

LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT



Dated: 7th October 2026



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

Tuairisc Bhainistíochta Mhíosúil an Príomhfheidhmeannach – 30ú Meán Fomhair 2026

Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report – 30th September 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 September 2026, detailing activities, updates, and progress across various departments of Louth County Council.

1. Finance & System Support

- **Financial position:** By 30 September, expenditure was €137.0m, or 67% of the €203.7m annual budget, while income was €135.2m, or 66% of budget.
- **Debtors:** Total outstanding debtors were €59.0m, including €28.2m from Government debtors and €10.9m each in rates and development levies.
- **Digital and cyber services:** IT logged 854 support calls, with 87% completed. Email security processed 682,857 inbound emails and blocked 10.6% as potentially harmful.

2. Economic Delivery

- **Economic development and tourism:** The Age-Friendly Business Charter was awarded to Citizens Information Drogheda. Tourism activity included the Boyne Valley Camino waymarker in Drogheda and the Táin Trail's 40th anniversary.
- **Enterprise and Night-time economy and:** Culture Night Late secured €26,500.
- The LEO delivered 36 advice clinics, appointed 17 mentors and ran five training courses.
- **Planning:** 62 planning applications received, 71 determined and the overall refusal rate was 8.45%. Enforcement investigated 21 complaints and issued 15 warning letters.

3. Operations & Environment Delivery

- **Local operations:** Hill Street Bridge resurfacing and its new traffic-light system were completed, while the Drogheda roadworks programme progressed at several locations.
- **Waste and environmental enforcement:** 206 litter investigations and 29 fixed-penalty notices.
- Mattress and sofa amnesty events collected 2,410 mattresses and 2,351 couches.
- **Climate, biodiversity and energy:** €651,375 was allocated to 17 community climate projects.
- The Council progressed decarbonisation, sustainable energy community plans, biodiversity initiatives and ISO 50001 energy-management auditing.
- **Facilities and safety:** Dundalk Athletics Track reached practical completion. The North Louth Operations Base works due to begin in October.
- Fire services had logged 1,037 incidents year-to-date and the new €1.2m Drogheda turntable ladder was nearing delivery.
- **Animal welfare:** 14 dogs rehomed directly or through welfare groups. Dog-licence enforcement included 275 house calls and 13 fixed-penalty notices.

4. HR, Corporate & Community Delivery

- **Customer and corporate services:** Customer Services handled 15,320 queries, resolving 70% at first contact. The new Voter.ie system processed 2,258 registration applications since launch.
- **Communications:** The Council issued 17 press releases, responded to 32 media queries and surpassed 10,000 Facebook followers.
- **Community, health and inclusion:** Key activity included cross-border age-friendly engagement, youth participation through Comhairle na nÓg, a review of the Community Wellbeing Statement, the Healthy Louth community event, Sláintecare theatre and place-based health initiatives in Drogheda and Dundalk.
- **Community recognition and sport:** Sports services expanded inclusive classes for older adults, women and teenage girls, while the Local Sports Partnership delivered coach education, walking events and European Week of Sport activities.
- **Integration and safety:** The Council supported international-protection information sessions, migrant inclusion events and development of the three-year Community Safety Plan.

5. Housing & Culture Delivery

- **Homelessness:** Homeless services supported 248 people and recorded 290 presentations between 13 August and 12 September; 40 people entered temporary emergency accommodation. On 12 September, 149 adults were in emergency accommodation, alongside 25 families with 54 dependants.
- **Housing supply and allocations:** There were 69 local-authority and 28 approved-housing-body allocations in the reporting period, bringing year-to-date allocations to 657. The total housing and HAP transfer list stood at 4,579 households.
- **Rents, maintenance and retrofit:** Rent income was €14.0m year-to-date. There were 35 vacant or relet properties, 865 maintenance requests completed during the period, and a 220-unit energy retrofit programme underway.
- **Capital housing:** The 2026 new-build programme had delivered 221 units, with 305 more projected. Approved delivery for 2026–2030 totals 1,049 units across SHIP, CALF and CAS programmes.
- **Private housing supports:** The Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant had received 460 applications, with 344 approvals and 185 payments.
- **Culture:** Library digital content generated more than 2.1m views year-to-date, up 23%. Major activity included Lit Lú, National Public Libraries Open Day, SDG Week, Culture Night events across the county, and museum education and collection development.

6. Major Capital Projects & Infrastructure Delivery

- **Regeneration and placemaking:** Funding of €7.5m was secured for Westgate Vision in Drogheda, €5m for St. Nicholas Quarter in Dundalk and project-development funding for Park Street. The Longwalk regeneration framework neared completion.
- **Vacancy and town renewal:** The URDF vacancy programme covered 133 properties, including 34 occupied, 28 under refurbishment and 26 progressing toward activation.
- **Roads and transport:** N53 Phase 4 was 25% complete, with earthworks 70% complete. PANCR Phase 2 was about 55% complete, while Phase 3 moved to consultant procurement.
- The Narrow Water Bridge project continued with substantial completion now expected in Q1 2028.
- **Flood and coastal protection:** Dundalk, Drogheda/Baltray, Carlingford/Greenore and Ardee flood-relief schemes progressed through design, environmental investigation and business-case stages. Archaeological discoveries at Ardee Castle require a redesigned piled foundation and are expected to add two to three months to the programme.
- **Active Travel:** The Council received €4m for Active Travel and €500,000 for bus-stop upgrades. Safe Routes to School works were completed at Callystown and nearing completion at Bellurgan and Knockbridge.

The above highlights the breadth of activity and progress across all directorates, reflecting Louth County Council's ongoing commitment to service delivery, community engagement, infrastructure development, and environmental sustainability.

I would like again expressing my sincere appreciation for the exceptional commitment by the entire Louth County Council team.

Regards



David Conway
Chief Executive
Louth County Council

Tuairisc Bhainistíochta Mhíosúil an Príomhfheidhmeannach –30ú Meán Fomhair 2026
Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report – 30th September 2026

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An Stiúrthóireacht 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 dhigitigh 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 Meán Fomhair 2026 / Expenditure to 30th of September 2026

Rannóg / Section	Actual Expenditure to 30/09/2026 / Caiteachas Iarbhír go dtí 30/09/2026	Caiteachas Buiséadaithe 2026 / Budget Expenditure 2026	% Caite go 30/09/2026 / % Spent to 30/09/2026
Tithíocht / Housing	€65,525,577	€91,043,877	72%
Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht / Road Transportation & Safety	€19,562,053	€29,724,225	66%
Seirbhísí Uisce / Water Services	€4,070,457	€6,253,179	65%
Bainistíocht Forbartha / Development Management	€14,527,785	€25,275,969	57%
Seirbhísí Timpeallachta / Environmental Services	€17,458,251	€26,717,755	65%
Áineas agus Conláiste / Recreation and Amenity	€8,224,323	€13,508,055	61%
Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas / Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	€662,824	€1,342,504	49%
Ilghnéitheach / Miscellaneous	€6,931,317	€9,786,701	71%
	€136,962,587	€203,652,265	67%

Ioncam go 30^ú Meán Fomhair 2026 / Income to 30th of September 2026

Rannóg / Section	Ioncam Iarbhír go dtí 30/09/2026 / Actual Income to 30/09/2026	Ioncam Buiséadaithe 2026 / Budget Income 2026	% Sonraisc Curtha do dtí 30/09/2026 / % Invoiced to 30/09/2026
Tithíocht / Housing	€58,650,058	€91,667,227	64%
Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht / Road Transportation & Safety	€7,433,415	€17,228,704	43%
Seirbhísí Uisce / Water Services	€3,509,291	€4,865,078	72%
Bainistíocht Forbartha / Development Management	€6,735,944	€13,604,272	50%
Seirbhísí Timpeallachta / Environmental Services	€2,003,634	€4,843,340	41%
Áineas agus Conláiste / Recreation and Amenity	€977,486	€1,971,310	50%
Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas / Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	€243,035	€474,809	51%
Ilghnéitheach / Miscellaneous	€7,857,174	€17,390,895	45%
Rátaí / Rates	€39,772,852	€39,640,432	100%
Deontas Ilfheidhmeach / General Purpose Grant (LPT)	€7,977,465	€11,966,198	67%
	€135,160,354	€203,652,265	66%

The above is the current position as of the 30th of September 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 September 2026 are as follows:

Féichiúnaithe mar atá 30^ú Meán Fomhair 2026 / Debtors as of 30th of September 2026

	Iarmhéid Tosaigh / Opening Balance	Sonraisc / Invoices	Fáltais / Receipts	Díscríobhanna / Write Offs	Iarmhéid Deiridh / Closing Balance
Féichiúnaithe Rialtais / Government Debtors	€11,388,113	€196,102,329	(€179,258,625)	(€Nil)	€28,231,817
Uadaráis Áitiúla Eile / Other Local Authorities	€229,656	€1,825,284	(€1,510,704)	(€Nil)	€544,236
Rataí / Rates	€5,273,449	€39,772,852	(€33,289,621)	(€891,084)	€10,862,596
Cíosanna / Rent	€3,368,616	€13,922,235	(€14,166,921)	(€106,525)	€3,017,405
Iasachtal / Loans	€273,054	€1,704,950	(€1,737,338)	(€Nil)	€240,666
Tobhaigh Forbartha / Development Levies	€6,998,721	€7,904,157	(€1,078,925)*	(€2,961,687)	€10,862,266
Táilí Seirbhíse Dóiteáin / Fire Charges	€934,463	€644,707	(€479,446)	(€11,653)	€1,088,071
Ilghnéitheach / Miscellaneous	€2,970,672	€5,708,442	(€4,452,712)	(€41,622)	€4,184,780
Féichiúnaithe Iomlána / Total Debtors	€31,436,744	€267,584,956	(€235,977,292)	(€4,012,571)	€59,031,837

Above are the debtor balances as of 30th of September 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.

*The development levy receipts figure is net of repayment of Govt Waiver to the Department.

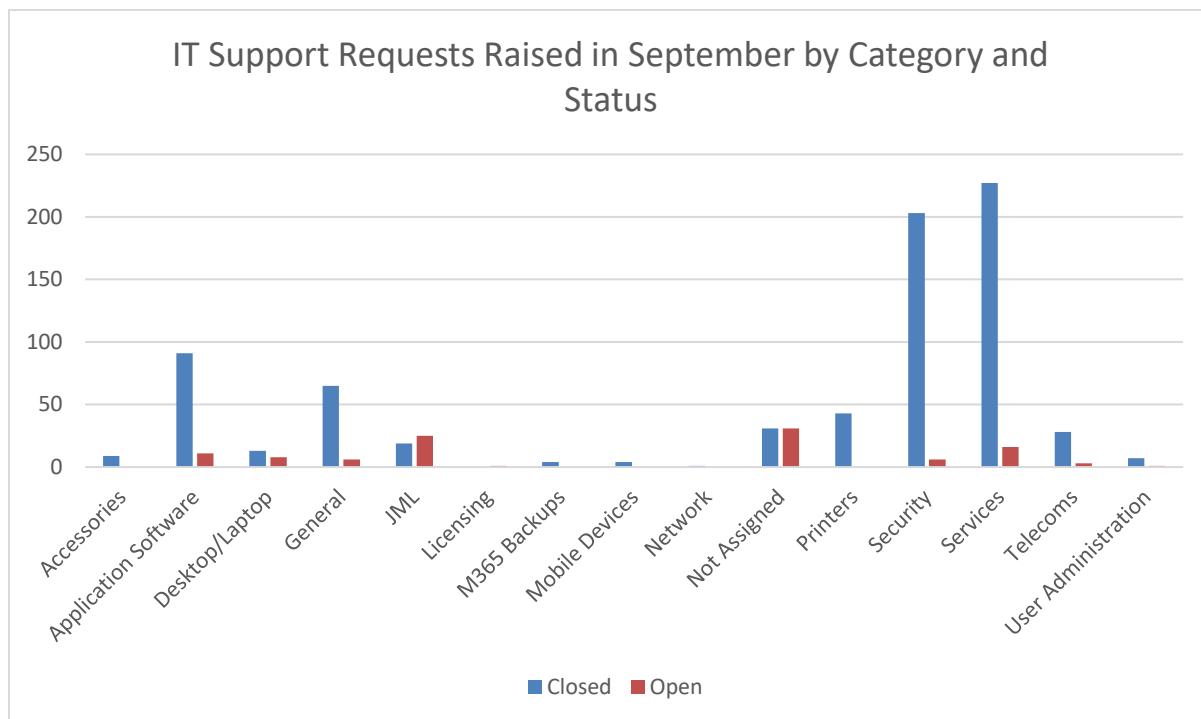
Budget 2027 Meeting

The date for the 2027 Draft Budget Meeting has been agreed for Monday the 16th of November 2026 directly following the normal monthly council meeting. It was agreed that the Draft Budgetary Plans will be presented at the normal monthly Borough & Municipal District meetings at the beginning of October.

Technolaíocht Faisnéise agus Cumarsáide / Information & Communication Technology

Deasc Chabhrach / Helpdesk

Between 01/09/2026 and 30/09/2026, 854 support calls were logged in the IT support system. 87% of these calls have been completed.



Services and Security accounted for the highest numbers of support requests during September.

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 received by the organisation. From 01/09/2026 to 30/09/2026, a total of 682,857 inbound e-mails were processed, of which 10.6% were identified as potentially harmful and blocked by the filtering system.

Inbound Email count	Emails Processed by Gateway	Emails Processed by Protect
682,857	182,971	499,886
Blocked Sender	Blocked at gateway	Total blocked by spam/virus
7,841	32,368	30,980
Blocked by content rules	Potentially harmful emails	Deleted by Protect
1,115	10.6%	11

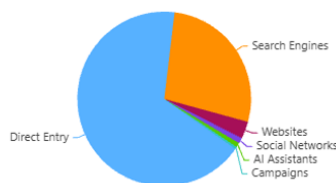
Suíomh Gréasáin Comhairle Chontae Lú / Louth County Council Website

There was continued strong engagement with www.louthcoco.ie during September 2026. The website homepage recorded 2,701 unique page views and 3,484 page views during the month, with visitors spending an average of 52 seconds on the homepage. Planning and mapping services continued to attract the highest level of interest, with the Online Planning and Maps pages recording a combined 1,528 unique page views during September. Dog Pound information, Library Services and Housing pages also remained popular sources of information for the public. The continued strong usage of planning, housing and customer information services demonstrates the importance of the Council's online services as a primary channel for accessing information and services.

Most Accessed Online Services

- 1 Planning & Maps
- 2 Dog Pound
- 3 Library Services
- 4 Development Plans
- 5 Housing
- 6 Customer Information

Channel Types



Most visitors accessed the Council website through direct entry during September 2026, with search engines representing the second largest source of traffic. Referrals from other websites, social networks, AI assistants and online campaigns accounted for a relatively small proportion of visits. This demonstrates the strong public recognition of the Council's website as a primary source of information and services, while also highlighting the continued importance of maintaining strong visibility in search engine results.

Cyber Security Training

September's cybersecurity awareness training focused on suspicious emails and supply-chain invoice fraud. Staff were reminded not to assume that an email is safe simply because it appears to come from a trusted contact, bank or supplier. Unexpected links, urgent requests and changes to payment details should be independently verified and suspicious emails reported immediately.

GIS Services

The GIS Team continues to expand the use of digital mapping technologies across the organisation through the rollout of ArcGIS Online and Survey123, platforms that enable staff to collect, analyse and visualise location-based information. During September, mapping intelligence and spatial analytics training was delivered to Engineering and Climate staff to support operational and environmental management activities. Survey123 is now being used to manage and record coastal assets, supporting the Council's climate adaptation and asset management objectives.

The Council's public-facing GIS applications continued to attract significant usage, with the Online Planning Map recording 4,302 views and the Dowdallshill Burial Ground Mapping Application recording 1,795 views in September. These applications provide convenient access to location-based information and demonstrate how digital mapping can improve customer service by making information available to citizens whenever it is needed.

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

Louth Economic Forum

The next meeting of the Louth Economic Forum will take place in the NEST, Ardee, on Tuesday, 13th October. For further information on the Louth Economic Forum please follow this [link](#).

Economic Development & Enterprise Support Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)

The next meeting of the Economic Development & Enterprise Support SPC will take place in County Hall on Tuesday, 17th November.

Age-Friendly Business

After completing an Age-Friendly Business workshop and implementing in-house changes, Citizens Information Drogheda received their 'Age Friendly Business' Charter on Thursday, 10th September.



Citizens Information Drogheda receiving their Age-Friendly Business Charter

Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme 2026

The Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme is open for applications until Friday, 30th October 2026. The scheme is open to all non-domestic commercial property in County Louth. For full details of the scheme please visit: <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/economic-development/shopfront-improvement-grant-scheme/>.

Turasóireacht / Tourism

Visit Louth

Information on upcoming events are available on: <https://www.visitlouth.ie/whats-on/>.

Submissions for events or attractions can be made via this [link](#).

Drogheda and Galicia Connection Celebrated with Unveiling of Official Galician Mouteira on the Boyne Valley Camino

The strong cultural, historical and pilgrim links between Drogheda and Galicia were celebrated in September with the unveiling of an official Galician Mouteira on the Boyne Valley Camino in Drogheda. The traditional granite way marker, bearing the iconic Camino shell and arrow symbols, was presented by the regional government of Galicia, the Xunta de Galicia, and unveiled at Scotch Hall overlooking the River Boyne. The location marks the historic departure point from which medieval pilgrims travelled by sea to A Coruña before continuing their journey to Santiago de Compostela in Galicia, Spain. The Mouteira marks the distance from Drogheda to the Santiago de Compostela. The unveiling brought together guests from Spain, elected representatives, tourism and cultural organisations, diplomatic representatives, and community groups.

The installation of the Mouteira recognises years of work by the Boyne Valley Camino Group, in partnership with the Council and Love Drogheda BID.



Unveiling of Official Galician Mouteira in Drogheda

40th Anniversary – Táin Trail

Walkers gathered in Carlingford on Thursday, 17th September to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Táin Trail. Among those taking part were four members of the original group who helped launch

the trail four decades ago, returning to retrace the route and celebrate this significant milestone.



Táin Trail 40th Anniversary Walk

Boyne Valley Flavours (BVF) AGM & Board Update

The Boyne Valley Flavours AGM took place on Tuesday, 8th September in Sheridans Shop & Café. The meeting provided an opportunity to review activity over the past year and outline priorities and plans for the year ahead.

There were a number of changes to the BVF Board. Sally Anne Cooney and Chris Brownlow stepped down as Directors, and we welcomed two new Directors: Eimear Reynolds and Conor Halpenny. Kevin Sheridan remains as Chairperson, with Helen McManus, Jennifer Provan, Gerry Scullion, and Alan Phillips continuing as Directors alongside the newly appointed members.

Food Tourism – Oslo

Boyne Valley Flavours recently attended a tourism trade event in Oslo, Norway, in partnership with Tourism Ireland. The event provided an opportunity to promote the Boyne Valley as a food tourism destination directly to Norwegian tourism and travel representatives, highlighting the region's strong food and drink offering, producers, food experiences, and wider visitor appeal. The Boyne Valley food tourism offering was very well received, with positive interest in the region and its potential as a destination for visitors seeking authentic Irish food and drink experiences.

Boyne Valley Dining Week

Preparations are continuing for the inaugural Boyne Valley Dining Week, taking place from 9th – 18th October. We are working closely with food service businesses across Louth and Meath to develop their plans for the week and encourage increased use

and promotion of locally produced food and drink. A dedicated marketing and PR campaign is underway to promote participating venues and encourage consumers to dine out and experience local food during the week. Businesses are being supported with promotional materials, photography, sourcing information and ideas for dishes, menus, and events. For more information please visit: [Boyne Valley Bites - Boyne Valley Flavours](#)



Boyne Valley Dining Week

Geilleagar Oíche Dhroichead Átha / Drogheda Night-Time Economy

Culture Night Late

As a dedicated late-night strand of Culture Night in Drogheda, Culture Night Late extended activity beyond the core programme, encouraging audiences to experience the town after dark through music, art, and culture.

- Drogheda was selected as one of just eight national Culture Night Flagship locations, securing €26,500 in funding from the Arts Council and the Night-Time Economy programme.
- Delivered by Droichead Arts Centre's Night Moves, the programme focused on supporting emerging promoters and engaging younger audiences often underrepresented in traditional cultural programming.
- The programme brought a festival atmosphere to the town centre, featuring a sober rave, grassroots live music, street art, light projections, community workshops and late-opening cafés and venues.
- The event attracted significant numbers of new and younger participants, demonstrating strong demand for diverse, culture-led night-time experiences and

supporting the objectives of the Sound Town Vision.



Culture Night Late - Light Installation

Night Curation Fund

Night Curation Fund-backed regular events, each adding a different flavour to Drogheda's alternative scene:

- Sound Bath Wellbeing Event - Barlow House on 22nd September, providing an alternative evening wellness experience and broadening the range of night-time activities available within the town centre.
- Deadly Craic Comedy Club - McHugh's Venue on 25th September, featuring Edwin Sammon & Friends, contributing to the growth of live comedy programming, and supporting the local evening economy.
- Makerspace at Bare Food Café – 25th September, featuring a Zentangle Art workshop facilitated by Angelina Arcari, encouraging creative participation and expanding the availability of cultural and skills-based evening activities.

Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil / Local Enterprise Office

Junior Achievement Ireland (JAI) Programme



Volunteers who delivered JAI Programmes in 2025/2026

A Junior Achievement Ireland (JAI) Volunteer Recognition Event and Information Session was held on 7th September in the Cooley Room, County Hall. The event recognised the contribution of Council staff who volunteered in schools across County Louth during the 2025/2026 academic year and highlighted the positive impact of the programme on local students.

During the academic year, 13 Council staff volunteers participated in 16 volunteering experiences, delivering 383 student experiences through programmes focused on employability, entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and personal development.

The event provided an opportunity to acknowledge and thank existing volunteers for their commitment and to promote participation in the programme for the forthcoming academic year.

Drogheda & District Chambers: West & North Yorkshire Trade Mission, Drogheda



Drogheda & District Chambers: West & North Yorkshire Trade Mission Event

Louth LEO attended and participated in a panel discussion at the Drogheda & District Chamber hosted trade mission involving delegates from the West and North Yorkshire Chamber. The event showcased the strengths of Drogheda and the M1 Corridor as a strategic location for business, investment, and collaboration. Representatives from sectors including finance, manufacturing and hospitality engaged with local businesses, fostering new connections and exploring future trade opportunities between Ireland and the UK. The programme also highlighted the region's enterprise, tourism, and skills development offering, including a Skillnet-hosted industry event focused on workforce upskilling and training.

Funding Approved:

- 2 Digital for Business Approvals
- 1 Energy Efficiency Grants Approval

LEO Workshops and Training Held:

- **Business Advice Clinics** – 36 business advice clinic appointments were carried out in September.

- **LEO Mentoring** – 17 Mentors were appointed to businesses in July to provide practical and strategic one-to-one advice and guidance.
- **Training** – 5 training courses were held in September, providing a range of expertise and learning to attendees.

Pleanáil / Planning

Bainistíocht Forbartha / Development Management

The Planning service indicators for the Council for the month of August 2026 are given below in tabular form. There were 62 planning applications received during the month of August of which 56 were valid. In addition, there were 45 responses received during the month to requests for further information and 14 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 Developments	(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) An Tríú Treoir maidir le Fuinneamh In-athnuaite / Renewable Energy Directive (RED) III	(G) 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	9	57	1	0	71
(ii) Líon na gcinntí inar iarradh breis eolais / No. of decisions determined which required further information	3	6	20	0	0	29
(iii) Céatadán na n-iarratas a diúltaíodh / Percentage of applications refused	0% (0)	22.22% (2)	7.02% (4)	0% (0)	0% (0)	8.45% (6)
(iv) Líon na n-achomharc a cinneadh / Number of	1	1	0	0	0	2

appeals determined						
(v) Céatadán na gcinntí a cuireadh ar ceal ar achomharc / Percentage of decisions overturned on appeal	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)

Forfheidhmiú Pleanála – Forbairt Neamhúdaraíthe / 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	
	Lúnasa 2026 / August 2026	Bliain go dtí seo / Year to Date	Lúnasa 2025 / August 2025	Bliain go dtí seo / Year to Date
Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh / Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated	21	157	17	183
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	10	144	19	179
Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh / Number of Warning letters issued	15	160	21	178
Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh / Number of Enforcement Notices issued	4	18	0	6
Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí / Number of cases referred for legal proceedings	2	4	0	6
Líon na n-urghairí / Number of Injunctions	0	0	0	0
Líon na n-ionchúiseamh / Number of Prosecutions	0	0	0	1

Planning Enforcement – Dangerous Structures / Forfheidhmiú Pleanála – Déanmhais Chontúirteacha

The Planning Indicators listed below are in relation to Notices issued under the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act, 1964 for the period July to September 2026.

Tá na Táscairí Pleanála thíos liostaithe bainteach le Fógraí a eisíodh faoin Acht Rialtais Áitiúil (Seirbhísí Sláintíochta) 1964 sa tréimhse Iúil go Meán Fómhair 2026.

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to Dangerous Structures / Forfheidhmiú maidir le Déanmhais Contúirteacha	
	July to September 2026 Iúil go Meán Fómhair 2026	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Dangerous Structures files opened / Líon na gcomhad Déanmhas Contúirteach a osclaíodh	8	29
Number of Section 3 (1)(a) Notices – Directing Owner to carry out work / Líon na bhFógraí Alt 3 (1)(a) – Ag Tabhairt ordú d’úinéir obair a dhéanamh	6	21
Number of Section 3 (2)(b) Notices – LCC carry out works / Líon na bhFógraí Alt 3 (2)(b) – Obair le déanamh ag CCL	0	0
Number of Section 2 Notices – Dangerous Place / Líon na bhFógraí Alt 2 – Áit Chontúirteach	0	0
Number of Dangerous Structures entered on the DS Register / Líon na Struchtúr Contúirteacha atá cláraithe ar an gClárlann Struchtúr Contúirteach	4	17
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na gcásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	0	2
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	2 (settled)
Number of Dangerous Structures Removed from the DS Register / Líon na nStruchtúr Contúirteacha a Baintíodh den Chlár Clár Struchtúr Contúirteach	2	14
Number of cases closed / Líon na gcásanna a dúnadh	4	19

Pleanáil Chun Cinn / Forward Planning



Proposed Variation No. 4 to the Louth County Development Plan 2021 - 2027 (as varied)

A Chief Executive's Report has been prepared under Section 58(11)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2024 (as amended) on submissions received during the public consultation period for the Proposed Variation No. 4 of the Louth County Development Plan 2021 - 2027. A total of 162 submissions were received during the public consultation. This Report was circulated to the Elected Members on Thursday, 20th August.

Elected Members had until 30th September to decide to make/amend/not make the proposed variation.

A series of Special Meetings took place in September for the Members to consider Proposed Variation and the associated Chief Executive's Report.

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

Following the Special Meetings on 10th, 15th, 17th, 22nd, and 24th September, Members voted to modify the Variation by way of material alteration in accordance with the requirements of sections 58(12)(d) and (13) of the Planning and Development Act 2024 (as amended).

Stiúarthóireacht na nOibríochtaí & Seachadadh Comhshaoil

Operations & Environmental Delivery Directorate

Tá an stiúarthóireacht 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

Stiúarthóir gníomhach / Acting Director



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

DUNDALK & NORTH LOUTH

Road Works Resurfacing

- R132 Hill Street Bridge Resurfacing fully completed. Raised table crossing at ladywell park to be completed by November



Hill Street Bridge

Pothole works

Pothole repairs in Cooley

- Castletown Cooley
- Benagh
- Proleek Ravensdale
- Killally Ardee road
- R173 Rathcor

Dundalk:

- Mourne Vale
- Priorland Grove
- Brookwood Lawns
- The Longwalk
- Relief road
- Saint Helenas
- Armagh road

- Lios Dubh
- Old coes road
- Crow street taxi rank
- Ashbrook
- St helenas road
- Jocelyn street
- Carrick road

Cleaning of Gullies/ Open drains

- Aco drains long walk
- The Demense

Drainage Works

- Beechmount gullies
- Hoeys lane new drainage line at historical flooding area
- St Bridgets terrace
- Gyles Quay road historical ponding issue

Road Sweeping

All town routes around Dundalk Town

Multihog swept Ardee Road at St Oliver's Shrine

Footpath Repairs & Upgrades Dundalk

- Hill street Bridge footpaths completed
- NTA Bus stops Longwalk completed
- Francis Street pavers relayed to repair trip hazards
- Accessibility footpath works:
 - Quay street
 - Mill street

Signs & Bollards Maintenance + Line marking

- Cleaning signs and repairing damaged signs:
- Bellewsbridge road
- Market street
- Defenders row
- Crescent
- Carrick road
- Stapelton place
- Quay street
- Hyde park
- New signs:
 - Beechmount Drive
 - Hughes Park
 - Crossons Dublin road
 - Ladywell square
 - Pay parking signs park view
 - Linen hall street

- Castleross
- Drive 1 muirhevnamore
- Line marking:
 - Rathcor school
 - Omeath R173 SLOWS
 - Thomas Street
 - The Crescent
 - Loading bays and disabled bays

Traffic Lights Repairs + Upgrades

- Hill Street Bridge new Traffic light system fully installed
- Avenue road pedestrian buttons broken

Other Works

- Cleaning culvert grills Bellewsbridge/ Mill Road
- St Patrick's Cemetery, Dowdallshill - path works commenced
- Hedges cut back at long walk carpark
- Bridge Street fence repaired
- Damaged overhead barrier repaired long walk
- Hedges cut back Culhane street obstructing public footpath
- Inner relief wall damaged by vehicle made safe
- St Helenas trees obstructing traffic lights
- Clearing obstructions on the Flurry River /Ballymac Bridge ahead of winter season (OPW Grant Funded)
- Improving sightlines at McGraths Crossroads Cooley

Litter Picking & Emptying Public Bins/ Dog Waste

- All routes in Dundalk Town (5km per day)
- Navvy Bank
- Routes in towns and villages within rural area of Dundalk and North Louth
- Bine repaired linen hall street

MID LOUTH & ARDEE

- **Cleaning of Gullies/Open Drains**
Main N52
LP3167 Knockbridge Road to Martins Cross. LP3136 Knockbridge to Mullabohy Crossrds.
Seabank, Rd 189
Castlebellingham, Rd 176
Corderry, Springhill to Knockabbey.

Road and Pothole Repairs

The patching crew completed the LS7108. LS7106 Lennonstown Road Kiilcurry then LS7107 Falmore to Skyhill.

The drainage crew opened outlets from LP3122 from Maghereagh crossroads to the county border.

LT71151 Tavnamore ,
LS7115 Cavananore.

Stop signs replaced at LT71151 Tavnamore crossroads and LS&114 at Bridacrinn chapel .

Road Sweeping

Blackrock, Knockbridge, Castlebellingham, Dromskin & Tallanstown

Footpath Repairs & Upgrades

Castlebellingham, Ard na Mara Blackrock

Traffic Light Repairs

Xerox junction, Heyenstown Junction & Felda Junction

Other Works

Flail mowing cutting back grass verges at dangerous junctions to improve sight lines, with ca works carried out from Haynestown Marlrog Road to Dungooly Cross, plus LS-7098 Faughart Upper Graveyard roads, LP_3095 Claret Rock, LS100 Faughart Shrine.

New pencil bollards installed in Kilcurry school

Illegal Dumping

R132 Dublin Road, LS-7162 Clermont Road Haggardstown, LS-7103 Carnmore, Kilcurry.

Litter Picking & Emptying Public Bins/Dog Waste

R177 Armagh Road, LS-7103 Carn More, and LS-7162 Clermont Road Haggardstown.Beaches/Ring Bouys/Lifeguards, Blackrock

Monthly Operations Report

Cleaning of Gullies/Open Drains

- Inspections and Cleaning as required to Gullies in Ardee, Collon, and Dunleer.
- Outlets and drains cleaned of fallen trees and debris Dromin and Shanlis

- **Drainage Works**
 - L-1260, John Street
 - L-2542, Dromin Lane
 - L-1260, Shanlis
 - L-6270, Woodhouse

- **Road Resurfacing**
 - L-5232, Townparks



Figure 1 – Resurfacing on L-5232, Townparks

- **Road and Pothole Repairs**
 - L-5262, Ballapousta
 - L-5259, Stoney Lane
 - L-5234, Silverhill
 - L-2295, Collon
 - L-2255, Paunghstown
 - L-1233, Mullenstown
 - L-5525, Roestown
 - L-2295, Phillipstown
 - L-5257, Woodslane
- **Road Sweeping**
 - All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day)

- **Footpath Repairs & Upgrades**
 - New Footpath and Crossing Upgraded on School Lane, Collon for Collon National School



Figure 2 – New Footpath and Upgraded Crossings at Collon National School

- **Signs & Bollards Maintenance**
 - Signage cleaned and repaired in area.
 - New Signage for N33, Cappocksgreen
- **Traffic Light Repairs**
 - Monastery National School Ardee
- **Playground & Gym Equipment**
 - Maintenance and cleaning of park and playground complete with daily checks of the playground, & exercise equipment at the Fairgreen, Ardee
 - Maintenance and cleaning of park and playground complete with daily checks of the playground, & exercise equipment at Dunleer
- **Other Works**
 - Washing and Clearing Salterstown Pier at Low Tides
 - Coastal Erosion Protection installed to L-6218, Salterstown



Figure 3 – Coastal Erosion Protection Works at Salterstown

- **Illegal Dumping**
 - n/a
- **Litter Picking & Emptying Public Bins/Dog Waste**
 - All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day)
 - Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles
 - Emptying of Public Bins at;
 - Ardee Town
 - Dunleer town
 - Collon
 - Riverside Walk
 - Link Road
- **Beaches/Ring Bouys/Lifeguards**
 - Ring Buoy Checking in;
 - Ardee Town - River Dee
 - Salterstown
 - Port Beach
- **Ports & Harbours**
 - Algae treated at Salterstown Pier
 - Ardee / District Athletic Club Seamie Weldon 5k and 10K Road Race on 5th September 2026
 - The Collon Blessing of the Graves and Old St. Mary's Blessing of the Graves are held on 6th September 2026

SOUTH LOUTH & DROGHEDA RURAL

- **Cleaning of Gullies/Open Drains**
 - Inspections and Cleaning as required to Gullies in Clogherhead, Termonfeckin, Tullyallen and in the rural areas
- **Drainage Works**
 - Drainage Works at:
 - L-6107, Dowth Road

- L-6300, Hill of Rath (Significant Drainage Works)
- R170, Dunleer



Figure 4 – Drainage Works on L-6300, Hill of Rath

- **Road Resurfacing**
 - L-6281, The Dales, Clogherhead (Surface Dressed Finished)
- **Road and Pothole Repairs**
 - L-6305, Seapoint Road
 - L-6289, Sillouge
 - L-2244, Coast Road
 - L-6280, Almondstown
 - L-6276, Baggotstown
 - L-6281, Barnhill
 - R132 (off) at Rosehall
 - L-2290, Prieststown
- **Road Sweeping**
 - Routes in towns and villages
- **Footpath Repairs & Upgrades**
 - Signs cleaned, repaired, straightened and replaced.
- **Traffic Light Repairs**
 - R36 Termonfeckin Bridge

T-Junction repaired

- **Playground & Gym Equipment**

- Maintenance and cleaning of park and playground complete with daily checks of the playground, & exercise equipment at Clogherhead

- **Other Works**

- Empty Public Facilities at; Monasterboice, Port and Clogherhead
- Installing Signage and Bollards at Seapoint Beach and Clogherhead Beach



Figure 5 - Repair to Stone Wall at Woodmill, Tullyallen after RTA

- **Illegal Dumping**

- Removal of Illegally Dumped Waste from the area Skip dumping on (L2254, Rathgory, L-Kings Williams Glen, Collon Road, Slane Road, Killineer Lane, Newline Road)
- Assistance with Tidy Towns

- Removal of Bags Collection from;

- Baltray
- Termonfeckin
- Twenties Lane
- PANCR/Ballymakenny Road
- Townrath
- Sandpit
- Galroostown
- Clogherhead

- **Litter Picking & Emptying Public Bins/Dog Waste**

- Clogherhead Car Park daily cleanup around bins

- Rubbish and Dumping
- Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles at;

- Port Oriel Pier, Clogherhead
- Clogherhead Beach
- Port Beach
- Termonfeckin
- Baltray
- Seapoint Carpark

- Emptying of Public Bins at;

- Port Oriel Pier, Clogherhead
- Clogherhead Beach
- Port Beach
- Termonfeckin
- Baltray
- Seapoint Carpark
- PANCR Route Drogheda

- County Bins and Rubbish done daily (including all beaches) with Villages done on alternative days.
- Bottlebanks cleaned Daily in County Areas
- Collected Skips from Community Groups from Multiple Groups

- **Beaches/Ring Bouys/Lifeguards**

Ring Buoy Checking in;

- Port Oriel Pier, Clogherhead
- Clogherhead Beach
- Port Beach
- Termonfeckin
- Baltray
- Seapoint

DROGHEDA TOWN

- **Cleaning of Gullies/Open Drains**

- Preparing for the appointment of 2026 Gully Cleaning Contract – it is the intention to extend 2025 contract which includes for 1200 no. Gullies. We are now progressing appointment documents.

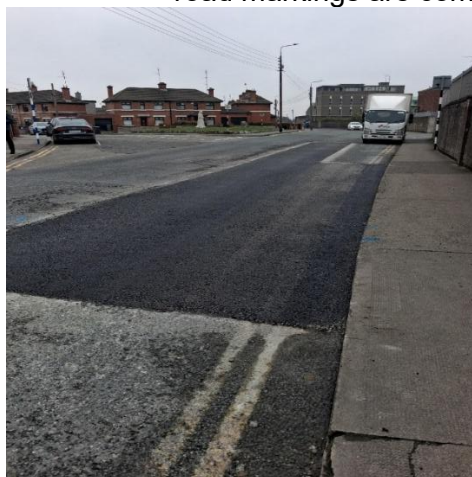
- **Drainage Works**

- Gully cleaning & repairs at Hinch Lane, Ballsgrove, Scarlet Crescent, West Court, Boyne Rd & Donore Rd.

- Distribution of sand bags at Wellington Quay, North Quay, Ushers Corner & Ship St during high tides.
- Cleaning of gullies and jetting lines on Boyne Rd.
- Reinstatement of gullies at Bryanstown cross route.

- **Road Resurfacing**

- Drogheda Road works Program has commenced on the 17th August 2026.
- Beamore Rd – resurfacing and road markings complete.
- Crosslanes – resurfacing complete, road markings in the next two weeks.
- Crushrod Lane – excavation and reinstatement of soft spot are now complete and resurfacing planned within the next two weeks.
- Hardman Gardens – excavation and reinstatement of soft spots are now complete and resurfacing planned with the next week.
- Thomas St – resurfacing and road markings are complete.



Road Resurfacing - Crosslanes

- **Road and Pothole Repairs at**
 - Horse Lane
 - North Quay
 - St Laurence St
 - Fountain Hill
 - Windmill Rd

- **Road Sweeping**
Sweeper 1

All approach Roads Daily
Plus, Hotspots
Gully Cleaning Town Area
Housing Estates on Southside
Cherrybrook
Castlewood
Beechwood Drive

Sweeper 2

- North Rd to M1 Including Link Rd.
- Pancr
- Twenties
- Ballymakenny Rd
- Housing Estates Northside
- Broadmeadows
- Brookville
- Matson Lodge
- Castlemanor
- Yellowbatter
- Newfield
- Ballypark
- Westcourt
- College Rise

Multi-Hog Sweeper – town centre and the following area

- Dominick Pk/Ramparts
- Mell Carpark
- Donore Rd
- King St
- Bolton Square
- Meatmarket Lane
- Bachelors Lane
- Mayoralty St
- Ballsgrove Hill
- Windmill Rd
- Boyle O Reilly
- Newtown Cemetery
- Fair Green

O Reillys Carpark

Abbey Carpark

- North Rd (In between the Bollards)
- Bryanstown cross Route.
- Wheaton Hall
- Mountsandford
- College Rise
- Harmony Heights
- Riverwalk Mell

Green machines x 2 Town Centre daily and following locations

- Dominick's Pk
- Dominick's Bridge
- Lourdes's square
- Market Square
- Fr Connolly Way.
- Abbey Carpark.
- Patrickwell lane.
- King St.
- Mell.
- Francis St.
- Millmount
- Mount St Oliver
- Duleek St
- Old Hill
- Fair Green
- Dublin Rd
- Dublin Rd Steps
- Marsh Rd
- Watery Hill steps
- Dale Steps
- Curry Hill
- Pitcher Hill



Road resurfacing – Beamore Road

- Footpath Repairs & Upgrades
 - Survey footpaths included on Conquer the Celtic Camino for ALONE & Alzheimer's Memory Walk along Boyne River Walk.
 - Tender for Consultant, design of dropped kerbs and tactile paving, locations agreed with Irish Wheelchair Association,

tender documents 2 week submission date

- Footpath repairs at Old Bridge Estate, Outside Greenhills School, St Laurence St, Roschoill Estate, Trinity St, Sundays Gate, Hand Street & North Quay at Pedestrian Crossing.

• Signs & Bollards Maintenance

- William St – paint existing bollards and fit reflector tape.
- Reinstate bollard Old Abbey Lane.
- Flexi-bollards @ Fountain Hill, Stockwell St, Bolton St, Rathmullen Rd & Patricks St.
- Signage cleaning at town centre and Byranstown Cross route.

• Traffic Light Repairs

- General maintenance of traffic light signal heads and lamps.
- Reinstatement of traffic lights at Beamore Rd Junction.

• Other Works

- Removal of Pallets & Tyres at locations within outskirts of town.
- Monitoring of traffic / pedestrian management at dangerous structures at Bolton St, William St,
- O'Reilly car park & West St.
- Reinstatement of boundary wall at Cord Rd Graveyard (contractor)
- Maintenance of litter bins throughout town centre. 12 new bins purchased.
- Removal of graffiti in town centre.
- Bring banks in Drogheda are checked and cleared daily during working week, also all bring banks in Drogheda are checked and cleared on Saturday pm.
- Attending to oil spills at T'Feckin..
- Weeding at Mell River Walk.
- Reinstatement of green area

- boundary wall at Shamrock Villas.
- Removal of parklet at North Quay.
- Reinstatement of Manholes at Patricks St & Sundays Gate.
- Reinstatement pedestrian railings at Fountain Hill.
- Power washing and disinfectant of Rosemary Lane & Meat Market Lane.
- Graffiti removal at St Dominics Pk.
- Bins washed town centre fortnightly.
- Weed removal at Greenhills, Thomas St, Bredin St, Patrickswell Lane, Dublin Rd & Marys St.

- **Illegal Dumping**

Removal of dumping / Bonfire material at Rathmullen, Skelly's Lane, Bessexwell Lane, Ballsgrove, Collon Rd, Slane Rd, Dummy's Lane, Donore Rd, IDA Rd & Newline Rd

Bonfire material specific to the following areas – IDA Rd, Ballymackenny Rd, St Finian's Pk & Rathmullen Pk.



Bonfire materials to rear of Rathmullen Park.

- **Litter Picking & Emptying Public Bins/Dog Waste**

Collection of bags of litter from community groups / TUS / Tidy Towns at

- Termonfeckin
- Slane Rd
- Togher
- Newfoundwell Rd
- Aston Village
- Dale
- Forest Grange
- Glenmore Drive
- Yellowbatter
- Maple Drive
- Greenhills
- Oulsterlane
- Chord Rd
- Termonfeckin Rd
- Ballymackenny Rd
- Dublin Rd
- Finian's Pk
- Priory Lodge Termonfeckin
- Flaxmill Lane
- Rathmullen Pk
- Hillview.
- Riverbank
- Ashfield
- Melifont Park
- Cement Rd
- Brickfield/Trinity Gardens
- Melifont Pk
- Fountain Hill
- Cherrybrook Drive

Litter picking at the following locations

- Fair St
- St Peters Church of Ireland square
- Williams St
- Abbey Carpark
- Reillys Carpark
- Duke Street
- Scholes Lane
- Georges Square
- Fairgreen
- Dominick's Bridge/Park

- Ballsgrove Hill
 - Watery Hill
 - Bolton Square
 - Rope Walk
 - Patrick St
 - Bothar Brugha
 - Park View
 - John Paul Court
 - Windmill Rd
 - Skelly's Lane
 - Hand St
 - Thomas St
 - Chord Rd
 - Sandyford Tce
 - Sycamore's
 - Glenmore Drive
 - Glenview
 - Oulsterlane
 - Scarlet St
 - Riverwalk Mell
 - Riverwalk, Rathmullen Rd
- **Ring Buoys** – Drogheda Town
 - 89 Ring buoys checked each week.
 - **CIS**
 - In process of appointing contractor for lanes at
 - Rossmakea,
 - Bellurgan Point,
 - Lee Cottages, Clogherhead,
 - Carrickmond Killcurry &
 - Ballyoonan Omeath.

OPERATIONS – COUNTYWIDE

Officials from Operations are currently liaising with the owner of a mussel dredger which sank in Carlingford Pier in the last week in September. The owner is working with a local contractor to arrange removal of the vessel, which is no longer sea-worthy.



EVENTS

Event licences were issued for the following ev

08.09.26	Born 2 Run Event (Carlingford Greenway)
04.09.26	The Bay 5K (Scoil Mhuire na nGael)
20.09.26	Louth Alzheimer Memory walk
27.09.26	Stonetown 5K Run
12.09.26	St Peters AC Dromiskin 5K
16 .09.26	Martin Connolly Sponsored Walk
11-12.09.26	The Curated Productions Ltd (filming)
15.09.26	The Reelists (filming on the Greenway)

Waste Enforcement

Waste and Litter Enforcement

Investigations under Litter Pollution Act	206
FPNs under Litter Pollution Act in September	29
FPN under Litter Pollution Act year to date	191
Waste complaints received year to date	249
Investigations under waste legislation	249

Diesel Laundering Waste

There was 1 call out in September 2026, with two 25 litre barrels located. The number of IBC's recovered in 2026 to date is 68.

Litter Foot patrol

A 5 hour foot patrol was carried out with particular attention to dog fouling in the

Carlingford and Omeath area, more patrols will be carried out over the coming weeks.



Anti-Dumping Initiative

The Councils Environment Section completed three successful mattress and sofa amnesty

events on the 2nd and 3rd of September 2026 as part of the 2026 Anti-Dumping Initiative.

A Mattress and Sofa Amnesty Event was held at Dundalk and Drogheda V&W Civic Amenity Centres and Kieran & McGee Ardee Livestock Sales yard, Ardee. A total **2,410 Mattresses** and **2351 Couches** were collected over the two days and is increasing each year.



V&W Civic Amenity Centre, Dundalk



V&W Civic Amenity Centre, Drogheda



Kieran & McGee Ardee Livestock Sales, Ardee

Environmental Regulation

Water Quality and complaints

7 water pollution complaints including water agricultural complaints were received in September 2026. Investigations and site visits were carried out in all cases. All complaints are either resolved or in progress.

Air & Noise Pollution Complaints

4 air pollution complaints were received this month. 3 noise pollution cases were received. All complaints are either resolved or still under investigation.

Farm survey Inspections

During the month of September 2026 3 farm GAP inspections were carried out along with 1 re-inspection.

Discharge Licences

Assessment inspections were carried out on 13 monitoring results received by the Council in September 2026 for Section 4 Discharge Licences.

Licensed landfills

Monthly monitoring of groundwater, surface water and leachate was carried out in September at Dundalk. Monthly perimeter gas monitoring was carried out at all three sites.

Septic Tanks

3 queries were received from members of the public regarding eligibility for grants in September.

Planning

34 planning reports completed for September 2026. These reports related to agricultural,

commercial and one-off dwelling planning permissions where assessment of site suitability based on the underlying soil/subsoil, geology and hydrogeology takes place.

Bathing Water Regulations

Louth has in place 3 blue flags for Port, Templetown and Clogherhead. A green flag was awarded to Seapoint beach in Termonfeckin. Bathing water season sampling finished on the 1st of September 2026. Weekly sampling by the environment team has found the waters quality to be good to excellent so far this season. All results are available to see on beaches.ie by entering the beach name.

Rural Water Programme

Individual Domestic Water Supplies Grant

There has been 1 payment made in the sum of €1,977.74 (as of 23rd September 2026) for Individual Domestic Water Supplies (more commonly called private wells).

Domestic Lead Remediation Grant Scheme

There have been no payments made for Lead Replacement.

Climate Action

Louth Climate Action Plan 2024-2029

Monitoring of the delivery of the actions contained within the LCC CAP continued.

Ramparts River Regeneration project

The Ramparts River instream works have now been reviewed by the larger Dundalk Flood Relief Scheme; AA screening has been completed, and the project plan has been presented to the management team.

Dundalk Blackrock Decarbonisation zone

An internal stakeholder workshop has completed with an external stakeholder workshop planned. Specialist facilitators have been appointed.

Sustainable Energy Communities (SECs)

The Climate Action Team continue to manage and fund the development of energy master plans (EMPs) for the SECs in the county. Dromiskin SEC is progressing with its EMP, with a range of stakeholder engagement complete. The tender process for the Blackrock SEC is beginning.

National Climate Action Plan guidelines drafting review working group

The Climate Action Coordinator is participating in the national expert working group for the drafting of guidelines for the next iteration of the Local Authority Climate Action Plans.

CLIMAAX risk assessment project

The full-phase Two risk assessment was submitted to the EU funding and review body in June. This has now been scored and approved by the funding body and project board.

Community Climate Action Programme

A total of €651,374.78 has been allocated to 17 community groups under the second phase of the Community Climate Action Programme. Projects under Phase 2 of the Community Climate Action Programme are currently underway.

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

Climate Action Week

Climate Action Week will take place from the 12th-18th of October this year. Grant aid of up to €500 was made available to community groups to apply to carry out events during this week.

A full list of events will be published on Louth County Council's website and social media in early October. A full list of events happening as part of climate action week can be found at <https://climateactionweek.ie/>

Climate Innovation Course

The Council has partnered with Munster Technological University and Trinity College Dublin to deliver a Community Climate Innovation Programme. This programme offers a level 8 accredited certificate or there is a pathway that offers a certificate of participation which is open to both members of the public and businesses within County Louth. The first in person workshop took place earlier this month at the Market House in Dunleer.

Participants will take part in a mix of online webinars and in person workshops while completing this course.

Sustainable Development Goals

The Climate Action Team have partnered with the Louth Libraries team again this year to hold the annual Sustainable Development Goals artwork competition there is now an additional category for young adults aged 12-16 to participate.



Biodiversity

Shared Island: Building Connections, Exchanging Knowledge'

The inaugural all-island conference for heritage professionals was held in the Peace Campus Monaghan on 2nd September. The conference brought together Biodiversity Officers, Heritage Officers and other heritage professionals from across Ireland and Northern Ireland for a day of connection-building, knowledge exchange and discussion. The conference forms part of the new Shared Island Heritage Networks Programme, led by the Heritage Council and funded through the Shared Island initiative.

Dunleer Parish Bee Post Workshop & Blessing



As part of this Local Biodiversity Action Funded “Faith Communities Return to Nature” project Dunleer Parish and the Louth County Council Biodiversity Officer hosted a bee post making workshop with pupils from Scoil Bhríde designing and making the posts and learning about the importance of our native wildflowers for pollinators.

The day ended with a Blessing of Bee Posts service with representatives from the Church of Ireland, Dunleer Tidy Towns and pupils from Scoil Bhríde taking part. The posts will be installed throughout the Parish.

Community Biodiversity Funding

The Community Foundation Ireland Biodiversity Fund is now open for applications from community groups to develop a Community Biodiversity Action Plan (CBAP) for your area with an ecologist (up to €10,000 available), to implement recommendations contained in an existing Community Biodiversity Action Plan (up to €12,000 available).

The deadline for applications is Friday 2nd October 2026. Full details, eligibility criteria and application guidance are available here <https://www.communityfoundation.ie/grants/biodiversity-fund-2026/>

All-Ireland Pollinator Plan

Time to mow your meadow - Most wildflowers will have dropped their seeds by now. If you have a long-flowering meadow, this is the time to cut it. Make sure you remove grass cuttings to reduce the fertility of the soil, helping more wildflowers grow.

Climate Adaptation Hub

The Council attended the inaugural Adaptation Hub’s Workshop, a full-day workshop bringing together participants from regional and local government, to explore shared priorities for climate adaptation and how we can work more effectively to ensure adaptation progress in Ireland is keeping pace with the scale of the challenge we face.

CMAP

Site selection surveys for suitable saltmarsh habitat for CMAP works continued across the county. Selection of one pristine high functioning site and three examples of fringe/corridor habitat for further survey is being finalised with project partners.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

ISO 50001 Audit – September 2026

The four-day ISO 50001 Energy Management Audit is now underway, taking place from 21st-24th September 2026. In preparation, the Energy Team and Significant Energy Users (SEUs) have undertaken considerable work to review and strengthen our Energy Management System (EnMS). Their hard work and commitment, supported by staff across the organisation, are central to maintaining ISO 50001 compliance and continually improving our energy performance.

Optimising Power @ Work - Energy Performance Continues to Improve in County Hall

August 2026 delivered another excellent energy performance, with total consumption falling to 11,956 kWh, compared with 15,989 kWh in August 2025, representing **a 25% year-on-year reduction**.

Electricity consumption showed particularly strong improvement, reducing from 14,438 kWh to 10,703 kWh, a reduction of approximately 26%.

The longer-term trend is equally positive. Total energy consumption for August has **fallen by approximately 54% since 2016**, demonstrating the significant progress being made through ongoing energy management and energy-efficiency initiatives across the Council.

Monthly energy performance overview

Site Consumption in the past month (June 2026) was:

Electricity	-	10,545 kWh
Gas	-	1,430 kWh

Previous Total Energy Performance for June

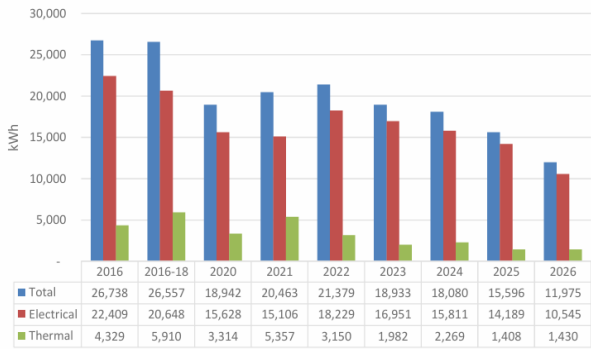


Table: Monthly Energy Performance Overview for County Hall

FACILITIES

Dundalk Athletics Track

Construction works have reached Practical Completion stage, and construction works are complete.

The facility features, a new eight lane, 400-metre synthetic running track, a central field space, and dedicated long jump/triple jump, shot put, high jump, pole vault, and javelin facilities. The track will initially open without floodlighting, which is scheduled to be installed in late September.



Dundalk Athletics Track
North Louth Operations Base

Part 8 Planning Permission has been approved for the proposed upgrade of North Louth Operations Base at Ballaverty.

The proposed development will consist of the removal of existing temporary storage containers and the construction of a single-storey building comprising office accommodation, canteen and associated

sanitary facilities, and all associated site development works.

Mullacurry Construction Ltd have been awarded the contract, with works scheduled to commence in October.



The existing Bush Depot at Ballaverty

Millmount

Unit 8 at Millmount, home to the Photographic Club, has recently benefited from the installation of a new entrance door. The replacement was necessary after the previous door had deteriorated significantly due to rot and prolonged exposure to damp weather conditions.

The new installation has improved access to the premises and will help protect the building from further weather-related damage, ensuring a safer and more welcoming environment for club members and visitors alike.



Animal Control and Welfare
Control of Dogs

Control of Dogs Act 1986

Dogs through the pound
September 2026

Total dogs through the pound	13
Seized under Section 16	0

Strays	9	Total no of registered DBE's in Louth (as at 30/09/2026)	6
Surrendered by owners	4	Hunt	1
No of dogs reclaimed by owners	5	Boarding Kennels	2
No of dogs rehomed direct	9	Training Kennels	1
No of dogs rehomed to welfare groups	5	Welfare	2
No of dogs on hand in Pound at 30/09/2026	5		

Dog Licences September 2026

No of Licences sold	465
Licence Checks:	
House calls	275
Section 16 Notices issued (request to produce licence within 10 days)	92
Fixed Penalty Notices	13



Teddy was found as a stray with a severely matted coat. However, after being groomed by the dog wardens, he felt and looked much better and has fortunately since been rehomed.

Control of Horses

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

Horses through the pound September 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 30/09/2026	0

Dog Breeding Establishments

Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010

Dog Breeding Establishments September 2026

Fire Service



There were 1037 Incidents logged with ERCC for Louth YTD.

The following training took place this month;

- 12 Students completed their People Handling skills
- 14 Students completed their Compartment Fire Behavior Refresher in Hackettstown Fire Station, Carlow.
- 7 students (new officers) completed Fire Station trainer course.
- 6 Students completed their Pump Refreshes

The new Drogheda Turntable ladder nears completion and is ready to be delivered next month. The 1.2million vehicle is being built in Germany by Rosenbauer and is funded by the NDFEM capital funding budget. Drogheda Fire Crews attended the National Services Day in Drogheda. The family day out took place along Drogheda Port on the 5th September. The Drogheda crews displayed new and old Fire Services vehicles and fire service equipment.



Station Officer and the Drogheda Retained Crew

Fire Safety

12 Fire Safety Certificate applications were received, bringing the total received to date this year to 110 applications. In addition, ten dance licence application were received.

Building Control

Louth County Council Building Control Authority successfully hosted the third-quarter meeting of the **Eastern and Midland Regional Building Control Committee Meeting (EMRBCCM)** on September 9, 2026. The session was highly collaborative and well-attended, bringing together 23 key stakeholders to discuss critical and topical industry updates. See picture attached.



Delegates attend the EMRBCCM meeting in Louth

Louth Building Control Officers attended a workshop on domestic Regulations for market

surveillance of construction products, which took place on Tuesday 15 September 2026 in the Custom House Dublin 1, The session featured a highly informative workshop presented by the Building Standards Advisory Unit, which provided attendees with valuable insights and updates.

Disability Access Certificates - September	7 (81 – 2026)
Total number of new units notified September	23
Total of new units notified for 2026	647
Number of Commencement Notices submitted for September	26
Total number of valid Commencement Notices submitted for 2026	288

Civil Defence

Training

Weekly training re-commenced

1 volunteer completed their Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) exams

All medical instructors completed recertification over 4 weekends in September. This involved attending the Civil Defence college in Roscrea.

First Aid Responder (FAR) training

Manual Handling Training

RTA Exercise in Monaghan Civil Defence

Duties

Port Beach Triathlon

Age Friendly Expo

Other

Civil Defence Officer completed a 4-day missing person search planner/operations course

Recruit induction night held, attended by 8 people

Louth Civil Defence completed controlled drugs registration with HPRA

Community First Responders were activated 6 times by the National Ambulance Service

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

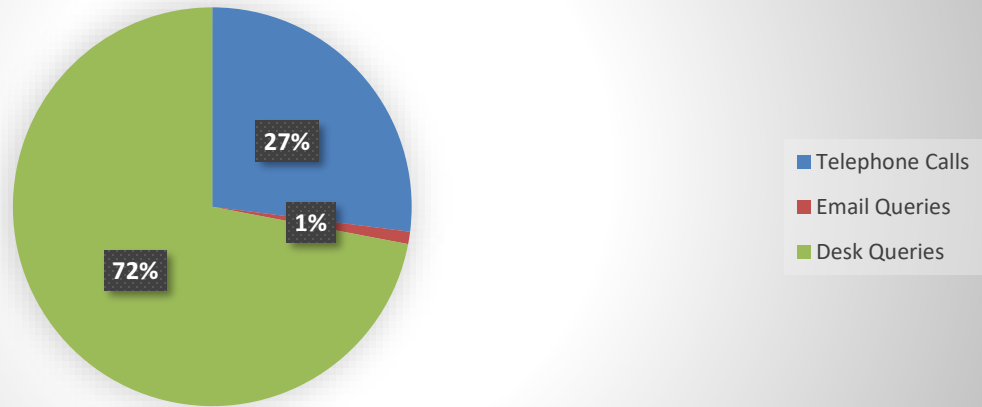


Seirbhísí Corporáideacha / Corporate Services

Tuairisc ar Sheirbhísí Custaiméirí / Customer Services Report

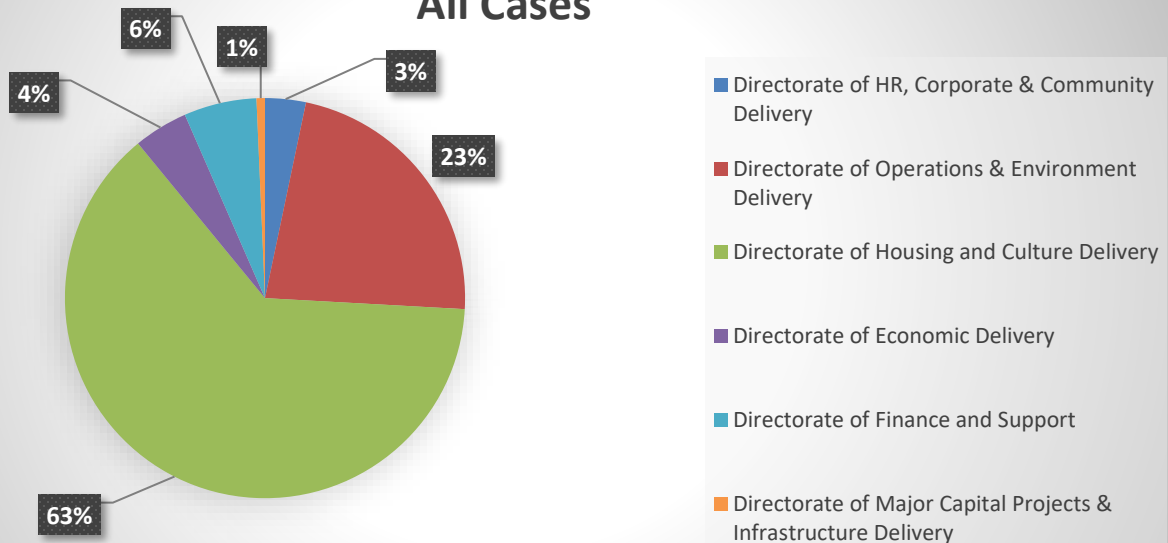
During the month of September 2026 Customer Services dealt with 15,320 queries inclusive of 7,457 calls and 7,713 counter queries and 150 e-mails. 10,681 (70%) of queries received were dealt with at first point of contact broken down as follows:

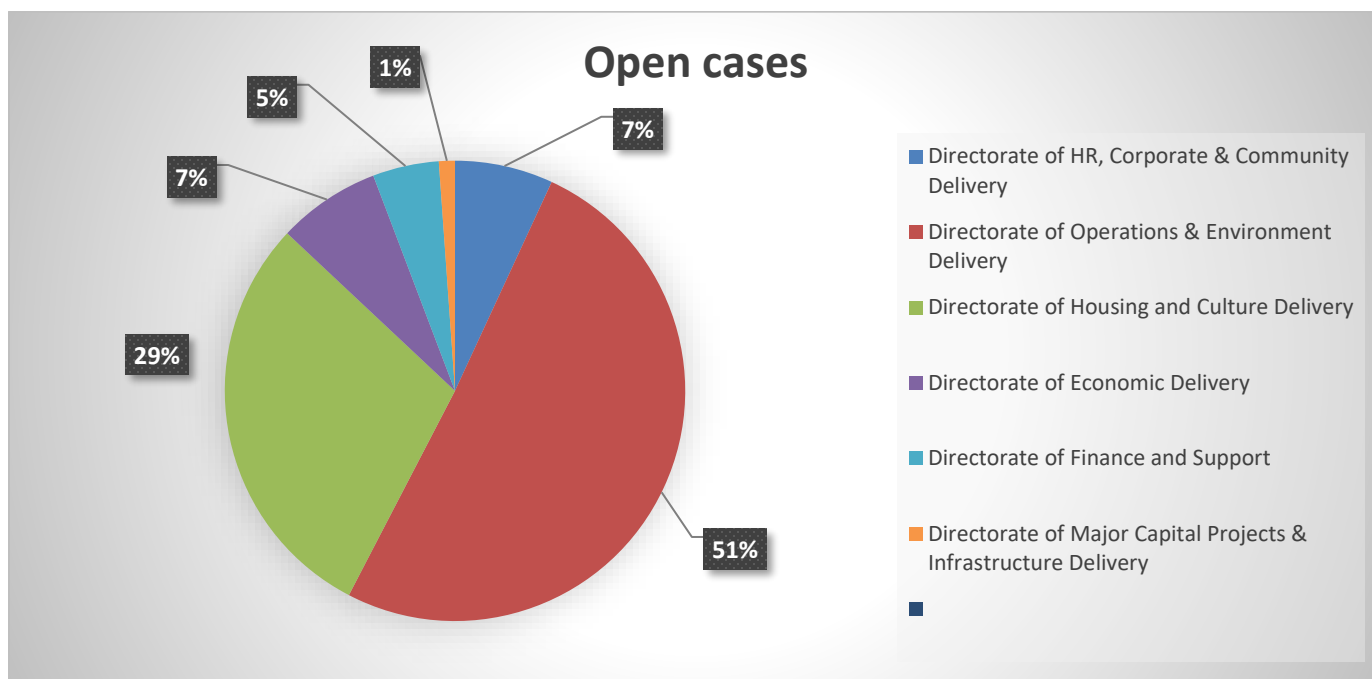
% queries dealt with at first point of contact



There were 3,675 valid CRM cases recorded during September 2026 of which 292 were received from elected members. A total of 623 (17%) remains unresolved by end of September.

All Cases





Data Protection, Information Compliance and Complaints

The table below illustrates activity in Data Protection, Information Compliance and Complaints for the month of September.

	<i>2025 Total</i>	<i>2026 Total</i>	<i>2026 Total</i>
	<i>January – September</i>	<i>January – September</i>	<i>September Only</i>
DSARS	24	16	4
DATA PROTECTION	27	25	5
FOI REQUEST – RECORDS	119	174	12
AIE – INFORMATION	9	17	3
RPSI	0	0	0
Complaints	23	55	11
Ombudsman	23	18	5

Franchise Section

Louth County Council has now fully transitioned from CheckTheRegister.ie to the new national electoral registration system, Voter.ie. Since the introduction of Voter.ie on 18th August, Franchise staff have processed 2,258 applications, demonstrating a very positive response to the new platform.

There has also been a significant response to correspondence issued to households in the Drogheda Urban LEA, requesting electors to review and update their registration details, including the provision of their PPS number. This engagement is helping Franchise staff to ensure that the Register of Electors is as accurate and up to date as possible.

The new Voter.ie platform has been actively promoted by the Council through our Communications Team, social media and billboard advertising, helping to raise awareness of the new system and encouraging people to check and update their electoral registration details online.

Staff are encouraged to visit www.voter.ie to check that their own registration details are correct and up to date.

Communications

During September, the Communications Team issued 17 press releases, responded to 32 media queries and coordinated seven staff interviews with local media.

The Louth County Council Facebook page also surpassed 10,000 followers during the month.

Notable communications activity included collaborating with Library Services to promote National Public Libraries Open Day on 26 September; working with the Tourism team on the unveiling of the Boyne Camino Mouteria; and supporting the Integration Team in the production of a series of videos.

Ongoing communications support for West Gate House included the promotion of a presentation event at the Civic Offices in Drogheda. Communications activity relating to the Narrow Water Bridge project also increased during the month, including the production of new video content charting the progress of construction.

The Communications Team also supported the promotional and public-engagement campaign that contributed to Blackrock's Gold Medal success in the Entente Florale Europe competition.

Community Support



Louth Older People's Council were delighted to invite Lisburn & Castlereagh Age Friendly group to attend the latest Louth Older People's Council (OPC) meeting on 24th September in County Hall, Dundalk. The meeting was an opportunity for the two age friendly groups to meet and to discuss how the age friendly programme is rolled out on both sides of the border. It was a great opportunity to share ideas around age friendly projects, best practice and to explore potential areas to work together moving forward.

After the meeting both groups went to DKIT Netwell Centre and Julie Doyle from DKIT presented on some of the research and development projects they are involved with at the moment on Health Literacy and AI. There were lots of questions and interest in the DKIT research projects. It is anticipated a return visit to Lisburn & Castlereagh Council area will be arranged in the new year.



Members of Louth Older People's Council and Lisburn & Castlereagh Age Friendly Group

Comhairle na nÓg

Louth Comhairle na nÓg and Newry and Mourne Youth Council took part in a Study Visit to Belfast on Friday 18th September. The young people visited Parliament Buildings in Stormont and got to meet MLAs. This was a great opportunity to highlight the issues young people have been working on during this

project. This included Peace Building, Transport and Violence against young women.

The group also took part in a bus tour around the city and learned about all the history and had some fun along the way. The Youth Leadership and Mentoring project is supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).



Comhairle na nÓg Visit to Stormont

Public Participation Network (PPN)

A Dundalk FM interview took place on Monday 7th September to help promote the Community Expo on September 30th, the MD meetings which took place on 21st and 23rd September and the benefits of PPN membership in general.

Louth PPN exhibited at Healthy Louth's "National Suicide Prevention Day" event in Monasterboice on Thursday 10th September and attended the Outcomer's launch of their PEACEPLUS LGBTQIA+ Capacity Building and Community Empowerment 2-year Programme on Wednesday 16th September.

The PPN National Conference took place on Thursday 24th and Friday 25th September in Roscommon with representation from Louth PPN in attendance.

Nominations for Louth PPN Community & Voluntary Awards 2026 were open throughout the month of September and closed on 30th September. The awards event will take place on 18th November in Monasterboice.

Meetings

A Secretariat meeting took place on Wednesday 2nd September in NEST Business Centre, Ardee.

Municipal District meetings took place as follows:

- Drogheda – Monday 21st September at 10am in The Mill Enterprise Centre
- Dundalk – Monday 21st September at 4pm in Creative Spark, Dundalk
- Ardee – Wednesday 23rd September at 2pm in The DeeHub

These meetings are an opportunity for PPN members to network with other PPN members operating in their geographic area while being informed of updates from Louth PPN's administration on matters such as where resources are allocated, what training is available, etc.

Review of Louth PPN's Community Wellbeing Statement

This document was first co-created in late 2022 and ratified in early 2023 and reflects the priorities of Louth PPN's membership in 6 different domains (Health – mental and physical; Environment and Sustainability; Economy and Resources; Social and Community Development; Participation, Democracy and Good Governance; Values, Culture and Meaning). The Community Wellbeing Statement is a required document for all 31 PPNs and is referred to by community representatives to effectively represent their fellow members within the policy and decision-making structures of local government. Public consultations took place in all 3 municipal districts across the month of September and an online survey was live to capture the opinions of those who could not make the in-person consultations.

Healthy Louth

Healthy Louth CommUnity Connect: Together for Hope Event

Healthy Louth hosted its inaugural "CommUnity Connect: Together for Hope" event at the Monasterboice Inn on 10th September to mark World Suicide Prevention Day. The event provided a valuable platform for community organisations, service providers, support agencies and members of the public, to come together, share expertise, showcase available services and foster greater collaboration in

supporting mental health and wellbeing within County Louth.

The event was facilitated by former Irish Olympic silver medallist Kenneth Egan, whose work in psychotherapy, mental health, addiction recovery and personal development brought valuable insight to discussions on resilience, recovery and community support.

Contributions from Patrice Matthews (SAFE Castlebellingham), Derek Pepper (Shine Ireland) and Joanne O'Dwyer (Meath Community Drug and Alcohol Response) highlighted the importance of early intervention, peer support, reducing stigma and ensuring individuals are aware of pathways to help. This collaborative approach supports the Healthy Ireland objective of strengthening protective factors for mental health through community engagement, awareness raising and increased access to support services.

The event reinforced the message that suicide prevention is everyone's responsibility and highlighted the importance of collective action in reducing stigma, encouraging open conversations about mental health and ensuring that individuals and families know where to seek support during difficult times. Through this initiative, Healthy Louth has established a strong foundation for ongoing partnership working and community-led mental health promotion across the county.



Healthy Louth Staff & Speakers at the Together for Hope Event in Monasterboice



Together for Hope Event in Monasterboice

National Healthy Ireland Coordinator and Slaintecare Meeting for Quarter 3

The 3rd national meeting of Healthy Ireland Coordinators and Sláintecare Healthy Communities Development Officers took place in Athlone on 22nd and 23rd September, bringing together representatives from across the country to strengthen collaboration and share best practice in community health and wellbeing. The event featured contributions from Cllr Aengus O'Rourke, Chair of AILG, and Dr Christopher Carroll of the HSE National Office for Public Health Improvement.

This two-day forum provided a valuable opportunity for cross-sector learning, strategic networking and knowledge exchange, supporting the continued alignment of local and national priorities and enhancing the capacity of the Healthy Ireland and Sláintecare network to deliver positive health outcomes in communities nationwide.

LCDC Health & Wellbeing Sub-Committee Meeting – Quarter 3

The third meeting of the LCDC Health & Wellbeing Sub-Committee was held on 24th September, with a focus on reviewing key achievements delivered to date and identifying priorities for 2027. The meeting supported strategic planning across health and wellbeing initiatives and reinforced alignment between local and national objectives.

A presentation from Louth Local Development Company outlined the recent recruitment of the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Team and highlighted how these new roles will complement and strengthen existing health and wellbeing structures within the local authority. This development represents an important step in enhancing interagency collaboration and capacity to address community health priorities across County Louth.

Sláintecare Drogheda

After Pinocchio

The Community Theatre production of *After Pinocchio*, funded by Slaintecare's Seed Funding, took place on 4th, 5th and 6th September in the Droichead Arts Centre. This play was a collaboration between the Council's Slaintecare Drogheda Local Development Officer, the Red Door Project and The Little Duke Theatre. It was a comedy-drama musical theatre production set in contemporary Drogheda and an adaptation of Carlo Collodi's "The Adventures of Pinocchio".

Having overcome a difficult childhood, a teenage boy finds himself in trouble with the police and on the run from his problems. He unexpectedly finds refuge among a troupe of fairground performers, where he discovers friendship, self-belief and resilience. *After Pinocchio* supported Red Door Project participants through a structured creative programme that promoted confidence, self-expression, recovery and social connection. Through theatre workshops, rehearsals and public performances, participants developed skills, built relationships, celebrated their recovery journeys and demonstrated the positive impact of community arts in fostering health, wellbeing, hope and personal transformation.



After Pinocchio at the Droichead Arts Centre

Place Standard Tool Event Drogheda

The Place Standard Tool Event in Moneymore on 15th September was a community engagement initiative designed to gather the views and experiences of local residents and stakeholders on the strengths and challenges of the area. The event provided a structured framework to assess both the physical and social aspects of the community through 14 themed discussion areas, helping to identify priorities for future investment and improvement. Participants included residents, community organisations and statutory agencies ensuring that local voices were central to the process. Findings from the event will help inform future planning, resource allocation and community development initiatives within Moneymore. There is a survey now live for those who live or work in the

Moneymore area to have their voice heard. The survey will remain open until 7th October.

Sláintecare Dundalk

A community health needs assessment and transit walk are currently underway in the Coxes area and surrounding communities in Dundalk. The initiative includes a series of workshops with local community groups and is being led by the Sláintecare Local Development Officer for Dundalk in partnership with Louth Local Development, with research support from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) and HSE Public Health.

The assessment and engagement process is designed to gather community perspectives, identify local health and wellbeing needs, and inform future place-based health and development initiatives within the area.

Entente Florale 2026

Blackrock was awarded a Gold Medal at the 2026 Entente Florale Europe Awards Ceremony held in Carlow on 19th September. The achievement recognises the collective efforts of Blackrock Tidy Towns, local residents, schools, businesses, community organisations and the Council in enhancing and maintaining the village's environment and quality of life.

The Gold Medal followed the visit of the international jury to Blackrock in July 2026. During the visit, judges participated in a 12-stop tour of the village, showcasing a variety of projects and initiatives that demonstrate Blackrock's achievements in biodiversity, heritage, education, recreation, tourism and sustainability. The visit also highlighted the strong culture of volunteerism and collaboration that exists within the community.

In addition to the Gold Medal, Blackrock received the School Grounds Thematic Prize, sponsored by SAP Landscapes Ltd, Ireland. St Francis National School featured prominently in the judges' itinerary, with pupils and staff presenting a range of initiatives connected to Blackrock Community Park and wider environmental projects. The award recognises schools that sustainably design, develop and maintain their grounds to enhance biodiversity, support climate awareness and promote wellbeing, learning and community engagement.



Minister of State at the Department of Health Jennifer Murnane O'Connor, Leas Cathaoirleach Shane McGuinness & Chief Executive David Conway



Blackrock Tidy Towns Members, Council Staff & Judges from Entente Florale at the Entente Florale 2026 Awards Ceremony in Carlow



PEACEPLUS

Project Launches

The PEACEPLUS LGBTQAI+ Capacity Building programme provided under the Celebrating Cultures & Diversity Programme within the PEACEPLUS Action Plan, was launched by Outcomers CLG on 16th September in Wellington Hall, Dundalk.

This programme will raise awareness, understanding and respect for the LGBTQIA+ communities through outreach sessions in rural and cross border areas.

The total contract value is €102,991 (Inc Vat).



Launch Event for the LGBTQAI+ Capacity Building Programme in Wellington Hall, Dundalk

Procurement

Requests For Quotations have been sought for the delivery of the Ex-Political Prisoner Irish Language Engagement Project. The deadline for receipt of responses is 1pm on 1st October 2026.



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council



Comhairle Ceantair
an Iúir, Mhúrn
agus an Dúin
Newry, Mourne
and Down
District Council

Louth County Council & Newry Mourne & Down Strategic Alliance

A meeting of the Joint Management Team of the LCC/NMDDC Strategic Alliance took place on 9th September 2026 in the Town Hall in Warrenpoint County Down.

Ukraine Humanitarian Response

Offer A Home Programme Property Figures as of 25/09/2026

Properties offered in September	0
Families moved into properties in September	0
Expressions of interest in being accommodated received from families in September	8
Property offers recorded to date	87
Owners successfully contacted to date	84
Properties currently occupied	34
Beneficiaries currently assigned	113
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	20
Properties not viable to date	21

Local Authority Integration Team

The LAIT hosted the Irish Refugee Council who provided an Information Session on the rights and entitlements of clients seeking International Protection in Ireland. The session explained the International Protection process, applicants' rights while their claim is being assessed, and the services they can access while they await their decision. The session helped applicants better understand their rights and navigate public services.

Community Integration Forum

The CIF meeting was held in Fair Street, Drogheda on 16th September and brought together key partners to strengthen collaboration and coordination across services. The meeting was also attended by key local stakeholders, including Louth Local Development Company, Louth Volunteer Centre, HSE, Louth County Childcare Committee. Discussions focused on current challenges, service delivery updates and opportunities for improved joint working to better support communities across Louth. The meeting reinforced strong partnerships and highlighted the importance of continued engagement between statutory bodies and community organisations.

Culture Night

The LAIT team was proud to attend two inspiring community events for Culture Night on 18th September. Team members attended the Women's INSPO Culture Night Event in Muirhevnamor, Dundalk, celebrating diversity, inclusion and the valuable contributions of migrants within our communities. On the same evening, LAIT also supported the Hands4Unity event at the Barbican Centre, Drogheda, which brought people together to promote understanding, connection, and unity across cultures. Both events provided excellent opportunities to engage with local communities, strengthen partnerships, and reaffirm LAIT's commitment to inclusion and community engagement.

Dr Ebum Joseph Documentary

The Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) was pleased to attend the screening of Dr Ebum Joseph's powerful documentary at Dundalk Museum, hosted by WINSPO. The event provided an important opportunity to reflect on the experiences of migrants in Ireland, while highlighting themes of identity, belonging, inclusion and social justice. The documentary encouraged meaningful discussion among attendees and reinforced the value of creating welcoming and inclusive communities where diversity is celebrated and every voice is heard.



Louth Community Safety Partnership

Louth Community Safety Plan

The LCSP Plan Subgroup remains actively engaged, meeting regularly to establish the foundations for the development of the three-year LCSP Plan.

The wide-ranging consultation process has commenced. It involves a collaborative codesign approach by working together with end-users and stakeholders to create solutions that are inclusive, user-centered and effective and will include:

- A detailed questionnaire for dissemination both electronically and manually to a wide range of stakeholders
- Nine consultation events throughout Co Louth
- Thirty targeted focus group meetings
- Outreach work with specific groups

Property Marking Training Programme

A second LCSP property marking training event took place on 9th September and was held in conjunction with An Garda Síochána. Over twenty gardai and community volunteers received practical training on how to operate the property marking machine and help others mark their belongings.

The training proved very successful and the participants are now a part of a growing community safety network that is making a real difference in crime prevention in their areas.



Property Marking Training Event

Sport

Dundalk Sports Centre

In September, the fitness programme was expanded to provide more inclusive opportunities for community participation. Due to growing demand, an additional Active Ageing class was introduced on Tuesday mornings, with a new beginner-friendly 9:30am session supporting those new to exercise or returning to fitness, followed by the existing class for more experienced participants. Her Night was successfully relaunched as a circuit-based fitness programme, offering women a supportive environment to improve fitness and confidence. A new Teen Girls Fitness class was also introduced, encouraging young women to become more active in a positive and welcoming setting. These developments have broadened participation across all age groups and abilities.

Lourdes Stadium

September saw the launch and return of several fitness programmes aimed at supporting health and wellbeing across different age groups. Teen Pilates resumed on 16th September, providing an engaging after-school activity that promotes strength, flexibility, posture and focus. The new Age Well programme commenced on 11th September, supporting adults aged 50+ to improve strength, balance, mobility and overall fitness in a supportive environment. Bootcamp returned to Lourdes Stadium on 8th September and continues twice weekly, offering adaptable workouts suitable for both beginners and experienced participants. Together, these programmes encourage active lifestyles and inclusive participation within the community.

Louth Local Sports Partnership

Coach & Volunteer Education Programmes 2026

Louth Local Sports Partnership facilitated the following coach & volunteer education courses in September 2026.

Activity	Date	Venue
Safeguarding Level 1	16 th September	Online
Safeguarding Level 2	17 th September	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	24 th September	Online
Walk Leaders Award	22 nd September	Dunleer

European Week of Sport

Louth Local Sports Partnership supported and promoted European Week of Sport 2026, a Europe-wide initiative encouraging people of all ages and abilities to become more active. The campaign formed part of the national movement led by Sport Ireland under the #BeActive banner.

Taking place from 23rd to 30th September, the initiative highlighted the many ways individuals and communities can engage in sport and physical activity. With the Olympic and Paralympic Games having taken place in Europe during the summer, this year's theme focused on shared EU and Olympic values, including inclusion, well-being and belonging.

Throughout the week, a range of activities and events were delivered across County Louth to promote participation in sport and physical activity. These opportunities were designed to be accessible and inclusive, ensuring that people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds had the chance to get involved.

The programme encouraged community engagement, supported healthier lifestyles and reinforced the positive role that sport and physical activity play in bringing people together.

Louth Sports Club Volunteer of the Year Awards launched

In September, Louth Local Sports Partnership was delighted to launch the 4th Annual 'Sports Club' Volunteer of the Year Awards for 2026, to recognise and support the huge community of volunteers across Co. Louth who give their time to provide sport and physical activity opportunities across the county.

More than 450,000 people across Ireland volunteer in sports clubs and physical activity groups on a weekly basis thus ensuring opportunities to participate in sport and physical activity are provided to every community in the country. Without them there would be no teams coached, no pitches lined, no matches played or races run. They are there to support sporting clubs and communities from early morning to late at night without any expectation of recognition or reward.

Louth Local Sports Partnership is hosting this Awards ceremony to recognise and honour these people. The awards ceremony will take place on Monday 9th November in the Carrickdale Hotel.

Each sports club in Louth is eligible to nominate their volunteer of the year from their club who they feel should be recognised and celebrated for their contribution to providing sporting opportunities within their local community.



Get Ireland Walking - National Walking Week

Louth Local Sports Partnership participated in National Walking Week 2026 from 21st to 25th September, in partnership with Get Ireland Walking and Walking for All, supporting a week of physical activity, community engagement and outdoor recreation across County Louth.

The initiative formed part of European Week of Sport and culminated in National Walking Day 2026, which marked its seventh year. Walking was promoted as an accessible and inclusive activity that supports physical health, mental wellbeing and social connection.

As part of the week's programme, 14 organised walks were delivered across County Louth, providing opportunities for individuals and communities to come together, explore local walking routes and experience the benefits of regular physical activity. The events attracted participation from a wide range of age groups and demonstrated the continued interest in walking as a simple and effective means of staying active.

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 August to 12th September 2026 can be summarised as follows:

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

13th August to 12th September 2026	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda MD	Total
Offered advice, support (including fast tracking H.A. for Rent Supplement eligibility)	5	163	80	248
Placed in Temporary Emergency Accommodation	0	15	25	40
Refused Offer of Temporary Emergency Accommodation	0	2	0	2
Not eligible from outside county or non HRC	0	0	0	0
Total number of Person who presented as Homeless	5	180	105	290

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

August 2026	18
Total for 2026	92

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

Number of tenancies established	57
Number of individuals currently in tenancy	37

Tables 4 - 7 below reflect details of the adults who were in emergency accommodation in County Louth on 12th September 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	91
Female	58
Total	149

Tábla 5: Aoisghrúpaí / Table 5: Age Groups

Age Group	Total
18-24	23
25-44	77
45-64	45
65+	4
Total	149

Tábla 6: Saghas Loistín / Table 6: Accommodation Type

Accommodation Type	Total
Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA)	44
Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)	105
Total unique individuals	149

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	19	22	36
Couples with dependent children	6	13	18
Total	25	35	54

Leithdháileadh Tithíochta, Meán Fómhair, 2026 Housing Allocations, September 2026

20th August 2026 - 19th Sept 2026	LA	LA Refusals	AHB	AHB Refusals	Allocation YTD
Ardee	7	0	2	0	37
Drogheda	40	1	0	0	289
Dundalk	22	5	26	2	331
Total	69	6	28	2	657

Aistrithe / Transfers

20th August 2026 – 19th September, 2026	Transfers
Ardee	0
Drogheda	2
Dundalk	3
Total	5

Liosta Tithe / Housing List

As at 19th September, 2026	Ardee	Drogheda	Dundalk	Total
Housing List	348	656	1134	2138
HAP Transfer List	260	739	1442	2441
Total Housing List	608	1395	2576	4579

There are **334** applications on the transfer list (Non HAP) within Social Housing including **70** applications from the Approved Housing Bodies.

Bainisteoireacht Chíos / Rent Management

Current Rents on 28th September 2026	No of Accounts	Value
Rents between 4-6 weeks old	192	89,253
Rents between 7-12 weeks old	166	136,994
Rents greater than 12 weeks old	847	3,424,785
TOTAL	1205	3,651,032

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 September 2026:

Letter Type	Month/Year	Number Issued
1st Reminder	September 2026	88
2nd Reminder	September 2026	31
Final Reminder	September 2026	39
Total issued		158

The total rental income received in 2026, to date, is **13,987,931**. This is a 9% increase when compared to the equivalent period in 2025 (€12,884,475) and a 19% increase on 2024 (€11,785,637).

The total number of rent accounts 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. **44** new payment plans commenced in September 2026 (up to and including 28th September 2026). There are currently **1040** households with an active repayment plan.

Airíonna Athlígíeán & Neamhní / Relet and Void Properties

Updated 23/09/2026

Relet / Void Properties on 23rd September 2026	Total
Ardee Municipal District	3
Dundalk Municipal District	16
Drogheda Municipal Borough District	16
Total No. of Relet/Void Properties	35

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

Iarratais Cothabhála / Maintenance Requests

Maintenance	21st August 2026 – 22nd September 2026	Total (YTD)
No. of Maintenance Requests Received	971	8,856
No. of Maintenance Requests Completed	865	7,756
No. of Maintenance Requests in Progress	48	N/A
No. of Maintenance Requests Refused	58	533

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

Our finalised EERP allocation & funding for 2026 by DHLGH have been confirmed as 220 units. Four packages of works have now been appointed and are expected to commence imminently, and one further package is currently out for tender. Estates/streets where houses are expected to be included in this year's EERP are listed below.

Due to efficiencies in scale and careful property selection, additional units will be completed within the original funding allocation. Tenant engagement is ongoing in a small number of properties and numbers may still be subject to change.

No further units can be accommodated under this year's programme.

Municipal District
<u>Ardee MD:</u> Seaview, Annagassan=9 (Completed) De La Salle Terrace, Ardee=19 (Onsite) Chestnut Grove, Tallanstown=4 (Completed) St. Mary's Court, Louth Village=1 (Completed) Ferdia Park, Ardee=1 (Completed) Sliabh Breagh, Ardee=1 (Onsite) Cherrywood Park, Tallanstown=2 (Completed) Rockfield Close, Ardee=1 (Onsite) Clonmore, Ardee=1 (Onsite)
<u>Dundalk MD:</u> Aghameen Park=12 (Completed) Doolargy Avenue=38 (Completed) Castlehill, Carlingford=4 (Onsite) Dundalk St, Carlingford=5 (Completed) Mayfield, Haggardstown=10 (Completed) Clooneevan, Haggardstown=10 (Completed) St. Fursey's Terrace Blackrock= 8 (OPDs) (Onsite) Gort na Glaise=43 (Onsite) Lios Dubh=5 (Onsite) Cooley Park, Dundalk=4 (Completed) Barton Park=1 (Completed) Woodview Park=1 (Completed) Aisling Park=2 (Onsite)

Villas 1= 1 (Completed)
 Oldbridge=1 (Complete)
 Churchview, Dromiskin= 20 (Completed)

Drogheda BD:

Moneymore=17(Onsite)
 Rathmullan Park=35 (Onsite)
 Marian Park=7 (Completed)
 Scarlet Crescent=10 (Onsite)
 Acorn Way=1 (Complete)
 Fr. O'Donnell Park=5 (Completed)
 Flanagans Terrace=3 (Completed)
 Beechwood Drive=1 (Completed)
 Brickfields, Drogheda=9 (Completed)
 Pitcher Hill, Drogheda=1 (Complete)
 Chord Road=3 (Complete)
 Platin Road= 1 (Onsite)



EERP works completed at property in Doolargy, Dundalk which included windows, doors, attic and heat pump

housing stock. As part of this, DHLGH intends that the national stock of social housing units will be surveyed by Local Authorities over the next four to five years; in Louth, these surveys have commenced and are ongoing.

For 2026, the Planned Maintenance funding will be used to target replacement of windows and doors in houses that are not otherwise eligible for the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Program (EERP). Procurement has been completed and works are expected to take place in September; tenants have been notified. A stock condition survey of the property is a mandatory requirement with this funding. A summary is provided, below.

Dundalk MD:

Mullaharlin Park= 24 units

Drogheda BD:

Rathview Termonfeckin= 24 units.

Cigireachtaí ar Tithe Príobháideacha ar cíós / Private Rental Inspections

PRI Stats 2026

For 21st August to 22nd September 2026	September	YTD
Properties inspected monthly	91	1251
Advisory letters issued	54	966
Improvement notices issued	5	26
Prohibition notices issued	0	6
Private Inspections	5	12
HAP First Inspections	35	350

Cothabháil Phleanáilte / Planned Maintenance

DHLGH has allocated Louth County Council €447,140 for 2026 for Planned Maintenance and Stock Condition Surveys. This funding is to aid transition from a primarily reactive-based approach to a more planned-based approach for maintenance of local authority

RAS First Inspections	0	6
AHB First Inspections	17	398
Student Specific Accommodation (SSA)	0	22
Private Re-inspections	2	9
HAP Re-inspections	25	337
RAS Re-inspections	4	7
AHB Re-inspections	3	96
SSA Re-inspections	0	5
Inspections from Complaints	0	9
Properties Made Compliant	16	127

Páirtíocht Tionóntachta /Tenancy Engagement

21st August - 22nd September	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly Total	Yearly Total
No. Tenants who attended pre-tenancy training	44	4	22	70	322
Post-tenancy inspections	21	4	21	46	361
Tenancy Investigation Visits	17	4	10	31	182

Anti-Social Behaviour

21st August - 22nd September	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly	Yearly
ASB Cases* Received	11	1	10	22	194
ASB cases Ongoing	9	2	16	27	-
ASB cases complete	8	3	10	21	173

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

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

21st August-22nd September	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly	Yearly
Verbal Warnings	0	1	1	2	26
Written Tenancy Notifications	0	0	0	0	8
Tenancy Warnings Housing Act, 2014	0	0	0	0	3

Abandonment Notifications & Illegal Occupiers

Category	Brief Description	Year to Date
Section 15(1) Notifications Issued	Initial notice – tenant has 4 weeks to make contact and confirm occupancy.	9
Section 15(2) Notifications Issued	Final notice – property reverts to Council possession	10

Category	Brief Description	Year to Date
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.	10



Recently acquired properties in Blackrock, under the second-hand acquisitions programme



Recently acquired property in Dundalk, under the second-hand acquisitions programme

Clár na dTithe Tosaigh/Starter Homes Programme (formally Affordable Housing)

The conveyancing processes for the Starter Homes Purchase schemes at St. Fursey's Park, Bayview and Bellfield Drive, all in Dundalk are still ongoing with all units' sale agreed.

The portal has been extended until the end of September for the Starter Homes Purchase Scheme at Dowdall's Court, Dundalk. Ongoing assessment of applications with approximately half of the available units gone sale agreed.

Application for funding for a new Starter Homes Purchase scheme at Ushers Mill, Drogheda currently with the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage for approval with advertising and application opening dates anticipated in the coming weeks.

Re-branding of Affordable Purchase Scheme to Starter Homes Purchase Programme came into effect on the 1st September, 2026.

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 September, the Council purchased 3 properties.

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

Active MTR Applications Total	35
AHB MTR Applications Active	6
AHB MTR completed 2026	5
Private MTR Applications Active	17
Private MTR completed 2026	7
MTR Application Awaiting Purchaser	0

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.

Iasacht Tí Údaráis Áitiúil / Local Authority Home Loans

2026 Budget Allocation	€6,730,000
LAHL Approvals at 21/09/2026	€2,577,350
Breakdown of LAHL applications processed at the 21st of September 2026	
Total Number of Applications 21/09/2026	33
LAHL carried over from 2025	4
Invalid/Returned	12
Approved	16
Declined	4
For Review	0
Outstanding – waiting on further information	5

Deontas Athchóirithe D'áras Folaímh / Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant

Applications Submitted:	460
Approved:	344
Rejected:	28
Withdrawn	63
Other (FI Requests, First Site Inspections)	25
Funding Issued to Applicant	185
Principal Private Residence	333
Rental Applications	127
Vacant Grant Applications	219
Derelict top-up Applications	241

Réadmhaoin Fholamh. Deontas Athchóirithe: Athchóiriú ar Iarfhorgneamh Tráchtála / Úsáide Poiblí / Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant

Conversion of former Commercial / Public Use Building

Applications submitted	2
Approved	0
Rejected	0
Other (FI Requests, First Site Inspections)	2

Deontas Folaímh Os Cionn an tSiopa / Vacant Above the Shop Grant

Applications submitted	3
Approved	0
Rejected	0
Other (FI Requests, First Site Inspections)	3

Deontas Sainchomhairle le haghaidh / Expert Advice Grant

Applications submitted	5
Approved	3
Rejected	2
Other (FI Requests, First Site Inspections)	0

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

The Grants Section is currently not accepting new grant applications, as it continues to prioritise the processing of existing applications already received.

At present, new applications will only be considered where a Priority 1 (emergency) medical need exists. Priority 1 applications will continue to be accepted and assessed on a case-by-case basis, subject to the availability of funding.

In accordance with Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) guidelines, Priority 1 applications relate to cases where the applicant:

- Is terminally ill;

- Is primarily dependent on family members or a carer for support and care; or
- Requires adaptations to their home that would support their discharge from hospital or residential care and enable them to live independently at home.

The Housing Grants team will continue to process existing Housing Adaptation Grant (HAG) and Mobility Aids Grant (MAG) applications in order of priority, date received, and subject to the availability of funding.

Applicants who have already received grant approval are reminded to ensure that approved works are completed within the timeframe specified in their approval letter. Once the works have been completed, a completion certificate should be submitted to the Grants Section as soon as possible to facilitate payment and the finalisation of the grant process.

Recent Private Housing Grant Works Completed



Accessible Bathroom completed in Drogheda with funding provided with a HAP

Adaptations to Council Housing for Persons with a Disability

The Council carries out adaptations to Council properties to make them more suitable for tenants with a disability. The 2026 budget allocation has now been confirmed, totaling €838,610. This includes €754,749 (90%) in funding from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and €83,861 (10%) Louth County Council Contribution.



Replacement Windows and Door in Dunleer, with funding provided with a HOP

Status	HAG	MAG	HOP	Month	YTD
Applications on Hand 22/09/2026	111	7	145		263
Grants Approved 22/08/2026 – 22/09/2026	15	0	49	64	314

Works Appointed	37 minor adaptations	4 extensions 3 modular extensions 1 extension funded under TAP
Of these Works onsite/ completed	26 minor adaptations	4 extensions/ 3 modular extensions/ 1 TAP extension.



DPA Modular extension

Capital Housing Delivery

Seachadadh Nua Tóg / New Build Delivery

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	221	305	526
Total	1,323	1,813	305	2,118

Current Approved Social Housing Delivery Units 2026 - 2030	
SHIP	781
CALF	228
CAS	40
TOTAL	1049

Louth County Council Direct Building Housing Projects

On the 1st of September, Councillors, & Oireachtas Members visited An Mullach Housing Scheme in Louth Village with the Housing Capital Team and the main contractor Cunninghams Contracts. The Scheme consists of 58 no units comprising of a mix of 2, 3 & 4-bedroom two storey homes. The units will be completed in October. Houses were advertised on the CBL portal on Tuesday 22nd September to provide families with an opportunity to bid on their forever home. The scheme also consists of several bungalows which will be allocated to person on the disability social housing list. We were also pleased to welcome St John Of Gods to the development who will manage a 4-bedroom supported living dwelling in the Scheme.



Above, aerial image of An Mullach, Louth Village



Louth County Council Councillors, & Oireachtas Members at An Mullach Housing Development



Louth County Council Councillors, Oireachtas Members, Officials and the Main Contractor outside the supported living house in An Mullach with Paula Hand from St. John of Gods

SHIP Delivery

Project Name	Project Phase	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Fulacht Fia, Mount Avenue, Dundalk	2/2	41	On Site	28/02/2027	3 * 2 bed, 12 * 3 bed, 6 * 4 bed, 10 * 1 bed Apt, 10 * 3 bed Apt
Rathmullen Park, Drogheda Infill	1/1	4	On site	30/09/2027	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	31/03/2027	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	31/10/2026	28 * 2 bed, 24 * 3 bed, 5 * 4 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	On-hold	31/12/2029	52 * 2 bed, 47 * 3 bed, 4 * 4 bed, 1 * 5 bed, 26 * 1 bed Apt

Bruach na hAbhann, Castletown Road, Dundalk,	2/2	14	On-site	31/10/2026	6 * 4 bed, 4 * 1 bed Apt, 4 * 3 bed duplex
Seven Winds, North Road, Drogheda	4/5	12	On-site	31/10/2026	6 * 2 bed Apt, 6 * 3 bed Duplex
Seven Winds, North Road, Drogheda	5/5	12	On-site	30/10/2026	6 * 2 bed Apt, 6 * 3 bed Duplex
Gort Mell, Slane Road, Drogheda,	3/3	1	On-site	31/10/2026	1 * 3 bed
Beaulieu Village, Drogheda,	3/4	2	On-site	30/09/2026	2 * 2 bed
Beaulieu Village, Drogheda, Co. Louth	4/4	4	On-site	30/09/2026	4 * 4 bed
Beaulieu Banks Ph 1, Termonfeckin Road, Drogheda	2/2	12	On-site	30/09/2027	8 * 1 bed Apt, 4 * 2 bed Apt
Ushers Mill (Ph 4 & 6A), Twenties, Drogheda	3/3	8	Complete	01/07/2026	8 * 3 bed
Fitzgerald Gardens Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	1/1	13	Complete	31/08/2026	8 * 2 bed, 8 * 3 bed
Bayview Red Barns Road, Dundalk	1/1	4	On-site	30/11/2026	2 * 2 bed, 2 * 3 bed
St Furseys Gardens, Old Dublin Road, Dundalk	1/1	6	On-site	31/10/2026	6 * 2 bed Duplex Apartments
Ushers Mill (Ph 11 & 12), Twenties, Drogheda	3/3	7	On-site	30/11/2026	5 * 3 bed House, 2 * 4 bed houses,
Ushers Mill (Ph 11 & 12), Twenties, Drogheda	3/3	15	On-site	30/11/2026	15 * 3 bed Houses
Gort Mell, Slane Road, Drogheda,	3/3	9	On-site	30/11/2026	2 * 2 bed House, 1 * 3 bed house, 5 * 1 bed Duplex Apartments, 1 * 2 bed Duplex Apartments

Lios Dubh, Armagh Road, Dundalk	1/1	10	On-site	31/10/2026	7 * 2 bed House, 3 * 3 bed houses,
Listoke Wood, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	1/1	10	On-site	31/10/2026	2 * 2 bed House, 6 * 3 bed houses, 1 * 4 bed house
Listoke Drive, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	1/2	6	On-site	30/11/2026	5 * 3 bed houses, 1 * 4 bed house
The Chesters, Termonfeckin Road, Drogheda	1/1	3	On-site	31/10/2026	3 * 3 bed houses

Seachadadh CAS / CAS Delivery

Project Name	AHB	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Project Status	<u>Projected Substantial Completion Date</u>	Unit Type
Tierney Street, Ardee, Co Louth	St John of Gods	7	Stage 3 Approved	31/03/2028	One*3 Bed house One*4 Bed house
Barrack Street, Dundalk, Co Louth	Dublin Simon	21	Stage 2 Approved	01/10/2028	Twenty-one* 1 Bed apartments
Highfield, Newry Road, Dundalk, Co Louth	Women's Aid Dundalk	12	On Site	31/05/2027	Five * 1 bed apartments Seven * 2 bed apartments

Seachadadh CALF/ CALF Delivery

Project Name	Phase	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Non- Part V/ Part V	Project Status	<u>Projected Substantial Completion Date</u>	Unit Type
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Hearthfield, Mount Avenue Dundalk Co. Louth Tuath	1/2	12	0	Complete	31/07/2026	• 6 Two Bed House • 6 Three Bed House
Avourwen Meadows, Drogheda, Co. Louth Oaklee	1/1	50	45/5	On Site	31/10/2026	• 18 One Bed Apt • 32 Two Bed Apt
Hearthfield, Mount Avenue Dundalk Tuath	2/2	30	0	On Site	31/10/2026	• 18 One Bed Apt • 12 Two Bed Apt
Gernon Place, Castlebellingham Co. Louth North & East	2/2	10	9/1	On Site	30/09/2026	• 2 Three bed Houses • 4 Two Bed Apts • 4 Three Bed Duplex
EdenHill Mews, Blackrock, Co Louth Cluid	1/1	29	26/3	On Site	30/09/2026	• 6 Three Bed Apt • 18 Two Bed Apt • 5 Three Bed Houses
Racecourse Meadow, Racecourse Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth Circle	3/3	19	0	On Site	30/09/2026	• 10 Three Bed Houses • 9 Two Bed Apartments
St Furseys, Dublin Road, Dundalk Co. Louth Cluid	1/1	24	17/7	Proposal	30/09/2026	• 24 Two Bed Apartments
Boat Trench Ardee Co. Louth North & East	1/3	8	4/4	Proposal	01/04/2027	• 6 One Bed Bungalows • 2 Two bed Bungalows
Boat Trench Ardee Co. Louth North & East	2/3	11		Proposal	31/10/2027	• 10 One Bed Bungalows • 1 Two Bed Bungalows
Boat Trench Ardee Co. Louth North & East	3/3	2		Proposal	24/04/2028	• 2 One Bed Bungalows
Bayview, Red Barns Road Dundalk Co. Louth Cluid	1/1	33	28/5	Proposal	31/03/2027	• 18 One Bed Apartments • 15 Two Bed Apartments

Seirbhísí Cultúrtha / Cultural Services

An Chartlann / Archives

Records Management

The revision of the records retention schedules for the functional areas of Sports, Recreation and Amenities and for Culture and the Arts is under progress by the National Retention Policy Working Group. The County Archivist regularly assists staff with queries on the management of records and advises on the preparation of records both for destruction and for transfer to the Records Centre and the County Archives.



Archives Entrance Gate Sign

Recent Acquisitions

A small group of Louth County Board of Health Assistance Officer's Statistical Returns for the 1930s were recently acquired by the Service. The Boards of Health and Public Assistance were formed under the Local Government Act, 1925, to manage the administration of public health and social assistance including the functions such as water supply, sewerage, and cottage building. The boards were abolished in 1942 when county councils took direct control of their functions until the establishment of the independent health boards under the Health Act, 1970.

Leabharlanna / Libraries

Social Media Performance

Louth County Council Library Service continues to expand its social media reach during 2026. Content has generated over 2.1 million views year-to-date, an increase of 23% on 2025, while new followers increased by 25.5%. These figures indicate that the Library Service is successfully expanding its digital reach, increasing public awareness of library services and attracting new audiences to library programmes and initiatives. To keep up to date with

library news, events, programmes and services, follow us @louthlibraryservice.

Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards - Memory Café

Louth Library Service has been shortlisted for the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards in the Age Friendly Initiative category, in recognition of the Memory Café programme provided at Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries. Sponsored by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and Perigis, the awards recognise outstanding work by local authorities across Ireland. The awards ceremony takes place on 26th November in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dublin 9.

Community Engagement and Outreach

Louth Library Service continued to strengthen community partnerships and promote awareness of library supports and services through a range of wellbeing and inclusion initiatives this month. These included the following outreach and networking events:

- Healthy Louth Together for Hope event marking National Suicide Prevention Day.
- Right Support, Right Time: Louth and Monaghan Collaboration and Networking Event.
- Community Wellbeing Expo with Louth PPN and Age Friendly Louth.
- Healthy Louth CommUnity Connect Louth Champions Training.

Events

Lit Lú Literary Festival

Lit Lú 2026, Louth's literary festival, took place from 23-29th September and was supported by Creative Ireland. The programme featured a diverse range of fiction and non-fiction events, welcoming authors and speakers including Jason Corcoran, Edie May Hand, Clara Kumagai, Clíodhna O'Sullivan, Nicola Pierce, Tanya Sweeney, Belinda McKeon, Ciara O'Connor and Hilary White. The festival provided audiences across County Louth with opportunities to engage with contemporary writing through author talks, discussions and literary events.



LCC staff with
Jason Corcoran and Hilary White at Lit Lú

National Public Libraries Open Day

National Public Libraries Open Day took place on Saturday 26th September, a nationwide celebration of Ireland's public library service. The annual event highlighted the wide range of services, programmes, and resources available through the country's 330 public libraries and encouraged people to explore what their local library has to offer. To mark the day, the library service hosted a diverse programme of free events for all ages complimented by a dynamic social media campaign.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Week 2026 in Libraries

As part of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Week 2026, Louth County Council Library Service delivered a programme of events promoting environmental awareness, sustainability and climate action. Events included sustainability-themed storytimes, eco-friendly craft events for children and a Climate Action art competition.

Na hEalaíona / Arts

Culture Night

The 21st national Culture Night took place on Friday 18th September. With around 40 events across Louth, we had one of the largest programmes in the Northeast thanks to additional events supported through our EU Cultural Programme. Collon Church hosted its first Culture Night event with a tour and talks on the history of the church, followed by music from the immensely talented Dundalk Soprano Sarah McCourt. In Dundalk library local music star David Keenan played an intimate gig with support from local musicians Brendan McCreanor and Tadhg Mulligan.

Lourdes Brass Band in Drogheda took over Sarsfields and delighted crowds with modern music pieces played in their own unique style, while over in Highlanes Gallery there were ceramic workshops with Studio Gathator. The gallery also hosted the launch of this years' Boyne Tradfest. St Nicholas Green Church in Dundalk welcomed Louth Chamber Orchestra with members of Ardee Concert Band for a special evening of music which included the premier of a new composition by Daithí Kearney to mark the Irish Presidency of the European Council. We were also delighted to welcome the Secretary General from the Department of Culture, Communications and Sport to the event in the Green Church.



David Keenan performing in Dundalk Library
as part of Culture Night

EU Cultural Programme

Along with our extended programme on Culture Night, our EU programme, Legendary Together, also welcomed Fiona Dowling to several of our libraries at the end of September. Fiona is a bilingual storyteller who delivers workshops in English and French. Fiona delivered 8 workshops across the 5 branches, and we welcomed local primary students and young families from across the county. Next up in our programme will be our artist in residence in schools with renowned author Sadhbh Devlin.

For details on all upcoming events under the Legendary Together programme please go the website <https://louthartsoffice.ie/louth-eu-presidency-culture-program-legendary-together/>

Creative Ireland

Culture Night also featured a first from Harp Ireland and Music Generation, thanks to support from Creative Ireland. Donnchadh MacAodh is an award-

winning musician, harper and composer who was also a member of the first harp ensemble when it started in the early days of Music Generation in Louth. Caomhnú Lú, or 'For The Birds,' is a musical response to the birdlife of County Louth, drawing on the Louth Bird Report and its record of activity along the county's coastline in 2025. Dundalk Bay and the wider coast are vital habitats for many species, this composition captures the sounds and harmonies of the birds we hear daily. The project was supported by Creative Ireland through our annual grant scheme and has provided a composition that is a legacy piece for Harp Ireland, Music Generation and Louth County Council.

For more information on the Creative Ireland programme visit: www.creativeireland.ie/ or email creativeireland@louthcoco.ie

For all information on the Arts Office programme please see www.louthartsoffice.ie or email arts@louthcoco.ie

An Iarsmalann / Museum

September has been an active month at the Museum, commencing with a talk by Frank O'Callaghan to mark the 50th anniversary of Glenmuir Football Club. Local primary and secondary schools also enjoyed bespoke tours of the galleries and collections, while Culture Night featured a vibrant programme of traditional African costume, song, dance and storytelling. The collection has continued to grow, with the latest acquisition being a beautiful 19th-century stereoscope.



***One of the Museum's most recent acquisitions
- a 19th Century Stereoscope***

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, glasphealaí, 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)

Towns and Cities Regeneration Investment Fund (TCRIF)

Louth County Council has been successful in applying for funding through the Towns and Cities Regeneration Investment Fund (formerly URDF). Category 1B funding has been awarded to progress Westgate Vision, Drogheda (€7.5m) Drogheda to construction. €5m has also been awarded to St. Nicholas Quarter, Dundalk which will complement the existing envelope available to deliver on Phase II of the project.

Park Street, Dundalk, was also awarded funding under category 1A (project development).

St. Nicholas Quarter and Backlands Regeneration (Dundalk)

Following the completion of Phase 1 works at St. Nicholas Quarter, Dundalk, the design phase is approaching completion for Phase 2. BDP Ltd are the appointed consultant design team and a Pre-Part 8 public display briefing session was held for members of the Dundalk MD on 22nd September. The project went on public display on 29th September and will close for submissions on 10th November 2026.

Westgate Vision

Following on from the successful funding application made to the TCRIF, LCC is commencing a tender process to appoint a team to undertake the detailed design phase. Once this phase is completed, character areas 1 (George's Square) and 2 (Medieval Wall) will proceed to construction.



The Longwalk Urban Framework Plan (Dundalk)

The Longwalk Urban Framework Plan is approaching completion. This will form 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.

For project updates visit the Longwalk Urban regeneration Facebook page here <https://www.facebook.com/people/The-Long-Walk>

or email longwalkregeneration@tbla.eu

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

Under the **Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) Call 3 Programme**, Louth County Council continues to make strong progress in tackling vacancy and supporting the regeneration of towns and communities across the county. The Council is now in the final stages of disposing of its first CPO property under the programme at St. Kevin's, Carrickmacross Road, Dundalk. A Section 183 Disposal will be before elected members for their consideration at the October Council meeting, and subject to approval, will represent a significant milestone in delivering the objectives of the fund.

In addition, three further properties subject to the CPO process are approaching the vesting stage and are expected to be ready for sale before year end.

These outcomes demonstrate the effectiveness of the programme in bringing long-term vacant properties back into productive use, increasing housing supply, supporting compact growth, and enhancing the built environment.

A mid year full review of all properties included in this programme has been completed, providing an updated and accurate assessment of progress to date and identifying priority actions for the period ahead. A summary of the review is outlined below:

<i>Property Occupied</i>	34
<i>Refurbishment Works Ongoing</i>	28
<i>Activation Progressing*</i>	26
<i>Awaiting Engagement</i>	17
<i>Property Sold - Engagement Commenced with New Owner</i>	8

Possible Direct Intervention by Council	11
Social Housing Project	2
SNQ Phase 2 Regeneration Project	1
CPO Complete	1
CPO Commenced	3
Pending CPO process Withdrawn following Action by Owner	2
TOTAL	133

* For Sale/Relet – 11, Planning Permission – 9, Refurbishment grant – 3, VHO Engagement - 3

Public engagement remains a key element of the initiative. Members of the public are encouraged to report vacant properties to the Vacant Homes Office and through the VacantHomes.ie website. This collaborative approach assists the Council in identifying vacant homes, advancing regeneration objectives, and ensuring that suitable properties are returned to beneficial use, contributing to the creation of vibrant and sustainable communities throughout County Louth.

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund Projects (RRDF)

Dunleer – Energising the Community

A design team, led by Cooney Architects, has been appointed to this project. The design team are required to develop on the Dunleer Town Centre First Plan, and bring the project, which will focus on the Main Street and area adjacent to the train station, to planning completion. This project is funded under the RRDF funding stream.

Living in Carlingford Visiting Carlingford

The heritage-led design consultants, Urban Agency, is currently working to finalise the detailed design in line with the Part 8 permission received. The project was submitted by the Council as an application under Call 6 (Capital Funding Round) of the recently closed Rural Regeneration and Development Fund.

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.

An Coimisiún Pleanála - Ref: ACP-323972-25

Tionscadail Breise / Additional Projects

St Laurence's Gate Plaza, Drogheda

Archaeological investigations have now been completed at St. Laurence's Gate. The investigation programme has been developed in consultation with the National Monuments Service and is being carried out with the required Ministerial Consent. The final report is awaited, and its findings will inform the next stages of the development of the Part 8 proposals for the new public plaza space.

Play Spaces

The Public Display period for the Part 8 proposals for a new playground at The Glen, Drogheda has ended. The project is on the agenda of the October meeting of the Borough District of Drogheda for consideration.

An online briefing was held for members of the Dundalk Municipal District to introduce the proposed redevelopment of the lands owned by the Council at the Navvy Bank, Dundalk. The Part 8 proposals for the redevelopment of the Navvy Bank, Dundalk was on public display until the 12th August, and the deadline for submissions in relation to the project has now passed. The proposed redevelopment, which includes camper van parking, a playground and a car park, will be brought to a future meeting of the Dundalk Municipal District.

Omeath

A design team from DWG has been appointed to develop a plan for the rejuvenation of the Omeath Playground and its surrounds. A second public consultation event took place on 16th September and feedback on the initial designs was very positive. The design team are currently working their way through the additional feedback received before preparing to bring the project to Part 8 in the coming months.

Merryweather Building, Dundalk

The proposed Merry Weather Display Building, to be developed at the pumphouse at Meadow Grove, Dundalk, is currently on public display as part of the Part 8 planning process. Upon completion it is proposed that the building will display the Dundalk Fire Station Merryweather fire tender.

A briefing for the Dundalk MD members has taken place and the project is on public display from 15th September to 13th October. The deadline for submissions in relation to the proposal is 27th October.

Capital Delivery Team

Funding streams

The Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2026 has been launched. The details of the scheme and an

Expression of Interest form for communities who may wish to bring forward a project are available on the Council's consultation portal

The outcomes of the funding applications made under the CLÁR (Cooley and Castlebellingham areas) and Síol (Fairgate and Westgate areas, Drogheda) are awaited.

The Capital Delivery Team is continuing to work with community groups around the county to deliver the various projects currently funded under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme, CLÁR, Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme and Community Recognition Fund.

Boyne Greenway - North Bank

With the support of ORIS funding of €500,000, the Capital Delivery Team is finalizing plans for widening, resurfacing and relining of paths and installation of lighting along the North Bank of the Boyne Greenway in Drogheda. Phase 1 works are due to commence on site imminently.

The enhancement and extension of the Boyne Greenway support 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.

Clogherhead Cliff Walk

Work is continuing on the preliminary design of the Clogherhead Cliff Walk. A public information event in advance of the project being submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála, is to take place on 30th September between Clogherhead Community Centre from 4pm to 7pm. This project is funded to planning approval through the Project Development Measure (PDM) of the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS).

Nature-Based Drainage Solutions

The Capital Delivery Team were granted €40,000 from LAWPRO under the River Basin Management Service Nature-based Solutions – Project Funding 2026. This funding will allow for the appointment of consultants for the design of two separate Nature Based Solutions projects in Dundalk and Drogheda.

Tionscadail Tosaíochta do Lár an Bhaile / Town Centre First Projects



Town Centre First Plan – Clogherhead

The Town Centre First Plan will be officially launched later this year. The plan which has been designed in collaboration with Louth County Council, the local community and Town Team provides a pipeline of projects ranging from access and mobility to community uses. The plan builds upon opportunities presented through the towns coastal location and built heritage and Council will be exploring funding options for the various plans and schemes within the plan.

Rainwater Management Strategy

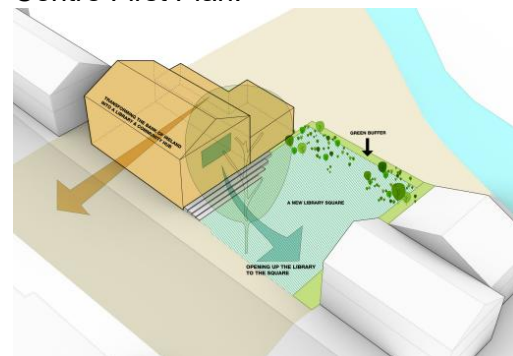
Louth County Council has assessed returned tenders for the development of a Rainwater Management Strategy for the Towns of Clogherhead and Dunleer. The purpose of the Strategies will identify opportunities for the incorporation of Nature Based Drainage Solutions into developments that will enhance the public realm, amenity, aid biodiversity and water quality.

Digital Town Blueprint

The Town Regeneration Office are also commencing a Digital Town Review Workshops in the towns of Clogherhead and Dunleer. This review aims to identify strengths and gaps across several themes relating to Digital Connectivity, set practical goals and agree on key short- and medium-term steps to bring this vision to life.

Town Centre First Plan – Dunleer

Survey work is continuing with regards to the development of a pocket public space beside Dunleer Library and the Whitewater River. The design team are developing high level options for consultation and engagement with Dunleer Town Team. The project will provide an attractive public space in the centre of the town that will serve the Towns expanding population and visitors alike. This project is one of the proposals from the Dunleer Town Centre First Plan.



Vacant Homes Officer

The Vacant Homes Officer (VHO), in collaboration with the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant and

Derelict Sites Teams, continues to proactively engage with property owners across County Louth, promoting funding supports and interventions that assist in bringing vacant and derelict properties back into productive use.

To date, 457 Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant applications have been received, with 336 approved and 182 grants paid, demonstrating the strong uptake and positive impact of the scheme in addressing vacancy and supporting housing delivery.

The restoration of Oberon Villa, Omeath, highlighted in the photographs below, is an excellent example of the power of the grant. The property's remarkable refurbishment showcases transformation is truly impressive and a wonderful example of bringing a property back to life

Through ongoing awareness and engagement initiatives, the VHO continues to promote Government-supported measures that tackle vacancy and dereliction, encourage the sustainable reuse of existing housing stock, and support the regeneration of towns and villages throughout the county.



Oberon Villa, Omeath prior to restoration



Restoration of Oberon Villa, Omeath

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: - temporary crane platform has been installed in advance of the arrival of the large crane in mid Oct.

The piled foundation for temporary tower to support the Pylon has been completed.

Northern embankment: - works on the final wall pours within the bascule chamber and plant room are ongoing.

Bridge fabrication works: - Fixed Deck Section 1 is on its barge, Fixed deck 2 has been moved to the quay edge for its sea fastening to be attached. The encapsulation system around the pylon has been removed. The large barge, for fixed deck 1 and the pylon has arrived in Gent and is bearing prepared for the load out of these elements. Its anticipated that the two barges will depart Ghent in mid-October for arrival in Warrenpoint Harbour toward the end of October

The fabrication of the Bascule section of bridge is ongoing. The Contractor has indicated that the completion and delivery of this final section of the bridge to site will now be September 2027, which is later than originally programmed, resulting in the expected substantial completion for the project to be Q1 2028.



Completed Pylon Section.



Temporary Skid track Beams

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

Works are ongoing at pace on site, with earthworks at 70% complete with the overall scheme being 25% complete. The civils contract duration is 14 months and works are currently progressing on programme.



Earthworks cutting on the N53

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

52 Ardee Bypass

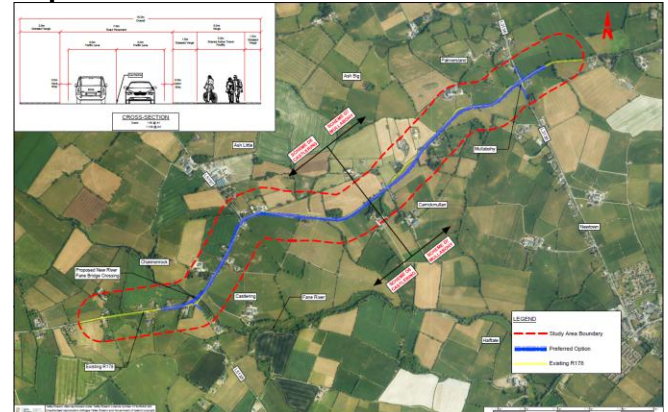
The scheme is currently in the Supreme Court with the Court adjourning the matter generally pending the outcome of the CJEU reference in *Power v An Bord Pleanála*

The CJEU (C-27/25) has issued their judgement on the *Power v An Bord Pleanála* case on the 16th of July 2026. The Supreme Court case management hearing was held on 23rd of July 2026, arising from this Mr. Justice Hogan set a hearing date for the 27th of Oct. 2026 with all parties to file written legal submissions.

Boyne Enterprise Link Road

The ESB energised the public lighting at the end of September. This allowed for the Road Safety Audit Sage 3 to be completed. The audit recommends the installation of 4 additional signs, and these have been ordered and programmed to be installed in early October.

R178 Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Route Improvement Scheme



Preferred Route

Ground Investigations have almost been completed on the ground along with FWD/Core testing. The design team are awaiting the results of soil sampling taking during these works. These investigations, along with the suite of environmental assessments which are ongoing will inform the preliminary design drawings (draft copy completed) and the planning pack. It is envisaged (due to the environmental surveys) that planning will be submitted to the Commission in Q4 2027, subject to ongoing funding by the Department.

Port Access Northern Cross Route (PANCR) Phase 2.

Phase 2 of the PANCR is developer led. Works are currently progressing on programme with approx. 55% complete. Pavement capping and drainage works are continuing.

The Council Team continue to engage with the affected and neighbouring landowners.

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

The Council was successful in securing acceptance into the HIIF programme for Phase 3 of PANCR.

Tender documents for the appointment of a consultant to progress the detailed design of Phase 3 are out to the market.

Engagement is ongoing with Irish Rail regarding a scope of works for Irish rail to progress the design

and construction of the rail bridge, with a view to finalising an Infrastructure Agreement.

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

Dundalk Bay to Carlingford Greenway

The emerging preferred route Options Selection Report was issued in early October for gateway approval from TII. On approval, the report will be published.

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.

Tionscadail Corparáideach / Corporate Projects

Dominican Church/Library

The preferred option has been approved by management and a briefing to the Drogheda Elected Members is expected to take place in October as the project proceeds to the next stage of design with a view to obtaining planning consent.

Dundalk Fire Station Training Centre

Part 8 submission period closed on the 25th of August with a total of two submissions received from Statutory Bodies. It is intended that the Chief Executive's Report on the Part 8 will be presented to the October Dundalk MD meeting.

Ardee Castle

In terms of progress, a significant amount of medieval archaeology has been uncovered under the Judges' Chambers extension including a large well or kiln and associated pits and a medieval wall, resulting in a medium delay in terms of construction activity on site. The National Monuments Dept. have reviewed on site and given direction on how to proceed with same – monitoring on site was completed late Sept and report on their findings submitted to NMS.

This significant find has resulted in foundation design being changed to a piling design to comply with NMS requirements. This will add an estimated 2-3 months to the program, depending on the NMS and the availability of a piling contractor.



High level image of find



Archaeological Find



Archaeological Find



Archaeological Excavation



Judges Chamber roof repair

THRIVE –Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme - West Gate House

National Monuments Department has requested additional exploration work to be carried out along part of the 'old' wall located under West Gate House. These works are to be scoped out and tender competition ran to procurement contractor.

The Design Team have completed their final design freeze to allow completion of the detailed design stage and development of tender documentation.

Consultation with OPW and the Garda to secure the construction compound site in Murdock's car park during the works is ongoing.

THRIVE is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union through the ERDF Southern, Eastern and Midland Regional Programme 21-27. Further information is available on the www.southernassembly.ie



Vegetation removal to the rear of West gate House

As part of the THRIVE project, a special presentation by Community Historian Brendan Mathews entitled the 'Storied History of West Gate House' was arranged by the Council's project team and took place at Drogheda Civic Offices on September 23rd.

The event was very well attended, with Brendan's excellent presentation, and subsequent guided walk, exploring the rich history of West Gate House, one of Drogheda's most distinctive heritage buildings and a landmark structure, currently being revitalized under the THRIVE (Town Centre First Heritage Revival Scheme) programme.



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

Dundalk Flood Relief Projects

The Dundalk Flood Relief Scheme continues to progress through Stage I of the OPW Project Management Guidelines and the Draft Options Development Report has been submitted for review.

Environmental investigations continue to support scheme development, with ecological surveys, including breeding bird assessments, now completed and further seasonal surveys being undertaken as required.

The Steering Group continues to oversee scheme development and review key project deliverables. The Project website being hosted by OPW can be reached at: www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/dundalk/home.ie

Drogheda and Baltray Flood Relief Scheme

The Drogheda & Baltray Flood Relief Scheme continues to progress through Stage I, with significant advancement made in the development and assessment of the preferred scheme option. The Consultant Team has completed draft Buildability and Operations & Maintenance Reports, which have been reviewed by Louth County Council and the OPW. Feedback received is currently being incorporated into the final reports.

The Options Development Report is currently undergoing a second-stage review by the Steering

Group, with comments being collated to inform the ongoing refinement and finalisation of the report.

Environmental and heritage investigations are continuing to support scheme development and future statutory approvals. The 2026 breeding bird survey has been completed, while intertidal, terrestrial habitat and species surveys are progressing to further inform the environmental baseline. A detailed archaeological dive survey identified no archaeological features within the survey area, and preparations for archaeological test trenching, together with the progression of associated licensing requirements, are also underway.

The Steering Group has approved the appointment of a specialist Conservation Architect to advise on the integration of flood protection measures within the area's historic and architectural setting, ensuring heritage considerations continue to inform the development of the scheme.

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

Carlingford and Greenore Flood Relief Project

The OPW are nearing completion of their modelling of the area, to take account of the type of flooding experience in 2023. On completion this will allow them to update the business case for the project.

Detailed design of the culvert upgrade works in central Carlingford is progressing following OPW approval of a Business Case for funding in March 2026.

A further Business Case for interim improvement works to the watercourse at the rear of the Four Seasons Hotel is currently being prepared. Associated site investigation works are scheduled to commence in the coming weeks.

Ardee Minor Works

The proposed works to provide enhanced flood protection to properties along the existing watercourses at Stoney Lane and John Street are scheduled to commence in Q4.

Works adjacent to the N2 have been further refined following detailed assessments undertaken by the OPW and LCC. All necessary environmental and ecological surveys have now been completed, with the findings incorporated into the scheme design as appropriate. Tenders have been received and are being assessed.

Tionscadail Muiri / Marine Projects

Coastal Protection Works – Future Projects

Application for funding through the OPW's minor works programme are currently being prepared for submission towards the year of the year for the following locations.

- *Ballagan, Ballynamony, Greenore*
- *Rampark, Lordship*
- *Whitestown*
- *Seabank, Castlebellingham*

Active Travel Investment Program

2026 Budget Allocation

On the 19th January 2026, the Council received an allocation of €4m for Active Travel and Safe Routes to School projects and €500k for the Bus Stop Enhancement Programme (delivered through Operations). The National Transport Authority (NTA) has indicated an annual Active Travel allocation of circa €4m for the next number of years.

The programme and extent of works to be delivered under Active Travel in the short term has accordingly been revised to reflect the reduced annual allocation.

Project funding is approved through defined phases under the NTA Project Approval Guidelines. Approval at any one phase does not constitute a commitment by the NTA to fund beyond that stage. The seven different phases are as outlined below:
Phase 1: Scope and Purpose
Phase 2: Concept Development & 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

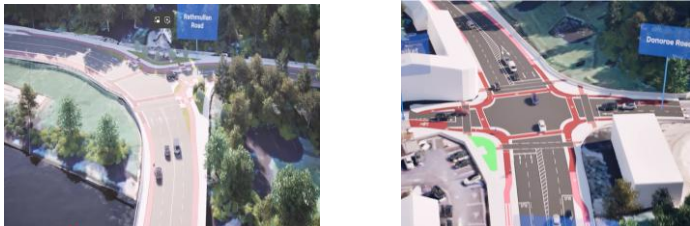
The current status of the ongoing Active Travel projects are as outlined in the table below. For ease of referencing, the NTA allocate projects into particular Cost Bands depending on the total estimated project cost including, fees, land acquisitions and constructions as follows;

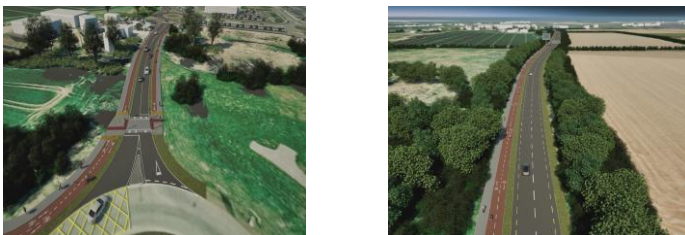
Band 1 €0 - €5M;

Band 2 €5 - €20M;

Band 3 > €20M.

Tionscadail Tasitil Gníomhaigh / Active Travel Projects

Project Name	Allocation 2026	Project Band	Current Phase	October 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	At the end of May 2026, the NTA give approval to LCC to advance this scheme to Part 8 Public Display as per Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000. Proposals for the Active Travel Scheme were placed on public display from Tuesday 21st July, 2026 to Tuesday 18th August, 2026 inclusive at the offices of LCC in Drogheda and Dundalk. Submissions or observations were welcomed up to the deadline of 1st September 2026. At this juncture the Design Team & Active Travel Section are reviewing all submissions received as per the Part 8 Consultation Process and it is expected that the Chief Executive's Part 8 Report will be on the Agenda of the Borough District of Drogheda in November 2026.  Photo Montage of Rathmullan Rd & Donore Rd Junctions Due to budgetary limitations, the project will be suspended post Part 8 process.	Part 8 on display July 2026
Drogheda: R166 Termonfeckin Rd, design.	€37,500	Band 2 €5 - €20M	Phase 4	The Design Team have finalised all Planning Documents i.e. Part 8 Proposals at the end of June 2026 and are now preparing the video fly-through of the scheme for public display. It is anticipated to have an on-line briefing on the proposed scheme to Drogheda Municipal District Councilors in Oct 2026. Due to budgetary limitations, the project will be suspended post Part 8 Process.	Proposed Part 8 Q4 2026
Drogheda: R168 Collon Rd, Hill of Hill of Rath	€45,000	Band 2	Phase 4	The Design Team have finalised all Planning Documents i.e. Part 8 Proposals inclusive of the video fly-through of the scheme for public display.	Part 4 Public Display - 27 th October 2026.

Project Name	Allocation 2026	Project Band	Current Phase	October 2026 - Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
Roundabout (RAB) and Rosehall RAB.		€5 - €20M		An on-line briefing was given to Drogheda Municipal District Councilors on the proposed scheme on Tuesday 29th September 2026 and the proposals are anticipated to be advertised and placed on public display on Tuesday 27th October 2026.  Montage of Hill of Rath Roundabout and view along R166 from Rosehall Roundabout westwards. Due to budgetary limitations, the project will be suspended post Part 8 Process.	
Drogheda: Rathmullan Road including Marley's Lane	€550,000	Band 2 €5 - €20M	Phase 5	The Design Team have completed the Draft Tender Package for Phase 1, namely Marley's Lane Section inclusive of section in front of St. Olivers Community Colleges on Rathmullan Rd. To accord with NTA approval protocols, the Tender Package has also been Peer Reviewed and the Design Team have made the necessary amendments. It is anticipated to tender the works contract in early Q4 2026.	Part 8 approved on 10 th February 2025.
Drogheda Dublin and North roads, design.	€10,000	Band 2 €5 - €20M	Phase 2	Due to budgetary limitations, these projects will be suspended at their Current Phase until further notice.	
Dundalk: R132 Inner Relief Rd.	€800,000	Band 2 €5 - €20M	Phase 5 Detailed Design	Due to budgetary limitations, the Xerox Junction upgrade (Phase 1) only will be brought forward as a standalone project, (due to its key position linking 3 projects). At the start of June 2026, the Tender Package for Phase 1 was finalised. To accord with NTA approval protocols, the Tender Package is currently being Peer Reviewed.	Part 8 Approval already granted
Dundalk: Dublin Rd Xerox Junction to Ladywell Bridge	€2,500	Band 2 €5- €20m	Phase 4	Part 8 proposals were brought to Dundalk MD Meeting on 10th December 2024. Due to budgetary limitations, this project will be suspended at its Current Phase until further notice.	Part 8 Approved December 2024

Project Name	Allocation 2026	Project Band	Current Phase	October 2026 - Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
Dundalk: Ard Easmuinn Rd to Train Station / Friary School Dundalk & Dundalk Bus Station to Rail Station.	€110,000	Band 2	Phase 3	Due to budgetary limitations, it is proposed to expedite the Safe Routes to School infrastructure on McEntee Avenue etc., with the larger Active Travel project suspended at its Current Phase until further notice.	Proposed Part 4 / Section 38 for SRTS Infrastructure Nov 2026.
Drogheda Local Transport Plan	-	-	Phase 3	The Transport Consultants have prepared the final Draft of Drogheda Local Transport Plan and The Active Travel Team in LCC along with our colleagues in the NTA and Meath County Council (MCC) give a briefing to the Elected Members of Drogheda MD, Laytown-Bettystown MD & Louth / Meath TDs & Senators on the 7 th October 2026.	
R132 Inner Relief Road Tain Bridge	€25,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 3	Phase 3 Preliminary Design was approved by the NTA on the 10th July 2026. The Design Team are currently preparing Phase 4A deliverables for a Section 38 Public Display. In advance of public display an on-line briefing will be given to Dundalk MD Councillors.  Photo Montage of Tain Bridge / Racecourse Road Due to budgetary limitations, the project will be suspended post Section 38 process.	No Part 4 but possible Section 38 in early Q4 of 2026, subject to NTA gateway approval.
Hoey's Lane, Dundalk	€20,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 4	The Part 8 for this scheme was adopted / approved at Dundalk MD meeting on Tuesday 1 st September 2026.	See details over.

Project Name	Allocation 2026	Project Band	Current Phase	October 2026 - Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
				  Photo Montage of Hoey's Lane Due to budgetary limitations, the project will be suspended post Part 8 Process	
Mill Street, Dundalk	€65,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 4	Due to budgetary limitations, it is proposed to design the Safe Routes to School element of this project for Mill Street, to facilitate Realt Na Mara National School and Louth Rehab in Quay Side Business Park, with the Active Travel project suspended at its Current Phase until further notice. For the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) element on Mill Street, the NTA approved GW 3 deliverables on the 13th May 2026. The Design Team completed the Section 38 Drawings in mid-September 2026, and it is planned to have an on-line briefing will be given to Dundalk MD Councillors in October 2026 in advance of placing the proposals on Section 38 Public Display.	Proposed Section 38 for SRTS Infrastructure in early Q4 2026.
Hill Street Bridge to Train Station, Dundalk	€15,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 3	Gateway 3 approved by NTA on the 13th April 2026. Due to budgetary limitations, this project will be suspended at its Current Phase until further notice.	
R132 Dublin Road, (Rank Xerox Junction to Greengates)	€30,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 5	Part 8 CE Report was proposed and recommended at Dundalk MD Meeting in April 2026. It is intended to bring sections, namely Sextons Junction forward to Detailed Design. The Tender Package was concluded at the end of Sept 2026, to seek approval from the NTA to advance with procuring contractors for the works / upgrades at Sextons Junction. 	Part 8 approved April 2026

Project Name	Allocation 2026	Project Band	Current Phase	October 2026 - Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
				Photo Montage of Proposed Sextons Junction Upgrade	
Moneymore, Active Travel elements`	€1,000	Band 1 €0 - €5M	Phase 5	An Coimisiún Pleanála approved the CPO Order at the end of Feb 2026. Notice to Treat Letters were issued on the 8 th June 2026. The Active Travel Team will now proceed to Issue Tender Documents for the appointment of a contractor to construct the Permeability Link.	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 are completed at Callystown National School and are nearing completion at Bellurgan and Knockbridge National Schools. Major road resurfacing was completed in front of Belluragn National School in Mid-August during night time road closure. It is expected at the time of this report that Street Lights and Traffic Signals will be energised and operational.  Two new pedestrian crossing @ Callystown National School  On-going construction at Bellurgan National School	Section 38's completed

Project Name	Allocation 2026	Project Band	Current Phase	October 2026 - Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
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	NTA have approved the combine Gateway 2/3 reports for SN Chaoimhin Naofa, Philipstown and Scoil Phadraig Naofa , Kilcurry on the 10th July 2026. It is hoped to give an online briefing to Councillors in early October 2026 of proposals in advance of Section 38 public display. Mullaghbuoy NS – Contractor is appointed and is due to commence works early October 2026.	Mid Q4 2026
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	An Taisce at the end of August have furnished LCC with Outline Delivery Plans for all four schools. LCC Active Travel Team will now commence the procurement process for the appointment of a Design Consultant.	No part 4's but possible Section 38's
Mobility Hubs	N/A	N/A	N/A	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. Part 8 Documentation was placed on public display on 3rd February 2026 and deadline for submissions expired on Wednesday 18th March 2026. 120 submissions have been received.	Part 8 Approved 12 th May 2026

Project Name	Allocation 2026	Project Band	Current Phase	October 2026 - Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
				 The Chief Executives Part 8 Report was recommended to the members at Dundalk MD Meeting on 12th May 2026. Please note the Government has decided to review funding for public e-scooter schemes. In light of this development the overall pilots across the country are being re-evaluated.	