



Comhairle Contae **Lú**
Louth County Council

**Tuairisc Bhainistíochta Mhíosúil an
Príomhfheidhmeannach maidir le feidhmeanna a
rinneadh le linn an mhí roimhe sin / Chief Executive's
Monthly Management Report in relation to functions
performed in the preceding month**

**Dátaithe 7^ú Bealtaine 2025
Dated 7th May 2025**

Ullmhaithe faoi Alt 136 (2) den Acht Rialtais Áitiúil, 2001, agus Alt 51, an tAcht Rialtais Áitiúil (Athchóiriú), 2014 agus i gcomhlionadh le Alt 138 den Acht Rialtais Áitiúil, 2001. /Prepared under Section 136 (2) of the Local Government Act, 2001, as inserted by Section 51 of the Local Government (Reform) Act, 2014 & in compliance with Section 138 of the Local Government Act, 2001

Tuairisc Bhainistíochta Mhíosúil an Príomhfheidhmeannach – 30^ú Aibreán 2025
Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report – 30th April 2025

A Chara,

I enclose the above report for your statutory consideration, which will be placed on the May Monthly Agenda of Louth County Council for your consideration. This report has also been prepared under Section 136 & 138 of the Local Government Act, 2001, advising you of the performance of executive functions in the last month and planned works, below are some key highlights from the April monthly activities.

1. Financial Reports

- Housing expenditure: €21,475,147 (29% of budget).
- Road Transportation & Safety expenditure: €8,898,333 (31% of budget).
- Total income to 30th April 2025: €64,199,695 (35% invoiced).

2. Strategic Economic Development

- Local Enterprise Office (LEO): 59 business advice appointments, 24 businesses assigned mentors, and training courses held (e.g., Start Your Own Business).
- Tourism: Public consultation for County Louth Tourism Strategy, Cross-Border Tourism Conference, and Tain Trail project updates.
- Economic Development: Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme open, Drogheda Night-Time Economy survey launched, and Grassroots Music Venue Support Scheme promoted.

3. Organisational Development

- Customer Services: 14,721 queries handled in April (calls, emails, counter queries).
- Community Initiatives: Dog Fouling Campaign, National Spring Clean, and Green School Assessments.
- Ukraine Humanitarian Response: 84 properties offered, 41 occupied, and 140 beneficiaries assigned.
- Sport: Easter camps, cross-border events, and initiatives for teenage girls (e.g., Archery and cheerleading programs).

4. Housing

- 283 individuals presented as homeless (March 18–April 17, 2025).
- 68 housing allocations made, 47 relet/void properties available.
- Affordable housing sales ongoing in Ballymakenny Park, Drogheda.
- Energy Efficiency Retrofit Program: 138 units allocated for 2025.

5. Cultural Services

- Libraries: Spring into Storytime, Little Library at Bedtime initiative, and memory cafés for dementia support.
- Arts: Culture Night call-out, exhibitions at Highlanes Gallery and An Táin Arts Centre, and Creative Spark's new strategy launch.
- Museum: Hosted tourism networking events, lectures, and art exhibitions.

6. Waste Management & Climate Action

- 17 waste complaints investigated in April; diesel laundering cleanup cost €27,500 YTD.
- Climate Action: Participation in EU Climate Adaptation Mission training and biodiversity initiatives.
- Solar PV project tender issued for 22 council-owned sites.

7. Physical Development

- Road repairs, drainage remediation, and illegal dumping addressed across municipal districts.
- Urban regeneration projects in Dundalk and Drogheda progressing (e.g., St. Nicholas Quarter and The Long Walk).

8. Veterinary Services

- 17 dogs processed through the pound; 453 dog licenses sold in April.
- 1 horse seized under Control of Horses Act.

9. Social Development

- Homelessness: 191 adults in emergency accommodation; 49 families with dependent children.
- Private Rental Inspections: 159 properties inspected in April.
- Capital Housing Delivery: 20 new units acquired in Quarry Court, Ardee; 6 units in Ballymakenny Park, Drogheda.

10. Sustainability

- Dundalk Fire Station upgrades and solar PV installations planned.
- Biodiversity initiatives include reduced mowing and community engagement.

These highlights provide an overview of the key activities and achievements in Louth County Council for April 2025.

I would like to especially thank all the executive and staff of LCC for their work and commitment, which is outlined above and in more detail in the attached report.

Is mise le meas.



David Conway
Chief Executive

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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, **Technolaíocht Faisnéise agus Chumarsáide**

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, **Information & Communication Technology**

Bernie Woods
Stiúrthóir / Director



Tuairiscí Airgeadais / Financial Reports

Caiteachas go dtí 30^ú Aibreán 2025 / Expenditure to 30th April 2025

| Rannóg / Section | Actual Expenditure to 30/04/2025 / Caiteachas Iarbhír go dtí 30/04/2025 | Caiteachas Buiséadaithe 2025 / Budget Expenditure 2025 | % Caite go 30/04/2025 / % Spent to 30/04/2025 |
|--|---|--|---|
| Tithíocht / Housing | €21,475,147 | €73,683,142 | 29% |
| Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht / Road Transportation & Safety | €8,898,333 | €28,591,697 | 31% |
| Seirbhísí Uisce / Water Services | €2,029,097 | €7,538,273 | 27% |
| Bainistíocht Forbartha / Development Management | €5,829,187 | €25,940,360 | 22% |
| Seirbhísí Timpeallachta / Environmental Services | €6,700,247 | €24,948,899 | 27% |
| Áineas agus Conláiste / Recreation and Amenity | €3,160,076 | €12,548,436 | 25% |
| Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas / Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare | €305,194 | €1,431,271 | 21% |
| Ilghnéitheach / Miscellaneous | €3,682,741 | €9,312,306 | 40% |
| | €52,080,022 | €183,994,384 | 28% |

Ioncam go 30^ú Aibreán 2025 / Income to 30th of April 2025

| Rannóg / Section | Ioncam Iarbhír go dtí 30/04/2025 / Actual Income to 30/04/2025 | Ioncam Buiséadaithe 2025 / Budget Income 2025 | % Sonraisc Curtha do dtí 30/04/2025 / % Invoiced to 30/04/2025 |
|--|--|---|--|
| Tithíocht / Housing | €14,826,097 | €73,685,224 | 16% |
| Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht / Road Transportation & Safety | €2,328,716 | €16,613,589 | 14% |
| Seirbhísí Uisce / Water Services | €1,530,909 | €6,557,586 | 23% |
| Bainistíocht Forbartha / Development Management | €3,158,106 | €15,522,127 | 20% |
| Seirbhísí Timpeallachta / Environmental Services | €796,512 | €4,474,236 | 18% |
| Áineas agus Conláiste / Recreation and Amenity | €780,142 | €1,947,561 | 40% |
| Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas / Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare | €81,021 | €469,209 | 17% |
| Ilghnéitheach / Miscellaneous | €646,833 | €17,760,538 | 4% |
| Rátaí / Rates | €36,262,626 | €35,598,115 | 102% |
| Deontas Ilfheidhmeach / General Purpose Grant (LPT) | €3,788,733 | €11,366,198 | 33% |
| | €64,199,695 | €183,994,383 | 35% |

The above is the current position as of the 30th of April 2025. 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 2025 is included in the above figure.

Collection rates as of 30th of April 2025 are as follows:

Féichiúnaithe mar atá 30^ú Aibreán 2025 / Debtors as of 30th of April 2025

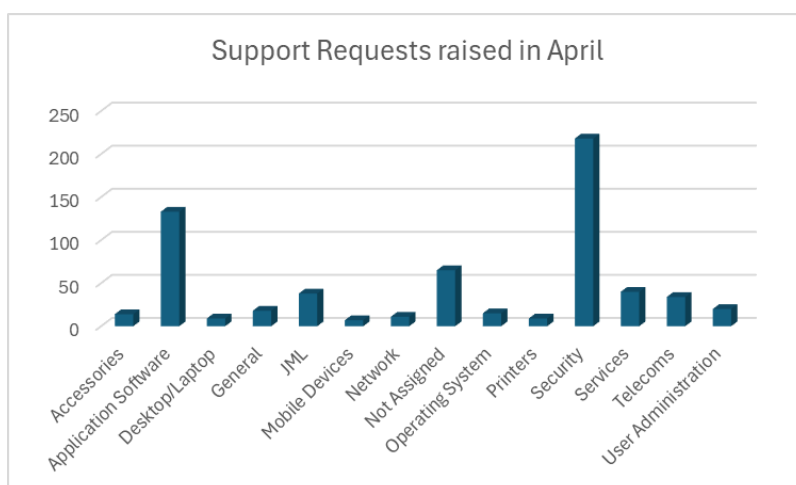
| | Iarmhéid Tosaigh / Opening Balance | Sonraisc / Invoices | Fáltais / Receipts | Díscríobhanna / Write Offs | Iarmhéid Deiridh / Closing Balance |
|--|------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Féichiúnaithe Rialtais / Government Debtors | €26,232,975 | €40,745,742 | (€43,180,122) | (€0) | 23,798,595 |
| Uadaráis Áitiúla Eile / Other Local Authorities | €106,006 | €411,207 | (€367,957) | (€0) | €149,256 |
| Rataí / Rates | €5,466,111 | €36,262,626 | (€17,629,954) | (€879,717) | €23,219,066 |
| Cíosanna / Rent | €3,098,524 | €5,787,659 | (€5,582,684) | €1,156 | €3,304,655 |
| Iasachtal / Loans | €300,764 | €746,048 | (€740,646) | (€0) | €306,166 |
| Tobhaigh Forbartha / Development Levies | €10,912,245 | €1,421,505 | (€3,501,398) | (€447,898) | €8,384,454 |
| Táilí Seirbhíse Dóiteáin / Fire Charges | €851,125 | €268,087 | (€212,753) | (€10,129) | €896,330 |
| Ilghnéitheach / Miscellaneous | €2,746,807 | €4,761,123 | (€2,475,177) | (€4,595) | €5,028,158 |
| Féichiúnaithe Iomlána / Total Debtors | €49,714,557 | €90,403,997 | (€73,690,691) | (€1,341,183) | €65,086,680 |

Above are the debtor balances as of 30th of April 2025. 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.

Technolaíocht Faisnéise agus Cumarsáide / Information & Communication Technology

Deasc Chabhrach / Helpdesk










Between 01/04/2025 and the 30/04/2025 there were 631 support calls logged in the IT support system. 82% of these calls have been completed.



Security and Application Software were the highest category of support requests in April.

Córas Idirscartha Ríomhphoist / 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. From 01/04/2025 – 30/04/2025 35% of inbound e-mails were identified as potentially harmful.

| | |
|---|--|
|  Inbound Emails 173,942 |  Blocked Sender 6,891 |
|  Processed on Gateway 173,942 |  Processed on Protect 0 |
|  Blocked at gateway 21,518 |  Blocked by spam /virus 31,747 |
|  Blocked by content rules 273 |  Potentially harmful emails 34.74% |
|  Emails Deleted by Protect 0 | |

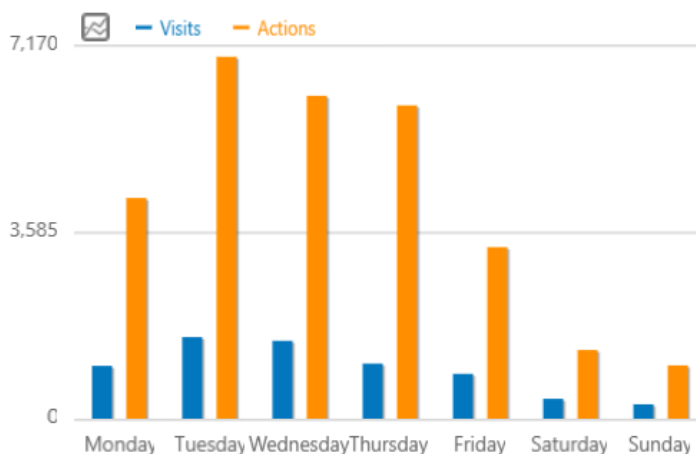
Suíomh Gréasáin Comhairle Chontae Lú / Louth County Council Website

There were 17,875 unique page views of www.louthcoco.ie between 1st and 30th April 2025. The below table shows the pages which received the highest number of page views in April.

| Page URL | Pageviews |
|---|-----------|
| /en/ | 4,477 |
| /en/services/planning/online-planning-and-maps/ | 936 |
| /en/services/ | 728 |
| /en/services/planning/ | 644 |
| /en/home/ | 664 |
| /en/services/library/ | 630 |
| /en/services/dog-pound/ | 511 |
| /en/contact/louth-county-council/ | 398 |
| /en/services/planning/online-planning-and-maps/e-planni | 349 |

The below chart shows the visits and actions on the Louth County Council website in April per day of the week:

Visits by day of the week

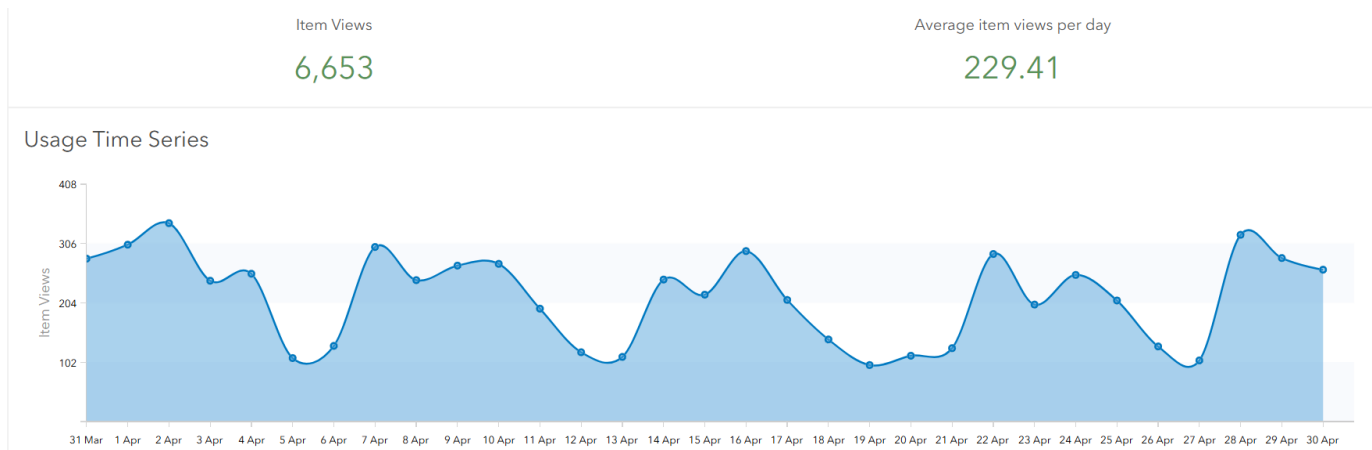


Fadhb Cuardaithe Gréasáin / Website Search Issue

The IT department continue to work on a resolution for the issue where invalid links are being listed when a search is undertaken on the LCC website. A number of links have been repaired to date, but work is still ongoing to identify and fix all invalid links. We have commenced a review of our website with a view to a major upgrade of the site in 2025.

ArcGIS Online – Public Planning Register Map Viewer

The council 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 6,653 views between 01/04/2025 and 30/04/2025, an average of 229 views a day.



Tá trí eochairfhreagracht ag an Stiúrthóireacht 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

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.

**Thomas McEvoy
Stiúrthóir / Director of Service**



Forbairt Eacnamaíoch Straitéiseach / Strategic Economic Development

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

Details at www.localenterprise.ie/green and www.localenterprise.ie/louth.

Forbairt Gheilleagrach / Economic Development

Economic Development & Enterprise Support Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)

The next meeting of the Economic Development & Enterprise Support SPC will take place on Thursday 8th May.

Economic input to Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2024 - 2029

The lead partners assigned to the actions in the LECP have been contacted to obtain their plan to complete their respective actions.

Age-Friendly Business

An Age-Friendly Business workshop took place on 16th April. The workshop was delivered by staff from the Economic Development office.

Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme 2025

The Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme opened to applications from Monday 7th April, with a scheme closing date of Friday 26th September 2025.

The scheme is open to non-domestic commercial properties in County Louth. Eight applications have been received year-to-date.

Turasóireacht / Tourism

Visit Louth



The [Visit Louth](http://www.visitlouth.ie) website enhances the visitor experience to the County.

If anyone wishes to submit an event or attraction to be listed on the Visit Louth website, they can do so

via this [link](#). In particular, the [what's on](#) section aims to inform and attract tourists to the county.

County Louth Tourism Strategy

A public consultation workshop took place in Dundalk on 30th April.

Cross-Border Tourism Conference

The Annual Cross-Border Tourism Conference, hosted by Dundalk Chamber of Commerce, took place on 2nd April in Carlingford. Louth County Council were a key sponsor of the conference and had a stand at the event promoting Visit Louth and sea Louth. The Tourism Officer was among the speakers on the day.



Cross Border Tourism Conference

Festivals Supported 2025

All information on festivals and events happening across the county are available at: <https://www.visitlouth.ie/whats-on/>.

Táin Trail

A final draft of the Táin Trail report has been agreed. Louth County Council is the lead council partner on this project and has created a steering group for the Táin Trail Reimagined – this will consist of one council representative and one community advocate / expert per county. An SLA between each of the local authorities is to be agreed and put in place which will then proceed to a recruitment process for the Táin Trail Officer.

The Centre of Food Culture, Boyne Valley

Events

The Centre of Food Culture, Boyne Valley launched the 2025 events programme with the first of a series of 'Cultivating Connections Farm Walks'. The first event of 2025 was held at Shalvanstown Farm, focusing on biodynamic farming. The 2025 programme includes events focused on foraging, 'Meeting the Maker' and 'Cultivating Connections' farm walk events.

Transition Year (TY) Young Cooks Competition

The final of the Transition Year Young Cooks Competition took place on 1st April in Cavan Institute. The Centre of Food Culture, Boyne Valley supported the expansion of the competition to a more national scale this year, involving schools from Tipperary and Limerick for the first time. Schools from six counties; Louth, Meath, Cavan, Monaghan, Tipperary, and Limerick competed in the final. The team from Sacred Heart Drogheda representing County Louth came in third place on the day. The Development Manager for The Centre of Food Culture was one of three judges involved on the day.



Finalists and Judges at the TY Young Cooks Final

Geilleagar Oíche Dhroichead Átha / Drogheda Night-Time Economy

Drogheda by Night 2025 – Survey Now Live



Launched by the Night-time Economy (NTE) Adviser for Drogheda on 18th April, the Drogheda by Night 2025 survey is already drawing fantastic engagement from people who live, work, or spend time in the town after dark. With over 1,000 responses by the end of April, it is clear the community cares about the future of its evenings and nights.

Take part and help shape what happens next: www.droghedabynight.commonplace.is.

New Fund for Grassroots Music Venues

The Grassroots Music Venue Support Scheme was launched on 4th April by Minister Patrick O'Donovan, with Drogheda's Night-time Economy Adviser attending alongside other NTE Advisers. The €500,000 national fund supports small live and dance venues that champion emerging artists and original music.

Drogheda has a proud musical tradition, and this scheme offers real backing for the venues that continue to nurture the next generation of talent. Grants of up to €15,000 are available for programming, crew, production, promotion and more. The Night-time Economy Adviser is promoting the scheme locally and is available to advise venues on how to apply.

Applications are first-come, first-served and close on 15th May—or sooner if funds run out. Details and application: www.gov.ie/en/service/grassroots-music-venue-support-scheme.



Grassroots Music Venues Launch

Drogheda Punk Zine Seeks Contributions

The Night-time Economy Adviser is supporting a new publication that celebrates Drogheda's punk and DIY legacy while helping to build momentum for the town's thriving alternative scene. With events like Drogheda Zine Fair, Spiral Night Market, grassroots gigs and nurturing from Droichead Arts Centre, Drogheda is embracing its reputation for doing things differently—and attracting national attention and visitors as a result.

Now, Drogheda Zine Fair, in partnership with Upstate Theatre and artist Séamus Nolan, is putting together a second edition of Subvert All Power: Drogheda's Punk Rock History. The call is out for

contributions - scene reports, interviews, images, artwork, music, and writing - from anyone connected to the town's punk and DIY culture, past or present. All ages and formats welcome, to get involved, email Rita at droghedazinefair@gmail.com.

Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil / Local Enterprise Office

Business Advice Clinics

Fifty-nine business advice appointments were provided by telephone and video conference to entrepreneurs throughout the county during April together with seven Financial Business Advice Clinics.

Green for Business



LEO Louth continues to welcome new applications.

Business Training



The Schedule for training for 2025 is available to view and book online: <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/>.

Two training courses were held in April, Start Your Own Business and Market Research Using AI.

LEO Louth Mentor Programme



Twenty-four businesses were appointed Mentors during the month of April to provide practical and strategic one-to-one advice and guidance.

LEAN for Business Programme



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

Digital For Business

Digital for Business provides support to obtain digital strategy, technical and / or advisory services for eligible businesses.

LEO Louth has received twelve applications year-to-date and continues to welcome new applications.

Start Your Own business – Ukrainian course – April 2025

LEO Louth in collaboration with Louth Local Development held a Start Your Own Business course in April with a group of Ukrainian clients with the help of a translator and our trainer Michael Quigley. Feedback was extremely positive with clients praising the content and delivery.



Start Your Own Business Course, April 2025

Start Your Own Hair or Beauty Business

The LEO Louth Business Adviser spoke about LEO supports at a Start Your Own Barbering, Hairdressing or Beautician Business event in Dundalk Library, on Tuesday 8th April, organised by the Department of Social Protection.

Boyne Innovate Programme

Participants of the third Boyne Innovate Programme are pictured receiving their certificates following their business pitch presentations to a panel of judges at The Mill Enterprise Centre on Tuesday 8th April. The pre-start-up training and support programme, which welcomed twelve aspiring entrepreneurs for this term, is designed to equip participants with the essential skills, knowledge, and guidance needed to transform innovative ideas into viable business ventures.

Oidhreacht / Heritage

Funding Schemes

Four Louth projects were awarded funding under the Community Monuments Fund in April.

An application to the Irish Walled Towns Network's funding schemes for a study of Featherbed Lane in Drogheda was also successful.

Seirbhísí Dóiteáin agus Éigeandála / Fire & Emergency Services

Fire Service

The first delivery of 140 sets of new fire gear was received during April and is being allocated to fire service personnel. There will be a further order placed during 2025.

Further meetings with the Design Team for the upgrade of Dundalk Regional Training Centre took place during April. The Stage 1 Report was amended to take account of suggestions received from the DHLGH. This is a major upgrade of the Regional Training Centre, which includes a large two-storey extension of the training building with a second training room, canteen and breathing apparatus briefing room. The breathing apparatus training building will be upgraded and repaired, and there will be a conversion to gas-fired combustion.

Fire Service Training courses during April were as follows:

- ESDS emergency driving course
- Abrasive Wheels course

The Recruitment Plan for new retained fire fighters continued in its implementation during April with recruit fire fighters appointed in Carlingford and Drogheda.

The Fire Service provided a colour party at a Civic Reception in County Hall, Dundalk on 10th April.

Major Emergency Management

The North-East Regional Major Emergency Working Group meeting took place in Virginia Fire Station on 16th April. It was chaired by An Garda Síochána.

Building Control

The Building Control Officer presented a case study on the 3D Printed Building development in Dundalk at the National Building Control Office Modern Methods of Construction CPD event on 2nd April in Athlone.

Cosaint Shibhialta / Civil Defence

Civil Defence

Louth Civil Defence commenced demonstration and information sessions on their drones for the Fire Service. The first session was held in Carlingford fire station on 7th April.

Training during April was as follows:

- Weekly Training
- First Aid Responder Training
- Auxiliary Fire Service (AFS) Training, Navan
- Food Safety and You Training
- People Handling Instructor Recertification
- Emergency First Responder Exams, Roscrea

Civil Defence volunteers provided medical cover at the Civic Reception in County Hall, Dundalk, on 10th April.

Pleanáil / Planning

Bainistíocht Forbartha / Development Management

The Planning service indicators for the Council for the month of March 2025 are given below in tabular form. There were 92 planning applications received during the month of March of which 82 were valid. In addition, there were 29 responses received during the month to requests for further information and 37 Pre-Planning Requests 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) Cur Síos / Description | (B) Forbairtí Tithíochta / Housing Developme nts | (C) Tithe Aonair / Individual Houses | (D) Iarratais Eile – ní gá MTT / Other application s-not requiring EIA | (E) Iarratais Eile - MTT de dhíth / Other applications - requiring EIA | (F) Iomlán na bhforbairtí sa chontae / Total for all categories of development in County Area |
|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| (i) Líon na n-iarratas a cinneadh / Number of applications determined | 5 | 13 | 32 | 0 | 50 |
| (ii) Líon na gcinntí inar iarradh breis eolais / No. of decisions determined which required further information | 2 | 7 | 12 | 0 | 21 |
| (iii) Céatadán na n-iarratas a diúltaíodh / Percentage of applications refused | 20.00% (1) | 15.38% (2) | 25.00% (8) | 0.00% (0) | 22.00% (11) |
| (iv) Líon na n-achomharc a cinneadh / Number of appeals determined | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 5 |
| (v) Céatadán na gcinntí a cuireadh ar ceal ar achomharc / Percentage of decisions overturned on appeal | 100% (1) | 0.00% (0) | 33.33% (1) | 0.00% (0) | 40.00% (2) |

Forfheidhmiú Pleanála – Forbairt Neamhúdaraithe / Planning Enforcement – Unauthorised Development

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

| Cur Síos / Description | Forfheidhmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh / Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development | | Forfheidhmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh / Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development | |
|---|---|----------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| | Márta 2025 / March 2025 | Bliain go dtí seo / Year to Date | Márta 2024 / March 2024 | Bliain go dtí seo / Year to Date |
| Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh / Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated | 37 | 76 | 19 | 71 |
| Líon na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise / Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which did not require follow up | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Líon na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht / Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation | 18 | 62 | 21 | 47 |
| Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh / Number of Warning letters issued | 20 | 44 | 18 | 58 |
| Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh / Number of Enforcement Notices issued | 1 | 4 | 0 | 2 |
| Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí / Number of cases referred for legal proceedings | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Líon na n-urghairí / Number of Injunctions | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Líon na n-ionchúiseamh / Number of Prosecutions | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Comhfhorbairt Áite agus Forbairt Fisiceach Placemaking 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 fhreagrachtaí tá:

- Seirbhísí Bóithre agus Áitiúla, agus Forbairt Fhisiúil

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

David Jones
Stiúrthóir / Director



Placemaking Progress Report for April 2025

Seirbhísí Bóithre agus Áitiúla / Roads and Local Services

Ceantar Dhún Dealgan agus Cuailgne /Dundalk & Cooley Areas

Piocadh Bruscair / Litter Picking:

River Walk to Tain Bridge
Inner Relief Rd to Racecourse Rd
Old Newry Rd, Lennon Melia, Riverside Crescent, Fairgreen Rd
By Pass at St Helena's, Quay St, Point Rd,
Old Coes Rd.
Barrack St.
Centenery Rd
Ramparts
York St.
Patrick St.
John St.
Phillip St.
Castletown Rd
Castleross
Seatown Place
St. Brigids Terrace
Castle Rd
Fairgreen Rd
Avenue Rd
Tom Bellew Rd
Mary St. South
Williamsons Place
Mooreland Rd
Collecting Green Bags After National Spring Clean Rubbish Collection:
Finnabair Industrial Estate,
Carroll Village,
St. Helenas Park.

Litter Pick Bag Collection:

The Marist
Car Park Linenhall Street
Car Park Carroll Village

Cooley

Carlingford/Omeath, Gyles Quay &
Templetown.

Maintenance of Public Bins:

Dundalk

New Liners installed in bins on Clanbrassil St.

Bin situated at Bus Stop beside DKIT moved due to Rat infestation

Folmhú Araidí Poiblí / Emptying of Public Bins

Dundalk

Carried out by contractor Declan McArdle

Cooley

Emptying of bins in Carlingford, Omeath, Greenore, Templetown car park, Gyles quay area. 80 Bins weekly

Scuabadh Bóithre / Road Sweeping

Dundalk

All Locations on Declan McArdles route &

Newry Rd cycle Lane & Fairgreen Row

Centre Islands & Bollards - Inner Relief Rd / St. Helenas Park to Xerox Crossroads

Cooley

Special cleaning of Templetown car park, due to accumulation of sea sand.

Seiceál Baoithe Tarrhála / Ring Buoy Checking

Dundalk

Locations: Toberona x 4

Maxwells Row x 2

Newry Rd Bridge x 2

Fairgreen Row x 1

St. Helenas Park x 4

Tain Bridge x 2

Navy Bank x 5

Riverside Walk x 2

Ice House Hill x 3

Ramparts River/Road x 2

Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne / Checking of Playground and

Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil / Number of sites checked daily

Dundalk

6 and 8 on Fridays as Parks Caretaker checks the play areas in Kilcurry, Blackrock and Stephenstown

Lordship, Cooley, Carlingford, Omeath

Checked by Outdoor Staff.

| Suíomh / Location | |
|---|--|
| Deisiú Bóithre / Road Repairs | <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <p>Dangerous broken grating on The Avenue Road / repaired Sunken manholes cover on footpath Fairgreen Rd / Repaired</p> <p>Potholes filled with Tar Patcher:</p> <p>Fairgreen Row Newry Rd Ardee Rd St. Patrick's Cemetery</p> <p><u>Cooley</u></p> <p>ONGOING PATCHING OF LOCAL ROADS ALSO ISOLATED POTHOLE WITHIN THE AREA.R173.</p> <p>Ongoing program for surface dressing as per the roads works program.</p> |
| Feabhasúchán Draenála / Drainage Remediation | <p>Drainage on local roads, Earl's Quarter L.P 305744.</p> |
| Comharthaíocht / Signage & Bollards | <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <p>LCC County Hall Ard Easmuinn Ramparts Rd Newry Rd Chapel St. Mill St. Ardee Rd Seatown R172 Roden Place Mooreland Rd Park St. Mary St. Church St. Broughton St. Bachelors Walk Centenary Rd</p> <p><u>Cooley</u></p> <p>ONGOING MAINTENANCE OF ADVANCE WARNINGS SIGNS AT ALL JUNCTIONS, ALSO REPLACING LINNERS AT JUNCTIONS</p> |
| Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach / Illegal Dumping | <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <p>Williamsons Place Saltstown Racecourse Rd</p> |

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Tráchtá / Soilse | Xerox junction, Haynestown, Kilkcurry, Faughart | Major repair works completed |
| Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre | Blackrock N/A | Renewal of junction markings Renewal of existing and provision of additional road markings |
| Signage / Comharthaíocht | LP-3136 Newtown Knockbridge, R178 Carrick Road, LS-7127 Kilkerry | Cleansing/repair/replacement New signage |
| Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach | LS-7109 Balriggeran Kilkcurry, LS-7112 Castle Roche Hackballscross, L-7100 Whitemill Faughart, LS-7103 Carn More Kilkcurry, LS-7162 Clermont Road Haggardstown, Seabank | Collection of dumped waste for disposal. Collection & disposal after community clean up |

Ceantar Baile Dhroichead Átha / Drogheda Town Area

| Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair | Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steps and lane ways weekly 22 steps when resources allow and green areas. • Hotspots on Monday – decided by Supervisor following inspection. • Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Daily during working week. Also all Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Saturday p.m. • Drogheda Rural Bring banks are cleared daily during working week. • Remove dumping at Dummies Lane, outside Moneymore FC, John St, Boyne Tower and Buttergate. • Clean up of alleyways at Moneymore Housing Estate, in conjunction with operations team, housing team and residents. • Litter picking at St Dominics Pk, Dominics Bridge, Lourdes Sq, Market Sq, Fr Connolly Way, Abbey carpark and Patrickswell Lane. |

- Spring Clean – collection of bags at Baltray Rd, Hawthorn Close, Boyne Hall, Newfoundwell Rd, Aston Village and Dale

**Emptying of Public Bins /
Folmhú Araidí Poiblí**

Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht

- 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.
- South Louth Drogheda Municipal district rural area's public Litter Bins are emptied twice a week or daily when needed especially at beaches/Port Oriel/Seapoint/Termonfeckin/ Baltray – at least 40 bins per day.
- Approach roads in Drogheda town emptied twice a week.

**Road Sweeping / Scuabadh
Bóithre**

Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain

- Town Centre daily. Approach roads fortnightly.
- Public Housing Estates swept every 2 months. Private Housing estates swept every 3 months. When resources allow.
- Hotspots weekly on Monday after weekend – decided daily by supervisor after checking Drogheda urban area.
- Villages are swept once per month – i.e., Teromenfeckin, Baltray, Sandpit, Monasterboice, Tullyallen & Tenure.
- Drogheda town Boyne River walkways are swept 3 times per week (Monday, Wednesday & Friday).
- Particular attention to road sweeping / Graffiti Removal / Weed Control for Drogheda 10 K Route, West St, St Dominics St, Haymarket Bridge, St Dominics Pk, Rathmullen Rd & Rampart Walk.
- Road sweeping approach roads North & South of Drogheda on alternative days.
- Road sweeping town centre on daily basis.
- Road sweeper commence housing estates at Forest Grange, Forest Hill, Newfield & College Rise.

| | |
|---|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-Hog 1, Pedestrian Road sweeper at town centre, St Dominics Pk / ramparts, Mell carpark, Donore Rd, Kings St, Bolton Sq & Meatmarket Lane. Multi-Hog 2, Pedestrian Road sweeper outside town centre and Fairgreen, Trinity Gardens, O Reillys carpark, Patrick's St, Park View, John Paul Court and Windmill Rd. Pedestrian green machine on town centre streets each day. Clean up of Bessexwell Lane, Bachelors Lane on daily basis. Power washing and Disinfectant of Highlanes steps, eco drains at Abbey shopping centre & Narrow West St. Removal and replacement of all bottle bank at Mell Carpark, area cleaned and disinfected. |
| Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra | Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empty about 35 No. once a week, washed and disinfected. |
| Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála | Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 89 ring buoys checked each week Town area (Thursday) 9 ring buoys checked each week at Rosehall (Friday) |
| Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne | Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Between 4 & 5 daily (4 playgrounds in Drogheda town, Skate Park, adult exercise equipment). 3 Playgrounds in Drogheda rural area) + disinfected. |

| April 2025 | | Location / Suíomh |
|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre | Drainage Works <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gully Cleaning Contract has now commenced – 1300 Gullies cleaned to date – Approach roads, Drogheda Town Centre, phase 2 to commence on town roads and housing estates. Drainage outlet reinstated at Ramparts Walk. Road gully repairs at Bridge of Peace, Fair St & St Finians Pk. LCC's crew <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pothole repairs at Aston Villages, Glenview, Twenties Lane, Yellowbatter, Calvery, Townrath, Ellmwood, Old Slane Rd, Cement Rd, Forest Pk, Mount St Oliver & Marian Pk. | |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road resurfacing at Newfoundwell Rd, Greenhills & Matthews Lane. • Monitoring of Traffic / Pedestrian management at dangerous structures at Bolton St, William St, under Bridge of Peace & Barrow House – Narrow West St. • Removal of pedestrian management & barriers on Scholes Lane – dangerous wall on Scholes now reinstated. • Preparation for Drogheda 10 K Route – pothole repairs on route, road sweeping, graffiti removal & removal of barriers / bollards – Route West St, St Dominics St, Haymarket Bridge, St Dominicks Pk, Rathmullen Rd & Ramparts walk. • Install display panels and markers for Old Quarry Walk, North Rd, Link Rd, Collon Rd & Cement Rd. • Reinstatement of Bollards on Johns St Slip Rd. • Repairs to overhead barriers at Old Abbey Carpark <p>Road Works Program – Resurfacing works 2025</p> <p>Tenders are due End of April</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crosslanes • Rathmullen Pk • Cord Rd • College Rise • Broadmeadows • Bothar Brugha • R132 / Crosslanes / Cement Rd Junction • Collon Rd. • Trinity Gardens. <p>CIS Lanes 2025</p> <p>Letter of Intent issued to contractor with intention to commence works at Carstown in May.</p> |
| <p>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</p> | <p>Annual Drogheda Gully cleaning program ongoing</p> <p>Gully Cleaning Contract has now commenced – 1300 Gullies cleaned to date – Approach roads, Drogheda Town Centre, phase 2 to commence on town roads and housing estates.</p> |
| <p>Footpath Maintenance / Cothabháil Cosán</p> | <p>We are in the process of complying a list of footpaths for reinstatement, with the intention to commence in May.</p> <p>Meet with IWA in March to discuss works carried out in 2024 and planned works for 2025 (dropped kerb access to include tactile paving)</p> |

| | |
|---|---|
| | LCC have now put out to tender for consultant for 23 sites based on priority list of locations provided by LCC. |
| Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Trác | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR03 R132 James St - Scotch Hall Jct (R132C), Ireland – • Lights out • DR34 St mary's School Bryanstown East, Ireland – • lights stuck on flashing amber • DR05, R132 @ Donore Rd - Haymarket Jct (R132E), Ireland – • Failed to schedule – no carrier, site visit required • DR09, Donore Rd - IDA RD (132J), Ireland – • A/Amber lamp fault • DR05, R132 @ Donore Rd - Haymarket Jct (R132E), Ireland – • Lights out |
| Signage / Comharthaíocht | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New stop sign Treadagh Place housing estate. • New parks sign Stockwell Lane. • Reinstate traffic light signage on Marsh Rd. • New stop sign exit of Moneymore housing estate. • Reinstate directional signage at Windmill Rd. • Directional signal at junction of R132 / Rathmullen Rd. • Reinstatement of flexi-bollards on North Rd. • 6 no. Children at Play signs erected at Marian Park. |
| Litterbin cleaning disinfecting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-going on weekly basis. |
| Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graffiti | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of graffiti on Street furniture on Drogheda 10 Run route at Ramparts Walk and St Dominics Park. |
| Illegal Dumping / Environmental issues Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring & removal of dumping – operations / environment team – Bessexwell Lane, Bachelors Lane & West St and Bring bank site on approach roads to Drogheda. |

Borough District of Drogheda

Drogheda Town area

| Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí | Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht |
|---|---|
| Port Oriel Pier, Clogherhead | 7 Daily |
| Clogherhead Beach | 8 Daily |
| Port Beach | 6 Daily |
| Termonfeckin | 6 Daily |
| Baltray | 3 Daily |
| Seapoint Carpark | 3 Daily |

| Location / Suíomh | | Notes / Nótaí |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L-2308-0 Cockleroad • L-6315 Melifont • R166 Murrays Cross to Togher • L-6312-1 Pentonys lane Hill of Rath | Surface Dressing Prep |

Ardee Municipal District
South Louth Operations (Rural Area)

| | |
|---|---|
| Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair | |
| All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day) | |
| Clogherhead Car Park daily cleanup around bins | |
| Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí | Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht |
| Ardee Town | 37 Daily |
| Dunleer town | 20 Tuesday and Thursday |
| Collon | 3 Tuesday and Thursday |
| Erecting of bin at Riverside walk | |
| Erecting of bin at Link road | |
| Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre | |
| All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day) | |
| Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrhála | |
| Ardee town River Dee | |
| Salterstown | |
| Port Beach | |
| Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne | |
| 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 |
|---|---|---|
| Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L-5257-0 Millockstown Ardee • L-2253-47 Philipstown Ardee • R132 Cappoge Dunleer • L-2255-0 Paughanstown Ardee • R170 Hale Street Ardee • L-5258-0 Woods Lane Ardee. • L-6269-0 Knockaleva • R169 N2 to Dunleer road • L-1210-41 Dowdstown Ardee • L-1264-12 Ballapousta | Surface Dressing prep works Surface Dressing prep works Pro works repairs |
| Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L-2214-30 Dromgoolestown • L-22903-0 School Lane Collon | |
| Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop line marking at all junctions in Ardee Rural Area | |

Comhfhorbairt Áite / Placemaking

Athghiniúint Uirbeach agus Forbairt Tionscadail Cistí / Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Projects (URDF)

St. Nicholas Quarter and Backlands Regeneration (Dundalk)

Phase 1

Glas Civil Engineering Ltd. are currently on site, works are being completed on a phased basis to minimise impact on residents and businesses. Phases A, B, C and D have been largely completed. Soft landscaping has now been completed. ESB poles and overhead infrastructure have also been removed and new public lighting has been installed and commissioned. Removal of existing EIR poles and overhead lines and resurfacing of entrance to St Nicholas Gardens is currently outstanding along with the installation of the permanent line marking for Phases B & C which will be carried out w/c 28/04/2025. Progress is continuing in Phases E1 and F with watermain installation nearing completion.



Bridge Street (Phase A) – Overhead cables and ESB Poles removed



Northgate Street (Phase D) – Soft Landscaping



Bridge Street (Phase C) – Overhead cables and ESB Poles removed & Soft Landscaping Complete

Phase 2 – Backlands Area of St Nicholas Quarter

Property owner and stakeholder engagement has commenced with letters sent to affected property owners following development of a property owner booklet outlining the proposed scheme.



The Long Walk Urban Framework Plan (Dundalk)

LUC is the appointed Integrated Urban Design Team lead. As part of the initial stages of the Urban Framework plan, a public consultation event took place at The Longwalk on April 10th and the online survey was open for engagement up until April 17th. The in-person and online engagement has been positively supported by the community, and input arising from this engagement will support the understanding of current uses and issues and the future possibilities and opportunities for The Long Walk area. Further rounds of public engagement will take place in the summer of 2025.

AUCF Éileamh a Trí, Leithdháileadh Maoinithe / URDF Call Three Funding Allocation.

Engagement with property owners in Drogheda and Dundalk remains proactive, with ongoing dialogue continuing to inform and shape forthcoming actions. A number of properties have been identified for potential advancement, with several now progressing through various stages of planning, sales, and early development activity.

In Drogheda, particular focus is being placed on addressing vacancy, with recent actions including the placement of notices on a number of premises. Stakeholder engagement is ongoing, with collaboration involving local property owners, business representatives, and community groups to ensure a coordinated approach. These discussions are helping to identify priority sites, align activity with wider town centre initiatives, and build support for future development proposals.

In parallel, preliminary assessments are being undertaken to evaluate strategic acquisition opportunities, with continued work to assess long-

term suitability and alignment with the Council's future objectives.

Athghiniúint Tuaithe agus Ciste Forbartha / Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF)

Ardee 2040

The Council have concluded engagement with TII in relation to pre-planning approval for the main street in Ardee and have instructed Turley Planning the Design Team lead, to proceed to complete the planning pack for submission to An Bord Pleanála.

Tionscadail Breise / Additional Projects

Play Spaces

St Dominic's Park & The Glen

AA Screening Stage 1 report has been completed for the Glen and Part 8 documents have been prepared, the strategy for public consultation has been agreed and will proceed in Q2 2025.

Capital Delivery Team

Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2025

Funding is available under three measures – the Building or Land Acquisition Measure (B/LAM) (closed); the Main Scheme (closing date 30th May 2025) and the Project Development Measure (closing date 30th May 2025). Full details of each measure, the Scheme Outline and Expression of Interest forms are available on the Louth County Council's Consultation Portal - <https://consult.louthcoco.ie/en/browse>

CLÁR

CLÁR (Ceantair Laga Árd-Riachtanais) is a targeted investment programme for rural areas that aims to provide funding for small infrastructural projects in areas that experience disadvantage (see map of CLÁR area in Louth below). The aim of CLÁR is to support the sustainable development of identified CLÁR areas, with the aim of attracting people to live and work there.

The 2025 CLÁR Programme is now open for applications. Under the initiative, funding will be provided across three measures:

- Measure 1: Developing Community Facilities and Amenities including sports facilities, youth clubs, teenage spaces, playgrounds, sensory gardens, walking tracks and much more. (applications via local authorities)

- Measure 2: Support for community transport such as cancer care support, community first responders, meals on wheels vehicles, or for persons with reduced mobility. (applications direct to DRCD)
- Measure 3: 'Our Living Islands' tailored funding for our offshore island communities (applications direct to DRCD)

Louth County Council is seeking Expressions of Interest for projects under Measure 1.

Closing date for applications is **Monday 19th May 2025 at 12pm**. Please visit our consultation portal

<https://consult.louthcoco.ie/en/consultation/cl%C3%A1r-2025-measure-1>

for further details and a copy of the Scheme Outline and Expression of Interest form.

If you have any queries in relation to the **2025 CLÁR Programme**, please email funding@louthcoco.ie

Tionscadail Tosaíochta do Lár an Bhaile / Town Centre First Projects

Town Centre First Plan - Project Development Measure - Dunleer

The Council have prepared tender documents for the appointment of an architectural consultant to prepare a design for a public space adjacent to Dunleer Library.

Town Centre First Plan – Clogherhead

The initial draft of the Town Centre First Plan is being completed for Clogherhead. This plan will inform interventions future interventions within the Town and provide list of potential projects. The team will engage further with local stakeholders and host a public consultation event before the final publication of the plan.

THRIVE – Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme



A Part 8 Planning application for the renovation and restoration of both West Gate House and the adjacent former DYD building went live on 9 April.

The proposal also involves an extension to the complex to create a new multi-function community space with a landscaped roof podium.

Full details of the scheme are visible on the Louth County Council website at the following link <https://consult.louthcoco.ie>. The closing date for submissions is the 21st May.

In conjunction with the planning application a funding application has been made on 15th April to the THRIVE funding stream via the Southern Regional Authority.

Drogheda Digital Innovation Hub

A letter of Intent has been issued to the successful contractor, with work due to start in May.

Town Team Support Fund

Louth County Council were successful in receiving funding under the Town Centre First Suite of Supports towards Town Centre Health Checks for both Castlebellingham and Collon.

The health checks are being finalised and will be complete in the coming weeks.

Vacant Homes Officer

Preparations are underway for the placement of Vacant Homes Notices in the Carlingford area in the coming weeks, with advance communication planned for local councillors.

Community response to previous notices has been notably supportive, reinforcing ongoing efforts to raise awareness and encourage reactivation. Property owners identified through earlier distributions have been formally contacted to initiate discussions on potential pathways forward.

Looking ahead, plans are being developed to host a series of public engagement events over the summer, aimed at further informing communities and strengthening collaboration around vacancy reduction efforts.

The public and elected representatives are reminded to continue reporting suspected vacant properties via www.vacanthomes.ie, contributing to the ongoing identification process. To date, 17 additional properties have been logged for review in 2025.

Forbairt Fhisiciúil / Physical Development

Glasbhealaí Cistithe ag B.I.E / TII Funded Greenways:

Dundalk Bay to Carlingford Greenway

Details on the project can be found on the dedicated website

www.dundalkcarlingfordgreenway.ie including contact details for the Project Liaison Officer and the independent appointed agronomist.

Tionscadail Cosaint ar Thulite Chontae Lú agus Creimeadh Cósta / Louth Flood Defence and Coastal Erosion Projects

Dundalk & Ardee Flood Relief Projects

The Consultant Engineers continue to work on Stage 1 of the Dundalk Flood Relief Project. Several items are progressing, including the Optioneering, ecological surveys and Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA), Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) as well as the Site Investigation works.

Optioneering: The shortlisting of options for the fluvial and coastal has continued. Measures were first assessed against several criteria including technical performance (based on the hydraulic modelling which has significantly progressed and is expected to be finalized by Q2 2025), environmental, cultural, economic and social impacts and non-viable measures were discarded. Measures were also assessed based on their adaptation potential to climate change. Once an agreed list of options is defined, they will be presented to the public during a Public Participation Day, expected in the summer.

The original Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, has been deemed in need of a revision, to ensure that potential ecological impacts are accurately assessed for each viable measure identified as part of the optioneering process. The revised scope has been prepared and the tendering of the works is ongoing, with the aim to have the revised PEA completed by the summer 2025.

Site Investigation Works: Following the appointment of the Contractor for the completion of the SI works, an initial site visit was organised with the Client and Contractor, which led to a refinement of the scope based on the most recent options extent and the accessibility constraints. The Contractor has also progressed with the necessary Road Opening Licensing and Archaeological Licensing. Contact has also been

made with the majority of the landowners impacted by the SI works.

The Ardee Options Report has been presented to the Elected Representatives. Two potential flood relief options were identified for Ardee. For a proposed scheme to progress, it must be cost beneficial whereby the value of damages prevented, over the lifetime of the scheme, must exceed the cost of construction and maintenance of the works. Both options were found to be not economically viable, with Cost Benefit Ratios well below the required score of 1.0. As a result, the Project Steering Group have concluded that it is not feasible to progress with the scheme as detailed within the report.

The Client has completed an addendum report to follow on from the Ardee Options Report. The addendum identifies possible measures potentially available to the local authority in order to provide some flood relief to specific areas in Ardee which a business case has been prepared, and we await approval from the funding authority.

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.ie

Drogheda and Baltray Flood Relief Project

The Consultant Engineers continue to work on Stage 1 of the Flood Relief Project.

The Steering Group are continuing to collect data to ensure the most accurate and up to date information is used to inform the technical analyses being undertaken to meet the project objectives. Aquatic ecology walkover surveys commenced in January 2025, a geophysical survey was completed in February 2025 and an overwintering bird survey completed in March 2025 – see photographs below. These surveys will provide data to inform the Scheme Analysis and Development phase of the project.



Photograph taken during an overwintering bird survey

RPS have developed a Nature-based Solutions report, which is being updated following feedback received from Louth County Council Climate Change and Biodiversity Officers. This report identifies the potential for a sustainable approach to flood risk management, which can complement a more traditional flood relief scheme. Such measures can provide other social and environmental benefits, such as improved amenity and recreation, habitat creation, carbon sequestration which can help mitigate the impact (environmental or social) of the flood relief scheme and enhance the overall catchment and its ecosystem.

RPS are also updating a Technical Note which considers the buildability of the scheme with regard to existing quay walls.

RPS are continuing to undertake a review of the modelled flood extents and hydraulics report to ensure that the hydraulic model provides an accurate representation of the flooding mechanisms within the study area. Completion of this task will allow progression of the Scheme Analysis and Development tasks, leading to the identification of a preferred option.

Scheme Analysis and Development: Following confirmation of the preferred options, a damage assessment will be completed to estimate the expected damage from a flood event, considering the type and size of properties at risk and the depth of flooding. This information will be used in the schemes cost- benefit analysis.

Environmental: The archaeological dive survey will be undertaken in addition to continuing with other environmental surveys to add to the projects baseline data.

The Project website being hosted by OPW is now complete and can be reached at: www.droghedabaltrayfrs.ie

Tionscadail Muirí / Marine Projects

Coastal Protection Works – Drummullagh (Omeath), Bellurgan and Ballynamoney / Ballagan.

- Drummullagh, Omeath: Section 177 AE has been approved by the Board. The Construction tenders have been posted on E-Tenders, for prospective Contractors to price.
- Bellurgan Point: Section 177 AE has been approved by the Board. The Construction tenders have been posted on E-Tenders, for prospective Contractors to price.

- Ballynamoney/Ballagan, Greenore: Section 177 AE has been approved by the Board. The Construction tenders have been posted on E-Tenders, for prospective Contractors to price.

A Tender Report will be completed following the closing date, with a successful Contractor being duly appointed. The works will be constructed in accordance with the individual site's ecological constraints.

Forbairt Na hEagraíochta Organisational Development

Áiríonn an Stiúrthóireacht 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 cúig eochairfhreagrachta ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

- Seirbhísí Corparáideacha
- Tacaíocht Pobail agus Spóirt
- Inbhuanaitheacht
- Seirbhísí Tréidliachta
- Acmhainní Duine

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 five key areas of responsibility.

- Corporate Services
- Community Support & Sports
- Sustainability
- Animal Welfare
- Human Resources

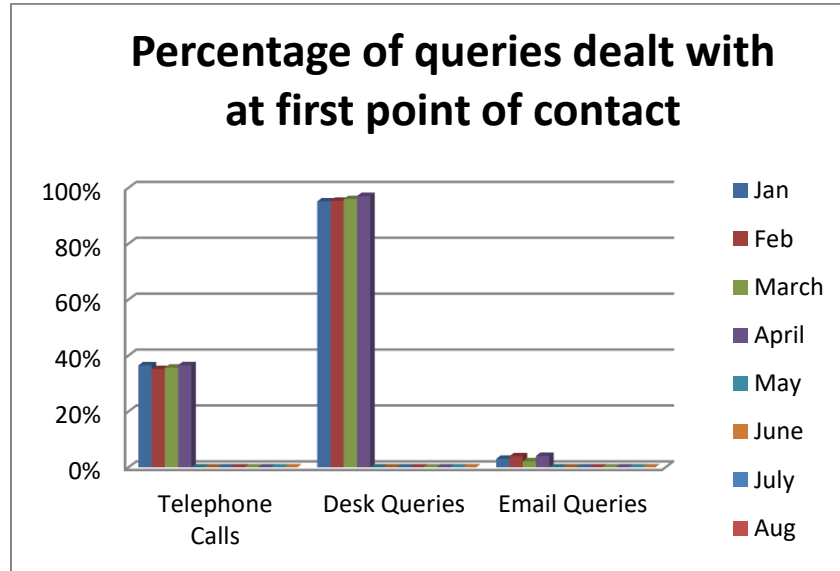


Joe McGuinness
Stiúrthóir /Director of Service

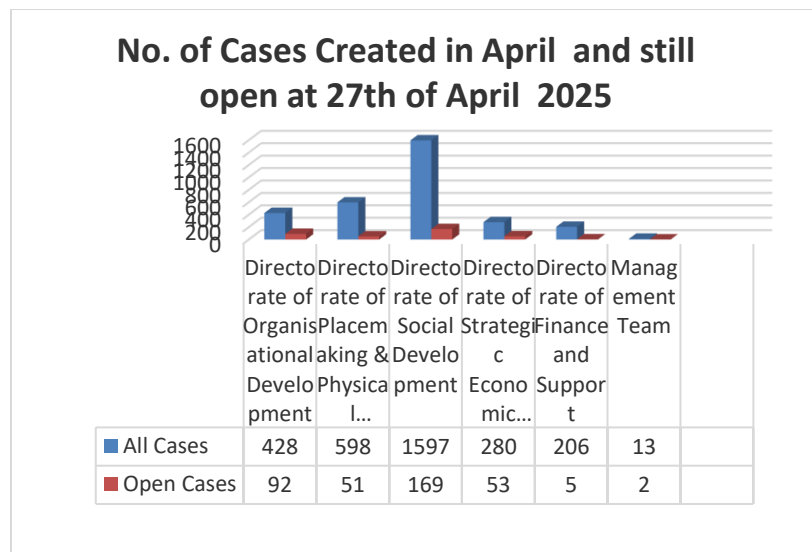
Seirbhísí Corporáideacha / Corporate Services

Tuairisc ar Sheirbhísí Custaiméirí / Customer Services Report

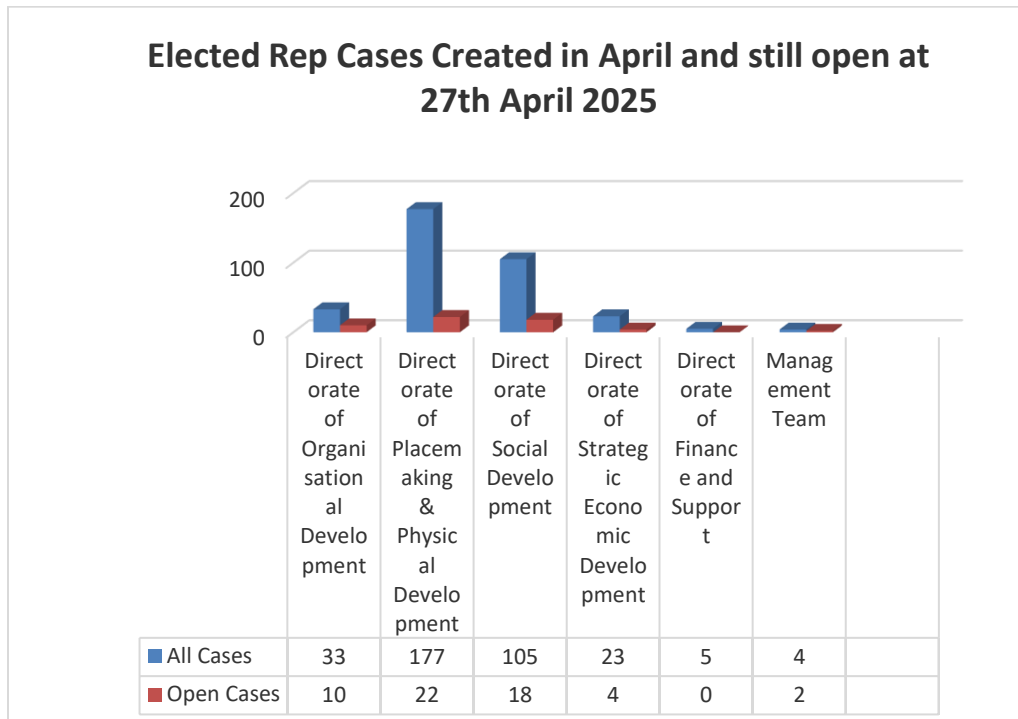
During the month of April 2025 Customer Services dealt with 14,721 queries 5993 calls, 1170 e-mails and 7558 counter queries.



There were 3122 valid Sugar CRM cases recorded during April 2025 of which 372 (11.90%) remain unresolved, broken down by directorate as follows:



During April 2025, 347 elected reps. cases were recorded on Sugar of which 56 (16 %) remain unresolved broken down by Directorate as follows:



The table below illustrates activity in the redress area.

| Request Received | 2024 Total Jan- Apr | 2025 Total Jan – Apr | 2025 Apr only |
|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| FOI REQUEST | 55 | 54 | 15 |
| DSAR | 8 | 5 | 2 |
| DATA PROTECTION REQUEST | 7 | 22 | 4 |
| (AIE) INFORMATION | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| OMBUDSMAN REQUEST | 6 | 12 | 5 |
| COMPLAINTS | 21 | 8 | 2 |

Clár Toghthóirí / Electoral Register

The Franchise Section are continuing to carry out data cleansing in advance of a transfer of data to a national voter.ie system. Together with the help of the LCC IT Department we have been busy gathering data, specifically Irish Townland translations.

The Franchise Section has recorded three attempts to make contact with residents requesting information, but specifically an Eircode. As a result, the Franchise team will now move to delete 995 electors from the register. Members are asked to encourage constituents to check the register and ensure their details are accurate and up to date. Any constituent who may be deleted can re-register at any time by visiting www.checktheregister.ie

National Voter Registration Day took place on April 30th, where our Franchise Team attended an event in Dundalk Library to encourage citizens to register to vote. On 30th April a total of 37 additions were made via www.checktheregister.ie



Pictured are Emma Crossan, Staff Officer & Nicola Irwin, Clerical Officer with Suen Grace Atriko, Community Development Worker at the National Voter Registration Day in Dundalk Library.



Civic Reception

In accordance with Section 74 of the Local Government Act 2001, the council honoured the sporting achievements of Ms. Eve McCrystal and Ms. Kate O'Connor at a Civic Reception which took place on Thursday 10th April in County Hall, Dundalk.



Tacaíocht Pobail / Community Support

Community Support

Age Friendly Louth



Ardee Garden Care & Repair

Building on the success of the project at the Local Authority Members Association (LAMA) Awards in February, key partners including Dee Hub, An Garda Síochána, Age Friendly Louth and Ardee Tidy Towns met to discuss their plans and initiatives for the upcoming year. The meeting focused on fostering continued collaboration and strengthening community engagement.

This collaborative effort aims to build upon the positive outcomes of their recent work, ensuring sustainable progress and impactful results for the local community.



Louth Comhairle na nÓg



Eleven members of Louth Comhairle na nÓg took part in the Dail na nÓg National Showcase Event in Dublin Castle on the 15th April 2025. The members were Matthew Clarke, Yasmin Milligan, Molly Devlin and Andrew Rosbotham from Dundalk, Sophie Campbell, Rhys Murphy, Shawn Doyle and Aislinn Suaramba

from Mid Louth and Jane Whelan, Nessa McDermot and Ruth Campbell from Drogheda.



Members of Louth Comhairle na nÓg at Dail na nÓg National Showcase Event in Dublin Castle

Public Participation Network (PPN)

Community Representatives

Louth PPN hosted the third meeting of its network of Community Representatives on the morning of April 7th in Outcomers, Dundalk. This is an opportunity for all community representatives to network and collectively discuss issues facing the community across the County of Louth.

Plenary Meeting

Louth PPN's first Plenary Meeting of 2025 was held on the evening of April 7th in the Ardee Parish Centre at 6pm. All PPN member groups are invited to attend these meetings, and it is an opportunity to network with their fellow members and members of Louth County Council, find out what funding, resources and supports are available to their community groups and discuss any training needs which Louth PPN may offer in the future.

AI Training

Louth PPN offered its members the opportunity to participate in an online training course in AI Apps and Software on the evening of April 8th.

Advocacy Training

In collaboration with Louth Local Development, Louth PPN offered its members the opportunity to participate in Advocacy Training. This training is split over two in-person workshops taking place in Monasterboice on April 23rd and May 14th.

Memorandum of Understanding

The Memorandum of Understanding between Louth County Council and Louth PPN was signed on April 26th and will remain active for a period of 12 months. This document sets out the understanding and expectations between these two parties for the period April 2025 – 2026.

English & Sewing Project

The first class for Louth PPN's English & Sewing thematic project took place on the evening of Tuesday 29th April in the Barbican Centre, Drogheda. This project will run for a period of 10 weeks and aims to support participants to improve their English language skills while learning how to sew.

Healthy Louth

Healthy Louth Attendance at Programme Board Meeting

Healthy Louth attended the Programme Board meeting on Building Stronger and More Integrated Responses to Local Area Challenges at the Department of the Taoiseach, Merrion Street, Dublin 2.

Mr. Finbar Gethins (SEO for Community) and Ms. Paula Keenan (Healthy Ireland Coordinator) presented on the role of the LCDC in using data to drive decision-making and collaboration.



Ms. Paula Keenan, Healthy Ireland Co-ordinator for Louth, at Government Buildings

National Healthy Cities & Counties of Ireland Network Meeting (Online) – Tuesday 1st April 2025

Paula Keenan, Healthy Ireland Coordinator for Louth, attended the National Healthy Cities & Counties of Ireland Network Meeting on 1st April 2025 as the Eastern & Midlands Regional Assembly representative.

Healthy Louth Receives €20K to Deliver Sport-Based Health Literacy and Outreach for People Experiencing Homelessness

Healthy Louth has secured €20,000 from the Adult Literacy for Life (ALL) Collaboration and Innovation Fund to expand the Homeless Street League initiative in County Louth. The new project, Health Kicks, will combine weekly football sessions with on-site health checks, accessible health education workshops, and practical information for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.



Ms. Niamh McShane, ALL Co-ordinator for Louth/Meath & Ms. Paula Keenan, Healthy Ireland Co-ordinator for Louth

Healthy Louth Newsletter – April/May 2025

The 14th edition of the Healthy Louth Newsletter has been published, providing key updates on health and wellbeing initiatives across Louth. This bi-monthly publication serves as a vital resource to inform communities, stakeholders, and partners about ongoing programmes, events, and available resources.

Read the full edition here: [Healthy Louth Newsletter April/May 2025](#)



CommUnity Connect Louth & Meath - Sign-Up Phase Underway

Healthy Louth is pleased to announce the launch of the sign-up phase for the new CommUnity Connect Louth & Meath Network – an initiative aimed at strengthening grassroots health and wellbeing through collaboration and connection.



Staff from Redeemer Family Resource Centre with Ms. Paula Keenan at Sign-Up to CommUnity Connect Louth & Meath



Members of the Women's Intercultural Network (WIN) Inspo with Ms. Paula Keenan

LEADER Programmes

LEADER
Development led by local communities

LEADER Project Funding Approved:

The LAG at its April meeting approved funding support, in the amount of €46,580.57 for 3 LEADER projects. The projects supported are across the county under the Themes of:

- Economic Development & Job Creation
- Sustainable Development of Rural Environment & Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

April Spring Clean Month

The National Spring Clean took place throughout April, encouraging communities to take responsibility for

litter by organising local clean-up events. Louth saw strong participation, with over 120 groups registered through An Taisce.

The National Tidy Towns Competition 2025

The Community Support Team hosted a well-attended information session at the Monasterboice Inn for Tidy Towns groups preparing for the national competition. Guest speaker Dr. Christy Boylan, a respected Tidy Towns adjudicator, delivered a presentation on biodiversity and sustainability. Louth County Council Biodiversity Officer Helen Hanratty also shared practical advice on enhancing biodiversity to improve competition performance.



Information Session at the Monasterboice Inn

Tidy Towns Insurance Scheme

On April 1st, the Council launched a new Local Authority Tidy Towns Insurance Scheme in partnership with IPB, available to all registered Tidy Towns groups across the county. This scheme offers coverage for standard Tidy Towns activities, enabling local committees to carry out their important work with confidence and peace of mind.

Pride of Place

This year is the 23rd Anniversary of the IPB Pride of Place competition. The Council is delighted to announce that their nominees for this year are "Dromiskin", under the Population category 1000-2000 and the "Boyne Valley Camino", under the Community Tourism Initiative category.

Judging is scheduled for Wednesday, 9th July, when the Council will welcome the Judges and accompany both nominees throughout the day to showcase their wide range of activities, accomplishments and future plans.

We extend our best wishes to both nominees in this prestigious all-Ireland competition.

Active Louth

The Council currently have a tender open to invite responses from suitably qualified and experienced consultants or consortia to prepare three interconnected strategic documents which make up an overall Active Louth: Outdoor Recreation Plan, Play Policy, Local Sports Plan.

Dog Fouling Campaign

As part of a six-month initiative to address dog fouling and promote responsible dog ownership, the Community Support Team organised an Art Competition in collaboration with Louth Libraries. The competition, which closed on April 11th, featured two categories: an A4 Sticker Competition for ages 0-12 and an A3 Poster Competition for ages 12-18. Winners will be awarded prizes, and their artwork will be displayed throughout the county as part of the ongoing dog fouling campaign.



Winning A4 Sticker by Mary Rafferty, St Oliver Plunkett National School



Winning A3 Poster by Rachel Barnes, Scoil San Nicholas

Dog Fouling Stencils

Dog fouling is a serious issue that affects public health and the cleanliness of our shared areas, like parks, footpaths, etc. This campaign aims to remind pet owners of their responsibility to clean up after their dogs.

In partnership with Tidy Towns groups and with the assistance of area engineers, the Community Support Team will install dog waste bag dispensers in areas identified as hotspots for dog fouling, along with footpath stencilling and local awareness campaigns. Dundalk Tidy Towns have been busy with their stencilling project over the Easter weekend.



Dog Fouling Stencilling Carried Out in Dundalk

PEACEPLUS



Special EU Programmes Body
Comhlacht na gClár Speisialta AE
Special EU Skemes Boadie



PEACEPLUS
Northern Ireland - Ireland

Co-funded by the



Launch of PEACEPLUS Action Plan

A very successful Launch event was held on 10th April in the Muirhevnamor Community Centre, Dundalk for the County Louth PEACEPLUS Action Plan with over 40 members of the public in attendance.

The Launch included a presentation by Mr. Finbar Gethins, SEO Community, on the 15 projects included in the €4,679,354 programme which will engage with 4,679 participants over the next four years. All these projects are designed to support peace and prosperity across Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland, building upon the work of the previous PEACE and INTERREG Programmes.



Ms. Claire Johnston, NI Executive Office, Ms. Gina McIntyre, SEUPB CEO, Cllr Kevin Callan, Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council & Ms. Gobhnait Swift, Department of Rural & Community Development



Members of the Louth PEACEPLUS Partnership Committee with Ms. Gina McIntyre, SEUPB CEO



Louth County Council/ Newry Mourne and Down Strategic Alliance

Preparatory work is ongoing for a meeting in June to formulate a revised action plan for the Louth County Council/ Newry Mourne and Down District Council Strategic Alliance.

Ukraine Humanitarian Response

**Offer A Home Programme
Property Figures as at 30/04/2025**

| | |
|---|--|
| Properties offered in April | |
| Families moved into properties in April | |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Expressions of interest in being accommodated received from families in April | |
| Property offers recorded to date | 84 |
| Owners successfully contacted to date | 83 |
| Properties currently occupied | 41 |
| Beneficiaries currently assigned | 140 |
| Assessments carried out to date | 60 |
| Assessments currently underway | 0 |
| Properties assessed as suitable to date | 44 |
| Properties with minor works required | 0 |
| Properties withdrawn to date | 19 |
| Properties not viable to date | 21 |

Emergency Refurbishment Ukraine Programme (ERUP) to date

Final report on the ERUP as the programme is now finished.

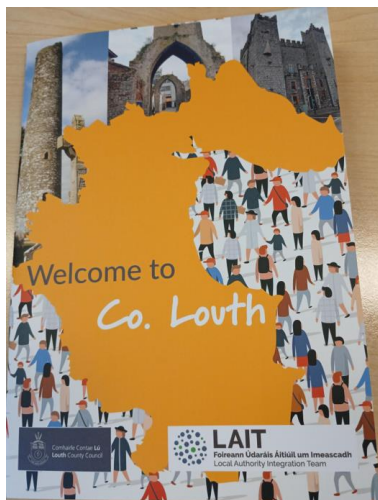
| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Cumulative Offers of properties to ERUP | 38 |
| Unsuitable / withdrawn | 30 |
| DCEDIY Letters of Intent Issued to date | 11 |
| DCEDIY Letters of Intent Withdrawn | 3 |
| No. of beds delivered | 628 |
| DCEDIY contracts issued to date | 8 |
| No of beds delivered* | 377 incl LCC refurb |

*224 beds delivered by LCC pre ERUP

Local Authority Integration Team

The LAIT team hosted their first Community Information Fair in Drogheda on April 30th. The event was attended by residents living in accommodation centres in the town. Service providers who attended on the day included Intreo, Louth Local Development Company, Boomerang Café and LMETB. The event gave residents the opportunity to ask the relevant organisations specific questions and find out more information about the services available to them in the locality.

The LAIT have developed a living guide for the IPAS and BOTP residents living in County Louth. The guide provides a comprehensive overview of the essential services available to them in the county. There is a hard copy and a digital version of the guide will be available on the website shortly.



The second Community Integration Forum meeting of 2025 took place in Drogheda on April 11th. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Finbar Gethins and was attended by Intreo, Louth Local Development Company, Louth Volunteer Centre, Local Link, Louth Library Service, LMETB, An Garda Síochána and Tusla CYPSC. All the stakeholders provided updates on their service and raised queries in relation to issues on the ground. The next meeting will take place in June.

Community Safety Partnership

Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024

The Policing, Security and Community Safety Act commenced on 2nd April 2025. We are still awaiting the Regulations relating to the establishment of the Local Community Safety Partnerships (S.I. 114).

Ms. Therese Mc Ardle has been appointed as Community Safety Partnership Coordinator and is based in the Community Section.

Sport

Dundalk Sports Centre Cross Border Event

This month we hosted a cross-border event bringing two schools from the North of Ireland and a school from Dundalk together to play fun games and experience different sports.



Children taking part in Cross Border Event at Dundalk Sports Centre

Easter Camps

Two Easter camps took place over the holidays, one multisport and one basketball specific. Our camps are always very successful, and the kids had the best time. The multisport camp is full of fun running teamwork games to get the children moving without being sport specific.



Easter Camp at Dundalk Sports Centre

Lourdes Stadium

Pre Louth Championships

This month the Lourdes Stadium hosted Athletics Louth's Pre Louth Championships on Sunday 13th April. There was a major turnout from all clubs within the surrounding areas.



Athletics Louth's Pre Louth Championships at Lourdes Stadium Drogheda

Louth Local Sports Partnership

Coach & Volunteer Education Programmes 2025

Louth Local Sports Partnership facilitated the following coach and volunteer education programmes in April 2025.

| Activity | Date | Venue |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| Safeguarding Level 1 | 10th April | Online |
| Safeguarding Level 1 | 24th April | Online |
| Safeguarding Level 1 | 25th April | Carlingford Adventure Centre |
| Understanding Physical Literacy | 2nd April | Dundalk Sports Centre |
| Learn to Cycle | 12th April | Dundalk Sports Centre |
| Balance Bike Learn to Cycle | 12th April | Dundalk Sports Centre |
| Learn to Cycle | 12th April | Lourdes Stadium |
| Balance Bike Learn to Cycle | 12th April | Lourdes Stadium |



Transition Year Students who took part in the TY Sports Leadership Programme with Louth LSP

Level 1 Award in Sports Leadership a success in Drogheda

Louth Local Sports Partnership is pleased to report the successful delivery and completion of the Level 1 Award in Sports Leadership by a group of young leaders in Drogheda.



Recipients of the Level 1 Award in Sports Leadership

Transition Year students introduced to Sports Leadership

Congratulations to the Transition Year students from Dundalk Grammar School, De La Salle College and Scoil Uí Mhuiri, Dunleer, who successfully completed the TY Sports Leadership Programme with Louth LSP in April.

Her Moves Summit Sisters

Louth Local Sports Partnership, in collaboration with Mountaineering Ireland and Dundalk Grammar School, proudly launched the Summit Sisters programme in the breathtaking Cooley Mountains in April.



ArchHERY Programme Launched in Ardee

Louth Local Sports Partnership, in collaboration with Ardee Archery Club, launched the 6-week ArchHERY programme on Saturday mornings during April. The initiative, inspired by the Her Moves campaign, aims to encourage teenage girls to try new activities, build confidence, and stay active in a fun and supportive environment.



Participants in the ArchHERY Programme in Ardee

St. Oliver's College Students Complete Cheerleading Programme

Well done to the girls from St. Oliver's College, Drogheda, who recently completed a 6-week Introduction to Cheerleading Programme.

Delivered as part of the Her Moves initiative, the programme was coordinated by Louth Local Sports Partnership in collaboration with Phoenix Baton Twirling Club, Drogheda. The sessions introduced participants to the fundamentals of cheerleading in a fun, inclusive, and supportive environment—promoting confidence, teamwork, and physical activity.



Cheerleading Programme completed by students from St Oliver's College, Drogheda

Bainistíocht Dramháil, Gníomh Comhshaoil 7 Aeráide / Waste Management, Environment & Climate Action

Sustainability

Waste Enforcement

Summary of Complaints

A total of 17 complaints were received and investigated by the Waste Enforcement team in April 2025, some of which remain open pending further investigations.

| Complaint Type | Received in March 2025 | Total Received in 2025 |
|----------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Waste/ C&D | 17 | 91 |

Waste Facility Permits/ Certificates of Registration

One new waste facility permit application, and one review application has been received in April 2025.

Diesel Laundering Waste

There were three IBCs dumped so far in April 2025 with the approximate cost of this being €3,750. The

total cost for clean-up of diesel laundering waste so far in 2025 is approximately €27,500.

Waste Enforcement

Waste Enforcement Officers continue to carry out their enforcement role under a myriad of waste legislation. Below is a list of some of the inspections completed to the end of April 2025 and the enforcement actions taken.

| Inspection Type | No. |
|---|-----|
| Non-Construction & Demolition Waste Complaints Investigated | 77 |
| Number relating to Household Waste/ waste presentation inspections arising from complaints | 35 |
| Construction and Demolition Waste Complaints Investigated | 18 |
| Inspections of Waste Permitted Facilities | 2 |
| Hazardous waste sectoral inspections | 2 |
| Inspections in relation to Construction & Demolition waste at construction/ development sites | 7 |
| Inspections of sites notified under Article 27 | 5 |
| Inspections under the Packaging Regulations – Suspected Major Producers | 5 |
| Enforcement Action | |
| Waste Warning Letters | 66 |
| Section 55 Notice under Waste Management Act | 2 |
| Fixed Payment notice under the Waste Collection Permit Regulations | 4 |
| Presentation of Waste Byelaws Fixed Payment notices | 2 |

Litter Enforcement & Investigations

In April, Litter Wardens completed 181 investigations in response to dumping reported by members of the public. 35 Fixed Penalty Notices were issued in April where evidence was found under the Litter Pollution Act 1997.





Photos: Dumping in Carlingford

2 noise pollution cases received. All complaints have been investigated.

Farm Survey Inspections

So far during the month of April, Louth County Council carried out 7 planned farm survey inspections under the Good Agricultural Practice Regulations 2022 (GAP).

River Water sampling and Water framework directive

Routine surveillance and operational monitoring at 27 locations for the water framework directive programme were completed in April 2025.

Dog Fouling Awareness

Louth County Council Litter Wardens carried out a foot patrol in Dundalk in April to raise awareness of dog litter.



Photos of slurry discharge to stream



Photos: Foot Patrols carried out in Dundalk to bring awareness of Dog Fouling

Discharge Licences

Assessment inspections were carried out on 15 monitoring results received by Louth County Council in April for Section 4 Discharge Licences.

Licensed landfills

Monthly monitoring of groundwater, surface water and leachate was carried out in April at Dundalk landfill. Monthly monitoring of perimeter gas monitoring points was completed at Dundalk, Drogheda and Whiteriver as required by EPA licences for the sites.

EPA carried out a site audit at Drogheda landfill in April.

VOC and flare emission monitoring carried out at Drogheda landfill during April. One incident was uploaded to EPA EDEN system for incident at Dundalk landfill during April in relation to flare operation. This was rectified in-house and incident closed off.

Annual environmental reports, landfill gas surveys and pollution inventory reports were submitted as required to the EPA.

Environmental Regulation

Water Quality and Complaints

7 water pollution complaints were received in April 2025. Investigations and site visits were carried out in all cases and all complaints were investigated with two complaints remaining open.

2 agricultural complaints were received in relation to spreading and odours. All complaints were investigated and closed out.

Air & Noise Pollution Complaints

7 air pollution complaints were received this month. All complaints were investigated and related to backyard burning, dust and sewage smell and agricultural odours.

Septic Tanks

2 queries received from members of the public regarding eligibility for grants.

Planning

28 planning reports were completed for April 2025. These reports related to agricultural, commercial and once off dwelling planning permissions.

Solid Fuel Regulations

Inspection of retailers and coalmen were carried out in the Drogheda area during April 2025. No major non-compliances noted.

Rural Water Programme

Subsidies Group Schemes

All letters and application forms were issued to the Group Water Schemes for their 2024 subsidy claims and closing date for submissions is 30th June.

Individual Domestic Water Supplies Grant

To date a total of €118,581.84 was paid to applicants in 2025 for Individual Domestic Water Supplies (more commonly called private wells).

Climate Action

EU Mission, Adaptation to Climate Change

During April members of the Climate Action Team are took part in training organised by the EU Climate Adaptation Mission. This is designed to build capacity for stakeholder engagement specifically around climate adaptation.

CARO Training

The Community Climate Action Officer and Climate Action Officer recently attended the Local Authority Climate Action Team Event two-day conference in Wexford.



Sand Dune Restoration and Coastal Erosion at Wexford Ballygrangans Beach



The CARO has also hosted a number of online training workshops for Local Authority Staff on Nature Based Solutions and Biodiversity.



Community Climate Action Fund

The Community Climate Action Fund was launched by Minister Ryan. Training around state aid and administering this fund was attended by the Climate Action Coordinator and Community Climate Action Officer.

A full list of all approved projects can be found on Louth County Council's website at <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/environment/climate-action/community-climate-action-funding-strand/>

If you would like to know further information on the Community Climate Action Fund please email climateaction@louthcoco.ie

Biodiversity Action

The Biodiversity Officer, Helen Hanratty has applied for funding to deliver the biodiversity work programme for 2025. Confirmation of funding from the Heritage Council to progress the development of a Local Biodiversity Action Plan for County Louth has now been received. Work is continuing to develop the Plan with support from the Louth Biodiversity Working Group.



The Community Support Team hosted a Biodiversity & Sustainability in Tidy Towns Presentation Evening in the Monasterboice Inn, Drogheda on the 8th April, inviting all Louth's Tidy Towns groups to attend. The focus of the evening was a presentation from Dr. Christy Boylan, a highly respected adjudicator with the National Tidy Towns Competition, with more than 40 years of experience in environmental sustainability, biodiversity and landscape management. The Biodiversity Officer presented on the Importance of Biodiversity in Tidy Towns, reflecting on feedback provided by the National Tidy Towns Competition adjudicators and advising on best practice approaches, local projects and training opportunities.

Themes included:

- Habitat & Species – Protection, Support & Creation e.g. reduced mowing to allow natural development of native wildflower meadows.
- Sustainable Practices – Eliminating use of pesticides & herbicides and using locally harvested seeds instead of commercial “wildflower” seed mixes.
- Education & Awareness – Encouraging best practice and recording actions.
- Community Engagement – Collaborating, sharing knowledge and learning new skills.
- Monitoring & Assessment – Measuring the impact of actions, collecting data & submitting records to contribute to the National Biodiversity Data Centre through simple citizen science surveys like the Flower Insect Timed (FIT) Count App.
<https://biodiversityireland.ie/surveys/fit-counts/>

There were more than 45 attendees present, representing 13 Tidy Towns groups from across Louth.

Biodiversity Information packs were given to a representative from each group and are available for any groups who were unable to attend.



National Biodiversity Week will be held from Friday 16th to Sunday 25th May. It is coordinated by the Irish Environmental Network (IEN) and the Biodiversity Officer would be pleased to help promote any events you might be planning. To be eligible for inclusion on the Event Calendar, your events must be themed around any aspect of Irish biodiversity, free for the public to attend and the appropriate insurance in place.

A number of events are planned by the Biodiversity Officer for Louth. Follow Louth County Council social media for updates. For the full programme, event details or to enter the annual Biodiversity Photographer of the Year competition or take part in the Schoolyard Scavenger Hunt please see www.biodiversityweek.ie

Sustainability Facilities

Dundalk Fire Station Upgrades

Fabric, space heating, and domestic hot water system upgrades are advancing as part of the 2024 Energy Project Charters at Dundalk Fire Station. The scope of works currently underway includes:

- Detailed measurement and marking of pipework routing
- Core drilling through reinforced concrete walls to facilitate services penetrations
- Mounting and securing of air-to-water heat pump units on structural support brackets
- Ongoing installation and connection of mechanical pipework for heating and hot water distribution systems

In addition, a site meeting was held to finalise the positioning of high-efficiency electric panel heaters within the Appliance Bay and to plan for the

decommissioning and removal of old fan convector units. The proposed panel heaters offer a more energy-efficient and sustainable solution to maintain ambient temperatures in this critical operational area.

Concurrently, electrical infrastructure upgrade works are in progress. These include enhancements to accommodate current load demands while also incorporating future-proofing measures to support anticipated technological advancements and system expansions.



Meeting going over the Electrical Infrastructure Works



Dundalk Fire Station's Plantroom Progress

County Hall Upgrades

Safety strips have been installed in the Managers stairwell. These textured, anti-slip strips provide extra grip on each step. A simple yet effective measure to improve everyday safety.



Image shows stairwell before & after Works



Heat Pump positioned on Dundalk Fire Station's Roof, Surrounded by Temporary Edge Barriers

North Louth Operations Base

A tender was issued on 07/03/2025 for Architectural Lead Multi-Disciplinary Project management Design Team for the renovation of North Louth Operations Base at Ballaverty, Bush, Co. Louth.

Returned tenders are currently being assessed with a view to appointing a consultant in May.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Solar PV Update

The Sustainability Team published an "Open Procedure" Call for Tender (CfT) to the eTenders Platform on 15th April 2025.

This CfT, was for specialist solar PV Economic Operator's (E.O's), to tender for the design, supply,



Meeting to Determine Suitability of Electrical Panel Heaters in Appliance Bay

installation, commissioning and remote monitoring of Solar PV panels and all associated technology, at 22no. of LCC's owned buildings and premises.

The scope of the project was for the potential E.O's to design a fully optimised system, site specific to each of the 22no sites, utilising all available roof and ground space, without saturating the areas, to cater for most and possibly in some cases, all of the sites electricity demands, renewably.

It is envisaged, that on completion, the combined kilowatt peak (kWp) generation across the 22no. sites, will be between 700 and 800 kWp and should avoid between 250 and 300Tonnes of CO2 emissions, being expelled into atmosphere.

The sites due for upgrade are as follows:

1. Dundalk County Hall
2. Dundalk Town Hall
3. Dundalk Town Hall Yard Office
4. Dundalk County Library
5. Dundalk County Library Bookstore
6. Dundalk County Museum
7. Dundalk Fire Station
8. Dundalk County Archives
9. Dundalk Machinery Yard
10. Dundalk Civil Defence
11. Dundalk Sports Centre
12. Drogheda Fair Street Civic Office
13. Drogheda Machinery Yard
14. Drogheda Fire Station
15. Drogheda Library
16. Ardee Civic Office
17. Ardee Fire Station
18. Ardee Library
19. Dunleer New Library
20. Dunleer Woodlands Yard
21. Dromiskin Animal Compound
22. Carlingford Library

The competition will be open for submissions until 28th May 2025. It will be scored and aimed to be awarded, by the start of June 2025.

SEAI Monitoring + Reporting 2030

The final submission deadline is 16th May 2025, and the following data is required:

- Energy Usage (Diesel, Petrol, Kerosene) Complete
- Energy Generation (Wind & Solar PV) Complete Data Submitted
- Energy Projects Complete Data Submitted

- Organisation's Buildings Complete Data Submitted
- Vehicle Fleet Complete Data Submitted
- Business Travel Ongoing

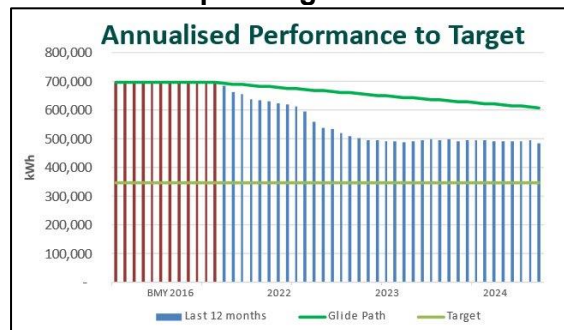
Louth County Council will continue to lead by example in the area of energy reporting. We will make ensure the timely and accurate collection of all required data, in full compliance with SEAI's final submission deadline.

Optimising Power @Work

County Hall Progress

Compared to the same period last year, energy savings have increased significantly. This is due to the active role of the Energy Team in effectively managing staff engagement, the Building Management System (BMS) and heat pumps.

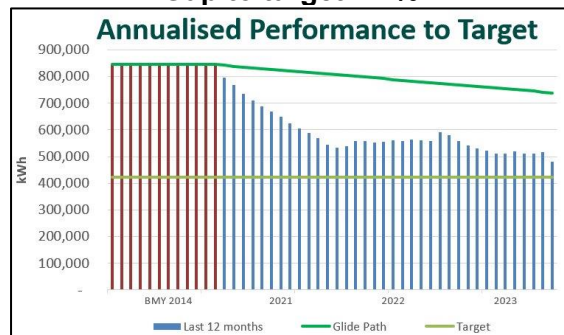
30% in Dec 2024 vs 26% in Dec 2023
Gap to target: 20%



Town Hall Progress

The 2030 target for energy savings is 50%, in line with the national strategy.

39% in Dec 2024 vs 40% in Dec 2023
Gap to target: 11%



Staff Energy Awareness Programme

Despite the Reduce Your Use campaign concluding in March, Louth County Council continues to actively

promote energy staff awareness among staff while building on the savings achieved in campaign.

To encourage participation, we are promoting the campaign through a poster series, regular all-staff emails featuring energy-saving tips, and video tutorials.

With the clocks changing and the longer, brighter days the Energy Team continued to focus on Lighting during April, asking staff to make the most of the natural sunshine streaming into our building. Switching off unneeded lights not only saves energy but also reduces our carbon footprint, making our workplace greener and more sustainable.

Easter Bank Holiday Weekend

In the lead-up to the Easter Bank Holiday weekend, the Energy Office encouraged staff to ‘Hatch a Plan to Power Down!’

This initiative invited everyone to take simple steps like switching off unnecessary equipment—computers, monitors, printers, and kitchen appliances—before heading off. These small actions make a big difference and reflect our shared commitment to a sustainable and well-cared-for workplace.

H2020 Funding Varcities – 9th Progress Meeting

The Varcities consortium of 23 partners came to together in the pilot city of Castelfranco for the 9th Progress meeting of the project.

As the project nears its conclusion, the focus of this meeting was on the monitoring and reporting of our Key Performance Indicators. Louth County Council gave an update on our performance and how the interventions and 3 Visionary Solutions implemented at The Still are proving to have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing for those who are utilising the space. The use of the learning pod and the Cubbie are showing phenomenal usage and replication of the Cubbie has already been reported with a health group in Drogheda

Seirbhísí Tréidliachta / Veterinary Services

Control of Dogs - Control of Dogs Act 1986

Dogs through the pound April 2025

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Total dogs through the pound | 17 |
| Seized under Section 16 | 0 |
| Strays | 8 |
| Surrendered by owners | 9 |
| No dogs reclaimed by owners | 4 |
| No of dogs rehomed direct | 1 |
| No of dogs rehomed to welfare groups | 13 |
| No of dogs on hand in Pound at 30/04/2025 | 3 |

Dog Licences April 2025

| | |
|---|------------|
| No of Licences sold | 453 |
| Licence Checks: | |
| House calls | 401 |
| Section 16 Notices issued (request produce licence within 10 days) | 198 |
| Fixed Penalty Notices | 6 |

Control of Horses - Control of Horses Act 1996 & Control of Horses Bye-Laws 2003

Horses through the pound April 2025

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Horses seized, and reason for seizure: | 1 |
| | Out on public road |
| Horses reclaimed by owner | 0 |
| Horses rehomed | 1 |
| Horses disposed of | 0 |
| No of horses on hand in Pound 30/04/2025 | 0 |

Dog Breeding Establishments

Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010

| Dog Breeding Establishments April 2025 | |
|---|----------|
| Total no of registered DBE's in Louth (as at 30/04/2025) | 6 |
| Hunt | 1 |
| Boarding Kennels | 2 |
| Training Kennels | 1 |
| Welfare | 2 |



Some of the dogs who entered the Dog Pound during April 2025

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

Seirbhísí Cultúrtha, 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

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.

Cultural Services, 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.

**Ger Murphy
Stiúrthóir / Director of Service**



Titíocht / Housing

Ag Déileáil le hEaspa Dídine / Addressing Homelessness

The following work done within County Louth in the period March 18 – April 17 2025 can be summarised as follows:

Tábla 1: Gníomhartha atá déanta ag Seirbhísí do Dhaoine gan Dídean / Table 1: Actions by Homeless Services

| March 18, 2025, to April 17, 2025 | Ardee MD | Dundalk MD | Drogheda MD | Total |
|--|-----------|------------|-------------|------------|
| Offered advice, support (including fast tracking H.A. for Rent Supplement eligibility) | 11 | 139 | 91 | 241 |
| Placed in Temporary Emergency Accommodation | 0 | 25 | 12 | 37 |
| Refused Offer of Temporary Emergency Accommodation | 1 | 4 | 0 | 5 |
| Not eligible from outside county or non HRC | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total number of Person who presented as Homeless | 12 | 168 | 103 | 283 |

Tables 2 - 4 below reflect details of the adults who were in emergency accommodation in County Louth on April 17, 2025. Also included at Table 5 is the breakdown of families in emergency accommodation at that date.

Tábla 2: Inscne / Table 2: Gender

| Gender | Total |
|--------------|------------|
| Male | 103 |
| Female | 88 |
| Total | 191 |

Tábla 3: Aoisghrúpaí / Table 3: Age Groups

| Age Group | Total |
|--------------|------------|
| 18-24 | 38 |
| 25-44 | 101 |
| 45-64 | 44 |
| 65+ | 8 |
| Total | 191 |

Tábla 4: Saghas Loistín / Table 4: Accommodation Type

| Accommodation Type | Total |
|---|------------|
| Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA) | 89 |
| Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA) | 102 |
| Total unique individuals | 191 |

Tábla 5: Teaghlaigh le paistí cleithiúnaí / Table 5 - Families with dependent children

| | No. of families with dependent children | No. of Individual Adults | No. of Dependents |
|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Individuals with dependent children | 40 | 51 | 64 |
| Couples with dependent children | 9 | 20 | 27 |
| Total | 49 | 71 | 91 |

Tábla 6: Tithíocht ar dtús / Table 6 - Housing First

| | |
|--|----|
| Number of tenancies established | 50 |
| Number of individuals currently in tenancy | 34 |

Leithdháileadh Tithíochta suas go dtí Aibreán 22, 2025 / Housing Allocations up to April 22, 2025

| District | LA | LA Refusal | AHB | AHB Refusal |
|--------------|-----------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Ardee | 10 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Drogheda | 32 | 7 | 106 | 7 |
| Dundalk | 26 | 3 | 55 | 5 |
| Total | 68 | 11 | 163 | 12 |

Aistrithe / Transfers

| District | Number |
|--------------|-----------|
| Ardee | 0 |
| Dundalk | 0 |
| Drogheda | 18 |
| Total | 18 |

Liosta Tithe / Housing List

| April 22, 2025 | Ardee | Drogheda | Dundalk | Total |
|---------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Housing List | 364 | 662 | 1135 | 2161 |
| HAP Transfer List | 297 | 924 | 1610 | 2831 |
| Total Housing List | 661 | 1586 | 2745 | 4992 |

There are **335** applications on the transfer list (Non HAP) within Social Housing including 74 applications from the Approved Housing Bodies.

Íocaíocht Cúnaimh Tithíochta / Housing Assistance Payment

The total number of applications in HAP is **2831**

| Ardee Municipal District | Drogheda Borough District | Dundalk Municipal District | Total |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| 297 | 924 | 1610 | 2831 |

Bainisteoireacht Chíosa / Rent Management The total number currently paying rent by Household Budget is **938**.

| Current Rents Arrears at April 23, 2025 | No of Accounts | Value |
|---|----------------|---------|
| Rents between 4-6 weeks old | 199 | €85,363 |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Rents between 7-12 weeks old | 164 | €127,063 |
| Rents greater than 12 weeks old | 1028 | €3,713,633 |
| TOTAL | 1391 | €3,926,059 |

The following correspondence was issued in April 2025

| Letter Type | Month/Year | Number Issued |
|--------------------------|------------|---------------|
| 1 st Reminder | April 2025 | 133 |
| 2 nd Reminder | April 2025 | 50 |
| Final Reminder | April 2025 | 34 |
| Total issued | | 217 |

112 new payment plans commenced in April 2025 (up to and including April 23, 2025).

Airíonna Re Lig & Neamhní / Relet and Void Properties

| Relet / Void Properties on April 22, 2025 | Total |
|--|-----------|
| Ardee Municipal District | 7 |
| Dundalk Municipal District | 10 |
| Drogheda Municipal Borough District | 30 |
| Subtotal (re-lets) Vacant Properties | 47 |
| CPO units not yet ready for occupation (All County) | 2 |
| Total Number of Properties (Relets & CPO) | 49 |

Note: Social units being used as short-term accommodation for homeless or emergency are not included in the above figures.

Cuairteanna Chothabhála / Maintenance Calls

| Maintenance | March 21 - April 22, 2025 | Total (YTD) |
|---|---------------------------|-------------|
| No. of Maintenance Requests Received | 820 | 4372 |
| No. of Maintenance Requests Completed | 676 | 3322 |
| No. of Maintenance Requests in Progress | 101 | 807 |
| No. of Maintenance Requests Refused | 43 | 243 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----|-----|
| RAS First Inspections | 1 | 1 |
| AHB First Inspections | 30 | 205 |
| Private Re-inspections | 1 | 3 |
| HAP Re-inspections | 24 | 118 |
| RAS Re-inspections | 0 | 0 |
| AHB Re-inspections | 15 | 69 |
| Inspections from Complaints | 1 | 2 |
| Properties Made Compliant | 18 | 55 |

Ríomhchlár Aisfheistithe Éifeachtúlachta Fuinnimh / Energy Efficiency Retrofit Program (EERP)

The 2025 EERP allocation for Louth, has been confirmed by the DHLGH as 140. Two units submitted over our allocation in 2024 will be taken out of this total. Two Units in Hillview are accounted for under the 2024 figures so the total for 2025 shall be shown as 138.

| Municipal District | Number of Commenced/ Completed Units |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Ardee MD: | - |
| Dundalk MD: Hillview Dundalk, Ladywell Dundalk | 12 |
| Drogheda BD: | - |

Páirtíocht Tionóntachta / Tenancy Engagement

| March 20, 2025 to April 17, 2025 | Drogheda | Ardee | Dundalk | Monthly Total | Yearly Total |
|---|----------|-------|---------|---------------|--------------|
| No. Tenants who attended Pre-tenancy training | 5 | 0 | 3 | 8 | 65 |
| Post-tenancy inspections | 3 | 0 | 15 | 18 | 53 |
| Tenancy Investigation Visits | 17 | 6 | 15 | 38 | 124 |

Cigireachtaí ar Tithe Príobháideacha atá ar fáil ar cíos / Private Rental Inspections

| For March 21st – April 22nd | April | YTD |
|------------------------------|-------|-----|
| Properties inspected monthly | 159 | 716 |
| Advisory letters issued | 276 | 752 |
| Improvement notices issued | 6 | 16 |
| Prohibition notices issued | 0 | 1 |
| Private Inspections | 0 | 0 |
| HAP First Inspections | 87 | 318 |



Hedge Planting completed in April in Clos na Manach, Carlingford supported by the Estate Management Section

Iompraíocht Fhrithshóisialta / Anti-Social Behaviour

| March 20, 2025 to April 17, 2025 | Drogheda | Ardee | Dundalk | Monthly | Yearly |
|----------------------------------|----------|-------|---------|---------|--------|
| ASB Cases* Received | 10 | 5 | 7 | 22 | 72 |
| ASB cases Ongoing | 10 | 6 | 7 | 23 | - |
| ASB cases complete | 3 | 8 | 12 | 23 | 47 |

Case = a unique incident of anti-social behaviour, not the number of complaint forms received

Fógraí a D'eisigh le haghaidh Sáru Tionóntachta / Notifications Issued for Tenancy Breaches

| March 20, 2025 to April 17, 2025 | Drogheda | Ardee | Dundalk | Monthly | Yearly |
|------------------------------------|----------|-------|---------|---------|--------|
| Verbal Notification Letters | 1 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 15 |
| Written Notification Letters | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| Tenancy Warnings Housing Act, 2014 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

Tithíocht Inacmhainne / Affordable Housing

The sale of the affordable houses at Ballymakenny Park, Drogheda is currently underway with all offers issued and sales in progress. It is expected the scheme will finalise in the coming weeks with all 10 units being successfully sold.

The next affordable housing scheme is Seven Winds, North Road, Drogheda with 8 houses available for purchase.

Morgáiste go Cíos (MGC) / Mortgage to Rent (MTR)

| | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| Active MTR Applications Total | 35 |
| AHB MTR Applications Active | 18 |
| AHB MTR completed 2025 | 1 |
| Private MTR Applications Active | 16 |

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Private MTR completed 2025 | 1 |
| MTR Application Awaiting Purchaser | 1 |

Deontas Athchóirithe D'áras Folamh / Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant

| | |
|---|-----|
| Applications Submitted: | 273 |
| Approved: | 194 |
| Rejected: | 16 |
| Withdrawn | 35 |
| Other (FI Requests, First Site Inspections) | 28 |
| Legal stages before Funding issued | 10 |
| Funding Issued to Applicant | 62 |
| Principal Private Residence | 202 |
| Rental Applications | 71 |

Iasacht Tí Údaráis Áitiúil / Local Authority Home Loans

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| 2025 Budget Allocation | €6,610,000 |
| LAHL Approvals at 28/04/2025 | €1,081,402 |
| Breakdown of LAHL applications processed at the 28th April, 2025 | |
| Total Number of Applications at 28/04/2025 | 13 |
| LAHL carried over from 2024 | 9 |
| Invalid/Returned | 8 |
| Approved | 8 |
| Declined | 3 |
| For Review | 2 |
| Outstanding – waiting on further information | 1 |

Gnóthaithee/Acquisitions

In April the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) issued a circular 11/2025 regarding the Social Housing Second Hand Acquisitions programme 2025. Louth County Council have been allocated €12m in 2025.

The circular sets out criteria for the purchase of second-hand homes for tenant in situ, disability and homeless.

In April, the Council did not purchase any property, however €2.3m has been spent from the allocated funding.

The Council is actively working with tenants and landlords in relation to the tenant in situ scheme where tenants had been given a notice to quit, some

of whom may be in receipt of HAP. The Council has also identified several properties for applicants who are homeless and or have a disability.

Cúnamh Deontais do Sheandaoine agus do Dhaoine faoi Mhíchumas / Grant Assistance to the Elderly and Disabled

| Status | HAG | MAG | HOP | Month | YTD |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----|
| Applications on Hand 15/04/2025 | 89 | 8 | 271 | - | 367 |
| Grants Approved 22/03/2025 – 15/04/2025 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 83 |

Seachadadh Caipitil Tithíochta / Capital Housing Delivery

Seachadadh Nua Tóg / New Build Delivery

| Current Approved Social Housing Delivery Units | |
|--|-------------|
| SHIP | 767 |
| CALF | 494 |
| CAS | 33 |
| TOTAL | 1294 |

| Housing for All Social Housing Build Delivery | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Year | Target | Actual | Projected | Total |
| 2022 | 660 | 227 | - | 227 |
| 2023 | 156 | 365 | - | 365 |
| 2024 | 160 | 438 | - | 438 |
| 2025 | 172 | 32 | 532 | 564 |
| 2026 | 175 | 0 | 427 | 427 |
| Total | 1,323 | 1,062 | 959 | 2,021 |

Quarry Court, Ardee

In April the Council acquired 20 new housing units in the residential development of Quarry Court, Ardee. The units include a mix of 2 & 3 bedroom apartments and 3 bed two-storey houses. All houses are A-Rated energy efficient homes. The housing units have been delivered by the Council through SHCIP Part V and Turnkey funding at a cost of €6.26m



Quarry Court, Ardee – Part V & Turnkey Housing

New Part V Housing units

The Council acquired 6 new houses through the Part V process in the residential development at Ballymakenny Park, Drogheda, Co. Louth. The housing units comprise a mix of 3 & 4 bedrooms and are A-Rated energy efficient homes.



Ballymakenny Park, Drogheda - Part V Housing Unit

Seachadadh SHIP / SHIP Delivery

| Project Name | Project Phase | Total Number of Social Units Expected | Project Status | Projected Substantial Completion Date | Unit Type |
|--|---------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Muirhevnamor, (Infill) Dundalk | 1/2 | 6 | On Site | 30/04/2025 | 2 * 2 bed & 4 * 3 bed |
| Muirhevnamor, (Infill) Dundalk | 2/2 | 5 | On Site | 31/05/2025 | 1 * 2 bed & 4 * 3 bed |
| Boice Court, Mell, Drogheda (Phase 2) | 1/2 | 13 | On Site | 31/05/2025 | 6 * 3 bed, 2 * 4 bed & 5 * 2 bed Apt |
| Boice Court, Mell, Drogheda (Phase 2) | 2/2 | 59 | On Site | 30/09/2025 | 21 * 3 bed, 2 * 4 bed, 8 * 1 bed Apt, 20 * 2 bed Apt & 8 * 3 bed Apt |
| Mount Avenue, Dundalk | 1/2 | 45 | On Site | 30/11/2025 | 14 * 2 bed, 16 * 3 bed, 3 * 4 bed, 2 * 1 bed Apt, 4 * 2 bed Apt, 6 * 3 bed Apt |
| Mount Avenue, Dundalk | 2/2 | 48 | On Site | 31/03/2026 | 9 * 2 bed, 13 * 3 bed, 6 * 4 bed, 10 * 1 bed Apt, 10 * 3 bed Apt |
| Rathmullen Park, Drogheda Infill | 1/1 | 4 | Stage 3 Approved | 25/12/2026 | 2 * 2 bed, 1 * 3 bed, 1 * 4 bed |
| Blackwater Meadow, Point Road, Dundalk | 1/1 | 44 | Stage 2 Approved | 31/08/2027 - TBC | 31 * 2 bed, 10 * 3 bed, 3 * 4 bed |
| Ravel Drive, Ravel, Dunleer | 1/1 | 70 | On-Site | 31/12/2026 | 45 * 2 bed, 20 * 3 bed, 5 * 4 bed |
| Bakery View, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda | 1/1 | 97 | On-Site | 31/03/2027 | 52 * 2 bed, 32 * 3 bed, 13 * 4 bed |
| An Mullach, Mullavalley, Louth Village | 1/1 | 58 | On-Site | 31/12/2026 | 28 * 2 bed, 24 * 3 bed, 5 * 4 bed, 1 * 5 bed |

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-------------------------------|------------|--|
| Greenhills Grange, Newtown Link Road, Drogheda | 1/1 | 46 | On-Site | 31/12/2026 | 42 * 2 bed, 3 * 3 bed, 1 * 5 bed |
| Anne St. Dundalk | 1/1 | 16 | Stage 1 Approved | 31/08/2027 | 8 * 2 bed Apt, 8 * 3 bed Apt. |
| Ballymakenny Road - East Site, Drogheda | 1/1 | 130 | PPP Bundle 5 Funding Approved | 30/06/2028 | 52 * 2 bed, 47 * 3 bed, 4 * 4 bed, 1 * 5 bed, 26 * 1 bed Apt |
| Mullagh Close, Clogherhead | 2/3 | 4 | On-site | 30/06/2025 | 4 * 3 bed |
| Mullagh Close, Clogherhead | 3/3 | 4 | On-site | 30/11/2025 | 4 * 3 bed |
| Knockshee, Old Golf Links Road, Blackrock, Dundalk | 1/1 | 12 | On-site | 30/11/2025 | 12 * 2 bed Apt. |
| Quarry Court, John St. / Stoneylane, Ardee, Co. Louth | 1/1 | 20 | Completed | 17/04/2025 | 11 * 3 bed, 3 * 3 bed Apt, 6 * 2 bed Apt. |
| Derryveigh House, Hoeyes Lane, Dundalk | 1/1 | 2 | On-site | 30/09/2025 | 1 * 3 bed, 1 * 4 bed |
| Clontygora, Dundalk | 1/1 | 2 | On-site | 30/11/2025 | 2 * 4 bed |
| Potters Field, Cappocks Green, Ardee, Co. Louth | 2/3 | 8 | On-site | 30/06/2025 | 7 * 3 bed, 1 * 2 bed |
| Potters Field, Cappocks Green, Ardee, Co. Louth | 3/3 | 1 | Funding Approved | 30/06/2026 | 1 * 2 bed |
| Seven Winds, North Road, Drogheda | 1/5 | 4 | On-site | 30/06/2025 | 4 * 1 bed Apt |

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|----|-----------|------------|--|
| Seven Winds, North Road, Drogheda | 2/5 | 4 | On-site | 30/09/2025 | 4 * 1 bed Apt |
| Seven Winds, North Road, Drogheda | 3/5 | 4 | On-site | 31/01/2026 | 4 * 1 bed Apt |
| Seven Winds, North Road, Drogheda | 4/5 | 12 | On-site | 31/03/2026 | 6 * 2 bed Apt, 6 * 3 bed Duplex |
| Seven Winds, North Road, Drogheda | 5/5 | 12 | On-site | 30/06/2026 | 6 * 2 bed Apt, 6 * 3 bed Duplex |
| Ballymakenny Park, Drogheda Phase 2 | 1/2 | 12 | On-site | 30/06/2025 | 12 * 2 bed Apt |
| Ballymakenny Park, Drogheda Phase 2 | 2/2 | 6 | On-site | 30/06/2025 | 4 * 1 bed Apt, 2 * 2 bed Apt |
| Ballymakenny Park, Drogheda Phase 3 | 1/2 | 6 | Completed | 16/04/2025 | 4 * 3 bed, 2 * 4 bed |
| Ballymakenny Park, Drogheda Phase 3 | 2/2 | 2 | On-site | 30/06/2025 | 2 * 2 bed Apt |
| Ellwood Park, Ballymakenny, Drogheda | 1/1 | 3 | On-site | 30/09/2025 | 3 * 3 bed |
| Listoke Pinesm Ballymakenny, Drogheda | 1/1 | 8 | On-Site | 30/11/2025 | 1 * 4 bed, 3 * 3 bed, 2 * 2bed Apt, 2 * 3 bed duplex |

Seachadadh CAS / CAS Delivery

| Project Name | AHB | Total Number of Social Units Expected | Project Status | Projected Substantial Completion Date | Unit Type |
|--|---------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Barrack Street, Dundalk, Co Louth | Dublin Simon | 21 | Stage 2 Approved | 15/09/2026 | Twenty one * 1 Bed apartments |
| Highfield, Newry Road, Dundalk, Co Louth | Women's Aid Dundalk | 12 | Stage 2 approved | 02/09/2026 | Five * 1 bed apartments Seven * 2 bed apartments |

Seachadadh CALF / CALF Delivery

| Project Name | | Total Number of Social Units Expected | Non-Part V/ Part V | Project Status | Projected Substantial Completion Date | Unit Type |
|-------------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Newtown View with Respond | 3/3 | 56 | | Completed | <u>April 2025</u> | *40 Three bed Houses *16 Two bed Houses |
| Flaxmill Lane with North & East | 1/1 | 17 | | Completed | <u>May 2025</u> | *7 one Bed Apt *7 two bed Apt *3 Three bed Apt |
| MacNeill View, Ecco Road with Cluid | 1/1 | 45 | | Completed | <u>April 2025</u> | *5 one bed Apt *31 two bed Apt *9 three bed Duplex |
| Dublin Road Dundalk with Respond | 3/3 | 16 | | Completed | <u>May 2025</u> | *6 one bed Apt *2 Three Bed Apt |

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|--------|----------|------------|---|
| | | | | | | *1 Two Bed Duplex *7 Three Bed Duplex |
| Racecourse Meadows with Circle | 1/3 | 18 | | On Site | 30/05/2025 | *18 Three bed Houses |
| Racecourse Meadows with Circle | 2/3 | 8 | | On Site | 30/06/2025 | *8 Three Bed Houses |
| Racecourse Meadows with Circle | 3/3 | 19 | 12/7 | On Site | 30/08/2025 | *10 Three Bed Houses *9 Two Bed Houses |
| Connollys Field Dundalk Fold Housing | 1/1 | 70 | 59/11 | On- Site | 01/06/2025 | *51 One bed apt *19 Two bed apt |
| Gullion Park Finnabair Dundalk Co- Operative Housing | 1/1 | 142 | 128/14 | On Site | 31/01/2026 | *48 One bed Apt *70 Two bed Apt *24 Three Bed Apt |
| Avourwen Meadows, Drogheda, Co. Louth Oaklee | 1/1 | 50 | 45/5 | On Site | 31/01/2026 | *18 One Bed Apt *32 Two Bed Apt |
| Crushrod Avenue Drogheda Co. Louth Cluid Housing | 1/2 | 20 | 15/5 | On Site | 31/05/2025 | *20 Two Bed apt/ Duplex |
| Crushrod Avenue Drogheda Co. Louth Cluid Housing | 2/2 | 33 | | On Site | 30/08/2025 | *8 One Bed Apt *16 Two Bed Apt *2 Two Bed House *7 Three Bed House |

Seirbhísí Cultúrtha / Cultural Services

An Chartlann / Archives



Archives Entrance Gate Sign

National Retention Policy Records Management Working Group

The County Archivist is assisting the LGMA-led Working Group on revising the record retention schedules of the National Retention Policy. The schedule for Fire Services is undergoing revision.

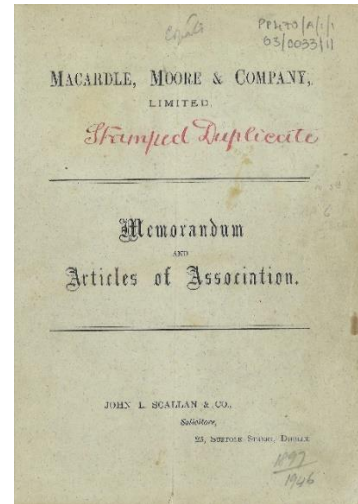
Digitisation Project

The digitisation of the historical minute books of Drogheda Corporation from 1649–1898 has very recently been completed and it is hoped that they will be placed online soon. This project is kindly funded by the County Louth Archaeological and Historical Society.

Recent Acquisitions

A collection of archival records of Macardle Moore and Company, brewers, dating to 1862–1961 was donated in 2024. It consists mainly of memorandums and articles of association, registers of members, directors' reports, statements of accounts, share stub books, and some correspondence. This collection provides an understanding of the local

social and economic history. It has now been catalogued and is available for research.



Memorandum and Articles of Association of Macardle Moore & Company, 1895

Research Enquiries



Extract of map of the Town and county of Drogheda by Robert Newcomen, 1657, recently used for research

Leabharlanna / Libraries



Spring into Storytime

Throughout the month of April Louth Library Service celebrated Spring into Storytime which provided an ideal opportunity for children and families to visit their local library and experience reading as a fun activity. Children and families enjoyed storytime sessions with Easter arts and crafts in the five branches of Louth Library Service.



Spring into Storytime in Dundalk Library

Little Library at Bedtime

As part of the Little Library at Bedtime initiative children aged four and under were invited to visit and collect a free bedtime storybook at their local library. Children were able to use the opportunity to become library members. As part of this initiative, each library branch welcomed facilitator Sarah Gilbert for Milo Mouse from 'Little Sunflower'. All children who attended the events received a copy of "The Kiss" by Eoin McLaughlin and Polly Dunbar. The interactive sessions included a story and a game to develop literacy skills as well as holistic exercises, art, drama

and games, movement, the use of the senses and employing simple psychology. The sessions also explored reading at bedtime and included soothing techniques to aid sleep.



Sarah Gilbert in Dundalk Library for Little Library at Bedtime

Louth Library Primary Schools Service

The Schools Library Service has been busy promoting Spring into Storytime and the Little Library at Bedtime initiatives by visiting Blackrock Montessori School in Dundalk, Shining Stars pre-school in Ardee and Philipstown Early Childcare in Dunleer in April.

The children enjoyed selecting Easter and Spring storybooks for their playrooms and were delighted with their special free Little Library at Bedtime book "The Kiss" and their library card wallets.

Adult Events

Drogheda and Dundalk Memory Cafés

Both Drogheda and Dundalk libraries' Alzheimer's Memory Cafés met on Tuesday, April 8. In Drogheda Louth Dementia Advisor Maeve Montgomery facilitated, and guest speaker Danielle Timmons,

Dementia Advisor for Meath, spoke about the signs, symptoms and living well with dementia. The next meeting in Drogheda will take place on Tuesday, May 13.

Dundalk had a lovely social afternoon at its Memory Café facilitated by Elaine Kearney, the Dementia Advisor for Cavan/Monaghan area. With the help of Maeve Montgomery, Elaine demonstrated simple Easter crafts, to recreate at home at very little cost, accompanied by the lovely uplifting songs from the Active Retirement Group Choir.



Elaine Kearney & Maeve Montgomery at Dundalk Memory Café

The cafés provide a welcoming space for people living with dementia. All are welcome to attend.

Louth County Childcare

Bronagh McGlade, Support and Development Officer from Louth County Childcare visited Drogheda Library's Parent and Toddler Group on April 17. Bronagh met with parents and provided information on the Access Inclusion Model and Childminding in the home.

Cuchulainn Camera Club – Exhibition

Dundalk library is delighted to be hosting Cuchulainn Camera Club for its annual exhibition which is on display April 14-27.

Many attended the official launch which took place on Monday evening April 14. The exhibition is open to all visitors to the library.



Freddie McArdle and Declan Gernon of Cuchulainn Camera Club

Children’s Events

Drogheda Library Zine Workshop

Rita Hynes from Drogheda Zine Fair facilitated a Zine workshop on April 23. Attendees explored some creative ideas behind zinemaking and DIY publishing. Using collage, drawing and sewing, participants created their very own zine to take home.



Zine-work created at Drogheda Library workshop

Na hEalaíona / Arts

Culture Night Call Out – we opened our 2025 Culture Night call out in April inviting all artists,

venues and community groups interested to submit proposals to host an event for Culture Night on September 19, 2025.

Applications closed on May 7 and the successful proposals selected for funding will be notified by the end of May. Culture Night is an all-island national movement that occurs every September. It encourages the public to host and/or partake in cultural events across multiple venues in the country. For further enquiries contact arts@louthcoco.ie

Highlanes Gallery

Exhibition-Diving In – Erin Lawlor’s stunning exhibition launched in Highlanes Gallery on April 26. Erin’s work, more than ever, explores a sense of place. This exhibition will be open to the public until mid-June when it will continue its tour to the Galway International Arts Festival and then will open in the Source Arts Centre in early 2026.

Ahead of the exhibition launch, Erin hosted a special evening workshop on April 16 where participants could get closer to her work and processes and explore colour and compositions and spatial awareness.



Artwork by Erin Lawlor in her 'Diving In' exhibition which launched in Highlanes Gallery on April 26

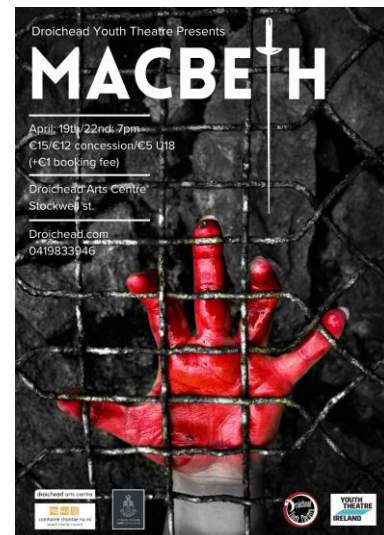
For details on all upcoming exhibitions and events at Highlanes please see <https://highlanes.ie/all-events/>

Drogheda Classical Music Series

DCMS held its final event of the 24/25 series on Friday April 11 with a memorable evening featuring one of Europe’s most prestigious pianists, **Katya Apekisheva**. The series finale featured works by Tchaikovsky, Schumann and Nicole Kapustin and was a remarkable series debut for the renowned musician.

Droichead Arts Centre

Droichead Youth Theatre (DYT) hosted a takeover in the Arts Centre in April over the Easter weekend with their production of ‘Macbeth’. The Shakespearean play follows the title character as he ascends to the throne of Scotland following an ominous prophecy from witches. The two productions were performed on Saturday April 19 and Tuesday April 22.



DYT poster for their Macbeth production in Droichead Arts Centre

DYT followed up their Easter weekend takeover with another one on April 25 & 26. This time an original play by the seniors’ group in DYT in partnership with writer Violet Thomson called ‘Critical Miss’, was performed. Funded under the Arts Council’s Young

Ensembles Scheme, the play uses fantasy role play, original music and family drama to tell a story.

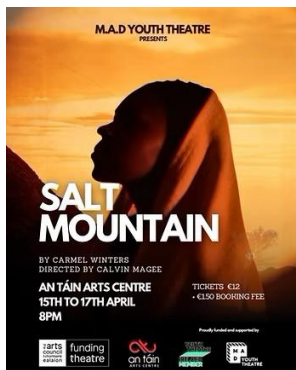
Droichead Online Bookclub, in association with Drogheda Library Service hosted a special session with author Edel Coffey, facilitated by writer Alice Kinsella. Discussing Edel's stand out novel 'In Her Place' the author chatted about the reading experience and understanding what makes a good story work.

For more details on the book club, Droichead Youth Theatre group and any other upcoming events at Droichead Arts centre please see <https://www.droichead.com/whats-on.html>

An Táin Arts Centre

Salt Mountain – MAD Youth Theatre presented their powerful play about loss and love in April. Directed by local practitioner Calvin McGee the play is set on a mountainside and deals with a group of young people escaping war and genocide.

This production was performed in the round in the main theatre with no less than two tonnes of sand brought in alongside four giant puppet heads! This production was created in partnership with the Arts Council's Young People, Children and Education Project Award.



Poster for Salt Mountain production

The **Japanese Film Festival** returned to An Táin for its 9th year on April 18. The unique festival featured a diverse and packed programme of films including works of acclaimed filmmakers from contemporary Japanese cinema. The festival also featured 2 special screenings: City Hunter: Angel Dust and Tekkonkinkreet.

Exhibition – Dundalk Photographic Society. Launched their annual exhibition on April 12 marking their 46th anniversary since the foundation of the society. The exhibition featured over one-hundred images.

For all events and exhibitions in An Táin Arts Centre see <https://www.antain.ie/whats-on/> for details.

Creative Spark

Creative Spark launched their new 3-year strategy on Friday April 11. The new strategy outlines the goals and aims over the next few years and the supports and programmes it will endeavour to offer.



Staff of Creative Spark alongside members of the Board of Directors at the launch of the new strategy

Creative Sparks **Creative Club** for kids began its new term on April 29. This creative after school club runs weekly from 3.30-4.30 p.m. each Tuesday and young artists get to explore a huge variety of

techniques and projects including ceramics, printmaking, laser cutting and painting.

The **Ceramics classes for adults** will resume now in May and the Tuesday evening painting classes with Anne Gribben also restarted on April 29.

For details on all the courses and training available through Creative Spark and booking details please see <https://creativespark.ie/events>

Oriel Centre

Fergal Scahill & Ryan Molloy performed in the Oriel Centre on April 13. Featuring music from their new album 'The Gannets Dive', the intimate setting was provided the perfect backdrop to their technically brilliant and soulful playing.

For more information on upcoming events in the Oriel Centre please see <https://orielcentre.ie/>

Funding

The **Arts Council** of Ireland have a range of funding streams open throughout the year. Opening for submission in May are funds including the Festival Investment Scheme, Round 1; Authored Works Scheme; Project Award 2026 and Bursary Award – Round 2.

For details on these, and other funding streams, with the arts council please see <https://artscouncil.ie/funding/funding-opportunities/>

Creative Ireland

Programming and planning for this year's Cruinniú na nÓg programme is well under way. Cruinniú na nÓg is a national day of free access to arts and creativity for children and young people aged up to eighteen years of age. For details on the Louth programme keep an eye on the new Cruinniú na nÓg website <https://cruinniu.gov.ie/>



Fun at Market Square in Dundalk with our Cruinniú na nÓg Big Day Out in 2024

For more information on our creative Ireland programme email creativeireland@louthcoco.ie or check out the list of projects on the Louth page of the national Creative Ireland website <https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/en/louth/>.

Projects will be posted on the website over the coming weeks as they begin.

An Iarsmalann / Museum

Museum news

The month of April has been a busy time at the Museum with a combination of lectures, exhibitions and other events hosted at the Jocelyn Street venue.

Host morning for County Louth tourism

The Museum hosted during April a familiarisation morning for tourist service providers based in the county. The event proved to be exceptionally popular, drawing attendance and support from Dundalk Chamber of Commerce, tour guides, coach drivers, B&B owners and other tourist sector attractions. The morning offered participants the opportunity to familiarise themselves not only the

with Museum but also as a valuable networking opportunity.

In keeping with the tourism theme the Museum held an information stall at the Dundalk Chamber of Commerce's annual Cross-Border Tourism Conference at Carlingford's Four Seasons Hotel.

Art exhibition

The Museum is currently hosting an art exhibition on its mezzanine floor featuring the work of local artists Michael Grant and Mark Devenney. The exhibition will run until May 3.



Gallery view of art exhibition at the Museum

Additional Activities

The Museum hosted a Spring lecture organised by the Old Dundalk Society, in conjunction with The County Louth Archaeological and Historical Society, entitled St Oliver Plunkett: His Life and Times in the Dundalk Area on April 10.



An audience enrapt, Tommy Burns on the life and times of St. Oliver Plunkett

The lecture presented by Tommy Burns highlighted the Dundalk aspects of Plunkett's life most notably his incarceration in Dundalk prior to his execution.

Recent acquisitions

The Museum collection continues to grow as evidenced by the acquisition of these beautiful and quite different items – a butter stamp and two examples of trench art from the First World War.



Butter stamp



Two beautiful examples of trench art from the Great War