

LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT



Dated: 6th February 2026



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Tuairisc Bhainistíochta Mhíosúil an Príomhfheidhmeannach – 31ú Eanáir 2026

Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report – 31st January 2026

A Chara,

I enclose the above report for your statutory consideration, this report has also been prepared under Section 136 & 138 of the Local Government Act, 2001. The attached report is the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report for January 2026, detailing activities, updates, and progress across various departments of Louth County Council.

Here is a summary of key achievements and actions under various directorates from the Chief Executive Report for January 2026:

1. Financial Management and System Support

- The financial management report outlines the expenditure and income of Louth County Council as of January 30, 2026.
- Total actual expenditure to date: €13,966,544 against a budget of €203,652,265 (7% spent).
- Total actual income: €46,576,018 against a budget of €203,652,265 (23% invoiced).
- 852 support calls logged in January 2026, with an 86.85% completion rate.
- 13% of inbound emails identified as potentially harmful due to phishing and spam.

2. Economic Delivery

- An open call is in place for businesses who wish to take part in the Age Friendly Business Program workshops.
- Over 90 applications received for the Festival Grant Initiative, currently under assessment.
- Collaboration with Meath and Kildare for the development of Brigid's Way pilgrimage route.
- The Association of Town and City Management (ATCM) confirmed that Drogheda has once again been awarded Purple Flag status
- The Council has introduced a Rates Waiver Scheme for 2026
- Planning and Development
- 90 planning applications received in December 2025, 81 deemed valid.
- 67 applications determined, with a refusal rate of 10.45%.
- 17 planning enforcement complaints investigated, with 16 cases resolved through negotiation.
- €269,655 recouped from the Built Heritage Investment Scheme for various projects.
- A Chief Executive's Report has been prepared on submissions received during the public consultation period for the Pre-Draft Strategic Issues Paper for the new Louth County Development Plan 2027 - 2033.

3. Operations and Environmental Delivery

- Major drainage remediation efforts included cleaning gullies and addressing flooding issues during and after Storm Chandra.
- Routine maintenance activities include litter picking, road repairs, and public space upkeep on going.
- Significant pothole repairs conducted across various locations in Dundalk and Drogheda.
- Illegal dumping addressed with the removal of multiple loads of waste from various sites.
- Waste Enforcement Activities, 21 complaints received and investigated, all related to waste.
- Water Pollution, 12 complaints received, with investigations ongoing.
- Air and Noise Pollution, 6 complaints and 3 noise pollution cases reported.
- Discharge Licences, 13 inspections carried out for Section 4 Discharge Licences.
- Control of Dogs, 35 dogs processed through the pound, with 3 rehomed.
- Dog Licences, 530 licences sold, with 115 notices issued for licence production.
- Community Climate Action Fund: 51 applications received for funding, totalling €2,360,344.37.
- There were 387 incidents for quarter 2 in 2025 by the fire service.

4. HR, Corporate & Community Delivery

- In January 2026 the Customer Services team dealt with 19,285 queries inclusive of 9,780 calls, 1,185 e-mails and 8,320 counter queries. 11,346 (59%) of queries received were dealt with at first point of contact
- Age-Friendly Housing: Site visit to Connolly's Field for a new housing development for those over 55, 70 homes to be made available.

- Local Enhancement Programme, €239,207.33 allocated for community projects, with applications open until February 27, 2026.
- To date, total funding allocated to LEADER projects in Louth under the 2023-2027 LEADER Programme amounts to €1,201,645.50.
- The Tidy Towns Project Scheme closed for applications on 5th January 2026, nineteen applications have been assessed.
- The first meeting of the Community Safety Partnership took place and elected its new Chairman.

5. Housing and Culture Delivery

- Tenancy Engagement and Anti-Social Behaviour Initiatives
- Pre-tenancy training attendance, 29 tenants attended training sessions across Louth.
- Tenancy investigation visits, 16 visits were made,
- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) cases received, 15 cases reported,
- Homelessness Support: 196 individuals presented as homeless, with 148 receiving advice and support.
- Rent Management: €4,075,989 in rent arrears reported.
- Affordable Housing Developments and Initiatives
- Quarry Court, Ardee
- Ushers Mill, Drogheda:
- Applications for 3 additional affordable schemes in Blackrock and Dundalk are being prepared.
- Housing Adaptation Grants, 299 applications are currently being processed.
- Archives exhibition: “Intervals of Peace” exhibition is ongoing until 26th February 2026.
- Over 2,250 children engaged with the Schools Library Service in 2025.
- A consultation for the Library Development Programme 2026-2030 is open until 20th March 2026.
- Applications are open until 12th February for 2026 Arts Act grants.

6. Major Capital Projects and Infrastructure Delivery

- Urban regeneration projects: Ongoing projects include the St. Nicholas Quarter and Longwalk Urban Framework Plan.
- Active Travel projects: €4 million allocated for active travel and safe routes to schools projects.
- Flood Defence and Coastal Erosion Projects
- Dundalk Flood Relief Projects: Ongoing assessments and public participation planned for Q1/Q2 2026.
- Carlingford and Greenore Flood Relief: Developing project briefs based on recent flood events and survey data.

I would like to conclude by expressing my sincere appreciation for the exceptional commitment, resilience, and professionalism demonstrated by the entire Louth County Council team. Across all directorates, staff continued to deliver high quality public services, maintain critical operations, and support our communities with dedication and pride. This was particularly evident during and after Storm Chandra, when teams undertook major works, cleared gullies, responded to flooding incidents, ensured public spaces, essential infrastructure were kept safe and functional.

I encourage all members to read the full report, which reflects the breadth and impact of the remarkable work carried out across the organisation.

Regards



David Conway
Chief Executive
Louth County Council

Tuairisc Bhainistíochta Mhíosúil an Príomhfheidhmeannach –31ú Eanáir 2026
Chief Executive’s Monthly Management Report – 31st January 2026

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An Stúirthóireacht Airgeadais agus Tacaíochta Córais Finance and System Support Directorate

Tá an stiúrthóireacht seo freagrach as bainistíocht airgeadais na heagraíochta, lena n-áirítear cuntais iníoctha agus infhaighte, le rialú agus seachadadh gach córais dhitigigh TFC, lena n-áirítear seirbhísí teileachumarsáide, soláthar, iniúchadh & bainistíocht riosca agus sócmhainní.

This directorate is responsible for the financial management of the organisation, including accounts payable and receivable, with control and delivery of all ICT digital systems, including telecommunications services, procurement, audit & risk and asset management.

Bernadette Woods
Stiúrthóir / Director



Tuairiscí Airgeadais / Financial Reports

Caiteachas go dtí 30^ú Eanáir 2026 / Expenditure to 30th of January 2026

Rannóg / Section	Actual Expenditure to 30/01/2026 / Caiteachas Iarbhír go dtí 30/01/2026	Caiteachas Buiséadaithe 2026 / Budget Expenditure 2026	% Caite go 30/01/2026 / % Spent to 30/01/2026
Tithíocht / Housing	€5,936,210	€91,043,877	7%
Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht / Road Transportation & Safety	€2,602,731	€29,724,225	9%
Seirbhísí Uisce / Water Services	€464,771	€6,253,179	7%
Bainistíocht Forbartha / Development Management	€1,558,479	€25,275,969	6%
Seirbhísí Timpeallachta / Environmental Services	€1,756,228	€26,717,755	7%
Áineas agus Conláiste / Recreation and Amenity	€752,134	€13,508,055	6%
Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas / Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	€72,159	€1,342,504	5%
Ilghnéitheach / Miscellaneous	€823,832	€9,786,701	8%
	€13,966,544	€203,652,265	7%

Ioncam go dtí 30^ú Eanáir 2026 / Income to 30th of January 2026

Rannóg / Section	Ioncam Iarbhír go dtí 30/01/2026 / Actual Income to 30/01/2026	Ioncam Buiséadaithe 2026 / Budget Income 2026	% Sonraisc Curtha do dtí 30/01/2026 / % Invoiced to 30/01/2026
Tithíocht / Housing	€5,060,152	€91,667,227	6%
Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht / Road Transportation & Safety	€242,079	€17,228,704	1%
Seirbhísí Uisce / Water Services	€171,485	€4,864,078	4%
Bainistíocht Forbartha / Development Management	€434,006	€13,604,272	3%
Seirbhísí Timpeallachta / Environmental Services	€123,238	€4,843,340	3%
Áineas agus Conláiste / Recreation and Amenity	€58,840	€1,971,310	3%
Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas / Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	€15,670	€474,809	3%
Ilghnéitheach / Miscellaneous	€55,719	€17,390,898	0%
Rátaí / Rates	€40,414,829	€39,640,432	102%
Deontas Ilfheidhmeach / General Purpose Grant (LPT)	€0	€11,966,198	0%
	€46,576,018	€203,652,265	23%

The above is the current position as of the 30th of January 2026. 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 2026 is included in the above figure.

Collection rates as of 30th of January 2026 are as follows:

Féichiúnaithe mar atá 30^ú Eanair 2026 / Debtors as of 30th of January 2026

	Iarmhéid Tosaigh / Opening Balance	Sonraisc / Invoices	Fáltais / Receipts	Discríobhanna / Write Offs	Iarmhéid Deiridh / Closing Balance
Féichiúnaithe Rialtais / Government Debtors	€12,012,659	€6,730,709	(€6,925,885)	(€Nil)	€11,817,483
Uadaráis Áitiúla Eile / Other Local Authorities	€200,262	€447,454	(€537,810)	(€Nil)	€109,906
Rataí / Rates	€5,156,293	€40,414,829	(€1,230,908)	(€13,490)	€44,326,724
Cíosanna / Rent	€3,462,664	€1,744,166	(€1,403,603)	(€Nil)	€3,803,227
Iasachtal / Loans	€273,488	€0	(€188,400)	(€Nil)	€85,088
Tobhaigh Forbartha / Development Levies	€7,208,312	€977,977	(€434,934)	(€Nil)	€7,751,355
Táilí Seirbhíse Dóiteáin / Fire Charges	€944,663	€73,403	(€50,295)	(€Nil)	€967,771
Ilgheitheach / Miscellaneous	€3,386,795	€333,559	(€393,273)	(€Nil)	€3,327,081
Féichiúnaithe Iomlána / Total Debtors	€32,645,136	€50,722,097	(€11,165,108)	(€13,490)	€72,188,635

Above are the debtor balances as of 30th of January 2026. The Miscellaneous debtor figure includes the Irish Water SLA recoupments, Corporate, Community & Enterprise, LEO, Planning, Enforcement, Environment, Sports, Arts, Roads, Library, Museum and Finance miscellaneous billings.

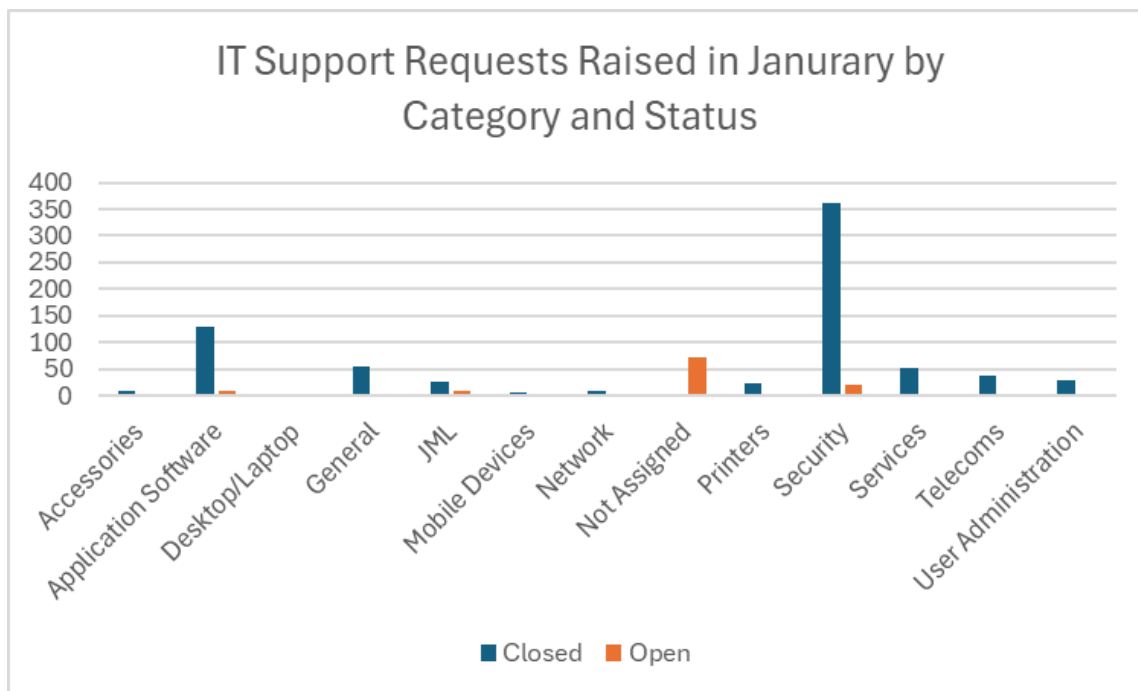
Annual Financial Statement

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

Techneolaíocht Faisnéise agus Cumarsáide / Information & Communication Technology

Deasc Chabhrach / Helpdesk

Between 01/01//2026 and the 30/01/2026 there were 852 support calls logged in the IT support system. 86.85% of these calls have been completed.



Security and Application Software were the highest categories of support requests in January.

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 01/01/2026 – 30/01/2026 13% of inbound e-mails were identified as potentially harmful.

Inbound Email count	Emails Processed by Gateway	Emails Processed by Protect
389,449	156,423	233,026
Blocked Sender	Blocked at gateway	Total blocked by spam/virus
4,317	18,242	26,167
Blocked by content rules	Potentially harmful emails	Deleted by Protect
661	12.7%	3

Suíomh Gréasáin Comhairle Chontae Lú / Louth County Council Website

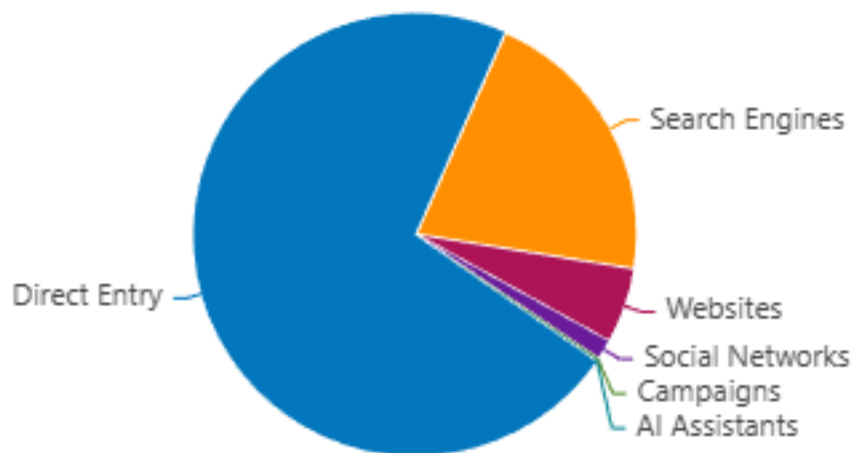
There were 17,558 unique page views of www.louthcoco.ie between 1st and 30th January 2026. The below table shows the pages which received the highest number of page views in this month. Online planning services, Services and Dog Pound received the highest number of page views in January.

PAGE URL	PAGEVIEWS	UNIQUE PAGEVIEWS
/en/	56.7% 22,902	18.7% 3,278
/en/services/planning/online-planning-and-maps/	2% 824	3.8% 671
/en/home/	1.9% 751	3.2% 563
/en/services/	1.8% 723	3.2% 556
/en/services/planning/	1.6% 657	2.9% 505
/en/ - Others	1.5% 623	2.8% 496
/en/services/dog-pound/	1.3% 545	2.2% 391
/en/services/library/	1.1% 448	1.8% 321
/en/services/housing/	0.9% 370	1.6% 283
/en/contact/louth-county-council/	0.7% 294	1.4% 250
/en/services/planning/online-planning-and-maps/e-planning.html	0.8% 308	1.3% 230

The chart below presents the visitor entry point to www.louthcoco.ie in January by channel type. Most visitors entered directly to the website with search engines and other websites being the next most used channels.

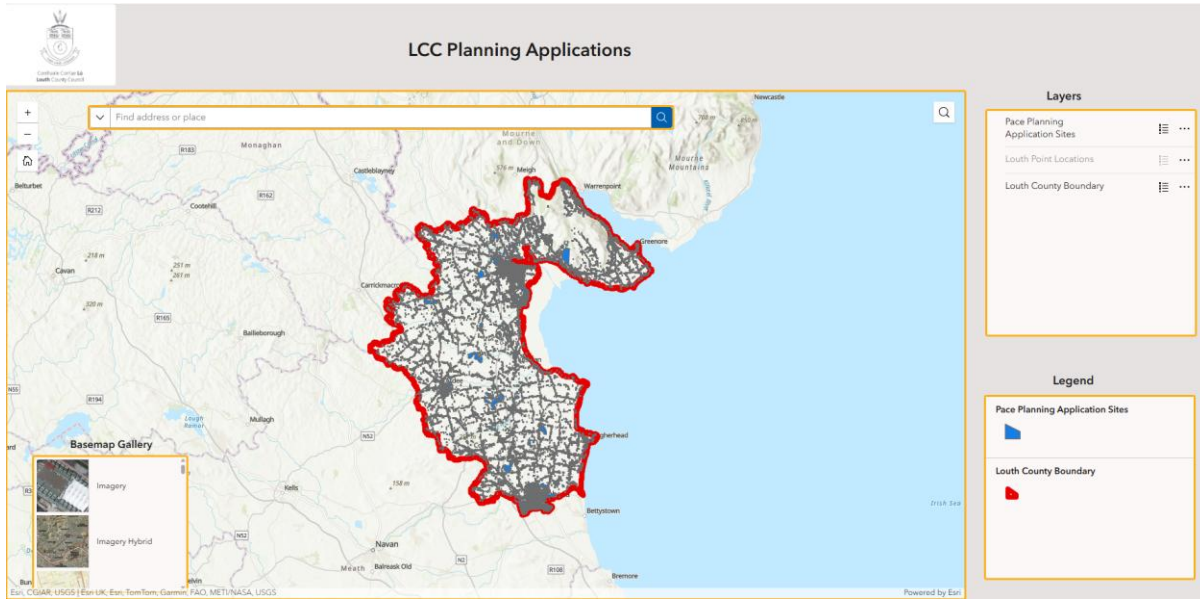
Channel Types

 — Visits

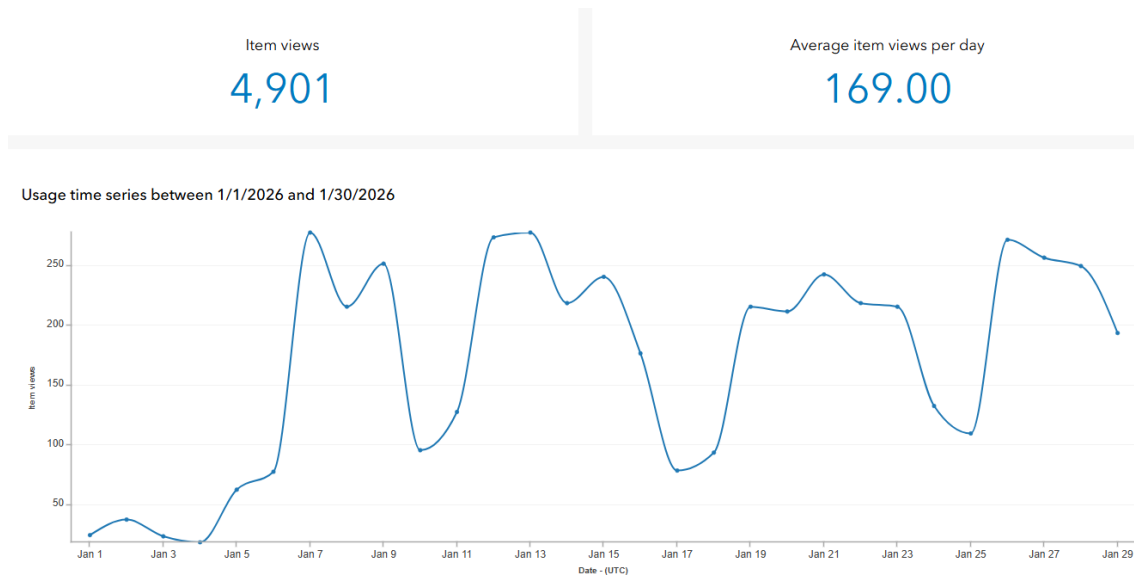


ArcGIS Online – Public Planning Register Map Viewer

The LCC GIS Team recently updated the online Planning Register Map Viewers. These can be accessed from the Online Planning Application and Maps section user Services> Planning on the Louth County Council website.



The data in the application is updated regularly to include all planning applications. There were 4901 views of the application between 01/01/2026 and 30/01/2026, an average of 169 views a day in January.



Cyber Security Training

January’s cyber security training demonstrated the impact a cyber security incident can have on a business. The video highlighted how a single successful spear-phishing attack can completely disable a business’s systems, leading to operational shutdown, financial loss and serious reputational damage. It reinforces the importance of staff vigilance — especially being cautious with suspicious links or attachments — because one careless click can enable a cyber-criminal to infiltrate and take control of critical systems.

An Stiúrthóireacht um Sheachadadh Eacnamaíoch Economic Delivery Directorate

Tá an stiúrthóireacht seo freagrach as clár oibre eacnamaíoch na heagraíochta a sheachadadh, lena n-áirítear turasóireacht, Fiontair Áitiúla agus Pleanáil, lena n-áirítear oidhreacht thógtha.

This directorate is responsible for the delivery of the organisation's economic agenda, including Tourism, Local Enterprise and Planning, including Built Heritage.

Thomas McEvoy
Stiúrthóir / Director



An Stiúirthóireacht um Sheachadadh Eacnamaíoch / Directorate of Economic Delivery

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)

A meeting of the Economic Development & Enterprise Support SPC took place in Town Hall, Dundalk on Thursday, 22nd January.

Age Friendly Business

An open call is in place for businesses who wish to take part in the Age Friendly Business Program workshops. To take part, and for further information please email econdev@louthcoco.ie.

Turasóireacht / Tourism

Festival Grants 2026

The Festival Grant Initiative and the Regional Festivals and Participative Events Programme 2026 closed to applications on Wednesday, 21st January. Over 90 applications were received and are currently being assessed. Results will be issued to all applicants in due course.

For information on all festivals and events happening across the county please visit: <https://www.visitlouth.ie/whats-on/>.

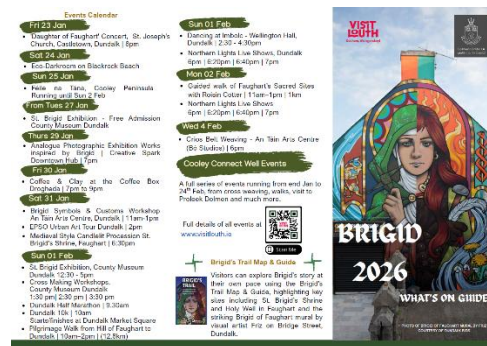
Visit Louth

The Visit Louth website provides a [what's on](#) section for the County aiming to inform and attract tourists to the area and building their experiences. Submissions for events or attractions can be made via this [link](#).

Brigid 2026

As the birthplace of Brigid, Visit Louth have compiled a guide to all events being held to celebrate St. Brigid this January/February. Full details of all events are available [here](#).

An outside broadcast by LMFM took place from the County Museum on Thursday, 29th January featuring Council staff and organisers of some of the events organised over the bank holiday weekend.



Brigid What's On Guide

Holiday World Show

In January, Visit Louth and sea louth had promotional stands at the Holiday World Shows in Belfast and Dublin. The stands were promoted by a number of local businesses in addition to Council staff. The events were well attended with over 1,000 entrants to the Louth competitions with prizes kindly sponsored by the Carrickdale Hotel, Whodunit Hunts, Ghan House, The Fairways Hotel, Dundalk Stadium, and Carlingford Adventure Centre.



Visit Louth / sea louth Stand at Holiday World Show, Dublin

Brigid's Way

A collaboration is in place with Meath and Kildare County Councils, Fáilte Ireland and stakeholders,

led by Louth County Council to examine options for the development of a Brigid's Way cross-county route. Consultants Outscape Trading Ltd. are in the process of being appointed to deliver an options paper on the pilgrimage route.

Reimagined Boyne Valley Drive

A Part VIII is currently being prepared by Consultants Paul Hogarth company for the installation of a range of tourism signage including road side signage to demarcate tourism clusters, arrival information, wayfinding and interpretation signage to guide visitors at arrival points and visitor experiences along the Boyne Valley Drive. Works will include upgrade and improvements to a series of walks at a number of locations including upgraded surfaces, parking areas, seating, and minor structures to enhance visitor experience. The project is guided by a steering committee of Louth County Council, Meath County Council, Office of Public Works, National Parks & Wildlife Services, Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage, and Fáilte Ireland.

Táin Trail

The Táin Trail retraces the journey taken by Queen Medb (Maeve) of Connacht and her armies during the Irish epic legend of Táin Bó Cuailgne. It travels from Queen Medb's palace in Rathcroghan, County Roscommon, across to the Cooley Peninsula in County Louth crossing through Counties Longford, Westmeath and Meath. The five respective County Councils, with Fáilte Ireland, are collaborating to develop a project to sign post the route for local communities and tourists.



Táin Trail

Boyne Valley Flavours (BVF)

January has been focused on membership recruitment, as Boyne Valley Flavours works towards a 15% increase in membership in 2026 (from 105 members in 2025). Boyne Valley Flavours is also progressing with the Boyne Valley Bites

initiative, currently mapping how food service businesses across Louth and Meath source ingredients, including distributor routes and direct purchasing from producers. The first member meet-up of the year takes place on Tuesday, 24th February at Elmgrove Irish Flower Farm.

The Centre of Food Culture, Boyne Valley

The Centre of Food Culture Ireland is delighted to be partnering with the University of Gastronomic Sciences, Pollenzo, Italy to co-ordinate a week-long study trip to the Boyne Valley region in March this year. This is the second time the university will travel to the region, following the success of their 2025 trip, and The Centre of Food Culture Ireland is preparing itinerary which is set to include visits to 20+ producers and hospitality providers based in Louth and Meath.

Geilleagar Oíche Dhroichead Átha / Drogheda Night-Time Economy

A New Chapter in Drogheda's Alternative Identity

Drogheda took another step forward this month in defining itself as Ireland's east coast alternative. The *Drogheda Zine Fair* brought more than 50 zine makers into the town centre on Saturday, 24th January, drawing national visitors and giving the town a rare cultural spotlight at this time of year. It continues to position Drogheda as a home for DIY publishing, independent voices and emerging subcultures.

As part of the fair, *Subvert All Power: Drogheda's Punk Rock History – Volume II* was launched on the evening of Saturday, 24th January at The Watchtower venue in McHughs. The night combined a live reading by Patrick Dillon and late-night guerrilla cinema by The Factory Roof, reinforcing the strength and visibility of Drogheda's independent creative scene.

The publication is a cultural artefact capturing a whole authentic scene — music, art, urban lifestyle and fashion that has shaped Drogheda's alternative identity. The first volume from 2016 has since become a collector's item, and Volume II now updates that story for a new generation. This publication will help us:

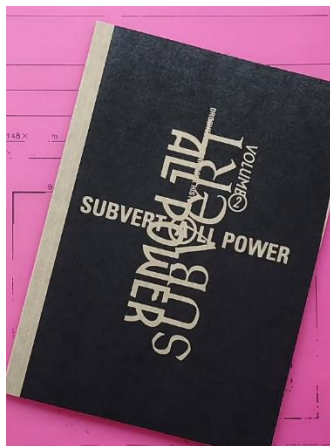
- show Drogheda's cultural identity in future Night-Time Economy work

- support the upcoming night-time economy strategy
- strengthen future funding bids by evidencing active grassroots culture
- highlight positive social impact, with proceeds supporting mental health charity SOSAD (Save Our Sons and Daughters).

Volume I can be viewed at:

<https://linktr.ee/droghedazinefair>.

Volume II will shortly be made available online, but copies can be obtained in the meantime by contacting nighttimeeconomy@louthcoco.ie.



Subvert All Power: Drogheda's Punk Rock History – Volume II

Drogheda Awarded Purple Flag for 2026

On Wednesday, 28th January, the Association of Town and City Management (ATCM) confirmed that Drogheda has once again been awarded Purple Flag status — an achievement driven by community energy, strong partnership and a genuine commitment to culture. Similar to Blue Flags for beaches, Purple Flag is an international award recognising town centres that offer an appealing and enjoyable experience after 5.00pm. Drogheda was assessed on 25th October, when two ATCM assessors visited during the Lú Festival of Light, meeting a broad range of partners contributing to the town's evening offer.

The renewal highlighted Drogheda's community spirit and its strong arts and culture presence, with cultural anchors including the Barbican, Highlanes Gallery, Droichead Arts Centre, and The Kiosk Project Art Space. Initiatives such as the Lú Festival of Light, Night Moves late cafés and the Dominican Church opening for The Cottage Market were also praised, along with the town's growing partnership with Safe Gigs Ireland.

Drogheda has held Purple Flag continuously since 2019, coordinated by a working group involving the Council, Drogheda & District Chamber, Love Drogheda, An Garda Síochána, Safe Gigs Ireland, and a range of local night operators.

What this means for the year ahead?

- A clear confidence marker for residents, visitors and communications — helping shape a more assured perception of Drogheda after dark.
- A stronger platform for funding, investment and promotion, supported by independent validation.
- A framework for improvement across Purple Flag's themes: appeal, place, movement, wellbeing and policy.

Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil / Local Enterprise Office

Showcase 2026

Showcase 2026 took place at the RDS Dublin from Sunday 18th to Tuesday 20th January. Showcase brings together more than 400 Irish brands and thousands of buyers from Ireland, the UK, Europe, the USA and beyond, offering a powerful platform for creative enterprises to grow their international reach.

The three Louth makers exhibiting at Showcase 2026 and supported by LEO Louth reflect the quality, originality and entrepreneurial spirit in the county's creative sector.

The three businesses were:

- **Almond Rose Designs**, based in Clogherhead, crafts eco-friendly, pet-themed greeting cards celebrating the special bond between pets and their owners.
- Artist **Tracy Fry** creates striking resin maps, landscapes, and symbolic copper pieces inspired by nature and Irish heritage.
- Dundalk jeweller **Rebecca McDermott**, who creates handcrafted fine jewellery inspired by the sea, shoreline textures, and natural imperfection.



Almond Rose Designs



Tracy Fry



Rebecca McDermot

Business Supports Made Simple – Information Session Ardee Library Thursday 22nd January

On the evening of Thursday 22nd January, the Louth LEO team hosted an information session to showcase the wide array of supports / services that are available to local businesses.



Louth LEO delivering a presentation at the Information Session in Ardee Library

Lithuanian Embassy Visit to Louth – 28th January

On Wednesday, 28th January the Commercial Attaché to the Lithuanian Embassy visited the Town Hall to meet members of Dundalk Chamber of Commerce together with members of the LEO team to discuss opportunities for Louth based businesses to make links and trade with the Lithuanian nation.

Local Enterprise Awards



The Local Enterprise Awards Louth 2026 will take place as the closing event of Local Enterprise Week on Friday, 6th March. The Awards recognise achievement across six categories: Start-Up, Established Business, Innovation, Green/Sustainability, Digitalisation, and Export. The overall winner will go on to represent Louth at the National Enterprise Awards in Dublin.

Rates Waiver Scheme

The Council has introduced a Rates Waiver Scheme for 2026 with the aim to assist and provide incentives for new businesses to locate in vacant commercial premises in the town centres to encourage diversity of retail opportunities. LEO Louth is promoting this scheme.

The initiative is designed to reduce the financial pressure on new businesses setting up in premises that have been vacant for more than 12 months. Eligible applicants can benefit from a phased waiver on commercial rates over a three-year period, offering significant savings during the critical early years of trading. Businesses approved under the scheme will receive a full rates waiver in year one, followed by a 50 per cent reduction in year two and a 25 per cent reduction in year three.

Annual Employment Survey



Oidhreacht / Heritage

The Heritage Office helped prepare applications to the Community Monuments Fund (CMF), working on both the Council's own applications and promoting and advising on the scheme to third parties.

Consideration was given to potential applications that could qualify under the Irish Walled Towns Network and the Historic Towns Initiative (both Heritage Council initiatives).

Assistance was provided to the County Archive and the County Museum regarding their applications to the Heritage Council's 'Heritage Stewardship Fund'.

Minister of State for Employment, Small Business and Retail, Alan Dillon, T.D., has announced the annual results of the Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs) for 2025. The annual results showed that LEO Louth supported companies in creating 219 new jobs in 2025, representing a 61% increase on 2024 and a net employment gain of 74 in 2025.

January Supports Approved:

- 3 Lean for Business Approved
- 1 Digital for Business Approved

LEO Workshops and Training Held:

- **Business Advice Clinics** - 35 business advice clinic appointments were carried out in January.
- **LEO Mentoring** - 23 Mentors were appointed to businesses in January to provide practical and strategic one-to-one advice and guidance.
- **LEO Training** - 5 training courses were held in January: (1) Start Your Own Business (2) HR for Non-HR (3) Book-keeping for Small Business (4) Business Support Event in Ardee and (5) Canva for Beginners.

Pleanáil / Planning

Bainistíocht Forbartha / Development Management

The Planning service indicators for the Council for the month of December 2025 are given below in tabular form. There were 90 planning applications received during the month of December of which 81 were valid, bringing the total valid applications for 2025 to 1,032. In addition, there were 31 responses received during the month to requests for further information and 8 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	4	22	39	2	67
(ii) Líon na gcinntí inar iarradh breis eolais / No. of decisions determined which required further information	4	11	12	2	29
(iii) Céatadán na n-iarratas a diúltaíodh / Percentage of applications refused	50% (2)	13.64% (3)	5.13% (2)	0% (0)	10.45% (7)
(iv) Líon na n-achomharc a cinneadh / Number of appeals determined	0	3	2	0	5
(v) Céatadán na gcinntí a cuireadh ar ceal ar achomharc / Percentage of decisions overturned on appeal	0% (0)	33.33% (1)	0% (0)	0% (0)	20% (1)

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	
	Nollaig 2025 / December 2025	Bliain go dtí seo / Year to Date	Nollaig 2024 / December 2024	Bliain go dtí seo / Year to Date
Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh / Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated	17	283	15	256
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	16	253	16	237
Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh / Number of Warning letters issued	14	262	16	237
Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh / Number of Enforcement Notices issued	0	7	1	16
Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí / Number of cases referred for legal proceedings	0	9	0	3
Líon na n-urghairí / Number of Injunctions	0	0	0	0
Líon na n-ionchúiseamh / Number of Prosecutions	0	1	0	0

Pleanáil Chun Cinn / Forward Planning

Conservation Grant Schemes 2025

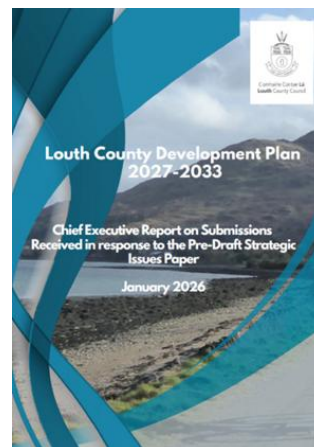
A total of €269,655.23 has been recouped from the Department in respect of the Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2025 and a further €142,500.00 was drawn down under the Historic Structures Fund 2025, for the following projects:

- The Widow's Houses, Castlebellingham,
- Derryhale Hotel, Dundalk
- Carlingford Library.

Chief Executive's Report on submissions to Issues Paper for the Pre-Draft Stage of the Louth County Development Plan 2027 - 2033

A Chief Executive's Report has been prepared under Section 11(4)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) on submissions received during the public consultation period for the Pre-Draft Strategic Issues Paper for the new Louth County Development Plan 2027 - 2033. This Report forms part of the statutory procedure for the preparation of the Louth County Development Plan 2027 - 2033. A total of 463 submissions were received during the public consultation. This Report was circulated to the Elected Members on 22nd January.

A copy of the Chief Executive's Report is available for inspection online on the Council [website](#) and [Consultation Portal](#).



Stiúrthóireacht na nOibríochtaí & Seachadadh Comhshaoil

Operations & Environmental Delivery Directorate

Tá an stiúrthóireacht seo freagrach as gníomhaíocht oibríochtúil, lena n-áirítear cothabháil na heagraíochta ar gach maoin chorparáideach, bóithre, spásanna poiblí, soilsiú poiblí agus cur chun feidhme ár bplean gníomhaíochta ar son na haeráide, bainistiú flíteanna, bainistiú dramhaíola agus seirbhísí dóiteáin, lena n-áirítear rialú foirgneamh.

This Directorate is responsible for operational activity, including the organisation's maintenance of all corporate property, roads, public spaces, public lighting and implementation of our climate action plan, fleet management, waste management and fire services, including building control.

David Hanratty
Stiúrthóir gníomhach / Acting Director



Operations & Environment Delivery Monthly Report for January 2026 Oibríochtaí / Operations

Routine litter picking, road sweeping, traffic lights repairs, checking of playground equipment, emptying of public bins, emptying dog receptacles and washing of signage continues throughout County on an ongoing basis.

Ceantar Bardasach Dhún Dealgan / Municipal District of Dundalk

	<i>Suíomh / Location</i>	<i>Nótaí / Notes</i>
Deisiú Bóithre / Road Repairs	<u>Dundalk</u>	
	R172	Potholes repaired
	Avenue rd / Hill St Bridge	Potholes repaired
	Hardys Lane	Potholes repaired
	Tom Bellew Av.	Potholes repaired
	Anne St	Potholes repaired
	R178	Potholes repaired
	Bellewsbridge rd	Potholes repaired
	Hoey's Lane	Potholes repaired
	Dublin rd	Potholes repaired
Dublin St.	Potholes repaired	
Feabhasúchán Draenála / Drainage Remediation	Hardys Lane / Av Direct	Blocked Grilles cleared
	Burst Mains Quay Street	Attended
	Leak on St.Marys rd	Attended
	St.Patricks Terrace	Blocked Gully cleared
	LadywellSquare	Blockage cleared
	Jocelyn St.	Ecco Drains cleaned at Museum and outside Mo Chara
	St.Josephs Street	Damaged Grating repaired and Gullys cleaned Gullys cleaned

	<p>Mill st.</p> <p>Aghameen Park</p> <p>Hoeys Lane</p> <p>Redbarns rd</p> <p>All flooding issues during Storm Chandra</p>	<p>Gullys cleaned</p> <p>Gullys cleaned</p> <p>Gullys cleaned</p> <p>Blocked Drainage Kerbs blew out.</p>
Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha / Fallen or Dangerous Trees	<p>Ramparts rd</p> <p>R171</p>	<p>Branches Obscuring Traffic lights cut back</p> <p>Dangerous Branch hanging across rd removed</p>
Cothabháil Cosán / Footpath Maintenance	<p>Castle rd / Jocelyn St.</p>	<p>Dangerous Trip Hazards removed</p>
Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach / Illegal Dumping	<p>DKIT / Hoeys Lane</p> <p>Point rd / Redbarns rd</p> <p>Castleross</p> <p>Wrightsons lane</p> <p>O Hanlon Park – Green Area</p>	<p>Old Bin removed, New Bin Installed</p> <p>Bin repaired</p> <p>Fly tipping</p> <p>Bags of Rubbish</p> <p>Removal of Multiple loads of various waste</p>
Glanadh Graifítí / Graffiti Removal	<p>Ramparts rd</p>	<p>Graffiti on footpath</p>

**Blackrock-Faughart
& North Mid-Louth
Areas December
2025**

Location / Suíomh

Notes / Nótaí

<p>Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre</p>	<p>Tar patching pothole repairs carried on road number</p> <p>LS-7116 Ballyinaby HBX LT-31041 Carrickedmond Kilcurry, LS-7180 Annies Kilcurry, LS-7100 Whitemill Faughart, LS-7103 Carrickedmond Kilcurry, LS-7128 Tankardsrock Kilkerley.Rd 197 Rathneestin, Rd 201 Reaghstown -Knockabbey, Rd 172A Hoarstown and Kilsaran.</p>	<p>Road repairs and patching & cleaning up</p>
<p>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</p>	<p>Cleaning gullies and storm lines at</p> <p>The Square Blackrock R172, LS-3161 Marlbog Road, HGT LS-7120 Shanmullagh HBX LS-7162 Clermont Road HBX LS-7106 Lennonstown Kilcurry, LS-7158 Old Golfinks Road B'Rock LP-7160 Sandy Lane Blackrock. LS-7093 Mountpleasant . Rd 205 Fane Bridge – Crowmartin Rd 176 Bannons Cross – Corderry</p>	<p>Drainage maintenance – cleansing and gully cleaning, opening outlets & storm drains, preparation for surface dressing.</p>
<p>Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha</p>		<p>Clearing fallen trees & debris.</p>
<p>Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach</p>	<p>N53, Dundalk Castleblayney Road, Rices bridge R178, LS-7103 Carn More Kilcurry.</p>	<p>Collection of dumped waste for disposal.</p> <p>Collection & disposal after community clean up</p>

Borough District of Drogheda**Drogheda Urban**

Location / Suíomh	
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<p>Drainage Works</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gully Cleaning Contract 2025, is now complete – 1170 no gullies & associated pipelines. 2. Jetting and cleaning of gullies on Marsh Rd after high tides. 3. Gully Cover reinstated at Fair St & James St. <p>LCC's crew</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Pothole repairs at Boyle O Reilly Tce, Marleys Lane, Forest Pk, Greenhills, North Strand, Ashfield, Bolton St, Pearse Pk, Patrick St, Shop St, Marian Pk, Marsh Rd, Platin Rd, Mary St, Ushers Corner, St Laurence St, Millmount, Mount Sr Oliver, 5. Monitoring of Traffic / Pedestrian management at dangerous structures at Bolton St, William St, No. 2 & 3 St Laurence St, Abbey Shopping Centre & Old Abbey Lane. 6. Distribution of sandbags at Wellington Quay, North Quay, Urshers Corner & Ship St, associated with High Tides & signage for Wellington Quay. 7. Footpath repairs at West St & St Marys St – park. 8. Stone Boundary wall at Kings St Carpark reinstated following RTA. 9. Repairs to overhead barrier at Kings St Carpark. 10. Salt Footpaths at Town Centre and Bridges during low temperatures. 11. Surface water Manhole cover replaced at Wheaton Hall. <p>Road Works Program – Resurfacing works 2026</p> <p>Commence Survey of roads, prior to preparation of contract documents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scarlet St • Thomas St • Sandyford Tre <p>CIS Lanes 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey of roads to commence end of February / March.

Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gully Cleaning Contract 2025, is now complete – 1170 no gullies & associated pipelines. • Jetting and cleaning of gullies on Marsh Rd after high tides.
Fallen or Dangerous Trees /Storm prep Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of trees on footpath on Beamore Rd & North Rd due to high winds.
Footpath Maintenance / Cothabháil Cosán	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dropped kerbs & tactile installation at 19 locations throughout town, agreed with IWA – all 19 sites are now complete.

Drogheda Rural Area **South Louth Operations (Rural Area)**

	Location / Suíomh
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L6281, Extensive Road Repairs to Castlecoo Hill, Clogherhead • L6308, Strand Road, Termonfeckin • L6322, Barrick Lane • L6313, Coolfore • L6323, Waterrunder • L6322, Barraoule Lane
Drainage Remediation /Feabhasúchán Draenála	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive Drainage to install at Newtown Graveyard • L2310, Ballamckenny Road • Clarkestown Lane • LS6249, Grangebellew • L6322, Barraoule Lane • L6313, Coolfore • L2254, Dowth Road • Checks to Baltray • Multiple Locations checked and cleared ahead of Storm Event (Storm Bran) and High Flood Warnings
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storm Aftermath – Storm Chandra, multiple trees down

Ardee Municipal District **South Louth Operations (Rural Area)**

	Location / Suíomh

Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L5211, Lambstown • L5211, Irishtown • R170, Hale Street, Ardee • L1260, Shanlis • L6220, Dunany • L22542, Dromin • L5256, Millockstown, • L1212, Roodstown • L2239, Mountain Road • Preparation and assistance with removal of Ardee Christmas Lights
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L2226, Charleville • L5259, Shanlis, • L22542, Dromin • L5256, Millockstown, • L1212, Roodstown • Multiple Locations checked and cleared ahead of Storm Event (Storm Chandra) and High Flood Warnings
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storm Aftermath – Storm Chandra, Multiple Trees down
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incidents in Ardee
Additional Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gully Cleaning and Extensive Jetting to Gullies in Dunleer and Collon. Relief to Gullies in Ardee during Storm Chandra • Repairing Salt Bins • Placing Salt at Schools in Dunleer, Ardee and Collon

Waste Enforcement

Summary of Complaints

A total of 21 complaints were received and investigated by the Waste Enforcement team in January 2026, some of which remain open pending further investigations.

Complaint Type	Received in Jan 2026	Total Received in 2026
Waste/ C&D	21	21

Diesel Laundering Waste

There was no diesel laundering waste removed by the Council to date in January 2026.

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 in 2025 and the enforcement actions taken.

Inspection Type	No.
Non-Construction & Demolition Waste Complaints Investigated	232

Number of above relating to Household Waste/ waste presentation inspections	134
Construction and Demolition Waste Complaints Investigated	66
Inspections of Waste Permitted Facilities	23
Inspections of Authorised Treatment Facilities	5
Multi-agency inspections	9
Hazardous waste sectoral inspections	3
Inspections in relation to Construction & Demolition waste at construction/development sites	21
Inspections of sites under commercial waste segregation	6
Inspections of sites notified under Article 27	30
Inspections under the Packaging Regulations – Suspected Major Producers	11
Inspections under ELVs Regulations	4
Desktop Annual Return Validations Completed	76
Inspection of Planning Permissions	116
Enforcement Action	
Waste Warning Letters	252
Section 55 Notice under Waste Management Act	2
Section 14 Directions under the Waste Management Act	6
Fixed Payment notice under the Waste Collection Permit Regulations	8

Producer Initiative Inspections

In 2026, the Council will implement a planned programme of Producer Initiative Inspections (PRIs) to meet our obligations under the relevant statutory instruments.

This work will cover key priority waste and producer-responsibility sectors, including tyres (Circol ELT), commercial food waste, packaging (Repak), imported vehicles (ELVES), the plastic bag levy, the Deposit Return Scheme (DRS), batteries, WEEE, farm plastics and plastics to ensure compliance and improve traceability across waste streams.

Litter Enforcement & Investigations

Litter wardens continue to deal with all litter matters within the county daily responding to complaints from members of the public, councillors and engaging with tidy towns groups and communities.

In January, Litter Wardens completed 169 investigations in response to dumping reported by members of the public. 21 Fixed Penalty Notices were issued in January where evidence was found under the Litter Pollution Act 1997.

Litter Enforcement had a successful prosecution from an unpaid Fixed Penalty Notice to the amount of €650.

Environmental Regulation

Water Quality and Complaints

12 water pollution complaints were received in January 2026. Investigations and site visits were carried out in all cases. All complaints are either resolved or in progress. 5 complaints related to spreading of slurry and 2 complaints were referred to the Council by the EPA.



River Assessment

Air & Noise Pollution Complaints

6 air pollution complaints were received this month. Complaints were investigated and are either closed or in progress. 1 complaint was referred to the Council by EPA. Complaints related to suspected backyard burning, dust, odour and chemical fumes.

3 noise pollution cases received. All complaints are either resolved or still under investigation.

Farm survey Inspections

During the month of January 2026 one farm inspection was carried out.

River Water Sampling and Water Framework Directive

Routine surveillance and operational monitoring of all the catchments in Louth continues to be carried out in January 2026 with 26 sites to be sampled.

Discharge Licences

Assessment inspections were carried out on 13 monitoring results received by Louth County Council in January 2026 for Section 4 Discharge Licences. Follow-up corrective actions are required at some of the sites and are being monitored by the Council.

Decorative Paint Regulations and Petroleum Vapor Regulations

One premises in the county has made application.

Licensed landfills

Monthly monitoring of groundwater, surface water and leachate was carried out in January at Dundalk. Monthly monitoring of perimeter gas monitoring points was completed at Dundalk, Drogheda and Whiteriver landfills. Monthly gas balancing carried out at Whiteriver landfill.

Flare breakdown at Drogheda landfill logged with the EPA in January. This has now been resolved and closed off. Incident logged at Whiteriver landfill due to exceedance of CO2 ELV levels on perimeter gas monitoring points. CO2 is naturally occurring. Routine flare emission survey and Volatile Organic Carbon survey due to be completed at Whiteriver and Dundalk landfills in January. Slope stability report completed at Dundalk landfill and data loggers placed into leachate and groundwater monitoring points at Dundalk as part of updated hydrogeological survey which is required by the EPA.

Septic Tanks

2 queries received from members of the public regarding eligibility for grants in January. Two septic tank advisory notices remain open. The Council will continue to engage with all homeowners who have received advisory notices if an effort to close them out in a timely manner.



Site Suitability Assessment



Trial Hole Inspection

Bathing Water Regulations

Bathing water dataset results for 2025 were signed off for the EPA. Bathing water results were submitted for period 2022 to 2025 for 2026 applications.

Rural Water Programme

Individual Domestic Water Supplies Grant

There have been no payments made (as of 20th January 2026) and 18 new applications waiting for site inspections for Individual

Domestic Water Supplies (more commonly called private wells).

Domestic Lead Remediation Grant Scheme

There have been no new applications or payments made (as of 20th January 2026) for Lead Replacement.

Animal Control and Welfare

There were fifty-nine valid Sugar CRM cases assigned to Animal Control and Welfare during January 2026, with three still in progress.

Control of Dogs

Control of Dogs Act 1986

Dogs through the pound January 2026	
Total dogs through the pound	35
Seized under Section 16	0
Strays	17
Surrendered by owners	18
No dogs reclaimed by owners	2
No of dogs rehomed direct	3
No of dogs rehomed to welfare groups	9
No of dogs on hand in Pound at 31/01/2026	6

Dog Licences January 2026	
No of Licences sold	530
Licence Checks:	
House calls	457
Section 16 Notices issued (request to produce licence within 10 days)	115
Fixed Penalty Notices	11

Control of Horses

Control of Horses Act 1996

Control of Horses Bye-Laws 2003

Horses through the pound January 2026	
Horses seized, and reason for seizure:	0
Horses reclaimed by owner	0
Horses rehomed	0
Horses disposed of	0
No. of horses on hand in Pound on 31/11/2025	0

Dog Breeding Establishments

Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010

Dog Breeding Establishments January 2026	
Total no of registered DBEs in Louth (as at 31/01/2026)	6
Hunt	1
Boarding Kennels	2
Training Kennels	1
Welfare	2



Some of the dogs who entered the Dog Pound during January 2026

Climate Action

EU Mission, Adaptation to Climate Change

Members of the Climate Action Team are taking part in a series of training organised by the EU Climate Adaptation Mission. This is designed to build capacity for stakeholder engagement specifically around climate adaptation. The technical assistance program was successfully completed by LCC with a number of potential adaptation projects identified.

The CLIMAAX project is continuing to develop a more detailed phase two risk assessment for the county. Payment of the first drawdown from the funders was received.



CMAP PeacePlus project

The Coastal Monitoring and Adaptation project (CMAP) is a 4-year EU-funded project. LCC will be delivering coastal wetland conservation as part of this project. Sanction was received from DPER to begin the recruitment process for the CMAP project officer. Work has begun to prepare the initial data collection contract for the Louth coast.

The Ramparts River rejuvenation project is progressing to the draft drawing stage to allow for the Part VIII process to begin.

Sustainable Energy Communities

LCC has progressed the procurement of a contractor to deliver an energy master plan for the Dromiskin SEC. The preparation for Blackrock's application is underway with the aim for them to be the next community to commence the process.

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.

The Community Climate Action Officer has contacted 22 successful groups who have been approved for funding under the first phase of the Community Climate Action Programme to discuss their projects. The 22 successful groups continue to work with the Community Climate Action Officer as they continue to deliver and complete their projects.

The Community Climate Action Officer has been busy assisting each active project with queries and technical input. The administration of the funding paperwork requirements to meet the fund's rules as set out by DCEE is a key role of the Community Climate Action Officer. There is almost daily contact between LCC and DCEE to clarify questions about this fund. This is to provide the best service to the community groups to ensure that they can complete their projects in the easiest and most successful manner.

Louth County Council has received 51 applications under the second phase of the Community Climate Action Programme totalling €2,360,344.37.



All applications are currently being assessed before being sent forward to the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment for

review and consideration in February. Louth County Council will be notified of the successful projects in April, once the Community Climate Action Officer has received confirmation on the Department's decision all community groups will be notified via email. If any groups have any questions on this process, they are advised to contact the Community Climate Action Officer at: climateaction@louthcoco.ie

The Community Climate Action Officer would like to acknowledge the work of all community groups who are currently working on projects as part of the Community Climate Action Programme. A full list of all approved projects under the first phase 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 Programme please email: climateaction@louthcoco.ie

Climate Outreach

The Community Climate Action Officer attended the unveiling of their Sustainable Urban Drainage project completed by Dromiskin Tidy Towns funded under the first phase of the Community Climate Action Programme at Dromiskin.



Biodiversity Action

The Biodiversity Officer is currently in the process of applying for funding to deliver the biodiversity work programme for 2026.



Under the Heritage Council administered **Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) Scheme 2026** Local Authority Biodiversity Officers can apply for funding to either undertake the development of a Local Biodiversity Action Plan or to implement key actions of the plan once completed. Match funding of 25% monetary contribution is required from each Local Authority. Decisions on the success of applications and the availability of funding are expected in March.



NPWS An tSeirbhís Páircanna Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúla
National Parks and Wildlife Service

Similarly, the delivery of priority biodiversity action in local authorities is delivered through the National Parks and Wildlife Service administered **Local Biodiversity Action Fund (LBAF) Scheme 2026**. Local Authorities alone are eligible to apply to this fund. LBAF provides funding for local authorities to carry out projects that target the objectives of Ireland’s 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) 2023-2030. The focus for 2026 is on strengthening the evidence base for biodiversity through field surveys, supporting practical conservation and restoration projects, enhancing ecological capacity through knowledge transfer and training and to engage communities in education and awareness activities. The Biodiversity Officer is preparing a number of applications, which align with the NPWS national priorities, under this fund. Match funding of 15% monetary contribution is required from each Local Authority. Decisions on the success of applications and the availability of funding is expected in April.

The Hare’s Corner Initiative Closes for Applications

January 2026 saw the opening of applications to the Louth Hare’s Corner initiative. The Hare’s Corner, an innovative biodiversity project coordinated by

Burrenbeo Trust and part funded through the Local Biodiversity Action Fund by National Parks and Wildlife Service and Louth County Council Biodiversity Office. This is the first time, this initiative has come to Louth, offering free practical support to landowners to create wildlife ponds, mini-woodlands, heritage orchards, wildlife hedges, or bespoke “Plans for Nature” on private land, farms, schools, church grounds and community spaces.



Inspired by the old farming term for a field corner “left to nature,” The Hare’s Corner helps people take simple, impactful actions for biodiversity and climate resilience.

Participants were able to apply for multiple actions including native trees, heritage apple trees, expert advice for the development of a site-specific “Plan for Nature” and advice and micro-funding for pond creation works.

Applications closed on Sunday 18th January 2026.

Successful applicants will be notified by the Burrenbeo Trust before the end of February.

Faith Communities Return to Nature Project – Creation Care Conference

The Biodiversity Officer represented the Louth Faith Communities Return to Nature Project and the Biodiversity Officer Network at the “Let Justice Flow Like Rivers” Creation Care Conference. Convened by the Irish Council of Churches and the Irish Inter Church Meeting, the Conference was held in Newry on Saturday 17th January 2026.

Two hundred Church leaders, clergy, educators and community representatives from across Ireland gathered for an

ecumenical day of prayer, reflection and urgent environmental action.



Photo: Church and Government Leaders at the Creation Care Conference

Prompted by growing concern over Lough Neagh and wider ecological threats, the conference brought together people from different Christian traditions and civic sectors in a spirit of shared responsibility.

Church leaders Archbishop Eamon Martin and Archbishop John McDowell stressed the moral urgency of caring for creation and the need for attentive listening—to science, to communities and to one another—along with deep cooperation across sectors.

Local groups from parishes, schools and community initiatives shared practical examples of creation care already underway, alongside the challenges still facing rivers, lakes, bogs and ecosystems. Participants made personal and parish pledges ranging from water conservation and reduced consumption to native planting, environmental education and cross-community partnerships. The conference also emphasised the need for systemic change, including stronger environmental regulation and a just transition.

Attendees were encouraged to support the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty and to prepare for the Season of Creation 2026, themed “Living Water.”



Photo: Bishop Martin Hayes at the Creation Care Conference

The Biodiversity Officer hosted a stand representing the Louth Faith Communities Return to Nature Project and the wider Irish Biodiversity Officer Network who are hosting similar Return to Nature projects in around 10 Local Authorities elsewhere in Ireland. The “Laudato Si” inspired Return to Nature project has been led nationally by Bishop of Kilmore Martin Hayes and Trócaire. Church groups from across Ireland including from Louth were in attendance.



Photo: Sr. Brigid Corrigan, Medical Missionaries of Mary, Drogheda and Bunrana Tidy Towns representative discussing possible biodiversity actions at the Louth County Council Stall

Howth Head Study Visit - ORIS Cliff Walk Clogherhead

A group of Louth County Council Staff from the Biodiversity Office, Climate Action Team and Public Realm Team visited Howth Head on 19th January 2026 for a study visit with Hans Visser and Lisa Doyle from the Fingal County Council Biodiversity Office.



Photos: Louth County Council staff study visit to Howth Head

The Public Realm Team have been successful in gaining Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) funding for preparatory environmental screening work associated with Louth County Council’s proposal to formalise an existing cliff walk at Clogherhead. The visit, attended by the project’s consultant ecologists, aimed to share-knowledge from a similar site to help inform the development of the project. Issues associated with site trampling, habitat management, heather restoration, wildfire management, habitat grazing, site infrastructure, path and fencing options and their management and maintenance were discussed.



Photos: Louth County Council staff study visit to Howth Head

The visit ended with a visit to see the Old Irish Goat herd that has been reintroduced to Howth Head as part of their conservation grazing project aimed at managing the landscape and enhancing biodiversity.



Photo: Old Irish Goats grazing habitat management project at Howth Head



All-Ireland Pollinator Plan - January

Plant and protect native pollinator-friendly trees

Now is the perfect time to plant native pollinator-friendly trees like Willow, Rowan, and Wild cherry. Choose the right tree, right space and right place

Get involved: Plant native pollinator-friendly bare-root trees

Find out more: Planting trees for pollinators flyer

Sustainability

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

SEAI Monitoring & Reporting 2030

The Monitoring & Reporting (M&R) system is now open for 2025 submissions. All public bodies are required to report their annual energy use and related data to SEAI.

Each public body must meet three headline targets for 2030:

- Increase energy efficiency by 50% compared with its baseline performance.
- Reduce fossil-fuel CO₂ emissions by 51% relative to the 2016–2018 baseline period.
- Achieve an overall energy-related CO₂ target for 2030, measured in tonnes. This target is calculated as the sum of the fossil CO₂ target and electricity emissions at the GHG baseline, minus the projected national electricity-sector emissions reductions by 2030.

The first step in this year's process is to validate all LCC MRPNS and GPRNs by Friday, 30 January. This work is currently underway.

Gap to Target

Louth County Council is ahead of its glidepath towards the 2030 Energy Targets for Public Bodies.

Louth County Council's 'Gap-to-Target' requires 1,000t of CO₂ savings by 2030. Work on this is already well advanced and will be further improved by the implementation of various energy projects identified through Energy Audits. Works include energy improvements to Council buildings by fabric upgrades, lighting replacements, introduction of heat pumps to replace fossil fuel boilers, windows improvements.

In addition, the decarbonisation of Louth County Councils Fleet, public lighting network improvement (full conversion to LEDs), and opportunities via collaboration through the Mid East Energy Unit.

Solar PV Update

Recent adverse weather conditions have resulted in slower-than-planned progress on the solar PV installation programme. Despite these delays, the solar photovoltaic system at Dundalk Sports Centre has now been fully commissioned. This installation constitutes the largest solar array completed under the project to date.

Dundalk County Archives building, the Bookstore at Dundalk Library, Carlingford Library and Courthouse and the library at Ardee, Woodlands Depot, Ardee Fire Station, Ardee Civic Office and Dundalk Sports Centre have now all had new solar PV installed thus far, as part of this project.

The Sports Centre is the latest system improvement which comprises 138 no. 435 W photovoltaic modules, delivering a total installed capacity of 60 kWp.

The current total additional generating capacity from this project is 174KWp at present. On completion we expect that to improve further to some 550KW p. Prior to the commencement of this project the Council had capacity to generate up to 73KWp from solar photo voltaic equipment. This project provides significant additional electrical energy generating capacity.



Photo: the new 40kW inverter housed in the L1 Switch Room at the Dundalk Sports Centre

SLA WITH Mid East Energy Unit

Louth County Council is one of 4 Local Authorities who form the Mid East Energy Unit. It is led by Wicklow County Council, and

Louth County Council participates through a Service Level Agreement with Wicklow County Council. The Mid-East Energy Unit has engaged energy consultants Codema to develop a Framework for the energy projects in the Mid East Region.

Contractors from the framework were invited to participate in a tender process for Multiparty Framework (MPF) to design and construct energy works and that has now progressed to the signing stage for a framework-agreement.

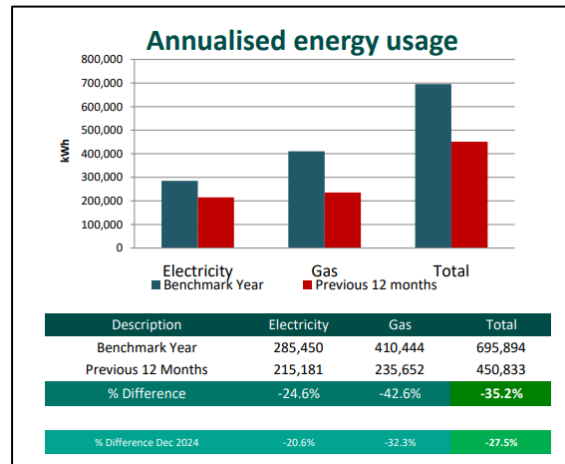
It is anticipated that the framework agreements and associated contract documentation will be executed by the end of February 2026, whereby Louth County Council would accept a tender and form a contract for works to its 3 buildings. Once the contract signing stage is complete, the tender includes for the next phase which will involve the preparation of detailed design documents, tailored to the specific energy-efficiency improvements and upgrade requirements at each site. It is expected the process will enable the completion of significant energy upgrades to Dundalk County Museum, Dundalk County Library, and Drogheda Fire Station by Q3 in 2026.

Optimising Power @ Work Programme County Hall

Energy performance at this building has significantly improved since joining the OPW's Optimising Power @ Work Programme in 2016.

Overall energy use is down 35% — from 695,894 kWh to 450,833 kWh.

- Electricity use has dropped 25%, falling from 285,450 kWh to 215,181 kWh.
- Gas consumption has been cut by 43%, down from 410,444 kWh to 235,652 kWh.



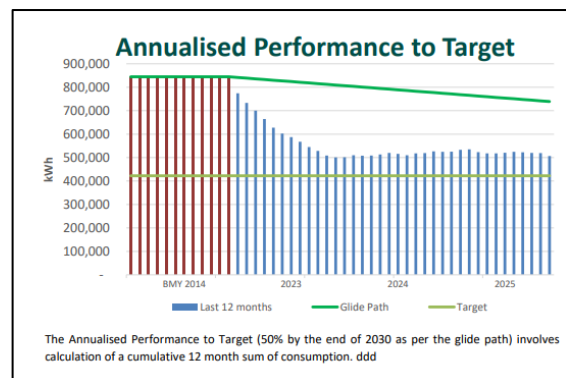
Graphic: County Hall Annualised Energy Usage from OPW's monthly report for Dec

Town Hall

Energy Performance at this building has also significantly improved since joining OPW's behaviour change Programme in 2014 — cutting total energy use by 40%.

- Annual energy consumption has dropped from 844,583 kWh to 506,812 kWh.
- Electricity use is down 35%.
- Gas use has been reduced by 42%.

A decade of smart management, and the results speak for themselves.



Reduce Your Use

Small and sustainable changes in energy use practices all year round help reduce climate-damaging emissions.

Everything counts - whether it is switch it off, Plug it out, Shut it down, Wrap it up, Slow it down, Defrost it, Fix it, Re-use it, Repurpose it, Reduce it, Recycle it, Remember it, Plant it, Layer it... There are so many ways to Reduce Your Use!



Graphic: Reduce your Use



Photos: New entrance lobby and new High Efficiency Gas Boiler in Improved Plant Room at Fair St Drogheda

FACILITIES

Fair Street Civic Offices

Improvement works to the Council’s Offices at Fair St, Drogheda were substantially completed in December 2025, enabling the relocation of staff back to the office at that time. The transition has progressed smoothly, and the building is now fully operational. Snagging works remain ongoing, and the contractor is addressing the residual items in line with the agreed handover programme. The works provide a safer and more comfortable working environment, and the building has a much higher Energy Rating and therefore will achieve significant improvement in energy performance.

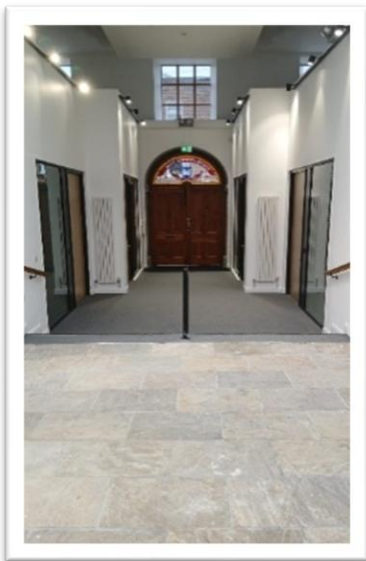


Photos: Improvements at Fair St Drogheda - New fully equipped meeting room, New filing rooms

Millmount Repair Works

Wall repair works along the historic boundary wall surrounding the Millmount Monument in Drogheda are currently ongoing. These works form part of the continued conservation efforts to preserve the structural integrity and heritage value of this important landmark. Temporary access restrictions may be in place in certain areas while repairs are carried out.

Restoration works at the wall leading to the Tower are complete, but reinstatement of the protective railing remains outstanding until the railing is suitably repaired and provided with protective coating. That work is ongoing off site at present. The works also provide for repair to the embankment wall on Mount St Oliver Road, Drogheda and for wall repairs



at the rear of the Museum building at Millmount. Those works will be commenced once the contractor has obtained the necessary permissions for traffic management works on Mount St Oliver Road. It is expected that the works will require a traffic lane closure and so delays to the public using that road are likely once those works commence.



Photos: Completed Wall conservation works at Millmount

Historic Structure Fund 2026

The Council's Facilities Team have now applied for grant funding from the Historic Structures Fund (HSF) 2026, administered by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The Council seeks funding of €110,000 for the remediation of the North Gable Wall at the County Archives Building.

A Conservation Architect Designer has been engaged as to prepare a suitable scope of works and methodology to support the HSF application.



Photos: Existing Stone Walls at County Archives Building in need of Improvement

North Louth Operation Depot Upgrade

Van Dijk Architects are continuing design works for the upgrade of the North Louth Operations base (Bush Depot) located at Ballaverty, Bush, Riverstown, Co. Louth.



Photo: Site Notice for Planning Permission at Bush Depot

The plans for the improvement to the Bush Depot are now on public display and comments and submissions are invited from the public to seek planning permission for the works in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended). The plans can be inspected at offices of Louth County Council, Millenium Centre, County Hall, Dundalk between 14th January and 11th February and comments are invited from the public **until 5pm on Wednesday 25th February**. It is intended to bring the matter to the Council for consideration once the public consultation has ended.



Fire Service

The joint full time fire fighter course with Cork City Fire Brigade started in Ballyvolane fire station on the 26th January. Four Louth recruits are attending over the next 10-weeks. The three-week retained 2026 Recruit course was undertaken in Dundalk from the 5th - 23rd January. 8 students successfully completed the course and have started across the retained stations. The first female recruits to start in Drogheda Fire Station occurred when they took up their positions on the Drogheda Retained crew after successfully completing the 2026 course.



Drogheda Yellow Watch and Drogheda Retained Crew including new recruits FF Sarah Ann Gregory and FF Katie Duffy.

Louth FRS advertised the tender for a new Aerial Turntable Ladder this month. The procurement section advertised on the etenders platform with 8-week advertisement period. The vehicle is fully funded through the NDFEM capital fleet funding program and will replace the existing Aerial ladder platform that is nearing its end of life.

The October 2025 recruit course undertook their Compartment fire behaviour training course in Hackettstown, Co Carlow this month. 10 Louth students successfully completed the course which is designed to help fire fighters understand the fundamentals of fire dynamics and behaviour. In addition to their initial BA course this will allow also them to safely enter and exit fires within buildings



LCCFRS Initial Compartment Fire Behaviour Course

The Dundalk Training centre design is being finalised and will shortly be submitted to the NDFEM for stage 1 review. This €6 million training centre upgrade is fully funded by the NDFEM from their national capital infrastructure program. The new training centre will be a regional training centre and will consist of new two storey standalone building, onsite parking and the conversion of the current BA house to a cleaner gas fire fuelled training as opposed to traditional carbonaceous training environments.

Incident Types for Q4 2025 are included in the next table

Fire Prevention

The Prevention Team continues its proactive approach to fire safety, with a consistently high volume of Fire Safety Certificate (FSC) applications being processed, including two major Lidl submissions and a sustained high level of apartment block applications. 13 Fire Safety Certificates were received in 2026.

Louth Fire Service continues to demonstrate strong community engagement through a wide range of fire safety activities. These include educational outreach such as school visits, creche visits, and the structured Primary School Programme, all aimed at teaching children essential fire safety knowledge through talks, demonstrations, and interactive sessions. 4 no. Community Fire Safety engagement with the community including at St Marys College Dundalk.

Operational crews continue to carry out During Performance Inspections (DPIs) as part of their commitment to maintaining fire safety standards. This month, 2 inspections were completed to ensure ongoing compliance with fire safety regulations and to proactively identify any potential risks or deficiencies in premises across the county.

The Prevention Technical Team continues to carry out inspections under the Fire Services Act, including notable inspections of eight IPAS centres, and has issued one Closure Notice in a premises in mid-Louth

Major Emergency Management

Three emergency generators, one three phase and two single phase generators have been ordered from the national group framework. These generators are designed and constructed to power Community Support Centres (CSC) as part of the CSC initiative. This initiative has been led by

Carlow County Council in collaboration with the DHLGH and the NDFEM. The Fire section is currently liaising with Housing to assist in the community support centres program for the use of these generators and required enabling works.

Regional Multi agency On-site Coordinator training took place in Ardee on the 28th January. LCC has two attendees take part. The OSC Course aim is to prepare those charged with the on-site coordination and control of the multi-agency response to a major emergency.

Building Control

Nothing of note this month.

Disability Access Certificates (to date 2025)	9
Total number of valid Commencement Notices submitted for 2026	19
Total Number of valid Commencement Notices for December submitted	19

Civil Defence

Training

Weekly training continues every Thursday
 24 volunteers completed their missing person search responder class
 14 volunteers completed their manual handling class
 3 volunteers attended an EMT workshop in Roscrea

Incident Types within Station Areas: Quarter Four – 2025

Type	Ardee	Carlingford	Dunleer	Drogheda	Dundalk	Meath	Other Areas	Total
Fire/Aircraft								0
Fire/Alarm Activation	1	2	4	22	31	7		67
Fire/Bus/Coach								0
Fire/Car			2	6	8	2		18
Fire/Caravan								0
Fire/Chimney	1		1	3	1			6
Fire/Controlled Burning								0
Fire/Domestic	2			11	6	2		21
Fire/Persons Reported	2		1	4	1	3		11
Fire/Fire (General)		1		1	1			3
Fire/Forest								0
Fire/Gorse						1		1
Fire/Grass							1	1
Fire/Hay/Barn	1			1		1		3
Fire/Industrial	1				3			4
Fire/Institutional					1			1
Fire/Motorcycle								0
Fire/Oil/Petrol								0
Fire/Small/Bin/Skip	5		2	50	15	10		82
Fire/Smoke Issuing								0
Fire/Truck	1							1
Fire/Vegetation								0
SS/Alarm/Carbon Monoxide			1	2	2	5		10
SS/Ambulance Assist	3	2	2	10	8	3		28
SS/Animal Rescue								0
SS/Electrical				2	1		1	4
SS/Entrapment								0
SS/Explosion								0
SS/Flooding	1				1			2
SS/Garda Assist	1			1			1	3
SS/Gas Leak					1			1
SS/Hazardous Material								0
SS/Lift Persons Trapped						3		3
SS/Lockout				1	3			4
SS/Make Scene Safe				2		1		3
SS/Marine Emergency								0
SS/Oil Spillage				3		2		5
SS/Other				6				6
SS/River Rescue		1		5				6
SS/RTA	12	1	4	30	25	14	3	89
SS/Smell of Gas								0
SS/Trees Down				1		2		3
SS/Water Leak					1			1
Total no. of Incidents:	31	7	17	161	109	56	6	387

Average Mobilisation Times (H:M:S) Quarter 4 – 2025

		Time to Mobilisation	
		Fire	Non Fire
Ardee	LH11A1	00:06:29	00:06:36
Carlingford	LH12A1	00:05:16	00:05:13
Dunleer	LH13A1	00:05:09	00:05:05
Drogheda	LH14A1	00:01:17	00:01:28
	LH14A2	00:05:38	00:05:37
Dundalk	LH15A1	00:01:05	00:01:08
	LH15A2	00:05:23	00:06:08

An Stiúrthóireacht um Acmhainní Daonna, Soláthar Corparáideach & Pobail

Human Resources, Corporate & Community Delivery Directorate

Tá an stiúrthóireacht seo freagrach as príomhréimsí eagrúcháin AD i measc gníomhaíochtaí A&S, Seirbhísí Corparáideacha, Cumarsáide agus Pobail.

This directorate is responsible for the organisational core areas of HR including Health & Safety, Corporate Services, Communication and Community Activities.

Joanna Kelly

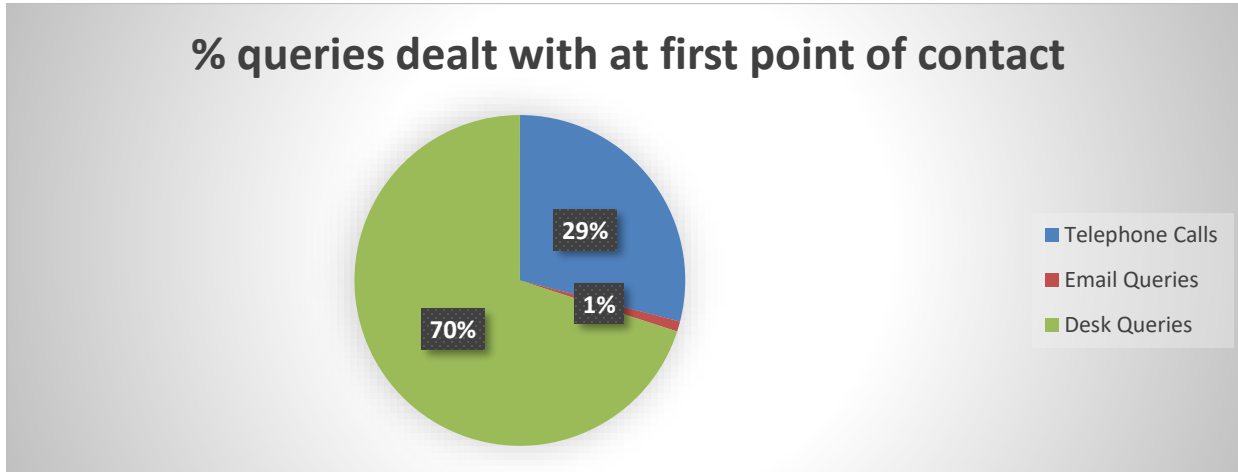
Stiúrthóir gníomhach / Acting Director



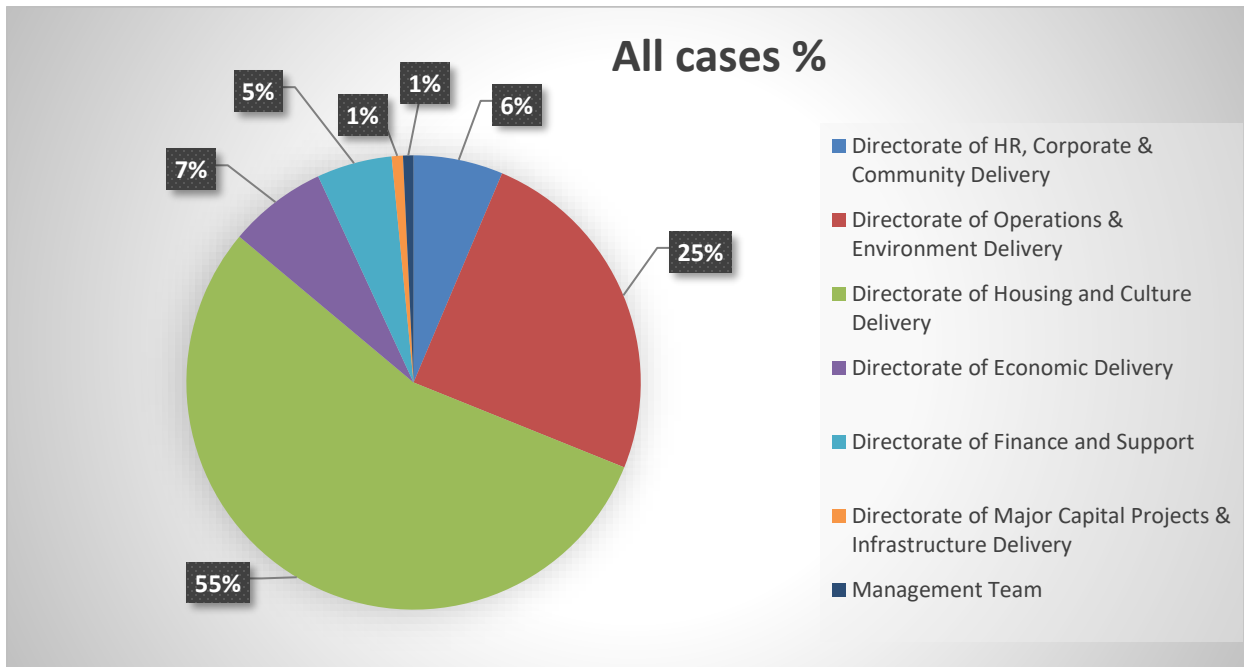
Seirbhísí Corporáideacha / Corporate Services

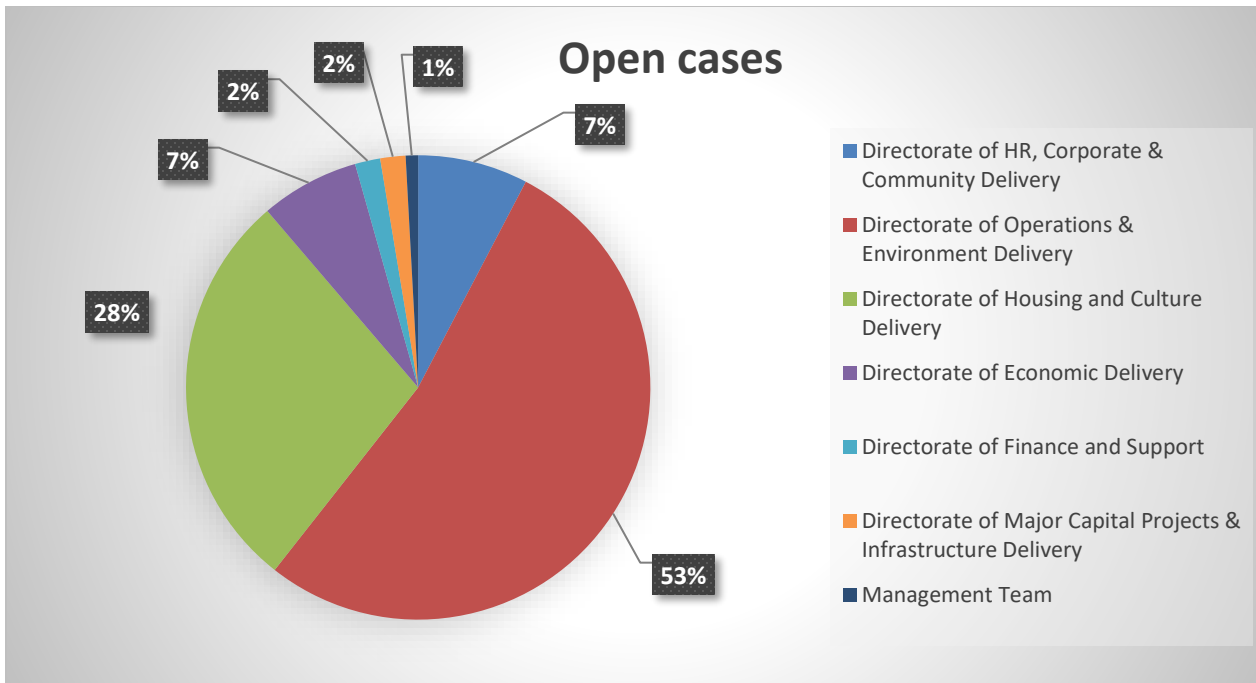
Tuairisc ar Sheirbhísí Custaiméirí / Customer Services Report

During the month of January 2026 Customer Services dealt with 19,285 queries inclusive of 9,780 calls, 1,185 e-mails and 8,320 counter queries. 11,346 (59%) of queries received were dealt with at first point of contact broken down as follows:

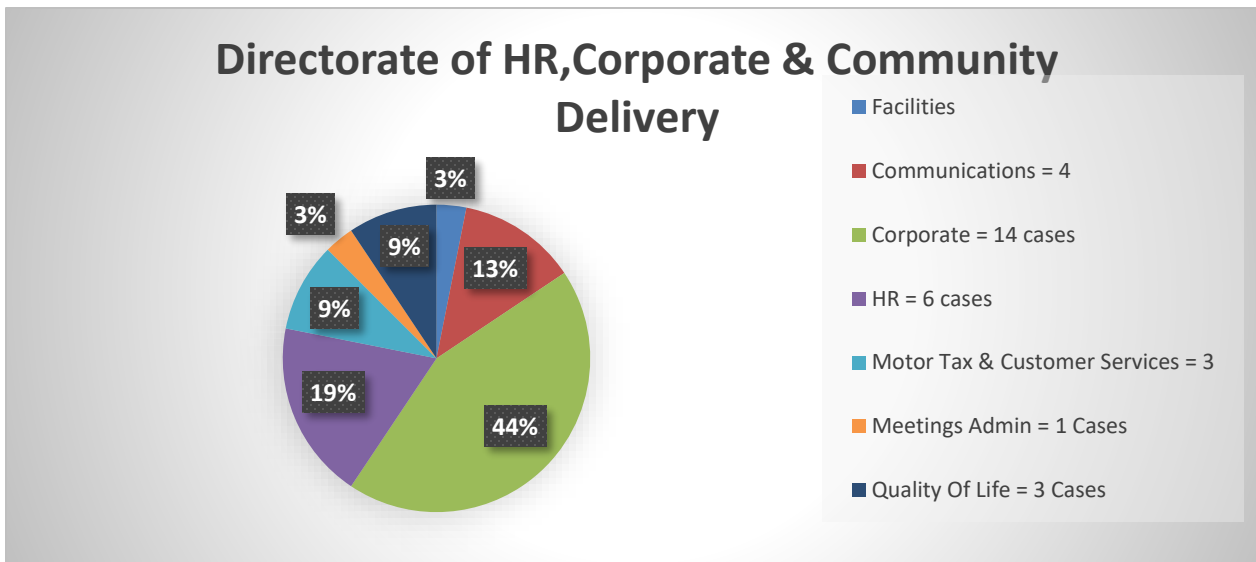


There were 3624 valid Sugar CRM cases recorded during January 2026 of which 222 were received from elected members. A total of 626 (17%) remain unresolved by end of January, broken down by directorate as follows:

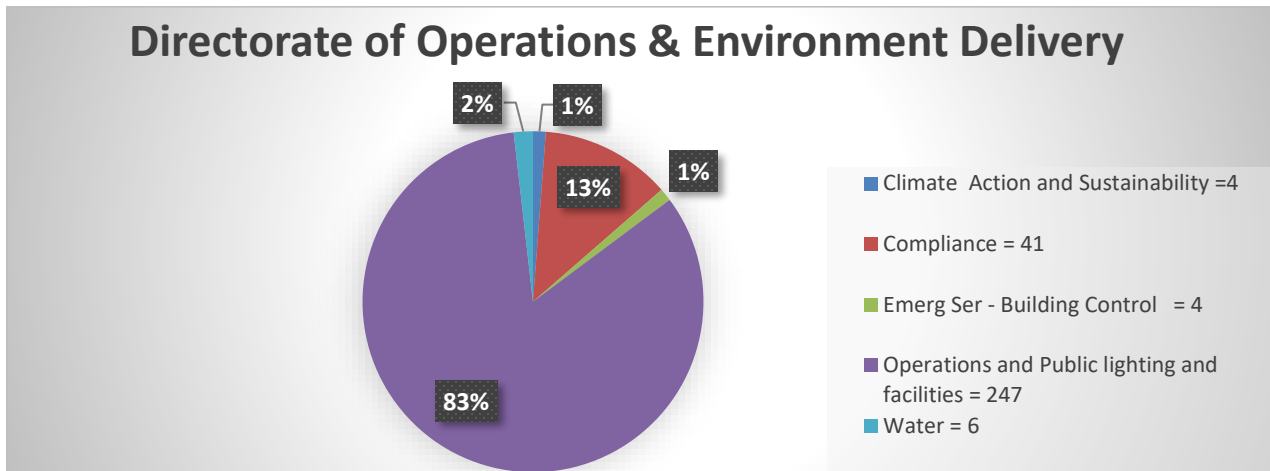




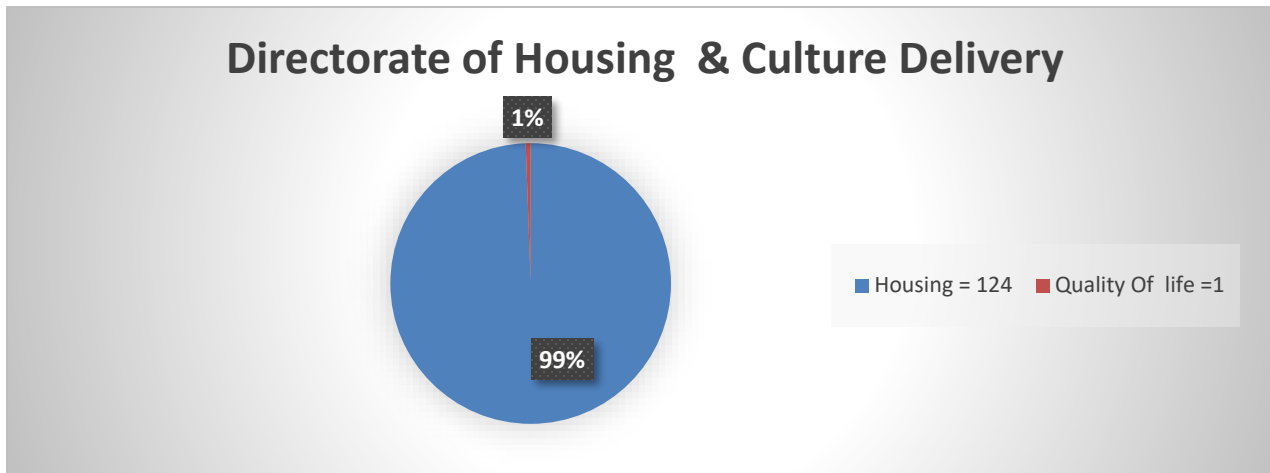
Directorate of HR, Corporate & Community Delivery



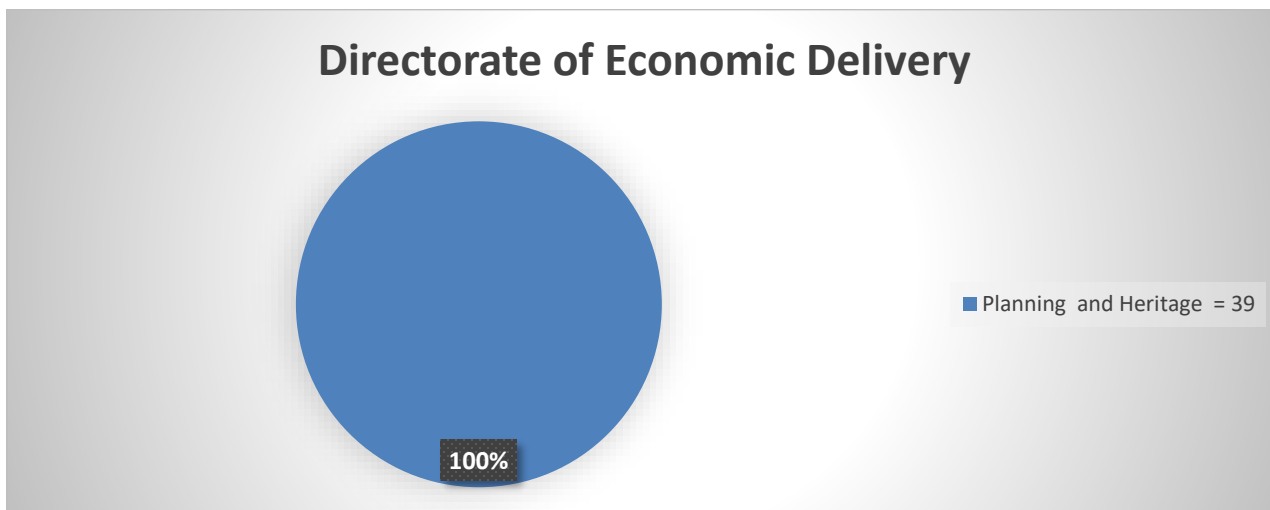
Directorate of Operations & Environmental Delivery



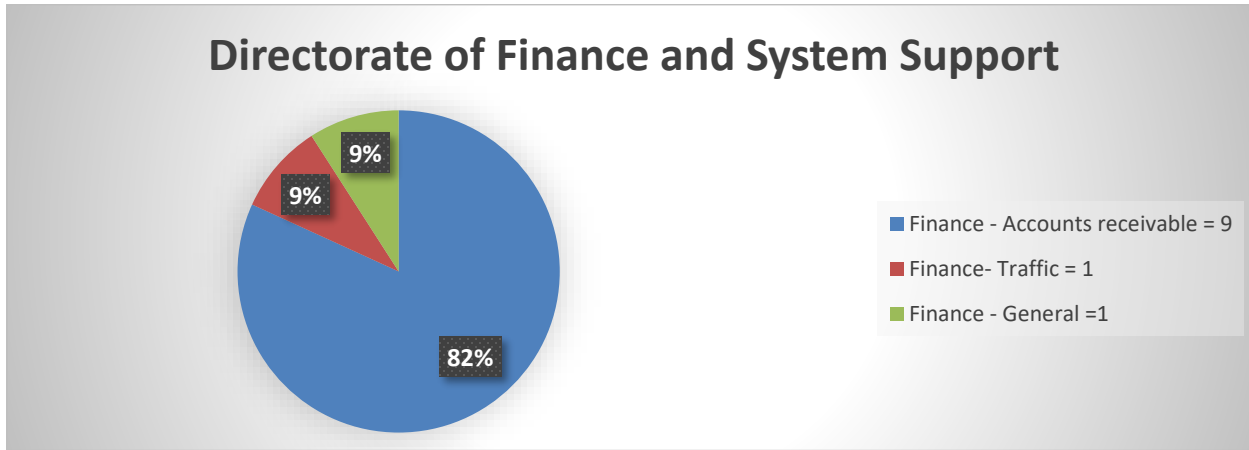
Directorate of Housing & Culture Delivery



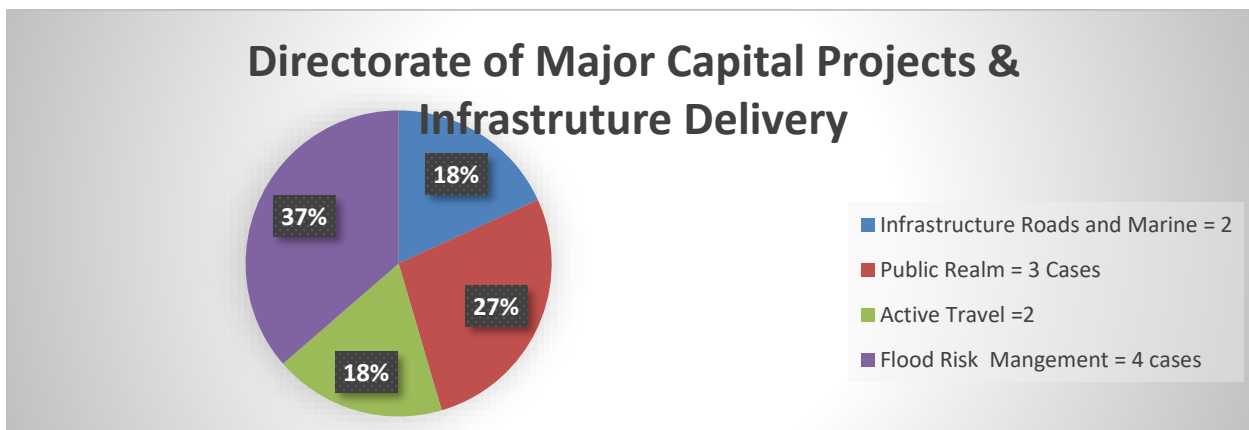
Directorate of Economic Delivery



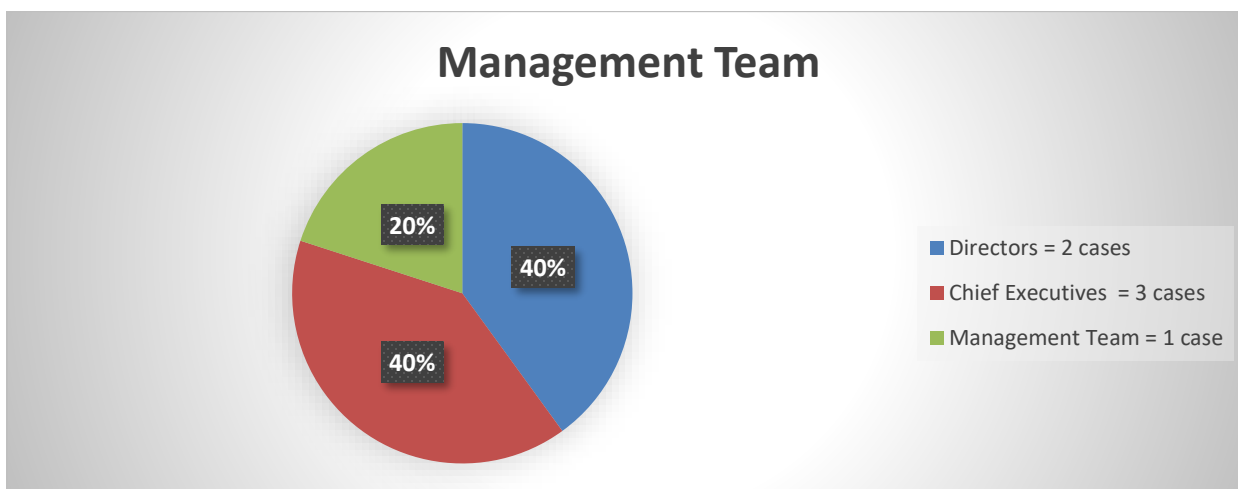
Directorate of Finance and System Support



Directorate of Major Capital Projects & Infrastructure Delivery



Management Team



The table below illustrates activity in the Information Compliance area.

	2025 Total	2026 Total	2026 Total
	Jan -Jan	Jan-Jan	January Only
FOI REQUEST - RECORDS	14	15	15
DSAR	2	0	0
DATA PROTECTION REQUEST	10	2	2
AIE - INFORMATION	0	0	0
OMBUDSMAN CASE	0	0	0
COMPLAINTS	3	8	8

Community Support

Age Friendly Louth



Age Friendly Housing - Connolly’s Field Site Visit

Members of the Louth Age Friendly Alliance and members of the Louth Older People’s Council took part in a recent site visit to Connolly’s Field Housing Development in Dundalk. Fronting along the Avenue Road and Hill Street, this new development of 70 units is being allocated to people over 55 years of age.

This new social housing development is managed by AHB Fold Housing Association Ireland. Members of the Fold tenant engagement team were happy to facilitate the visit as they showed the Alliance & OPC members around a selection of 1 bed and 2 bed units, communal areas and rooftop gardens. Delivery of Age Friendly Housing across Co Louth will form a major part of the new Age Friendly Strategy delivery in 2026.



Members of Louth Older People’s Council & Louth Age Friendly Alliance with staff from Age Friendly Ireland and Fold AHB at Connolly’s Field Housing Development

Chairperson of Louth OPC Short Listed for LAMA Award

In the **Community Volunteer of the Year** category, Mr. Joe Grogan, Chairperson of the Louth Older People’s Council (OPC), has been recognised for his outstanding leadership in advancing the Age Friendly Programme in Louth.

Since taking up the role in 2023, Joe has championed projects tackling ageism, supported the development of the upcoming Louth Age Friendly Strategy 2026-2031, and helped establish initiatives such as the

LAMA award-winning Ardee Garden Care & Repair Programme, which combats isolation among older people.

Louth was the first county in Ireland to gain Age Friendly accreditation from the World Health Organisation (WHO) in 2008 and continues to lead the way in embedding age-friendly principles across its services. Joe has been to the fore, leading and embedding the age friendly programme across Co Louth since he took up his post 3 years ago.



Mr. Joe Grogan, Chairperson of Louth OPC

Traveller Development

Members of the community team attended a workshop hosted by the Louth Traveller Movement in Partnership Court on 16th January. The Louth Traveller Movement are currently developing their strategic plan to establish pathways for sustainability and to strengthen partnerships between service providers and the Traveller community. Issues discussed included housing, health, education & training for members of the travelling community.

Local Enhancement Programme 2026

The Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) 2026 opened for applications on 19th January and will be administered by the Council’s Local Community Development Committee (LCDC).

Under the LEP 2026 there will be capital funding available to support community and voluntary groups,

particularly in disadvantaged areas, with minor capital works and improvements to their facilities, and the purchase of equipment for community use.

The Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht has allocated €239,207.33 capital funding to Louth LCDC. The maximum application amount is €5,000 and all works undertaken and/or purchases made must be completed and paid for by 28th August 2026. Closing date for applications is 5pm on Friday 27th February 2026.

Information sessions are currently being delivered across County Louth to provide community groups with details of the Local Enhancement Programme 2026. Sessions to date have taken place in Dundalk Library on 27th January and Dunleer Library on 29th January.



LEP Information Session at Dundalk Library

Public Participation Network (PPN)

Secretariat Meeting

The first Louth PPN Secretariat meeting of 2025 was held on Wednesday 14th January in Dundalk. The Secretariat discussed a number of thematic projects for 2026, including:

- a sports-themed project aimed at including and integrating marginalised groups of the community.
- a continuation of last year's Learning English through sewing project. This year it is hoped to hold classes in Dundalk with knitting as an additional craft for participants to engage in.
- a project aimed at developing audio-books for children based on the Leprechaun series of books
- a continuation of the youth-developed e-Zine iLLUminate
- a project aimed at tackling online hate and mis-/dis-information. For 2026 it is hoped to focus on the youth members of the County as they are particularly vulnerable to online targeting.
- A volunteering day aimed at the young male members of the community, particularly those

who primarily work remotely and have become dis-engaged with their local community. It is hoped that this project will assist with tackling online hate and mis / dis-information.

Secretariat members leading out on these projects are to collate costing information before the February Secretariat meeting for formal approval of the above projects.

PPN Workers' National Meeting

Louth PPN attended the National PPN Worker's Meeting held on Tuesday 20th January.

Crisis Communications Training

Louth PPN held online training in Crisis Communications for its members on the evening of Tuesday 21st January.

ICA Forum on Celebrating & Empowering Women

Louth PPN presented at the ICA forum at An Grianan, Termonfeckin on Saturday 24th January. The theme of the forum was Celebrating & Empowering Women. Louth PPN's presentation focussed on how women may influence the development of local policy and decision making through active engagement and participation with Louth PPN.

Healthy Louth

2026 LAMA All-Ireland Community & Council Awards

The Irish Homeless Street Leagues, which is facilitated by Healthy Louth, has been nominated in the Community Wellbeing Initiative category. This project, funded by the Adult Literacy for Life (ALL) Collaboration and Innovation Fund, combines weekly football sessions with health checks, workshops, and practical supports for individuals experiencing homelessness or social disadvantage.

Delivered in partnership with Dundalk Simon Community, Drogheda Homeless Aid, the FAI, the HSE Health Promotion Team, Dundalk FC, Drogheda United and The Red Door Project, the initiative promotes physical activity, confidence, and wellbeing while offering literacy resources and addiction awareness talks.



Participants in the Irish Homeless Street Leagues



Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme 2024-2028 (SICAP)

The Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht (DRCDG) has confirmed the budget allocations for the delivery of the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) in County Louth for 2026. The allocations set out below will support the continued implementation of SICAP actions across the county and ensure the programme’s focus on reducing social exclusion and enhancing community development outcomes.

LEADER

Development led by local communities

LEADER Project Funding Approved

To date, total funding allocated to LEADER projects in Louth under the 2023-2027 LEADER Programme amounts to **€1,201,645.50**. Recent funding paid to beneficiaries under the LEADER Programme include:

PROMOTER NAME	AMOUNT €
Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann, Drogheda Branch Leinster Fleadh 2025	€16,822.78
Carlingford Heritage CLG The Carlingford Hub Community Desk	€4,283.90
Blackrock Tidy Towns Ltd Electric Tricycles	€3,313.50
John & Marian King Glamping at Cornamucklagh	€34,899.86
Alana Creations Ltd Bespoke Woodworking Automated Cell Machinery	€111,650.00
Ardee & District Cancer Support CLG Peregrine House Cancer Supports Centre	€47,744.90
Dundalk Enterprise Development Company CLG Smart Energy Building Improvement Initiative	€18,087.50
Geraldines GFC Geraldines Connectivity Infrastructure	€16,558.87
TOTAL	€253,361.31

Louth SICAP Annual Budget 2026	
SICAP Budget 2026	New Arrivals Budget 2026
€1,755,430.00	€238,309.00

The annual planning process is now in progress and the draft SICAP 2026 Annual Plan for Louth submitted for review and approval. The Plan set out the proposed actions for the coming year along with the targets and expected outcomes. It also provides an opportunity to link SICAPs core areas of work and actions with the LECPC priorities. The LCDC is required to assess the Annual Plan to ensure it aligns with local priorities and complies with SICAP Programme Requirements. Final LCDC approval of the Plan is due by 27th February 2026.

Tidy Town Project Scheme

The Tidy Towns Project Scheme closed for applications on 5th January 2026. Nineteen applications have been assessed and are now progressing to the Municipal Districts for approval in February. Once approved, letters of offer will issue shortly thereafter. The scheme supports projects that help boost marks for Tidy Towns groups in both the National Tidy Towns Competition and local competitions.

Entente Florale Europe 2026

The Entente Florale Europe competition recognises excellence in community development, environmental sustainability, and visual enhancement. Ireland has participated since 1981, with County Louth achieving strong results, including Tallanstown’s Gold Award (2008), Dundalk’s Silver Award (2009) and Drogheda’s Silver Award (2011).

For 2026, the Department has selected Blackrock, County Louth, and Riverside, Sligo as Ireland’s two representatives. The Community Support Section will coordinate Blackrock’s participation in partnership with the Steering & Coordinating Committees, community groups, internal departments and external partners.

Participation provides an opportunity to showcase Louth’s strengths in sustainability, planning and community engagement, while deepening collaboration across sectors and supporting tourism and civic pride.



Cathaoirígh Sean Kelly & Robert Nash with CE David Conway & DOS David Hanratty alongside Blackrock Tidy Towns & pupils from St Francis National School at the Launch of the Entente Florale competition.



PEACEPLUS

Procurement

Contracts for Louth’s PEACEPLUS Animating Shared Spaces Programme and Youth Community Safety Engagement Wellbeing and Signposting Programme have now been signed.



Staff from Dundalk Youth Centre and Louth County Council signing the contract for the PEACEPLUS Animating Shared Spaces Project



Community Restorative Justice Newry/Armagh and Louth County Council Staff signing the PEACEPLUS Wellbeing and Signposting Contract

PEACEPLUS Partnership Committee

The 16th meeting of the County Louth PEACEPLUS Partnership Committee was held on 14th January in County Hall, Dundalk. It was agreed to readvertise the PEACEPLUS Multicultural/Intercultural Programme on eTenders.



Meeting of the 16th PEACEPLUS Partnership Meeting, 14th January 2026

Project Updates

The launch of the ‘Youth and Community Safety-Engagement, Wellbeing and Signposting project’ was held in the Foy Centre in Carlingford on 21st January.



Launch of the PEACEPLUS Youth & Community Safety- Engagement, Wellbeing and Signposting Programme in Foy Centre Carlingford

Ukraine Humanitarian Response

Offer A Home Programme

Property Figures as at 27/01/2026

Properties offered in January	0
Families moved into properties in January	0
Expressions of interest in being accommodated received from families in January	11
Property offers recorded to date	86
Owners successfully contacted to date	84
Properties currently occupied	36
Beneficiaries currently assigned	117
Assessments carried out to date	60
Assessments currently underway	0
Properties assessed as suitable to date	45
Properties with minor works required	0
Properties withdrawn to date	17
Properties not viable to date	21

Local Authority Integration Team

During this period, clinics continue to operate successfully with ongoing engagement across communities, while planning for the 2026 Clinic Strategy is well underway, focusing on enhanced accessibility and coordinated service delivery.

The Dundalk FC Oriel Park community clean-up was completed with strong volunteer participation from IPAS centres in the county. Staff also participated in a Places of Sanctuary webinar, strengthening our awareness and capacity to support people seeking

safety in Louth. In addition, Mary O’Reilly, Integration Support Worker, attended the Akidwa Migrant Women’s Conference in Sligo on January 27th, contributing to discussions on migrant women’s experiences and bringing back valuable insights to inform our local integration efforts.

Community Safety

The inaugural meeting of the Louth Community Safety Partnership took place on 27th January. Mr. Nasir Yasin was elected Chair of the Partnership and Cllr. Paddy Mc Quillan was elected Vice Chair of the Partnership. Both shall serve in these positions for a period of three years after their date of appointment.



Sport

Dundalk Sports Centre

Afterschool Futsal

The Afterschool Futsal Programme for children aged 8 to 12 resumed on 13th January. Sessions recommenced on Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m. and are being well attended by both boys and girls.

Pickleball for Teens

A new programme, Pickleball for Teens, was introduced this month for participants aged 12 to 16 years. The programme is scheduled every Tuesday from 5:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. and is delivered by a professional coach.

Dundalk Football Club

On Tuesday, 13 January, Dundalk Sports Centre hosted the Leinster Senior Cup fixture between Dundalk FC and Shelbourne. The match attracted a strong attendance from supporters of both clubs. Dundalk FC secured a 3–1 victory.

Lourdes Stadium

Teen Pilates

A 6-week Teen Pilates programme was introduced this month. This programme runs every Monday from 6:00-7:00pm and costs €5 pay as you go or €30 for 6 weeks.

Bootcamp

The Outdoor & Indoor Bootcamp resumed on Thursday, 8 January. The programme welcomed several new participants, along with returning members who remain committed to starting the year on a positive and active note.



Louth Local Sports Partnership

Coach & Volunteer Education Programmes 2026

Louth Local Sports Partnership facilitated the following coach & volunteer education programmes in January 2026.

Activity	Date	Venue
Safeguarding Level 1	January 15	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	January 29	Online

Activity	Date	Venue
Disability Awareness	January 21	Online

Ireland Lights Up Co. Louth

The ever-popular 'Ireland Lights Up' initiative returned to GAA clubs in January 2026, in collaboration with Get Ireland Walking, Local Sports Partnerships and Irish Life. As part of the programme, participating clubs are hosting community walks over a six-week period throughout January and February. In Louth, 11 GAA clubs have joined the initiative, with over 250 people taking part weekly, fostering health, well-being, and community engagement across the county.

Men on the Move Programme

The Men on the Move programme returned in January 2026, offering men in Louth aged 35+ an opportunity to improve their health and fitness. Running across Cooley, North Drogheda and Termonfeckin, with South Drogheda and Ardee to follow in March, the 8-week initiative provides a supportive setting for increasing physical activity. Delivered by experienced coaches and supported by the HSE, the programme now engages over 50 participants, promoting improved fitness, well-being, and strong community connection



Men on the Move Programme Participants

Couch to 5K

Louth Local Sports Partnership launched its 2026 Couch to 5K programme in Dundalk, with Drogheda to follow in early February. This structured 8-week initiative supports participants in gradually building fitness and confidence to complete a 5km run or walk. Over 50 people are currently taking part across both locations. The programme fosters an encouraging, inclusive environment, culminating in a celebration event where participants complete their local Dundalk parkrun, reinforcing community engagement and ongoing physical activity



Couch to 5K at Dundalk Sports Centre

Football for Connection

In collaboration with Drogheda United and Louth Local Sports Partnership, we are delivering a 10-week Football for Connection programme for women. The initiative is designed to support women from communities across Drogheda in strengthening social connections through structured football activities. Participants engage in skill development while fostering trust, building positive relationships, and sharing experiences within a supportive and inclusive environment.

Inclusive Rugby

Ardee Rugby Club launched a new rugby programme on 24 January, specifically designed for children with additional needs. The initiative provides a fun, supportive, and fully inclusive environment in which every child is encouraged to learn, participate, and develop a sense of belonging.

Walking for All Officer for Louth

Outscape has been awarded €7.5 million from PEACEPLUS to lead Walking for All (WFA), a cross-border initiative engaging more than 14,000 participants in walking activities across rural areas of Northern Ireland and Ireland's border counties. Louth has appointed a new Walking for All Officer to support development of rural walking opportunities. The programme promotes health and well-being through short, accessible, volunteer-led walks while also strengthening social inclusion, fostering community connections, and encouraging greater acceptance and cohesion across diverse groups.

An Stiúrthóireacht um Thithíocht agus Seachadadh Cultúir Housing & Culture Delivery Directorate

Tá an stiúrthóireacht seo freagrach as eagrú agus seachadadh Cóiríochta & Soláthair Tithíochta mar aon leis an ngné chultúrtha de Sheirbhísí Leabharlanna, Ealaíon, Músaem agus Cartlainne.

This directorate is responsible for the organisational and delivery of Housing Accommodation & Supply along with the cultural aspect of Libraries, Arts, Museum and Archive Services.

Ger Murphy
Stiúrthóir / Director



Titíocht / Housing

Ag Déileáil le hEaspa Dídine / Addressing Homelessness

As the Responsible Housing Authority for the Northeast Region, Louth County Council continues to manage this area and achieve the goals set out in the Northeast Homelessness Strategy 2024-2026. The following work done within County Louth in the period 13th December 2025 – 12th January 2026 can be summarised as follows:

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

13 th December 25 to 12 th January 26	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda MD	Total
Offered advice, support (including fast tracking H.A. for Rent Supplement eligibility)	1	91	56	148
Placed in Temporary Emergency Accommodation	0	18	19	37
Refused Offer of Temporary Emergency Accommodation	0	9	2	11
Not eligible from outside county or non HRC	0	0	0	0
Total number of Person who presented as Homeless	1	118	77	196

Tábla 2: Iarratais Iocaíocht Cúnaimh Tithíochta do Dhaoine Gan Dídean Próiseáilte / Table 2 Homeless HAP Applications Processed

2024	122 Tenancies created
2025	119 Tenancies created

Tábla 3: Tithíocht ar dtús / Table 3 - Housing First

Number of tenancies established	56
Number of individuals currently in tenancy	39

Tables 4 - 7 below reflect details of the adults who were in emergency accommodation in County Louth on 12th January 2026. Also included at Table 5 is the breakdown of families in emergency accommodation at that date.

Tábla 4: Inscne / Table 4: Gender

Gender	Total
Male	85
Female	48
Total	133

Tábla 5: Aoisghrúpaí / Table 5: Age Groups

Age Group	Total
18-24	28
25-44	66
45-64	34
65+	5
Total	133

Tábla 6: Saghas Loistín / Table 6: Accommodation Type

Accommodation Type	Total
Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA)	44
Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)	89
Total unique individuals	133

Tábla 7: Teaghlaigh le paistí cleithiúnaí / Table 7 - Families with dependent children

	No. of families with dependent children	No. of Individual Adults	No. of Dependents
Individuals with dependent children	12	14	25
Couples with dependent children	1	2	1
Total	13	16	26

Leithdháileadh Tithíochta, Eanáir 2026 / Housing Allocations, January 2026

20th December 2025 – 19th January, 2026	LA	LA Refusal	AH B	AHB Refusal
Ardee	2	1	1	0
Drogheda	0	4	1	0
Dundalk	5	1	0	6
Total	7	6	2	6

Aistrithe / Transfers

20th December, 2025 – 19th January, 2026	Transfers
Ardee	0
Drogheda	0
Dundalk	0
Total	0

Liosta Tithe / Housing List

As at 19th January, 2026	Ardee	Drogheda	Dundalk	Total
Housing List	352	668	1080	2100

HAP Transfer List	291	830	1574	2695
Total Housing List	643	1498	2654	4795

There are **331** applications on the transfer list (Non HAP) within Social Housing including **61** applications from the Approved Housing Bodies.

Bainisteoireacht Chíos / Rent Management

Current Rents Arrears on 24th January 2026	No of Accounts	Value
Rents between 4-6 weeks old	255	€106,396
Rents between 7-12 weeks old	210	€167,056
Rents greater than 12 weeks old	1049	€3,802,537
TOTAL	1514	€4,075,989

Rent arrears are monitored on an ongoing basis and letters are issued to customers within two weeks of their falling into arrears. Failure to address these arrears will result in a second letter being issued and if necessary, a third and final reminder. Failure to respond at that point will result in an escalation to tenancy warning. The following correspondence was issued in January 2026.

Letter Type	Month/Year	Number Issued
1 st Reminder	January 2026	104
2 nd Reminder	January 2026	11
Final Reminder	January 2026	4
Total issued		119

The total rental income received in 2026, to date, is **€1,211,213**. This is a 22% increase when compared to the equivalent period in 2025 (€994,733) and a 33% increase on 2024 (€909,159).

The total number of rents currently paid by Household Budget is **943**.

Customers that fall into arrears may enter into a payment plan for full repayment over an agreed period of time. **47** new payment plans commenced in January 2026 (up to and including 24th January 2026).

Airíonna Athligean & Neamhní / Relet and Void Properties
Updated 22/01/2026

Relet / Void Properties on 22 nd January 2026	Total
Ardee Municipal District	9
Dundalk Municipal District	27
Drogheda Municipal Borough District	43
Subtotal (re-lets) Vacant Properties	79
CPO units not yet ready for occupation (All County)	2
Total Number of Properties (Relets & CPO)	81

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	16 th Dec 2025 – 21 st Jan 2026	Total (YTD)
No. of Maintenance Requests Received	1,114	1,114
No. of Maintenance Requests Completed	978	978
No. of Maintenance Requests in Progress	80	80
No. of Maintenance Requests Refused	56	56

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

EERP for 2026 is being finalised and will be subject to confirmation from DHLGH of funding for 2026. To date, works have commenced on three units, for completion in 2026.

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

PRI Stats 2026

For 16 th December 2025 – 21 st January 2026	January	YTD
Properties inspected monthly	180	180
Advisory letters issued	78	78
Improvement notices issued	2	2
Prohibition notices issued	0	0
Private Inspections	1	1
HAP First Inspections	35	35
RAS First Inspections	1	1
AHB First Inspections	84	84
Student Specific Accommodation (SSA)	0	0
Private Re-inspections	0	0
HAP Re-inspections	55	55
RAS Re-inspections	0	0
AHB Re-inspections	3	3
SSA Re-inspections	0	0

Inspections from Complaints	1	1
Properties Made Compliant	17	17

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

16th December 2025 – 22nd Jan 2026	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly	Yearly
Verbal Warnings	2	0	0	2	2
Written Tenancy Notifications	0	0	0	0	0
Tenancy Warnings Housing Act, 2014	0	1	0	1	1

Páirtíocht Tionóntachta /Tenancy Engagement

16 th December 2025 – 22 nd Jan 2026	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly Total	Yearly Total
No. Tenants who attended Pre-tenancy training	12	2	15	29	29
Post-tenancy inspections	0	3	4	7	7
Tenancy Investigation Visits	8	4	4	16	16

Abandonment Notifications & Illegal Occupiers

Category	Brief Description	January
Section 15(1) Notifications Issued	Initial notice – tenant has 4 weeks to make contact and confirm occupancy.	2
Section 15(2) Notifications Issued	Final notice – property reverts to Council possession	3
Properties Surrendered Following Tenancy Compliance Engagement	Voluntary surrender after compliance discussions.	0
Illegal Occupants	Instances where properties were found to be occupied without lawful tenancy and action was taken in line with legislation.	0

Anti-Social Behaviour

16 th December 2025 – 22 nd Jan 2026	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly	Yearly
ASB Cases* Received	9	3	3	15	15
ASB cases Ongoing	7	1	9	17	-
ASB cases complete	5	2	4	11	11

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

Tithíocht Inacmhainne/ Affordable Housing

All 11 units at Quarry Court, Ardee are currently going through the sale process, and it is expected the successful applicants will receive their keys in the coming weeks. The application portal for the latest Affordable Purchase Scheme of 10 units at Ushers Mill Drogheda will open for applications on 9th February at 10.00am. We are currently preparing applications for funding to the DHLGH for a further 3 Affordable Schemes in Blackrock & Dundalk.

Gnóthaithee/ Acquisitions

Louth County Council are acquiring homes under the 2nd hand acquisition scheme which will be allocated as appropriate to Tenant In Situ, persons with disabilities, and homeless.

In January, the Council purchased one property



Recently acquired properties in Drogheda and Dundalk

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

Mortgage to Rent January 2026 Report

Active MTR Applications Total	28
AHB MTR Applications Active	8
AHB MTR completed 2025	12
Private MTR Applications Active	17
Private MTR completed 2025	7
MTR Application Awaiting Purchaser	3

Under MTR, a borrower gets to stay in their home and agrees to give ownership of the home to the MTR provider. This means the borrower becomes a social housing tenant of their local authority or Approved Housing Body (AHB). This arrangement is entered into voluntarily and agreed between the borrower, their lender and the MTR provider. After five years have passed, the borrower might be given the option to buy the home back if they are in a position to do so.

Déisiú agus Léas/ Repair and Lease

There are no applications for the Repair and Lease scheme in January.

Deontas Athchóirithe D'áras Folamh / Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant

Applications Submitted:	376
Approved:	273
Rejected:	29
Withdrawn	50
Other (FI Requests, First Site Inspections)	24
Funding Issued to Applicant	128
Principal Private Residence	277
Rental Applications	99
Vacant Grant Applications	194
Derelict top-up Applications	182

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

Louth County Council continues to accept new applications under the Housing Grants Scheme. These grants are available for owner-occupied homes and private rented properties (with landlord permission).

Applications are currently being accepted for the following:

- **Housing Adaptation Grant** – for works to make a home suitable for a person with a disability, including internal layout changes and accessibility improvements.
- **Mobility Aids Grant** – for minor works such as grab-rails, ramps, and stair lifts.
- **Housing Aid for Older People** – for essential repairs and improvements for those aged 66 and over.

These grants aim to help older people and individuals with disabilities or mobility issues make their homes safer, more comfortable, and accessible. Applications are assessed based on eligibility, available funding, and applicant needs.

Applicants who have already received grant approval are reminded of the importance of completing works within the specified timeframe and submitting completion certificates promptly to ensure compliance and facilitate processing.

For full details and application forms, visit <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/housing/housing-grants/private-housing-grants-disability-housing-grants-for-older-people/>

Recent Private Housing Grant Works Completed



Bathroom Adaptation completed in Drogheda with funding provided with a HAG



New Windows and Door completed in Drogheda, with funding provided with a HOP

Status	HAG	MAG	HOP	Month	YTD
Applications on Hand 22/01/2026	102	5	192		299

Grants Approved 17/12/2025 – 22/01/2026	5	0	13	18	18
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Adaptations to Council Housing for Persons with a Disability

The Disabled Persons Adaptation (DPA) Grant funding submission for 2026 has been submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, and the Council will outline the adaptations programme for the year once the funding allocation is confirmed.

Seachadadh Nua Tóg / New Build Delivery

Current Approved Social Housing Delivery Units	
SHIP	863
CALF	482
CAS	49
TOTAL	1,394

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	562	-	562
2026	175	0	565	565
Total	1,323	1,592	565	2,157

Capital Housing Delivery

Part V Social Housing at Gort Mell, Drogheda & Seven Winds, Drogheda

Louth County Council recently completed the acquisition of 20 new housing units in Gort Mell, Drogheda and 12 new housing units in Seven Winds, Drogheda. The units in Gort Mell comprise a mix of ground floor apartments with two bed two storey duplex units over and 2 & 3 bed houses. The units in Seven Winds comprise a mix of 1 bed ground floor apartments with 1 bed first floor apartments over. The A-Rated energy efficient units were delivered by Louth County Councils Housing Section through the Part V process which is funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.



Housing units at Gort Mell, Drogheda



Housing at Seven Winds, Drogheda

SHIP Delivery

Project Name	Project Phase	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Boice Court, Mell, Drogheda (Phase 2)	2/3	32	On Site (Sub. Complete)	31/12/2025	17 * 3 bed, 15 * 2 bed Apt
Boice Court, Mell, Drogheda (Phase 2)	3/3	27	On Site	28/02/2026	4 * 3 bed, 2 * 4 bed, 8 * 1 bed Apt, 5 * 2 bed Apt & 8 * 3 bed Apt
Mount Avenue, Dundalk	1/2	52	On Site	16/02/2026	20 * 2 bed, 17 * 3 bed, 3 * 4 bed, 2 * 1 bed Apt, 4 * 2 bed Apt, 6 * 3 bed Apt
Mount Avenue, Dundalk	2/2	41	On Site	17/11/2026	3 * 2 bed, 12 * 3 bed, 6 * 4 bed, 10 * 1 bed Apt, 10 * 3 bed Apt
Rathmullen Park, Drogheda Infill	1/1	4	Stage 3 Approved	30/06/2027	2 * 2 bed, 1 * 3 bed, 1 * 4 bed
Blackwater Meadow, Point Road, Dundalk	1/1	44	Stage 2 Approved	30/06/2028 - 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	30/06/2026	42 * 2 bed, 3 * 3 bed, 1 * 5 bed
Anne St. Dundalk	1/1	16	Stage 1 Approved	31/03/2028	8 * 2 bed Apt, 8 * 3 bed Apt.
Ballymakenny Road - East Site, Drogheda	1/1	130	PPP Bundle 5 Funding Approved On-hold	31/12/2029	52 * 2 bed, 47 * 3 bed, 4 * 4 bed, 1 * 5 bed, 26 * 1 bed Apt
Mullagh Close, Clogherhead	3/3	4	On-site	31/03/2026	4 * 3 bed
Knockshee, Old Golf Links Road, Blackrock, Dundalk	1/1	12	Completed	01/12/2025	12 * 2 bed Apt.
Clontygora, Dundalk	1/1	2	Completed	31/10/2025	2 * 4 bed
Gort Mell, Slane Road, Drogheda, Co. Louth	1/2	19	Completed	01/12/2025	9 * 1 bed Apt, 9 * 2 bed Duplex, 1 * 3 bed
Gort Mell, Slane Road, Drogheda, Co. Louth	2/2	2	Completed	01/12/2025	2 * 3 bed
Dowdalls Court, Newry Road, Dundalk	1/2	8	Completed	17/12/2025	5 * 2 bed, 3 * 3 bed
Dowdalls Court, Newry Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth	2/2	7	On-site	30/06/2026	2 * 2 bed, 5 * 3 bed
Bruach na hAbhann, Castletown Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth	1/1	27	Proposal / On-site	30/06/2026	2 * 3 bed, 13 * 4 bed, 6 * 1 bed Apt, 6 * 3 bed duplex
Potters Field, Cappocks Green, Ardee, Co. Louth	2/3	1	On-site	31/03/2026	1 * 2 bed
Potters Field, Cappocks Green, Ardee, Co. Louth	2/3	5	On-site	31/03/2026	5 * 3 bed
Seven Winds, North Road, Drogheda	1/5	4	Completed	29/10/2025	4 * 1 bed Apt

Seven Winds, North Road, Drogheda	2/5	4	Completed	07/11/2025	4 * 1 bed Apt
Seven Winds, North Road, Drogheda	3/5	4	Completed	02/12/2025	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	2/2	6	Completed	13/10/2025	4 * 1 bed Apt, 2 * 2 bed Apt
Ballymakenny Park, Drogheda Phase 3	2/2	2	Completed	31/10/2025	2 * 2 bed Apt
Gort Mell, Slane Road, Drogheda, Co. Louth	1/3	3	Completed	01/12/2025	3 * 3 bed
Gort Mell, Slane Road, Drogheda, Co. Louth	2/3	17	Completed	01/12/2025	6 * 2 bed, 3 * 3 bed, 4 * 1 bed Apt, 4 * 2 bed Duplex
Gort Mell, Slane Road, Drogheda, Co. Louth	3/3	4	On-site	31/03/2026	4 * 3 bed
Beaulieu Village, Drogheda, Co. Louth	1/2	8	On-site (Sub. Complete)	31/12/2025	2 * 2 bed, 6 * 3 bed
Beaulieu Village, Drogheda, Co. Louth	2/2	17	On-site	31/03/2026	4 * 2 bed, 9 * 3 bed, 4 * 4 bed
Beaulieu Banks Ph 1, Termonfeekin Road, Drogheda, Co. Louth	1/2	2	On-site	31/03/2026	2 * 3 bed
Beaulieu Banks Ph 1, Termonfeekin Road, Drogheda, Co. Louth	2/2	17	On-site	31/12/2026	8 * 1 bed Apt, 4 * 2 bed Apt, 5 * 3 bed
Dowdalls Court, Newry Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth	1/1	4	Completed	17/12/2025	3 * 2 bed, 1 * 3 bed
Bruach na hAbhann, Castletown Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth	1/1	7	On-site	30/06/2026	3 * 3 bed, 4 * 4 bed
Ferrard Park Phase 2, Twenties,	1/1	16	On-site	31/03/2026	16 * 4 bed

Drogheda, Co. Louth					
Ushers Mill (Ph 4 & 6A), Twenties, Drogheda Co. Louth	1/3	4	Completed	31/10/2025	4 * 1 bed Apt
Ushers Mill (Ph 4 & 6A), Twenties, Drogheda Co. Louth	2/3	2	Completed	30/11/2025	2 * 3 bed
Ushers Mill (Ph 4 & 6A), Twenties, Drogheda Co. Louth	3/3	14	On-site	31/03/2026	4 * 2 bed, 8 * 3 bed, 2 * 4 bed

Seachadadh CAS/CAS Delivery

Project Name	AHB	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Newtown Woods, Ballymackenny Road, Drogheda	Foscadh Housing Association	9	Approved	31/03/2026	Eight *1 Bed House One*2 Bed House
Tierney Street, Ardee	St John of Gods	7	Stage 3 Approved	31/03/2027	One*3 Bed house One*4 Bed house
Barrack Street, Dundalk	Dublin Simon	21	Stage 2 Approved	15/03/2027	Twenty one * 1 Bed apartments
Highfield, Newry Road, Dundalk	Women's Aid Dundalk	12	Stage 4 approved	31/03/2027	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
Connolly's Field Dundalk Fold Housing	1/1	70	59/11	Complete	05/12/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 51 One bed apt • 19 Two bed apt
Racecourse Meadows with Circle	1/3	18	0	Complete	05/12/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 Three bed Houses
Racecourse Meadows with Circle	2/3	8	0	Complete	05/12/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 Three Bed Houses
Crushrod Avenue Drogheda Co. Louth Cluid	2/2	33	0	Complete	28/11/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 One Bed Apt • 16 Two Bed Apt • 2 Two Bed House • 7 Three Bed House
Bayview Gardens, Drogheda, Co Louth	1/1	58	52/6	Complete	03/10/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23 One Bed Apt/Duplex • 32 Two Bed Apt/Duplex • 3 Three Bed Apt/Duplex
Racecourse Meadows with Circle	3/3	19	0	On Site	31/03/2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 Three Bed Houses • 9 Two Bed Apartments
Gullion Park Finnabair Dundalk Co- Operative Housing Ireland	1/2	48	34/14	Complete	30/12/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 One bed Apt • 18 Two Bed Apt • 18 x Three Bed Apt
Gullion Park Finnabair Dundalk Co- Operative Housing Ireland	2/2	94	0	On Site	31/12/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36 x 1 Bed Apt • 52 x Two Bed Apt • 6 x Three Bed
Avourwen Meadows, Drogheda, Co. Louth Oaklee	1/1	50	45/5	On Site	30/06/2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 One Bed Apt • 32 Two Bed Apt

Clos Emer, Castletown Dundalk HAIL	1/1	3	0	On Site	31/03/2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Two Bed Apt • 1 Three Bed Apt
Hearthfield, Mount Avenue Dundalk Tuath	1/1	42	0	On site	31/10/2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 One Bed Apt • 12 Two Bed Apt • 6 Two Bed House • 6 Three Bed House
Gernon Place, Castlebellingham Co. Louth	2/2	10	9/1	Onsite	30/06/2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Three bed Houses • 4 Two Bed Apts • 4 Three Bed Duplex
EdenHill Mews, Blackrock, Co Louth	1/1	29	26/3	Proposal	30/05/2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 Three Bed Apt • 18 Two Bed Apt • 5 Three Bed Houses

**Seirbhísí Cultúrtha /
Cultural Services**

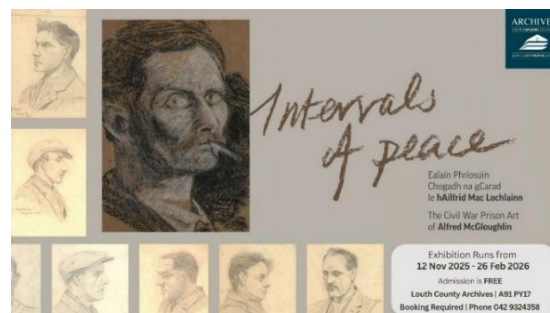
An Chartlann / Archives



Archives Entrance Gate Sign

Exhibition

“Intervals of Peace: The Civil War Prison Art of Alfred McGloughlin” exhibition remains **open until 26th February 2026** during office hours at Louth County Archives and is **free to attend**. Alfred McGloughlin, who was an artist and a nephew of the leader of the 1916 Rising, Patrick Pearse, was imprisoned from 1922 to 1923, where he kept up his artistic endeavours by drawing fellow prisoners. The portraits include veterans of the Easter Rising and War of Independence.



‘Intervals of Peace’ exhibition poster

Funding Schemes

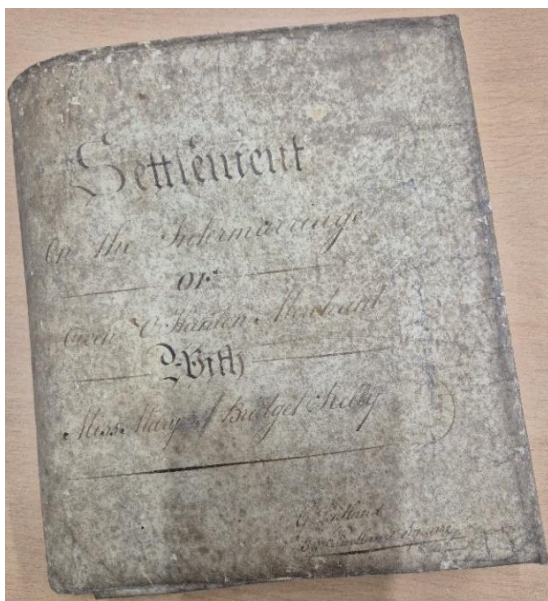
The County Archives has submitted an application to the Conservation Section of Louth County Council for an Historic Structures Fund 2026 grant from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. If successful, the grant would assist with conservation repair works to the north gable wall of the Archives building.

An application was also submitted to the Heritage Council's Heritage Stewardship Fund for a grant towards the conservation of poor law union archives.

Donating Archives

The Service is always delighted to hear from people wishing to donate records, photographs, or maps, that illustrate any aspect of the history and development of County Louth, its organisations, clubs or people. Such archives hold information that can be exploited for research and knowledge. In early January, a marriage settlement between Owen Hanlon, linen merchant, of Drogheda and Mary Bridget Kelly of Barleyfields dating from 1814 was donated. Marriage settlements are of significant interest as they often cite earlier deeds.

The County Archives ensures that donated archives are properly preserved and made appropriately available for research. Donating a collection leaves a lasting legacy that users can utilise and enjoy for years to come. Anyone who has a collection to donate can contact the County Archivist by email at archive@louthcoco.ie or by telephone at 042-9324358.



1814 marriage settlement donated to the County Archives

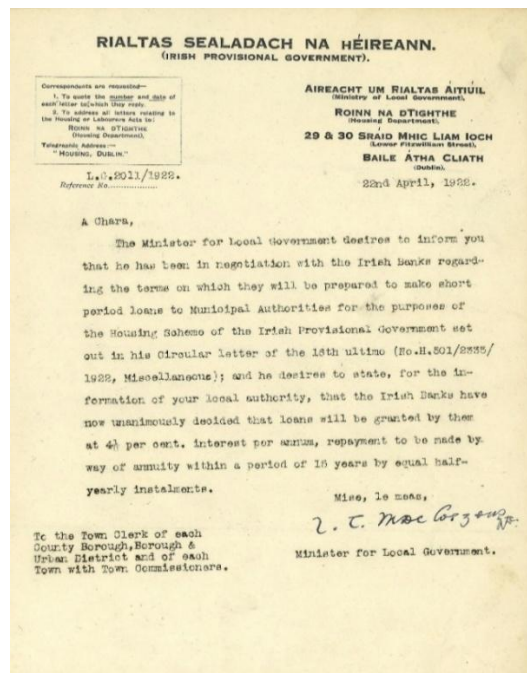
Research Enquiries

One of the goals of the service under the Annual Service Delivery Plan is to ensure the availability of

collections by providing access to collections and assistance to users.

Recent research topics included:

- Southern Unionist experience during the 1918 general election.
- Religion in Dromiskin since 1800.
- Documentation on Louth's natural history.
- Sales ledgers of Macardle Moore brewery.
- Railway engineering history.
- Implementation of the 1922 Million Pound Housing Scheme in Drogheda



Letter from the Irish Provisional Government to Drogheda Corporation regarding the terms of the housing scheme loans, 22nd April 1922

This housing scheme, introduced by the Irish Provisional Government, allocated one million pounds in grants to local authorities to assist house building and help address the housing crisis in urban areas. Drogheda and Dundalk urbans took advantage of this, with twenty-three houses built at Drogheda in Thomas Street and Sandyford Terrace and a further thirty-four houses built in Dundalk.

Archives constitute a fundamental component of our cultural heritage and civic life. Their proper preservation ensures that the documentary record of our past remains accessible, enabling a wide range of scholarly, administrative, and community uses, and provide enduring benefits to society, supporting education, accountability, cultural identity, and the collective understanding of our shared history.

Leabharlanna / Libraries



Schools' Service Mobile Van

Louth County Council Library Service monitors and tracks usage across all aspects of our provision. Each month, we highlight here, a specific set of data that reflects an area of our work. This month features the Schools Library Service.

The Schools Service made visits to Early Learning Centres, primary and secondary schools throughout 2025. Over 2250 children engaged with services on the school van during the year. In addition, over 134 classroom sets were issued to teachers across our county. This service allows teachers access to multiple copies of appropriate books to support reader development activities in schools.

Public Consultation – Library Development Programme 2026-2030

Louth County Council Library Service is inviting people across County Louth, to take part in a public consultation to help shape its new Development Programme from 2026-2030. The plan will guide the future of library services across the county, ensuring they meet the needs of the community. The consultation runs until Friday 20th of March 2026, and everyone is encouraged to share their views through an online survey or by attending one of our many focus groups. Community and partner organisations can get involved through our stakeholder survey. The County Librarian indicates that “Libraries are at the heart of our communities. This is your chance to tell us what matters most to you and help us plan our next steps.” We ask all our colleagues and partners to participate and to share our online survey widely. To have your say, visit our website

<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/library-development-programme-2026-2030/> or drop into your local library for more information.

Right to Read Programming and Outreach

Right to Read is a national initiative delivered through Ireland's public libraries to support literacy and reading development for people of all ages. As part of our ongoing implementation of this strategic programme, Storytimes were held throughout January, with a strong focus on fostering a love of reading and promoting early literacy among young children.

- **Drogheda Library** hosted a The Tiger Who Came to Tea themed storytime.
- **Dundalk Library** delivered story time sessions based on Stop That Dinosaur, There's a Dinosaur in Your Book! and Go Go DODO!

These sessions encouraged active participation through movement, rhyme, and song, supporting early literacy development and engagement. In addition, the Baby Book Club programme has resumed in Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries, promoting early literacy and fostering a love of books among young babies and their families.



Library Assistant at Dinosaur Storytime in Dundalk Library



Borrowers enjoying Dinosaur storytime in Dundalk Library

Reader Development

Reader development was promoted across our branches through a range of themed displays and engagement activities. This included a special focus on the life and work of the iconic Agatha Christie, whose legacy was highlighted to mark the 50th anniversary of her passing. In addition, the work of Harriet Tyce—well known as a barrister, Traitor Hunter, and acclaimed author—was showcased for Louth readers, aligning with the renewed public interest generated by the recent success of the associated television series Traitors.

As part of our implementation strategy, Hidden Hearing, experts in hearing healthcare, were invited to provide free advice, ear and hearing checks to members of the public at Dundalk Library.



Reader engagement in Drogheda Library



Hidden Hearing in Dundalk Library

The Irish Heart Foundation was also invited to Dundalk and Dunleer Library for free blood pressure, pulse checks and information and support for the community. Reader development was also supported through this initiative with appropriate book promotion and reader engagement displays.



The Irish Heart Foundation in Dundalk Library

Louth Library Primary Schools Service

The Schools' Library Service Mobile Van resumed operations on Tuesday 6th January for the start of the new 2026 school term. This month, twelve primary schools were visited supporting implementation of the Right to Read programme.

We strengthened community partnerships this month by working with the Home School Liaison Officers to share literacy resources and educational support. This includes a selection of dyslexia-friendly books and C-Pen Readers that teachers can borrow for use in their classrooms.

Healthy Ireland at Your Library

Healthy Ireland at Your Library is a nationwide programme delivered through all public libraries in Ireland. It supports the Government's Healthy Ireland strategy by making reliable health and wellbeing information freely accessible to everyone.



Healthy Ireland at Your Library stock on display in Dundalk Library

Na hEalaíona / Arts

2026 Grants

The 2026 Arts Act grants remain open for application until February 12th. Applications are sought from professional artists and groups collaborating with professionals in the arts industry. Schemes including Artist bursaries, Tyrone Guthrie residency and the Arts Act Grant scheme are just some of the schemes available. Application forms and guidelines can be found on <https://createlouth.ie/funding/>. For queries email arts@louthcoco.ie

Public Art Programme 2025-2027

Louth County Council has recently launched its new Public Art Policy alongside a Public Art Programme that will deliver six sculptural commissions and three artist-in-residence projects.

The funding for the programme comes directly from the national Percent for Art Scheme, which enables local authorities to allocate 1% of the total cost of capital projects to support public art in their area. The six sculptures will be located across six Louth County Council housing developments. In addition, three artist-in-residence projects are planned, with one taking place in each Municipal District. This initiative is an exciting development for arts in the county and will provide a range of artists an opportunity to contribute to the landscape of the county and to work within the communities during their time on the projects.

Drogheda Classical Music Series

On Friday 23rd January, DCMS was delighted to welcome the winner of First Prize and the Critic's Award at The Maria Callas Competition in Verona: Irish and international soprano sensation Claudia Boyle. Claudia made her Drogheda Classical Music début with a new year opera gala with rising star, Meath-born baritone Seán Boylan, and pianist extraordinaire Dearbhla Collins.

The next event in the series is on February 20th when none other than DCMS Artistic Director and renowned Irish Tenor, Gavan Ring, will join forces with one of Ireland's foremost pianists, Fiachra Garvey.

For details on this and all other events for DCMS 2026 please see www.droghedaclassicalmusic.com

Highlanes Gallery

Exhibition – Sticks, Stones & Bones, by Drogheda artist Breda Marron opened on Saturday 17th June with an In-Conversation event with the artist herself. The exhibition explores ideas around nature, ecology and the environment, spirituality, and identity. This is Breda's first solo show in over a decade, and she brings her dexterity and fluency working with natural materials including willow. The exhibition will run until March 7th.



For more details on any of the exhibitions and events at Highlanes Gallery please see <https://highlanes.ie/>

An Táin Arts Centre

In My Time, an exhibition by Denis O'Connor, features a collection of sculptural works by the renowned artist. Partly autobiographical, the pieces explore references around loss, sadness, and longing. Over the last twenty-five years Denis has produced site specific public art pieces, including two in Dundalk through the Percent for Art scheme.

For further details on this and other exhibitions as well as other programming in An Táin please see <https://www.antain.ie/>

Droichead Arts Centre

Droichead Arts Centre welcomed the Liberty Panto, Jack and the Beanstalk to their venue this year from 15th – 18th January. This family friendly treat was an enormous success with locals and featured Irish pop sensation Jack Carter.



The Liberty Panto cast of Jack and the Beanstalk at Droichead Arts Centre

An Iarsmalann / Museum

St. Bridget Exhibition

The Museum is in the final stages of preparing its exhibition on the life and legacy of St. Bridget which is scheduled to be opened by Cllr. Sean Kelly, Cathaoirleach, Louth County Council.



View of the St. Bridget exhibition gallery at the County Museum, Dundalk

DYT – Droichead Youth Theatre classes are back in full swing since January. These weekly classes focus on all aspects of theatre from backstage to lighting, costume, acting and stage movement.

For further details on these and all other events at Droichead please see <https://www.droichead.com/CreativeIreland>

Our Creative Ireland Community Grants call out closes for application on 12th February. Funding applications are being sought from local community organisations collaborating with professional artists to deliver a range of projects or workshops within the community.

Creative Ireland is also currently looking for expressions of interest for this year's Cruinniú na nÓg programme which will take place on Saturday 6th June. Details of all guidelines can be found on the funding page <https://createlouth.ie/funding/>.

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/>

Other Opportunities

The Arts Council are opening a range of funding streams in February including Culture Night Late, Bursary awards, Dance Artist Residency Scheme, Young ensemble schemes and much more. For details on all schemes currently open for application or schemes that are opening in the coming weeks please see the arts councils funding opportunities page <https://artscouncil.ie/funding/funding-opportunities/>



The Bridget Shrine at Faughart and its ongoing importance



The most widely recognised shape of St. Brigid's Cross

The exhibition highlights Brigid's life and legacy, with a particular focus on how the St. Brigid's Cross has been adopted by a wide range of organisations, including RTÉ, the Nursing and Midwifery Board, and both Louth and Kildare GAA. The exhibition also highlights the significance of Faughart as a place of pilgrimage, including an image showing Éamon de Valera and Frank Aiken in a crowd walking to the shrine.

by local National Schools as part of an art project organised by the Museum in early January.

In addition to the exhibition the Museum has organised a number of cross-making workshops for Sunday February 1st as part of the Bridget's Festival.



Celtic and ogham decorations created by National School children at the County Museum, Dundalk

Recent Acquisitions

The Museum recently received this magnificent plaque which originally hung in the courtroom when operating in Ardee Castle.



St. Brigid's Cloak

The exhibition showcases a range of artistic creations, including the Brigid cloak, which was a central feature of the Brigid 1500 celebrations. Complementing this is a large St. Brigid's Cross decorated with Celtic and Ogham designs, created



Original plaque from the courtroom when operating in Ardee Castle

Stiúrthóireacht na Mórthionscadal Caipitil agus Seachadadh Bonneagair Major Capital Projects & Infrastructure Delivery Directorate

Tá an stiúrthóireacht seo freagrach as mórthionscadail chaipitil lena n-áirítear foirgnimh nua comhairle, bóithre, réimse poiblí, glasbhealaí, Taisteal Gníomhach, scéimeanna cosanta tuilte agus idirchaidreamh a dhéanamh le soláthraithe fónais náisiúnta. A luaithe a bheidh mórthionscadal beagnach curtha i gcrích, glacfaidh an Stiúrthóireacht um Chothabháil Caipitil agus Seachadadh Comhshaoil freagracht as an tsócmhainn.

This directorate is responsible for major capital projects including new council buildings, roads, public realm, greenways, Active Travel, flood defence schemes and liaising with national utility providers. Once a major project has achieved practical completion, the Directorate of Operations & Environment Delivery will assume responsibility for the asset (except snagging & management defects liability period).

David Jones
Stiúrthóir / Director



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. have completed the snagging phase and Substantial Completion has been reached.



New road surfacing and traffic lights at the Tain Apartments.

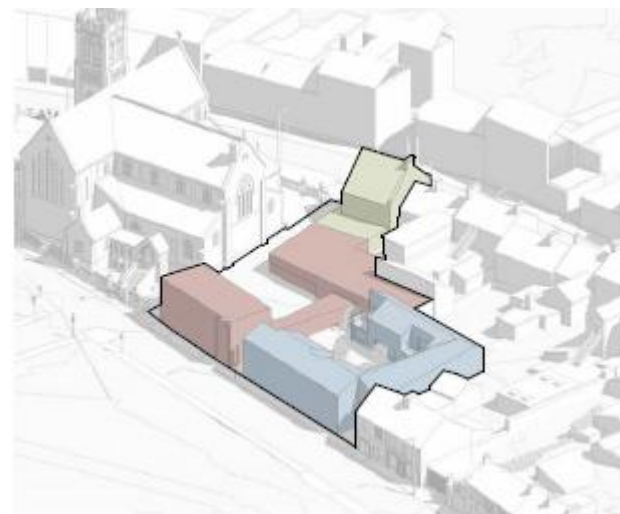


New road surfacing on Linen Hall Street.

Phase 2 – Backlands Area of St Nicholas Quarter

BDP Ltd are the appointed consultant design team for Phase 2 of the St. Nicholas Quarter project and are working with the Council and stakeholders on feasibility, analysis and a design concept for the re-development of the Backlands area. The accepted concept will be developed to Part 8 planning with full public consultation.

Concept development is being finalised alongside OM Costings. Property owner and stakeholder engagement is continuing.



Further development of project concept design.

The Longwalk Urban Framework Plan (Dundalk)

Louth County Council has launched The Long Walk Urban Framework Plan project. This project aims to create a framework plan for regeneration of the Longwalk area, that supports town centre growth, and meets the needs of the town's residents, visitors and businesses.

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 in April in addition to an online survey. Two further periods of public consultation have taken place and a draft of the Framework was presented to Dundalk MD Councillors on 17th December. It is anticipated that the Framework will be completed during Q1 2026.

For project updates visit the Longwalk Urban regeneration Facebook page here

<https://www.facebook.com/people/The-Long-Walk-Urban-Regeneration-Project/61574154397623/>

Or email

longwalkregeneration@tbla.eu

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

Targeted engagement continues in Drogheda and Dundalk, with multiple properties sales, or early development stages as a result of engagement.

Meetings have taken place with new owners of properties in Drogheda and Dundalk in recent weeks which have resulted in the preparation of full planning

applications by owners with a view to returning properties to productive use.

A recent survey of properties on the URDF Call 3 list (129 properties) has been completed to update the number of properties returned to use and or vacant.

The current high level status is as follows:

- Occupied 31
- Repair works ongoing 18
- Progressing* 42
- On-going engagement** 14
- Awaiting engagement 7
- *Possible Direct intervention by LCC* 16
- CPO process 1

* 'Progressing' relates to properties where there is owner activity in terms of planning process/ property for sale or lease/grant application

Living in Carlingford Visiting Carlingford



Historic photograph of Carlingford

Significant progress has been made by the heritage-led design consultants, Urban Agency. Three draft concepts aligning with the Part 8 approval received have been developed and these were presented to local stakeholders on 16th January. An open drop-in session was also arranged in Carlingford and this was very well attended.

Regular progress meetings are ongoing between LCC and the detailed design team.

Ardee 2040

Turley Planning, the Design Team lead, has completed the planning pack and it was submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála in mid-December 2025.

Tionscadail Breise / Additional Projects

St Laurence’s Gate Plaza, Drogheda

Engagement with the National Monuments has commenced as part of the consultation for the Part 8 process.



Play Spaces

St Dominic’s Park & The Glen

AA Screening Stage 1 report has been completed for the Glen and Part 8 documents are being prepared for early 2026.

Part 8 documents for works in St. Dominic’s Park are currently being prepared, which include draft drawings, updated AA screening and BRE 365 infiltration tests.

Capital Delivery Team

Funding Approvals

Louth was awarded €1.2 million in funding under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2025, which was announced on 22nd December 2025.

The following projects were approved:

- Carlingford – €126,180 for the regeneration of two laneways off Newry Street, including resurfacing, drainage, lighting and streetscape enhancements with colourful façade painting.
- Clogherhead – €500,000 to develop a landscaped civic space with amphitheatre seating and an interpretive centre with a lookout across the bay.
- Collon – €300,000 for the construction of a new playground with accessible equipment, safety surfacing, car parking, lighting and landscaping.
- Haggardstown – €225,000 to modernise the community centre, including exterior works, accessibility upgrades, toilet improvements, storage, a community garden and a mural.
- Omeath - €50,000 to develop plans for playground regeneration, improvements to the

Multi-Use Games Area, refurbishment of public toilets and enhanced links between the village, main street and the Omeath–Carlingford Greenway.

Boyne Greenway - North Bank

The Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht (DRCDG) has announced the successful applicants for funding under Measure 3 of the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) 2024/25. Louth County Council has received €500,000 in funding for the enhancement and extension of the North Bank of the Boyne Greenway in Drogheda. Works will be delivered on a phased basis and will include widening, resurfacing and relining of paths and installation of lighting. The enhancement and extension of the Boyne Greenway supports land-based outdoor recreation activities including walking, leisure cycling and running, and will deliver on the objectives set out in the *Embracing Ireland's Outdoors* strategy.



Muirhevnamor District Park Improvement

Improvement works at the old pitch and putt site in Muirhevnamor Park, Dundalk are ongoing. The works commenced on the 22nd of September. Funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht (DRDCG) under the Community Recognition Fund 2024, the improvement works are focused on integrating the unused green space into the existing community park. Works are substantially complete with landscaping and re-seeding works planned for spring 2026.



Clogherhead Cliff Walk

Following approval in August of Project Development Measure (PDM) funding under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) for Clogherhead Cliff Walk, Louth County Council commenced surveys on this project in October. These surveys include a topographical survey and a Wintering Birds survey, which will be required for the proposed AA screening and design for the new trail. Mulroy Environmental has been appointed to take the project up to Part 8 approval.

Staff of LCC met with colleagues from Fingal County Council to visit the Howth Cliff Walk on 19th January. This was a very worthwhile exercise and it allowed for the LCC team to visit a similar amenity that has developed a walking trail while protecting the natural environment surrounding it.

Tionscadail Tosaíochta do Lár an Bhaile / Town Centre First Projects

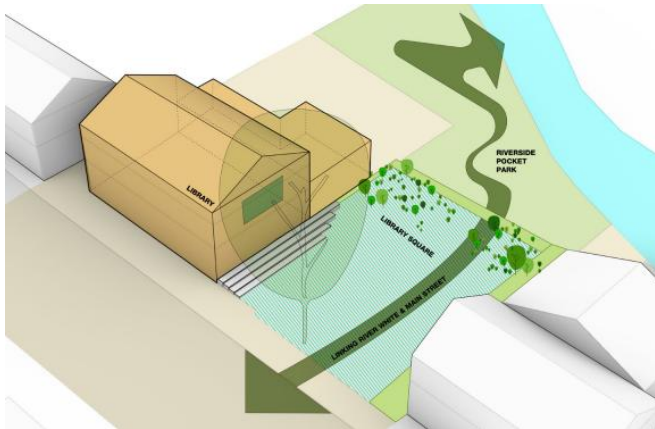


Town Centre First Plan – Clogherhead

A presentation of the Draft Town Centre First Plan for Clogherhead was held on Tuesday 2nd December in the Clogherhead Community Centre. The event was

well attended with representatives from the Council, Design Team, Town Team and numerous local stakeholders. The Council are examining representations received and will be progressing towards the final adoption of the plan.

Town Centre First Plan – Dunleer



A consultant has been selected for the Development of a pocket square at Dunleer Library. The scheme was identified in the Dunleer Town Centre First plan and aims to provide a unique space for residents and visitors.

Vacant Homes

We would request those who have a vacant home to engage with the Vacant Homes Officer to discuss potential funding available to return to use and would also ask those who have noted a vacant home in their areas to log it on vacanthomes.ie for inspection and investigation.

Currently one CPO is progressing with a further CPO planned in the coming weeks.

Details of a new grant scheme targeting vacancy “above-the-shop” is expected to be issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in early 2026.

Forbairt Fhisiciúil / Physical Development

Tionscadail Bóithre / Roads Projects

Narrow Water Bridge

Construction works on site and fabrication works in Belgium continue to be progressed.

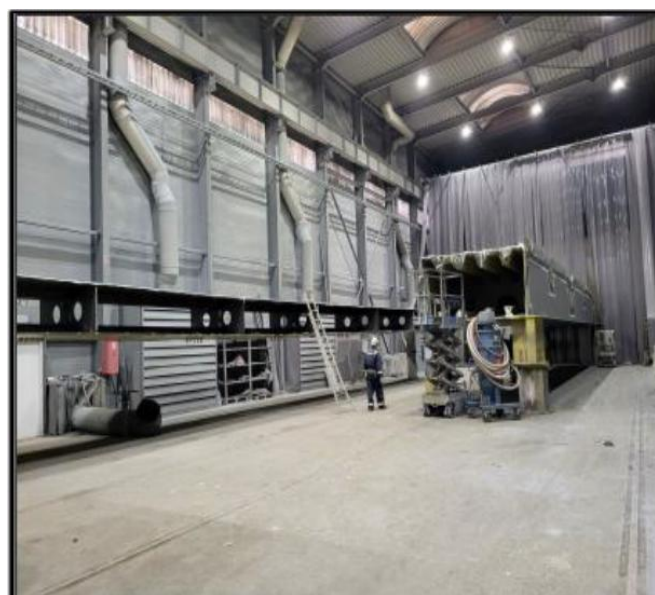
Southern embankment: - excavation works for the temporary support platform and crane continue.

Northern embankment: -
Bascule abutment wall lift 3 has been completed.
The plantroom walls due to be completed in early February. Platforms within the bascule abutment to be removed by end of January.

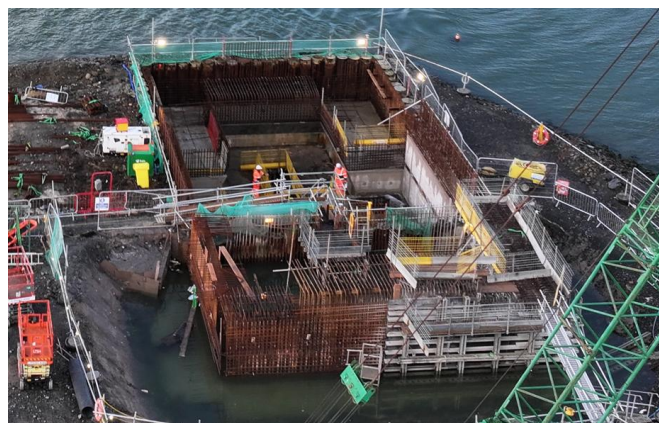
Bridge fabrication works: - Fabrication of the fixed span bridge continue in Ghent, Belgium and painting of completed sections of bridge has commenced. Steel for the fabrication of the bascule span arrived in December, cutting of steel for the bascule bridge has commenced. Fabrication of the pylon for the fixed bridge is ongoing. At this stage the majority of the project activities will be carried out in the fabrication yards.



Temporary works for Crawler Crane platform ongoing, southern embankment.



Painting of section of the fixed span pylon.



Aerial View of northern Bascule Chamber and preparation for concrete wall pour for the Plant Room.

N53 - Dundalk to Castleblayney Road Phase 4. Hackballscross to Rassan

The Construction Tender 8 No. tenders were received. It is anticipated that a tender report will be issued to the TII for approval in early February 2026.

The Tender for Employers Representative and site supervisory team was issued through the TII framework on etenders with a return date of the 16th January 2026. Two tenders were received and a Tender assessment Panel is currently being compiled.

LCC, the design team (WMNRO) and valuers (AY) are continuing to engage with the landowners, their agents, Utilities and all stakeholders on accommodation works, access and compensation.

The TII have not yet provided their 2026 grant allocation for this scheme.

N52 Ardee Bypass

The scheme is currently in the Supreme Court with the Court adjourning the matter generally pending the outcome of the CJEU reference in Power v An Bord Pleanála once a judgment in Power is given, then this case will be re-entered before the Supreme Court.

Boyne Enterprise Link Road

Tender documents have been received and are currently being assessed. ESB have sought to carryout significant cabling works in both the new section of road and remaining road as part of their investment in the upgrade of power supply to north Drogheda. A meeting with ESB is to be held to discuss the extent of works and the overlap and impact on the Council contract.

R178 Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Route Improvement Scheme

The project has now progressed to Phase 2 (Options Selection) which involves the development of the route options followed by their assessment to identify the preferred route. The Designers have collated the responses from Non-Statutory Public Consultation, and the draft emerging preferred option report which has been issued to the Department for comment.

Subject to approval an application for funding to the department to proceed to Phase 3 has been made.

Port Access Northern Cross Route (PANCR) Phase 2.

Phase 2 of the PANCR is to be developer led. Tenders were returned prior to Christmas and are currently being assessed by the developers Quantity Surveyor. It is anticipated that the contractor will be appointed by the end of February with the intention of works commencing in Q2 2026.

Notices to enter was issued to several landowners on the expected extent of the work, and the Council Team will be engaging with these affected landowners.

Port Access Northern Cross Route (PANCR) Phase 3 (rail line section).

A Project Outline Document (POD) for Phase 3 & 4, as required under the Transport Appraisal Framework (TAF), was submitted to the Department of Transport including funding application for design fees for Phase 3.

On completion of traffic modelling of different scenarios for Phase 3 & 4 in order to quantifiably demonstrate the overall benefits of the scheme its intended that that Business Case, as per the TAF, will be issued to the department in early Q1 of 2026.

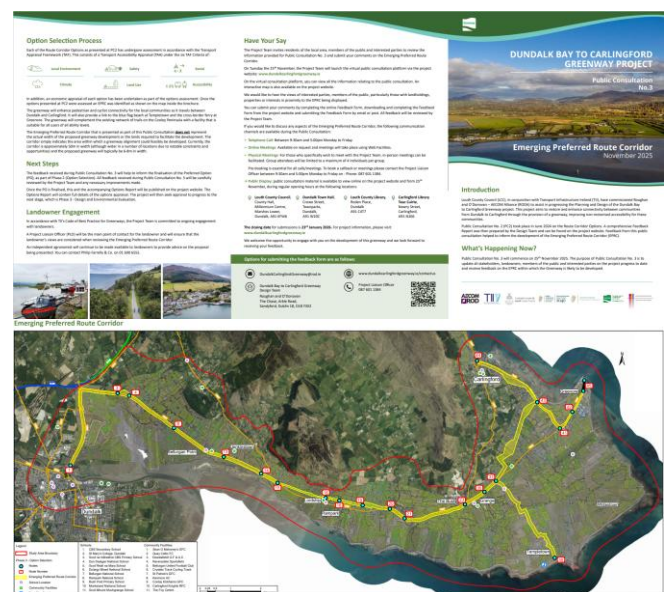
Glasbhealaí Cistithe ag B.I.E / TII Funded Greenways:

Dundalk Bay to Carlingford Greenway

The 2026 TII Allocations for Greenway & National Roads Active travel for Louth County Council have allocated €600,000 to the Dundalk Bay to Carlingford Lough Greenway project.

The non statutory consultation on the emerging preferred route corridor was published on the 25th of Nov. with the closing date for submissions being extended to Friday 27th February 2026.

The public can also avail of group sessions subject to numbers and interest, details of which along with further 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.



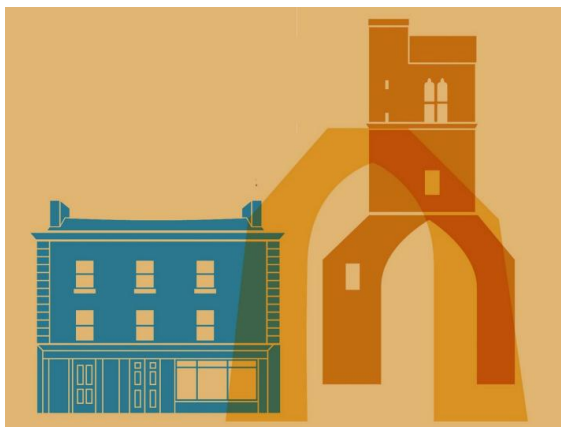
Extract from the Brochure

Tionscadail Corparáideach / Corporate Projects

Dundalk Fire Station Training Centre

The National Fire Directorate in correspondence dated 6th Oct 2025 have approved costs to proceed with Stage 1 – 5 of the proposed works. A pre-start meeting was held with VHA Architects on the 14th Jan 2026 and they are progressing on with the Stage 1 Report.

THRIVE – Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme



Following the awarding of €7 Million towards the restoration of Westgate House and the former DYD Building in Drogheda, Louth County Council has been engaging with the Southern Regional Assembly with regards to the next phases of the project, with a number of training days to be attended by the project team. Preliminary works including archaeological investigations and structural safeguards have been tendered and we await submissions.

The Ministerial Consent application has been lodged with the National Monuments Service for safeguarding and investigative works in December and with a view of meeting onsite in January to review the safeguarding works and the proposed development works.

Tenders for the Consultancy services for detailed design and construction stage have been assessed and a Letter of Intent has been issued to the preferred bidder.

THRIVE is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union through the ERDF Southern, Eastern and Midland Regional Programme 21-27. The scheme has been co-designed by the Regional Assemblies and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to address European, national and regional policy objectives. Further information is available on the www.southernassembly.ie

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

Dundalk Flood Relief Projects

The Scheme continues to progress through Stage 1: Identification and Development of a Preferred Scheme, led by Binnies and Nicholas O'Dwyer (B/NOD) in partnership with the OPW and Louth County Council. Recent work has focused on refining flood relief options based on technical workshop feedback and environmental considerations. Site Investigation works are close to completion, with the final boreholes scheduled for January–February 2026.

Environmental assessments continue including a geomorphology assessment followed by river and watercourse inspections assessing hydromorphology, sediment movement, and potential scheme impacts. The Wintering Bird Survey, ongoing since October 2025 with Monthly surveys continuing until March 2026.

Engagement with statutory bodies, including the NPWS, has supported the refinement of shortlisted options and informed appropriate assessment requirements. Emerging Options Workshops planned for Q1 2026 will review technical performance of the assessed options, ahead of anticipated Public Participation Days in Q1/Q2 2026.

Next Steps:

The findings from all environmental and technical studies will be integrated into the Options Development Report (Q2 2026), which will summarise the optioneering process and set out the emerging preferred option for Dundalk

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 project continues to progress through Stage 1: Identification and Development of a Preferred Scheme, supported by ongoing technical, environmental and constructability assessments. Baseline data collection remains a priority to ensure robust engineering and environmental inputs.

Hydraulic modelling and GIS mapping updates are ongoing to refine predicted flood extents, depths and velocities for both fluvial and coastal scenarios under present and future climate conditions. An Early

Contractor Involvement (ECI) process has been completed to address significant construction constraints along the River Boyne. These industry insights are now informing the emerging preferred options to minimise programme risks.

A draft cost estimates for all options along the Boyne tributaries has been prepared and a multi-criteria analysis been completed, along with fluvial and coastal flood damage assessments. These will inform the final cost–benefit analysis in the next phase.

Environmental baseline surveys remain ongoing. Overwintering bird surveys for the 2025/26 season continue across the study area. A draft underwater archaeology impact assessment—based on geophysical, wade and dive surveys—is under review, with additional geophysical work scheduled pending licences and landowner approvals. RHAT surveys are planned for Q1 2026 to support water quality assessments. Engagement with NPWS, IFI and the National Monuments Service is being arranged for early 2026 to discuss environmental considerations associated with the emerging preferred options.

Next Steps:

Once the preferred options along the River Boyne are confirmed, the scheme cost estimate and full cost–benefit analysis will be finalised. Environmental baseline surveys and statutory stakeholder engagement will continue through the Scheme Analysis and Development phase. Preparations are underway for the Public Participation Day in Q2 2026, where the public will be invited to review and comment on the emerging proposals before the preferred option is finalised. The project website remains available at: www.droghedabaltrayfrs.ie

Carlingford and Greenore Flood Relief Project

The Local Authority, in collaboration with the OPW, is developing a project brief informed by recent flood events, site-specific conditions, and an extensive suite of survey data—including topographical, CCTV, LiDAR and drone surveys—supported by rainfall data from locally installed gauges. These datasets, together with initial hydraulic modelling outputs, are helping refine the consultant brief and will provide a robust evidence base for appointing a consultant engineer for the next phase of scheme development. A Business Case seeking OPW approval for a package of interim flood mitigation measures has been submitted. These measures represent targeted, short-term interventions designed to address immediate vulnerabilities within the drainage

network, reducing near-term flood risk while longer-term solutions progress through the scheme development process.

Ardee Minor Works

The OPW has approved funding for a package of minor flood relief works in Ardee. These works will provide improved protection to properties located along the watercourses at Stoney Lane, John Street and the N2. Delivery is planned to align with the Local Authority’s 2026 annual road works programme to maximise efficiency and minimise disruption.

Engagement with landowners has commenced to support the advancement of detailed design, while an ecologist has been appointed to undertake Appropriate Assessment screening to ensure environmental compliance, and contract documents are being prepared in parallel to bring the project to the delivery stage.

Tionscadail Muirí / Marine Projects

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

A Contractor has been appointed for all three locations, with physical works scheduled to commence in March 2026 (noting that ecological constraints prohibit construction between September and March at these coastal sites). The appointments of an Ecological Clerk of Works, Archaeologist and Structural Engineer to oversee, monitor and report on site activities have also been completed.

Additional damage sustained at Ballagan during Storm Bram will be assessed to determine the extent of the impact and to identify any further planning or funding requirements needed to address it.

Tionscadail Cláir Scoileanna / Schools Programme Projects

Ardee Educate Together National School.

Works on site continue to progress

Proposed works activities ongoing and planned

- Ground & external works
- Access Road construction
- Footpaths
- Fencing
- Fitting of Internal doors
- Cleaning



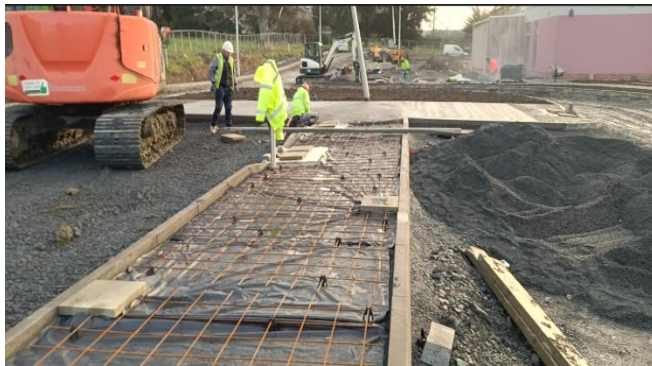
Entrance Road off Jervis Street (11/12/2025)



Internal school finishes (11/12/2025)



External works under construction (11/12/2025)



External works under construction (11/12/2025)



Internal school finishes (11/12/2025)

Active Travel Investment Program

On the 19th January 2026, LCC received an allocation of €4m for Active Travel and Safe Route to Schools Projects and €0.5 million for Bus Stop Enhancement Programme, (carried out through Operations).

The NTA have indicated to Louth County Council (LCC), along with other councils, that Active Travel budgets will be limited to c.€4m per annum for up to 3 years.

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

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

- Band 1 €0 - €5M;
- Band 2 €5 - €20M;
- Band 3 > €20M;

They also divide the evolvement of a Capital Investment project into a seven-phase process, i.e. (Phase 1 to Phase 7 inclusive) with seven Gateways Reports.



The seven different phases are as outlined below...


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


Tionscadail Tasitil Gníomhaigh / Active Travel Projects

Due to recent Correspondence from the NTA indicating an annual budget of c.€4m / annum for the next 3 years, timelines and the extent of works are subject to change until budget allocations in forthcoming years are confirmed by the NTA.

Project Name	Allocation 2026	Project Band	Current Phase	Feb. 2026 - Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
Drogheda: R132, Bridge of Peace to Train Station (incorporating Marsh Road)	€30,000	Band 2 €5 - €20M	PHASE 4: Statutory Processes	The National Transport Authority have approved GW 3 Gateway Report and we envisage that this project will be brought forward for Part 8 public display at the start of April 2026. An On-line briefing of the Draft Part 8 proposals will be given to Drogheda MD elected members by middle of March 2026, in advance of Part 8 public display.	Proposed Part 8 display in April 2026
Drogheda: R166 Termonfeckin Rd, design.	€37,500	Band 2 €5 - €20M	Phase 3 – Preliminary Design	Consultants RPS Group have completed draft Gateway 3 Report. It is anticipated to have an on-line briefing on the proposed scheme to Drogheda Municipal District Councillors in March 2026.	Proposed Part 8 display Q2, 2026
Drogheda: R168 Collon Rd, Hill of Hill of Rath Roundabout (RAB) and Rosehall RAB.	€45,000	Band 2 €5 - €20M	Phase 3 – Preliminary Design	The Design Team are currently progressing with preliminary design following non-statutory public consultation. Thereafter, the Active Travel Team will proceed to Part 8 public display	Proposed Part 8 display late Quarter 1, 2026
Drogheda: Rathmullan Road including Marley's (Pathfinder Project)	€550,000	Band 2 €5 - €20M	Phase 5 – Detailed Design and Procurement	Part 8 received approval on 10 th February 2025 by Drogheda Municipal District. GW4 deliverables all presented and approved by the NTA in April 2025. Detailed design has commenced and in parallel the tender documents for the selection of suitable contractors are being prepared, which are due to be received by March 2026.	Part 8 approved on 10 th February 2025.
Drogheda Dublin and North roads, design.	€10,000	Band 2 €5 - €20M	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	The Active Travel Team are having on-going discussions with Irish Rail regarding Dublin Road Bridge and interaction with the Dart North Coastal Project. Dart North Coastal, an Irish Rail Project, was approved by An Coimisiún Pleanála in August 2025. An inter agency meeting was held to examine proposals on Active Travel measures under the Dublin Rd, railway bridge. Further meetings are planned. Consultants AECOM via the NTA are currently developing options for the section relating to the under-bridge of	Dublin Rd, Drogheda - Proposed Part 8 display depending on dialogue with NTA / Irish Rail.

Project Name	Allocation 2026	Project Band	Current Phase	Feb. 2026 - Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
			Phase 4 – Statutory Process	<p>the Navan Railway Line (MacBride Train Entrance to McGraths Lane). Draft Options Report was received in Dec 2025.</p> <p>North Road - Gateway 3 (Preliminary Design Report) approval received from the NTA in February 2025. The design team are currently preparing pre-planning i.e. Part 8 documentation and discussing land requirements with 3 number landowners, plus some residents on the North Rd.</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><u>View of Dublin Rd, Drogheda Rd looking South</u></p>	North Rd, Drogheda - Proposed Part 8 display March 2026.
Dundalk: R132 Inner Relief Rd. (Pathfinder Project)	€800,000	Band 2 €5 - €20M	Phase 5 Detailed Design	<p>Tender Documents to establish a restricted panel of competent contractors was advertised on etenders and Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU). A select panel of eight contractors was formed and detailed tender documents will be issued to this panel.</p> <p>Gateway 5 Documents issued to the NTA for approval.</p> 	<p>Completed – Part 8 Approval on the 10th September 2024</p> <p>Procurement of Contractors on-going, awaiting NTA approval to issue tender documents.</p>

Project Name	Allocation 2026	Project Band	Current Phase	Feb. 2026 - Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
				<u>View of Inner Relief Rd, Dundalk looking north from Hoey's Lane Roundabout extract from Fly Through</u>	
Dundalk: Dublin Rd Xerox Junction to Ladywell Bridge	€2,500	Band 2 €5 - €20M	On hold	Part 8 proposals were brought to Dundalk MD Meeting on the 10 th December 2024. Awaiting NTA approval to proceed to detailed design.	Part 8 Approved in December 2024.
Dundalk: Ard Easmuinn Rd to Train Station / Friary School Dundalk & Dundalk Bus Station to Rail Station.	€110,000	Band 2	Phase 3 /4 Preliminary Design / Statutory Process	<p>Workshop held with the NTA in October and we intend to accelerate parts of the scheme, namely, McEntee Avenue, Mulholland Avenue & Pearse Park to deliver key elements associated with pedestrian provision and Safe Routes to School infrastructure.</p> <p>Gateway 3 (Preliminary Design Report) approval received from the NTA in June 2025. The Active Travel Team have met associated schools. The NTA have received approval from Irish Rail to explore a pedestrian link from Ice House Hill into the northern carpark of the train station.</p>  <p><u>View of Ard Easmuinn Looking North from China Bridge</u></p>	Proposed Part 8 Q2 2026
R132 Inner Relief Road Tain Bridge	€25,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 3 - Preliminary Design	Phase 2 was approved by the NTA in December 2024. Phase 3 preliminary design has commenced.	No part 8's but possible Section 38 in Q1 of 2026, subject to NTA gateway approval.

Project Name	Allocation 2026	Project Band	Current Phase	Feb. 2026 - Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
Hoey's Lane, Dundalk	€20,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 3 – Preliminary Design	GW3 Reports approved by the NTA in Dec 2025. Public consultation held on 20 th March, 2025. Event was very well attended. Submissions from a number of groups / residents / business owners received and the Design Team are now amending the design to reflect these submissions. Gateway 4A approval received from the NTA to proceed to Part 8.	Proposed to commence Part 8 process and display Q1. 2026
Mill Street, Dundalk	€65,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 2 - Preliminary Design	GW3 comments received from NTA and a workshop held with NTA & LCC. Resulting from this workshop, the drawings will be updated The Active Travel Team have conducted meetings with key stakeholders such as schools and Bus Eireann. The consultant is currently finalising preliminary design drawings and thereafter awaiting approval from the NTA.	Part 8 Q2 2026
Hill Street Bridge to Train Station, Dundalk	€15,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 2 - Preliminary Design	GW3 comments received from NTA and a workshop held with NTA, LCC and consultants on 20 th November 2024. Resulting from this workshop the drawings will be updated, and a non-statutory public consultation will be held in Feb. 2025.	Part 8 Q2 2026
R132 Dublin Road, (Rank Xerox Junction to Greengates)	€30,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 4 – Statutory Processes	Part 8 proposals placed on public display on 9 th December 2025. Submissions and observation welcomed up to 3 rd Feb 2026.  <p style="text-align: center;"><u>View of entrance to Xerox Campus Looking to Xerox Junction</u></p>	Part 8 on Display 9 th Dec. 2025
Moneymore, Active Travel elements	€1,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 4 – Statutory Processes	CPO public consultation ended 11 th February, 2025. 9 submissions received. Awaiting decision from An Coimisiún Pleanála.	N/A

Project Name	Allocation 2026	Project Band	Current Phase	Feb. 2026 - Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
Safe Routes to Schools (Round 1) St. Louis secondary school Dundalk	€35,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 6 – Construction	Construction Works Complete. Remedial works to hedging and fencing adjacent to school pedestrian entrance to accommodate school buses to be undertaken in February 2026.	N/A
Safe Routes to Schools (Round 2) 1. Bellurgan National School 2. Callystown National School 3. St Mary's NS, Knockbridge 4. St. Malachy's GNS, Dundalk	€1,825,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 6 – Construction	Works Contract signed and works commenced in Jan 2026 and continuing for four months.	No part 8's but Section 38's
Safe Routes to Schools (Round 3) 1.SN Chaoimhin Naofa, Philipstown, Dunleer 2. Scoil Phadraig Naofa , Kilcurry 3.Mullaghboy NS.	€66,500	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	Louth County Council were informed in Q4 2024 of three new schools to be included as part of Safe Routes to School Round 3. Funding was received on 13 th Jan 2025. Outline Delivery Plans now all completed and shared with the School Community. Tender Documents have been issued seeking Design Consultants for the Design of Proposed works. Tender Closing date was 21 st Jan 2026. Active Travel Section in the process of assessing Design Consultant Tenders.	No part 8's but possible Section 38's
Safe Routes to Schools (Round 4 1. Dromiskin Mixed School) 2. Marymount NS 3. Scoil Mhuire na nGael 4. Tallanstown NS	€10,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	Active Travel Team will liaise with An Taisce who will undertake initial high level Outline Delivery Plans for each School.	

Project Name	Allocation 2026	Project Band	Current Phase	Feb. 2026 - Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
Bus Enhancement Programme	€500,000			Funding to allow for the upgrade of bus stops in various locations across the county including the installation of bus poles and hard standing areas plus bus shelters in agreed locations.	N/A
Mobility Hubs	N/A	N/A	N/A	<p>The Government Climate Action Plan (CAP 23/24) has identified shared mobility as a key mechanism for reducing car dependency and car ownership.</p> <p>Dundalk Town along with Cork City, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown, Carlow Town, and Sligo Town has been selected as a location for the delivery of a pilot project to test the effectiveness of mobility hubs. The hubs will provide short-term access to a variety of modes of travel including e-bikes, e-scooters and Electric Vehicles (EVs).</p> <p>This pilot project is being led by the National Transport Authority in conjunction with the Department of Transport with funding being provided by the Climate Action Fund.</p> <p>Part 8 Planning Drawings and Reports are now all complete, which the proposals to be placed on public display on 3rd February 2026.</p>	Proposed Part 8 in February 2026