



Comhairle Contae **Lú**
Louth County Council

**Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report in
relation to functions performed in the preceding
month / Tuairisc Bainistíochta Míosúala ag an
bPríomhfheidhmeannach maidir le feidhmeanna
déanta I rith an mhí seo caite**

**Dated 6 August 2021
6 Lúnasa 2021**

Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report - 31 July 2021
Tuairisc Bainistíochta ag an bPríomhfheidhmeannach - 31 Iúil 2021

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Finance and Water Services

Airgeadas agus Seirbhísí Uisce

This Directorate ensures that the financial management of the Council is carried out in an efficient and timely manner, compliant with all relevant legislation, and that all of the activities and programmes of the Council represent good value for money for all the citizens of Louth.

Other responsibilities include Motor Tax and Water Services.

Cintíonn an Stiúrthóireacht seo go bhfuil bainistíocht airgeadas an Chomhairle déanta ar bhealach éifeachtach agus tráthúil, comhlíontach leis an dlí ábhartha, agus go bhfuil luach ar airgead bainte as gach gníomhaíocht agus clár ag an gComhairle, thar ceann shaoránaigh Lú.

Ina chuid den freagrachtaí eile ná Mótarcháin agus Seirbhísí Uisce.

Bernie Woods
Director / Stiúrthóir



Expenditure to 31st July 2021

Section	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE TO 31/07/21	BUDGET EXPENDITURE 2021	% SPENT TO 31/07/21
Housing	17,092,968	39,706,362	43%
Road Transportation & Safety	10,721,932	26,232,178	41%
Water Services	3,977,118	7,854,289	51%
Development Management	9,007,308	17,057,986	53%
Environmental Services	9,403,365	18,475,519	51%
Recreation and Amenity	4,662,036	9,425,077	49%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	583,882	1,180,833	49%
Miscellaneous	10,773,606	10,604,375	102%
	66,222,215	130,536,619	51%

Income to 31st July 2021

Section	ACTUAL INCOME TO 31/07/21	BUDGET INCOME 2021	% INVOICED TO 31/07/21
Housing	16,097,408	40,590,850	40%
Road Transportation & Safety	3,010,255	16,802,175	18%
Water Services	3,496,569	7,598,460	46%
Development Management	5,025,079	10,177,060	49%
Environmental Services	827,626	2,150,427	38%
Recreation and Amenity	322,528	962,409	34%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	189,456	455,146	42%
Miscellaneous	3,515,805	6,496,645	54%
Rates	35,387,113	35,437,249	100%
General Purpose Grant (LPT)	6,577,464	9,866,198	67%
	74,449,303	130,536,619	57%

The above is the current position as at the 31st July 2021. 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 2021 is included in the above figure. As the ½ year accounts process is ongoing these figures will change once the process is complete.

Collection rates as at 31st July 2021 are as follows:

Debtors as at 31st July 2021

	Opening Balance	Invoices	Receipts	Write Offs	Closing Balance
Government Debtors	9,101,755	44,888,838	(49,668,004)	(152)	4,322,437
Other Local Authorities	111,441	487,260	(521,787)	0	76,914
Rates	11,030,292	35,387,113	(16,839,012)	(6,513,758)	23,064,635
Rents	2,968,564	7,276,275	(7,580,334)	(8,232)	2,656,273
Loans	283,360	1,004,879	(1,010,406)	0	277,833
Development Levies	10,622,066	1,792,067	(1,549,293)	0	10,864,839
Fire Charges	750,804	269,315	(195,315)	(46,895)	777,909
Miscellaneous	1,847,991	5,118,957	(4,355,428)	(22,287)	2,589,233
TOTAL DEBTORS	36,716,273	96,224,704	(81,719,579)	(6,591,324)	44,630,073

Above is the debtor balances as at the 31st July 2021. The Miscellaneous debtor figure includes the Irish Water SLA recoupments, Corporate, Community & Enterprise, LEO, Planning, Enforcement, Environment, Sports, Vets, Arts, Roads, Library, Museum and Finance miscellaneous billings.

Covid-19 - Rates Waiver

With the extension of the current lockdown the Government have announced an extension to the Rates Waiver Scheme to the end of Quarter 3. The eligibility for the scheme is different from the 2020 Waiver and the full scheme criteria and eligibility is available on our website.

The Rates Waiver to the end of June 2021 for eligible businesses is €6.3m and is shown in the above Rates Write off figure and under Misc. Expenditure in table 1 above.

We continue to deal with our rate customers on a case by case basis and we urge rate payers that are experiencing difficulties at this time to contact the rates department without delay.

Local Authority Members' Remuneration & Expenses

New regulations have been introduced to increase the member's remuneration from the 1st of July 2021. As soon as we receive the relevant circular this change will be implemented and back dated to the 1st of July. There is also changes to the members' expenses and again as soon as we receive the relevant circular this will be implement.

Once received we will forward details to the members.

Small Business Assistance Scheme for Covid 2 (SBASC 2) - 2nd Round

On Thursday 10 June 2021 The Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment Leo Varadkar TD announced the opening of the Small Business Assistance Scheme for COVID (SBASC) for a second round of applications from both SMEs and microenterprises. Businesses that received the grant in the first round can receive a second grant provided they are still eligible.

The second round of the scheme allows SMEs and microenterprises to apply for a grant of €4,000 for those with turnover above €50,000 and €1,000 for microenterprises with a turnover of between €20,000 and €49,999, via a new streamlined application process through their Local Authority.

Following on from a recent Government decision, businesses operating from non-rateable premises, such as a home office or hot-desk are also eligible to apply.

The closing date for applications for this scheme was the 21st July 2021.

Water Services

Note – it is expected that progress of capital schemes and delivery of some services will experience further delays as result of restrictions due to Covid-19.

Water Quality

Intensive monitoring of water supplies in the County is carried out continually by the EPA on behalf of Louth County Council.

Boil Water Notice

A Boil Water Notice was issued by IW / LCC to the customers on the Killineer Public Water Supply with effect from the 26th January 2021. There are approximately 10 no. Properties (30. No. Customers affected)

Water Conservation

Water conservation is ongoing throughout the County.

Capital Programmes

Irish Water refers to the different phases of a capital project as Gates 1, 2, 3 or 4.

- Gate 1 - Concept Design,
- Gate 2 - Detailed design, preparation of contract documents, planning approval and procurement,
- Gate 3 - Construction stage,
- Gate 4 - Snagging and project sign off.

Tallanstown Rationalisation

Ryan Hanley Consultants are currently progressing the Project Design. Land Acquisition for Pumping Station sites are also currently being progressed. Project Workshop 2 was completed on 5th July. Consultant currently working on detailed design.

Cavanhill WTW Upgrade

LCC and IW are currently negotiating the phased transition from the DBO contract to Operations control. LCC are currently recruiting additional staff to be trained by the DBO Contractor/IW in order to manage and operate Cavan Hill WTP once the

facility is taken back in charge by the LA under the Service Level Agreement.

Staleen WTW Upgrade

LCC and IW are currently negotiating the phased transition from the DBO contract to Operations control. LCC are currently recruiting additional staff to be trained by the DBO Contractor/IW in order to manage and operate Staleen WTP once the facility is taken back in charge by the LA under the Service Level Agreement.

Omeath WWTW

Anticipated date of commencement on site is Q3 2021. Detailed Design currently being reviewed by IW.

Shared Waters Enhancement and Loughs Legacy (SWELL)

The programme for this work, which includes surface water separation in Omeath, will be co-ordinate with the Omeath WWTP Project.

Regional Sewer Network Rehabilitation

Irish Water undertook survey works on Drogheda Sewer network which were completed in early July.

Dundalk Drainage Area Plan (DAP)

DAP Workshop 2 with Irish Water, Louth County Council and Arups Consulting Engineers completed in February 2021 to review the progress on the survey and modelling project. LCC Operations staff continues to liaise with IW and Consultants with network verifications. Stage 3 Workshop is proposed for late August.

Dundalk East Strategy - In advance of completion of Dundalk DAP

- Route Selection completed
- Consultants progressing design with IW in consultation with Louth County Council.
- Site Investigation due to commence in June and contract programmed for Q4 2021.

Coes Road Pumping Station

- Operational modifications to Pumping Station undertaken by EPS
- Options for cleaning of existing large diameter sewer currently under review with IW

Dundalk LNRP

Strategic Review underway for Dundalk WWTP and Blackrock WWTP to facilitate advancing Local Network Reinforcement Programme.

Drogheda LNRP

Works at SWO including the provision of Non-Return Valves on the 3no outfalls and an Event Duration Monitor being progressed.

North Drogheda Wastewater Network Strategy

Consultants have been appointed and Study being progressed by IW in consultation with Louth County Council. Workshop 3 was completed April 2021. Site Investigation works are currently being progressed.

Quay St/St.Helena Rising Main, Dundalk

Pipe assessment delayed due to Covid-19 restrictions as contractor is UK based. Date of commencement dependent on status of restrictions. Workshop 2 was completed in early June 2021.

Baltray Rising Main

Pipe assessment delayed due to Covid-19 restrictions as contractor is UK based. Date of commencement dependent on status of restrictions.

Greenmount WTW Upgrade

IW and LCC are currently developing a Water Needs Brief to initiate a project to upgrade the Greenmount Water Treatment Works.

Water Networks

Water Networks Programme

Rehabilitation Programmed

Rehabilitation of the 150mm dia asbestos water main in the Donore Industrial Estate commenced under this program in July 2021

Lead replacement / Back Yard Services

Irish Water's Contractors carried out 1 BYS in Louth in July

First Fix

1 first fix type repairs were undertaken by Irish Water contractors in July.

Find & Fix

Louth County Council crews continue their Find and Fix program in Cooley and Dunbin areas in July

Water Scouring Programme 2020

Network scouring was undertaken in Marsh Road area of Drogheda in July.

Network Maintenance

51 essential water tasks were carried out in July including 15 under our the Find and Fix program (7 in Cooley, 6 in Dundalk, 1 in Dunbin and 1 in Clogherhead).

Planning and Water Connections

The Networks Section processed 22 new connections, 12 Pre Connection Enquiries and 56 Planning Applications in July.

Service Maps

The Networks Section prepared 32 Service Maps in July

Planning, Infrastructure, and Economic Development Pleanáil, Bonneagar agus Forbairt Eacnamaíoch

This Directorate has three key areas of responsibility:

- Planning, the way in which we organise the built environment in our county
- Infrastructure, including our roads, bridges, and ports
- Economic Development, including the Local Enterprise Office, and work involving partners and funding outside the state

Tá trí eochairfhreagracht ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

- Is é Pleanáil an slí a eagraímid an timpeallacht thógtha i gContae Lú
- Bonneagar, ár mbóithre, ár ndroichid, agus ár gcalaphoirt san áireamh
- Forbairt Eacnamaíoch, an Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil san áireamh, agus obair le comhpháirtithe agus foinsí maoinithe lasmuigh den Stát

Frank Pentony
Director / Stiúrthóir



Economic Development

Louth Economic Forum (LEF)

As a number of members were on annual leave, the meeting that was due to take place on 28th July, 2021 was postponed.

Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme 2021

The 2021 Shop Front Improvement Grant Scheme opened to applications on Monday 17th May, 2021 and the closing date for receipt of applications is 5.00pm on Friday 29th October, 2021. Details of the scheme are available at <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/economic-development/business-incentive-schemes-retail-prospectus/> or you can request the design guidelines, application form or make enquires by emailing shopfrontgrant@louthcoco.ie.

To date, 16 Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme applications have been received, 5 from Drogheda, 9 from Dundalk and 2 from Ardee.

Tourism

'sea louth' - Scenic Seafood Trail

The reaction to the newly launched sea louth scenic seafood trail has been overwhelmingly positive. Here is a brief overview of coverage to date:

sea louth is one of RTÉ Digital's fun things to do with the kids across Ireland this summer <https://www.rte.ie/lifestyle/living/2021/0706/1233313-32-things-to-do-with-the-kids-across-ireland-this-summer/>.

According to the Irish Examiner "*It may be Ireland's smallest county, but Louth never stops innovating when it comes to promoting local businesses and producers*". The newspaper ranked sea louth among its ten new and exciting holiday ideas in Ireland this summer. <https://www.irishexaminer.com/lifestyle/travel/arid-40332404.html>.

sea louth is on thegloss.ie's radar: "The trail [sea louth] has been designed to take visitors on a journey along the road less travelled, where they will meet local characters, breathe in the salty sea

air and also appreciate Louth's proud seafood tradition." <https://thegloss.ie/whats-on-our-radar-this-weekend/?v=d2cb7bbc0d23>.

Looking for the best things to see, do and experience this summer? The Irish Independent recommends sea louth. <https://www.independent.ie/life/travel/100-things-to-do-in-ireland-this-summer-from-free-days-out-to-staycation-adventures-and-rainy-day-ideas-40629489.html>.

"How brilliant they are in Co Louth to combine two of Ireland's great pleasures: soaking up gorgeous scenery and eating fantastic food," ask the Irish Times. <https://www.irishtimes.com/life-and-style/travel/great-getaways-health-retreats-and-seafood-walks-to-enjoy-this-summer-1.4609872>.

Local media were similarly enthused by the launch of sea louth: trail ambassador Dr. John McKenna of McKenna's' Guides spoke passionately about the new initiative on LMFM. <https://play.acast.com/s/lmfm-late-lunch/latelunchmondayjune28th2021>.

Meanwhile, local papers including the Dundalk Democrat and the Drogheda Independent covered the launch, the latter labelling County Louth "the new seafood capital." <https://www.dundalkdemocrat.ie/news/news/645758/sea-louth-scenic-food-trail-launched.html>.

The launch also featured on Drogheda Life <https://droghedalife.com/news/new-seafood-trail-to-showcase-louths-stunning-coastline-and-seafood>.

The new sea louth scenic seafood trail was well received by trade press, too: the launch was covered by ITTN (Irish Travel Trade News); FFT (Food For Thought); and Hospitality Ireland <https://ittn.ie/ireland/news/sea-louth-a-coastal-passport-for-the-wee-county/> <https://www.fft.ie/sea-louth-seafood-trail-launched-by-louth-county-council/> <https://www.hospitalityireland.com/food/new-seafood-trail-launched-in-co-louth-138340>.

The sea louth team have also been liaising with various publications and online media channels including, Evoke.ie; Food and Wine magazine (Sunday Business Post); Ireland of the Welcomes magazine; rsvpive.ie (website of RSVP magazine); The Sunday Times; properfood.ie; Irish Daily Mail;

and FoodandDrinkDestinations.com. This includes a number of visits by journalists to the county to experience the sea louth seafood trail. Further updates on the coverage received will follow.

Fáilte Ireland – Destination Towns Capital Investment Programme

Following consultation with the members of Drogheda MD and representatives from Drogheda Chamber and Drogheda BIDs, Placemarque are currently undertaking the design of the new signage and are liaising with Boyne Valley Drive on the co-ordination of the signage from both projects.

The bespoke new signage for visitor information and orientation is part of the Fáilte Ireland Destination Towns programme. The proposed signage will be focused on streets from Magdalene Tower to Millmount and from Westgate to St. Laurence’s Gate in Drogheda town centre.

Outdoor Seating & Accessories for Tourism & Hospitality Business’ Scheme

A new funding scheme for outdoor seating and accessories for the tourism and hospitality sector was launched on the 31st March, 2021. This funding scheme provides for funding of up to €4,000 for individual tourism and hospitality businesses to develop and increase their own outdoor seating capacity. The scheme was extended to pubs (including non-dining) from the 14th June and is being administered by the Economic Development & Tourism Office. The application form together with a list of ‘FAQs and Guidance’ is available on the Louth County Council website at <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/economic-development/outdoor-seating-accessories-for-tourism-hospitality-business-scheme/>.

48 applications have been received to date.

Fáilte Ireland – Business Supports for the Tourism Industry

The Boyne Valley Ambassador programme involving 15 local ambassadors will continue to be rolled out on social media in August and September. Each of the Ambassadors are sharing a series of digital posts with destination messaging brought to life through images and video content.

The next two phases of the Fáilte Ireland [Strategic Tourism Business Continuity Scheme](#) will provide financial support to visitor attractions, outdoor tourism activity operators and tourism accommodation providers. Minister Martin announced €30million for Phase 4 and 5. Phase 4 will support eligible visitor attractions and outdoor activity operators, including tourism golf courses and boat tour operators. Phase 5 will apply to eligible Fáilte Ireland approved tourism accommodation providers such as hotels, guesthouses, hostels, holiday camps, caravan and camping parks, self-catering, B&Bs and Welcome Standard. Both Schemes will open for applications on the 5th August, 2021 and close on the 17th September, 2021. Full details and eligibility criteria will be available on www.failteireland.ie from the 5th August.

Boyne Valley Tourism

Ongoing promotion of the Boyne Valley includes 8 press visits in total for the summer; a sponsored post with the Travel Expert highlighting hotel packages; a piece with the Novel Traveller on the Boyne Valley Greenway which featured on Newstalk and the Hard Shoulder; and a visit by Henry McKean from Newstalk to the Boyne Valley on Thursday 22nd July, which focused mainly on Drogheda and Slane and included an interview with Aoife Ruane at Highlanes, Drogheda and with Dusty Flanagan on the Boyne Valley Camino. Coverage included a video, radio piece on Pat Kenny Show, an online article as well as social media. You can watch the video at the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/newstalkfm/videos/310475057528064/UzpfSTQ3NTc1MjEzOTEwOTc5NzQ0NDg4MzE4MzQ0NTE5ODAz/>.

LEO Louth

COVID-19 Business Supports



Updated information on the range of business supports available can be found at: www.LocalEnterprise.ie/Response.

Businesses applying for support from LEO Louth should email: info@leo.louthcoco.ie.

'Shop Local / Shop Louth' Campaign

The Louth online shopping directory has been revamped for 2021 and is now available at: www.louthcoco.ie/ShopLouth.

LEO will continue to promote #ShopLocal #LookforLocal with a campaign to run from July 2021. Businesses can be included on the Louth online directory by emailing: tradingonline@leo.louthcoco.ie.

Retail Powerhouse Forum



LEO Louth continues to support 12 local retailers on the Retail Powerhouse Forum who registered in December, 2020 and is supporting a further 12 local retailers during 2021. This is a commercial retail forum that focuses on building trade with expert tips specifically for retailers.

Brexit Supports

Notwithstanding the trade agreement negotiated between the EU and UK, Brexit is creating issues for businesses around VAT and Customs paperwork.



Brexit Advisory Clinic:

Brexit Advisory Clinics, involving one to one meetings to help assess the impact of Brexit on Louth businesses, continue to be offered to local businesses. The aim of the clinic is to design a pathway to mitigate Brexit and access additional supports.

Brexit Microfinance Ireland Loan:

Microfinance Ireland is offering a Brexit Business Loan, via LEO, in order to support businesses that will be directly impacted by Brexit. Loans up to €25,000 are available, and depending on the purpose the term can be between six months and three years.

Brexit Readiness Checklist:

The Brexit Readiness Checklist is available on the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation website: <https://dbei.gov.ie/.../Brexit-Readiness-Checklist.pdf>.

A full range of Brexit supports to help small businesses is offered by LEO Louth, all information can be found at: <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Brexit/>.

Border Stimulus Programmes to assist local businesses address Brexit and Covid challenges



A suite of 5 business support programmes continued to be delivered in July.

The 5 programmes are:

- Export Development Programme
- Financial Management Programme for owner managers
- Green for Microenterprise
- Innovation Programme for small businesses in Co. Louth.
- Superior Retailing Programme

Export Development Programme



The Export Development Programme commenced in January with 15 Louth businesses. Workshops and mentoring sessions were delivered in July and continue to be delivered over the summer period.

Financial Management Programme



The Financial Management Programme was completed in July, with certification issued to all participants on the 2nd July.

The engagement was of a very high standard the training, mentoring, and plan completion were enthusiastically addressed by all participants.

The quality of the action plans developed by the businesses were of a very high standard with the scores falling between 60% and 85%.

The action plans which set out how the strategy would be implemented were very detailed and

provide confidence that there will be a high likelihood of implementation.

The programme was very successful with high attendance with extremely positive feedback from participants and mentors.

Green for Micro



The Green for Micro programme is a free programme which aims to help businesses identify cost savings and improve their green credentials. This is achieved by looking at the business from an environmental perspective. Projects may vary from assessing energy, water and waste costs, guidance with environmental management system, to the greening of the product or business to adapt to the changing market place.

4 applications were approved in July giving a total of 13 businesses engaging in this programme so far. LEO Louth continue to seek new applications.

Innovation Programme



The Innovation Programme is designed for SME business leaders who have ambitions to embed innovation in their businesses. The programme which commenced in April will be run over 6 months.

All participants have completed their fourth workshop and have completed a minimum of 4 mentoring sessions with some participants availing of up to 7 sessions. Participants are now collaborating with each other on a regional basis.

Superior Retailing Development Programme



The Superior Retailing Development Programme was aimed at assisting Irish owned retail businesses cope with the challenges of Covid, Brexit and Online. Businesses would be able to plan their growth into the future.

The programme finished in July with overall attendance on the programme exceptionally high at 93%.

Trainee Engagement and participation was excellent with each session including questions, exercises, break-out room groups and peer experience learning to ensure all participants had the opportunity to actively participate and be involved in the programme.

The end of programme evaluation showed e-Commerce as the top priority for participants and an additional, final Masterclass was delivered on the specific subject of "Free Google Tools to Improve your Online Presence".

Although the programme is finished there will be additional assistance to participants who wish to avail of facilitation, advice and motivation until September.

Business Training



The Google Digital Garage Workshops concluded in July. This series of 5 free webinars ran for 5 Tuesdays over June and July and were aimed at helping businesses improve their web presence and be searchable for local customers.

These webinars coincided with the National Look for Local Campaign; these webinars focused on

Search Engine Optimisation, Google Analytics and Digital Marketing Strategies, and were very well attended by Louth based businesses.

The Autumn 2021 training schedule is now online and open for bookings.

The schedule includes three Start Your Own Business programmes, workshops on Finance and Book Keeping, VAT and Filing Tax. For online businesses, there are workshops on Digital Marketing Strategies, Instagram for Business and email marketing, amongst others.

This Autumn, courses will continue to take place online to ensure student and trainer safety. Courses can be booked using the following link: <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/>.

LEO Louth Client Portfolio Review / Export Adviser Programme

LEO Louth completed the procurement process during July with 3 consultants appointed to deliver this programme.

The programme will provide support to LEO portfolio clients to develop their export and growth potential, working with client businesses to identify and pursue export opportunities and to ensure maximum uptake of LEO supports.

Trading Online Vouchers



The Trading Online Voucher scheme to assist businesses to get online or enhance their online presence, under which LEO can provide 50% support up to a maximum grant of €2,500, is continuing in 2021.

11 applications were received during July and applicants who were awarded vouchers in 2020 continue to draw down their grants.

Trading Online Voucher Workshops to assist applicants continue to be run on a regional basis with Cavan LEO and Monaghan LEO.

Business Advice Clinics

38 business advice appointments were provided by telephone and video conference to entrepreneurs throughout the County during July.

LEO Louth Mentor Programme



The Mentor Programme is designed to match up the knowledge, skills, insights and entrepreneurial capability of experienced business practitioners with small business owner / managers who need practical and strategic one-to-one advice and guidance.

12 businesses were appointed Mentors during the month of July.

COVID-19 Microfinance Ireland Business Loan



LEO Louth offers full expert assistance to clients to assist the completion of Microfinance Loan Application, Business Plan and Cashflow Projections.

During the month of July there were 2 applications submitted to MFI for consideration.

2 applications were approved for support. LEO mentors continued to assist applicants.

eCommerce Cluster

15 Louth businesses have completed the final phase of the North East eCommerce Cluster programme - an enhanced digital consultancy

support programme to help build their online business and sales.

Food Academy



Successful applicants for the Bord Bia / SuperValu Food Academy Programme were informed in early July and Loughinmore Farms were accepted on to the programme.

Unsuccessful applicants have been offered alternative support.

Food Starter Programme

5 Louth businesses applied to take part in the Regional Food Starter Programme which took place over two days on the 14th and 28th July.

This event offered participants a unique opportunity to engage in face-to-face virtual sales meetings with senior food buyers from throughout Ireland and the EU.

LEAN for Micro Programme



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

The programme helps businesses to identify issues and potential improvement areas and provides support to implement these as well as achieve savings and improvements in capability and capacity to deliver. Businesses with an interest in improving competitiveness should contact LEO Louth to discuss how both the LEAN Programme and the LEAN Network can be of assistance.

There was 1 application received in July.

Co-Innovate Programme



Final clients on the Co-Innovate programme continue to engage with the programme to assist them embed innovation in their business. In total **63** Louth businesses participated under Co-Innovate.

A further opportunity has arisen for additional clients to engage in early stages of this programme.

10 additional businesses are now availing of support through the programme and LEO continues to work on identifying suitable companies.

Craft Sector

Craft LEO Louth are working with the national LEO / Design and Craft Council Ireland Committee in the design and roll out of sectoral training and opportunities for the design and craft community.

Louth companies will be able to apply to engage in two training programmes, an eCommerce bootcamp and an export focused programme later in the year.

Successful applicants for the summer programme have been notified.

Delivery of the first national programme began in July with **1** Louth participant and another **2** applicants selected for the August Get Set training programme.

8 Louth businesses have submitted an expression of interest to take part in a national LEO pilot to work with a B2B platform to help businesses trade with the USA.

Regional Enterprise Plan – North East

A new Regional Enterprise Plan is in the process of being developed. As part of its consultations, the Regional Programme Manager engaged with the SPC for Economic Development & Enterprise Support and the Louth Economic Forum.

The month of July saw Regional Strategic objectives following stakeholder consultations being drafted.

PLATO



The Louth group of the PLATO Management Development programme continued in July with **11** local businesses participating.

European Relations

Peace IV Programme

COVID – 19



Due to the Public Health Crisis in Ireland most Peace IV projects in Louth continue to be delivered online, with some live outdoor activities beginning to take place.

Programme Updates:

Youth Peace Arts Project: Exhibition Theme: Children and Young People



Dundalk Youth Centre's Youth Arts Peace Project held an exhibition from 31st July to 7th August in the Marshes Shopping Centre, Dundalk. The impressive art installation is a showcase of the collaborative project involving 240 young people. The programme involved sixth class students from St Joseph's National School, Gaelscoil Dhún Dealgan, CBS Primary School, Castletown Girls School and Redeemer Primary School. 24 creative workshops were held with the aim of giving the young people a voice and a chance to express their feelings about the pandemic. Themes included – the best and worst parts of lockdown, messages of hope and a brighter tomorrow. The workshops were facilitated by Gráinne Murphy, Etaoin O'Reilly and Ulrike Liebetrau and the entire project was filmed by Seán McMahon and will be made available online.

Adapting Aftermath Archives: opening event
Theme: Children & Young People

The opening event for the Adapting Aftermath Archives took place on 29th July. It was a filmed event via YouTube and provided an outline of the programme that will be delivered. 100 young people will be involved in the project part of which will be delivered by Kabosh Theatre Company using a specifically designed resource toolkit. The toolkit will be designed by a young persons advisory group and Diversity Challenges and will facilitate an engagement with the narratives of those who lived through the conflict.



Leslie Emerson, Brian Walsh, Will Glendinning and Paula McFetridge

Dundalk Select Vestry: Tour / talk
Theme: Building Positive Relations.

Open days will be held at St. Nicholas Church of Ireland in Dundalk on 31st July, 2nd August, 28th

August and 18th September as part of the Select Vestry's Peace IV Project. In addition a short talk on the memorials and churchyard will take place at 2.30pm on the open days.

The open days are taking part in conjunction with the development of a new website, which will display photographs of memorials and inscriptions. This project is part of the Peace IV Small Grants Programme managed by LMETB.

Good Relations Initiative: Celebration Event
Theme: Children & Young People

On 7th July last Louth Volunteer Centre's Good Relations Initiative held an event in Bluebell Lane, Mullaghbawn, to celebrate the work of their Cross Border Women's groups since the commencement of the programme in January 2020. Members of Cooley Connect Well and South Armagh Women's Group were in attendance. Many of the participants had volunteered to become cross border penpals in May 2020 to share their experience of COVID and were delighted to be coming together in person once again.

The event included a showcase of Peace quilts which were made up of pieces created during zoom sessions discussing conflict and representing participants own experiences of conflict and conflict resolution. Clodagh McGreehan of Cooley Connect Well explained the meaning of the pieces and the impact of putting them together for participants both individually and as a group, whilst Oonagh Campbell shared a poem about the experience and Kate Murphy shared a song from the local area to reflect her own story. The event also included a display of the 'Our Stories Our Time' element of the project which was very impactful for all present.

All participants were presented with a certificate of completion by Michael Gaynor of Louth Peace IV Partnership Committee, who noted that the event was about the participants and what they have achieved despite the difficulties with not being able to physically come together most of the year; he further noted that it was good for the Peace Partnership to see the value of these projects for those participating in them.



Building Bridges celebration event held on 7th July in Mullaghbawn



Part 8 Site Location Drawing

Infrastructure

Roads Projects

Narrow Water Bridge

Following the announcement of an initial sum of up to €3million to the Narrow Water Bridge Project to allow work to recommence and to bring the proposal to tender stage. The council has begun the process of collating the numerous files together in relation to the project to ascertain a programme for the project and the services and approvals required to bring the scheme to construction stage.



Photomontage of Proposed Bridge

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

The Part 8 Planning process closing date for submissions expired on the 20th July with a total of 11 submissions made. It is proposed to bring the C.E. Report to the members of Dundalk MD for the September meeting.

N2 Ardee to Castleblayney Road Scheme

A range of surveys are currently ongoing for the N2 Ardee to Castleblayney Road Scheme. These surveys will inform the Phase 3 (Design and Environmental Evaluation) Process, and will be considered by the project team in designing the alignment and proposing mitigation measures. Details of the outcomes of these surveys will be included in an Environmental Impact Assessment Report which, subject to relevant approvals, will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála through the next phase of the project (Phase 4 Statutory Approvals). The N2 Project Team continues to work remotely, but can still be contacted by landowners and members of the public via the N2 Project Phone line 087 340 3786, or by email: ArdeeCastleblayney@N2MonaghanLouth.ie. News and updates will be posted on the 'Latest News' section of the project website, www.N2MonaghanLouth.ie.

N52 Ardee Bypass

Feedback from the public consultation on the junction review has now been completed and a junction strategy report is now being completed.

An EIA screening report and AA screening report have been prepared and the scheme screens out in both. An opinion has been sought from An Bord Pleanála prior to publication of the Part 8. This opinion from ABP and subsequent to their findings will push the Part 8 process to Q4

Assessment of the previous scheme design has been carried out to determine of the requirement for additional lands is being discussed with affected landowners in relation to:

- Cycle / Pedestrian Facilities;
- Side Slopes to accommodate forgiving roadsides and potential savings in safety barrier provision;
- Drainage (additional attenuation ponds to remove online storage);
- Direct Accesses (to minimise the number of departures & accommodate new junction arrangements);
- Disposal areas.

Further archaeological investigation is planned to take place in these areas

TII HD 15 Safety Works: King Williams Glen Tullyallen, N51

Works to increase the stagger at the junction are now substantially completed. A Stage 3 Road Safety Audit has been carried out and works identified are to be carried out in due course. The works will proceed subject to TII funding.

Park and Share / Park and Ride Pilot Scheme

ACS Civils commenced works on the 8th March. Works are on programme to finish in September. Traffic Management is in place. A site compound has been set up, drainage works are now completed, topsoil stripped and imported material has been placed. Capping layer has been placed and ducting is now complete for public lighting, CCTV and EV charging provision. Cast in situ kerbing is in place and paving of the parking areas is ongoing.



Aerial View of Park & Share Construction progress

TII HD17 Schemes:

Site inspections have been carried out at priority locations on National Roads including the N33 and

the Funshog junction on the N2, in conjunction with TII Safety Section.

Funshog: Feasibility & Options reports are currently being prepared and will be forwarded to the TII for their review and approval in due course.

N33: Road Markings are now completed, currently awaiting TII Signage Contractor to erect outstanding signage

Public Lighting Remedial Works: A Feasibility & Options Report for Public Lighting Remedial Works has been approved by TII for 3 No. locations on the N2: civil works are now complete Tierney Street junction Ardee, Slieve Breagh / N2 junction, Main Street Collon- R188 / N2 junction; and we await ESB to complete the connections.

A feasibility and options report has been prepared and approved by TII in relation to Daly's Cross. Further conversations will take place with TII and the timescales.

N2 Collon Pavement Scheme

Tenders have been received, assessed and a letter of intent has issued along with letters of regret. The scheme is approx 1.6km in length and will involve night time works. Additional works are being planned to address collisions identified by TII.

N33 West Pavement Scheme

Tenders have been received to carry out resurfacing of a 3km section of the N33 in 2021, Contractors have been prequalified and a letter of intent has issued along with letters of regret.

N2 Short Term Safety Measures

Short term safety measures are to continue in 2021 on the N2 north of Ardee. Quotations have been received for additional warning signs and a contractor is being appointed. A further contract will issue for hedge clearance in September.

Port Access Northern Cross Route

Land Acquisition ongoing. Fencing completed at R132. Fill material being stockpiled, for embankment use. Existing ESB 38kv line has been diverted. Footpath and cycle path works to facilitate development on the Ballymakenny Road which is part of the PANCR scheme are ongoing.

The purchase of land to facilitate the footpath and cycle path has commenced in line with the CPO procedure.

Boyne Enterprise Link Road

Closing Date for Part 8 submissions was 5.00pm on Wednesday 30th June, 2021. It is proposed to present the CE Report to the Drogheda MD in September



Part 8 Drawing

Recreation & Amenity Projects

Carlingford Lough Greenway - Omeath to

Newry (Joint project with Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and East Border Region)

The consultant is progressing with detailed design for the project. Tender documents for the main contract are being drafted.

The contract for the site clearance and site investigation are completed. The final S.I Report has now been issued and the design consultants are using the data and information gathered to finalise the design and required land acquisition. CPO mapping is being finalised and it is envisaged will go on public display in August. Louth County Council have begun to again engage with the affected Landowners regarding Land acquisition and potential accommodation works prior to any publishing of a CPO.

SEUPB have granted a 12 month extension to the project programme and have engaged a third party to independently assess the request for additional funding by the three Greenway projects with a decision expected in Q3 of 2021.

It is anticipated that Planning Permission in N.I. will be decided upon in September after additional

topographical surveying is completed to confirm design.

The project partners are continuing to meet on a monthly basis to review and assess the various aspects of the project.

Greenway - Carlingford to Templetown

Consultants have been appointed to the project and have commenced the baseline data collection for the project which will go toward informing the route options for the scheme. Design meetings are currently ongoing.

Dundalk Municipal Athletics Grass Track

Earthworks are complete and drainage is nearing completion, top soiling and seeding are now being finalised. Perimeter fencing will commence early August.



Aerial View of earthworks & drainage

LIHAF Projects

LIHAF Access Road at Newtown, Drogheda

Engaging with Department and Developer. Contract documents are substantially complete and ready for tender, subject to the Departments approval. Site investigations are now completed. Tenders for Archaeological excavation contract are being assessed.

An Bord Pleanála decision to grant the SHD for 450 housing units has been overturned in Judicial Review which significantly affects the viability of the project. The developer is preparing a revised housing proposal to be submitted in order to bring the quota of housing up to 200 units.

LIHAF Mount Avenue Improvement

The Oral hearing in to the CPO was held on the 3rd of March, 2020. The CPO has been approved by ABP on the 23rd June, 2020.

Landowner engagement is ongoing. Atkins Consultants have completed for review the detailed design and contract documents. Topographical Survey now completed. AA screening report has been received. Ground Investigation is now complete. Archaeological test trenching contract is substantially complete. Accommodation works details and contract documents are drafted. An updated costing, programme for delivery of housing and programme for LIHAF infrastructure has been provided to the Department of Housing for agreement.

Safety Improvement Works

Low Cost Safety Schemes

- Anne Street, Dundalk: Tenders have been returned and are currently being assessed.
- Tullyallen National School: Tenders have been returned and are currently being assessed.

Ardee Pedestrian Crossing.

Feasibility & Options Report for the Refurbishment of the Pedestrian Lights on Castle Street, Ardee has been forwarded to the TII and approval has been received on 25th February, 2021 for funding of €136,258 for these works. Discussions have commenced with the TII regarding the appointment of a consultant.

Specific Bridge Improvement Grants

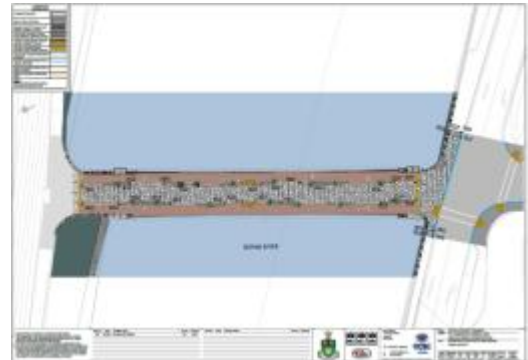
Obelisk Bridge

Louth County Council received approval from ABP for the works under Section 177AE subject to conditions on 6th May, 2021.

Tender documents are completed and are with DTTAS for review before issuing to the market. It is envisaged, subject to DTTAS approval the tender will be issued in August. .

St. Dominick's Bridge, Drogheda

Only one tender was received for the project, the initial costing being substantially higher than estimated. A Tender report has been completed and issue to the NTA (Funding authority) for approval to appoint a contractor.



St. Dominick's Bridge

Town & Village Renewal

Blackrock Footpaths

Additional public lighting bases have been provided at Felda with lighting to follow. Works are now complete on the section of footpath between Elm Park and Sandy Lane. Works to the Sandy Lane / Rock Road junction are now complete in accordance with DMURS. Additional speed humps have been provided adjacent to pedestrian crossing areas.

Design works for the 2021 allocation have commenced.



Blackrock Footpaths

Dromiskin Footpaths

Design works have commenced on the proposed footpath, Infrastructure are working closely with the Elected Representative / Community Group to secure the lands required to construct the footpath.

Stabannon Footpaths

Infrastructure are working closely with the Community Group to open discussions with the adjacent landowners. Tenders have been received and are currently being assessed, with the view of a contractor being appointed in August.

Corporate Projects

Ardee Castle RRDF

Detailed design is proceeding as well as ongoing engagement with the DEHLG. A partial amended Part 8 may be required to better comply with the Building Regulations.



Design impression of proposed works

Redevelopment Fair Street Offices, Drogheda

Preparation of the Bill of Quantities is nearing completion, all Design packages are completed and preparation of tender documentation. Fire Safety Certificate and the Disability Access Certificate have been granted.

Advance construction works commenced in mid May and are currently ongoing in terms of the reconfiguration of the existing canteen and IT rooms. Further works such as removal of communication masts, etc. have been completed. These advanced works are required in order to give the main contractor a clear site. Value engineering is currently ongoing by the design team in order to minimise the global increase in cost of materials.



3D view of proposed works

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund

Carlingford Rural Regeneration

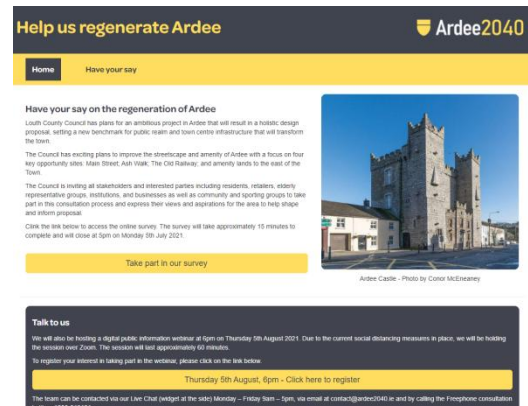
The design team have begun carrying out their site assessments and appointed a contractor to carry out traffic surveys which will include the August bank holiday weekend.

Omeath Public Realm

Work is ongoing in relation to the preparation of tender documents for the design team.

Ardee 2040

The first non-statutory virtual public consultation commenced in June and has completed with over 400 submissions. Registration for the public webinar on the 5th August is on www.ardee2040.ie.



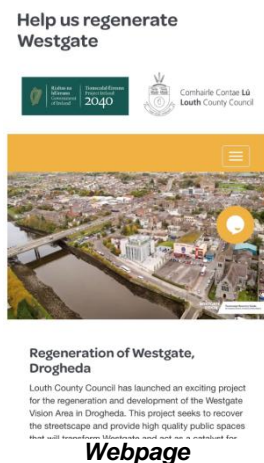
Webpage

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Projects

West Gate Vision (Drogheda)

The public webinar was held on 20th July and the information from this and the public engagement survey have fed into the design process and the preferred solutions have been identified. These

designs are being further developed prior to further public engagement on these later this year. Further information can be accessed at www.westgatevision.ie.



Long Walk, Dundalk

The council is continuing to engage with the third party stakeholder to progress the project.

St. Nicholas Quarter & Backlands Regeneration

Work is ongoing by the regeneration team in relation to the development of the consultant brief for the project.

Active Travel Investment Programme

2021 NTA Allocation

Under this current heading allocation there are 14 number projects. These projects range from new footpath, design and construction of new footpath / cycle lanes, transport studies and active travel studies, current status is as follows:

- St. Dominick's Bridge, Drogheda: as reported above
- Drogheda R132, Bridge of Peace to Train Station (incorporating Marsh Road): Out to Tender for consultants
- Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda: works ongoing
- Drogheda: Twenties Lane & R166 Termonfeckin Road: Tender for consultants to be issued in August
- R168 Collon Road, Hill of Rath RAB and Rosehall RAB: Tender for consultants to be issued in August

- Rathmullan Road from Marley's Lane junction, design: Tender for consultants to be issued in August
- Drogheda: Boyne Business Park Link Road: reported as above
- Drogheda Dublin and North roads, design: Tender for consultants to be issued in August
- Dundalk: R132 Inner Relief Road: Tenders for consultants issued to the NTA Framework in July.
- Inner Relief Road to Riverside Walk Dublin Road R215: Tenders for consultants issued to the Louth County Council Framework in July.
- Ard Easmuinn Road to Train Station / Friary School Dundalk & Dundalk Bus Station to Rail Station: Tender for consultants to be issued in August
- Transport / Mobility Plans: the 2 larger transport plans for Dundalk and Drogheda will be carried out in conjunction with the LAP's. Remaining plans will seek Tenders from consultants in September.
- Footpath Extensions / Links Package A: Works ongoing in Termonfeckin Strand Road (See operations Report), remaining Footpath construction packages to be issued in August.
- Footpath Extensions / Links Package B: See Operations Report on Annagassan. Remaining construction packages will be issued to the market in August.

Flooding General

Catchment based Flood Risk Assessment & Management Study (CFRAM)

Dundalk and Ardee Flood Defence projects

Stage 1 of the Project has now commenced, i.e. Options assessment, Scheme Development. A contractor has been appointed for CCTV surveys in both Dundalk and Ardee and works are continuing on site. A Contractor has also been appointed for Topographical surveys, etc. for the scheme areas and Survey Works which commenced in May. A visual walkover of the current flood defences assets has taken place and a report on their condition will be prepared later in 2021.

Hydrological and hydraulic modelling method statements have been approved and modelling is now ongoing for both Ardee and Dundalk in tandem with the processing of information from the recently completed CCTV and Topographical surveys currently on the ground.

Further tender documentation for necessary environmental, ecological reports, noise and landscape are currently being prepared.

Monthly project briefing notes are being issued to the current relevant stakeholders and it is intended to hold the first Project Consultation Day virtually in early September which will be advertised prior to the event. The Project website being hosted by OPW is now complete and can be reached at www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/dundalk/home.

Drogheda & Baltray Flood Defence Project

Tender documents returned on the 31st March have now been assessed. A preferred Consultant has now been identified and a Letter of Acceptance issued. It is envisaged that the Contract will be signed and works on the Project will commence in August.

A Section 85 Agreement between Meath County Council and Louth County Council has now also been agreed to facilitate any required Works in County Meath.

Carlingford & Greenore Flood Defence Project

OPW have commenced a data review of the Carlingford and Greenore Flood Defence Project to reappraise the Options identified in the Flood Risk Management Plan. The data review will include additional rainfall data collection and modelling. A temporary rain gauge at Carlingford Fire Station for rainfall data collection is now operational, providing additional data to inform project design and development. OPW have now requested installation of a second rain gauge and a new river level gauge and investigations are underway to identify a suitable site in Carlingford.

Balmers Bog Surface Water Pipe

OPW has approved funding, €668,571, for these works to be undertaken in advance of the Dundalk Flood Relief Scheme. A Letter of Acceptance Intent has been issued to the successful Civil

Works Contractor and it is intended to complete the appointment of the Contractor in August and commence the Project subject to approvals of insurances for the Works on CIE lands.

Marine Projects

Coastal Protection Works

Applications for the 2021 OPW Minor Works Funding have now been submitted for Coastal Protection Projects in 3 separate locations, Omeath, Bellurgan and Ballagan.

Works have now been completed at Seabank and Salterstown.



Haul Road to protect the SPC



Rock Armour Works

Annagassan Harbour

Consultation has taken place with National Parks and Wildlife Service and the EPA due to the proximity of Annagassan Harbour to two Natura 2000 sites (Dundalk Bat SAC and Dundalk Bay SPA). Due to the nature of the works involved a full EIA may be required. Estimated cost further investigations up to €135,000 if full EIS is required. No funding available

Schools Programme Projects

Replacement School for St. Ita's and St. Mary's

Site acquired. Department of Education to submit a planning application.

Ardee E.T.N.S.

Approval to go to tender has issued by Department of Education. Expressions of interest have now been reviewed and a shortlist of contractors has been finalised. The Department of Education have approved this shortlist. The Department has sought two additional SEN classrooms which will require Part 8 planning approval. Options have been reviewed with the planner and these are now being presented to the Department for approval.

The advanced works for ESB and Bord Gáis requirements are complete.

Coláiste Chú Chulainn and Park at Marshes Lower, Dundalk

Progress has been made in relation to snagging. As constructed drawings of the completed emergency lighting has been issued by the PSDP. Additional snagging in relation to landscaping and other items to be completed also.

Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP)

A Section 85 Agreement between Kilkenny County Council and Louth County Council has been agreed.

Design and preparation of the tender documents for construction works is nearing completion. A final cost estimate for the element of works in Co. Louth will be carried out during the design process. The Members have approved for Louth County to seek a loan for the works at the June Council meeting.

Planning

Development Management / Bainistíocht Forbartha

The Planning service indicators for Louth County Council for the month of June, 2021 are given below in tabular form.

There were 127 planning applications received during the month of June of which 111 were valid. In addition there were 34 responses received during the month to requests for further information and 21 Pre-Planning Applications 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) Description / Cur Síos	(B) Housing Developments / Forbairtí Tithíochta	(C) Individual Houses / Tithe Aonair	(D) Other applications -not requiring EIA / Iarratais Eile – ní gá MTT	(E) Other applications- requiring EIA / Iarratais Eile - MTT de dhíth	(F) Total for all categories of development in County Area / Iomlán na bhforbairtí sa chontae
(i) Number of applications determined / Líon na n-iarratas a cinneadh	4	38	66	3	111
(ii) No. of decisions determined which required further information / Líon na gcinntí inar iarradh breis eolais	1	11	13	1	26
(iii) Percentage of applications refused / Céatadán na n-iarratas a diúltaíodh	0% (0)	44.74% (17)	10.61% (7)	33.33% (1)	22.52% (25)
(iv) Number of appeals determined / Líon na n-achomharc a cinneadh	1	2	1	0	4
(v) Percentage of decisions overturned on appeal / Céatadán na gcinntí a cuireadh ar ceal ar achomharc	100% (1)	50% (1)	0% (0)	0% (0)	50% (2)

Planning Enforcement – Unauthorised Development / Forfheidhmiú Pleanála – Forbairt nár Údaraíodh

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

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development / Forfheidhmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh		Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development / Forfheidhmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh	
	July 2021 / Iúil 2021	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo	July 2020 / Iúil 2020	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	43	166	32	113
Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which didn't require follow up / Líon na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise	0	0	0	0
Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation / Líon na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht	19	132	21	100
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	27	115	15	56
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	0	2	0	11
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	1	4	0	4
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	3	0	0
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0	0	0

Planning Enforcement - Short Term Lettings

The Planning indicators are given below in relation to Short Term Letting Enforcement received during the month. In relation to the enforcement of the Short Term Letting regulations there has been a significant increase in the number of properties available for Short Term Rental properties in the Louth area since the lifting of lockdown.

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to Short Term Lettings	
	July 2021 / Iúil 2021	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	7	44
Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which didn't require follow up / Líon na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise	0	11
Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation / Líon na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht	3	6
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	3	1
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	0	0
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	0	0
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	0
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0

Forward Planning

Material Alterations to the Draft County Development Plan 2021 - 2027

The Elected Council Members resolved to place the proposed alterations on public display for a period of not less than 4 weeks, in accordance with Section 12(7) (b) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). The final date for receipt of Submissions / Observations was 4pm on Wednesday 28th July, 2021. The Chief Executives Report on submissions received is now being prepared.

Full details are available to view online at <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/publications/development-plans/draft-louth-county-development-plan-2021-2027/material-alterations-to-the-draft-louth-county-development-plan-2021-2027.html>.

Strategic Housing Developments (SHDs)

Stage 1

- 1 x S.247 PA Opinion issued to ABP.

Stage 3

- 1 x Decision received from ABP to grant SHD for Scotch Hall / South Bank Development, Marsh Road, Drogheda.

Operations and Waste Management

Oibríochtaí agus Bainistíocht Dramháil

This Directorate provides a range of services which underpin the efficient and smooth running of the economic and social life of our county, working to ensure our environment adheres to legislative standards, and to provide clean and safe parks throughout Louth. Responsibilities include:

- Road Maintenance, Wardens Service, Waste Management, Water Quality, and Climate Action

Cuireann an Stiúthóireacht seo réimse seirbhísí ar fáil mar bhonn agus mar thaca ag an reachtáil éifeachtúil an saol eacnamaíochta agus sóisialta Chontae Lú, ag obair i dtreo comhlíonadh an dlí maidir leis an timpeallacht, agus chun páirceanna phoiblí glan agus sábháilte a chinntiú. Ina chuid den freagrachtaí ná:

- Cothabháil Bóithre, an tSeiribhís Maorachta, Bainistíocht Dramháil, Cáilíocht Uisce, agus Gníomh Aeráide

Catherine Duff
Director / Stiúrthóir



Municipal District of Dundalk

Dundalk and Cooley Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí
	<p data-bbox="927 491 1474 560">Litter picks Dundalk town-wide including all approach roads</p> <ul data-bbox="976 594 1284 1108" style="list-style-type: none">• Dublin Road• Inner Relief Road• Ramparts• Centenary Road• Avenue Road• Hoey's Lane• Tom Bellew Avenue• Fairgreen Road• Old Newry Road• Racecours Road• Armagh Road• Castletown Road• Etc. <p data-bbox="927 1150 1393 1186">Cooley - Isolated locations including</p> <ul data-bbox="976 1213 1203 1392" style="list-style-type: none">• Carrickcarnan• Templetown• Gyles Quay• Shillinghill• Whitestown
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht
	<ul data-bbox="976 1520 1360 1875" style="list-style-type: none">• Contract works - Dundalk• Cooley• Carlingford• Omeath• Gyles Quay• Templetown• Faughart• Greenore• Lordship

Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract works - Dundalk • Cooley - rural village sweep programming
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract works - Dundalk • Cooley - as per bin emptying
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly by Park Operative in Dundalk • Carried out by Water Safety Officer in Cooley
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily by Parks Operative, repairs in house or contractor

Location / Suíomh		Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R173 Omeath, • L-3061-27 Ballynamony • L-7070 Bush • L-3069-0 Templetown • L-7055-0 Chapel Hill • L-7071-17 Ballug <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolated minor repairs Town Centre 	<p>Preparation for Surface Dressing and other patching/pothole repairs.</p> <p>Isolated essential repairs</p>
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L-7055-0 Chapel Hill • L-3069-0 Templetown • Greenore <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing maintenance to Storm sewer network town wide 	<p>Preparation for surface dressing Drainage Repairs</p> <p>Essential maintenance Jet Vac</p> <p>Essential maintenance</p>

Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None this Month 	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None this Month 	
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	<p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hill Street Bridge • Park Drive • Weekly maintenance of all Traffic Lights replacement bulbs (replacement LEDs), vandalism repairs, etc. 	<p>Essential Maintenance</p> <p>Ongoing Essential Maintenance</p>
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None this Month 	
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General repairs and cleaning <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General repairs and cleaning 	<p>Essential Maintenance</p> <p>Essential Maintenance</p>
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <p>Numerous small amounts of domestic waste and tyres removed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long Woman Grave • Mast Road • Omeath • Whitestown <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hoey's Lane • Rockfield Manor • Castleross • Salttown • Toberona • Inner Relief Road • Creative Spark • Doolargy 	<p>Domestic Waste</p> <p>Large Household Waste</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muirhevnamor • Hardy's Lane • Rampart River • Lady Well • Moorland Road • General Blackspots 	
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	None this month	

Blackrock, Faughart and North Mid-Louth Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackrock - 6 days/week • Knockbridge - once a week • Dromiskin - once a week • Tallanstown and Louth village - once a week
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackrock (7) checked weekly • Annagassan (11) checked weekly
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil Checked Weekly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Killanny • Louth Village • Tallanstown • Blackrock

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L7107 Skyhill • R177 Drumbilla and Lurgankeel • L7100 Whitemill • L7098 Faughart Upper • L7102 Annies • L7108 Kilcurry • L7129 Donaghmore, • The Dromiskin area and around Louth Village • The Killanny Area • R166 at Glydefarm and Springhill • R166 Tallanstown to Ardee • L1196 Tallanstown to Mills of Louth • R171 Mullacrew to Mills of Louth L1178 Louth Village to Corderry 	
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L7106 at Lurgankeel/Lennonstown • L7120 at Shanmullagh • L3161 Haynestown • L3167 Stephenstown • L3095 Plaster Mountpleasant • R178 Carrick Road 	<p>Drainage Improvement works</p> <p>Drainage maintenance - jetting/cleansing and gully cleaning.</p>
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	None this month	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	None this month	
Traffic Light Repairs/ Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	None this month	
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	None this month	
Signage / Comharthaíocht	None this month	

Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	None this month	
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	None this month	

Ardee Municipal District

South Louth Operations (Rural Area)

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair		Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí
All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day) Clogherhead Car Park daily cleanup around bins		
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí		Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht
Ardee Town		• 30 Daily
Dunleer town		• 20 Tuesday and Thursday
Clogherhead Car Park		• 1 bin daily
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre		Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain
All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day)		
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra		Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Tarrthála		Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain
Ardee town - River Dee		
Salterstown		
Port Beach		

Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Number of sites checked daily / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil Corpacmhainne

Maintenance and cleaning of Fairgreen and Dunleer parks and playgrounds complete with daily checks of the playground and exercise equipment at both locations.

Daily disinfecting of the playgrounds against Covid-19 with the fogging/spraying machines.

Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí	
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LP-2250-0 Dysart • R168 Collon to Drogheda Rd • LS-6237-0 Dromin • LS-6219-0 Salterstown • LP-1233-7 Mullanstown Ardee • LP 1228-14 Richardstown Road • LP-1297-27 Kells Road from Collon • LP-2290 Priest Hill Collon • R170 Dunleer • LP 2214-0 Stabannon • LT 22211-0 Dunany • LS 6237-0 Cappogh • LS 5232-0 Ardee Bog • LS 6223-0 Dunany 	<p>Surface Dressing Preparations</p> <p>Surface Dressing Preparations</p> <p>Surface Dressing Preparations</p> <p>Surface Dressing Preparations</p> <p>Surface Dressing Preparations</p>
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LP1212-Stabannon • LP 2235-27 Philipstown • LS 6223-0 Dunany 	<p>Opening water cuts and drains</p>
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	<p>None this month</p>	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • De-La-Salle Crescent Ardee • Repairing bollards on the N2 Ardee Drogheda Road 	

Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Trácta		
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New line markings on the R168 Collon to Drogheda Road following surface dressing works 	
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage for surface dressing works • Digital Speed signs in Collon, Termonfeckin, Ardee and Salterstown • New directional signage at Salterstown for optional one-way route at peak traffic signs. 	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach		
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí		

Surface Dressing July 2021



Surface Dressing at Richardstown



SURFACE DRESSING SALTERSTOWN



SURFACE DRESSING TOWNSPARK ARDEE

Borough District of Drogheda

Drogheda Town Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair

Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí

- Clogherhead Car Park outside Café – Litter picking required around bin outside Café.
- Steps and lane ways around Drogheda Town - weekly 22 steps when resources allow and green areas.
- Hotspots on Monday – decided by Supervisor following inspection.
- Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Daily during working week. Also all Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Saturday p.m.
- Drogheda Rural Bring banks are cleared

daily during working week

Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí **Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht**

Port Oriel Pier, Clogherhead	5 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)
Clogherhead Beach	8 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)
Port Beach	5 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)
Termonfeckin	5 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)
Baltray	3 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)
Seapoint Carpark	3 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)
Clogherhead Car Park outside Café	1 Bin collected Daily
Drogheda town centre	Litterbins emptied daily circa 60 early mornings. New bin installed top of Peter street. 1 Bin relocated at Laurence's Street to facilitate Café beside Fishmonger About 250 litter bin are emptied weekly in town.
Dominic's Park & Mell river walk	Emptied daily.
South Louth Drogheda Municipal district rural area's	Public Litter Bins are emptied twice a week or daily when needed especially at Beaches/Port Oriel/Seapoint/Termonfeckin/Baltray – at least 40 bins per day. Approach roads in Drogheda town emptied twice a week. Bin upgrade and maintenance ongoing and street furniture. Bin burnt at Mell river walk

Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre

Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain

- Town centre daily.
- Approach roads fortnightly.
- Public Housing Estates, swept every 2 months. Private Housing estates swept every 3 months. When resources allow.
- Hotspots weekly on Monday after weekend - decided daily by supervisor after checking Drogheda urban area.
- Villages are swept once per month – i.e., Termonfeckin, Baltray, Sandpit,

	<p>Monasterboice, Tullyallen and Tinure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drogheda town Boyne River Walkways are swept 3 times per week (Monday, Wednesday & Friday) • Town centre weeds removal • Installed extra parasols with picnic tables along West Street • Strimming at Marian Close and clearing all area to rear completed July 2021
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / FolmhúAraidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain
	Empty about 35 No. once a week, washed and disinfected.
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 89 ring buoys checked each week town area (Thursday) • 9 ring buoys checked each week at Rosehall (Friday)
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 4 & 5 daily (4 playgrounds in Drogheda town, Skate Park, adult exercise equipment). • 3 Playgrounds in Drogheda rural area) and disinfected

Location / Suíomh		Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L-1674 Peter Street/William Street Junction • R167 – Strand Road /Baltray Road 	<p>Road repair to pot holes</p> <p>Crews preparing for Roads surface dressing in Drogheda rural area</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R166 Termonfeckin Road • Greenhills • L-77020 – Whitethorn Estate’s junction with Crosslanes • L-1521 IDA Road • R132 – Dublin Road • L-16654 – Pearse Park • L-1002 – Rathmullen Road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LS-6281-Barnhill Termonfeckin • LP-2299 Timullen Monasterboice • R168 Collon to Drogheda Road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pot Hole repairs on the R166 Termonfeckin to Clogherhead Road 	<p>commencing June 2021</p> <p>Surface Dressing Preparations</p> <p>Surface Dressing Preparations</p> <p>Surface Dressing Preparations</p>
<p>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drainage surveys of gullies at • Donore Road junction with Ballsgrove, • Grove Hill, • No. 9 Westcourt, • 44/45 Highfield, • Crosslanes junction with Windmill road. Survey carried out - awaiting report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LS-6281-Barnhill Termofeckin • LP-2299 Timullen Monasterboice • R168 Collon to Drogheda Road 	<p>Survey in preparation of repairs to eliminate flooding</p> <p>Opening Water Cuts and Drains</p> <p>Opening Water Cuts and Drains</p> <p>Opening Water Cuts and Drains</p>
<p>Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha</p>		

Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán		
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R132 @ Bull Ring/North Quay/South Quay Junction Vehicle phase lamp fail • Lourdes Church Pedestrian • Vehicle phase lamp fail Red • Bryanstown Junction - 2 mains daps needed for Push buttons vibration caps, replaced caps and not working. New insert needed • Boyne Valley Junction Knockdown • Westgate Fair St Junction Louvers 2no 	<p>Replaced lamp</p> <p>Replaced lamp</p> <p>Replaced 2 mains inserts</p> <p>The above traffic lights pole was hit and broken – all replaced and back in order</p> <p>Fitted hoods</p>
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing throughout town 	
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing throughout district <p>Making up signage for Surface Dressing works and installing on site for Surface Dressing works at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LS-6281-Barnhill Termonfeckin • LP-2299 Timullen Monasterboice • R168 Collon to Drogheda Road • R167 Queensborough • LS-6277 Kellystown to Blackhall • LS-6317-0 Sheepgrange 	

<p>Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlanes Steps • Bessexwell Street • Marleys Lane • Trinity Street • Laurence’s Street • Cement Road at Halting site • Peter street • Chicken Hut (Peter street) • Scarlet Street • Ballsgrove Bring Banks • Marsh Road • Bryanstown cross route Mell car Park • Newtown Termonfeckin Road • Magdalene Tower • King street car park • Mell Car Park and O’Reilly’s Car Park 	<p>This is an ongoing issue where Supervisors and Litter Wardens check on daily basis; arrange for inspecting illegal waste disposal for evidence and issuing fines and clearance of area. Public complaints are also checked and followed up as above.</p> <p>Illegal waste tonnage disposed and removed by LCC for July circa 500kg.</p>
<p>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí</p>		<p>Updated survey of Graffiti in town completed. Removal of same on public buildings to be progressed. Graffiti on private properties to be followed up.</p>



Parklets recently installed in Drogheda at the North Strand and Bolton Street

North Louth Quarterly Recycling figures

Quarter 2 recycling figures from V&W Recycling Centre in Dundalk are as follows:

Paper/Cardboard	117
Plastic	106
Glass	74
Textiles	4
Batteries	3
Greenery	1291
Wood	98
Scrap Metal	82
WEEE	85
Total Tonnes	1860

South Louth Quarterly Recycling figures

Quarter 2 recycling figures from V&W Recycling Centre in Drogheda are as follows:

Paper/Cardboard	125
Plastic	71
Glass	75
Textiles	5
Batteries	2
Greenery	422
Wood	155
Scrap Metal	129
WEEE	122
Total Tonnes	1106

Dog Fouling Foot Patrol Record Sheet 2021

All Litter Wardens conducted 2 and 5 hour dog fouling foot patrols in the following areas throughout County Louth

Date	Area	Start Time	Finish Time	Total Hours	Fixed Penalty Notices issued
01.03.2021	Drogheda	10.00	12.00	2.00	None
08.03.2021	Dundalk	10.00	12.00	2.00	None
15.03.2021	Knockbridge/ Louth/ Tallanstown	10.00	12.00	2.00	None
22.03.2021	Carlingford-Omeath Greenway	10.00	12.00	2.00	None
29.03.2021	Ardee/ Collon/ Dunleer	10.00	12.00	2.00	None
06.04.2021	Clogherhead/Termonfeckin/Baltray	10.00	12.00	2.00	None
12.04.2021	Blackrock/ Dromiskin/ Castlebellingham	10.00	12.00	2.00	None
19.04.2021	Drogheda	10.00	12.00	2.00	None
26.04.2021	Lordship/ Templetown/ Greenore	10.00	12.00	2.00	None
04.05.2021	Dundalk	10.00	12.00	2.00	None
12.05.2021	Drogheda	10.00	15.00	5.00	None
26.05.2021	Dundalk	10.00	15.00	5.00	None
08.06.2021	Blackrock/ Dromiskin/ Castlebellingham	10.00	15.00	5.00	None
23.06.2021	Ardee/ Collon/ Dunleer	10.00	15.00	5.00	None
30.06.2021	Carlingford/ Gyles Quay	10.00	15.00	5.00	None
07.07.2021	Drogheda	10.00	15.00	5.00	None

Waste Management and Environment Report

Waste Management

Waste Enforcement

Cases continue to proceed through the courts. There has been a delay in getting cases being heard due to the ongoing pandemic.

A High Court order was recently secured in relation to waste management issues by Louth County Council against a landowner in County Louth.

Litter Enforcement

A total of 37 fines were issued in the month of July. Of these fines, 13 were issued in the Dundalk urban area, 19 in Drogheda urban area and 5 in the remaining County wide area. No fines were issued for dog fouling this month.

There have been 1251 investigations this year to date with 155 carried out in the month of July. There have been 268 fines issued in the year to date, 3 of which were for Dog Fouling.

Diesel Laundering Waste

A total of 3 IBC's of Diesel Sludge were recovered in July 2021. The approximate cost of clean-up and disposal of the waste material is €3852.97. The total to date for 2021 is 84 IBC's collected and recovered at an approximate cost of €104,859.47 to the state.

My Waste

153 reminder letters have been issued to householders in the 3 urban areas of Ardee, Dundalk and Drogheda. Further reminder letters will be sent to householders who did not respond to the initial letters.

Area	Ardee	Dundalk	Drogheda	Total
No of Estates surveyed	8	196	49	253
Total No of Houses	539	5031	4223	9793
No of houses not presenting a bin	108	1866	1432	3406
% of Houses not presenting a bin	20	37	34	35
No of Letters sent out to date	108	921	544	1573
No of reminders letter sent out	26	61	66	153

Air / Water / Noise Pollution

There were six water pollution complaints received in July with two open and four closed.

Seven Air Pollution complaints and six Noise Pollution complaints were received during July.

Water Framework/River Basin Management Plans

The Local Authority catchment assessments being carried out by the Lawpro inspection teams are ongoing in the Castletown catchment. Initial studies have commenced in the Glyde catchment.

Public Consultations on the draft River Basin Management Plan 2022 to 2027 has been extended up to the 7th of August 2021. Responses can be made online, by emailing to rbmp@housing.gov.ie or be made in writing to: SWMI Consultation, Water Advisory Unit, Department of Housing Planning and Local Government, Custom House, Dublin 1, D01 W6X0

Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems

The EPA released the 2020 annual report on Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems inspections on Wednesday 30th June 2021. The press release and report can be accessed on the EPA website via this link. <https://www.epa.ie/news-releases/news-releases-2021/fixing-septic-tanks-that-fail-inspection-is-a-priority-says-epa.php>

Climate Action

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024

We continue to work with the Eastern and Midlands Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) to work towards achieving the goals and objectives of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019 to 2024.

Two graduates have recently joined the section to work specifically in the area of Climate Action. The two graduate positions are part of the National Graduate recruitment programme where graduates secure a 3 year employment term with a Local Authority to gain experience and expertise in a specific area of work.

Work has commenced on complying the progress report for Louth County Council on the above strategy for the CARO office which is due to be submitted in early October. This will be the second progress report for the strategy.

Electrical Vehicles Charging Points

The project lead for the FASTER project will be appointed at the beginning of August, filling of additional posts is ongoing.

Additional funding was secured for additional Electrical Charging points in County Louth through SEAI. The offer letter recently signed by Louth County Council for this project.



EV Charging Point

Decarbonised Zones - Dundalk

As per Action 165 of the National Climate Action Plan, Dundalk has been proposed as pilot Decarbonisation Zone for Louth. Currently preparations are ongoing in the development of an implementation plan for the Decarbonisation zone. Engagement is continuing with CARO and other stakeholders.

Legislation

The Climate Action and Low Carbon amendment Bill 2021 has been signed into law by President Higgins. This new legislation will provide a roadmap for Climate Action (both climate adaptation and climate mitigation) for all sectors including Local Government so that we as a nation are carbon neutral by 2050.

Veterinary Services / Seirbhísí Tréidliachta

Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) / Údarás Sábháilteachta Bia na hÉireann (USBÉ)

As of 31st July 2021, Louth County Council Veterinary Section, under a Service Level Agreement with the FSAI, enforces food safety standards on two abattoirs and fourteen meat processing plants under its supervision in the County, including one new meat processing plant in Dundalk.

Amhail ar an 31ú Iúil 2021, cuireann Rannóg Tréidliachta Chomhairle Contae Lú caighdeán sábháilteachta bia i bhfeidhm, faoi Chomhaontú Leibhéal Seirbhíse leis an USBÉ, ar dhá sheamlas agus ar ceithre cinn déag de mhonarchana próiseála feola atá faoi mhaoirseacht aige sa chontae, lena n-áirítear gléasra nua próiseála feola i nDún Dealgan.

Control of Dogs / Rialú Madraí

Control of Dogs Act 1986 / An tAcht um Rialú Madraí, 1986

Dogs impounded July 2021 / Madraí curtha i bpóna, Iúil 2021	
Total dogs impounded / Líon madraí curtha i bpóna	15
Strays / Ar seachrán	2
Surrendered by owners / Tugtha suas ag úinéirí	13
No dogs reclaimed by owners / Líon madraí tógtha ar ais ag úinéirí	4
No of dogs rehomed direct / Líon madraí a bhfuarthas úinéirí nua dóibh go díreach	10
No of dogs rehomed to welfare groups / Líon madraí a aistríodh go grúpaí leasa ainmhithe	5
No of dogs on hand in Pound at 30/06/2021 / Líon madraí faoi chúram sa phóna 30/06/2021	0

Dog Licences July 2021 / Ceadúnais Madraí, Iúil 2021	
No of Licences sold / Líon ceadúnas díolta	542
Licence Checks / Ceadúnais scrúdaithe:	
House calls / Seiceálacha baile	373
Section 16 Notices issued (request to produce licence within 10 days) / Fógraí Alt 16 eisithe (iarratas ar ceadúnas a thaispeáint roimh deich lá)	97
Fixed Penalty Notices / Fógraí Pionós Socraithe	30



Dogs impounded during July 2021
Madraí curtha i bpóna i mí an Iúil 2021

Control of Horses / Rialú Capall

Control of Horses Act 1996 / An tAcht um Rialú Capall, 1996

Control of Horses Bye-Laws 2003 / Fodhlíthe um Rialú Capall, 2003

Horses impounded July 2021 / Capaill curtha i bpóna, Iúil 2021	
Horses seized / Capaill gafa Reason for seizure: / Cúis na gabhála	0
Horses reclaimed by owner / Líon capall tógtha ar ais ag úinéirí	0
Horses rehomed / Líon capall a bhfuarthas úinéirí nua dóibh	0
Horses disposed of / Capaill curtha de láimh	0
No of horses on hand in Pound on 31/05/2021 / Líon capall faoi chúram sa phóna, 30/06/21	0



A second electric van was added to the dog warden fleet in Quarter two 2021.

Cuireadh an dara veain leictreach le cabhlach na maor madraí i gCeathrú a dó 2021

Dog Breeding Establishments DBE / Bunachais Pórúcháin Madraí (BPM)

Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010 / An tAcht um Bunachais Pórúcháin Madraí, 2010

Dog Breeding Establishments July 2021 / Bunachais pórúcháin madraí, Iúil 2021	
Total no of registered DBE's in Louth (as at 30/06/2021) / Líon BPM i gContae Lú, 31/07/2021	6
Hunt / Conchróite Seilge	2
Boarding Kennels / Conchróite Cinneála	2
Training Kennels / Conchróite Oilíúna	1
Welfare / Leas Ainmhithe	1

Corporate and Emergency Services

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha agus Éigeandála

This Directorate has two key areas of responsibility:

- **Corporate Services** – the maintenance and development of systems which facilitate the effective running of our Council, including Human Resources, and Information and Communications Technology.
- **Emergency Services** – including the Fire Service, Civil Defence, Water Safety, and the planning and implementation of strategies which help to keep our citizens safe.
- Other responsibilities include Sustainable Energy.

Tá dhá eochairfhreagrachta ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

- **Seirbhísí Corparáideacha** – ag cothabháil agus forbairt chórais atá baint leis an reáchtáil éifeachtach na Comhairle, agus Acmhainní Daonna, agus Techneolaíocht Faisnéise agus Chumarsáide san áireamh
- **Seirbhísí Éigeandála** – Seirbhís Dóiteáin, Cosaint Shibhialta, Sábháilteacht Uisce san áireamh, agus ag pleanáil agus ag cur i bhfeidhm straitéisí chun chabhrú le muintir Chontae Lú a bheith slán sábháilte
- Freagracht eile ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo ná Fuinneamh Inbhunaithe.

Joe McGuinness
Director / Stiúrthóir

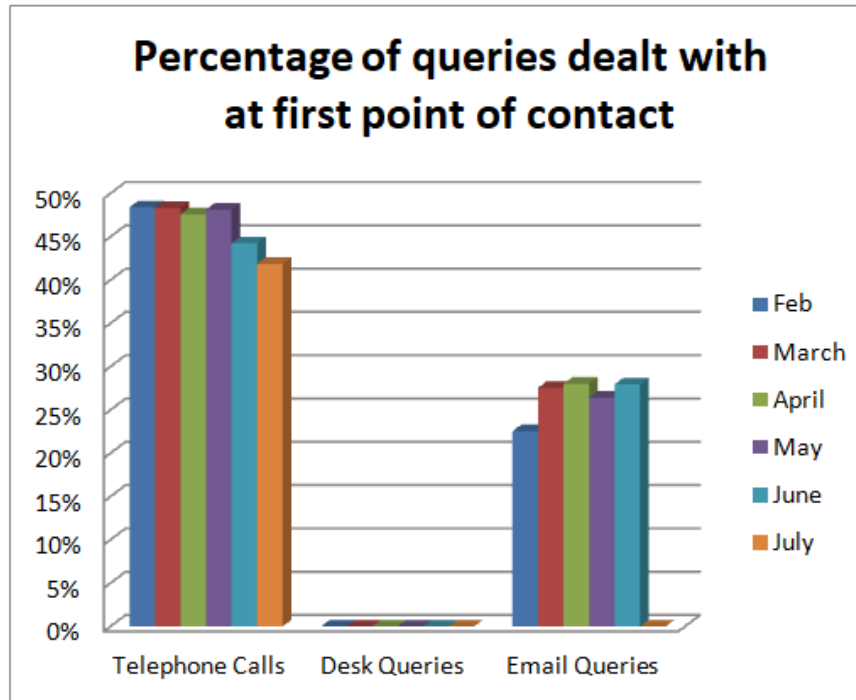


Corporate and Emergency Services

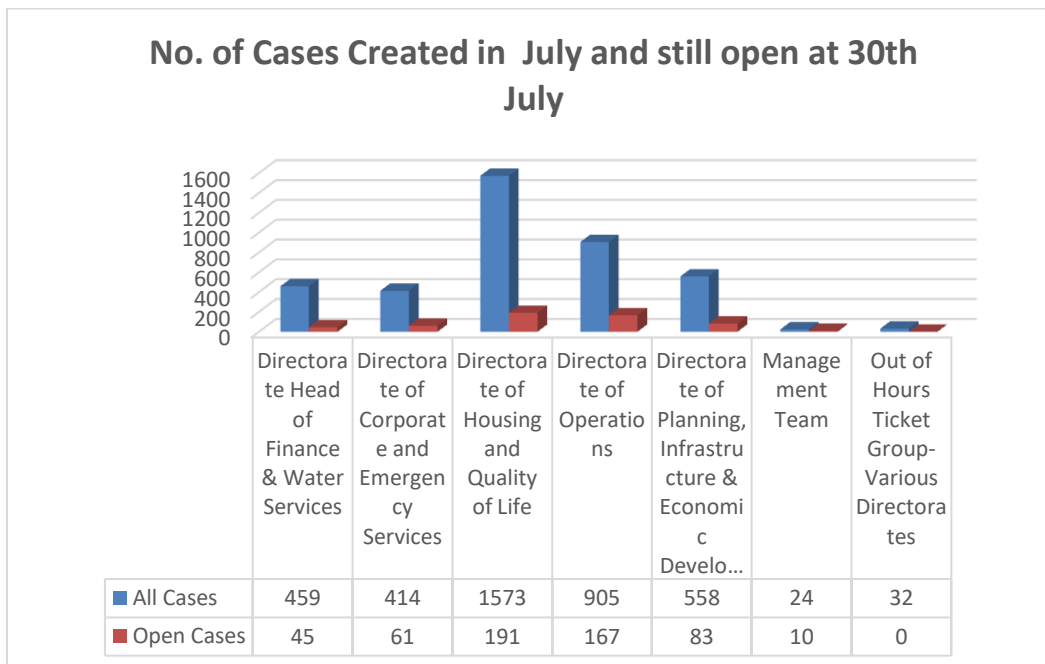
Corporate

July 2021

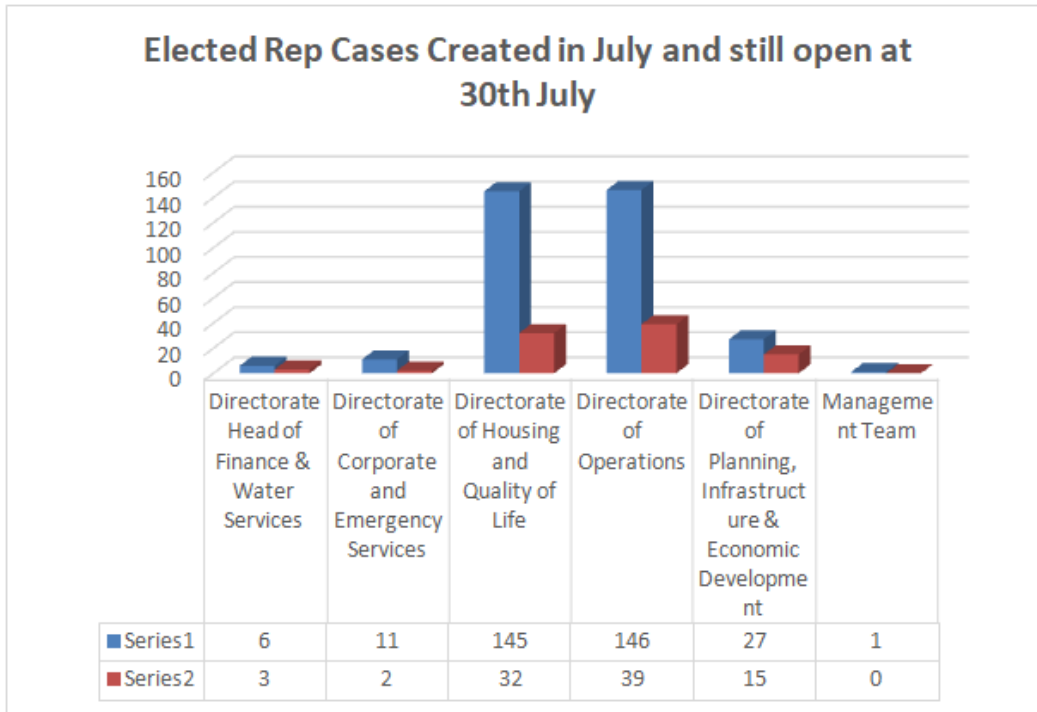
During the month of July, Customer Services dealt with 10,449 queries - 8,623 calls, and 1,826 e-mails. All the public counters remained closed during July due to Level 5 restrictions.



There were 3,965 valid SugarCRM cases recorded during July of which 557 (14%) remain unresolved, broken down by directorate as follows:



During July 336 elected reps. cases were recorded on Sugar of which 91 (27%) remain unresolved broken down by Directorate as follows:



The table below illustrates activity in the redress area.

	Same period 2020	2021 Total	July 2021
Freedom of Information	56	65	8
Data Protection	7	2	0
Access to Information on Environment	3	3	0
Ombudsman	5	6	0
Complaints Policy	10	13	3

Electoral Register

Work continues on the preparation of the draft register for 2022-2023. Correspondence issued to householders seeking confirmation of their Date of Birth and Eircode details and, as previously advised, return of completed forms was lower than expected.

Field officers are calling to homes where electoral statistics show a low percentage of eircodes and dates of birth, including properties in Collon, Omeath and Drogheda South. Electoral Register staff will shortly begin inputting the information received.

This is an important validation process as Eircodes and Dates of Birth are used to cross check for duplicate entries and to ensure that electors are

assigned to the correct Polling District and Polling Place. Over 91% of electors are now assigned an Eircode which is a significant achievement.

The online facility is available on our website for those persons who want to be considered for inclusion in the next draft, which is available for entry until the autumn.

Elected members are again encouraged to ask their electorate to submit their details, forms can be picked up from customer services desks in local Council offices or can be posted on request. The register contact details are 1890 202303 / register@louthcoco.ie

Sustainable Energy

Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance

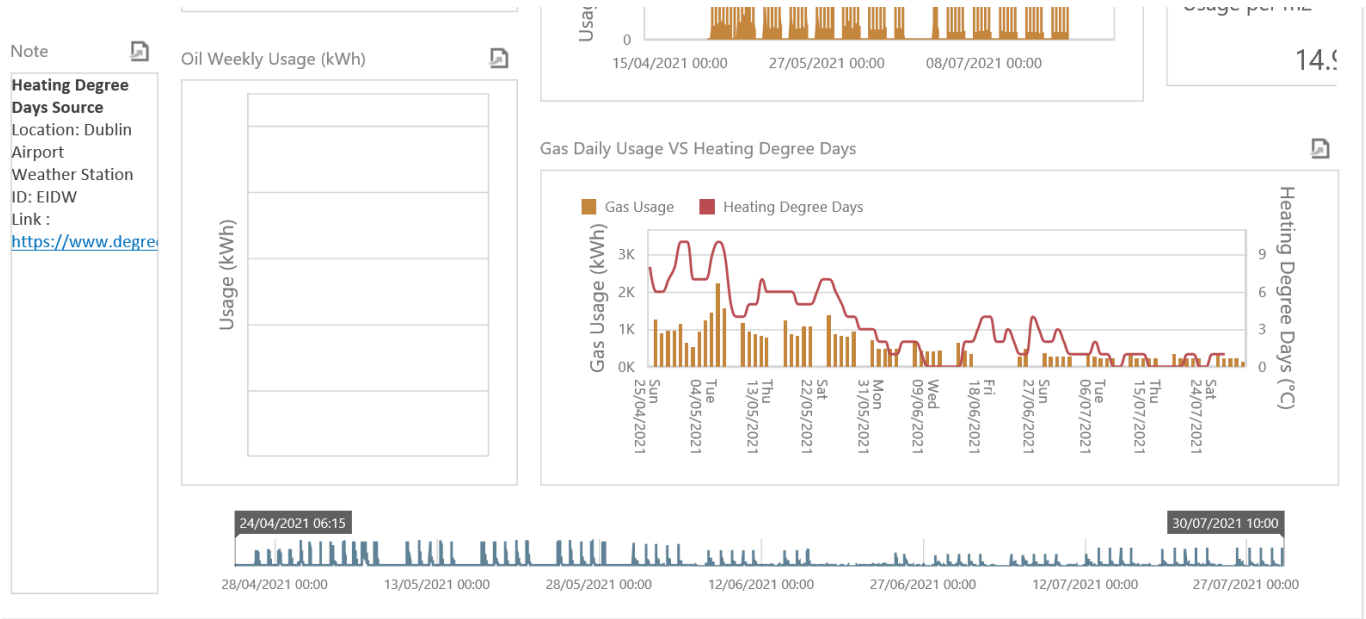
Louth County Council exceeded the requirement for Public Bodies to improve their energy efficiency by 33% by 2020, as set out in the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan.

Results for 2020 indicate that the rate of improvement in the Council's energy efficiency has improved to 47.36% at the end of 2020. We understand SEAI intends to accept those results in the present circumstances, and so 47.36% is the Council's current energy efficiency improvement

compared to the baseline energy use (average 2006 - 2008 energy use).

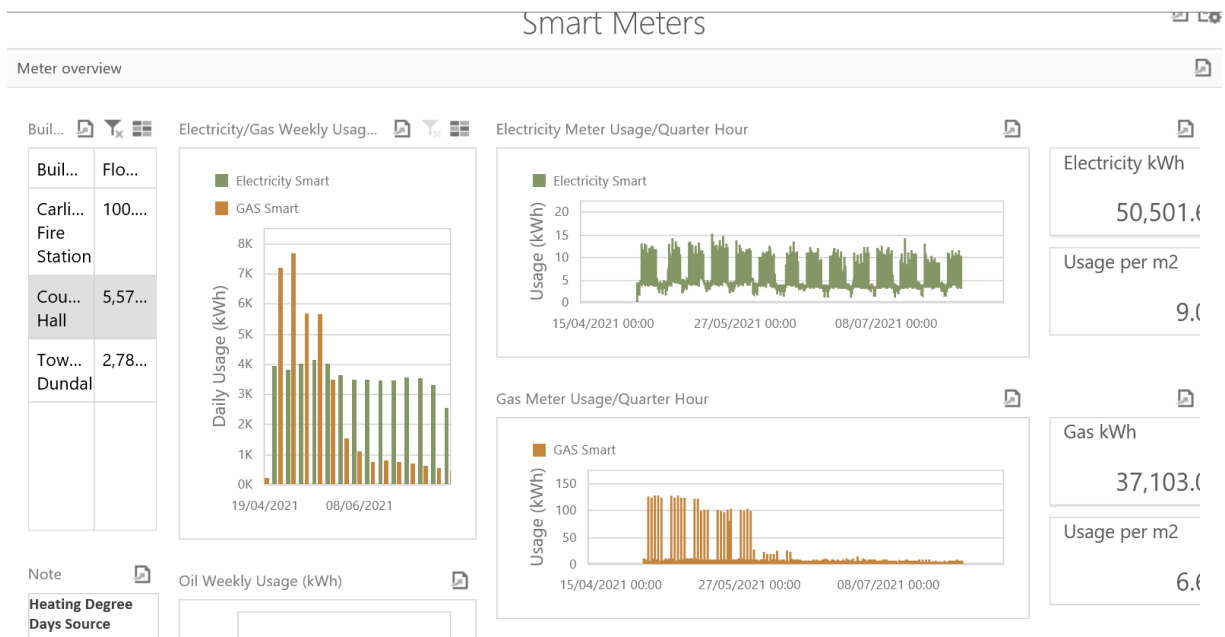
Energy Management System

The Council's Energy Management System is certified as compliant with ISO 50,001; 2018 for another 3-year registration cycle, from 2020 - 2023. A 1 day Surveillance Audit will be undertaken later in 2021 to confirm ongoing compliance.



Graph of Gas Use at Dundalk Town Hall - taken from New Energy Loggers installed by Louth County Council at Dundalk Town Hall

These new loggers provide additional energy consumption data which assists to maximise energy efficiency.



Graph of Energy Use at County Hall – taken from New Energy Loggers installed by Louth County Council at County Hall

Better Energy Communities Grant 2021

The Council partnered with Dunleer Sustainable Energy Community (SEC) in its grant application for funding for energy projects in 2021. That application resulted in an offer of funding for Council energy projects of €78,282, for a total maximum expenditure cost of €260,939.

The Council is working with Dunleer SEC, to progress those energy projects. The works must be completed and paid-for no later than end of September 2021 to enable the grant offered, to be claimed.

Varcities H2020 Funded Project

Varcities is a H2020 Research Funding stream and the consortium is made up of 25 Partners, largely academia throughout Europe. The theme of the project is centred around Urban Regeneration; Impacts on Quality of Life and Health and Well Being. Funding has been approved for €10million, with €422,500 allocated to LCC. The project officially commenced on September 1st 2020. The project duration is the 54 months from that starting date.

The first stakeholder meeting for this project was undertaken virtually on Tuesday 29 June. A second stakeholder meeting is expected to be arranged for

November and deatield design is required to be completed by end February 2022.

GenComm Interreg Energy Storage Project

Members are encouraged to review the project website for an up-date on progress and in particular for more detail from the project on the potential for hydrogen use as a Sustainable Energy source. The project partners consider how hydrogen offers the opportunity to make energy production a primary driver of the economy rather than responding to the needs of the economy as at present. It is planned to invite the Gencomm Project Team to present on that project at a later meeting of the Climate Change and Energy Strategic Policy Committee (SPC).

Sustainable Energy Communities

The Council has developed a Policy to support Sustainable Energy Communities through the Climate Change and Energy Strategic Policy Committee. In addition, the Council intends to consider a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Council, and SEAI to support Sustainable Energy Communities. That MOU was developed by the Mid-West Region and has already been signed by a small number of Local Authorities there. It is planned to bring that also to the attention of the Climate and Energy SPC.

Fire and Emergency Services

Fire Service

With the current increase in Covid cases, Louth Fire Service restrictions remained in July with no further scaling back on Level 5 measures.

During July, Emergency Services Driving (ESDS) courses continued to be delivered in Louth. Also a Sub Officer completed a Compartment Fire Behaviour Instructors course Hacketstown Training Centre, Co. Carlow. In addition, a driving instruction company has been continuing to provide Class C driving instruction for fire service personnel so as to ensure adequate driver numbers for fire appliances.

Following receipt of approval to proceed with the design of a new fire station for Dunleer, a design brief and summary cost plan are being completed for the Department of Planning, Local Government and Heritage. In addition, a Quantity Surveyor is being procured for the summary cost plan and following this will be the procurement of a design team.

The new fire station will be designed to satisfy all energy efficiency and minimal carbon requirements.

Further to the Cooley wildland fire prevention group meeting, progress is being made towards commencement of gorse removal at high risk sites. Heritage funding has been received for a fire risk assessment and quotations are currently being sought for consultants.

The Fire Prevention Section has continued with fire safety inspections in respect of existing fire risk buildings and new developments.

Climate Adaptation Strategy

An update on progress on climate action (adaptation and mitigation) measures and actions that apply to the fire service is being prepared for the Environmental Section.

Major Emergency Management

Regional Major Emergency Steering and Working Group meetings in relation to Covid have continued by tele-conference during April. These meetings have included personnel from the three Principal Response Agencies, i.e. the respective local authorities, the Health Service Executive and An Garda Síochana.

A wildfire management workshop was organized by Newry and Mourne Council on 27th July and attended by Louth personnel.

Civil Defence

Activities during July included:

- Transportation of five patients to hospital appointments
- Emergency First Responder Recertification Training
- Two personnel trained in drones
- Manual Handling Instructor Recertification
- Search Training for two personnel

The Civil Defence HQ is being assessed for safe occupancy during Covid to allow limited training to recommence by September.

Water Safety

Work is continuing in assessing water safety risks at various locations across the county.

There is ongoing collaboration with local area committee to arrange water safety weeks at Gyles Quay and Clogherhead. Further, there also been active Social media promotions to raise awareness of water safety generally.

Housing and Quality of Life Tithíocht agus Cáilíocht na Beatha

This Directorate has two key responsibilities:

- Housing, which encompasses all initiatives which aim to match need and available resources in a sustainable way throughout our county
- Quality of Life, a wide range of initiatives and programmes designed to make living in Louth a stimulating, safe and rewarding experience, including the arts, heritage, and our libraries

Tá dhá eochairfhreagracht ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

- Tithíocht, a chuimsíonn gach tionscnamh agus de chuspóir acu ná na riachtanais agus na haicmhainní ar fad atá ar fail a chur le chéile go hinbhuanaithe ar fud ár gcontae
- Cáilíocht na Beatha, réimse leathan tionscnaimh agus cláir atá deartha chun saol spreagúil, sásúil, sábháilte a chur ar fail i gContae Lú, na healaíona, an oidhreacht, agus ár leabharlanna san áireamh

Paddy Donnelly
Director / Stiúrthóir



Housing

Pillar 1: Addressing Homelessness

As the Responsible Housing Authority for the North East Region, Louth County Council continues to manage this area and achieve the goals set out in the North East Homelessness Strategy 2018-2020. The preparation for a new three year strategy has commenced. The work done within Louth can be summarised as follows:

Presentations July 2021	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
Number of Person who presented as Homeless	12	203	142	357
Offered advice, support (including fast tracking H.A. for Rent Supplement eligibility)	11	184	128	323
Placed in Temporary Emergency Accommodation	01	04	04	09
Refused Offer of Temporary Emergency Accommodation	00	15	10	25
Not eligible from outside county or non HRC	00	00	00	00

The tables below reflect monthly returns submitted to the Department with regard to Homeless numbers in the NORTH EAST REGION between 19th -25th July 2021. This anonymous and aggregated return of all individuals accessing emergency accommodation is returned to the Department of Housing on a monthly basis.

Table 1: Gender

Gender	Total
Male	71
Female	25
Total	96

Table 2: Age Groups

Age Group	Total
18-24	10
25-44	47
45-64	32
65+	07
Total	96

Table 3: Accommodation Type

Accommodation Type	Total
Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA)	17
Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)	57
Temporary Emergency Accommodation (low support)(TEA)	22
Unique Total (note, clients may have accessed multiple accommodation types during the week)	00
Minus people accessing multiple accommodation types during the week	00
Total unique individuals	96

Table 4: County

County	Total
County Louth	91
County Monaghan	00
County Cavan	05
Total	96

Table 5 - Families with dependent children

	No. of families with dependent children	No. of Individual Adults	No. of Dependents
Individuals with dependent children	06	05	12
Total	06	05	12
Couples with dependent children	02	04	06
Total	02	04	06

Housing First

	Louth	Monaghan	Cavan	Total
Number of tenancies established	20	2	5	27
Number of individuals currently in tenancy	18	2	5	25

Homeless Services and Covid 19

As a direct response to the risk of communal spread of the Covid-19 virus amongst vulnerable individuals in Homeless Hostels, the Council has opened up a number of void properties and temporarily decanted individuals and families from hostel accommodation into these Units.

This has allowed these persons to live in a more isolated environment thereby decreasing the risk of infection. Contracted service providers have continued to provide meals and high level support to these clients.

The Hostels and family Hub continue to operate with reduced capacity, which reflects government guidelines in respect of social and physical distancing. Isolation units have been made available for homeless persons with suspected/confirmed cases of Covid-19 and protocols have been drawn up to address such cases. The full range of Homeless Services

continues to be provided remotely and staff is available on request, in exceptional cases.

Inspections of Private Emergency Accommodation

Since December 2017 the Homeless Office has carried out random and unannounced inspections on all B&Bs, Hotels and Hostels providing Private Emergency Accommodation on behalf of Louth County Council. This will continue on a monthly basis subject to Covid 19 permissions.

Housing Assistance Payment

The total number of applications in HAP is 3311

Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
335	1744	1232	3311

Pillar 2: Accelerate Social Housing

Over the period 2018 to 2021, a target has been set for the provision of 1074 units. This target will include delivery of units from Part V provision, Acquisitions, Mortgage to Rents, Long Term Leases, Repair and Lease and Buy & Renew Acquisitions. The 2020 - 2023 pipeline delivery progress report is in tables below.

2021 Housing Allocations up to 31st July 2021

Numbers Allocated	Allocations - Social	Allocations - Voluntary	Refusals - Social	Refusals - Voluntary
Ardee MD	26	13	05	01
Dundalk MD	98	54	15	09
Drogheda BD	52	26	15	06
Total Allocations	176	93	35	16

Social housing transfers facilitated up to 31st July 2021

Year	Ardee	Dundalk	Drogheda
2020	00	08	06

Housing List (excluding HAP Transfers)

Month	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
July	369	682	638	1689

Transfer List from HAP

Month	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
July	335	1744	1232	3311

There are a total of 267 applicants on the approved list for transfer (Non-HAP) within Social Housing including 26 applications from the Approved Housing Bodies.

Rent Management

The number of tenants who pay rent by Household Budget is now **1002**

Current Rents Arrears as at 31st July 2021	Number of Account	Value
Rents between 4-6 weeks old	208	€67,751.00
Rents between 7-12 weeks old	138	€89,230.00
Rents greater than 12 weeks old	801	€2,808,487.00
TOTAL	1147	€2,965,468.00

Pillar 3: Build More Homes

The Council continues to maintain land banks in the following locations, which can be developed if an appropriate project and funding is forthcoming.

Location	Acres
Mullavalley, Louth Village	8.82
Kilkerley	3.80
Ballymakenny	16.53
Point Road	5.2
Various Individual Sites	0

Pillar 4: Improve the Rented Sector

	July	Total
No. of properties inspected July	02	02
No. of advisory notes issued to Landlord	00	03
No. of improvement notices Issued	05	76
No. of prohibition notices Issued	02	02
No. of Rent Book Notices Issued	00	00
Inspections (HAP)	00	00
Improvement Notices (HAP)	05	76
Virtual Inspections Issued	05	55
Private Inspections Complaints	00	00
HAP Complaints	02	02
RAS Complaints	00	00
Re Inspections HAP	00	00
Re Inspections Hap Compliance	03	17
Re Inspections RAS	00	00
Re Inspections RAS Compliance	00	00
AHB Inspection	00	00
Long Term Leases	00	75

Pillar 5: Utilise Existing Housing

The following table summarises the level of maintenance and works activity to existing stock.

Maintenance	Total (YTD)	This month
No. of Maintenance Requests Received	2631	298
No. of Maintenance Completed	1968	205

Vacant Properties

Currently 27 No. social units have been used as temporary accommodation for isolation or additional homeless need during Covid 19 and are not included in the next table.

Vacant Properties	Total	
Ardee MD	08	
Dundalk MD	30	
Drogheda BD	28	
Total Re Lets		66
Vacant Properties CPO Units not yet ready for occupation (all county)		09
Total No. of CPO Properties (Relets & CPO's)		75

Grant Assistance to the Elderly and Disabled

The private grant process is continuing with some changes to procedure to reflect social distancing guidelines.

The following grants are available:

- Housing Adaption Grants - Priority 1, which will assist those who need whole time care in the home
- Housing for Older People – Priority 1 to works that will preserve the integrity of the dwelling
- Mobility Aids Grants - Priority 1, which will assist those who need whole time, care in the home.
- The Department have notified Louth County Council that the allocation for 2021 is €1,889,980, of which €377,996 is to be provided from the authority's own revenue resource.

Private Housing Grants

Status	HOP	HAG	MAG	Total
Applications Completed 2020	131	60	36	227
Applications rolling into 2021	101	310	70	481
New Applications	168	87	65	320

Estate Management

	Drogheda BD & Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Total
Pre Tenancy Training	05	09	14
Tenancy Investigations (call outs)	21	32	53
Tenancy Investigations (remotely)	28	16	44
Tenancy Inspections	05	00	05
Tenancy Notification	00	00	00

Anti-Social Behaviour

ASB Cases	DBD	AMD	DMD	TOTAL
ASB Ongoing	07	01	07	15
ASB Completed	09	01	07	17
Total ASB	16	02	14	32

	DBD	AMD	DMD	Total
Verbal Warning	02	00	02	04
Tenancy Notification	00	00	00	00
Total	02	00	02	04

Delivery Stream	Rebuilding Ireland Projected Delivery 2018-2021				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
SHIP CONSTRUCTION	00	00	00	17	17
SHIP CONSTRUCTION RAPID	00	00	00	00	00
REGENERATION	00	00	00	00	00
CAS CONSTRUCTION	01	00	00	01	02
CONSTRUCTION BUT & RENEW SHIP CONSTRUCTION SINGLE STAGE	23	26	07	05	61
SHIP CONSTRUCTION SINGLE STAGE	00	00	00	02	02
SHIP CONSTRUCTION TURNKEY	00	05	131	28	164
SHIP Competitive Dialogue	00	00	00	00	00
CAS CONSTRUCTION TURNKEY & CAS SINGLE STAGE	00	00	00	12	12
PPP	00	00	80	00	80
AHB CALF Construction	10	15	02	00	27
AHB CALF Turnkey	119	188	54	210	571
CALF Part V	14	115	05	11	145
LA Part V	04	00	06	07	17
CAS Part V	00	00	00	00	00
Voids (capped)	02	05	00	00	07

DEFINITIONS

AHB = Approved Housing Body

CAS = Capital Assistance Scheme which provides 100% funding to AHBs to build or acquire units for disabled or homeless applicants with a non-repayment mortgage in favour of the Housing Authority to ensure that the Housing Authority has both nomination rights and security over the asset created by public funds.

CALF = Capital Advance Loan Fund which provides Department funding for up to 30% funding to AHBs to provide units for general use on the basis that they enter into a Payment and Availability agreement with the Housing Authority who will provide all the tenant nominations.

CPO = Compulsory Purchase Scheme allows the local authority to land or property without the consent of the owner by means of a compulsory purchase order (CPO).

This is being used to acquire vacant or derelict houses which are being returned to use as social housing units.

IPS = Incremental Purchase Scheme

Voids = new addition to the report requested by Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government.

SHCEP = Social Housing Current Expenditure Programme supports the delivery of social housing by providing financial support to local authorities and Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) for the long term leasing of houses and apartments from private owners and developers.

SHIP = Social Housing Investment Programme

Note: On the 6th January 2021 the Government introduced new measures for preventing the spread of COVID-19, which included the closure of construction sites from the 8th January 2021, with limited exceptions. A number of construction sites on this list were closed down as a consequence. The impact of this closure has pushed out the delivery date on a number of the construction projects.

Project Name	Project Phase	Total Units Expected	Approved Housing Body / Louth County Council	Project Status	Date	Breakdown of Units
CPO All bundles 2019 - Q3 Delivery	3/3	6	Louth County Council	Onsite	30/09/2019	
CPO All bundles 2019 - Q4 Delivery	4/4	7	Louth County Council	Onsite	31/12/2019	
Tierney Street, Ardee	1/1	7	Oaklee Housing Trust	Stage 3 Approved	31/03/2022	1x 3 bed, and 1x 4 bed house to 7 x 1 bed
CPO All bundles 2020 Delivery Q1	1/4	5	Louth County Council	Onsite	20/05/2020	
St. John's Home, Peter's Hill, Drogheda, Co. Louth	1/1	4	North & East Housing Association Ltd	Stage 3 Approved	30/06/2022	4 x 1 bed
CPO All bundles 2020 Delivery Q2	2/4	5	Louth County Council	Onsite	30/06/2020	
Barrack Street, Dundalk	1/1	21	Simon Community : Dundalk Simon	Revised Stage 2 Site investigation works to commence	01/03/2022	19 x 1bed 2 x 2 bed
Wadman Park, Haynestown, Dundalk	3/3	29	Louth County Council	Completed	Oct 2020	
Gort Bui, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	2/5	9	Louth County Council	Completed	Dec 2020	6x 3 bed, 3 x 4 bed
5 Slieveroe Crescent, Dundalk	1/1	1	Cluid Housing Association	Stage 4 Approved	31/12/2021	1 x 3 bed
Clonmore Close, Ardee, Co Louth	1/4	12	Cluid Housing Association	Completed	March 2021	2 x 4 beds, 2 x3 bed and 8x 1 beds in this phase
Gort Bui, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	3/5	10	Louth County Council	Completed	01/03/2021	6x 3 bed, 4 x 4 bed

Gort Bui, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	4/5	9	Louth County Council	Completed	16/04/2021	5 x 3 bed , 4 x 4 bed
Gort Bui, Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	5/5	8	Louth County Council	Completed	20/05/2021	2 x 3 bed 6 x 4 bed
Castletown Road Dundalk	1/1	6	Louth County Council	Funding Approved Turnkey	30/06/2022	1 x 1 bed 5 x 2 bed
CPO All bundles 2019 - Q4 Delivery	4/4	12	Louth County Council	Onsite	31/12/2020	
CPO All bundles 2020 Delivery Q3	3/4	1	Louth County Council	Onsite	31/12/2020	
CPO All bundles 2020 Delivery Q4	4/4	9	Louth County Council	Onsite	31/12/2020	
Father Finn Park (Phase 2)	1/1	17	Louth County Council	Completed	08/04/2021	7 x 2 bed & 10 x 3 bed
Clonmore Close, Ardee, Co Louth	2/4	15	Cluid Housing Association	Completed	July 2021	2 x 4 bed, 12 x 3 bed and 1 x2 bed units in this phase
Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth	1/5	16	Túath Housing Association	Completed	March 2021	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all phases
Lismullen Grove, Dundalk, Co Louth	3/3	8	Túath Housing Association	Completed	March 2021	8 x 3 bed units in this phase
Harbour View, Coulter Place, Dundalk	1/2	12	Cluid Housing Association	Completed	July 2021	12 x 1 bed and 12 x 2 bed apartments across both phases
Four Winds, Mullacapple, Collon	1/1	1	St. John of God Housing Association Ltd	Stage 2 Approved	31/03/2022	1 unit, 4 beds
Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	1/4	45	Clanmil	Funding Approved	30/06/2022	9 x 2 bed apartments, 34 3 bed units and 24 x 4 bed units
Harbour View, Coulter Place, Dundalk	2/2	12	Cluid Housing Association	Completed	July 2021	12 x 1 bed and 12 x 2 bed apartments across both phases
Newtown Marsh Drogheda	1/4	17	Respond	Onsite	31/10/2021	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all

							4 phases
Newtown Marsh Drogheda	View Road	2/4	23	Respond	Onsite	31/03/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
Hallidays Mill St Dundalk	Quay	1/1	85	Co Operative Housing	Onsite	30/09/2021	15 x 3 bed apartments, 58 x 2 bed apartments and 12 x 1 bed apartments
Clonmore Ardee, Co Louth	Close,	3/4	15	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	30/11/2021	8 x 3 bed and 7 x2 bed units in this phase
Racecourse Meadows, Co. Louth	Dundalk,	2/4	22	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	30/09/2021	4 x 4 bed houses, 36 x 3 bed houses and 6 x 2 bed apartments across all phases
Cathedral Dundalk, Co Louth	View,	2/5	10	Túath Housing Association	Completed	31/05/2021	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
Clonmore Ardee, Co Louth	Close,	4/4	13	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	31/06/2022	10 x 3 bed and 3 x 2 bed units in this phase
Cathedral Dundalk, Co Louth	View,	3/5	16	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	30/09/2021	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
Cathedral Dundalk, Co Louth	View,	4/5	11	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	15/02/2022	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
Cox's Phase 2B	Demesne	1/1	22	Louth County Council	Onsite	31/03/2022	2 nx 2 bed, 4 x 3 bed, 2 nx 4 bed , 6x .1 bed Apt & 8

						x 2 bed apt
Newfoundwell Road Drogheda	1/2	55	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	31/03//2022	17 x 3 bed terraced houses, 1 x 3 bed duplexes, 25 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed terraced, 4 x 2 bed duplexes, 28 x 2 bed apartments and 19 x 1 bed apartments across both phases
Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth	5/5	12	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	31/03/2022	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	3/4	6	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	30/06/2022	4 x 4 bed houses, 36 x 3 bed houses and 6 x 2 bed apartments across all phases
Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	4/4	7	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	30/09/2022	4 x 4 bed houses, 36 x 3 bed houses and 6 x 2 bed apartments across all phases
Newtown Marsh View Road Drogheda	3/4	47	Respond	Onsite	30/09/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
Dúiche Roden (formerly Kitchen Garden), Demesne Road, Dundalk	1/2	65	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	31/03/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 18 x 3 be duplexes, 22 x 3 bed terraced houses, 19 x 2 bed apartments, 29 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed bungalows and 36 x 1 bed apartments across both phases

Dúiche Roden (formerly Kitchen Garden), Demesne Road, Dundalk	2/2	65	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	30/04/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 18 x 3 bed duplexes, 22 x 3 bed terraced houses, 19 x 2 bed apartments, 29 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed bungalows and 36 x 1 bed apartments across both phases	
Newtown Marsh Drogheda	View Road	4/4	47	Respond	Onsite	31/07/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
Moneymore, Drogheda - Infill		1/1	1	Louth County Council	Funding Approved Single Stage	01/10/2022	1 x 2 bed
Gort Clogherhead - Infill	Uaine,	1/1	1	Louth County Council	Funding Approved Single Stage	01/10/2022	1 x 4 bed
School Lane, Dunleer - Infill		1/1	1	Louth County Council	Funding Approved Single Stage	01/10/2022	1 x 3 bed
Newfoundwell Road		2/2	39	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	31/03/2023	17 x 3 bed terraced houses, 1 x 3 bed duplexes, 25 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed terraced, 4 x 2 bed duplexes, 28 x 2 bed apartments and 19 x 1 bed apartments across both phases
Boice Court (Phase 2/4)		1/1	72	Louth County Council	Stage 2 Approved	14/10/2023	27 x 3 bed, 4 x 4 bed, 8 x 1 bed apt , 8 x 2 bed apt , 8 x 3 bed apt
Mount Dundalk	Avenue,	1/1	93	Louth County Council	Stage 2 Approved	14/09/2023	29 x 2 bed, 23 x 3 bed, 9 x 4 bed, 10 x 1 bed apt, 6 x 2 bed apt, 16 x 3 bed apt

Muirhevnamor, Dundalk Phase 1- Infill	1/1	11	Louth County Council	Stage 1 Approved	30/06//2023	3x 2 bed & 8 x 3 bed
Rathmullen Park, Drogheda - Infill	1/1	4	Louth County Council	Funding Approved Single Stage	31/12/2022	2 x 2 bed 2 x 3 bed
Donore Road, Drogheda	1/1	66	Cluid Housing Association	Funding Approved	30/11/2022	8 x 3 bed apartments, 54 x 2 bed apartments and 4 x 1 be apartments
Castle Court , Castlebellingham	1/1	1	Cluid Housing Association	Completed	June 2021	1 x 2 bed unit
Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk	1/1	2	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	30/09/2021	2 x 3 bed units
Dublin Road, Dundalk	1/1	65	Respond	Onsite	31/05/2022	5 x 3 bed houses, 7 x 3 bed duplexes, 2 x 3 bed apartments, 16 x 2 bed duplexes, 4 x 2 bed apartments, 4 x 1 bed houses and 27 x 1 bed apartments
Tullybrook, Slane Road, Drogheda	1/1	04	Cluid Housing Association	WITHDRAWN		2 x 3 bed houses and 2 x 2 bed houses
Doire Beag, Collon, Co Louth Infill	1/1	06		Funding Approved Single Stage	31/12/2022	6 x 3 bed
Glyde View Tallanstown	1/1	02		Completed	10/05/2021	2x 3 bed
Termon River Termonfeckin	1/2	02		Completed	17/12/2020	2 x 4 bed
Termon River Termonfeckin	2/2	01		On Site	16/07/2021	1 x 4 bed

Highfield Dundalk	1/1	12	Women's Aid	Stage 1 Approved	30/06/2023	5 x 1 bed 7 x 2 bed
10-16 The Alleys Drogheda	1/1	14	Peter McVerry	Stage 1 approved	28/02/2023	14 Studio Apts
Riverwell Close Dundalk	1/1	1		Revised stage ½ to be submitted	31/03/2022	1 x 4bed
Coulter Place	1/1	7		Stage 2 approved Planning Granted	31/12/2022	5 x 2 bed 1 x 4 bed
Linenfield Ballymakenny	1/1	06		On Site	31/12/2021	6 x 2 bed
Ellwood Ballymakenny Rd Drogheda	1/3	17	Funding Approved Turnkey	07/02/2022	TBC	
Ellwood Ballymakenny Rd Drogheda	2/3	15	Funding Approved Turnkey	30/05/2022	TBC	
Ellwood Ballymakenny Rd Drogheda	3/3	13	Funding Approved Turnkey	05/09/2022	TBC	
Tullybrook, Slane Rd, Drogheda	1/1	85	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	31/03/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 22 x 3 bed terraced, 24 x 3 bed duplexes, 22 x 2 bed terraced, 7 x 2 bed duplexes and 8 x 2 bed apartments
Oriel Heights	1/1	13	North & East Housing	Funding Approved	30/09/2022	4 x 3 bed units and 9 x 2 bed units

Community and Sports

Community Enhancement Programme (CEP) 2021

Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, announce €4.5 million to support community groups impacted by COVID-19. The 2021 Community Enhancement Programme (CEP) will provide small grants designed to assist in the re-opening of facilities such as community centres, men's and women's sheds, parish halls and youth centres.

- Department of Rural and Community Development have allocated €145,542 to the Louth CEP.
- Funding is to support local groups to re-open their facilities post COVID-19.
- Small grants for repairs and renovations, new equipment and safety upgrades.
- Targeted at disadvantaged urban and rural areas.

Projects that seek to enhance community address disadvantage and improve social cohesion at local level.

PPN

Louth PPN held Municipal District meetings on 5th, 6th and 8th July for all members to attend and receive updates for their areas. As it was the first of these meetings in 2021, it was the first opportunity for many to meet new Resource Worker Michelle Curran, although virtually.

Louth PPN also held a Plenary Meeting via Zoom on Wednesday 14th July 2021 which was attended by 48 local community groups.

Elections for representatives to sit on various committees took place recently, the results of which were ratified at the Plenary and are detailed in the table below.

LCDC	Carol West	SOSAD
LCDC	Bernardine Quinn	Outcomers
Louth Drug & Alcohol Forum	Keith O'Hagan	Youth Work Ireland

NRTH East Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force	Denise Tuohy	Youth Work Ireland
Joint Louth Meath Migrant Integration Forum	Jacinta Grimes	Youth Work Ireland



Presentations were made on the night from Healthy Ireland, Sosad Ireland and a pre-consultation of the new PEACE Plus Programme.

Louth Sports Unit

Louth Local Sports Partnership

Small Club Grant 2021

We are pleased to announce our Small Club Grant Scheme (€1,000 maximum per club) for New & Current local sports clubs in Louth to increase and support participation in sporting activities in County Louth along with Covid-19 reigniting funding support. Apply online via <https://louthlsp.com/what-we-do/funding-and-grants/louth-lsp-small-club-grant-2020/> Closing Date is Thursday 26th August at 4pm.

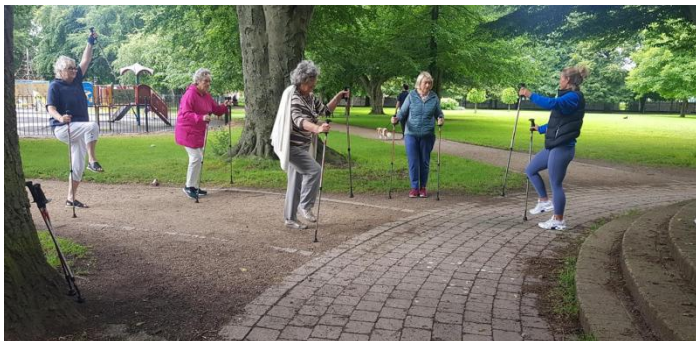
Return of Outdoor Inclusibility Camps for Kids & Adults

Louth LSP were delighted with the return of our Outdoor Inclusibility camps. There were 18 attendees at the kids' camp and 22 attendees at the adult camp.



Activator Course at St Helena's Park

Activator Course for older adults at St Helena's Park has been extended, it is a guided walking programme in our local park, with a new goal of setting up a new weekly group, 11 ladies involved, every Thursday 10am – 11am.



Park Bench Exercises

Installation of the Park Bench Poster continues, if you know of a local park or bench that could take part in this programme, please contact Louthlsp@louthcoco.ie



Walking Programme

Dundalk Walking Group & Cooley Connect Community Group started in early June and have a series of walks organised. We are also looking to get a programme started in Ardee and Knockbridge too.



Men on the Move

We have our second Men on the Move programme started in Drogheda; it took place this week and was so popular we have two programmes running to maintain social distancing and COVID protocols. We are also looking setting up another programme in Cooley in late August or early September.



National Play Day

As part of National Play Day this year with the COVID restrictions still in place we decided to create a programme with Frisbees. We give out 1500 Frisbees to local children so that they and their families enjoy some fun activities. We also got a Videographer to create a series of videos with different Frisbee games that you can play, go to <https://louthlsp.com/what-we-do/programmes/national-play-day/> to see the videos.



HER Outdoors Week

As part of HER Outdoors, we have engaged with adventure clubs and with local hiking clubs and cycling clubs to get some programme and events setup during the week of 9th of Aug to 15th of Aug, including Greenway Walk, Sea kayaking in Clogherhead and Blackrock, Windsurfing & Sea Swimming in Carlingford and Beach Yoga in Drogheda. Keep an eye on our social media for booking details as places will be limited.

Project Payments

Recently, Louth County Council paid out funding to beneficiaries under the LEADER Programme:-

Promoter	Amount
Moneymore Community House Project - Ref. 111610	€6,226.72
Dundalk Chamber of Commerce - Ref. 113178	€1,692.50
Dealg Design Ref: 114062 (Phase 1)	€1,944.86
Family Addiction Support Network Ref: 112086 (Phase 3)	€1,282.48
Drogheda Alzheimer's Day Care Centre Ref: 112187 (Phase 1)	€57,892.16
Total	€69,038.72

Pride of Place 2021

Two projects were nominated to go forward to represent Louth County Council in the "Pride of Place" annual competition. Detailed written submissions were submitted along with videos and an accompany brochure for nominees, "The Cox's Demesne Youth and Community Project" (The House) and Blackrock, on 23rd June 2021.

The judging season will commence in the autumn, nominees will present their project/areas to the judging panel, in person while maintaining Government/Public Health Covid-19 guidelines. The winners will be announced at the awards ceremony in November.

Please see links to the videos below:

- Blackrock - <https://youtu.be/NQqDjO7QqTc>
- Coxes - <https://youtu.be/B76CtJuTZIk>

Amenity Grants Scheme 2021

A total of 224 Amenity Grants were approved by councillors, at the June Council meeting, which were processed, by the Community Support team, in July.

There are a number of late application received which will go forward to the next council meeting to seek councillor approval.

Tidy Town National Competition 2021

The 2021 National Tidy Towns competition is proceeding this year under a revised format, the community office team engaged with Tidy Towns groups and offered their support with their applications. This year the entries will be submitted electronically and will be adjudicated remotely.

Louth County Council has contributed to the Local Authority Pollinator Award, in this year's competition.

This year, a new category aimed at groups who have continued to serve and look after their communities throughout the pandemic, was introduced and a special prize for young people.

Louth in Bloom 2021

#LOUTH IN BLOOM 2021

The 'Louth In Bloom 2021' competition closed to entries on 2nd July. The format of the competition is the same as last year's.

The categories include: Best Gardens, Best Housing Estates and Biodiversity projects, Hospitality and Business premises. Prizes will be awarded for each of the three district areas of Ardee, Drogheda and Dundalk, with an overall county winner in each category.

The entries submitted are currently been processed and will go before a Judging Panel in August, winners will be announced through a Virtual ceremony planned for September.

Tidy Towns Project Scheme 2021

Tidy Town groups throughout the county are currently working on their projects under the Tidy Towns project scheme, with the support of the community support team. It is hoped that these small scale projects will assist groups gaining additional marks in the National Tidy Town competition.

Green Schools

The community support staff will continue in the autumn carrying out renewal assessments with schools and their green committees, utilising the new virtual Green School assessment guide that was devised nationally, through the Zoom platform.

Supplies to Community Groups

Community groups continue to be facilitated with Supplies of litter pickers, gloves and Bio-degradable bags, to assist them in cleaning up their local areas. A COVID-19 compliance form is signed by all groups when collecting supplies.

Groups have been advised to contact the operations section to arrange pick up of any waste collected.

Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2021

Six applications were submitted to the Department under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2021 by the 16th July deadline. The projects are from the following locations:

- Ardee
- Baltray
- Carlingford
- Collon
- Dunleer
- Termonfeckin

The projects were varied and ranged from the provision of playgrounds and carparks to public realm works.

EU_SHAFE

On Wednesday 23rd June, Louth EU_SHAFE attended the Slovenia EU_SHAFE Inter-regional policy learning event which was held online. The event was based around Domain 3 of the project, "Communication and Information" and included a showcase of the project's Good Practices in this area.

The Irish Good Practice featured on the day was the "Healthy Ireland Information Technology Programme" hosted by ALONE, which is a programme aimed at supporting older people to live independently within their homes and communities using a range of cutting edge technologies.

These technologies include remote health monitors, alarms and communication devices. The event finished with a panel discussion titled "The importance of communication for and about the elderly". The event was a great success and was both enjoyable and informative.

The EU_SHAFE Project Co-ordinator attended a meeting of the Louth Age Friendly Alliance on 20th July and made a short presentation to the group on the EU_SHAFE project. EU_SHAFE partner teleconferences continue and are well attended.

The next inter-regional event will be hosted by Aarhus, Denmark on 29th and 30th September and it is hoped to hold the meeting face to face for the first time since the beginning of the Covid pandemic.

Louth Library Service

Our libraries continue to be open but following a cautious controlled and gradual offering of non virtual library services (browse and select) as guided by DOH and HSE. Health and safety directives are enforced at all stages during the planning and delivery of incrementally enhanced services linked to the government roadmap and local resources.

Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries are facilitating public toilet access, while complying strictly to public health rules and relevant SOGs.

Our branches have been busy with members of the public delighted to have the opportunity to browse and chat to staff. Since reopening on May 10th we have had almost 16,000 visits to our Libraries.

Housebound Service

The Housebound Delivery Service continues for elderly or vulnerable people who are cocooning or in isolation.

Deliveries are being coordinated from all of our branches serving both urban and rural areas in Louth. During the month of June there were 81 deliveries to borrowers spread throughout the county. New members have registered to use the service in addition to those who were already availing of it.

eServices



There is a wide range of eServices available to library members, including free eBooks, eAudiobooks through BorrowBox and free newspapers and magazines and Comic Books through Press Reader and Libby. There are also a host of online courses with Universal Class and Transparent Language online. <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/online-services/>

Online eServices tutorials

While our libraries have now reopened for quick browsing, our online facilities remain an important part of the service. We continue to promote our eServices using video tutorials, which provide an easy-to-follow, step-by-step guide to the various services and facilities that are available to use at home.

To date, we have published videos on

- joining the library online
- using the Louth Library Service app
- signing up for our new newsletter
- accessing the housebound service



Access the videos here:

<https://www.facebook.com/584110738287675/videos/3847322165366733>

Dormant Accounts funding 2021, Library Supports for Marginalised, Socially Excluded and Disadvantaged Communities

Dormant Accounts Fund for Marginalised Communities

Louth Library Service submitted 6 proposals for funding under the DRCD's Dormant Accounts Funding initiative. Funding of €19,600 has been approved for all 6 projects and will allow libraries to continue to engage with marginalised sections of our community. They include:

- Summer Strum - ukulele workshops for older people and adults with additional needs
- 3 r's, Right Book, Right Child, Right Time - Deis Schools
- Virtual English Classes - new Irish and residents of direct provision

- Community Coding Clubs - Deis Schools and early school leavers
- Young Entrepreneur Club - Youth Reach
- The Shona Project - survival kit for young people

Public Libraries Digital Equity & Social Inclusion Programme

Louth Library Service has received almost €6,600 from this funding stream to continue the re-configuration of the children’s area in Dundalk Library to include padded radiator covers and more accessible furniture to enhance the experience of children with sensory issues and disabilities.

Creative Ireland Library led multi agency project

Under Creative Ireland’s Excellence Grants funding of €22,000 has been approved for a multi-agency project led by Louth Library Service. This will target vulnerable teenagers and will take place from Autumn 2021 to Spring 2022. Louth Library Service is delighted to have this opportunity to work with ‘The Fighting Words Project’ who will develop creative workshops to include elements of creative writing, illustration, music. Participants will have the opportunity to record in DkIT and visit An Táin and Droichead Arts Centres for workshops with other young artists. A publication of their work will be produced at the end of the project. The initial workshops will target teenagers in the Drogheda area.

Decade of Centenaries Programme 2021

Dr. Thomas Tormey, Historian in Residence, hosted a virtual lecture on 27th July. The lecture by Dr. Timothy G. McMahon of Marquette University, Wisconsin, entitled ‘Irish Actors on an Imperial Stage: Grappling with the Legacies of Empire’ had over 48 attendees.

Feedback from the public was very positive, lots of questions and comments were made throughout the chat. Comments included

“Really stimulating talk & discussion. Thank you so much. Really important that we address our history in its totality and all its complexity and Tim your work is really helping us do this.”

“Very informative, Thanks so much!”

To watch the event click on the link <https://youtu.be/WjG-FE3R5YQ>

Irish Women and the Great War

A Lecture by Dr Fionnuala Walsh will take place on Tuesday 17th August at 7.30pm. Dr. Tormey will host this talk and the lecture will be given by Dr. Fionnuala Walsh who is a Lecturer and Assistant Professor in Modern Irish History at University College Dublin. In this lecture Dr. Walsh will discuss the impact of the Great War on the lives of women in Ireland and of their vital - but often overlooked - involvement in the war effort.

Register via
<https://www.crowdcast.io/e/irishwomensgreatwar/register> to book your place.

New Sensory Wall in Dundalk Library

A Sensory Wall was recently installed in Dundalk library. This colourful, tactile sensory wall features a range of visual and tactile toys that all the family can enjoy. This is the latest in our Sensory Spaces for All project which was funded by DRCD.

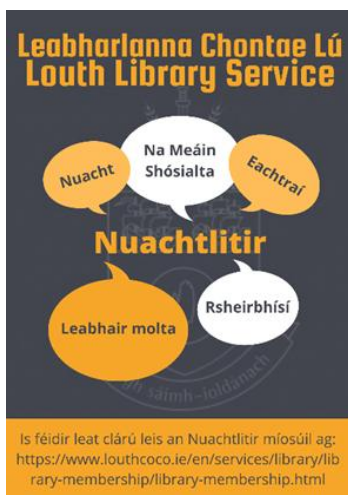


Brothers Jack and Tommy enjoying the sensory wall in Dundalk Library funded by the Dormant Accounts Fund



Pupil from Realt na Mara Autism Class at a recent visit to Dundalk Library

Library Newsletter



Is féidir leat clárú leis an Nuachtlitir míosúil ag:
<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/library-membership/library-membership.html>

The August edition contains the latest news, events, services, and recommendations from our libraries. In order to increase accessibility and engagement, the newsletter contains hyperlinks to relevant sites and documents, a full list of the month's events, and even a píosa beag Gaeilge. Anyone interested in receiving this monthly newsletter to their inbox can sign up here:

<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/library-membership/louth-library-newsletter-emailing-list-registration.html>

Click here to read this month's newsletter: <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/blog-and-newsletter/louth-library-newsletter-august-2021.pdf>



Healthy Ireland at your Library

Shelf Life

A blog from Louth Library Service continues with its regular features, linking in with #KeepWell campaign with features on exercise, self care, and healthy eating.

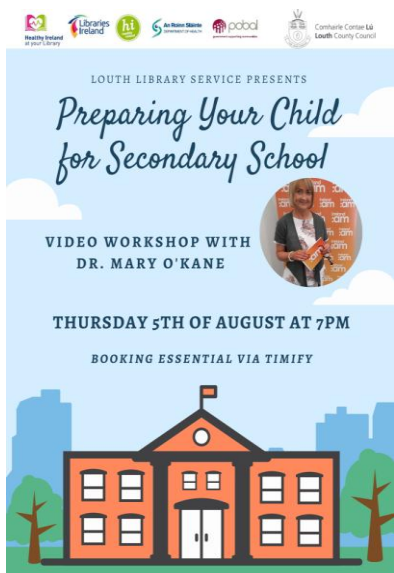
<https://shelflifethelouthlibraryserviceblog.wordpress.com/>

Healthy Ireland & #KeepWell Upcoming Events

Preparing Your Child for Secondary School

Preparing Your Child for Secondary School take with Dr Mary O'Kane takes places on Thursday 5th of August at 7pm. The move from primary to secondary school can result in both anxiety and excitement and that is just for parents! In this video Dr Mary O'Kane outlines some of the challenges faced during this transition and offers practical advice on how we can support students on this new educational journey.

Register via
<https://book.timify.com/services?accountId=5f9a9eb964916511fcceae5f&hideCloseButton>



Right to Read Initiative: a national initiative to support and enhance literacy work in our community.



Summer Stars 2021

Summer Stars is the free national reading programme for children running in all public libraries and online each summer. This year's programme runs from 14th June - 31st August 2021.



Phillips Family collecting their packs from Dundalk library

Our branches will continue to welcome young readers into the library this summer to take part in this great campaign. Approximately 683 children have signed up to the programme already.

Library staff have recorded some Irish Storytimes which will be posted on our Library facebook page during the months of July and August.

An bhfuil sibh i bhur Réaltaí Samhraidh go fóill? Muna bhfuil, is féidir leat clárú i do leabharlann áitiúil. Nuair atá sibh ansin, is féidir leabhar nó dhó a thógáil amach chun do chárta a líonadh! Are you a Summer Star yet? If not, you can register in your local library! While you're there, why not pick out a book or two to fill up your card?

Link to Irish Storytime posted in July. <https://fb.watch/v/akii14HpR/>

A dedicated blog post on Summer Stars can be read here: <https://shelflifethelouthlibraryserviceblog.wordpress.com/2021/06/14/summer-stars-are-back/?fbclid=IwAR13SU7dTFmWYs5aKEU8kwnfpuyuds08KeWk5HMMW9h7ql3vQ-W2kPcKXLQ>



Sophie and Conall with their Summer Stars packs

Be a Responsible Dog Owner

Dogs Trust Workshop takes place on Wednesday 11th of August at 12 noon. Join Audrey from Dogs Trust for this workshop for children, with quizzes about being a responsible dog owner and being safe around dogs. Suitable for 7 to 12 year olds. Register via <https://book.timify.com/services?accountId=5f9a9eb964916511fcceae5f&hideCloseButton> to book your place.



Clever Little Handies Rhyme & Sign Storytime via Zoom. Free for Parents with babies and toddlers, suitable from newborns up.

Register via <https://book.timify.com/services?accountid=5f9a9eb964916511fcca5f&hideCloseButton> to book your place.



Let's Get Reading-Books, Facts, Crafts!

The Let's Get Reading initiative continues this month for all of our young readers and their parents. Each month different themes are chosen and books, facts and crafts on the topic are explored throughout the month. The Baby Book Club is also part of this initiative. The themes for August are Summertime, The Olympics, History

and Legends. Book readings and blog posts will feature with reading tips and book recommendations for parents.



Schools Service

Primary Schools Programme Summer Camp visits

Although school is out for summer, our Primary Schools team is still working hard! As well as preparations for our service for the next school year, we have been Zoom-ing into local primary schools to visit summer camps.

Each visit includes a presentation on the library, questions and answers, and a special activity which was organised to fit in with the theme of each summer camp.

The themes included a Human Rights summer camp and a science-themed summer camp.

Other News

Heritage Week



As part of our promotion and preparation for heritage week 2021, Louth Library Service searched through our newspaper archives, and revisited times in the past when the current American President Joe Biden reflected on his Irish roots and his heritage.

County Louth has a particular pride and affection for Joe Biden considering his strong ancestral links and his deep connection to Ireland and its people. In respect of his inauguration earlier this year, we will be displaying interesting newspaper and family history articles as a celebration of his ancestral connections to the County.

Biden reflects on coming home to Ireland and life lessons learned

During his 2016 visit to Ireland, the then vice president and present Irish President Joe Biden praised the Irish Constitution for its respect for individual and family rights and led the toast to honor the Irish people.

Biden's great-grandfather James Fitzgibbon, emigrated from County Louth to a mining town in Colorado in 1850. He was a member of the Irish Republican Army and fought in the 1916 Easter Rising. He was also a member of the Irish Republican Army and fought in the 1916 Easter Rising. He was also a member of the Irish Republican Army and fought in the 1916 Easter Rising.

What's clear is that Joe Biden is a man who has a deep connection to Ireland and its people. He has a great-grandfather who was a member of the Irish Republican Army and fought in the 1916 Easter Rising. He was also a member of the Irish Republican Army and fought in the 1916 Easter Rising.

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Joe Biden's great-grandfather, James Fitzgibbon, emigrated from County Louth as a child in 1850. He was a member of the Irish Republican Army and fought in the 1916 Easter Rising. He was also a member of the Irish Republican Army and fought in the 1916 Easter Rising.

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This short video will bring children on a historical journey exploring some of Drogheda's most famous landmarks.

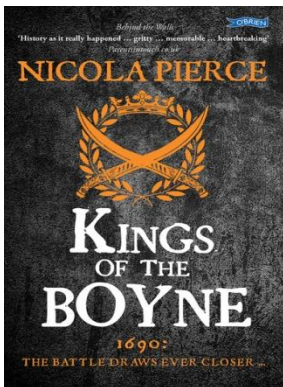


Creative Minecraft Workshop: Landmarks of Louth

Creative Minecraft Workshop takes place on Saturday 14th August at 11am. As part of Heritage Week, Minecrafters from 10 years up will be given the opportunity to recreate their favourite Louth landmarks. They have 90 minutes to plan and talk to each other on a Zoom call while working on their version of Newgrange, the harbours of Clogherhead and Carlingford, the Duleek Dolmen and the Boyne Viaduct. Booking via cccSkerries.com/louth

Other Events

Library staff were delighted to have an opportunity to film a chapter reading in Drogheda's Millmount Museum for Heritage week. The recording of the chapter reading taken from Nicola Pierce's book "Kings of the Boyne" will be streamed on our facebook page during Heritage Week.



Library staff have also compiled a recording entitled "Exploring the Landmarks & Heritage of Drogheda" which will also be streamed on our facebook page during Heritage Week.

louth library service present...

minecraft workshop

Saturday 14th August 11am

Let's rebuild this county in Minecraft!
Creative Minecraft Workshop: Landmarks of Louth

As part of Heritage Week, Minecrafters from 10 years up will be given the opportunity to recreate their favourite Louth landmarks. They have 90 minutes to plan and talk to each other on a Zoom call while working on their version of Newgrange, the harbours of Clogherhead and Carlingford, the Duleek Dolmen and the Boyne Viaduct.

Participants need to have Minecraft Java edition on a computer that's connected to the internet which has a camera and a microphone. There will be a dedicated server open only to those in the workshop.

to register, please follow the link in this post

Climate Action

Louth Library Service continued promotion and uptake of e services and the recycling of book stock to schools and community facilities contributes to lowering our carbon footprint.

Louth County Archives



National Retention Policy Records Management Working Group

Work is continuing on the draft revisions both for Community and for Library. The revision for Transport & Infrastructure has been approved and issued out. The draft revisions for Economic Development, Corporate Services and Environment are being finalised for approval and adoption. To date, Health & Safety, Planning & Development, Housing, Procurement, Finance, HR and Water have been completed, approved and issued out to local authorities. The Co Archivist assists staff on an ongoing basis with queries on the management of records and advises on the preparation of records both for destruction and for transfer to the Records Centre. Water Services and Operations are being assisted with drawing up a Classification Scheme for their records.

Heritage Week 2021

Louth County Archives will take part in Heritage Week online this year in collaboration with the County Louth Archaeological and Historical Society by sharing information on the Society's project entitled 'The Drogheda Merchant Ledgers Conservation project'. This project has been funded by The Heritage Council.



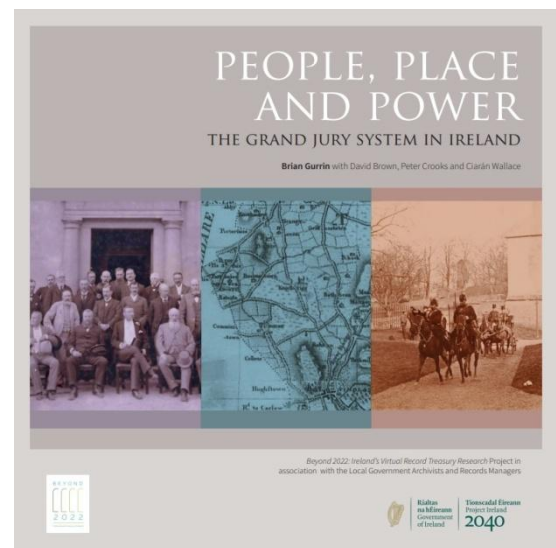
Decade of Centenaries 2021

Two projects are at present receiving the kind assistance of funding from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media. In one project, Valuation Books from the early 1920s period are currently receiving conservation treatment prior to being digitised and made available online later in the year. In another project, work has begun on making a short-film on Dundalk Gaol during the Civil War period. This project will produce a definitive account of the events in the gaol and local area at the time and will be made available online in October 2021.



**An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir,
Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán**
Department of Tourism, Culture,
Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

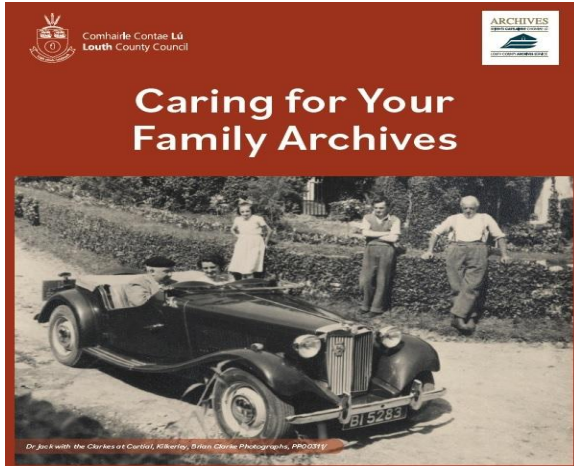
[Beyond 2022](https://beyond2022.ie/?page_id=2941), a project under Ireland 2040, recently produced a new booklet in association with the Local Government Archivists and Records Managers on the Grand Jury, an 18th and 19th century local authority body. It highlights the Grand Jury archive collection; a major source held by local authority archive services and is available here: https://beyond2022.ie/?page_id=2941



Caring for Your Family Archives

This booklet is now available on our [website](#). It gives advice on where and how to store your family or personal papers with Dos and Don'ts tips and advice on preparing community archives for

donation. This publication has been funded under Healthy Ireland/Sláintecare Community Resilience Fund as part of the KeepWell campaign.



Historic Structures Fund

Conservation repair works to the south gable wall of the Co Archives building are being tendered for by staff in Housing Technical. Work is expected to begin in August.

Donating Archives

Louth County Archives is interested in acquiring archives and records that relate to all aspects of the development of County Louth. Such archives may be from community groups, societies, individuals, local organisations, national schools, solicitors or other businesses. These collections make available unique and valuable research sources for the study of Louth's heritage. If you have a collection that you would be willing to donate, or know of someone who would, please contact the County Archivist by email at archive@louthcoco.ie or by telephone at 042-9324358.

Arts

Creative Ireland

There were some fantastic projects completed recently which were all funded under the Community Grants awarded earlier this year by our Creative Ireland (Louth) Culture Team. The CI community grants are awarded to local groups and practitioners to encourage cultural participation across the county of Louth.

Puppet Play - Droichead Youth Theatre

Creative Ireland have funded Droichead Youth Theatre to craft, create and learn the foundations of puppetry performance with local artist Jack Rogers. The theatre members took part in workshops online over 14 weeks and were introduced to new materials and techniques, expanding their range as puppeteers.



Abacas - Sensory Pottery Garden

Sensory Pottery Garden is a collaboration between Louth Artist Roisin Gregory and the children from Drogheda ABACAS Special School for Children with Autism. Taking place outdoors the children explored clay and other materials and a variety of techniques to create items which were hung or placed in their sensory garden to enhance the overall experience.



St Brigid's Choir Dunleer - Songs of Lann Léire

Local choir director, Daithí Kearney worked with local groups to record a rendition of a song he composed inspired by legends and folklore about St. Brigid, patron saint of the parish. Along with local song writer, Pat Roche, tutorials have been available on the parish YouTube channel of St Brigid's, Roman Catholic Church, Dunleer, Co. Louth and in outdoor settings.



St Brigid's Choir

Droichead Arts Centre

Droichead Arts Centre gallery reopened in July with John Moloney's solo exhibition 'in a landscape'. Working with found, pre-used, often discarded materials Moloney creates a world of animated sculptures. The exhibition runs until the end of the month and booking is essential. Details can be found here

<https://www.droichead.com/show/873625234>

Padraic McIntyre of the Nomad Theatre Group sat down for an in-depth interview with Pat McCabe in July to discuss Pats upcoming novel *Poguemahone*, the Covid 19 crisis for the Arts and where he sees the Arts going post-pandemic. The book is McCabe's 14th since he burst onto the scene with *The Butcher Boy* in 1992. You can watch the interview here until the end of August:

<https://vimeo.com/560444494/0125d3788a>

Highlanes Gallery

Joy Gerrards exhibition - Precarious Freedom: Crowds, Flags, Barriers was a huge success

throughout its term in July. The exhibition has now moved to get set up in Galway for the International Arts Festival at the end of August and we wish them well with the tour.

An Táin Arts Centre

The Local Legends exhibition was a huge success and received great feedback online. One local legend in particular proved very popular - An Táin's very own Director Paul Hayes making an appearance!

There was plenty of interest in the **Migration** a sculptural art project by artist Garry Maguire, project, 16th – 18th of July at Market Square, Dundalk.



Upcoming events are "Sherlock Homes and the Anaverna Adventure" which runs from 4th – 8th August and Zoe Conway who performs her solo concert on Friday 6th August.

Details of all events can be found on An Táin's website

<https://antain-tickets.antain.ie>

Festivals

The annual International Festival of Harp took place recently and was a huge success. Now in its 35th year the festival programmed a huge variety of events, albeit online. With morning workshops and evening concerts there was something to suit all interests. Music Generation Louth's own Harp Ensemble played a lunchtime concert and local musicians Zoe Conway, John McIntyre and David O'Connor also took part in some of the events. Louth County Councils arts service, CreateLouth

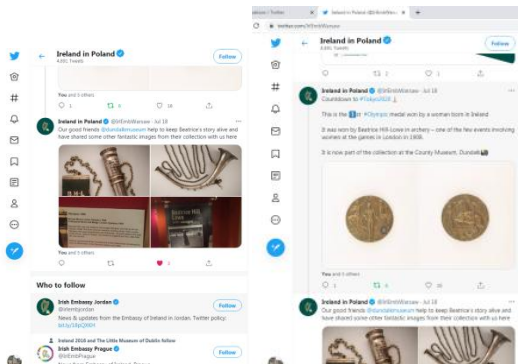
are proud to support this festival which has grown in global recognition over the years.

Coming up for August is the Boyne Music Festival which runs from 31st July to 28th August. Once again a huge variety of event to suit all tastes are being programmed. Many are online, but should restrictions allow there is hope that we will have some live performances with audience attendances.

Climate Action

With a combination of SEAI grant and Capital funding, Operations are preparing for energy upgrades to the Archives building. The upgrades will include a Heat Pump, low energy lighting and windows and doors improvements to reduce the energy use.

County Museum



The Irish Embassy in Warsaw recently contacted the Museum in anticipation of developing an online countdown clock for the Tokyo Olympics. One of the objectives is to promote the impact of both women and the Diaspora across various fields of pursuit. They had come across the Museum's Beatrice Hill-Lowe collection (the first woman to be awarded a medal at the Olympics (London 1908)) and approached it with a view to incorporating the Hill-Lowe's as part of this project. The medal was the first item to be included in its countdown; it is hoped that the Museum's recently acquired Maeve Kyle collection will also feature in this initiative.



Over the past fortnight the Museum has provided a series of updates documenting the growth of the Coulter Poppy in the Museum courtyard on its Facebook page.

Over the course of this timeframe the poppy has literally blossomed.



This project has proven to be quite popular developing its own audience as well as much favourable comment. Indeed one person stated that 'the photos were the high point of her day and that it was something that she looked forward to seeing.'



Complementing the Coulter poppy initiative the Museum is also running a Facebook feature highlighting the Tidy Town's Local Heroes banners. To-date the Museum has featured Arctic explorer Sir Francis Leopold McClintock and botanist Thomas Coulter. Again this series has been well received.

Heritage Office

Louth County Council has become a Partner Council of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan (AIPP). This certificate recognises the Council's efforts to protect pollinators and to conserve biodiversity more generally.



Work continued on tendering for Biodiversity Action Plan Projects supported by the National Biodiversity Action Plan fund, which is provided by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Among the successful applications is the Louth Nature Trust's protection of little terns at Baltray. Fifty young chicks were ringed by more than 20 volunteers on 21st July. Ringing these birds shows us that they spend the winter off West Africa and return to breed all around the coasts of the Irish Sea. Louth County Council is therefore contributing to the conservation of a Red-Listed species at an international level. Members are strongly encouraged to visit the colony and see the birds (and meet the volunteers) for themselves. It is an awesome experience.



Photograph of little tern chick taken in Norfolk, UK by Lyn Ibbitson Elks

Work also continued on assessing responses to a request for tenders to assess the condition of and design conservation works for various monuments in the guardianship of Louth County Council (including Cappocksgate, Louth Abbey, Darver graveyard and the town defences of Drogheda). This project is funded by the Heritage Council.

The Heritage Officer continued to liaise with and advise colleagues in all other sections of the council, elected members and the public and wrote reports on planning applications, ecological restraints for flood protection works for Ardee and Dundalk, on proposed names for Housing Developments and on plans for works at Ardee Castle. A major element of work in July was helping develop proposals for an application to the ORIS fund, to allow enhanced public access to Louth's rural and semi-natural heritage.