



Comhairle Contae **Lú**
Louth County Council

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

**Dated 6th December 2022
6^ú Mí na Nollag 2022**

Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report – 30th November 2022
Tuairisc Bainistíochta ag an bPríomhfheidhmeannach – 30 Mí na Samhna 2022

Contents / Clár Ábhar	
<u>Support Services / Seirbhísí Tacaíochta</u>	3
Financial Reports / Tuairiscí Airgeadais	
Water Services / Seirbhísí Uisce	
Information & Communication Technology / Techneolaíocht Faisnéise agus Chumarsáide	
<u>Strategic Economic Development / Forbairt Eacnamaíoch Straitéiseach</u>	12
Economic Development / Forbairt Eacnamaíoch	
Local Enterprise Office / Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil	
European Relations / Caidreamh Eorpach	
Heritage/Oidhreacht	
Fire & Emergency Services / Seirbhísí Dóiteáin agus Éigeandála	
Civil Defence / Cosaint Shibhialta	
Planning / Pleanáil	
Development Management / Bainistíocht Forbartha	
Planning Enforcement / Forfheidhmiúcháin	
Forward Planning / Pleanáil Chun Cinn	
<u>Placemaking and Physical Development / Deanamh Áite agus Forbairt Fhisticíúil</u>	26
Roads & Local Services / Seirbhísí Bóithre agus Áitiúla	
Physical Development / Forbairt Fhisciciúil	
<u>Organisational Development / Forbairt na hEagraíochta</u>	54
Corporate Services / Seirbhísí Corporáideacha	
Community Support & Sport / Tacaíocht Pobail agus Spórt	
Waste Management, Environment & Climate Action / Bainistíocht Dramháil, Gníomh Comhshaoil & Aeráide	
Veterinary Services / Seirbhísí Tréidliachta	
<u>Social Development / Forbairt Shóisialta</u>	75
Housing / Tithíocht	
Quality of Life / Cáilíocht na Beatha	
Archives / An Chartlann	
Libraries / Leabharlanna	
Arts / Na hEalaíona	
Museum / An Iarsmalann	

Support Services Seirbhís Tacaíochta

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, Water Services and Information & Communication Technology

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, Seirbhísí Uisce, agus Techneolaíocht Faisnéise agus Chumarsáide

Bernie Woods
Director / Stiúrthóir



Finance

Expenditure to 30th November 2022 / Caiteachas go dtí 30 Mí na Samhna

Section/Rannóg	Actual Expenditure to/Caiteachas Iarbhír go dtí 30/11/2022	Budget Expenditure/ Caiteachas Buiséadaithe 2022	% Spent to/ % Caite go 30/11/2022
Housing/Tithíocht	€38,857,884	€47,728,898	81%
Road Transportation & Safety/Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht	€20,644,685	€26,126,012	79%
Water Services/Seirbhísí Uisce	€6,289,112	€8,379,633	75%
Development Management/Bainistíocht Forbartha	€16,562,000	€17,331,075	96%
Environmental Services/Seirbhísí Timpeallachta	€15,492,313	€19,413,023	80%
Recreation and Amenity/Áineas agus Conláiste	€8,268,693	€9,615,255	86%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare/Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas	€852,891	€1,203,454	71%
Miscellaneous/Ighnéitheach	€7,471,732	€10,474,400	71%
	€114,439,310	€140,271,750	82%

Income to 30th November 2022 / Ioncam go 30 Mí na Samhna 2022

Section/Rannóg	Actual Income to/Ioncam Iarbhír go dtí 30/11/22	Budget Income/Ioncam Buiséadaithe 2022	% Invoiced to/ % Sonraisc Curtha do dtí 30/11/22
Housing/Tithíocht	€37,477,157	€48,920,854	77%
Road Transportation & Safety/Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht	€9,111,527	€16,718,183	55%
Water Services/Seirbhísí Uisce	€5,931,645	€8,110,634	73%
Development Management/Bainistíocht Forbartha	€8,272,882	€10,250,958	81%
Environmental Services/Seirbhísí Timpeallachta	€1,720,989	€2,253,742	76%
Recreation and Amenity/Áineas agus Conláiste	€1,336,457	€1,043,293	128%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas	€380,445	€479,424	79%
Miscellaneous/Ighnéitheach	€5,264,608	€7,097,818	74%
Rates/Rátaí	€34,350,792	€35,030,647	98%
General Purpose Grant (LPT)/Deontas Ilfheidhmeach	€9,866,196	€9,866,198	100%
Provision for Debit Balance/Soláthar faoi Iarmhéid Dochair	€0	€500,000	0%
	€113,712,698	€140,271,750	81%

The above is the current position as of the 30th of November 2022. 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 2022 is included in the above figure.

Collection rates as of 30th November 2022 are as follows:

Debtors as of 30th November 2022/Féichiúnaithe mar atá 30 Mí na Samhna 2022

	Opening Balance /Iarmhéid Tosaigh	Invoices/ Sonraisc	Receipts/ Fáltais	Write Offs/ Díscríobhanna	Closing Balance/ Iarmhéid Deiridh
Government Debtors/Féichiúnaithe Rialtais	€10,304,674	€75,857,572	(€67,625,243)	(€22)	€18,536,981
Other Authorities/Uadaráis Eile	€53,434	€717,982	(€668,382)	(€9,020)	€94,014
Rates/Rataí	€10,273,724	€34,350,792	(€31,098,762)	(€2,846,734)	€10,679,020
Rents/Cíosanna	€2,517,135	€12,529,819	(€12,414,662)	€46	€2,632,338
Loans/Iasachtal	€241,004	€1,742,831	(€1,692,568)	€8	€291,275
Development Levies/Tobhaigh Forbartha	€11,451,043	€4,816,088	(€3,405,214)	(€839,730)	€12,022,187
Fire Charges/Táilí Seirbhíse Dóiteáin	€707,144	€509,860	(€392,042)	(€114,951)	€710,011
Miscellaneous/Ilgheáitheach	€2,513,794	€11,993,263	(€10,904,543)	(€188,399)	€3,414,115
Total Debtors / Féichiúnaithe Iomlána	€38,061,952	€142,518,207	(€128,201,416)	(€3,998,802)	€48,379,941

Above are the debtor balances as of 30th of November 2022. 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.

The write off figure for Rates includes the Quarter 1 2022 Rates Waiver of €1.1m which is funded and is the final rates waiver.

WATER SERVICES / SEIRBHÍSI UISCE

Irish Water

Elected members/customers are reminded to contact Irish Water directly to log a query or any issue with water supply or quality or wastewater issues. Customers should contact the Irish Water customer care helpline, which is open 24/7, on 1800 278 278 or 1890 378 378 (For hearing impaired customers with minicom equipment) or via Twitter @IWCare or @IrishWater or go to www.water.ie.

Water Quality / Cáilíocht Uisce

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

Water Conservation / Caomhnú Uisce

Water conservation is ongoing throughout the County.

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy /An Straitéis um Oiriúnú don Athrú Aeráide

Water Services continue to engage with Irish Water and LCC Environment Section on the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy.

Capital Programmes/Cláir Chaipitiúla

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 / Cuíchóiriú Bhaile an Tallúnaigh

Detailed Design is being progressed by Ryan Hanley Consulting Engineers. LCC are liaising with Irish Water and their consultants to advance the project. Land acquisition is currently being

progressed by IW. Project to include works at Mullacrew Reservoir, new Pumping Station at Allardstown and new Pumping Station at Bannons Cross. Planning permission has been granted.

Omeath WWTW / Córas Cóireála Fuíolluisce Ó Méith

The Construction Phase at both the Pumping Station and Wastewater Treatment plant is currently progressing. The associated rising main is substantially complete. The Project is programmed for completion in May 2023.

Shared Waters Enhancement and Loughs Legacy (SWELL)

Re-lining works commenced December 2021 and are to be completed late 2022. Irish Water are to consider further surface water separation. Phase 1 of SWELL Project is complete.

Regional Sewer Network Rehabilitation / Athshlánú an Líonra Séaraigh Aitiúil

Further network surveys are being undertaken on the 2022 programme for Co. Louth. Works are currently progressing on the Drogheda network and will continue to the end of 2022 with a new schedule for 2023 to follow.

Dundalk Drainage Area Plan (DAP)/Plean Limistéar Draenála Dhún Dealgan

LCC continue to liaise with Irish Water and their consultants on the Dundalk Drainage Area Plan (DAP). The Project Consultants are currently progressing the Hydraulic Model for the agglomeration.

Dundalk East Strategy - In advance of completion of Dundalk DAP/ Straitéis Dhún Dealgan Thoir

Consultants are currently progressing the design with Irish Water, in consultation with Louth County Council. The project is currently at Detailed Design stage.

Coe's Road Pumping Station / Staisiún Ceadéalacháin Bhóthair Uí Chofaigh

Operational modifications to the Pumping Station were undertaken by EPS. Options for cleaning of existing large diameter sewer are being progressed within IW.

Dundalk LNRP / Clár um Atreisiúchan Líonra Áitiúil Dhún Dealgan

A Strategic Review is underway for Dundalk Wastewater Treatment Plant and Blackrock Wastewater Treatment Plant. LCC staff are assisting Irish Water with this assessment. The Local Network Reinforcement Project (LNRP) will progress following the completion of the Blackrock/Dundalk Strategic Drainage Study.

North Drogheda Wastewater Network Strategy/Straitéis Líonra Fuíolluisce Dhroichead Átha Thuaidh

Atkins Consulting Engineers are progressing the detailed design of the North Drogheda Strategic Wastewater Network. The planning and procurement process is to progress throughout 2022. Extensive engagement is ongoing with developers and landowners' representatives. It is anticipated that a Planning Submission for the proposed Pumping Station will be completed by the end of Q4 2022 with procurement to follow in 2023.

Quay St. / St. Helena Rising Main, Dundalk/Príomhphíobán Aníos Shráid na Cé/Naomh Helena, Dún Dealgan

Construction has been completed along the Inner Relief Road and is currently progressing along Quay Street with anticipated project completion in early 2023. Connection of tie-ins are delayed and it is anticipated will be completed by early December.

Greenmount WTW Upgrade/Uasghrádú Ionad Cóireála Uisce Dhroim Chatha

Irish Water are progressing the design of proposed Upgrade Works at Greenmount WTW. The Detailed design is currently being progressed by the Project Consultants. Workshop 2 scheduled for Mid-

December 2022. LCC continue to engage with the design team on relevant data gathering and site visits. Planning application is programmed for Q2 2023 with procurement to follow in late 2023.

Drogheda WWTP/Córas Cóireála Fuíolluisce Dhroichead Átha

Irish Water are continuing to carry out works at Drogheda wastewater treatment plant and is committed to resolving any potential odour issues arising from the wastewater plant or the network. Irish Water continues to work closely with EPS Limited who operate the plant on behalf of Irish Water.

Drogheda Drainage Area Plan (DAP)/Plean Limistéar Draenála Dhroichead Átha

Irish Water have appointed consultants to undertake the Drogheda Drainage Area Plan (DAP). The Catchment Appreciation Workshop has completed and LCC staff are currently liaising with Irish Water and the project consultants in various aspects of the project. Survey completion is expected end of 2022. Workshop 1 programmed for Jan 2023.

Cockle Hill PS Upgrade / Uasghrádú Stáisiún Ceadéalacháin Chnoic na Ruachan

Contractor has been appointed to undertake Upgrade Works at Cockle Hill Pumping Station. Preliminary investigation and assessment have been undertaken. Date for commencement on site is to be confirmed. The Scope of Works has been expanded. Commencement on site Q1 2023.

Greenhills Sewer Replacement Project/ Tionscadal an Áthsholáthair Séarachais na nGlaschnoc

It is proposed that IW contractors will commence on site before the end of 2022. Project duration is anticipated to be 8 months.

South Drogheda Wastewater Network Upgrade/ Uasghrádú ar Líonra Fuíolluisce Dhroichead Átha Theas

The site investigation for the South Drogheda Wastewater Network has been completed and the

draft design to be completed in Q4 2022. Workshop 4 and Workshop 5 are programmed for Dec 2022.

Water Networks / Líonraí Uisce

Water Networks Programme/Ciár Líonraí Uisce

Rehabilitation Programme/Ciár Athshlánúcháin

Design development for the slip lining of the watermain through the Bridge of Peace – This project has been handed back to the infrastructure team to be taken forward as a G&D project. – No further update

Lead replacement / Ionadú Luaidhe Back Yard Services / Seirbhísí Cúlchlóis

Irish Water's Contractors are continuing to carry out back yard service replacements.

First Fix / Chéad Shocrú

2 first fix type repairs were undertaken by Irish Water contractors in November.

Find & Fix / Aimsigh agus Deisigh

Louth County Council crews undertook “Find and Fix” activities on Dromiskin, Castlebellingham, Marley's Lane DMA Drogheda, Demense Rd DMA and Dublin Rd DMA Dundalk in November.

Water Scouring Programme 2022 / Clar Sciúrtha Uisce 2022

Louth County Council Crew undertook unidirectional network flushing in Dundalk in November.

Network Maintenance / Cothabháil Líonra

69 essential water tasks were carried out in November including 10 arising out of our Find and Fix program (5 in Dundalk, 1 in Salterstown, 4 in Drogheda)

Planning & Water Connections / Pleanáil agus Ceangail Uisce

The Networks Section processed 18 new connections, 23 Pre-Connection Enquiries and 34 Planning Applications in November.

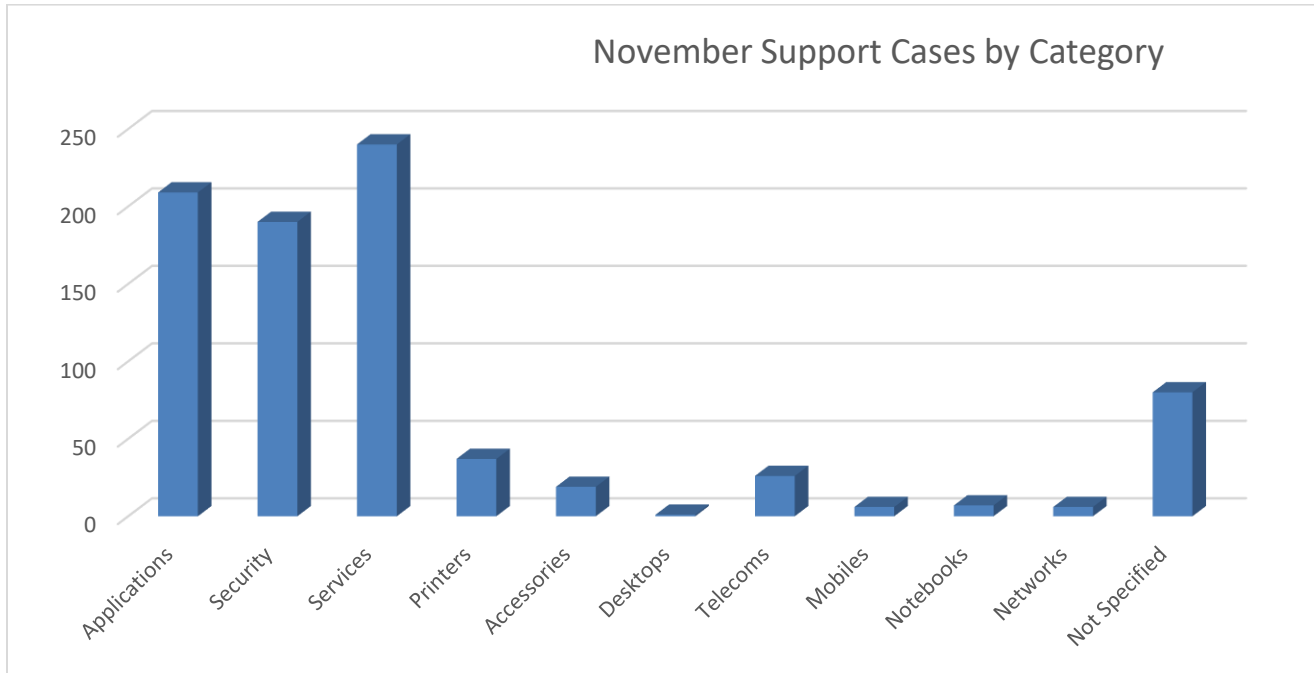
Service Maps / Léarscáileanna Seirbhíse

The Networks Section prepared 5 no Service Maps in November.

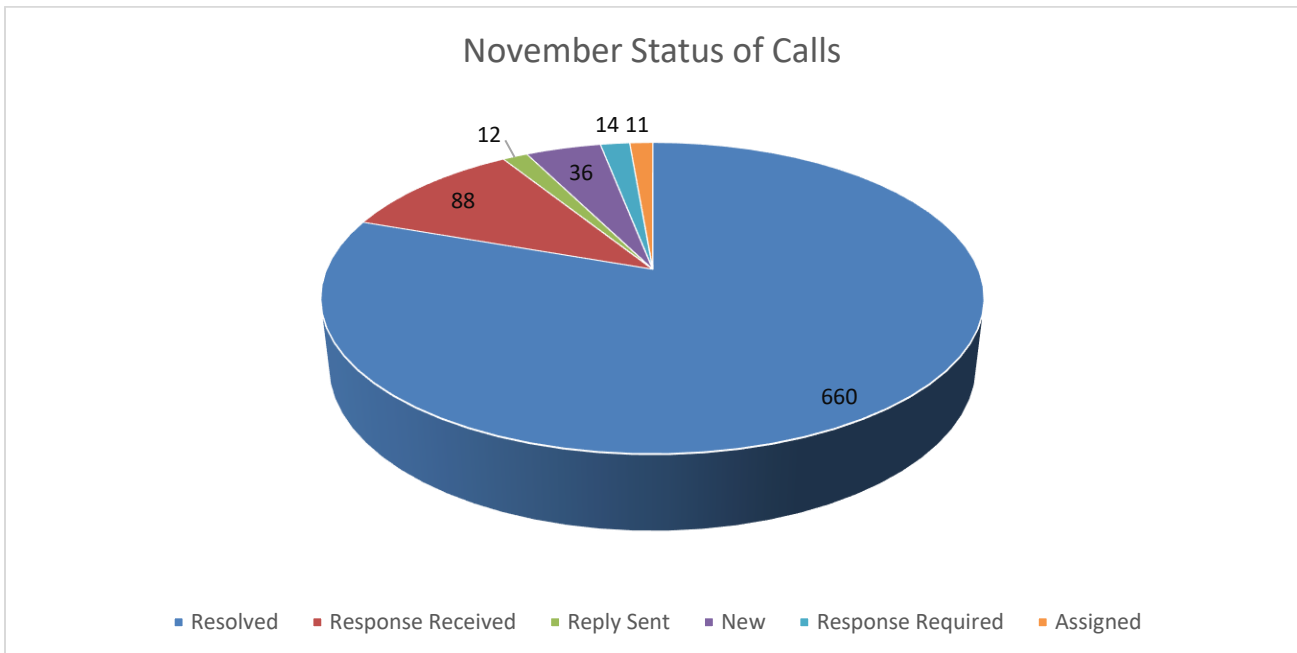
Information & Communication Technology

Helpdesk

During the month of November there were 821 support calls logged in to the IT support system.









The below chart indicates the status of the calls received in November.



E-Mail Filtering System

Louth County Council continues to be targeted with phishing, and spam e-mail. We utilise an e-mail filtering system to scan all e-mail being received into the organisation. Over 41% of inbound e-mails were identified as potentially harmful.

 Inbound Emails 170,505	 Blocked Sender 1,164
 Blocked at gateway 38,690	 Blocked by spam /virus 29,803
 Blocked by content rules 517	 Potentially harmful emails 41.16%

Louth County Council Website

There were 15,240 unique page views of www.louthcoco.ie in November.

As with previous months, the Online Planning Maps, Vacancies and the Dog Pound, were the most visited pages on the website.

/en/	2,936	2,269
/en/services/planning/online-planning-maps/	1,611	1,300
/en/louth_county_council/vacancies/	1,123	606
/en/services/dog-pound/	744	532
/en/home/	571	410
/en/services/	519	385
/en/services/library/	427	325
/en/services/library/online-services/	409	319
/en/contact/louth-county-council/	339	289
/en/services/planning/	321	234
/en/publications/development-plans/	268	211
/en/services/housing/	252	190
/en/louth_county_council/	244	181

ArcGIS Online – Public Planning Register Map Viewer

LCC provide an online Planning Register Map Viewer which can be accessed from the Online Planning Application and Maps section user Services> Planning on the Louth County council website. This application is updated regularly to include all planning applications. there were 2023 views in November, an average of 67.43 views a day.

Usage details for the period:

1 November 2022 - 1 December 2022

Custom Date Range ↕

Set a Custom Date Range

Start Date:

01/11/2022

End Date:

01/12/2022

Update Report

Item Views this Period

2,023

Avg Item Views Per Day

67.43

Usage Time Series



This Directorate has three key areas of responsibility:

Economic Development, including the Local Enterprise Office, and work involving partners and funding outside the state

Emergency Services – including the Fire Service, and Civil Defence, and the planning and implementation of strategies which help to keep our citizens safe.

Planning, the way in which we organise the built environment in our county

Tá trí eochairfhreagracht ag an Stiúrtóireacht seo:

Forbairt Eacnamaíoch, an Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil san áireamh, agus obair le comhpháirtithe agus foinsí maoinithe lasmuigh den Stát

Seirbhísí Éigeandála – Seirbhís Dóiteáin, agus Cosaint Shibhialta, san áireamh, agus ag pleanáil agus ag cur i bhfeidhm straitéisí chun chabhrú le muintir Chontae Lú a bheith slán sábháilte

Is é Pleanáil an slí a eagraímid an timpeallacht thógtha i gContae Lú

**Thomas McEvoy
Director / Stiúrtóir**



Economic Development

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

- Part of our assessment of projects currently includes their impact on the environment.

- A new support for micro and small businesses in Louth to assist them develop their green and sustainable agenda was launched in 2021. Further details are available at <https://www.localenterprise.ie/green>.

Louth Economic Forum

The Louth Economic Forum met on the 23rd November. At this meeting, Mr. Martin Cronin stepped down as Chair with Mr. Gerry Murphy being proposed as incoming Chair from 2023 onwards.

Mr. Martin Cronin was thanked for all his work with the LEF over the last five years and a presentation was made of local produce to wish him well.



Martin Cronin, former Chair of the LEF and Joan Martin, Chief Executive, Louth County Council

Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2022

24 applications were received by Louth County Council and the information was sent to the Department of Rural and Community Development. We are awaiting further direction from the Department on same.

Tourism

'sea louth'



RTÉ Nationwide were in Co. Louth to record a full programme on sea louth. They visited a number of producers, stamp collection points and restaurants who are part of the sea louth trail. The programme will air in Spring 2023.

Louth Leader held two courses entitled 'Introduction to Tour Guiding' recently in Drogheda and Carlingford and Susan L. Murphy from the Economic Development and Tourism office gave them a presentation on all there is to offer on the sea louth trail and an overview of Visit Louth.



Trainee Tour Group Participants with Susan L. Murphy, Economic Development & Tourism Section

The social media campaign for sea louth is ongoing; please follow us on twitter, facebook and instagram

Lú – Festival of Light, Drogheda

Lú Festival of Light, Drogheda took place from the 28th - 30th October and 2nd - 5th November with AV Shows at three locations. Louth County Council received funding under Fáilte Ireland's 'Urban Animation Capital Investment Scheme'. The festival was organised in conjunction with Drogheda BIDS. The festival was a great success with Local and Nationwide coverage and promotion. Over 70,000 people were in attendance over the seven nights of shows. The Urban Animations were provided by

Visual Spectrum and the Plans are underway for 2023.



Thomas McEvoy, Aideen Morrissey, Colette Moss, Susan L Murphy, all Louth County Council, Ryan Vail, Visual Spectrum



St. Peter's Church, Drogheda, lit up for Lú Festival of Light

Christmas Lights 2022

Louth County Council were delighted to once again be one of the key sponsors for Frostival and the Christmas Lights in Dundalk. The Parade of Light took place on Friday 18th November and was a great success.

Louth County Council were also a key sponsor for the Christmas Lights in Drogheda. The lights were switched on, on Friday 18th November to a great turnout.

It is great to see these events firmly back on the calendar as they bring many economic benefits to the two main towns.

Funding Opportunities

Shared Island Development Fund

Talks have commenced with the various stakeholders who are part of the successful funding application where Louth County Council is the lead authority. A Request for Tender for a consultant to carry out the feasibility study will issue in the New Year.

Night-Time Economy Adviser for Drogheda

Following a competitive process involving over 40 towns and cities in Ireland, Louth County Council's application to recruit a new Night-Time Economy Adviser was chosen. The Department are currently compiling the job specification and once this is finalised an open recruitment process will commence.

Drogheda Chamber Awards 2022

Drogheda Chamber Awards took place on Saturday 26th November and Louth County Council were delighted to sponsor the "Hospitality & Tourism Excellence" award category. The winner was 'Drogheda Festival Committee', presented by Mayor of Drogheda Borough District, Cllr. Michelle Hall.



Presentation of Hospitality & Tourism Excellence award to Drogheda Festival Committee by Mayor of Drogheda Borough District, Cllr. Michelle Hall

Boyne Valley Flavours

The 2022 Samhain Festival was a huge success. 36 events were held over the long weekend from Thursday 3rd to Sunday 6th November. There were over 1,000 visitors with lots of positive feedback

received. Events ranged from demos, talks, podcasts, tours & movies - something for everyone.

The Samhain Symposium took place on Friday, 4th November. The highlight of the event was the launch of “the Vision” for the Centre of Food Culture, Boyne Valley. This is a project that is jointly supported by Louth and Meath County Council and was devised from the Boyne Valley Food Strategy. The vision document outlines a 5 year implementation plan for the Food Culture project and is available to be viewed on the Discover Boyne Valley Flavours website: <https://boynevalleyflavours.ie/pages/centre-of-food-culture-boyne-valley>. A Project Manager will be appointed in early 2023 to deliver this project.

Oldbridge Christmas Fair took place on the 27th November and was attended by many Boyne Valley Flavour members.

LEO Louth

COVID-19 Business Supports



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

Businesses seeking support from LEO Louth should email: info@leo.louthcoco.ie or they can call to our office at Town Hall, Dundalk.

Look For Local Christmas Campaign 2022

LEO Louth and Louth County Council have launched their Christmas ‘Look For Local – Look For Louth’ campaign. We are encouraging people to shop and support businesses from across the county and have updated the directory of business listings: <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Enterprise-Development/look-for-local-look-for-louth/>.

There is currently a call out on social media inviting businesses in the county to register their details to be added to the shop local business directory.

There is also a redirect link set for both: www.louthcoco.ie/shoplocal or www.louthcoco.ie/lookforlocal.

The call out to recruit new businesses was listed on Louth County Council website and on their Twitter page.

Across November and December there will be a print campaign with three press releases in our local newspapers as well as a social media campaign with running radio advertising on both Dundalk FM and LMFM.



Sarah Mallon, LEO Louth, Thomas Kearney, KearneysClick.com, Ardee, Sarah McKenna, Sarah McKenna Ceramics, Dundalk, Marcella McRory, Amici Flower and Gift Shop, Dunleer, Lelia Doolan, The Design Gallery, Drogheda, Eavan Brady, Coast & Co, Greenore and Wayne Macken, LEO Louth

The first press release featured 5 businesses from across the county to help launch the campaign in the media.

We have also reposted the video that was created last year for the campaign which features different shopping centres throughout the county which has already received a positive reaction.

Two competitions will also be run. One will be advertised in the newspapers ads and social media encouraging people to share the ‘Look For Local – Look For Louth’ video and use the #lookforlocal. The winner will receive Shop Local vouchers for their location of choice. A separate competition will run on LMFM (provisional date 6th – 8th December) on the Sinéad Brassil show where listeners will be requested to nominate excellence in customer service in a local business. There will be 2 prizes

that will be split between the person nominating and the staff member who was nominated. This will build on a very successful campaign that ran last year.

Brexit Supports

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.

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.

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/>.

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 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.

This programme will continue to be delivered throughout 2022.

YTD 13 no. Louth businesses were approved.

LEO Louth continues to welcome new applications.

LEO Louth Client Portfolio Review / Export Adviser Programme

Under this Programme LEO has procured 3 no. consultants who have commenced engagements with our portfolio clients.

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

The advisers are now actively engaging with 19 no. LEO Louth portfolio clients for up to 5 days each over the course of 2022.

Business Training



November had 3 no. workshops delivered to 50 no. attendees. Workshops included Introduction to Vat, Advanced Facebook and a Trading Online Voucher Workshop. The final SYOB course of 2022 finished on the 23rd November with 17 attendees completing this course. Training will recommence in January, 2023.

All scheduled training courses will be available to view and book online: <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/>.

Trading Online Voucher Scheme



LEO continues to offer the Trading Online Voucher Scheme to assist businesses get online or enhance their online presence, under which LEO can provide 50% support up to a maximum grant of €2,500.

Trading Online training workshops to assist applicants apply continue to be delivered on a regional basis with Cavan and Monaghan LEOs.

42 no. vouchers have been approved YTD and applications are still being received.

Business Advice Clinics

29 no. business advice appointments were provided by telephone and video conference to entrepreneurs throughout the county during November.

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.

27 no. businesses were appointed mentors during the month of November.

COVID-19 Microfinance Ireland Business Loan



LEO Louth offers expert assistance to clients to assist the completion of Microfinance Loan Applications, Business Plans and Cashflow Projections.

During November 3 no. applications for support were received while 1 no. loan was approved.

LEO mentors are continuing to assist applicants.

Micro-Finance Ireland – New Electric Vehicle Taxi Loan



Microfinance Ireland has a loan whereby Taxi owners who wish to buy an electric vehicle can now apply for loans of up to €25,000 from Microfinance Ireland.

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. 10 no. companies have been approved YTD.

Student Enterprise Programme



The Student Enterprise Programme is in full swing for the 2022 - 2023 academic year. All 19 secondary schools in the County have registered to take part this year.

Craft Sector

Showcase 2023 the largest Irish trade fair for the craft and gift sector will run from 22nd to 24th January, 2023. LEO Louth will be supporting 5 makers to exhibit in the Local Enterprise Office area and will be providing training and mentoring support in

conjunction with the Design and Craft Council Ireland over the coming months.

Local Enterprise Week



Local Enterprise Week will run from 6th to 11th March, 2023 and initial planning for the week of events has started. There will be a number of online National Spotlight Events again this year and LEO Louth will run a number of events throughout the week, mostly in person with some virtual.

North East Regional Development Plan to 2024

The North East Regional Development Plan working groups that have been set up in respect of four of the five strategic objectives continue to work together.

Regional Meeting of Local Enterprise Office Staff

Louth LEO co-ordinated a meeting with the Local Enterprise Offices in Cavan, Monaghan and Meath to look at potential collaborations for 2023 and exchange best practice. This was particularly important given the addition of new staff to the LEO's over the last few months. It is envisaged this will be a regular meeting (hybrid) and we are scoping out a potential regional event for Local Enterprise Week.

Drogheda & District Chamber Awards 2022

On 26th November, 2022 Drogheda & District Chamber hosted their annual Business Awards in the City North Hotel. 'LEO Louth sponsored the category of Rising Star / Best Emerging Business' at this year's awards. The finalists for this category were:

1. Boann Distillery
2. TRIBE Restaurant
3. My Generation Clothing Store
4. Phytaphix
5. Woolworks
6. Hands 4 Unity
7. Peggy Moores
8. Impact Physiotherapy
9. The Coffee Box



Aidan Jnr, Emily, Donna & Glenn Ryan of TRIBE Restaurant with Thomas McEvoy, Louth County Council

TRIBE Restaurant was awarded the title of this year's 'Rising Star / Best Emerging Business'.

Creative Industries & Design Technology Sectors in Ireland's North East Report 2022

On 15th November, 2022, Creative Spark, supported by Enterprise Ireland and LEOs Louth, Cavan and Monaghan, launched a report on the Creative Industries & Design Technology Sectors in Ireland's North-East. From this report it shows the creative sector in the North East employs more than 2,000 people.



Ardee Traders Event

On 8th November Niamh Dennehy from LEO Louth presented information on LEO supports at an

information evening for Mid-Louth businesses, organised by Cllr. Paula Butterly and held in the DeeHub, Ardee.

Cultúr Migrant Centre Job Fair, Fairways Hotel

On 16th November, representatives from the LEO Office attended a Job Fair in the Fairways Hotel which was organised by the Cultúr Migrant Centre and provided information on LEO Supports.

Love Drogheda Energy Event

On 15th November Gráinne McKeown and Niamh Dennehy from LEO Louth attended a Cost Saving and Energy Supports Workshop for business, organised by Love Drogheda (Drogheda BIDs) in the D Hotel, and provided information on LEO Supports in this area including Lean for Micro and Green for Micro.

Creative Spark Anniversary Event

On 9th November, Sarah Mallon from LEO Louth attended Creative Spark's 10th Anniversary Event on behalf of the LEO Louth Team. It was a successful event celebrating the works of Creative Spark over the past 10 years. The support received from LEO Louth and Louth County Council was noted in the presentation to the audience.

European Relations



Peace IV Programme

Project Updates – Shared Spaces and Services

Construction work continues at shared spaces sites Peter's Hill, Drogheda and Muirhevnamór Community Centre, Dundalk. Construction work is ongoing and is due to be finished in Q1 2023.



Aerial shot of the almost completed Peter's Hill site, Drogheda

PEACE PLUS



Special EU Programmes Body
Foras Um Chláir Speisialta An AE
Boord O Owre Ocht UE Projects

The fourth PEACEPLUS Partnership meeting will be held on 6th December, 2022.

Peace Plus Action Plan

Public consultations for the PEACEPLUS action plan commenced in November, 2022 and will run until 6th December, 2022. The public consultations aim to get an assessment of need in the community, to form what will be the co-designed PEACEPLUS action plan. The following target groups / meetings have been held:

- Equality groups (women's groups, LGBTQ+ groups, Black and / or ethnic minority groups and age friendly groups)
- Youth Groups
- Geographical meetings targeting individuals and community groups
 - o Carlingford
 - o Dundalk
 - o Drogheda
 - o Termonfeckin / Clogherhead
 - o Ardee / Dunleer
- Individuals living with a disability or those representing them
- Ex-prisoners
- Ukrainian individuals or groups representing them

Members of the travelling community

A full schedule of consultations is published on our website:

<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/economic-development/peaceplus/public-consultation-2022/public-consultation-schedule-2022.html>.

There has been a varied turnout for the meetings with between 6 to 30 people showing up at each one. Each meeting has provided a wealth of information which will feed into the PEACEPLUS Action Plan.

Heritage

Community Monuments Fund 2023

Opened for applications on Monday 21st November. Applications from community groups or private owners must be provided to the Heritage Officer by 4pm on Friday, 27th January, 2023. For full details please visit: https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/heritage/news_and_events/funding-open-for-applications/.

It is anticipated that works at Glaspistol towerhouse castle will continue into 2023 and beyond, subject to funding. This is likely to be a multi-year project.

Contractors continue to develop a plan for the management of public access in relation to the need for cattle grazing on the Council's nature reserve at Clogherhead. This project is funded by the Local Biodiversity Action Plan fund, which has been doubled in size for 2023. Communities interested in biodiversity projects in 2023 should contact the Heritage Officer to discuss their ideas as soon as possible.

The Heritage Officer participated in various consultations, including on the future management of the Brú na Bóinne World Heritage Property.

Fire & Emergency Services

Fire Service

The Fire Service Long Service Awards ceremony took place in the Knightsbrook Hotel, Trim on 17th November. Ten Louth Fire Service personnel received 20 year and 30 year awards. Samantha McBride received the award on behalf of Station

Officer Shane McBride (RIP). The event was attended by the Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Conor Keelan



Long Service Awards

Dundalk Fire Brigade provided the centrepiece for the highly successful Frostival event on 18th November with the switching on of the Christmas Lights in Dundalk Market Square. Three Fire Service members from Dundalk Station brought the aerial platform and the jeep and drove the guest of honour, Amy Broadhurst through Clanbrassil Street to Market Square.

There were large crowds out along the street and a huge crowd awaited her arrival on Market Square with a festive atmosphere.



Guest of Honour Amy Broadhurst on the Aerial Platform

Amy was raised up over the Christmas tree on the aerial platform and the star was put on the top of tree after a countdown. All of the town's Christmas light displays were switched on simultaneously and it was a spectacular site for all who were present.



Station Officer Michael Donnelly and Fire Fighters Mark Waters and Keith Agnew at Frostival

The delivery of Louth Fire Service's training plan continued during November. This included the following:

- ESDS emergency driving two week course
- ESDS conversion course for existing drivers
- Pump Operators Refresher course
- Road Traffic Collision refresher courses
- Refresher training on Dundalk's hydraulic platform
- Manual Handling Instructor course for two Sub Officers

The Summary Cost Plan for Dundalk Training Centre extension and upgrade was received from the Quantity Surveyor. The cost is well in excess of the approved funding of €1.15 million and discussions will take place with the DHLGH.

Three tenders have been received for the design of a new fire station for Dunleer. These will be assessed and progress to the design stage. It is expected that the site acquisition issues will be resolved shortly.

Climate Adaptation Strategy

Work on the Climate Action Plan is continuing, to include Fire Service and Building Control requirements. Two Fire Service members will attend the NSAI energy audit on Friday 2nd December.

Major Emergency Management

The Winter Ready Brief took place in the Council Chamber on 16th November. It was attended by a

range of organisations and agencies involved in severe weather incidents.

Two LCC staff members attended an Information Managers course in the HSE Centre, Phoenix Park, during November.

A Louth Local Co-Ordination Centre exercise will be run on 12th December.

Civil Defence

Civil Defence provided medical cover at the following events:

- Cyclocross, Jenkinstown
- Annagassan 10K
- Frostival Festival

Training delivered during October was as follows:

- Weekly training, including medical, rescue, search and radios. (This is general training for volunteers from 8 - 10pm each Thursday).
- Cardiac First Responder courses
- Manual Handling course

Building Control

The Building Control Officer attended Part B (Fire Safety) in Dwellings Continuous Professional Development day on 24th November.

The Building Control Section continues to carry out on site inspection throughout the county aiming to meet national targets.

Louth Building Control will attend the Q4 Eastern and Midlands Regional Building Control Meeting on 5th December.

Certificates of Compliance on Completion continue to be assessed and validated weekly, currently there is a high volume being submitted due to the Christmas deadline.

- Total Fire Safety Certificates to date for 2022 is 123
- Total Disabled Access Certificates submitted to date for 2022 is 100.

Planning

Development Management / Bainistíocht Forbartha

The Planning service indicators for Louth County Council for the month of October 2022 are given below in tabular form. There were 78 planning applications received during the month of October of which 67 were valid. In addition, there were 31 responses received during the month to requests for further information and 15 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 Development s / 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	3	12	42	2	59
(ii) No. of decisions determined which required further information / Líon na gcinntí inar iarradh breis eolais	1	4	13	2	20
(iii) Percentage of applications refused / Céatadán na n-iarratas a diúltaíodh	33.33% (1)	41.67% (5)	14.29% (1)	0% (0)	20.34% (12)
(iv) Number of appeals determined / Líon na n-achomharc a cinneadh	1	0	0	0	1
(v) Percentage of decisions overturned on appeal / Céatadán na gcinntí a cuireadh ar ceal ar achomharc	0% (0)	50% (1)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)

Planning Enforcement – Unauthorised Development / Forfheidmiú 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 / Forfheidmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh		Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development / Forfheidmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh	
	October 2022 / Deireadh Fómhair 2022	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo	October 2021 / Deireadh Fómhair 2021	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	19	224	21	276
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	22	238	32	259
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	19	191	30	216
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	7	19	4	10
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	1	5	0	5
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	0	0	4
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0	0	0

Planning Enforcement – Short Term Lettings Enforcement

The Planning indicators are given below in relation to Short Term Lettings Enforcement received during the month.

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to Short Term Lettings	
	November 2022 / Samhain 2022	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	0	9
Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which didn't require follow up / Líon na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise	0	1
Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation / Líon na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht	2	24
Number of cases currently under investigation / Líon na gcásanna atá á n-imscúdú faoi láthair	23	48
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	1	26
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	1	5
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

Conservation Grants Schemes 2022

Recoupment claim issued to the Department in respect of the Built Heritage Investment Scheme and Historic Structures Fund for 2022.

- BHIS – 14 projects (€115,818.75)
- HSF – 4 projects (€114,769.30)

New - Conservation Grants 2023

Malcolm Noonan TD, Minister of State for Heritage and Electoral Reform at the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, launched (16th November, 2022) the **Built Heritage Investment Scheme** and the **Historic Structures Fund** for 2023.

The **Vernacular and Historic Shopfronts** stream will continue again for HSF 2023 and will fund what can be termed 'informal' traditional buildings, which are a significant part of our intangible cultural heritage.

Historic Shopfronts stream is introduced to incentivise the conservation of historic shopfronts and will fund small capital works to their facades, windows, signage and other associated details.

Louth County Council is now accepting applications under both schemes. The closing date for applications is **4.30pm on Friday 27th January, 2023**. Full details are available to view / download on the Louth County Council website www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/planning/conservation/.

Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT)

The closing date for receipt of submissions to the Residential Zoned Land Tax Draft Maps is 1st January, 2023.

Full details of the RZLT are available at <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/planning/residential-zoned-land-tax/> or via the Louth Consultation Portal at <https://consult.louthcoco.ie/en/consultation/residential-zoned-land-tax>.

Placemaking and Physical Development

Deanamh Áite agus Forbairt Fhisiciúil

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

- Roads and Local Services and Physical Development

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:

- Seirbhísí Bóithre agus Áitiúla, agus Forbairt Fhisiciúil

Catherine Duff
Director / Stiúrthóir



Roads and Local Services

Municipal District of Dundalk

Dundalk and Cooley Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí
Cooley Litter pick and maintenance of open spaces and car parks in Templetown, Greenore and Giles Quay .	
Dundalk All Areas Town Centre Ramparts Inner Relief Rd Newry Rd Racecourse Rd By Pass Centenery Rd Dublin Rd Mourne View Walkway Ardee Rd Carrick Rd Castletown Rd, Ecco Rd , Market Sq ,borders and Planters	
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht
Cooley This is an on going programme within the area	Daily

Bin collection in Carlingford, Omeath, Greenore, Templetown, Giles Quay, also playgrounds - Omeath, Carlingford, Lordship.	
Dundalk	
200 bins by contractor	Nightly
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain
Cooley	
Road sweeper was in Ravensdale to clean Leaves off footpath approx 4km . Also the footpath on Bellurgan straight R173.	
Dundalk	
Contract Sweeper extra sweeping in areas due to Leaf Fall	
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain
Dundalk	Nightly
By Contractor	
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain
Ring Buoys checked Weekly Report sent to Water Safety Officer For Dundalk	
No replacements in November , repaired some ropes	
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil
Cooley	Weekly
This is done on a weekly basis, Carlingford, Omeath, Lordship and Cooley.	
Dundalk	
Check lists carried out by Parks caretaker	Daily/ Weekly

Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<p><u>Cooley</u> On going pothole patching within the general cooley area.</p> <p><u>Dundalk</u> NA</p>
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<p><u>Cooley</u> The jet vac lorry was in Cooley area also in Carlingford, Omeath, and old Newry Road and Ravensdale. Drainage also done in Ravensdale Deerpark Road.</p> <p><u>Dundalk</u> JETTED PIPES AT Ramparts and Blackwater River</p>
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	<p>None at this time.</p>
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	<p><u>Cooley</u> Cleaning of leaves and debris of Footpaths.</p> <p><u>Dundalk</u> Footpath Repairs Riverside Crescent, Tactile Paving at Ramparts</p>

<p>Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá</p>	<p>Cooley Maintenance of periodic school advance warning signs/ Bellurgan, Rathcor, Boher schools.</p> <p>Dundalk On Going Repairs of Traffic faults at Fatima and McSweeney St</p>	
<p>Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre</p>	<p>Cooley None</p> <p>Dundalk None</p>	
<p>Signage / Comharthaíocht</p>	<p>Cooley On going program replacing, damage or faded or missing signs on minor roads. Also reflective chevrons replaced on the R173 carlingford to omeath.</p> <p>Dundalk New Street Signage in THE Town Centre for Pay Parking Replaced Damaged Yield Signs Replaced Signage</p>	
<p>Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach</p>	<p>Cooley Quantity of Tyres removed from the mast road.</p> <p>Dundalk Hoey's Lane, Mooreland Rd Inner Relief Rd Mount Ave By Pass at Woxii Roundabout Mattresses at Muirhevnamor 30 Ton of Rubbish removed from Hoey's Lane Old Allotment site</p>	
<p>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí</p>	<p>Cooley None</p> <p>Dundalk Cleaned Graffiti at signages in Parks</p>	

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 & 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

	7103 Raskeagh Kilcurry, LP-3112 MaghereaghKilkerley. Drainage works carried out upgrading existing gullies and pipelines with works carried at LS-7105 Dungooly Kilcurry, plus R178 Chanonrock Carrick Road. Rd 166 from Tallanstown – Duffys Cross. Rd 175 Glyde Farm – Bannons Cross, Rd 216 Bollies and Rd 227 Charleville	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	Fern Drive Louth Village	Clearing fallen trees & debris.
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán		Footpath renewal
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá		Major repair works completed
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	N/A N/A	Renewal of junction markings Renewal of existing and provision of additional road markings
Signage / Comharthaíocht	N/A	Cleansing/repair/replacement New signage
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	LS-7103 Carn More Kilcurry, N52 Gibstown Ardee Road, LS-7162, Clermont Road Haggardstown Tallanstown and Louth Village	Collection of dumped waste for disposal. Collection & disposal after community clean up

Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	N/A	
--	-----	--

Ardee Municipal District

South Louth Operations (Rural Area)

		Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí			
Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair					
All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day)					
Clogherhead Car Park daily cleanup around bins					
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí		Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht			
Ardee Town		37 Daily			
Dunleer town		20 Tuesday and Thursday			
Collon		3 Tuesday and Thursday			
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 Baoithe 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 / Suíomhanna Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Seiceáilte Laethúil Corpacmhainne	
Maintenance and cleaning of Fairgreen and Dunleer parks and playgrounds complete with daily checks of the playground, & exercise equipment at both locations.	

Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	LP 1209-0 Glack LP 1212 Stabannon road LP 1297-0 Collon N52 Dundalk road Ardee L-1297-27 Kells-Collon road L-6737-1 Cappoge road Erecting of Christmas trees in Ardee
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	L-2223 Johnstown L-1297-27 Kells-Collon road L-5262-16 digging out of culvert at Smarmore and replacing same L-1264-12 Ballapousta installing drainage system R166 Martins town cross

	L-5266-39 White Mountain Collon Checking flooding throughout area Filling of sandbags Ardee & Woodlands yards	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	Tree down at St Mary's Drumcar. ESB had to remove Beechwood Drive Park Dunleer, LCC Crew	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	Clearing leaves on the N2 Drogheda road Clearing leaves on the N2 & LP-1233-7 Fairgreen Ardee	
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá		
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre		
Signage / Comharthaíocht	Erecting of bollards on Sean o Carroll street Pouring concrete at Stabannon for seat and flagpole Replacing of rubbish bins ardee town Erecting of Cigarette collection bollards at all bus stops, Pouring Concrete at Dunleer green area,	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach		
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí		



Figure 1 Drainage Remediation in South Louth

Borough District of Drogheda

Drogheda Town Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steps and lane ways weekly 22 steps when recourses allow and green areas. • Hotspots on Monday – decided by Supervisor following inspection. • Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Daily during working week. Also, all Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Saturday p.m. • Drogheda Rural Bring banks are cleared daily during working week. • Remove of existing gates at Old Abbey Lane – in progress to remove. • Power washing of paving at West St – on-going.

- New planters placed on West St.
- Placing / up-grade of litter bins at High lane steps, slip way at dual carriageway, Mell, Marleys Lane and Yellowbatter.
- Graffiti removal on approval roads.
- Up-grade of over head barriers at Bolton St Car park.
- Preparation works on West St for Christmass Light switch on – removal bollards / re locating planters and traffic – pedestrian management.
- Preparation works for GARDA Parade – pedestrian barriers , re location of bollards.
- Bonfire clean up at Moneymore, Ballsgrove, St Laurence Pk, Rathmullen, Boice Court, Beechwood Drive and Marley's Lane.

Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí

Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht

- Drogheda Town Centre Litterbins emptied daily circa 60 early mornings.
- 234 litter bins (including 10 no. Solar bins) are emptied weekly in town.
- Dominic's Park & Mell River walk emptied daily.
- South Louth Drogheda Municipal district rural area's public Litter Bins are emptied twice a week or daily when needed especially at beaches/Portoriel/Seapoint/Termonfeckin/Baltray – at least 40 bins per day.
- Approach roads in Drogheda town emptied twice a week.
- Bin upgrade and maintenance ongoing + street furniture

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

7 Daily
 8 Daily
 6 Daily
 6 Daily
 3 Daily
 3 Daily

Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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., Termonenfeckin, Baltray, Sandpit, Monasterboice, Tullyallen & Tenure. • Drogheda town Boyne river walkways are swept 3 times per week (Monday, Wednesday & Friday). • Removal of leaves on all approach roads and town centre to prevent gullies blocking – on going.
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / FolmhúAraidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empty about 35 No. once a week, washed and disinfected.
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 89 ring buoys checked each week Town area (Thursday) • 9 ring buoys checked each week at Rosehall (Friday)

- New Ringbuoys placed on St Dominick's Bridge.

Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh agus Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne

Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil

- Between 4 & 5 daily (4 playgrounds in Drogheda town, Skate park, adult exercise equipment). 3 Playgrounds in Drogheda rural area) + disinfected

Location / Suíomh		Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<p>Drainage Works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gully cleaning on-going on approach roads, town centre streets and estates. • Flood Event Locations at Platin Rd, Crosslanes, Dublin Rd and Wheaton Hall. <p>LCC's crew</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footpaths @ Castlewoods, Forest Hills. • Pothole repairs at Termonfeckin Rd. • Sand bags to flooding areas for storm events. • Bollards at West St. • Diversion sign for events. <p>Road Works Program – Resurfacing works at</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beamore Rd – completed 23/11/2022. <p>LS-6317 Sheepgrange LS-6285-0 Gallroostown John Kirk Park Clogherhead Orchard Villas Termonfeckin</p>	JCB Pro JCB Pro
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<p>Annual Drogheda Gully cleaning program ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gully cleaning ongoing on approach roads, town centre streets and estates. <p>L-6285-0 Galroostown LS-6301-1 Monasterboice LS-6243-0 Nicolastown LS-6305 Seapoint LP-2240 Togher LP-2278 Sandpit R166 Termonfeckin</p> <p>Checking flooding throughout area</p>	Sugar case 313757
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	Monasterboice	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Footpaths @ Castlewoods, Forest Hills. 	
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Westgate junction Wind Mill Rd / Crosslanes Donore Rd / Haymarket Junction. Westgate / Fair St. Donore Rd / Bottle Lane. James St / Scotch Hall. <p>Walshestown N.S.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor timings. Replace PBU. Lights out due to Corr fault Red. Vehicle phase lamp fail red. Check timings. Report lights on RED.

Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	Road marking survey in progress. New markings at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bothar Brugha – ramps – traffic calming. 	Road marking survey in progress.
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General maintenance of signage town centre and approach roads. 2. New STOP sign at Beamore Bridge. 	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bessexwell lane • Marsh Road • Horse lane area • Skellys Lane • Rathmullen • Dublin road • Mill Row 	<p>Dumping removed and examined for evidence</p> <p>LCC warden service has continued early morning town inspections. This has led to a better interaction with business communities in order to alleviate the issues of poor presentation of waste. It also assists in giving the support to cleansing team in going ahead of them in key areas.</p>
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dublin road • Sienna convent • Street furniture • Eir Cabinets 	<p>The warden service has carried out an extensive survey of all EIR boxes in the Drogheda area. This led to identifying id and eir codes matches. The report with photos has been submitted to EIR for removal.</p>



Hardmans Gardens Drogheda Raised Crossing



New Art Work on Scotch Hall Hoarding one of the Measures employed by BIDS in conjunction with LCC to improve the image of Drogheda and improve Drogheda's IBAL score

Physical Development

Roads Projects

Narrow Water Bridge

On the 18th of Nov. The Taoiseach, Micheál Martin, announced, at an event near Narrow Water Keep, that the Government have approved the project to proceed to the tender process. In attendance was Minister O'Brien and representatives from Louth Co. Council, Newry Mourne, Down District Council and other attendees

The Suitability Assessment Documentation submissions, to prequalify a panel of Contractors capable of constructing the project, were received on the 23rd of Nov. These submissions will now be assessed for their suitability and then will form a restricted panel of Contractors.

A North South Ministerial Infrastructure Sub Group meeting was held on the 29th Sept.

Engagement with DFI Infrastructure, Loughs Agency, NPW, etc. is ongoing in order to discharge the Conditions of Planning. Wind tunnel modelling is nearing completion, and design updated accordingly.



CE explains the Narrow Water Bridge Project to An Taoiseach, Michael Martin on Nov 18th last

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

Louth County Council received correspondence from An Bord Pleanála regarding the CPO process, the Board intends to determine the application before the 9th December, 2022. The design team are engaging with the landowners throughout the process.

N2 Ardee to Castleblayney Road Scheme

Following meetings with directly affected landowners, the initial design was published on the project website www.N2MonaghanLouth.ie on the 24th October 2022, and the project team remains available to speak with landowners and stakeholders who have queries about the project. Landowners, stakeholders and members of the public are welcome to submit comments to Jacobs in relation to the initial design – this feedback will be considered by the project team as the design process develops.

Focused geophysical surveys are planned to take place at approximately 20 locations of potential archaeological interest. Shanarc Archaeology Ltd. has been appointed as the specialist consultant to undertake these surveys. They are non-intrusive surveys and no on-site works are required, however access to lands is required for equipment and staff. Shanarc are engaging and working with relevant landowners in relation to access, and the project team would like to thank landowners for their ongoing co-operation and assistance.

In 2023 the project team will focus on drafting an Environmental Impact Assessment Report and CPO documentation – these are due for completion by mid-2023. Subject to approval, would then be submitted to An Bord Pleanála as part of the planning approval process.

Funding for 2023 has been requested from TII to close out the current Phase 3 design

process, with a view to proceeding to Phase 4 Statutory Approvals in Q3 2023. Grant allocations are expected to be announced by TII in mid/late December 2023.

The N2 Project Team can be contacted by landowners and members of the public via the N2 Project Phonenumber 087 340 3786, or email: ArdeeCastleblayney@N2MonaghanLouth.ie.

N52 Ardee Bypass

A local environmental group were granted leave in the High Court for a Judicial Review against An Bord Pleanála (ABP) and the Boards directions to Louth County Council concerning the preparations of an EIAR and NIS. There will be a further hearing on 29th November, directing the parties with regard to legal papers. The Scheme is currently at a standstill until the resolution to these proceedings are overcome.

N2 Collon Safety Scheme

Following TII design report approval a Road Safety Audit has been commissioned. Civil works on the crossing are now substantially complete. M&E works are substantially complete. Connection of the signals to the ESB network is awaited.

Port Access Northern Cross Route

Louth Co. Council entered into a licence agreement with the consortium with respect to the lands. A Notice to enter was issued by Louth Co. Council to the landowners affected by this phase of the project. The consortium has appointed a contractor and works has commenced for the section of road R132 to the Ballymakenny Road including upgrades to the Ballymakenny Rd and Twenties Lane. Works are expected to take 18 months. Drainage and earthworks are currently ongoing adjacent to the Ballymakenny Road.

Footpath and cycle path works to facilitate development on the eastern side of the Ballymakenny Road which is part of the

PANCR scheme are completed. Public lighting columns have been installed. Watermain, foul sewer and telecoms ducting are complete. Public lighting is 100% complete, but awaiting ESB connection. Surface water sewer works are commencing during the Halloween midterm at Ballymakenny College along the Ballymakenny Road. Realignment of the Twenties Lane has commenced in partnership with CFS Homes. The first phase of realignment is scheduled for delivery before Christmas.



Works ongoing on the Twenties Lane realignment at DIFE

Boyne Enterprise Link Road

The Tender documents for construction of the works were received and have been assessed. Ongoing consultations are taking place with stakeholders / landowners. Letter of Intent to be issued to the preferred contractor

R178 Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Route Improvement Scheme

Tenders have been received seeking consultants to prepare a Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) for DTTAs progress two of the schemes, namely D7 & D6 towards feasibility stage and letter of intent will be issued shortly.

Greenways

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 finalised for completion prior to Christmas.

The Oral hearing relating to the CPO was held by An Bord Pleanála, online on the 26th October and the decision of the Board is awaited.

Updated submission to NI planning department in regards to DFI comments. Liaison with DFI ongoing. It is anticipated that Planning Permission in N.I. will be decided upon in Q2 2023

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

TII Funded Greenways

Carlingford to Templetown

Public Consultation for the proposed Carlingford to Templetown Greenway, an information event was held, on Thursday 23rd June, 2022 at the Carlingford Heritage Centre. The drop-in event is Public Consultation No. 1 for the Carlingford to Templetown Greenway. This was well attended by elected members, members of the public and stakeholders. Closing date for submissions was 8th August. These submissions have been compiled for further consideration. Full details at https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/louth_county_council/latest-news/greenway-carlingford-to-templetown-public-consultation-1.html

Wintering Bird survey completed. Scope being prepared for drone survey of route corridors and tender to be issued thereafter. Traffic counts being carried out at several locations by Louth County Council. TII have provided funding for route assessment and discussions are taking place on delivery of this scheme going forward under the TII Project Management Guidelines. Going forward this

scheme is to be combined with Dundalk Bay Greenway as a single project.

Dundalk Bay Greenway- Templetown to Dundalk

TII have allocated monies towards the feasibility of a new greenway from Templetown to Dundalk. Discussions are taking place on delivery of this scheme going forward under the TII Project Management Guidelines. A single strategic assessment report (SAR) is being prepared for the route from Carlingford to Dundalk. Following approval of the SAR tender documents will be finalized for the appointment of consultants for environmental studies.

LIHAF Projects

LIHAF Access Road at Newtown, Drogheda

Following discussion with the developer and the Department of Housing this scheme will be progressed by the developer assisted by offset of development levies under agreement with LCC

LIHAF Mount Avenue Improvement

The tender assessment report has been accepted by the Department of Housing. A letter of intent has issued to the lowest tenderer. Appointment of a consultant to supervise the works is being developed.

Safety Improvement Works

Retrofit Fencing

A survey was carried out at various locations on the N51 & N53 in regards to the requirement to carry out / not carry out retrofit fencing works on sections of the existing post and rail fencing. A report has been forwarded to the TII and it is currently under review.

Specific Bridge Improvement Grants

Obelisk Bridge

Requested peer review by DTTAS is now completed. Final Tender documents and additional queries have been reviewed by DTTAS and they are happy with same. We are now waiting on their approval to go to tender in early 2023.

St. Dominic's Bridge, Drogheda

Substantial completion has been reached and the bridge is open to foot and cycle traffic permitted on the bridge.



Seating & Planter

Public Transport

NTA Bus Shelter Installation Programme 2021 – 2022

The civil works for the 9 site are essentially complete, bar snagging, and shelters installed by the NTA.

Corporate Projects

Redevelopment Fair Street Offices, Drogheda

- Existing Conservation Buildings Blocks B,C,E.

Brick infill to the South Elevation Block C Community Services Building, Block C Roof and Floor stripping ongoing

Concrete floor demolition in Block B completed and Sub-floor build up completed. Weldon's Cottage dividing wall build up completed. Temporary Works Design implemented onsite for preparation of dismantling Western façade of Block by Demolition Contractors. Repointing of external brick work to Block C has commenced with the raking out of the joints to the Southern elevation ongoing and polishing up of vents. Infill of Arches and door buildup to Block E is ongoing along with structural remedial work to the inside and outside of the building.

- New Link Building

Ground beams poured to Westside of New Link Building and Formworks contractor has continued the tying of steel for the Retaining walls base and remainder of ground beams. Underpinning and temporary works to Eastern boundary retaining wall commenced.



Ground Beam Construction New Link Building Block N



Roof dismantling Block Community Services Building



Glazed Pottery located during excavation for Sub floors Block B Council Chamber



Fill in Subfloor Block B



Floor stripping Block Community Services Building

Dunleer Fire Station

A re-tender Document for design consultants were received on the 28th of Nov. with 3 tenders been received. These tender submissions will now be assessed.

Louth Flood Defence and Coastal Erosion Projects

Dundalk and Ardee Flood Relief Projects

Stage 1 of the Project is continuing, i.e. Options assessment, Scheme Development. Hydrology is now completed. Hydraulic modelling is nearing completion for both Ardee and Dundalk in tandem with the processing of information from the recently completed CCTV and Topographical surveys. Preliminary Option Assessment to consider and assess a range of possible Flood Relief Measures has commenced and will continue throughout the next few months. The Public Consultation Days programmed for 25th November has taken place and submissions are being reviewed. In Ardee the WFD, Geomorphology & Soils/Geology analysis is underway. Tender Documents for the Project Site Investigations have also commenced.

Further necessary environmental, ecological, noise and landscape assessments will continue through Q4, 2022.

Monthly project briefing notes are being issued to the current relevant stakeholders. The Project website being hosted by OPW can be reached at: www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/dundalk/home.

Drogheda and Baltray Flood Relief Project

RPS are continuing works on Stage 1 of the Project, i.e. Options Assessment and Scheme Development and work continues on this. Topographical Surveys have been completed on site and post-processing works continue. CCTV surveys are now complete and the recorded data is being processed into the models. Tender Documents for the Project Site Investigations have also commenced, with final locations be agreed. Preparation of Tender Documents is also continuing for the necessary environmental and ecological surveys. The Project website being hosted by OPW is now complete and can be reached at: www.droghedabaltrayfrs.ie. A brief note has

also been circulated to the elected representatives

Carlingford and Greenore Flood Relief 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. Two temporary rain gauges are now operational, installed at Carlingford Fire Station and at the rear of Carlingford Library for rainfall data collection, providing additional data to inform project design and development.

Balmers Bog Surface Water Pipe

All works are now complete with surplus flows now diverted through the pipeline from Balmer's Bog.

Marine Projects

Coastal Protection Works

Applications for the 2021 OPW Minor Works funding were submitted for Coastal Protection Projects in 3 separate locations, Omeath, Bellurgan and Ballagan.

OPW have confirmed Funding Approval of €62k for Omeath and an Ecologist will now be procured to prepare an AA Screening Report for this Project.

LCC have responded to queries raised by the OPW on Ballagan Application and are awaiting a response.

OPW refused the Bellurgan application but have agreed to reconsider a revised application for a reduced scope of works. This revised application has been prepared and was submitted in May. LCC awaiting and response

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.

A tender assessment has been completed and a recommendation to award has been issued to the Dept of Education.

Part 8 for the proposed alterations to the SEN units was resolved at the Ardee MD members for the March meeting. Negotiations are now taking place with the most economically advantageous tenderer to deliver the school extension under the main contract.



3D Visual of proposed SEN unit extension

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 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.

The Contract has now been signed by Kilkenny Co. Council (as lead partner) for the Eastern Region. The PLEEP Eastern Region will upgrade approximately 73,500 public lights across 9 local authorities, Carlow, Kildare, Kilkenny, Louth, Meath, Offaly, Tipperary, Westmeath and Wicklow County Councils, as well as Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII).



Louth County Council is currently assessing sites for installation of 20no. EV charging points, as funded through SEAI. The goal of this funding stream is to support people who cannot easily provide their own EV charger at home, such as terraced housing or apartments. <https://www.seai.ie/grants/home-energy-grants/>

Electrical Vehicles Charging Points



Louth County Council and other associate partners have completed preliminary assessments of sites to generate an approved site list of 25 EV Rapid Chargers across the border counties.

Louth County Council has advertised for Legal Services for the project which was live on ETenders and OJEU until 4th November 2022. The Tender review process is on-going in regard to appointment of Multidisciplinary Consultant for the project, which closed on ETender on 10th October 2022. Information is available at the following outlets:

Channel	URL
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/FasterEVCharge
Twitter	https://twitter.com/FasterEVCharge
Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/fasterEVcharge/
Linkedin	https://www.linkedin.com/company/faster-project
TikTok	https://www.tiktok.com/@fasterEVcharge
YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0FqxddlpA7WXJr9ShzUaxQ

Active Travel Investment Program

2022 Budget Allocation

The National Transport Authority (NTA) has awarded Louth County Council an allocation of €6.53 million to advance a number of projects from preliminary design phase to construction phase. The fourteen projects that commenced in 2021 will continue and an additional nine new projects have been allocated funding for this year (2022).

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

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

- Band 1 €0 - €0.5M;
- Band 2 €0.5 - €10M;
- Band 3 > €10M;

They also divide the involvement of a Capital Investment project into a seven Phase process, (Phase 1 to Phase 7 inclusive) with seven Gateways Reports i.e. hold points, where local authorities are to prepare and submit

Gateway Reports for sign-off before obtaining approval to advance to the next phase. The seven different phases are as outlined below...

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

On the 7th of September 2022 Louth County Council (LCC) submitted an application to the National Transport Authority, nominating two projects as potential **Pathfinder Projects**, namely...

- Dundalk Inner Relief Road Active Travel Corridor
- Drogheda Active Travel Enhancement (Rathmullan Rd & Marley's Lane)

On the 14th October 2022, LCC were informed that we were successful with our two nominated projects. An introductory meeting was held with the Sustainable Mobility Management and Implementation Division on the 8th November 2022 and design has commenced on the above two nominated projects.

The Pathfinder Programme is a key part of bringing urgency to the delivery of demonstration projects of scale at a local level. It is intended that our projects, will provide a template which can be replicated and scaled up elsewhere, with a strong emphasis on experimental and innovative approaches. A key criterion in selecting these projects is their capacity to be delivered within the next 3 years.

Place Making

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) **Living in Carlingford Visiting Carlingford**

Topographical and Ground Penetrating Radar Surveys are complete. Archaeological, Conservation and traffic surveys also complete. Costs have been received for pavement surveys which will inform the detailed design. The proposed planning approval route including environmental impacts is currently being considered.

Ardee Castle

Detailed design and production of tendering documentation is ongoing. The bill of quantities has begun being drafted which will form part of the tender package. Work is ongoing on the Ministerial Consent application following a site meeting held with the National Monuments Service.

Omeath Public Realm

The detailed design and tender documents for contractor appointment are well advanced. The final concept for the scheme has been agreed and stakeholder engagement has continued with local community groups including the Omeath Development Group and the Omeath Christmas Lights Committee.

Ardee 2040

The design of key character areas will be presented to the Ardee Municipal Meeting on December 1st 2022. This meeting will take place in advance of preparation of final planning information including EIAR and AA Screening reports by the appointed Consultants Turley Planning, to be submitted for planning consent to An Bord Pleanála. The report into the Public Engagement Process to date is uploaded on the website here: www.ardee2040.ie.

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Projects (URDF)

West Gate Vision (Drogheda)

The final drawings, EIAR and AA Stage 2 reports for the Westgate Vision Project are being submitted by the appointed consultants Turley Planning, for internal review, in advance of the Development consent application to An Bord Pleanála.



Additional projects

St. Nicholas Quarter and Backlands Regeneration (Dundalk)

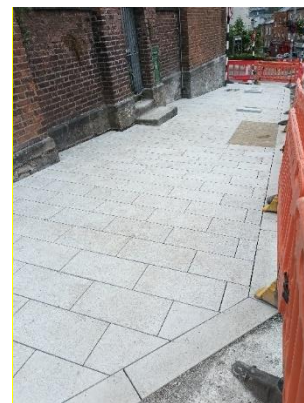
The revised preliminary business case has received Departmental approval and the project is progressing. LCC met with Department of Housing, Local government and Heritage URDF team in Dundalk recently and had a positive site meeting outlining the plans for the project and its phased delivery. The return date for tenders for phase 1 of the project, which involves the enhancement of the public realm, has been extended until the end of November.

St Peter's Hill PEACE IV

GLAS Civil Engineering are progressing towards practical completion for the new shared meeting space. The installation of the sculpture piece will take place in January as agreed programme

Town Centre First - Dunleer Town Masterplan

Preparation of the Masterplan is progressing with a public consultation event scheduled for the 4th and 5th December. Members of the public are being invited to attend in order to obtain their views on how the town centre should develop into the future. Meetings with key community stakeholders such as the Trader's Association and the Elected Members have also been scheduled.

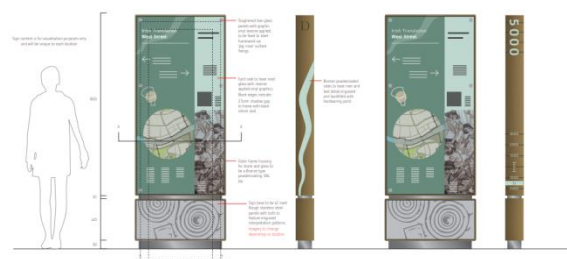


Destination Town, Drogheda - LCC/ Failte Ireland

The Signage, Wayfinding and public realm works contract is progressing. The manufacture of the bespoke signage and wayfinding features is expected to commence in the coming weeks.

Weatherproofing and Outdoor Dining (Failte Ireland) - The Green, Carlingford

Groundworks for the new outdoor dining facility are significantly complete on site. The new tensile fabric canopy will be installed in December and the final resin bound surfacing along with all other groundworks will finish soon after.



St Laurence's Gate LCC

Draft reports for the Part 8 Planning process for St Laurence's Gate Plaza have been received by the Consulting Archaeologists and Conservation Architects Grade 1. Pre planning departmental consultation will take place in the coming weeks



Play Spaces

Work is progressing on tender documents for three play space sites in the villages of Collon, Termonfeckin and upgrade of the playground in St Dominic's Park, Drogheda. Tender documents are due to be published on eTenders/ OJEU in Q4 2022.

Organisational Development

Forbairt Na hEagraíochta

The Organisational Development Directorate includes the central services required to maintain and administer this Local Authority. This includes Corporate and Human Resources. It also includes the Community and Climate functions and all aspects of Waste Management Services and Veterinary Services.

This Directorate has four key areas of responsibility

- Corporate Services
- Community Support & Sports
- Waste Management, Environment & Climate Action
- Veterinary Services

Áiríonn an Stiúrtóireacht um Fhorbairt na hEagraíochta na seirbhísí lárnacha a theastaíonn chun an tÚdarás Áitiúil seo a chothabháil agus a riaradh. Áirítear leis seo Acmhainní Corparáideacha agus Daonna. Áiríonn sé freisin na feidhmeanna Pobail agus Aeráide agus gach gné de Sheirbhísí Bainistíochta Dramhaíola agus Sheirbhísí Tréidliachta.

Tá ceathair eochairfhreagrachta ag an Stiúrtóireacht seo:

- Seirbhísí Corparáideacha
- Tacaíocht Pobail agus Spóirt
- Bainistíocht Dramháil, Gníomh Comhshaoil & Aeráide
- Seirbhísí Tréidliachta



Joe McGuinness
Director / Stiúrtóir

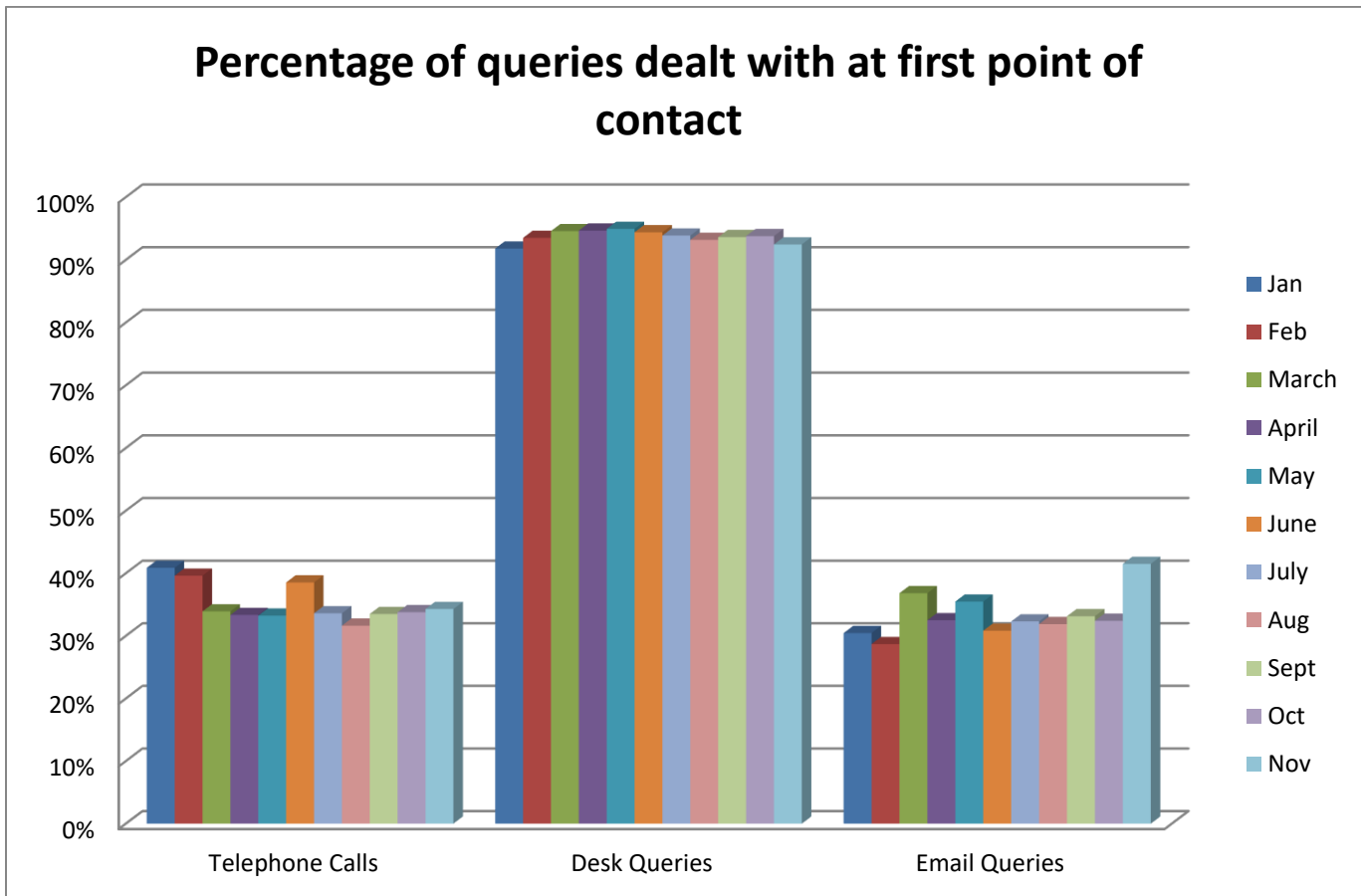
Corporate Services

The Corporate Directorate includes the central services required to maintain and administer this Local Authority and includes Corporate, Human Resources and Information Communication Technology. Emergency Services includes all elements of the Fire Service including Major Emergency Management and the provision of Civil Defence Services.

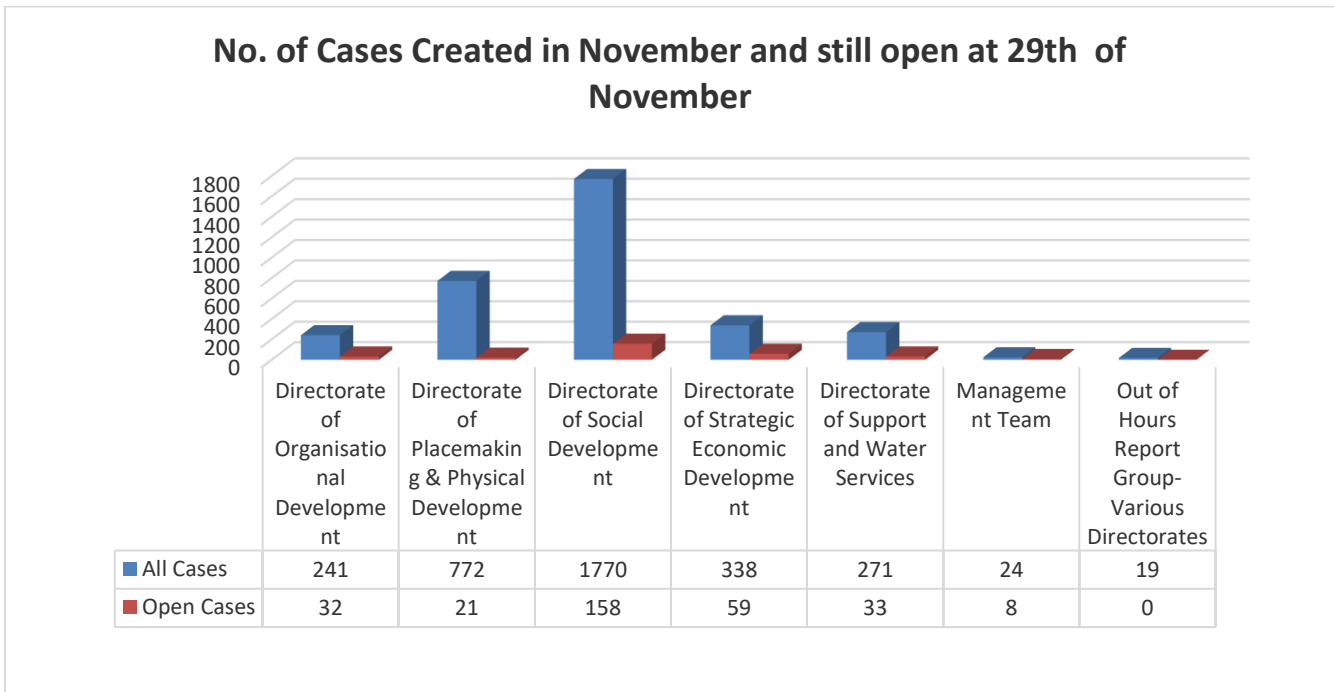
Customer Services Report

November 2022

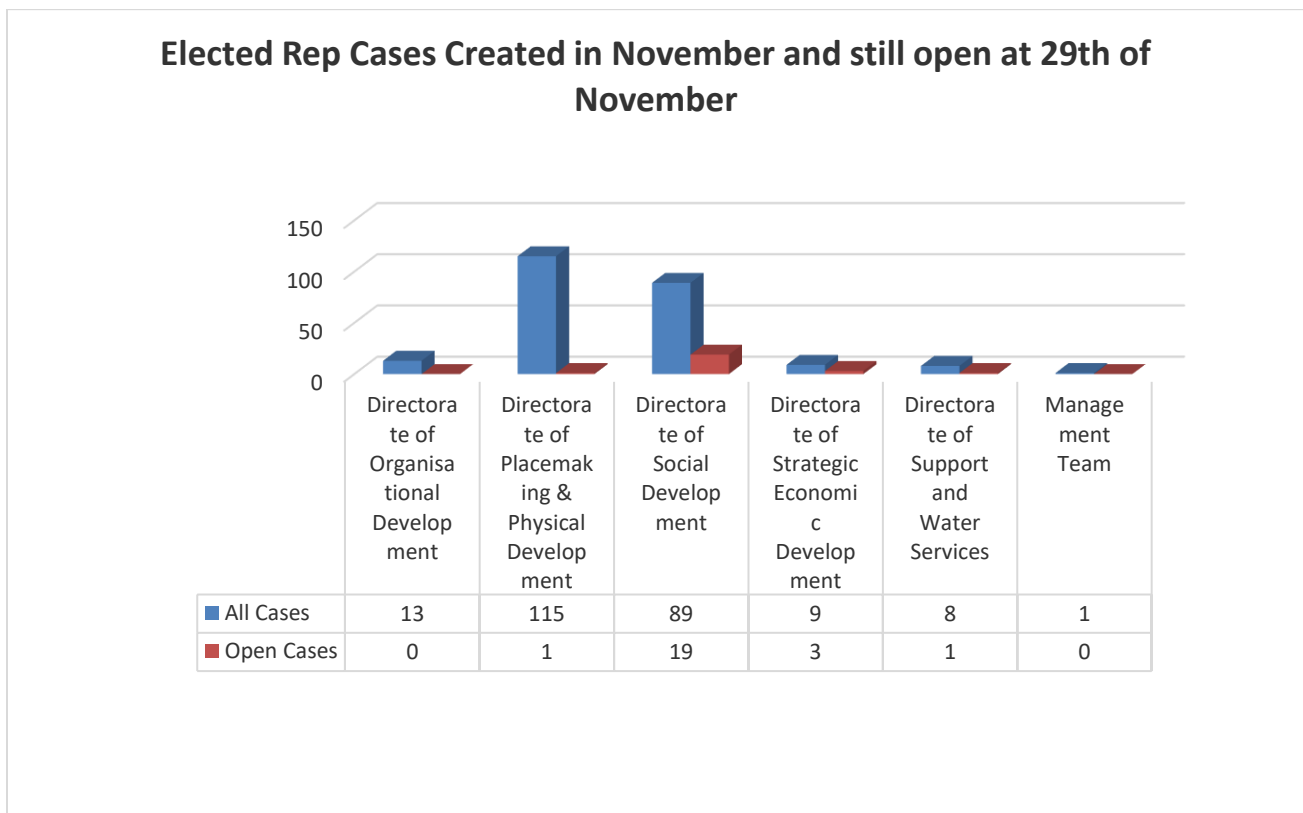
During the month of November Customer Services dealt with queries – 6110 calls, 1,077 e-mails and 3,801 counter queries.



There were 3435 valid SugarCRM cases recorded during November of which 311 (9%) remain unresolved, broken down by directorate as follows:



During November, 235 elected reps. cases were recorded on Sugar of which 24 (10%) remain unresolved broken down by Directorate as follows:



The table below illustrates activity in the redress area.

Requests Received	Same period 2021 (JAN to end of NOV only 2021)	2022 Total (JAN to end of NOV only 2022)	NOV 2022 (Month of NOV only)
Freedom of Information	126	107	7
Data Protection Request	2	3	0
Data Subject Access Request	12	10	3
Access to Information on Environment	5	11	2
Ombudsman Complaints	14	12	1
LCC Complaints Policy	31	27	1

Electoral Register

The electoral registration process has recently changed, a media campaign is currently in force to create awareness of the changes.

Even if you are already registered, you now need to add your PPSN, date of birth and Eircode. This will allow the Franchise Section in Louth County Council to confirm your details and help to ensure the accuracy of the electoral register.

The new Rolling Register of Electors has been in force for approximately 6 weeks and already there

have been nearly 700 additions and amendments. Electors are encouraged to log onto www.checktheregister.ie to ensure all their details are correct.

Copies of the application forms can be downloaded from www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/electoral-register/ and sent to: Franchise Section, Louth County Council, County Hall, Millennium Centre, Dundalk, Co. Louth. A91 KFW6 or emailed to register@louthcoco.ie

Community

LEADER

The LAG, at its recent meeting, approved funding support in the amount of €273,658.04 for three LEADER projects, under the Transitional LEADER Programme, 2021-2022. These projects were in Ardee, Bellurgan and Haggardstown.

Recently, Louth County Council paid out funding to beneficiaries under the LEADER 2014-2022 Programme:-

Promoter	Amount
St. Fechin's GAA - Lift, Sound Dampening and Upstairs kit out Ref 115004	€18,846.67
Drogheda Alzheimer Daycare Centre Ref: 112187	€3,614.74
Louth Leader Partnership – River Invasive Species Training Ref: 113729	€4,002.67
Louth Leader Partnership – Enterprising Young Travellers Programme Ref: 113522	€27,121.50
Rock Hydraulics Ltd – EURI – Steel Pipe and Hose Assembly Production Lines Ref: 117018	€11,250.00
Carlingford Community Development - Foy Centre Youth Café Ref: 116565	€3,634.36
Firrin Foods Ltd – Supply & Installation of Meat Products Packaging Machine Ref: 116408	€99,000.00
Total	€167,469.94

SICAP

The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018 – 2023 provides funding to tackle poverty and social exclusion through local

engagement and partnerships between disadvantaged individuals, community organisations and public sector agencies. Louth has received a budget increase of 3%, €45,053.00 for 2023. The 2023 SICAP Annual Plan is currently at Draft Stage and must be formally approved by the LCDC by 28th February, 2023.

PPN

PPN Awards

Louth PPN held their annual Community and Voluntary Awards on the evening of November 10th in Bellingham Castle. This was the first in-person awards held since 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and recognised the contribution of the 2021 recipients alongside the 2022 awardees.



Cathaoirleach Conor Keelan Chief Executive Officer Joan Martin PPN Award Recipients Art as Exchange



Members of the PPN Secretariat



Cathaoirleach Conor Keelan Chief Executive Officer Joan Martin PPN Award Recipients [Cúchulainn](#) Blood Bikers



Community Well-Being Statement Public Consultations



Cathaoirleach Conor Keelan Chief Executive Officer Joan Martin PPN Award Recipients Culture Connect

Community Well-Being Statement Public Consultations

Louth PPN are currently undertaking the public consultation in relation to the Community Well-Being Statement. These consultations are being held across the 3 municipal districts of County Louth to get a local, regional, and County-wide perspective on the aspirations of the Community in relation to the 6 pillars of Community Well-Being (Health – physical and mental, Economy & Resources, Social & Community Development, Values, Culture & Meaning and Environment & Sustainability). The input received from each of the sessions will inform the creation of a draft document which will be made available for further comment before being ratified at the next PPN Plenary Meeting in the New Year.

Energy Conservation Workshop

This workshop is due to take place in Dunleer on Thursday the 15th December in collaboration with Age-Friendly. The aim of this workshop is to cover the following:

- Advice and guidance on achieving conservation and greater efficiency from your energy use
- Reading and interpreting energy bills so as to assist in choosing efficient solutions
- Good practice to apply when using home electrical appliances and methods of heating
- Understand what renewable energy is and what are the sources of renewable energy
- Up to date technologies and products people need to use in managing the energy needs in their homes
- Sharing knowledge and providing advice to communities on how to work together to achieve energy savings and how to maximise energy efficiencies in community facilities

Blue Flag Applications

An Taisce have just opened applications to apply for Blue Flag Beach status on Irish Beaches for 2023. In Louth we proudly have three Blue Flag Beaches: Clogherhead Beach, Port Beach and Templetown Beach. Applications will be submitted on behalf of Louth County Council to retain our Blue Flag Status on all three beaches in 2023.



Clogherhead Beach

Green Christmas Poetry Competition

The annual Green Christmas Poetry Competition has opened once again to all primary schools in County Louth and aims to promote a festive season where we try to reduce waste, recycle more and consider the impact our choices have on Biodiversity. Louth primary school children in 4th, 5th and 6th classes are invited to submit a poem with a focus on the theme of Biodiversity Awareness, and how we could perhaps consider this around Christmas time. The winner from each of the three Municipal District areas will be invited to record their poem as a radio ad, which will be broadcast over the holiday season, as part of the Louth County Council waste awareness campaign.



A Guidance document for Community Groups working within the public realm

Louth County Council released this Guidance document that will assist and inform community

groups on best practice when carrying out works within the public realm. This Guidance document has been developed in partnership with the Community, Quality of Life and Creativity, Strategic Policy Committee members.

The purpose of this document is to guide community groups through the process of carrying out their proposed works safely within the public realm and to ensure that community groups are sufficiently protected against any possible complications for the duration of those works.

<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/communities/guidance-documnet-for-community-groups-working-within-public-realm/>

Healthy Ireland Fund 2023-2025 Local Strategy for Louth

Public Consultation Ongoing

Phase 1 – Online Survey, now closed, 436 responses, NetWell Casala is currently analyzing the data. Findings will feed into Phase 2.

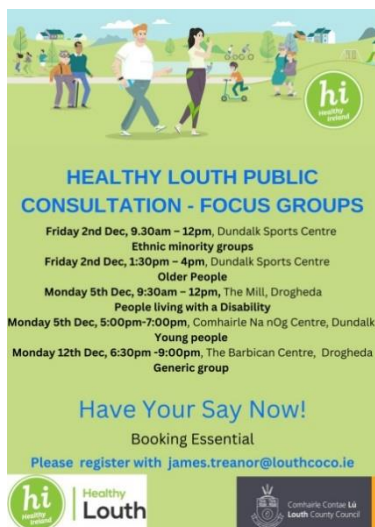
Phase 2 – Targeted Focus Groups, currently recruiting participants

- Friday 2nd Dec, 9.30am – 12pm, Dundalk Sports Centre Ethnic minority groups
- Friday 2nd Dec, 1:30pm – 4pm, Dundalk Sports Centre Older People
- Monday 5th Dec, 9:30am – 12pm, The Mill, Drogheda People living with a Disability
- Monday 5th Dec, 5:00pm-7:00pm, Comhairle Na nOg Centre, Dundalk Young people
- Monday 12th Dec, 6:30pm -9:00pm, The Barbican Centre, Drogheda Generic group

Phase 3 – Healthy Ireland Fund 2023-2025 Local Strategy for Louth – Steering Committee – list of proposed members will be presented to the LCDC at the Dec meeting for approval.

Workshop with the steering committee scheduled for Jan 2023.

Healthy Ireland Fund 2023-2025 Local strategy for Louth will be submitted to Pobal on or before the 27th Jan 2023.



details of the fund and how groups can apply will be announce shortly.

EU Shafe Project

As part of this project the Eu Shafe Project Coordinator is preparing to launch a survey on ageism on 5th December 2022.

Ageism affects people of all ages and the survey consist of several questions asking participants about ageism in general, their perceptions of ageism, and their lived experience of ageism. It also seeks to examine how older people are presented in the media and in popular culture. There will be an extensive campaign to encourage as many people as possible to take part in the survey both locally & nationally.

Community Development

The Community Team supported Naughton Close Residents' Association with the acquisition of gardening & landscaping equipment. The residents Association in the area is an integral part of the community and assists with maintenance and upkeep of the green spaces and green areas within the development on an ongoing basis.



Martin McDonagh, Naughton Close Residents' Association

Louth Older People's Forum/Council

The Louth Age Friendly Team is holding an Open Day in the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Dundalk on 5th December 2022. The purpose of the open day is to reinvigorate the Older People's Forum/Council. The Age Friendly Team would like to invite back any members who were involved with the Forum/Council previously and to encourage new members to join. The Older People's Forum/Council provides a way for older adults to take a more active role in their communities and have their voices heard. The Council is free to join and is open to all County Louth residents, aged 55 years upwards. Members of the Older People's Council can raise issues of importance and inform the decision-making process of the Louth County Age Friendly Alliance. Members are also kept up to date on social events, issues of relevance to them and various Age Friendly initiatives.

Community Support Fund

The Community Support Fund was announced by Minister Heather Humphries to provide support to community and voluntary groups considering rising energy costs. Louth was allocated €323,952. Further

Age Friendly Alliance

The Louth Age Friendly Alliance held their first in person meeting since the pandemic on 28th November 2022. The role of the Alliance is to oversee the implementation of the Louth Age Friendly Strategy 2016-2022. The Alliance ensures that all the stake holders keep the Age Friendly Focus at the heart of their services.

Christmas Bags

The Louth Age Friendly team is preparing over 500 Christmas Bags for distribution to older and vulnerable people who reside in Co Louth. The Christmas Bags which will contain several Christmas treats and goodies will be delivered by various support agencies to older and vulnerable people before Christmas. The Age Friendly Team are particularly trying to reach out to older & vulnerable adults in the traveller community to this end we will visit the halting site and traveller specific accommodation across the county to hand deliver Christmas Bags to older and vulnerable people in this community.

Age Friendly Ireland provided training to Age Friendly Louth staff on the application and accreditation process for Age Friendly Libraries. The Louth Age Friendly Program Manager attended training on running and organising Older People's Council's (Forum). Age Friendly Louth will be commencing a campaign to recruit new members onto the Older People's Council (Forum) in Co Louth over the coming months.



Louth Comhairle na nÓg

Louth Comhairle na nÓg Annual Conference took place in the Carrickdale Hotel on 27th October 2022 from 10.00am -3.00pm. Comhairle na nÓg are local youth councils which give young people the opportunity to be involved in the development of

local services, policies and issues that affect them in their local area.

An update from the conference was provided by representatives to the Strategic Policy Committee on Community & Quality of Life

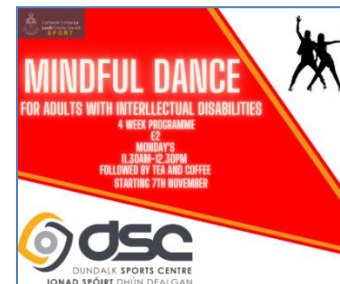
Sports

Dundalk Sports Centre

Mindful Dance

The sports centre was delighted to have its first 'Mindful Dance' class this month. Due to the increasing popularity of the 'Mindful Movement' class, the centre decided to utilise its brilliant Zumba instructor to lead a similar dancing class for adults with intellectual disabilities. The first class was held on Monday 7th of November and was more successful than anticipated. There were over 40 participants and the energy in the building was contagious.

The classes run on Mondays from 11:30 -12:30pm, with tea & coffee afterwards.

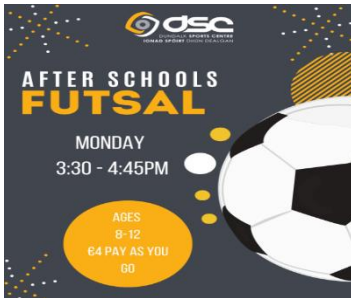


After Schools Futsal

'After Schools Futsal' has seen continued success. Participation has steadily increased since introducing the new class. Furthermore, the development of the children's Futsal skills has been tremendous. Just as important though, their confidence and discipline has improved. The sports centre is very much looking forward to seeing how the class develops over the winter, as the outdoor football season is coming to a close.

Our Futsal sessions are held every Monday from 3:30 – 4:45pm, costing €4. Sessions include a

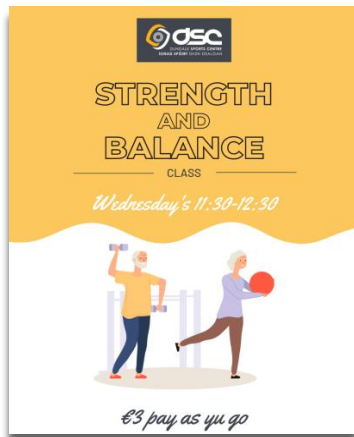
warm-up, an array of fun drills to work on passing, shooting and dribbling, followed by a game.



After Schools Futsal in Dundalk Sports Centre

Strength & Balance

The strength and balance class has continued to grow this month with more participants joining up. The class is designed for older adults who are looking to improve their strength & balance and lack confidence on their feet and the current participants have improved these elements immensely over the last few months.



Chair Yoga

Our chair yoga class that started in October has seen continued growth as more and more older adults have come in to try it. Some benefits of chair yoga include; increased strength and flexibility, improved proprioception and it helps to reduce stress and pain. The class is held every Thursday from 10:30 – 11:30am, followed by tea and coffee.



Walk In's

We have availability for walk in's throughout the week for Tennis, Table Tennis, Badminton, Basketball and Pickleball.



Development Basketball

The sports centre has collaborated with the local basketball team to run development basketball sessions on Saturdays from 12-3pm. These sessions have been very popular and have continued to grow over the last couple of months, new participants are always welcome.



Development Basketball in Dundalk Sports Centre

in the coming months for volunteers and sports coaches in Louth.

Activity	Date & Time	Venue
Safeguarding Level 1	December 8 th 6 30pm	Online
First Aid Online	February 7 th 7:00pm	Online

For further information on volunteer and coach education workshops please email louthsp@louthcoco.ie or telephone Louth Local Sports Partnership 042-9324318.

Coaching Children Workshop Series

Louth Local Sports Partnership in conjunction with Sport Ireland Coaching is delighted to launch a series of 'Coaching Children Workshops' in November and December 2022 to support coaches to deliver high quality sport and physical activity sessions to children.

Sport Ireland Coaching has developed four modules, specifically to provide candidates with a basic understanding of children's sport and physical activity and the best ways to optimise children's enjoyment, participation, and positive outcomes in sport. The concepts of physical literacy and holistic development run throughout the series of workshops and will be covered in detail. The workshops will be delivered by tutors from Sport Ireland Coaching and resources will be provided to all coaches after each workshop to support on-going learning and development.

Workshop details

Child-Centered Coaching - Understanding Child Development & Learning and its Impact on How We Coach

Workshop 3 & 4 Sunday December 4th 10 00am – 4 00pm Dundalk Sports Centre:

Developing Physical Literacy through Sport 1 - Coaching Children to Move

Developing Physical Literacy through Sport 2 - Coaching Children to Think

For further information please email louthsp@louthcoco.ie or telephone Louth Local Sports Partnership 042-932431

Lourdes Stadium

Outdoor Bootcamp

Back by popular demand, Lourdes Stadium is running another Outdoor Bootcamp. This started on Tuesday 8th November and is running for 6 weeks every Tuesday and Thursday from 5-6pm.

Teenage After Schools Athletics

Lourdes Athletic Stadium have a new after school's teenage athletics programme starting 30th November and it will run for 4 weeks every Wednesday from 4:15-5:30pm. This programme is aimed at secondary school students aged 13-17 who have an interest in athletics or want to try different athletics disciplines. The programme will consist of javelin, shot put, long jump, high jump, and relays.

Louth Local Sports Partnership

Coach & Volunteer Education Programmes

Louth Local Sports Partnership will be facilitating the following Volunteer & Coach Education workshops



Sport Ireland Winter Initiative

A major new national campaign has been launched to get as many people as possible out exercising and participating in physical activity this New Year. This 'Winter Initiative' calls on women, men, children, grandparents, cousins, neighbours, friends, work colleagues who haven't yet 'got going' to get out walking, running, cycling or participating in some form of physical activity.

Local clubs and groups are also encouraged to post and advertise their events and activities online to spread the word about the Winter Initiative and encourage new people to try out different sports which they may have felt were outside their comfort zone before now.

Please use the link below to explore the activities that are taking place in Louth as part of this initiative. <https://www.sportireland.ie/winter-initiative/winter-initiative-lsp-activities>. For further information please email louthlsp@louthcoco.ie or telephone Louth Local Sports Partnership 042-9324318



Minister of State Jack Chambers visits Louth LSP

The Louth LSP team was delighted to recently welcome Minister of State at the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Jack Chambers to our offices in Dundalk Sports Centre. Louth LSP Administrator Áine McDonald had the pleasure of bringing the Minister up to speed on Louth LSP's Winter Initiative and programmes. The Minister was also presented with a Louth LSP Winter Ready pack.



Aine McDonald, Louth LSP present Minister Jack Chambers with Winter Ready Pack

Men on the Move Cooley

Louth Local Sports Partnership will be facilitating another Men on the Move Programme in January in Cooley Kickhams GAA Club. Men on the Move is a wellness programme with a primary focus on physical activity. The purpose of the programme is to use Physical Activity as a 'hook' to engage men in their health with a view to improving their overall health and wellbeing.

It consists of structured group exercise twice a week, two facilitated experiential workshops, a twenty-four-page health information booklet, a pedometer for independent sessions, weekly phone contact, a customised wallet card to record measures taken and a 5 km celebration event at the end. For further information please email louthlsp@louthcoco.ie or telephone Louth Local Sports Partnership 042-9324318

MEN WANTED!!

FREE 12 week Men on the Move programme starting on January 17th 2023 in Cooley Kickhams GAA Complex

- Feel fitter
- Start exercising
- 12 week programme
- Led by an experienced tutor
- Every Tuesday & Thursday 8pm - 9pm



Register your place via Eventbrite
<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/420307159027>





Women's Social Basketball and Football

Women's Social Basketball & Football Programmes

Louth LSP continue to deliver two very successful social sports programmes for women in Football and Basketball, with over 45 women taking part in the programmes on a weekly basis in Drogheda and Dundalk.

The aim of these programmes is to provide regular team based sporting activities to women aged 18 years and older who are not currently playing competitive sport. The sessions are non-competitive, and fun based with a focus on enjoyment and socialising.

For further information please email louthlsp@louthcoco.ie or telephone Louth Local Sports Partnership 042-9324318



Waste Management, Environment & Climate Action

Waste Enforcement

Cases continue to proceed through the courts. There is still a backlog of cases arising from the pandemic.

Complaint Type	Nov 2022	In 2022
Air & Noise	3	94
Farm	0	29
Waste/C&D	5	95
Water Quality	3	73

A total of 11 complaints were received in the month of November 2022, bringing the total number of complaints in 2022 so far, to 291. 7 complaints have been resolved and 4 remain open, pending further investigations.

Waste Facility Permits & Certificate of Registration

One transfer Waste facility permit application is currently being examined along with 1 new application in November 2022. Currently there are 25 Waste Facility Permits and 5 Certificates of registration in operation in Louth.

Annual Return Validations

All Waste Facility Permit (WFP) and Certificate of Registration (CoR) holders are required to submit Annual Returns (AR) where they collected / processed waste in any given year. The National

Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO) Eden Portal opened to Local Authorities from 1st April 2022. Waste Enforcement Officers have started working on AR validations. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) identifies a list of waste facilities which must be prioritised for validation by Local Authorities.

There is a total of 24 WFP and 5 CoR holders in Louth that require desk-top data validation in 2022.

Producer Responsibility Initiatives

Significant Producer Responsibility Initiatives have been introduced in relation to packaging waste, end of life vehicles (ELV's), tyres, food waste, farm plastic waste and waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) with inspections underway in 2022 by Louth County Council waste enforcement officers to ensure compliance with Regulations.

The Irish Farm Film Producers Group Ltd (IFFPG) is the national farm plastics recycling compliance scheme <https://www.farmplastics.ie>

The scheme was made available in Louth during the month of May. Bring-centre dates and locations for 2022 are available on IFFPG website.

Anti-Dumping Initiative

The Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications announced that funding is available through the WERLA's to support Local Authorities in 2022 Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI). The 2022 ADI aims to reduce incidents of illegal dumping by identifying and delivering projects aimed at tackling illegal dumping 'black spots' throughout the County and adhere to key measures of prevention, abatement, education & awareness and enforcement. The Department continues to strongly encourage innovative projects, which recognise waste as a resource that can be repurposed for use in a Circular Economy. All ADI claims were submitted to Department and are pending approval. A Grant of €80,500 was received, which is an 83% reduction from the Grant received 2 years ago and 36% reduction from the 2021 Grant. A total spends of €80,463.50 was submitted for approval.

C&D Waste

The EPA published Best Practice Guidelines on the Preparation of Waste Management Plans for Construction and Demolition Waste Projects in 2021. Waste Enforcement Officers are required to complete both desktop and site-based inspections of construction and demolition projects in Co. Louth to ensure compliance with the relevant Regulations including enforcement actions where necessary. As part of site inspections, Waste Enforcement Officers ensure that waste is being managed appropriately and that any export or import of waste on site is collected by an authorised waste collector and destined to authorised facilities. Information in relation to unauthorised sites or illegal collectors can be forward to info@louthcoco.ie.

Litter Enforcement

A total of 18 fixed penalty notices (FPNs) were issued in the month of November. Of these fines, 0 were issued in the Dundalk Urban area, 9 in Drogheda urban area and 9 in the remaining County wide area.

There have been 1444 investigations in the year to date with 107 carried out in the month of November. There have been 311 FPNs issued in the year to date, 9 of which were for Dog Fouling.

Diesel Laundering Waste

8 IBC's were located in the month of November 2022 with a removal and destruction cost of €9985.23. So far in 2022 there has been 233 IBCs located within Louth with an associated cost of €306,008.78.



IBC's located by Louth County Council

Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning

From January 2022 to end of October 2022 a total of 99 Waste Disposal by Burning applications were received.

In November 2022 we received 2 applications bringing the total number of applications in 2022 so far to 101.

My Waste



When resources allow the MyWaste campaign will be looking to move to more focussed interactions with individual dwellings, to establish compliance with the Waste Presentation and Segregation Bye-Laws.

Initial focus will be on dwellings which have not responded to previous requests for information and in areas where problem dumping exists.

Air / Water / Noise Pollution

There were 3 water pollution complaints received in November with two closed and one open. One (1) Air Pollution complaints and two (2) Noise Pollution complaints were received during November 2022.

Louth County Council received several complaints and queries in September and October regarding diesel oil being discharged from a partially submerged dredger at Drogheda Port. As the incident occurred at Drogheda Port the Port authority is the responsible body to ensure all measures are being taken under the port oil pollution plan. However the council were overseeing the operation to ensure no environmental impact and assisted where required.

The residual diesel from the vessel has now been removed and disposed of appropriately. The booms around the vessel have also been removed. The owners of the vessel will now liaise with the Transfrontier Shipment Office and the Marine Survey Office from the Department of Transport

regarding the removal of the vessel. No impacts on water quality, fish and wildlife have been noted.



Hebble Sand vessel at Drogheda port

Bathing Water

The annual monitoring of the four designated beaches in Co Louth has been completed for 2022; the final sample was taken on 5th September. Results for all the beaches are available on www.beaches.ie.

The four beaches identified as designated bathing waters are Templetown, Port, Clogherhead and Seapoint. The public participation for the identification of new bathing waters ended on the 9th of June 2022. Three submissions were received and are currently being assessed. Further information on beaches and water quality can be found on the EPA hosted website – www.beaches.ie



Air Monitor for Drogheda

The EPA currently monitors air quality from two fixed monitoring stations in Dundalk and Drogheda. The data is available to view at: <https://airquality.ie/station/EPA-84>

Section 4 Discharge Licences

A Section 4 discharge licence is a licence issued under the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1977 as amended to premises for the discharge of treated effluent to a high standard so that it will not impact the groundwater and/or surface water receiving water body. Currently in Louth there are 33 active section 4 discharge licences. All licence holders must comply with licence conditions and submit regular monitoring results to the Council for assessment. The Council also carries out compliance monitoring on the licensed sites which includes compliance sampling and on-site inspections. Sampling and inspections of these sites is on schedule as per the 2022 inspection plan submitted to the EPA.

Water Frameworks/River Basin Management Districts

The EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) is an important piece of environmental legislation which aims to improve our water quality. It applies to rivers, lakes, groundwater, estuaries, and coastal waters. The Water Framework Directive was agreed by all individual EU member states in 2000, and its first cycle ran from 2009 – 2015.

The Directive runs in 6-year cycles, so the second cycle runs from 2016 – 2021 and the third cycle runs from 2022-2027. Rivers, lakes, estuaries and coastal waters can be awarded one of five statuses: High, Good, Moderate, Poor & Bad.

Groundwater has just two statuses – Good and Poor.

Supporting Ecological Status

Standards for general physico-chemical parameters, specific pollutants and hydromorphology are set at levels in order that they are sufficient to support the status of the BQEs. Physico-chemical assessment looks at elements such as temperature and the level of nutrients, which support the biology. Hydromorphological quality looks at water flow, sediment composition and movement, continuity (in rivers) and the structure of physical habitat.

Chemical Status

Chemical status is defined as either: 'Good' or 'failing to achieve good'. Chemical status is based on environmental quality standards for annual average and maximum allowable concentrations of certain Priority Substances.

Public Participation

A key part of the Water Framework Directive is Article 14, which requires all member states to engage with the people who live, work and play in a catchment.

To do this, it is important to understand how local communities live in their catchments and use their water. Therefore, it is critical that local communities are involved in management and decision making related to protecting and, where necessary, improving their water resources.



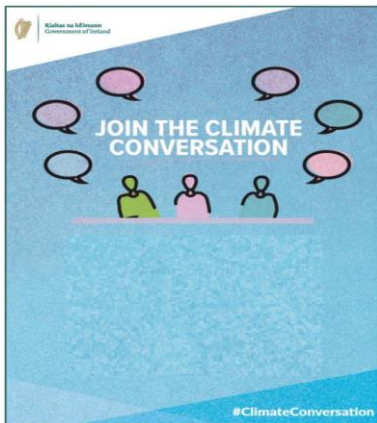
Louth County Council will be co-operating with LAWPRO and Dundalk Tidy Towns, who have been awarded a grant to progress an assessment of the Ramparts River in Dundalk employing a process-based approach which aims to reset / enhance the natural habitat template of a river, to achieve options which are sustainable and require minimal long-term management.

Landfills

All monitoring and inspections required by the conditions of the three landfill licences have been completed and are up to-date and on schedule as per the RMCEI inspection plan. Work is currently ongoing on historic landfills in the County including surveying and planning application of site at Carlingford, revised Tier 1 and Tier 2 assessment of site in Ardee and initial works at Bolies, Stabannon.

Climate Action

The Climate Action Team intend to roll out short videos / photos / information segments on Climate Action at a local level to All Staff in LCC to help promote Climate Action engagement and education across our organisation.



Preparation of a Baseline Emissions Inventory for County Louth has been ongoing. The Climate Action Team have been collecting information on how much CO₂ is emitted by all business, buildings, houses, industry, transport / travel and agriculture in the county.

This information will form the base for decision making when the preparation of the Local Authority Climate Action Plan for Louth commences later this year.

Members of the Climate Action Team recently took part in the Louth Science Festival delivering presentations on the topic of Climate Change to schools in Dundalk (Redeemer Girls School), Ardee (Ardee Educate Together) and Drogheda (St. Jospeh's CBS) across local libraries.



Drogheda Library

As a requirement of the National Climate Action Plan, 2021, all Local Authorities are required to produce a County-level Climate Action plan. Louth County Council has begun preparation for this process which will formally start in Q1 of 2023.

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 Action.

A review of the current goals and objectives of the CCAS has commenced and this will form the basis for the development of a comprehensive Climate Action Plan for Louth, to be developed over the next 18 months (timelines not yet fixed nationally).

Draft Guidance documents were issued to help Local Authorities prepare for the development of Climate Action Plans which will incorporate all the relevant National Climate Action targets at a local level.

Climate Action Plan Process 2024 – 2029

Under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 all Local Authorities are required to produce a Climate Action plan to cover a five-year period.

The Climate Action Team have completed a Tier 2 emissions baseline for the entire county. This evidence base will be used to develop actions to allow the county to decarbonise in accordance with the 2030 national target of a 51% reduction in CO₂ and to achieve net zero by 2050.

The Climate Action Co-ordinator recently attended a workshop on woodland creation on public lands in Sligo ran by the Western Forestry Co-op. A 100ha demonstration site has been created on HSE land with 100,000 trees planted in 2022.



Louth County Council have signed up as signatories to the EU Mission on Adaptation, this was announced on the 29th September at the R&I Research Days online webinar.



Climate Adapt 2022

V&W Circular Economy Project

V&W operate the Civic Amenity Site on behalf of Louth County Council. Part of their contract stipulates that they must carry out initiatives to foster the Circular Economy.

V&W continue to progress a number of Climate Action initiatives, focused on the circular economy. V&W continue to supply Drogheda Men's Sheds, with Organic Compost and Garden Tools for their work projects.



Men's Shed, Drogheda

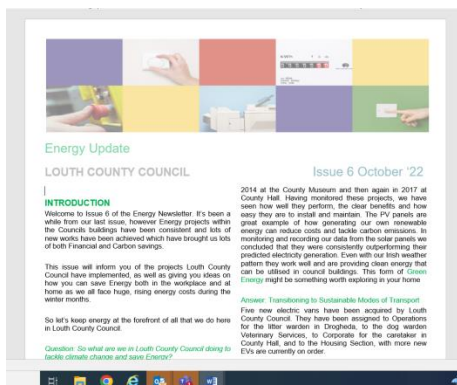
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance

The Council's energy efficiency at the end of 2021 was 47.84%, according to the latest report by SEAI, which we expect to be confirmed shortly in the issue of SEAI's Annual Report for Public Sector Bodies.

Energy Newsletter

The Council's Energy Team recently issued an Energy Newsletter to update on the transition to a low carbon organisation.



The newsletter is filled with useful tips on how to reduce energy and save money during these times of rising energy costs. Members are reminded to review the newsletter and to promote the opportunities for energy saving as they deem appropriate.

Varcities H2020 Funded Project

Dundalk is a pilot city for this project.

3 Visionary Solutions are proposed as part of the EU Horizon 2020 Funded Varcities project at the outdoor space at the County Library and Museum, Dundalk, known as 'The Dundalk Pilot'. An invited stakeholder 'Town Hall' event was held at the theatre in the County Museum on 24th November.



The council staff provided an update to stakeholders on the project and presented the latest draft of the Health and Well Being Platform development for the project. In addition, an innovative digital game is in the early stages of development for the project - that was presented, and stakeholders feedback sought on stakeholder engagement and the Health and Well Being and Go Nature Game development for the project. Feedback for the project thus far has been very positive.

Louth County Council's Energy Management System and ISO 50001:2018

The Council's Energy Management System (EnMS) is compliant with ISO 50,001; 2018. A 1-day surveillance energy audit is scheduled for 2nd December 2022, to confirm compliance with that.

Significant Energy User Buildings

Improvements in our energy savings in County Hall remain constant, compared to our base year of 2016.

Energy consumption at Dundalk Town Hall reduced by some **34%** since 2014. While that is slightly down on previous 'high' annualised results, there are indications that energy efficiency at that building is now beginning to improve slightly to return towards the previous high efficiency result obtained.

Gap-To-Target Plan to 2030

Council staff are progressing energy works as part of the Council's Energy Action Plan for 2022. This forms part of the Council's Gap to Target Plan to 2030 to identify suitable and sufficient multi-annual energy efficiency works to achieve 51% reduction in Carbon emissions by 2030. The Gap to Target Plan

was presented recently to members of the Climate Action and Energy Strategic Policy.

Better Energy Communities Grant 2022

LCC has partnered with Dunleer Sustainable Energy Community for participation in their application for grant funding for energy projects in 2022. SEAI has indicated an intention to grant-fund the Council's energy projects and confirmation of that is expected shortly from SEAI. Once the decision on that is confirmed we intend to progress the procurement of new energy projects for 2022. The Council will have until the end of Q2 2023 to draw-down that grant funding.

Veterinary Services

Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI)

As of 30th November 2022, 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. The number of food safety inspections carried out by Louth County Council in the year to date is 110.

Control of Dogs

Dogs impounded November 2022	
Total dogs impounded	30
Seized under Section 16	2
Strays	11
Surrendered by owners	17
No dogs reclaimed by owners	3
No of dogs rehomed direct	5
No of dogs rehomed to welfare groups	17
No of dogs on hand in Pound at 30/11/2022	5

Dog Licences November 2022	
No of Licences sold	529
Licence Checks:	
House calls	162
Section 16 Notices issued (request to produce licence within 10 days)	40
Fixed Penalty Notices	5

Control of Horses

Horses impounded November 2022	
Horses seized, and reason for seizure:	1 Straying on public road
Horses reclaimed by owner	0
Horses rehomed	0
Horses disposed of	0
No of horses on hand in Pound on 30/11/2022	1

Dog Breeding Establishments

Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010

Dog Breeding Establishments November 2022	
Total no of registered DBE's in Louth (as at 30/11/2022)	6
Hunt	2
Boarding Kennels	2
Training Kennels	1
Welfare	1



Three goats and one
Mule currently in
Animal Compound,
Dromiskin November
2022

Social Development Forbairt Shóisialta

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, 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, agus ár leabharlanna san áireamh

**Paddy Donnelly
Director / Stiúrthóir**



Housing

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 2021-2024. The work done within County Louth in the period 1st November – 25th November can be summarised as follows:

Presentations of November 2022	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda MD	Total
Number of Person who presented as Homeless	0	121	109	230
Offered advice, support (including fast tracking H.A. for Rent Supplement eligibility)	0	88	81	169
Placed in Temporary Emergency Accommodation	0	26	21	47
Refused Offer of Temporary Emergency Accommodation	0	5	5	10
Not eligible from outside county or non HRC	0	2	2	4

The tables below reflects details for Louth for the period 1st November – 25th November 2022. This figure shows the number of adults accessing emergency accommodation during the above period.

Table 1: Gender

Gender	Total
Male	91
Female	47
Total	138

Table 5 - Families with dependent children

	No. of families with dependent children	No. of Individual Adults	No. of Dependents
Individuals with dependent children in Louth	13	15	28
Total	13	15	28
Couples with dependent children in Louth	14	31	30
Total	14	31	30

Housing First

	Louth	Monaghan	Cavan	Total
Number of tenancies established	27	02	07	36
Number of individuals currently in tenancy	25	01	07	33

Housing Assistance Payment

The total number of applications in HAP is 3158

Ardee Municipal District	Drogheda Borough District	Dundalk Municipal District	Total
305	1176	1665	3146

Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 -2027

Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 -2027 aims to facilitate disabled people to live independently and further enable equal access for

disabled people to housing with integrated services. The Strategy includes targets for social housing provision to disabled people, measures for strengthening inter-agency collaboration to facilitate provision of housing and related supports in an aligned manner, actions to facilitate disabled people to continue living in their own homes and communities.

In 2022 the target is to allocate 15% of all social housing allocations to disabled people. Up to 24th November 2022, Louth County Council has made 16.4% of the overall allocations to disabled people and is achieving the set target. The housing allocations were made for the following types of disability; 8% physical disability, 1% sensory disability, 4% mental health disability and 3% intellectual disability of the overall allocations. 79 units of accommodation were provided to disabled people and consisted of 28 single storey dwellings (5 wheelchair accessible and 23 adapted) 29 apartments (20 standard and 9 adapted) and 22 two-storey dwellings (19 standard and 3 adapted)

Housing Allocations up to 24th November 2022

District	LA	LA Refusal	AHB	AHB Refusal
Ardee	12	4	23	3
Drogheda	103	27	73	8
Dundalk	96	17	173	15
Total YTD	211	48	269	26

Transfers

District	Number
Ardee	6
Drogheda	15
Dundalk	25
Total	45

Housing List

November 2022	Ardee	Drogheda	Dundalk	Total
Housing List	354	544	651	1549
HAP Transfer List	305	1176	1665	3146
Total Housing List	659	1720	2316	4695

There are a total of **264** applications on the transfer list (Non-HAP) within Social Housing including **37** applications from the Approved Housing Bodies.

Housing Needs Assessment 2022 Update

The 2022 SSHA return was submitted to the Department on 18th November 2022. A total of 599 letters were issued and there were 181 terminations as follows:

Deceased	4
Left the Administrative Area	1
No Longer in need of housing	14
Found Alternative Accommodation	1
Over the income limited as prescribed by Regulations	5
No contact from Applicant	139
Whereabouts unknown	17
Total	181

Rent Management

The total number currently paying rent by Household Budget is **943**.

Current Rents Arrears as at 28th November 2022	No of Accounts	Value
Rents between 4-6 weeks old	214	€80,193
Rents between 7-12 weeks old	171	€106,967
Rents greater than 12 weeks old	794	€2,735,933
TOTAL	1179	€2,923,093

Improve the Rented Sector

Description	1 st - 24 th Nov 2022	Year to Date
No. of properties inspected monthly	60	862
No. Of advisory notes issued to landlord	75	744
No. Of improvement notices issued	0	49
No. Of prohibition notices issued	0	4
No of Rent Book Notices issued	0	0
Inspections (HAP)	47	576
Improvement Notices (HAP)	0	60
Virtual Inspections Issued	0	0
Private Inspections from complaints	0	5
HAP From Complaints	3	27
RAS from Complaints	0	0
Re-Inspections HAP	1	54
Re-Inspections HAP achieving compliance	0	34
Re-Inspections RAS	0	2
Re-Inspections RAS achieving compliance	0	0
Approved Housing Body (AHB)	9	193
LTL (not included for payments)	0	12

Vacant Properties

Note: Currently **15** number social units are being used for additional homeless need and are not included in the above figures.

Vacant Properties on 24 th November 2022	Total
Ardee Municipal District	7
Dundalk Municipal District	20
Drogheda Municipal Borough District	34
Subtotal (re-lets) Vacant Properties	61
Vacant Properties (CPO units not yet ready for occupation) (All County)	8
Total Number of Properties (Relets & CPO)	69

Maintenance Calls

Maintenance	1 st -24 th Nov 2022	Total (YTD)
No. of Maintenance Requests Received	592	5,797
No. of Maintenance Requests Completed	459	4,554
No. of Maintenance Requests in Progress	83	N/A
No. of Maintenance Requests Refused	50	448

Grant Assistance to the Elderly and Disabled

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.

Private House Grants to 28th November, 2022

Status	HOP	HAG	MAG	Yearly Total
Applications Completed 2021	174	119	39	332
Applications rolling into 2022	101	363	166	630
New Applications YTD	307	165	52	524



*Housing For Older People
New Windows and Door, Yellowbatter, Drogheda*



*Mobility Aids Grant
Ramp at house in Termonfeckin*

Estate Management 1st November to 28th November, 2022

Description	Drogheda BD	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Monthly Total
Tenancy Inspections Completed	8	1	16	25
Pre tenancy Training	11	7	12	30
Tenancy Investigations Visits	30	9	23	62
Tenancy Investigations Remote	0	0	7	7

Anti Social Behaviour 1st November to 28th November, 2022

Description	Drogheda BD	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Monthly Total
ASB Cases received	6	0	8	14
ASB Ongoing	5	0	13	18
ASB Completed	7	0	12	19

Description	Drogheda BD	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Monthly Total
Verbal Warning	3	0	3	6
Written Warning	1	0	0	1
Tenancy Notification	0	0	2	2

Climate Action

The newly revised **Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme** is now in the second year of a ten year programme which is expected to grow to meet the Programme for Government retrofit commitment. The new programme sees a significant up scaling (from 'shallow' to 'deep retrofit') on what has been completed by local authorities to date.

The Council received an initial allocation of €3.654 million which was increased to €5.238 million, to retrofit a minimum of 164 properties in 2022.

Housing Acquisitions

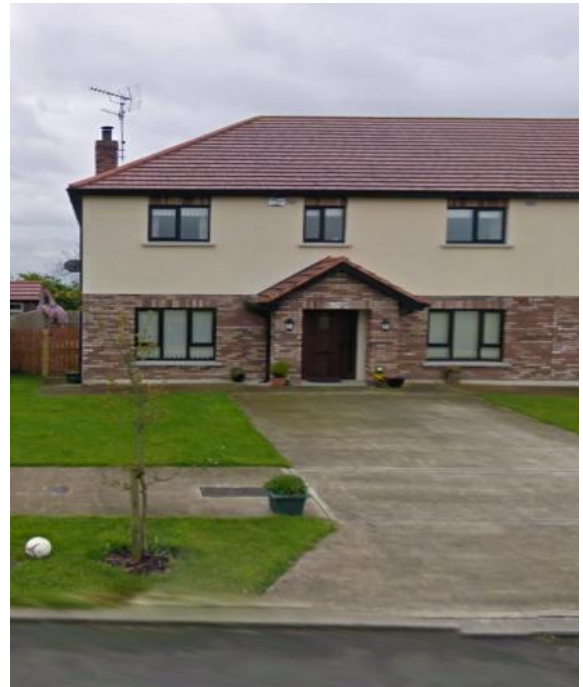
Louth County Council has been given approval for targeted acquisitions for both homeless and disability need in 2022. To date Louth County Council has acquired **33** properties for Homeless and **6** properties for Disability.



Recently acquired Long Term Lease Property in Dundalk



Recently acquired Long Term Lease Property in Dundalk



Recently acquired property for person with a Disability in Tallanstown

SHIP DELIVERY

Project Name	Project Phase	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Cox's Demesne Phase 2B	1/1	22	Completed	30/09/2022	2no. * 2 bed, 4no. * 3 bed, 2no. * 4 bed, 6no. * 1 bed Apt & 8no. * 2 bed Apt.
Muirhevnamore, Dundalk Phase 1	1/1	11	Stage 3 Approved	16/02/2024	3no. * 2 bed & 8no. * 3 bed
Boice Court (Phase 2 - 4)	1/1	72	Stage 3 Approved	08/07/2024	27no. * 3 bed, 4no. * 4 bed, 8no. * 1 bed Apt, 25no. * 2 bed Apt & 8no. * 3 bed Apt
Mount Avenue, Dundalk	1/1	93	Stage 3 Approved	31/07/2024	29no. * 2 bed, 23no. * 3 bed, 9no. * 4 bed, 10no. * 1 bed Apt, 6no. * 2 bed Apt, 16no. * 3 bed Apt
Rathmullen Park, Drogheda Infill	1/1	6	Stage 1 Approved	02/09/2024	2no. * 2 bed Apt, 2no. * 2 bed, 2no. * 3 bed
Ballymakenny Road - East Site, Drogheda	1/1	80	PPP Bundle 5 Funding Approved	30/06/2026	To be confirmed
Moneymore, Drogheda - Infill	1/1	1	Funding Approved Single Stage	27/10/2023	1no. * 2 bed
Gort Uaine, Clogherhead - Infill	1/1	1	Contract Awarded	29/09/2023	1no. * 4 bed
School Lane, Dunleer - Infill	1/1	1	Contract Awarded	29/09/2023	1no. * 3 bed
Doire Beag, Collon, Co. Louth - Infill	1/1	6	On-site	24/11/2023	6no. * 3 bed
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	1/4	11	On-site	31/12/2022	11no. * 2 bed (3no. Part V of 11)
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	2/4	6	On-site	31/01/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt. (1no. Part V of 6)

Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	3/4	6	On-site	28/02/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt. (1no. Part V of 6)
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	4/4	22	On-site	31/05/2023	11no. * 2 bed, 5no. * 2 bed Apt, 6no. * 3 bed Apt. (5no. Part V of 22)
Linenfield Ballymakenny	2/2	1	Completed	04/11/2022	1no. * 2 bed
Listoke Avenue Ballymakenny	1/1	6	Completed	30/09/2022	6no. * 3 bed
Tullybrook, Slane Road, Drogheda	1/1	3	On-site	30/11/2022	1no. * 3 bed, 2no. * 2 bed.
Cuirt Na Gcloch, Stoneylane, Ardee	1/1	14	On-site	31/12/2022	14no. * 2 bed
Park Green, Coulter Place, Dundalk	1/1	24	On-site	31/12/2022	24no. * 3 bed.
Rath Na Gloine, Dromiskin	1/1	1	On-site	31/12/2022	1no. * 3 bed
Balfeddock Manor, Termonfeckin	1/1	8	On-site	31/12/2022	1no. * 3 bed, 7no. * 2 bed.
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	1/5	1	On-site	31/03/2023	1no. * 3 bed
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	2/5	3	On-site	31/03/2023	3no. * 2 bed
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	3/5	1	Funding Approved	30/09/2023	1no. * 3 bed
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	4/5	9	Funding Approved	30/06/2024	4no. * 3 bed, 5no. * 2 bed
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	5/5	8	Funding Approved	31/12/2024	6no. * 3 bed, 2no. * 1 bed

CALF DELIVERY

Project Name	Project Phase	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk Tuath	3/4	13	Completed	6/10/2022	13no. *3 bed House
Duiche Roden, Dundalk Cluid Housing	1/3	47	Completed	24/10/2022	4no. *2 bed Bungalow, 23no. *2 bed house, 18no. *3 bed house, 2no.*4 bed bungalow
Tierney Street, Ardee Circle Housing	1/2	5	On site	31/3/2023	2no. *2 bed Bungalow, 1no. *3 bed Bungalow, 2no. *3 bed semi detached
Tierney Street, Ardee Circle Housing	2/2	6	On site	31/12/2023	2no. *3 bed Bungalow, 1no. *3 bed semi detached & 3no. *2 bed terraced houses
Newfoundwell Road, Drogheda Cluid Housing	2/2	39	On site	31/3/2023	12no.*1 bed apt & 27no.*2 bed apt
Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda Respond Housing	1/3	40	On site	30/6/2023	1no.*3 bed detached, 10no.*2 bed terraced, 14no.*3 bed semidetached & 15no.*3 bed terraced
Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda Respond Housing	2/3	46	On site	30/9/2023	13no.*2 bed terraced, 18no.*3 bed semidetached & 15no.*3 bed terraced
Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda Respond Housing	3/3	47	On site	31/12/2023	2no.*4 bed detached, 11no.*2 bed terraced, 1no.*3 bed detached, 22no.*3 bed semidetached & 11 no.*3 bed terraced
Tullybrook, Drogheda Cluid Housing	1/1	85	On site	31/5/2023	8no.*2 bed apt, 7no.*2 bed duplex, 24no.*3 bed duplex, 22no.*3 bed terraced, 22no.*2 bed terraced & 2no.*4 bed terraced
Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk Tuath	4/4	12	Funding approved	31/12/2023	12no.*3 bed house
Dublin Road, Dundalk Respond Housing	1/2	49	On site	30/6/2023	18no.*1 bed apt, 7no.*3 bed duplex, 5no.*3 bed terraced, 5no.*2 bed apt & 14.no*2 bed duplex
Duiche Roden, Dundalk Cluid Housing	2/3	24	On site	30/1/2023	6no.*1 bed apt, 8no.*2 bed apt, 6no.*2 bed terraced & 4no.*3 bed terraced

Donore Road Drogheda Cluid Housing	1/1	66	On site	30/9/2023	4 no.*1 bed apt, 54no.*2 bed apt & 8 no.*3 bed apt
Bellewsbridge Dundalk Circle Housing	1/1	5	On site	31/3/2023	3 no.*1 bed apt & 2 no.*2 bed apt
Duiche Roden, Dundalk Cluid Housing	3/3	59	On site	1/8/2023	30no.*1 bed apt, 11no.*2 bed apt & 18no.*3 bed duplex
Drybridge, Drogheda North & East Housing	1/1	16	On site	31/3/2023	2no.*3 bed apt, 10no.*2 bed apt & 4 no.*1 bed apt
Dublin Road, Dundalk Respond Housing	2/2	16	On site	30/9/2023	9no.*1 bed apt, 2no.*3 bed apt, 1no.*2 bed duplex & 4no.1*bed semi

CAS DELIVERY

Project Name	AHB	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Four Winds, Mullacapple, Collon	SJoG	1	Complete	01/09/2022	1 No 4 Bed House
Coulter Park, Dundalk,	Tuath	7	Stage 3 Approved	03/03/2024	5 x No 2 Bed, 1 x No 2 Bed ambulant unit, 1 x No 4 Bed Communal unit
Riverwell Close, Dundalk, Co Louth	Respond	1	Stage 2 Approved	30/07/2024	1 No 4 Bed House
10-16 The Alleys, St Peters Place, Drogheda	P McVerry	14	Stage 2 Approved	30/01/2024	14 No Studio apartments
Barrack Street, Dundalk, Co Louth	Dublin Simon	30	Stage 2 Approved	15/01/2025	19 No 1 Bed units 3 No accessible units 8 No Studio
St John's Home, Peters Street, Drogheda	North & East	4	Stage 3 Approved	30/01/2024	4 x 1 Bed units
Kincora House, 1-2 Seatown	P McVerry	8	Stage 1 approved	30/01/2024	8 No x 1 Bed apartments

Highfield, Newry Road, Dundalk, Co Louth	Womens Aid Dundalk	12	Stage 1 approved	02/06/2024	No 5 x 1 bed No 7 x 2 bed
3 Paradise Place	P McVerry	4	Stage 1 Approved	01/01/2024	4 No x 1 Bed apartments

Quality of Life

Archives



Archives Entrance Gate Sign

National Retention Policy Records Management Working Group

The Co Archivist is assisting with the draft revisions for Community, Library, and Legal Services which are currently in progress and is working with staff in relation to same.

Environment and IT have been forwarded for approval and adoption. To date, Health & Safety, Planning & Development, Housing, Procurement, Finance, HR, Water, Transport and Infrastructure, Corporate and Enterprise & Economic Development 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 and the Co Archives. Much work is currently taking place in reviewing and appraising records for archives or destruction.

Historic Structures Fund 2022

The Co Archives was successful in receiving a grant from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage via the Conservation Section for conservation repair works to the interior of the south gable wall of the Co Archives building. Exterior repair works had been carried out with a HSF grant in 2021, while interior repair works carried out this year on the south gable wall have been completed. This work included the removal of modern paint, fillings with lime based mortar and applications of lime-wash coatings to rooms and a natural lime based emulsion paint to the central wall. This work will address damp issues on the south gable wall.

LMETB Class Visit

A local history class from the LMETB spent a morning in November visiting the County Archives to find out about local archive sources that are available for research and how to use the online archive catalogue.



LMETB, BTEI Dundalk, Local History Class Visit to County Archives

Donating Archives

The Service welcomes donations of archives and records from the public that relate to all aspects of the development of County Louth including material from community groups, clubs and societies, national schools, individuals, local organizations and local 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.

Recent donations included archives relating to the Ardee Loan Fund Society and Charlestown Parish that were found in the old Rectory House in Ardee.

Research Enquiries

The Archivist continues to assist researchers with various enquiries including those from private individuals, academics, professionals and state agencies.

Climate Action

The Co Archives supports corporate Climate Action Goals. Environmental conditions in the Co Archives building are being monitored and reviewed by Facilities staff.

Quality of Life Service

Climate Change Adaption Strategy 2019-2024

Archives

The County Archives supports Corporate Climate Action Goals. Operations are currently implementing energy upgrades to the Archives building including an air to water heat pump, 5 improvements to doors and several windows and low energy lighting to reduce energy use.

Libraries



The My Open Library service provides access to the library outside of staffed hours for browsing, borrowing, studying, using IT equipment or having a meeting.

This service is available in both Ardee and Drogheda Libraries, from 8am – 10pm, 7 days per week, 365 days a year. Staffed hours combined with the My Open Library Service will ensure the best delivery of Library services, support for customers, community engagement and the development of programming activities.

The service has seen an incredible uptake since its reintroduction following the pandemic in Ardee and its launch in Drogheda earlier this year.

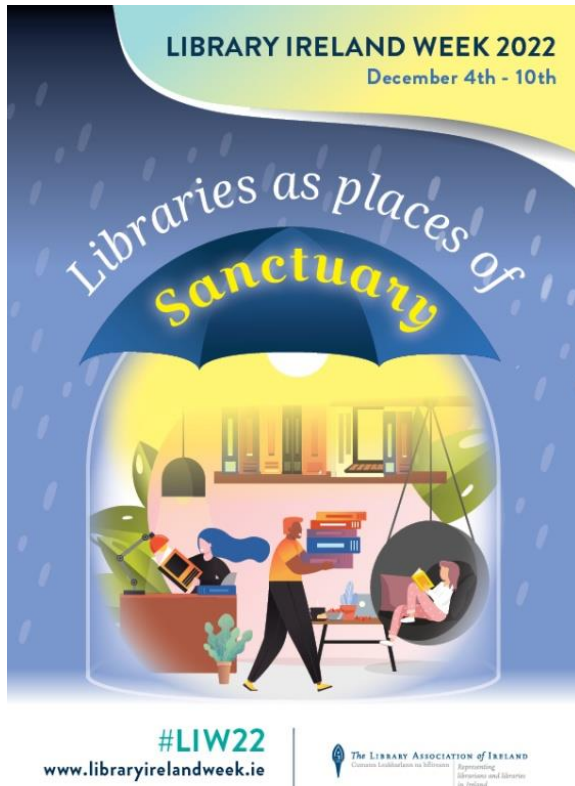
Since August, 56 My Open Library borrowers registered in Ardee, with 112 individual visits or logins. In the same timeframe, 60 borrowers signed up for the My Open Library service in Drogheda, with over 250 logins.

For further details or to sign up for My Open Library, contact Ardee Library on 041 6859023 or Drogheda Library on 041 9876162



Helen Clinton inducting a borrower to the My Open Library service in Ardee Library.

Library Ireland Week 2022



Library Ireland Week will take place from Sunday 4th December to Saturday 10th December 2022.

The theme for Library Ireland Week is 'Libraries as Places of Sanctuary'.

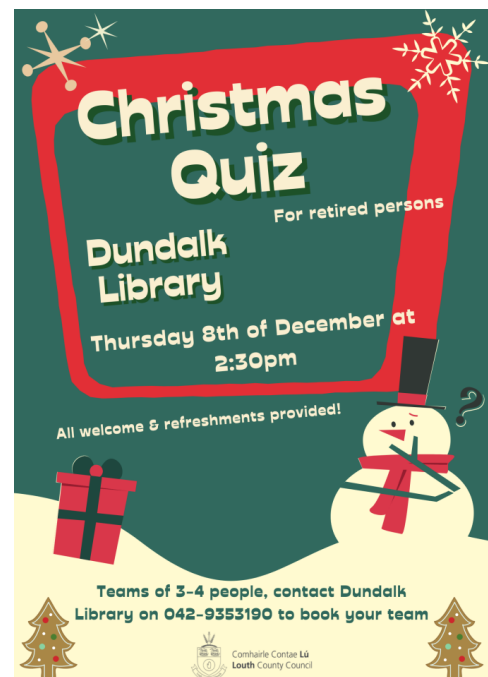
Library staff attended the School Libraries Group (SLG) of the Library Association of Ireland Annual Conference on the 25th of November.

The theme of the conference was "Friendly Faces, Supportive Spaces: understanding and supporting displaced students in Irish schools".

Tiffany Allen, the National Coordinator for Places of Sanctuary in Ireland spoke about the sanctuary network, whose objectives are to promote a culture of welcome and inclusiveness to migrants seeking sanctuary. Louth Library Service has submitted an application for Library of Sanctuary status. Staff discussed the application process with attendees and detailed how Louth Library Service continues to learn, embed and share the Principles of Sanctuary within Louth Library Service.



Celebrate the music of Christmas with a performance from Men's Shed Choir in Dundalk Library on Thursday 8th of December at 11:30am.



Dundalk Library will celebrate Library Ireland Week with a table quiz on Thursday 8th of December at 2:30pm. Entry is free and refreshments will be served. For further information contact Dundalk Library at Tel 042 9353190 or Email libraryhelpdesk@louthcoco.ie

Eduroam



To add to our digital learning spaces, Louth Library Service has introduced Eduroam (education roaming) in partnership with HEAnet in Dundalk, Drogheda and Ardee Libraries. This initiative aims to create extended virtual campuses and offer students multiple options to go online and connect to their Further and Higher Education institutions while studying in the library. DKIT and TU Dublin are the most prominent home institutions devices connect to, with other colleges such as TCD, UCD RCSI, DCU, IADT, UL and international institutions also featuring.



Student using the Digital Space in Drogheda Library

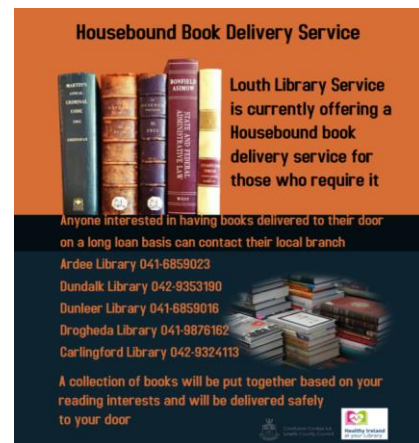
Phase 1 saw participants from the various youth groups involved create a story and the second phase is about bringing the story to life in artistic form, be it song, art, a play etc.

The groups from Boomerang, Southside Project and Boyne Youth Project, are delighted to begin again and revisit their story and create a visual aspect to the many characters created.

This project is in partnership with Garda Anita O'Shea (Juvenile Liaison Officer, Drogheda), youth leaders and facilitators from Fighting Words.

Library Housebound Service

The Library Service continues to offer the Housebound Delivery Service to our elderly customers with over 500 deliveries made since January 2022.



Creative Ireland



Phase 2 of the Fighting Words project, funded by Creative Ireland's Legacy Grants, continues in Drogheda Library.

eServices



There are a wide range of eServices available to library members, including free eBooks & eAudiobooks through Borrow Box. Louth Library Service has over 5,000 users and in 2022 we saw over 74,000 loans in eBooks & eAudiobooks through Borrow Box.

Magazines available now on Libby!

libby
By OverDrive

The one-tap reading app from your local library.

Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council

In addition, free newspapers, magazines and Comic Books are available through Press Reader and Libby. Lastly, there is a host of courses with Universal Class and Transparent Language online. For more information on these services click [here](#)

Monthly eServices demonstrations will continue in January 2023 in Dundalk, Drogheda and Ardee libraries. If you need any help with the range of eServices Louth Library Service provides, pop into Dundalk, Drogheda or Ardee libraries on these dates:

Dundalk Library: 27th January 11am-12noon
 Drogheda Library: 26th January 2.30pm-3.30pm
 Ardee Library: 27th January 10.30am-11.30am

For more information contact
 Dundalk Library 042-9353190
 Drogheda Library 041-9876162
 Ardee Library 041-6859023



A new beginner's English course for Ukrainian speakers is now available on Transparent Languages. The course has over 100+ hours of content and 187 basic vocabulary lessons covering everything from doctor's visits to grocery shopping. You can access the class here: <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/online-services/>. Contact your local library branch or email Libraryhelpdesk@louthcoco.ie if you need any assistance.

Library Newsletter

**Leabharlanna Chontae Lú
Louth Library Service**

Nuachtlitir

Na Meáin Shóisialta

Nuacht

Eachtraí

Leabhair molta

Rsheirbhísí

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

The December edition contains the latest news, events, services, and recommendations from our libraries. 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 Service Information Leaflets Translated In Ukrainian



All Louth Library Service Information Leaflets have been translated into Ukrainian and are available in all of our branches. A welcome brochure, in Ukrainian, is also available branches and on our website. The brochure can be accessed here:

<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/library-membership/welcome-brochure-ukrainian.pdf>

Hublets

The Samsung Hublet station containing 6 Samsung tablets is now operational in Drogheda Library. This is a customized learning tool with Apps suitable for adults and children with additional or sensory needs. For more information contact Drogheda Library on 041 987 6162



Borrower using the Hublets in Drogheda Library



Healthy Ireland
at your Library

Free Event
The Five Ways to WELLBEING
Tips & Suggestions for self care during the Festive season

Facilitator
Finola Colgan
Mental Health Ireland

Dundalk Library
Roden Pl, Townspark A91 RC44.
Wednesday 7th December
10.30 - 11.30am,

Mary McHugh Rosaleen Dolan
libraryhelpdesk@louthcoco.ie Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention
042 935 3190 087 216 5864

The Five Ways to Wellbeing workshop will take place in Dundalk Library on Wednesday 7th of December at 10:30am.

Booking via Timify

<https://book.timify.com/?accountId=5f9a9eb964916511fccaef5f&hideCloseButton=true>

Louth Science Festival 2022

We had a really fun fortnight in Louth Library Service, as Louth Science Festival returned for its fifth year from November 7 – 20. We had FabLabs set up in all five library branches thanks to a collaboration with Creative Spark. The Strongwomen of Science show gave us an insight into the science of the circus, while An Gobha Tom King amazed school audiences with his knowledge and skills as a Blacksmith. A visit from the Irish Air Corps had us all thinking in a new way about flight and aerodynamics, and the National Reptile Zoo brought some scaly friends to visit.

We had visits from Dr Niamh Shaw, Met Éireann's Gerry Murphy, and the wonderful Eve McCrystal. We also learned about the science of Superheroes and learned how to be archaeologists thanks to the Big Dig. That's just a brief snapshot of what we learned, saw and enjoyed throughout the festival. For more information on our events, to take a look at our photo gallery, or to watch videos and listen to podcasts produced for Louth Science Festival, visit our brand new website: www.louthsciencefestival.ie



Scoil Bride Dunleer 6th Class with Darragh White of Generation and Trading ESB



Strong Women in Science in Dundalk Library featuring Engineer, Aoife Raleigh & Maria Corcoran an environmental scientist.



Messy Play in Ardee Library



National Reptile Zoo with Marymount School Class in Drogheda Library

Sssh@The Library

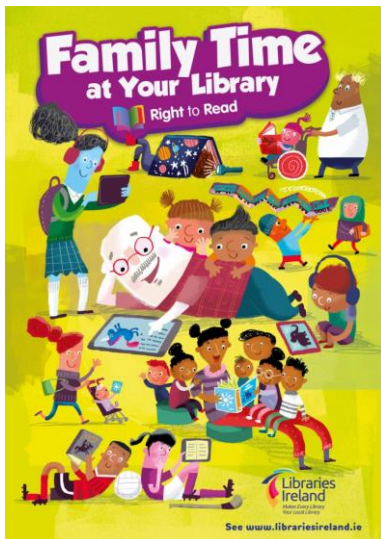


Participants with Niamh Shaw & Sandra Farrell from the Genesis Programme and a very special group of women, Marija, Susanna, Danai and Radoslava in Dundalk Library at Sssh!@The Library Programme

Participants in the Sssh!@The Library Programme celebrated the end of the programme on Saturday 12th of November. Sssh!@The Library was created by Dr Niamh Shaw in partnership with Louth, Kildare and South Dublin County Libraries, supported by ESERO Ireland and Science Foundation Ireland as part of their Discover Programme 2022.



Family Time at Your Library 2022



The *Family Time at your Library* events aim to support a family-focused approach to reading with children as part of the national Right to Read programme and to increase awareness of the benefits of reading and promote reading as a fun, recreational activity for children.

Lots of events are planned for the coming weeks and we look forward to seeing new and existing customers Drop In to see our festive Christmas stock and join in with our events.

Mosney Visit

Louth Library Service will visit Mosney for Storytime & Arts and Crafts as part of Family Time at Your Library.

Dundalk Library Christmas Storytime's

- Baby Book Club - Wednesday 7th of December at 10:30am Featuring Snow Kisses
- Christmas Storytime - Wednesday 14th of December at 6:30pm. Celebrate the Christmas season with stories and music. Wear those Christmas jumpers and hats! Hot chocolate and cookies for participants. All ages welcome. No booking required.
- Christmas Craft Station - Saturday 17th of December at 11am and 3pm. Make your own Christmas Card and Decoration. Accessories available to customise your own work of art.



Drogheda Library Storytime's

- Friday 09th December Christmas Songs & Storytime with at 3:30pm
- Friday 16th December Christmas Songs & Storytime with at 3:30pm



Dunleer Library Christmas Storytime

- Saturday 3rd of December at 11am. No Booking required.



Ardee Library Christmas Storytime

- Christmas Storytime - Wednesday 14th of December at 10:30am
- Christmas Crafts - Wednesday 21st of December at 10:30am



Carlingford Library Christmas Storytime

- Christmas Storytime - Saturday 3rd of December at 11am. No Booking required.



Messy Play with Beyond the Bump



- Every Thursday 10am-12pm in Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries
- Every Wednesday 10.30am-12.30pm in Ardee Library

Baby Book Club

Explore the benefits of reading to your baby from an early age during Baby Book Club, first Wednesday of each month in Dundalk & Drogheda Libraries.



Baby Book Club in Dundalk Library

Dundalk Library

- Messy Play Workshop - Tuesday 6th of December at 10:30am

•

Drogheda Library

- Messy Play Workshop - Friday 9th of December at 10.30am

•

Ardee Library

- Messy Play Workshop - Friday 2nd of December at 10:30am

Booking Essential via Timify
<https://book.timify.com/?accountId=5f9a9eb964916511fcceae5f&hideCloseButton=true>

Parent & Toddler Mornings



Toddler Morning in Drogheda Library

Ciorcal Cómhrá / Irish Conversation first Tuesday of every month at 4pm in Dundalk

Ar mhaith leat do chuid Gaeilge a úsáid nó a chleachtadh? Tá an Ciorcal Cómhrá i leabharlann Dhún Dealgan ar ais! Beidh sé ar siúl ar an gcéad Máirt chuile mhí ag 4 sa leabharlann. Tá sé dírithe ar dhaoine fásta ar mhaith leo an Ghaeilge a fhoghlaim nó a úsáid.

Would you like to use or practice your Irish skills? The group is aimed at adults who would like to learn or practice Irish.

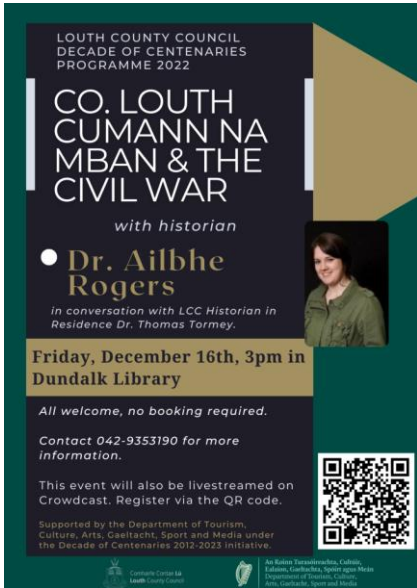
For more information, contact Dundalk Library on 042 935 3190.





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

**Louth County Council Decade of Centenaries
Programme 2022**



Ailbhe Rogers will provide a talk on 'Co Louth Cumann na mBan and the Civil War' in Dundalk Library on Friday the 16th of December at 3pm.

All welcome, no booking required.

To watch this online, scan the QR code in the above picture or click here to save your space

<https://www.crowdcast.io/louthlibraryservice>

Other Events

Anne Mangan Drop In Clinic Drogheda Library

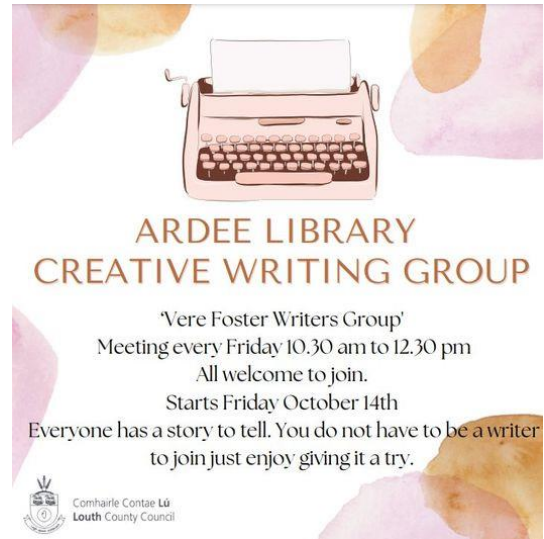
Anne will host information sessions every Wednesday in December from 4.30pm-6.30pm in Drogheda Library.

This "Drop In" Service will give the students using the study space in Drogheda library the opportunity to approach a Teen Career Development Coach to talk about their opportunities after school, be it researching CAO applications or focusing on exam work.

Louth County Childcare Drop-In Clinics



Louth County Childcare Committee will host drop-in clinics in Drogheda Library Thursday 8th December, Ardee Library Wednesday 14th December and Dundalk Library Thursday 15th December. The Drop In Clinic provides advice on Childcare, The National Childcare Scheme and AIM supports for parents or guardians.



'Vere Foster' Writers Group in Ardee Library

Ardee Library welcomed the start of their newest group – The 'Vere Foster' Writer's Group; the group meets every Friday morning 10.30 am to 12.30 pm and welcomes all writing abilities.

Have you always fancied getting that story you have running around your head down on paper? Why not give it a go with the support of your peers at the Ardee Library 'Vere Foster' Writers Group. For more information, contact Ardee Library (041) 685 9023.

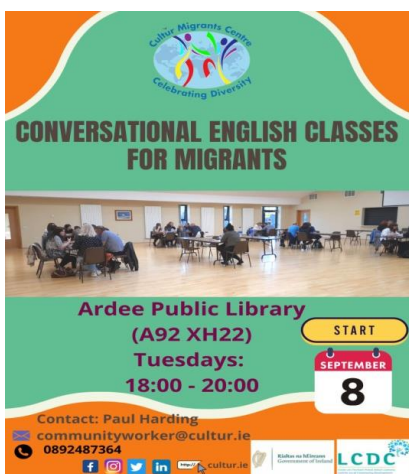
English Language Learning in Drogheda Library.

Conversational English classes for Ukrainian people living in and around the Drogheda area have begun in Drogheda Library. These classes will continue to run every Monday from 1pm – 3pm.



Participants in Drogheda Library

English Language Learning in Ardee Library



Conversational English classes for migrants and refugees started in Ardee Library on Tuesday 8th September and will continue every Tuesday between 6pm and 8pm - this class is lead by volunteer tutors. The classes are ideal for migrants who want to practice and learn more English. Classes are organised by Cultúr Migrants Centre. Please contact Angel at angel@cultur.ie or 0873315169 for further information.

Migrant Women's Group Meetings in Ardee Library

A women's group for migrant and refugee women will meet every Tuesday morning from 11am to 1pm in Ardee Library. This is a safe space for migrant and refugee women and mothers, who want to meet other people, establish social interactions and share common issues and concerns. This is facilitated by Cultúr Migrants Centre. If you are interested, please contact Viktoriia or Angel at angel@cultur.ie or 0873315169. All welcome.

Knitting & Crochet Group in Ardee Library



Louth Library Service is delighted to welcome our new Knitting & Crochet Group to Ardee Library, every Thursday at 2:30pm. For more information contact Ardee Library (041) 685 9023 No booking required, just pop along.

Ardee Christmas Event



Ardee Library is delighted to welcome all the groups that have met over the year to a Christmas Event at

2:30pm on the 14th of December and to extend this invite to all library members to chat and meet the wonderful groups.



Adult Literacy Group

Malta Access will meet in Drogheda Library for a 12 week workshop from 11:20 – 2:30pm every Friday. This workshop will develop reading and writing skills hosted by Drogheda LMETB.

Bridge Class

Every Tuesday from 11-12pm, beginners Bridge Class will meet in Drogheda Library.



Members of Drogheda Bridge Club



Age Action Computer Classes

This five week course with Age Action will take place on Wednesday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm in Dundalk Library during December. The course offers free one-to-one tuition for people over the age of 55 who have little or no computer experience.

Drogheda library continues to welcome people over the age of 55 to age action classes every Thursday & Friday from 10:30-12:30 during November. To book email gettingstarted@ageaction.ie

Louth Library Primary Schools Service

The schools mobile is fully stocked and back on the road, ready to serve our local schools. All schools will receive a visit over the coming months and will be contacted in due course. Class sets/novels are also available to borrow throughout the school year. Teachers can also book a visit to the HQ Store in Dundalk from 3:30pm – 5pm Tuesday – Friday to view our full schools collection. Any enquiries regarding the schools service, please contact Orla on orla.muckian@louthcoco.ie



Schools Mobile is ready to visit all the schools

Other News

Sensory Library Service

Magic Table

Available in Ardee, Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries this facility is ideal for those with sensory difficulties, on the Autism Spectrum, and for people with Dementia.

Family/Group bookings to use the Magic Table can be made by emailing libraryhelpdesk@louthcoco.ie or contacting your local branch.



Dundalk, Drogheda, and Ardee Libraries are providing a peaceful hour for those who may ordinarily find the library to be an overwhelming environment.

Phones will be turned down, lights dimmed, and sensory equipment and toys will be laid out. Drogheda and Dundalk Libraries Monday 6pm – 7pm, Ardee Library Saturday 10am – 11am



Sensory area with dimmed lights

Arts

Creative Ireland

St John of Gods, Landmark Bookmark Project –

The John of Gods service users took over Creative Spark on 11th Nov for their final session working on their Landmark Bookmark Project. Supported by the Creative Ireland Community Grant Scheme, the participants have been working with artist Grainne Murphy of the Print Studio over the past 3 months on creating new bookmarks and prints of local Louth landmarks. The participants learned how to use the print making equipment and helped to draw the designs.



Patrick showing off his print skills on one of the tote bags with the Louth Landmarks on it.



Samples of the work created by the John of Gods participants at the Landmark Bookmark Project funded by the Creative Ireland Louth Community Grants.

Legacy : Stories from the Civil War

Performed in the pivotal site of Dundalk Gaol the production used historical documentation, personal writings, local and national histories to conjure up the diverse histories of the Civil War. This was the third part of The Remembrance Trilogy which was developed by An Táin Arts Centre following the Decade of Centenaries Programme. With a medley of song, poetry and oral histories the production re-examined the tragic legacy of the civil war and the opportunities spurned at the birth of the nation. This project was supported by Creative Ireland, The Decade of Centenaries programme and CreateLouth, the arts service of Louth County Council.

St. Brigids Project

This is the first of our projects planned for the St. Brigid Festival in 2023. Artist Shauna Swords has begun working with students at St. Brigids Special school in Dundalk on a mixed media piece that will commemorate the native of Faughart. Shauna will deliver weekly workshops in the school with some of the senior students who are studying for their junior cert. The piece will then be on display for the festival and during the year in the annual St Brigids exhibition in An Táin Basement Gallery in May.

Coming up in December **Highlanes Gallery** in Drogheda will present a Christmas Fair with live music, Christmas Craft workshops and much more. For details please see the Creative Ireland Louth website [here](#)

Droichead Arts Centre

Slow Sessions

Returned to Droichead for their Autumn Series with Brendan McCreanor live! Slow sessions allows anyone who has an interest in learning an instrument take part in a session where a selection of well known tunes are played slowly so that everyone has an opportunity to learn and play together. The objective of the session is that everyone learns and develops new skills and enjoys the immersive experience.

17 Ways To A Better You

Is a new exhibition by artists Adrian+Shane that explores the impact of self-help books, click bait quick fix articles and the bombardment of advertising and unattainable images on social media in particular that promise a better life if we obey their message. The work is largely compiled of presenting images from the 1950's to the present day in a fresh contemporary pop art style. The exhibition opened on 26th November and runs until 4th March 2023.

Highlanes Gallery

What do you see? - VTS Selected Collection Exhibition

Opened on 19th November and will run until the end of January 2023. Curated by Kieran Gallagher and Claire Halpin Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) uses artwork to develop critical thinking, communication skills, language development and visual literacy through a slow looking and evidence based approach to looking at artworks. This exhibition shows selected pieces of the Drogheda Municipal Collection through the principles of VTS image selection.

Ardee Baroque

Ardee Baroque

Returned from 25th – 27th November. The festival started with Musici Ireland featuring soprano Roisin O'Grady and the over the course of the weekend the festival delivered concerts from the Irish Baroque Orchestra with conductor Rachel Podger, and a delightful treat of the outstanding partnership that is Malcolm Proud and Maya Homburger.



Renowned performer Rachel Podger was a leading name at this year's Ardee Baroque Festival, performing on Sat 26th November.

An Táin Arts Centre

Art & Sign: Realistic Pencil Drawing with artists Johnny Corcoran

Following on from the highly successful art workshops through Irish Sign Language that were delivered earlier this year as part of Creative Ireland Louth, An Táin were proud to support further workshops for those from the deaf community with this new series led by artists Johnny Corcoran. Across the workshops in November Johnny guided the participants on how to create highly atmospheric graphite pencil drawings with a particular focus on the eyes as the window to the soul.



Participants at the Art and Sign workshop in An Táin Arts Centre in Dundalk

Basement Gallery

Make It Make Sense is the new exhibition from the artists in the Bó Studios in Dundalk. Bó Studios was set up in 2020 by artists Etaoin O'Reilly, David Callan, Blathnaid McClean and Olivia Hill in conjunction with An Táin Arts Centre and is supported by the Arts Council and the Arts Service of Louth County Council. The exhibition is a reflection and response of the last 2 years of work since founding the studios during a global pandemic, and about looking to the future with a positive mind. Details of the exhibition and gallery opening hours are [here](#)

Drogheda Classical Music Series

Continued on 4th November in St Peter's Church of Ireland, Drogheda with the Liverpool String Quartet. As part of a National String Quartet Foundation tour, this was the quartet's first visit to Drogheda. The programme included a 2007 work by Irish composer Deirdre Gribbin and closed with Zemlinsky's Quartet No. 1.

The next concert in the series will be on 17th December with the fantastic Irish Baroque Orchestra and Chamber Choir and details can be found [here](#)

Other news

Local poet **Sean Brannigan** launched his new book of poetry in the Dundalk Gaol on 17th November. Seans' poetry has been featured in several national and local newspapers over the years and on RTE radio and local radio stations. In 1993 he was writer-in-residence for Louth County Council under the aegis of the arts scheme administered by Mary Cloake and for the publication of this book he received support from the arts service.

Through a Different Lens

Saw Louth musician Paul Campbell hold a live workshop in the Spirit Store on Sunday 27th November. Part funded by the arts service through the grant scheme, this event showcased a series of collaborations and compositions which Paul has been working on over the course of the year. Performed on the day with Paul included the

Panoramic String Quartet, Rowan Murphy, Sean Fee and Brass Tactics.

Science Week

Museum

Exhibition



Figure 2 Peace Heroines

The Museum is hosting a new travelling exhibition that was officially launched in September of this year. Peace Heroines celebrates those women who played a pivotal role in the Northern Ireland peace process and continue cross-community dialogue and reconciliation projects today.

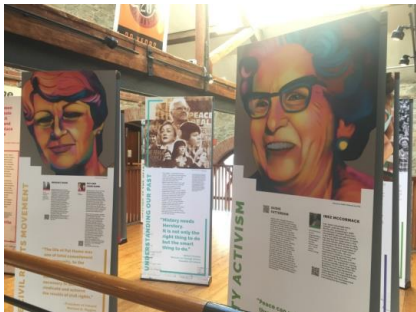


Figure 3 Peace Heroines

Amongst those women remembered are Monica McWilliams, Pearl Sagar, Linda Ervine MBE, Pat Hume, Baroness May Blood MBE, Mo Mowlam and Saidie Patterson.

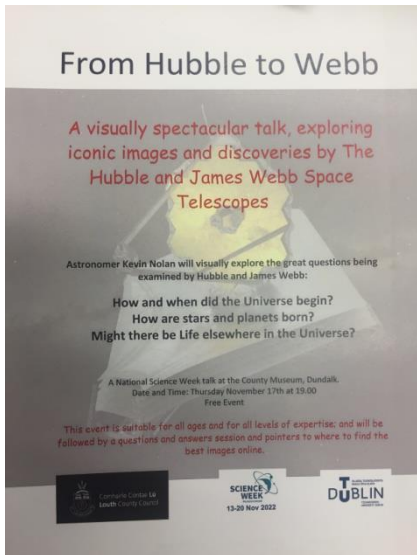


Figure 4 The life and career of Sir Francis Leopold McClintock

The Museum hosted a number of events to coincide with Science Week. Featured events included a workshop on the science of football; the career of Arctic explorer Sir Francis Leopold McClintock, a spectacular illustrated lecture on the most recent images from the James Webb probe and a lecture on the proposed return to the Moon.



Figure 5 the science of football - a 1950s Blackthorn boot and the current World Cup football.



From Hubble to Web – a talk on space exploration at the County Museum, Dundalk

Other activities

The Museum also hosted a variety of events over the past month including: a lecture with the Old Dundalk Society. The talk was entitled Housing and Living Conditions in Dundalk 1900-1960’ and given by Dr. Charles Flynn.

A visit by the Friends of Downpatrick Museum as part of a visit to Dundalk at the start of the month. The visit comprised a walking tour of some of the town’s murals and a guided tour of the Museum. The group were very impressed with both activities with the promise of a number of spin-off visits in the future.

A stakeholders’ Town Hall-style meeting in relation to the Varsities project.

Recent acquisitions

The Museum recently acquired several interesting items in the past month most notably a chair that forms which transforms into a kneeler.



From chair...



to kneeler