundalk	8 Jocelyn Street, Townparks	Museum
Oriel Centre Dundalk Gaol	Carrick Road, Dundalk	Event venues
Bridge Street Art Studios	97, Bridge Street Dundalk	Art Gallery
M.A.D Youth theatre	Earl Street Townparks	Theatre
G.S.D School of Drama	Wellington Hall, Dundalk	Educational

8. Faith

8.1 Existing Facilities

A total of twenty three places of worship were identified in Dundalk. There is a concentration of older churches and associated buildings in the town centre area.

This Plan recognises the importance of places of worship in providing religious services and also functioning as a focal point and meeting place for the population.

The Council also acknowledges the valuable contribution that places of worship and multi-faith centres have in a community context and in meeting the diverse religious and cultural needs of Dundalk's citizens.

Planning permission has been granted for a crematorium at Dowdallshill.

This Plan will support the expansion of existing or new places of worship and burial grounds in appropriate locations in Dundalk.

Table 15: Places of Worship

Name	Address
St Joseph's Redemptorists	St Alphonsus Road
Island Church Dundalk	The Long Walk Shopping Centre
Dundalk Presbyterian Church	Jocelyn Street
Dundalk Community Church	Marshes Lower, Townparks, Dundalk
Emmanuel Community Church	17 Seatown Place
St Nicholas Church of Ireland	Church Street
Holy Family Church Dundalk	Hoey's Lane, Muirhevnamor
St Patricks Cathedral Dundalk	Roden Place
Dundalk Baptist Church	Ardee Terrace
St Nicholas Roman Catholic Church	Bridge Street
Saint Malachy's Dominican Church	19 Anne Street
St Marys Chapel Marist Fathers	St Marys Road
RCCG Miracle Land	Castletown Road
Family of God Community	Carroll Village, The Long Walk
Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness	Oliver Plunkett Park
Holy Redeemer Parish	82-86 Ard Easmuinn
Biserica Pentecostala Filadelfia 2	Inner Relief Road
Dundalk Islamic Culture Centre	11/12 Eimear Court, Magnet Road
Dundalk Muslim Community Centre	59 Glenmore Park
DKIT Prayer Room Islamic Society	DKIT
Church of St Oliver Plunkett	Sea Road, Blackrock
Encounter Fellowship Church	Community Centre, Sandy Lane, Blackrock
St Fursey's Catholic Church	Chapel Road, Haggardstown

Table 16: Funeral Homes

Name	Address
Dixons Funeral Directors	Maxwell Row
Quinns Funeral Home	63 Bridge Street
Shevlin's Funeral Directors	Shalom, Barrick Street
McGeough's Funerals	22 Jocelyn Street

9. Conclusion

The Social Infrastructure Audit assists in determining the future social and cultural infrastructural requirements to ensure that Dundalk and its residents flourish in terms of: Education and training, Childcare, Healthcare services, Social/ community facilities, Sports/recreation/ open space, Arts and culture and Faith. Social and community facilities provide for the health, welfare, social, educational, spiritual, recreational, leisure and cultural needs of the community, and play an important role in the development of vibrant neighbourhoods by creating a sense of place and providing opportunities for people to meet and interact socially. They are essential in the promotion and development of healthy and sustainable communities and to assist in ensuring a high quality of life for existing and new residents.