



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 7th February 2023
7^ú Feabhra 2023**

Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report – 31st January 2023
Tuairisc Bainistíochta ag an bPríomhfheidhmeannach – 31 Eanáir 2023

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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 31st January 2023 / Caiteachas go dtí 31ú Eanáir 2023

Section/Rannóg	Actual Expenditure to/Caiteachas Iarbhír go dtí 31/01/2023	Budget Expenditure/ Caiteachas Buiséadaithe 2023	% Spent to/ % Caite go 31/01/2023
Housing/Tithíocht	€3,275,865	€57,155,409	6%
Road Transportation & Safety/Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht	€2,251,483	€27,351,782	8%
Water Services/Seirbhísí Uisce	€855,718	€8,619,589	10%
Development Management/Bainistíocht Forbartha	€1,537,348	€23,666,110	6%
Environmental Services/Seirbhísí Timpeallachta	€1,433,928	€20,837,206	7%
Recreation and Amenity/Áineas agus Conláiste	€587,284	€10,361,634	6%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare/Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas	€75,574	€1,468,858	5%
Miscellaneous/Ilgheithreach	€652,139	€9,018,942	7%
	€10,669,339	€158,479,530	7%

Income to 31st January 2023 / Ioncam go 31ú Eanáir 2023

Section/Rannóg	Actual Income to/ioncam Iarbhír go dtí 31/01/23	Budget Income/ioncam Buiséadaithe 2023	% Invoiced to/ % Sonraisc Curtha do dtí 31/01/23
Housing/Tithíocht	€1,301,175	€58,718,513	2%
Road Transportation & Safety/Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht	€202,846	€16,635,478	1%
Water Services/Seirbhísí Uisce	€234,136	€8,303,355	3%
Development Management/Bainistíocht Forbartha	€1,189,177	€14,403,330	8%
Environmental Services/Seirbhísí Timpeallachta	€72,155	€2,295,719	3%
Recreation and Amenity/Áineas agus Conláiste	€36,696	€1,208,037	3%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas	€31,974	€543,472	6%
Miscellaneous/Ilgheithreach	€211,577	€11,296,768	2%
Rates/Rátaí	€34,558,169	€34,708,660	100%
General Purpose Grant (LPT)/Deontas Ilfheidhmeach	€0	€9,866,198	0%
Provision for Debit Balance/Soláthar faoi Iarmhéid Dochair	€0	€500,000	0%
	€37,837,905	€158,479,530	24%

The above is the current position as of the 31st of January 2023. 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 2023 is included in the above figure.

Collection rates as of 31st January 2023 are as follows:

Debtors as of 31st January 2023/Féichiúnaithe mar atá 31ú Eanáir 2023

	Opening Balance /Iarmhéid Tosaigh	Invoices/ Sonraisc	Receipts/ Fáltais	Write Offs/ Díscriobhanna	Closing Balance/ Iarmhéid Deiridh
Government Debtors/Féichiúnaithe Rialtais	€6,354,524	€1,435,839	(€910,909)	(€0)	€6,879,454
Other Authorities/Local Uadaráis Áitiúla Eile	€20,431	€110,677	(€17,433)	(€0)	€113,675
Rates/Rataí	€7,859,817	€34,558,169	(€544,132)	(€0)	€41,873,854
Rents/Cíosanna	€2,622,339	€1,084,825	(€1,118,473)	(€0)	€2,588,691
Loans/Iasachtal	€295,151	€0	(€222,402)	(€0)	€72,749
Development Levies/Tobhaigh Forbartha	€10,321,297	€94,831	(€315,508)	(€0)	€10,100,620
Fire Charges/Táilí Seirbhíse Dóiteáin	€736,756	€32,389	(€17,166)	(€0)	€751,979
Miscellaneous/Ilghnéitheach	€2,149,237	€1,182,841	(€83,012)	(€0)	€3,249,066
Total Debtors / Féichiúnaithe Iomlána	€30,359,552	€38,499,571	(€3,229,035)	(€0)	€65,630,088

Above are the debtor balances as of 31st of January 2023. 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.

Annual Financial Statement

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

WATER SERVICES

Uisce Éireann

Elected members/customers are reminded to contact Uisce Éireann directly to log a query or any issue with water supply or quality or wastewater issues. Customers should contact the Uisce Éireann 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 @UÉ Care 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 Uisce Éireann and LCC Environment Section on the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy.

Capital Programmes/Cláir Chaipitiúla

Uisce Éireann 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 Uisce Éireann and their consultants to progress the project. The project to include works at Mullacrew

Reservoir with proposed new Pumping Stations at Allardstown and Bannons Cross. Planning permission has been granted for Bannons Cross PS while the planning application for Allardstown PS is currently being progressed.

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 September 2023.

Shared Waters Enhancement and Loughs Legacy (SWELL)

Uisce Éireann are to consider further surface water separation. Phase 1 of SWELL Project is complete.

Regional Sewer Network Rehabilitation / Athshlánú an Líonra Séaraigh Aitiúil

All works completed in 2022 and UÉ currently reviewing 2023 programme.

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

LCC continue to liaise with Uisce Éireann 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

UÉ Consultants are currently progressing the design with Uisce Éireann, in consultation with Louth County Council. The project is 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 UÉ .

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 Uisce Éireann 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 was progressed in 2022, including extensive engagement with developers and landowners' representatives. The Planning Submission for the proposed Pumping Station is being progressed with procurement to follow during early 2023.

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

Construction works are substantially completed at Quay Street. Mains testing and permanent reinstatement to continue through February.

Greenmount WTW Upgrade/Uasghrádú Ionad Cóireála Uisce Dhroim Chatha

Uisce Éireann are progressing the design of proposed Upgrade Works at Greenmount WTW. 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

Uisce Éireann 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. Uisce Éireann continue s to work closely with EPS Limited who operate the plant on behalf of Uisce Éireann .

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

Uisce Éireann have appointed consultants to undertake the Drogheda Drainage Area Plan (DAP). LCC staff are currently liaising with Uisce Éireann and the project consultants in various aspects of the project. Stage 1 Catchment Planning Meeting completed in Jan 2023. Stage 1 report due to be completed by end February 2023.

Cockle Hill PS Upgrade / Uasghrádú Stáisiún Ceadéalacháin Chnoic na Ruachan

Detailed Design Report and Workshop 4 were completed in January 2023. Date for commencement on site is to be confirmed but is programmed to be on site Q1 2023.

Greenhills Sewer Replacement Project/ Tionscadal an Áthsholáthair Séarachais na nGlaschnoc

UÉ contractors are expected to commence on site early 2023. 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 is nearing completion. Workshop 4 is scheduled for February 2023.

Water Networks / Líonraí Uisce

Water Networks Programme/Clár Líonraí Uisce

Rehabilitation Programme/Clár Athshlánúcháin

No rehabilitation works undertaken by Uisce Éireann in January.

Lead replacement / Ionadú Luaidhe Back Yard Services / Seirbhísí Cúlchlóis

Uisce Éireann's Contractors completed 1 replacement of back yard service in January.

First Fix / Chéad Shocrú

3 first fix type repairs were undertaken by Uisce Éireann contractors in January.

Find & Fix / Aimsigh agus Deisigh

Louth County Council crews undertook 10 Find and Fix activities (3 in Dundalk, 1 in Omeath, 1 in Carlingford , 2 in Collon, 3 Castlebellingham) in January.

Water Scouring Programme 2022 / Clar Sciúrtha Uisce 2022

Due to freezing weather conditions Louth County Council Crew only undertook unidirectional network flushing in Louth Village in January.

Network Maintenance / Cothabháil Líonra

75 essential water tasks were carried out in January including 10 arising out of our Find and Fix program as listed above (3 in Dundalk, 1 in Omeath, 1 in Carlingford , 2 in Collon, 3 Castlebellingham)

Planning & Water Connections / Pleanáil agus Ceangail Uisce

The Networks Section processed 10 new connections, 6 Pre-Connection Enquiries and 26 Planning Applications in January.

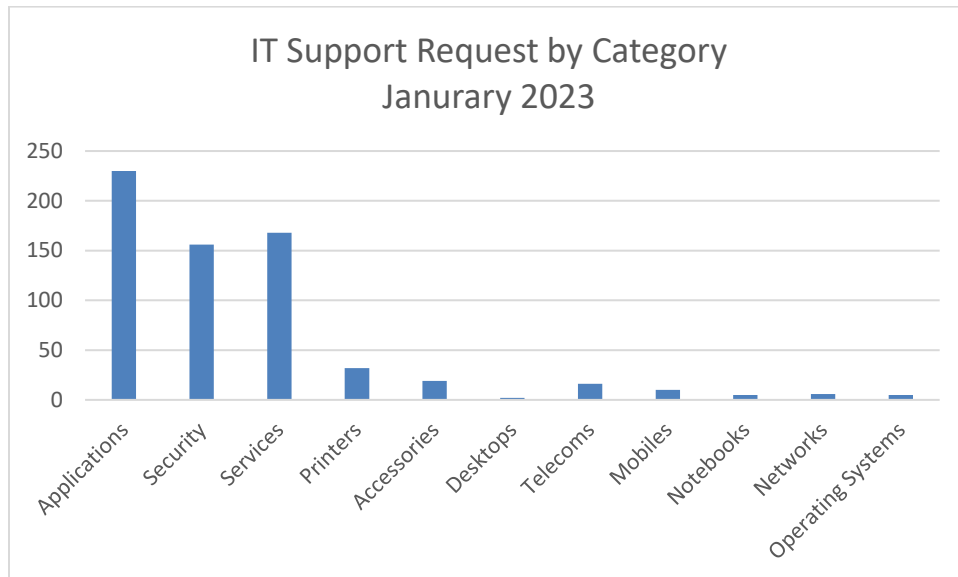
Service Maps / Léarscáileanna Seirbhíse

The Networks Section prepared 33 Service Maps in January.

Information & Communication Technology







Helpdesk

Between 01/01/2023 and the 31/01/2023 there were 649 support calls logged in the IT support system.



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. In January 33% of inbound e-mails were identified as potentially harmful.

Inbound Email count  136,566	Blocked Sender  799	Blocked at gateway  20,720
Total blocked by spam/virus  23,605	Blocked by content rules  240	Potentially harmful emails  33.2%

Louth County Council Website

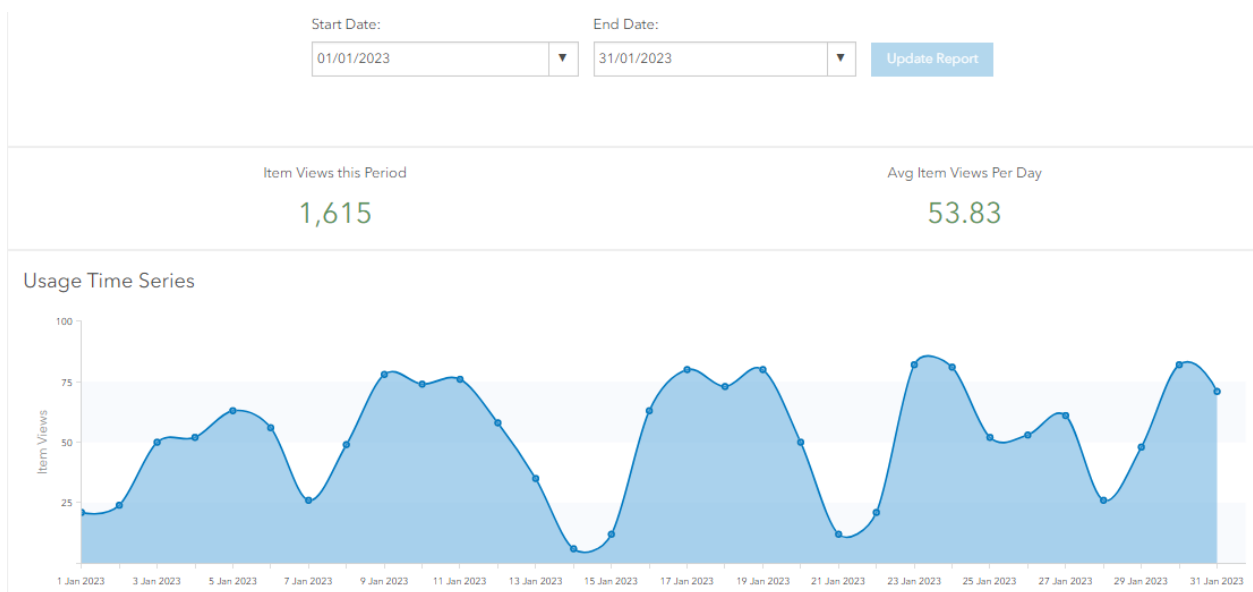
There were 17,645 unique page views of www.louthcoco.ie in January

The most visited sections of the website were for online planning and maps, dog pound, vacancies and library.

Page URL	Pageviews	Unique Pageviews
/en/	3,612	2,862
/en/services/planning/online-planning-and-maps/	1,291	990
/en/services/dog-pound/	1,291	879
/en/louth_county_council/vacancies/	644	530
/en/home/	615	462
/en/services/	559	433
/en/services/library/	513	396
/en/services/planning/	530	393
/en/services/library/online-services/	490	389

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 1615 views to date in January, an average of 53.83 views a day.



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

A meeting of the Louth Economic Forum took place on Wednesday, 25th January, 2023. It took the form of a workshop facilitated by Francis Verling and looked at the key challenges and opportunities for the Forum over the next 5 years.

French Ambassador Visit



Joan Martin, Chief Executive, making a presentation to H.E. Ambassador Vincent Guérend

On Wednesday, 18th January, 2023, Louth County Council welcomed H.E. Ambassador Vincent Guérend, French Ambassador to Ireland, to County Hall. Attendees at the meeting included Joan Martin, Chief Executive, Thomas McEvoy, Director of Service, Joe McGuinness, Director of Service, Cllr. Conor Keelan, Cathaoirleach Louth County Council and Cllr. Kevin Meenan, Cathaoirleach Dundalk Municipal District.

Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2022

24 applications were received by Louth County Council under the Streetscape Enhancement Scheme. These are currently being assessed and applicants will be contacted in due course for any outstanding information and a letter of offer issued.

Tourism

Holiday World Show 2023



Visit Louth / sea louth stand at the Holiday World Show 2023



Minister Jack Chambers TD, Maureen Ledwith, Holiday World Show, with Noeleen Quigley and Susan L. Murphy, Tourism Office, Louth County Council

Visit Louth together with sea louth had a very well received stand at the Holiday World Show, RDS, Dublin from 27th to 29th January, 2023. The stand was available to tourism providers and trade within Co. Louth giving them an opportunity to promote their businesses and attract visitors to the county. Over the course of the weekend we had a free raffle for a chance to win a fantastic hamper which included a voucher for Scholars Townhouse Hotel Drogheda, and a selection of Co. Louth produce including Lily's tea, Peninsula Honey, Carlingford Oyster Company, Oriel Sea Salt, Sarah McKenna,

Dunany Flour, KooKee, Listoke Distillery, Jumping Church Brewery and Rocksalt Coffee.

'sea louth'



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

St. Brigid 1500

Plans are underway to arrange a series of promotional events leading up to February, 2024, St. Brigid's 1,500 year anniversary.

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 draft Request for Tender for a consultant to carry out the feasibility study is currently being prepared.

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 successful. The Department have released the job specification and recruitment is due to commence.

Boyne Valley Flavours

Meath County Council together with Louth County Council ran an open competition for the following 2 no. roles: Boyne Valley - Centre for Food Culture Project Manager and a Food Business Development Officer. The interview process is now underway.

LEO Louth

LEO 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' / 'Shop Local'

LEO continues to host a Louth 'shop local' online directory available at: www.louthcoco.ie/ShopLocal.

New businesses can be included on the Louth online directory by emailing: lookforlocal@leo.louthcoco.ie.

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.

1 no. Louth business was approved in January.

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 will be engaging with our portfolio clients in 2023.

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.

Business Training



The 2023 - 2024 training supports tender is currently at final review stage. Initial training courses for 2023 are available to view and book online at: <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/>.

January had 4 no. training courses delivered to 47 no. attendees. They included 2 Start Your Own Business courses, a Prepare Your Business for Customs course and an information session with Aldi Ireland on their "Grow with Aldi Producers Development Programme". In February, some of the business workshops on offer include; Start Your Own Business, Trading Online Voucher Workshop, Website Design and Bookkeeping for Small Business.

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. The next workshop is on 9th February, 2023.

3 no. Trading Online Voucher applications have been received in January 2023.

Business Advice Clinics

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

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.

8 no. businesses were appointed Mentors during the month of January.

Microfinance Ireland Business Loan



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

3 no. applications were received in January.

LEO mentors are continuing to assist applicants.

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. 1 no. Louth business was approved in January.

Student Enterprise Programme



The Student Enterprise Programme continues to run with 17 no. schools participating. The County Final will be held on 2nd March in The Fairways Hotel, Dundalk with representative teams from all schools in a variety of categories Junior, Intermediate and Senior.

Showcase 2023

Showcase 2023, the largest Irish trade fair for the craft and gift sector ran in the RDS from 22nd to 24th January. 5 no. Louth exhibitors took part in the Local Enterprise Showcase area with many reporting good sales including some export to the US and UK. The businesses who attended were:

- Sophie Hunter - Sophie Hunter Designs, Drogheda
- Yvonne Mullen - LORE Natural Skincare, Jenkinstown
- Maria Morgan - Esker Fields, Drogheda
- Caoilfionn Murphy O’Hanlon - Cushla of Gullion, Dundalk
- Caroline Duffy Design, Dundalk



Sophie Hunter, Yvonne Mullen, Maria Morgan, Caoilfionn Murphy O’ Hanlon & Caroline Duffy were the 5 no. Louth Exhibitors who took part in Showcase 2023

Caroline Duffy Design, Esker Fields and LORE Natural Skincare were all selected for the curated Edit.

LEO Louth client Garrett Mallon Jewellery also won the overall Jewellery Award at the show.



Rosemary Steen, CEO of the Design & Craft Council of Ireland with LEO Louth client Garrett Mallon of Garrett Mallon Jewellery, Winner of the overall Jewellery Award

Local Enterprise Week



Local Enterprise Week will run from 6th to 11th March with an exciting range of events running at a local, regional and national level. The programme of events will run in conjunction with our partners Drogheda & District Chamber, Dundalk Chamber and Network Ireland Louth. The week will culminate with the County National Enterprise Awards.

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.

The Mill Enterprise Hub

On Wednesday 25th January, Gráinne McKeown represented the LEO Louth at the announcement of The Mill Enterprise Hub - Mill Economic Impact Report.

Cross-Border Trade Conference 2023

On the 12th January 2023, Sarah Mallon represented LEO Louth at the launch of this year's Cross-Border Trade Conference.

LEO Louth in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce Dundalk, Intertrade Ireland, Newry Chamber of Commerce, Newry, Mourne & Down District Council are organising a virtual Cross Border Conference to be held on Wednesday 8th March.

Two years after the end of the transition period, this Cross-Border Trade Conference will provide businesses with an update on the challenges, opportunities and support available.

Key government representatives, policy officials and business advisors will set out the shape of future cross-border co-operation and trade for businesses.

Brexit and Covid-19 have brought unprecedented change to the global trading environment. What help is available for businesses involved North / South trade?

Case studies will demonstrate how businesses, both North and South have overcome significant challenges, using the supports available to navigate the changes in trade flows and identify opportunities for growth.

Places are free and can be booked at: <https://dundalk.ie/events>.



Paddy Malone, PRO of Dundalk Chamber of Commerce, Deirdre Maguire, Manager, Brexit Advisory Service, InterTradeIreland Sarah Mallon, Project Officer, LEO Louth, Una McGoey, President of Dundalk Chamber of Commerce, Edwina Flynn, Vice President, Newry Chamber of Commerce, Colin Mc Cabrey, Director of Trade, InterTrade Ireland and Tony McKeown, CEO, Newry Chamber of Commerce

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.



Progress of the extension at the Muirhevnamór Community Centre

Substantial completion of Peter's Hill was given in December 2022. The artwork installation is due by Q1 2023.

Peace IV Partnership

An update to the PEACE IV Partnership was given via Zoom on 30th January, 2023. The main focus was on the Shared Spaces theme and the progress of the remaining projects. The Partnership discussed plans for the PEACE IV closing event.

PEACEPLUS



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

The fifth PEACEPLUS Partnership meeting was held on 24th January, 2023. The Partnership were given an update on the PEACEPLUS Public Consultations that took place in November and December 2022 and the survey which was made public in December 2022 and January 2023. Over 200 responses were received for the survey. These responses will help to guide the direction of the Action Plan.

Phase II consultation sessions will be held in late Q1 / early Q2 2023. Please keep an eye on our website, via [PEACEPLUS](https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/economic-development/peaceplus/) page (<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/economic-development/peaceplus/>) and on the SEUPB website (www.SEUPB.ie). Alternatively contact 042 93 24240 or email peaceplus@louthcoco.ie for further information.

We thank all those who contributed to these consultations; your input is invaluable to the PEACEPLUS Action Plan.

Heritage

The Heritage Office spent much of January promoting various national heritage funding schemes to community groups and owners and preparing to submit applications to these. The schemes in question include the Community Monuments Fund and the Local Biodiversity Action Plan fund (both run directly by the Department) and the Historic Towns Initiative, the Irish Walled Towns Network, and the Community Heritage funding, all from the Heritage Council.

There was ongoing liaison with consultant archaeologists working for the OPW on Flood Relief Schemes in Dundalk / Blackrock and Drogheda / Baltray.

Work went into reviewing the implementation of Louth's Local Biodiversity Action Plan. Work also began on the process of setting up a Heritage Forum for Louth and creating a new Heritage Plan.

The Heritage Officer is a member of both the Louth Creative Ireland steering group and its Climate Action sub-committee and attended meetings of both groups held during the month.

The Heritage Officer took part in the Vernacular (Built) Heritage Steering Group and wrote a submission on Ireland's new draft World Heritage Strategy, both run by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

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. The Heritage Officer met them on site, together with local farmers and Cllr. Tom Cunningham.

Fire and Emergency Services

Fire Service

Louth County Council has selected a design team for the new fire station for Dunleer. The discussions in relation to the site are nearing completion and it is expected that the design will proceed shortly.

The incident statistics for 2022 are shown in the tables below. They show the following:

1. Marginal decline in overall incident numbers
2. Upward trend in number of incidents attended in Meath
3. Drogheda is by far the busiest station with a total of 591 callouts (including Meath calls)
4. Fire alarm activations are the most common incident type
5. Small outdoor fires, road traffic accidents and fire alarm activations accounted for 56% of all calls in 2022
6. The number of ambulance assist calls remains high

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

- Patient Handling instructor course
- Emergency Driving ESDS conversion

course

- Abrasive Wheels Instructor refresher course
- Water Awareness refresher courses

Following receipt of the Summary Cost Plan for Dundalk Training Centre extension and upgrade, Louth County Council will seek DHLGH approval for this extension. It will greatly improve the level of facilities in the Training Centre.

Incidents Attended in County Meath

Comparative Period	No Incidents	of	% Difference +/-
2018	147		+1.1%
2019	129		-12.2%
2020	131		+1.6%
2021	145		+10.7%
2022	174		+20%

Incidents Attended in County Louth

Comparative Period	No Incidents	of	% Difference +/-
2018	1271		+1.11%
2019	1141		-10.23%
2020	1291		+13.15%
2021	1147		-11.15%
2022	1224		+6.71%

Unique Incident Types in Station Areas: 2022

Type	Ardee	Carlingford	Dunleer	Drogheda	Dundalk	Meath	Other Areas	Total
Fire/Aircraft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fire/Alarm Activation	12	8	16	100	73	35	3	247
Fire/Bus/Coach	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Fire/Car	2	1	4	27	24	11	1	70
Fire/Caravan	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	5
Fire/Chimney	2	0	3	3	15	4	0	27
Fire/Controlled Burning	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fire/Domestic	4	2	3	27	37	12	1	86
Fire/Persons Reported	1	2	1	12	13	3	1	33
Fire/Fire (General)	3	2	1	14	14	9	1	44
Fire/Forest	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
Fire/Gorse	0	7	1	5	5	6	0	24
Fire/Grass	2	0	2	7	9	9	0	29
Fire/Hay/Barn	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	5
Fire/Industrial	2	0	1	5	8	2	0	18
Fire/Institutional	0	0	0	4	4	1	0	9
Fire/Motorcycle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fire/Oil/Petrol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fire/Small/Bin/Skip	6	2	10	109	83	28	0	238
Fire/Smoke Issuing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fire/Truck	0	0	0	2	3	3	0	8
Fire/Vegetation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SS/Alarm/Carbon Monoxide	0	0	0	3	4	1	0	8

SS/Ambulance Assist	4	3	3	24	26	15	1	76
SS/Animal Rescue	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	3
SS/Electrical	0	0	1	7	5	1	0	14
SS/Entrapment	0	0	0	2	2	1	0	5
SS/Explosion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SS/Flooding	2	1	0	4	1	0	0	8
SS/Garda Assist	1	1	2	4	3	0	0	11
SS/Gas Leak	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	3
SS/Hazardous Material	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
SS/Lift Persons Trapped	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3
SS/Lockout	0	0	0	4	5	0	0	9
SS/Make Scene Safe	0	2	1	2	4	0	0	9
SS/Marine Emergency	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SS/Oil Spillage	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	3
SS/Other	0	0	0	9	7	0	0	16
SS/River Rescue	1	0	0	4	2	0	0	7
SS/RTA	30	13	9	57	58	28	3	198
SS/Smell of Gas	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
SS/Trees Down	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
SS/Water Leak	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Total no. of Incidents:	73	48	61	440	417	174	11	1224

Incidents in Each Station Area, Busiest Area First

2021		2022		% Change
Drogheda	477	Drogheda	440	-7.76%
Dundalk	358	Dundalk	417	+16.48%
Meath	145	Meath	174	+20.00%
Ardee	58	Ardee	73	+25.86%
Carlingford	50	Dunleer	61	+35.56%
Dunleer	45	Carlingford	48	-4.00%
Other Areas	14	Other Areas	11	-21.43%

The Fire Prevention Section is continuing its assessment of new accommodation for Ukrainian refugees.

New appointments to the fulltime service are being made at Station Officer, Sub Officer and Fire Fighter level following recent retirements of longstanding fire service members.

Major Emergency Management

Following the Major Emergency Management briefing for senior Council staff during December,

the Major Emergency Plan and Severe Weather Plan have been updated.

An exercise to test the knowledge of major emergency roles and procedures will be held during Q3 of 2023.

There will also be a Seveso exercise for Louth's only Seveso Top Tier site, Flogas in Drogheda, during 2023.

Climate Adaptation Strategy

Work on the Climate Action Plan is continuing, to include Fire Service and Building Control requirements.

Civil Defence

A presentation ceremony was held in the Oriel Centre, Dundalk on Thursday, 26th January, 2023 where Louth County Council Cathaoirleach Cllr. Conor Keelan presented special Covid-19 medals to Louth Civil Defence members.

A total of 20 volunteers from Louth Civil Defence completed in excess of 200 taskings during the pandemic. These included:

- Transporting people to and from hospital and other essential appointments
- Assisting the HSE at testing centres
- Assisting the Irish Blood Transfusion Service
- Delivering essential foodstuff and medications to vulnerable households

This is the second presentation ceremony for Louth Civil Defence personnel. A national ceremony was held in Croke Park on 29th November, 2022 where Minister Coveney presented Covid-19 medals to Civil Defence representatives from all counties including seven members from Louth.

The ceremony in the Oriel Centre also saw long service medals awarded to Civil Defence members, where Cllr. Keelan presented volunteers with 50-year, 30-year, 20-year and 10-year medals



Presentation Ceremony Group Photo

Building Control

The workload of the Building Control Officer increased during 2023, with increased numbers of Disabled Access Certificate applications, Commencement Notices and Certificates of Compliance on Completion.

The regulation and checking of construction products will become a major new area of activity for the Building Control Section. The objective will be to ensure that all materials used in the construction of buildings satisfy a national standard.

Planning

Development Management / Bainistíocht Forbartha

The Planning service indicators for Louth County Council for the month of December, 2022 are given below in tabular form. There were 77 planning applications received during the month of December of which 69 were valid. In addition there were 30 responses received during the month to requests for further information and 12 Pre-Planning Applications received.

The service indicator figures in relation to **planning decisions and decisions on appeals made** during the month, broken down by category, and with a total figure for all categories (Column F), are given below:

(A) Description / Cur Síos	(B) Housing Developments / Forbairtí Tithíochta	(C) Individual Houses / Tithe Aonair	(D) Other applications -not requiring EIA / Iarratais Eile – ní gá MTT	(E) Other applications-requiring EIA / Iarratais Eile - MTT de dhíth	(F) Total for all categories of development in County Area / Iomlán na bhforbairtí sa chontae
(i) Number of applications determined / Líon na n-iarratas a cinneadh	5	9	40	0	54
(ii) No. of decisions determined which required further information / Líon na gcinntí inar iarradh breis eolais	1	3	19	0	23
(iii) Percentage of applications refused / Céatadán na n-iarratas a diúltaíodh	20.00% (1)	55.56% (5)	17.50% (7)	0.00% (0)	24.07% (13)
(iv) Number of appeals determined / Líon na n-achomharc a cinneadh	0	0	1	0	1
(v) Percentage of decisions overturned on appeal / Céatadán na gcinntí a cuireadh ar ceal ar achomharc	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)

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

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

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development / Forfheidhmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh		Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development / Forfheidhmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh	
	December 2022 / Nollaig 2022	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo	December 2021 / Nollaig 2021	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	17	261	21	316
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	15	270	12	326
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	15	218	5	235
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	1	24	1	15
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	0	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	
	January 2023 / Eanáir 2023	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	0	0
Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which didn't require follow up / Líon na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise	0	0
Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation / Líon na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht	2	2
Number of cases currently under investigation / Líon na gcásanna atá á n-imscúdu faoi láthair	21	23
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	0	0
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	1	1
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

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 Old Newry Rd, Link Rd By Pass , St Helenas, Quay St, Centenery Rd , Hoeys Lane Bothar Na Feirme , Dublin Rd By Pass to Round about on Ardee Rd Town Area Seatown , St Marys Rd, Fairgreen Row and Green Barrack St Planters at Sq , and Market Sq Castletown Rd Castleblaney Rd, Mount Ave, Estates Tom Bellew Ave , Bellewsbridge Rd Each area is picked once a week or extra if needed or reports
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí Carried out By Contractor Nightly	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht 190 /Nightly
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre Carried out by Contractor	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain As Per Schedule
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra Contractor lifts as part of the street bin lift	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain Emptied Nightly

Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	<u>Cooley</u> <u>Dundalk</u> None	
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráichta	Vincent Ave Crown Plaza Avenue Rd	
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	<u>Cooley</u> <u>Dundalk</u>	
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<u>Cooley</u> <u>Dundalk</u> Replaced cheveron Signage and new Signage for faded ones throughout the town	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<u>Cooley</u> <u>Dundalk</u> Ongoing at Racecourse RD ,Castleross,Inner Relief Rd ,Hoeys Lane ,Clontoghorie Lands	
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	Signage at Tom Bellew Ave from Bins in Park	



Winter Gritting- Dundalk during the recent cold spell

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

	Dungooly Kilcurry, LS-7114 Ballybinaby Hackballscross, LS-7103 Raskeagh Kilcurry R177 Armagh Road Cross, Rd 216 Bollies and Rd 227 Charleville Rd182 Milltown and on the Green Rd in Louth Village	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	Rd152 Tully and Rd216 Williamstown	Clearing fallen trees & debris.
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán		Footpath renewal
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	Xerox Junction	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	Station Rd Castlebellingham & Milltown LS7114 Killin , LS-7162 Clermont Road Blackrock 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)

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair		Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí
All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day) Clogherhead Car Park daily cleanup around bins		
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí		Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht
Ardee Town		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 Tarrhála		Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain
Ardee town River Dee		
Salterstown		
Port Beach		

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

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

Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
<p>Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LS-5256-0 Jumping church road • LS-5232-0 Bog road Ardee, • LP-2253-27 Philipstown road from N2 • LS-5266-39 Mountain road Dunleer • R170 Dunleer • LP-1228-39 Richardstown road • LT- 62373 Cappoge (Previous CIS) • Swimming pool works Ash Walk Ardee
<p>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LS-5256-0 opening Outlets on the jumping church road, • N2 outlets at Funshog, • LS -5266-0 Drainage works at Belpatrick, • LP-1264-0 Jetting works at Smarmore, • R170 Jetting works at Shanlis, • N2 jetting Gullies at st Mary's football pitch, • R132 Drainage Cappoge,
<p>Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha</p>	

Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ardee brick paves • Winter maintenance works Woodlands 	
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	Pelican Crossing beside Civic Offices Ardee.	
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre		
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New VMS sign put on the N2 Collon • L-2239-20 removing of old school signs at Tullydonnell 	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach		
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí		



Culvert Collapse in Tinure



Traffic lights installation at Collon, Co. Louth

Borough District of Drogheda

Drogheda Town Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair

Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí

- Steps and lane ways weekly 22 steps when resources allow and green areas.
- Hotspots on Monday – decided by Supervisor following inspection.
- Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Daily during working week. Also all Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Saturday p.m.
- Drogheda Rural Bring banks are cleared daily during working week.
- Placing / up-grade of litter bins at Marsh Road and Dublin Rd.
- Graffiti removal at O Reillys car park, Beamore Rd, Thomas St, Dublin Rd, Rathmullen, Millmount and Patrickswell Lane.
- Cleaning of bollards on R132.

<p>Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí</p> <p>Port Oriel Pier, Clogherhead Clogherhead Beach Port Beach Termonfeckin Baltray Seapoint Carpark</p>	<p>Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht</p> <p>7 Daily 8 Daily 6 Daily 6 Daily 3 Daily 3 Daily</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drogheda town centre Litterbins emptied daily circa 60 early mornings. • 234 litter bin (including 10 no. Solar bins) are emptied weekly in town. • Dominic’s Park & Mell river walk emptied daily. • South Louth Drogheda Municipal district rural area’s public Litter Bins are emptied twice a week or daily when needed especially at beaches/Port Oriel/Seapoint/Termonfeckin/Baltray – at least 40 bins per day. • Approach roads in Drogheda town emptied twice a week. • Bin upgrade and maintenance ongoing + street furniture
<p>Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre</p>	<p>Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain</p> <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., Teromenfeckin, Baltray, Sandpit, Monasterboice, Tullyallen & Tenure.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drogheda town Boyne river walkways are swept 3 times per week (Monday, Wednesday & Friday). • Sweeping of island on approach roads.
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / FolmhúAraidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain
	Empty about 35 No. once a week, washed and disinfected.
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrhála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 89 ring buoys checked each week Town area (Thursday) • 9 ring buoys checked each week at Rosehall (Friday)
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 4 & 5 daily (4 playgrounds in Drogheda town, Skate park, adult exercise equipment). 3 Playgrounds in Drogheda rural area)

Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L-6697 King Williams Glen Bank Stabilisation • L-6323 Rose Hall JCB Pro • Oriel Cove Clogherhead – JCB Pro • L-2244-28 Port Road JCB Pro • L-6302-24 Hamlinstown • R166 Termonfeckin Road JCB Pro • LS-6286 Fieldstown

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LS-6291 Bog Road Tinure • LS-6286 Harestown <p>Drainage Works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigation of surface water gullies on-going at Crosslanes, new rodding access plates been fitted to three gullies. <p>LCC's crew</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pot hole repairs at IDA Rd, Flaxmill Lane, Termonfeckin Rd and town centre. • Reinstatement of paving on West St at various locations. <p>Road Works Program – Resurfacing works at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey of RWP roads on-going , plan to go to tender in February. 	
<p>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L-2244-28 Port Road opening outlets • LP-2321-0 King Williams Glen opening outlets • LS-6327 Beaulieu opening outlets • L-6302-24 Hamlinstown opening outlets • LS-6291 Bog Road Tinure Culvert Repair after road sinking <p>Annual Drogheda Gully cleaning program ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gully cleaning on-going on approach roads, town centre streets and estates. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tender documents will be prepared and sent out to contractors to price for 2023 contract. 	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N51 Townley Hall house LP-2321-0 King Williams Glen Dublin road R132 at Train Station – tree fell across carriageway, ESB power lines effect. (12/01/2022) 	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	List of area been complied for roads crew 2023.	
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráichta	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Dual carriageway pedestrian crossing. Westgate Junction St Marys School, Byranstown. Bolton St, Pedestrian Crossing. Crosslanes / Windmill Rd junction Greenhills pedestrian crossing Trinity St Pedestrian Crossing Bottle Lane / Donore Rd Junction Windmill Rd / Crosslanes Hardman Gardens Pedestrian Crossing 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Repairs to controller. Vehicle phase lamp fail RED. Vehicle phase lamp fail RED. Vehicle phase lamp fail GREEN. PBU volume raised. Lights out. Vehicle phase lamp fail RED. Vehicle phase lamp fail GREEN. Up-grade controller. Lights out.
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	New markings at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Magdalene St Greenlanes Windmill Rd Fair St 	Road marking survey in progress.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trinity St • Haymarket. 	
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General maintenance of signage town centre and approach roads. 2. Pay parking signage at Mell and Donore Rd car parks. 	
Weed killing / Marú fiailí		
Litterbin cleaning disinfecting / Díghalrú glantacháin boscaí bruscair	Dog Bin disinfecting complete on approach roads.	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bessexwell lane ○ Rubbish dumped on Beaulieu Rd., Drogheda ○ Illegal Dumping at Service Yard, Laurence Centre, Drogheda ○ Fridge Dumped at the top of the Barrack Lane Water. ○ Illegal Dumping outside 18 Hardman's Gardens, Drogheda. ○ 55 Rathmullen Park, Drogheda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with waste removal company on site • Plus liaised with business on North Quay . • Examined no evidence sourced. Cleansing removed. • Examined no evidence gained. CCTV examined within shopping complex unable to identify culprits. • Removed by cleansing. • Removed by cleansing. • Dog fouling no witness report offered

Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rathmullen estate. • Ratmullen to Marley lane walk ways 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaned by community group
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Maintenance Works

Council workers helped to shore up a structurally unstable building on West Street in Drogheda, cordoning off the footpath around the building while also erecting heras fencing.



Fallen Tree N51 Drogheda Slane Road requiring emergency Road Closure



King Williams Glen Slope Stabilisation – new gabions installed

Physical Development

Roads Projects

Narrow Water Bridge

The Suitability Assessment Documentation submissions, to prequalify a panel of

Contractors capable of constructing the project, were received on the 9th Dec. These submissions are currently been 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.

Tender Packages are ongoing with a view to been released to the restricted panel early Q2.



Event At Narrow Water Bridge

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

The Oral Hearing was held by An Bord Pleanála regarding the CPO process on the 10th of January. LCC now awaits the outcome of this hearing. The design team continues to engage with the landowners, their agents and other stakeholders. Technical acceptance report is been prepared for structures. GI tender package is currently been prepared for field work and testing.

N2 Ardee to Castleblayney Road Scheme

The initial design was published on the project website www.N2MonaghanLouth.ie 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.

An announcement on (TII) 2023 funding allocations is still awaited. The wider N2 Project Team continues to progress the project pending an announcement of funding.

Shanarc Archaeology Ltd. is undertaking focussed geophysical surveys at target areas along the route, these are non-intrusive surveys. The Team thanks the landowners for their ongoing co-operation and assistance in allowing access for these surveys to take place.

The design of the road, sideroads and accesses, and the required land take to deliver the project, are expected to be finalised in the coming weeks. The N2 Project Team are currently considering how updates to the initial design will be communicated to landowners and stakeholders. An Elected Representative briefing will take place before the updated design details are made available to stakeholders.

Jacobs are due to complete the Environmental Impact Assessment Report and CPO documentation by mid-2023. A business case will also be developed for the project. The Department of Transport (DOT), Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) and other Government Departments may review and feed into development of the business case before it can be finalised. In line with the Public Spending Code, the Business Case would then be submitted to Government to request approval to progress to Phase 4 (Statutory Processes). The Project Team will work closely with TII in relation to the upcoming appraisal and approval process.

It is anticipated there will be a period of time between Jacobs completing their design and Environmental/CPO documentation, submitting the business case for approval, getting approval to enter Phase 4 (Statutory Processes), and the holding of an oral hearing by An Bord Pleanála. In the intervening period, additional work and ongoing surveys will be required to keep the Environmental Impact Assessment Report and design up to date

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. The matter came before the High Court on the 24th Jan. for mention and was adjourned to the next available date of 28th Feb. on the basis that the Board will have served and filed its opposition papers on or before the 7th of Feb. The Scheme is currently at a standstill until the resolutions to these proceedings are overcome.

N2 Collon Safety Scheme

Works on the pedestrian crossing are now completed. Additional road markings are expected to be complete at a later stage subject to weather and funding.

Port Access Northern Cross Route

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.

Stream works are now complete and earthworks are ongoing. Works are expected to take 18 months.

Realignment of the Twenties Lane has commenced in partnership with CFS Homes. The first phase of realignment is open to traffic.

Boyne Enterprise Link Road

Ongoing consultations are taking place with stakeholders / landowners, a valuation process has started. Other mechanisms on

acquiring the lands are also been explored. Letter of acceptance will be issued in early February 2023 to construct the section of road located in LCC owned lands.

R178 Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Route Improvement Scheme

Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) for DTTAs progress two of the schemes, namely D7 & D6 towards feasibility stage. Letter of acceptance has been issued and the Consultants have begun preparation of SAR report.

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 for the southern section. Tender documents for the main contract are being finalised for issue to the market in March.

The CPO was confirmed by An Bord Pleanála, with modifications on the 8th December 2022, and published by LCC on the 18th of Jan. Landowner engagement has commenced on the acquisition of the land parcel. LCC are in the process of appointing a land Valuer.

A revised planning application will be submitted in March 2023. It is anticipated that Planning Permission in N.I. will be decided upon in Q3 2023 and works commencing in Q4 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

Dundalk Bay to Carlingford Greenway

This is an amalgamation of the Carlingford – Templetown Greenway with the Dundalk to

Templetown Greenway projects. Draft Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) submitted to TII for comments. Tender documents for the environmental consultants are been prepared.

All background information and public consultation data gathered to date under the Carlingford Templetown will be utilised. It's envisaged that a Public Consultation event on the overall study area will be held in Q2. The delivery of this scheme going forward will be under the TII Project Management Guidelines.

ORIS Scheme

The Beach Accessibility Project relates to better accessibility to the beach areas at Templetown, Clogherhead and Port beaches. The Preliminary designs are now complete. These prelim designs now enable the consultant to compete environmental screenings which are anticipated to be completed by February. The results of these screening reports will inform if the projects required a consent process.

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. It is envisaged that, subject to submission of appropriate insurances etc, that the preferred Contractor will be appointed early in Feb. Appointment of a consultant to supervise the works has been advertised and tenders received.

Specific Bridge Improvement Grants

Obelisk Bridge

Requested peer review by DTTAS has been completed. Final Tender documents and additional queries have been submitted to DTTAS. We are now waiting on their approval to go to tender in early 2023.

Corporate Projects

Redevelopment Fair Street Offices, Drogheda

Existing Building Block C:

Excavation to formation level internal floors, completed. Building up damaged brickwork south Elevation underway. Sample panel of Render Plastering completed and being reviewed.

Existing Building Block B:

Block B former Chamber, Internal Timber removal from walls and building up ongoing. Concrete subfloor pour complete. Shotblasting of existing steel beams complete.

New Works and Link Building:

Continuation of Ground beam pours to Westside of New Link Building and Reinforcement for Lower Floor Slab installed. Prepping Steel for Slab Pour No.1 Northern Retaining Wall constructed Machinery Yard Shed concrete floor poured



Ground Beams fabrication Block N –New Link Building



Northern Retaining Wall & Ground Beam fabrication Block N



Concrete Floor Pour Block B



Shot blasting Fire damaged Steel Beams prior to Intumescent Paint application Block B – Council Chamber

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 have been assessed for SAQ. LCC progressing the assessment of the quality criteria of the submissions. Clarifications with preferred bidder.

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 and Environmental Assessment. Hydraulic modelling is nearing completion in 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 Draft Options Report has been delivered for Ardee and is being reviewed. In Ardee the WFD, Geomorphology & Soils/Geology analysis is underway. Tender Documents for the Projects Site Investigation are nearing completion with the final locations being assessed.

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. Calibration of the hydraulic model is progressing.

Tender Documents for the Project Site Investigations are being finalized. The overwintering bird surveys are continuing. Works are underway on the EIA Scoping consultation and Scoping Report.

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 Balmers 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.

OPW have requested further comments in mid December from LCC on the Bellurgan and Ballagan applications, LCC has issued a response to these queries.

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. A Supplementary report on including the extension for the SEN units has been issued to the Dept. for their consideration.

Contractor insurances are currently been assessed.

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.

Electrical Vehicles Charging Points



Louth County Council and other associate partners have completed preliminary assessments of sites to generate an approved site list 25 EV Rapid Chargers across the border counties. All Section 85 Agreements with other LAs are in place and Stage 1 AA screening reports completed. Louth are also in the process of paying for ESB connections are approved sites.

A Multidisciplinary Consultancy Services for the project has been appointed and commenced works on the tender package. Similarly Legal Services has also been appointed.

The provisional locations for the FASTER Project EV charging stations across Western Scotland, Northern Ireland the Republic of Ireland have been revealed. Following intensive site-assessment work over the past 18 months, HiTrans, University of Strathclyde, Louth County Council, Dundalk Institute of Technology and Ulster University have compiled a list of sites that support the requirements of the INTERREG VA funding as well as the anticipated needs of motorists in each of the regions. Sites have been chosen in part for their 24/7 accessibility. These sites were part of a longer list of options presented by a number of local authorities and council across each region.

It is important to note that as the project progresses and procurement exercises are completed across each region for the installation and deployment of the 50kw charging stations, some sites may change due to suitability at that point in time, headroom or budgetary pressures and constraints, therefore we are unable to guarantee locations at this point in time and this list should be treated purely as indicative.

The full list and maps across all regions can be view on the project website by clicking on the below link:

<https://www.fasterevcharge.com/provisional-locations-for-faster-project-charging-stations-revealed/>

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



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/>

Active Travel Investment Program

2023 Budget Allocation

The National Transport Authority (NTA) has not yet (30th Jan 2023) awarded Louth County

Council a budget allocation for 2023, but preliminary indications are it will be similar to 2022. The fourteen projects that commenced in 2021 will continue and an additional nine new projects that received funding in 2022 will also continue this year (2023).

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 evolution 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 14th October 2022, LCC were informed that we were successful with our two nominated projects for **Pathfinder** Status, namely...

- Dundalk Inner Relief Road Active Travel Corridor

- Drogheda Active Travel Enhancement (Rathmullan Rd & Marley's Lane)

An introductory meeting was held with the Sustainable Mobility Management and Implementation Division on the 8th November 2022 and design consultants are now appointed 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.

National Awareness Campaigns

The Marchathon Step Challenge will run from Wednesday March 1st to Friday March 31st.

Organisations are encouraged to register and sign up for an information webinar via this link <https://eu.surveymonkey.com/r/Marchathon23>

Marchathon is an opportunity for staff and students to get into the habit of walking more and connecting with their teammates. There will be many opportunities to engage staff and students during Marchathon and these will be explored during the information webinars, so the earlier you can get promoting the better!

Active Travel Projects

Project Name	Allocation 2022 (Please note LCC are still awaiting 2023 budget allocation)	Project Band (see foot note 1 below)	Current Phase (see foot note 2 below)	October 2022- Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions
Drogheda: St. Dominick's Bridge.	€2,163,347	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Works are 100% completed. The Bridge is open to pedestrian and cycle traffic. LCC have requested attendee / invite list for an official opening i.e. Minister of Transport and/or NTA personnel.	Construction completed in November 2022
Drogheda: R132, Bridge of Peace to Train Station (incorporating Marsh Road)	€170,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	LCC have received draft Gateway 2 Report from Design Consultant on the 13th October 2022. We have reviewed and returned our observations to the consultant and are awaiting the final version. The Gateway 2 Report was submitted to the NTA on the 2nd Dec 2022.	Proposed Part 8 displayed in Q2 2023
Ballymakenny Rd Drogheda	€380,432	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 6 - Construction	1. Road surfacing and line marking works completed adjacent to the school entrances. 2. Process of land acquisition as part of the CPO process of PANCR was completed in December 2022.	Construction completed
Drogheda: R166 Termonfeckin Rd, design.	€110,345	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	RPS have commenced design and are currently developing options. 1. GPS surveys have all been completed 2. Traffic surveys, junction modelling & Archaeologist assessment have all been completed in Nov 2022.	Proposed Part 8 displayed in Q2 2023
Drogheda: R168 Collon rd, Hill of Rath RAB and Rosehall RAB.	€282,132	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	RPS have commenced design and are currently developing options. 1. GPS surveys have all been completed 2. Traffic surveys, junction modelling & Archaeologist assessment have all been completed in Nov 2022.	Proposed Part 8 displayed in Q2 2023

Project Name	Allocation 2022 (Please note LCC are still awaiting 2023 budget allocation)	Project Band (see foot note 1 below)	Current Phase (see foot note 2 below)	October 2022- Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions
Drogheda: Rathmullan Road from Marley's Lane junction, design.	€144,201	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	RPS have commenced design and are currently developing options. 1. GPS surveys have all been completed 2. Traffic surveys, junction modelling & Archaeologist assessment have all been completed in Nov 2022. Further GPS surveys, Traffic surveys & junction modelling of Marley's Lane / Donore Road Junction will be undertaken in February 2023.	This has received Pathfinder status approval on the 14 th Oct 2022
Drogheda Dublin and North roads, design.	€263,323	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	RPS has commenced design and are currently developing options. As above	Proposed Part 8 displayed in Q2 2023
Drogheda: Boyne Business Park Link Road.	€250,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 5 - Detailed Design and Tender	Tenders Received and are currently being assessed. There is an issue with a third party land owner, which LCC are engaging with the Landowner to resolve.	
Dundalk: R132 Inner Relief Rd. (Pathfinder Project)	€250,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	Gateway 2 Status Report was submitted to the NTA on the 12th August 2022. Gateway 2 Report liaison meeting held with the NTA on 26 th October 2022. Awaiting NTA signed Project Control Document for Gateway 2 sign-off.	Proposed Part 8 displayed in Q3 2023
Dundalk: Dublin Rd Xerox Junction to Ladywell Bridge	€200,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	LCC have received comments on Phase 2 Report from the NTA. The design consultants are currently developing option proposals for this busy route	Proposed Part 8 displayed in Q2 2023
Dundalk: Ard Easmuinn Rd to Train Station / Friary School Dundalk & Dundalk Bus	€335,000	Band 3 >10mil	Phase 3 - Preliminary Design	Received Phase 2 Gateway status approval from the NTA in early August 2022. This projected quickly commenced Phase 3 Preliminary Design in August 2022. Phase 3 Preliminary Design is now completed and Gateway 3 report is expected to be submitted to the NTA on the 1 st Feb 2023.	Proposed Part 8 displayed in Q1 2023

Project Name	Allocation 2022 (Please note LCC are still awaiting 2023 budget allocation)	Project Band (see foot note 1 below)	Current Phase (see foot note 2 below)	October 2022- Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions
Station to Rail Station.					
Transport / Mobility Plans: Including Dundalk, Drogheda, Ardee, Clogherhead, Dunleer, Termonfeckin & Castlebellingham	€175,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	Online survey completed and synopsised. ATOS completed and GIS specialist has prepared new drawing and superimposed "Proposed Active Travel Links" as a layer to each of the ATOS Results maps.	N/A
Footpath Extensions / Links Package A: Termonfeckin & Cherrybrook.	€281,881	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 6 - Construction	Cherrybrook Complete It is anticipated that the Termonfeckin footpath will be delivered in 2023	N/A
Footpath Extensions / Links Package B: Knockbridge, Tullyallen & Dromiskin.	€177,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 6 - Construction	Knockbridge: Works completed. Tullyallen Works Completed Dromiskin: LCC are unable to reach agreement with landowner in order to commence scheme, hence the project is not progressing.	N/A

Project Name	Allocation 2022 (Please note LCC are still awaiting 2023 budget allocation)	Project Band (see foot note 1 below)	Current Phase (see foot note 2 below)	October 2022- Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions
Inner Relief Road, (Racecourse Rd to Tain Bridge), Dundalk	€112,500	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	Procurement competition for design consultants for Dundalk Active Travel Projects closed on the 30th September 2022. Tender Report completed and sent to the NTA for approval.	2024
Hoey's Lane, Dundalk	€100,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	As above	2024
Mill Street, Dundalk	€100,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	As above	2024
Hill Street Bridge to Train Station, Dundalk	€100,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	As above	2024
College Heights and Tom Bellew Ave. Dundalk	€150,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	As above	2024
R132 Dublin Road, (Rank Xerox Junction to Greengates)	€200,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	As above	2024
R178 Carrickmacross Road, Dundalk	€100,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	As above	2024

Project Name	Allocation 2022 (Please note LCC are still awaiting 2023 budget allocation)	Project Band (see foot note 1 below)	Current Phase (see foot note 2 below)	October 2022- Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions
Remedial Junction Works, Dundalk	€150,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	Works all completed in December 2022	N/A
Footpaths, Moneymore, Drogheda	€68,200	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 2 - Concept Proposals	Consultants are preparing options and preliminary design proposals.	N/A
Safe Routes to Schools	€0		Phase 2 - Concept Proposals	All four projects reviewed. St Louis, Dundalk - Meeting held with An Taisce and Principal. Action plan in draft format. Rehab, Mill Rd, Dundalk to be incorporated into LHCC/22/0003 above Drogheda x 2 - Preliminary Design / Concepts developed.	No part 8's but possible Section 38's

Place Making

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF)

Living in Carlingford Visiting Carlingford

The proposed planning approval route including environmental impacts is currently being considered. Design drawings and reports for planning stage are at the initial stages. Specifications for ground investigations are being prepared. Flood risk assessments are at the initial stages.

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. 3D views of Ardee Castle have been procured. The 3D views will form part of the Ministerial Consent application. 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 being finalised. The final concept for the scheme has been agreed and stakeholder engagement has continued with local community groups and businesses.

Ardee 2040

The Ardee 2040 proposals, as presented to the Ardee Municipal Meeting by the appointed design team consultants Turley Planning in December 2022, will be reviewed internally this month prior to the planning pack going forward for the consent process 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 Westgate project planning pack (comprising design proposal and statutory EIAR and AA Stage 2 Reports) for the consent process to An Bord Pleanála is being received this month from the appointed design team consultants Turley Planning by Louth County Council for internal review, <https://www.westgatevision.ie/>

St. Nicholas Quarter and Backlands Regeneration (Dundalk)

Tenders have been received for Phase 1 of the project, which involves the enhancement of the public realm. The quality assessment was completed in January 2023. The Urban Design Team is due to be appointed in February 2023.

Town Centre First - Dunleer Town Masterplan

The final phase of the public consultation stage is nearing completion. A small number of targeted stakeholder engagements are scheduled for early February. There was a strong response from the local community with over 220 submissions received to the initial public consultation event held at the Market House and online survey. These responses are currently being assessed with key themes/ideas being identified which will form the basis of the draft masterplan.

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

Groundworks for the new outdoor dining facility are complete on site. The new tensile fabric canopy was installed in December 2022 with the new resin bound gravel finish completed in January 2023.



Additional projects

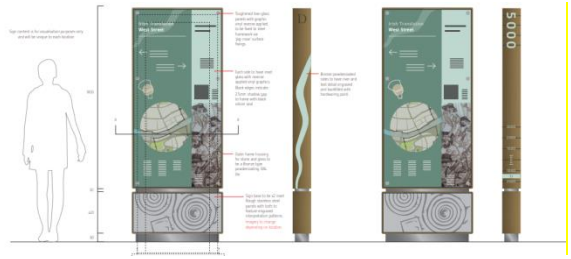
St Peter's Hill PEACE IV

GLAS Civil Engineering progressed the new meeting space at Peters Hill to substantial completion. The installation of the sculpture piece will take in the coming weeks.



Destination Town, Drogheda - LCC/ Failte Ireland

The Signage, Wayfinding and public realm works contract Letter of Acceptance has been issued. The manufacture of the bespoke signage and wayfinding features is commenced. The final content of historic and heritage information on the individual signs agreed.



St Laurence's Gate Plaza, Drogheda

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 ahead of Pre planning departmental consultation 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 February 2023.

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 five key areas of responsibility

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

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

Tá cuig eochairfhreagrachta ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

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

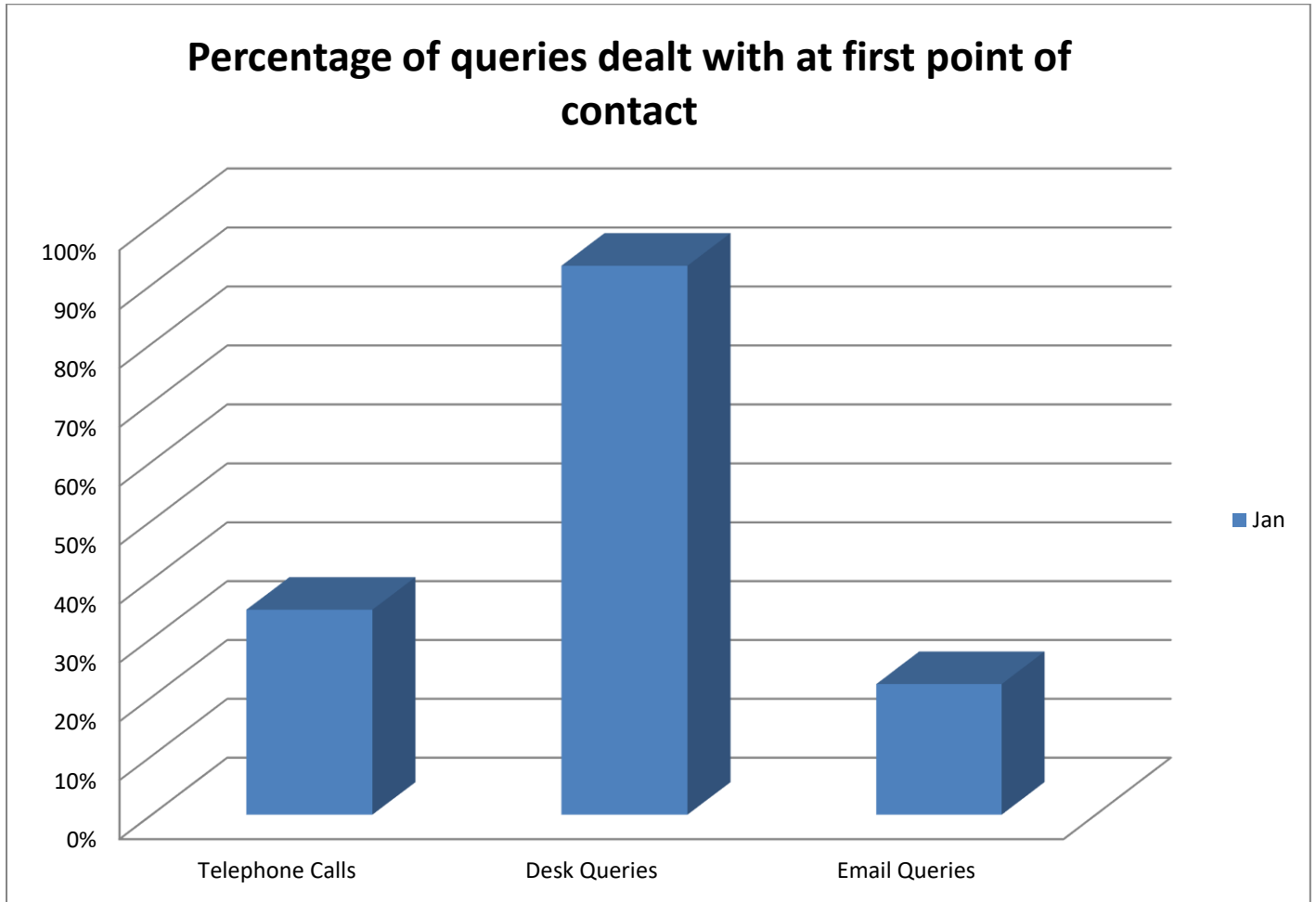


Joe McGuinness
Director / Stiúrthóir

Corporate Services

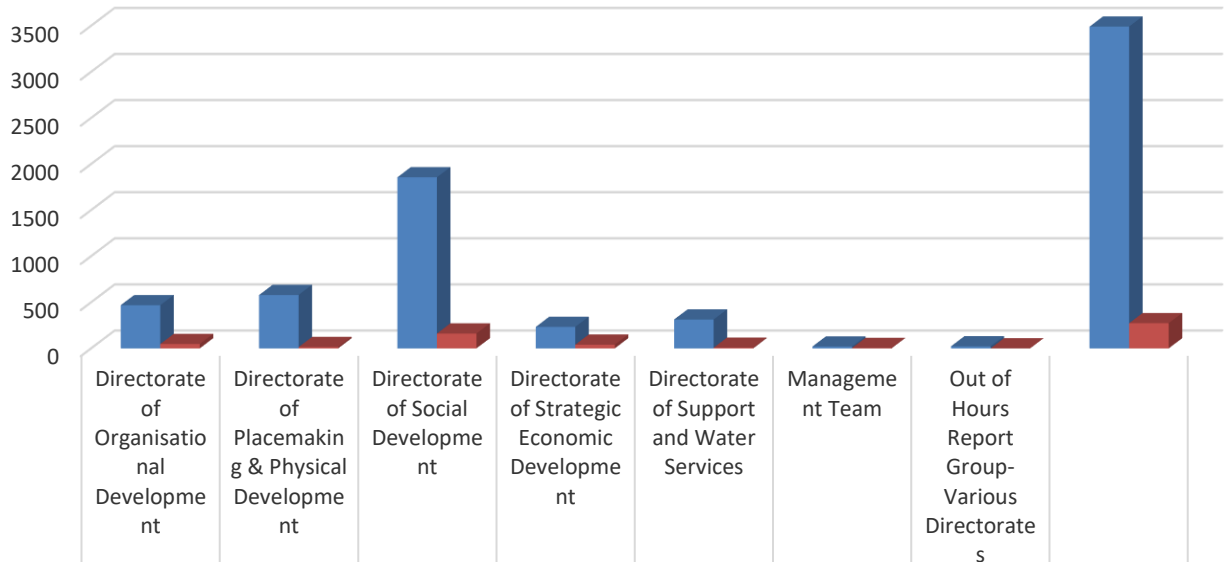
Customer Services Report January 2023

During the month of January 2023 Customer Services dealt with queries – 6978 calls, 1,401 e-mails and 4090 counter queries.



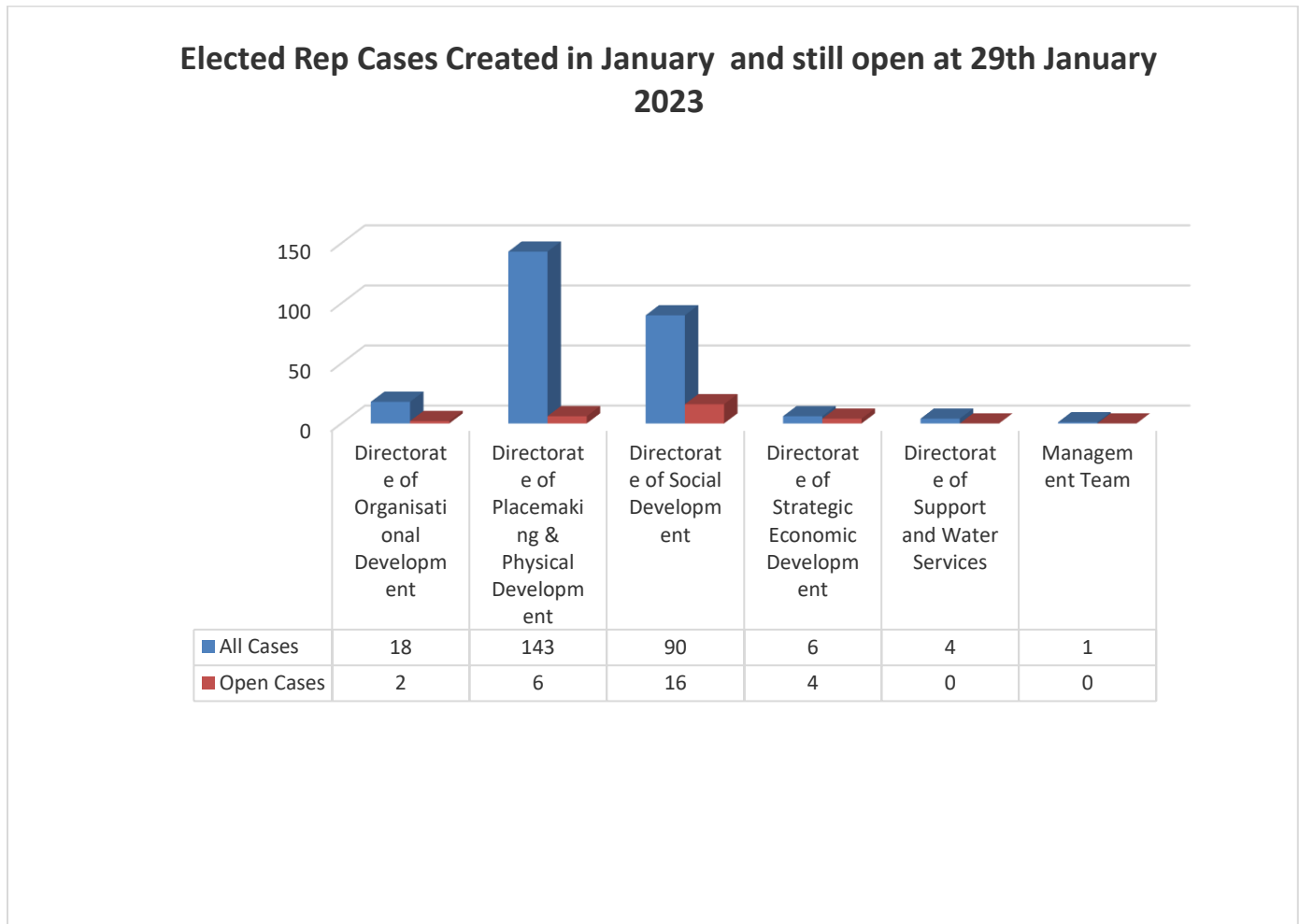
There were 3491 valid Sugar CRM cases recorded during January of which 273 (8%) remain unresolved, broken down by directorate as follows:

No. of Cases Created in January and still open at 29th of January 2023



■ All Cases	468	579	1856	233	313	20	22	3491
■ Open Cases	47	14	161	40	7	4	0	273

During January 2023 262 elected reps. cases were recorded on Sugar of which 28 (11%) remain unresolved broken down by Directorate as follows:



The table below illustrates activity in the redress area.

Requests Received	Same period 2022 (JAN 2022)	2023 Total	JAN 2023 (Month of JAN only)
Freedom of Information	9	11	11
Data Protection Request	1	0	0
Data Subject Access Request	1	1	1
Access to Information on Environment	1	1	1
Ombudsman Complaints	2	1	1
LCC Complaints Policy	3	5	5

Electoral Register

The Rolling Register of Electors came into force nearly 4 months ago and is being updated daily by the Franchise Section. There has been a steady flow of applications from electors who wish to update their details or want to register for the first time.

New applicants can Register online via www.checktheregister.ie and current electors can update their details using the same link.

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

Pride of Place

Louth County Council was well represented at the annual IPB Pride of Place awards ceremony held in Dublin on Saturday evening (21st January 2023), hosted by RTE's Marty Whelan.

The Reddoor project was honoured at the ceremony by receiving a runner up award in the "Community Wellbeing Initiative" category.

Creative Spark, Dundalk, were nominated by Louth County Council in the Creative Place Initiative Category and were in attendance, but unfortunately didn't make a podium finish, this year.

Congratulations to both groups on their achievements they did Louth proud in the competition.



The Reddoor Project representatives with Cathaoirleach Conor Keelan and DOS Joe Mc Guinness, at the Pride of Place awards.



Creative Spark representatives with Cathaoirleach Conor Keelan, at the Pride of Place awards.

Amenity Grants Scheme 2023

The Community support team are planning to announce the opening of amenity grant scheme for 2023, on Monday 6th February. Advertisements will be in all local papers over the next two weeks. Groups are being encouraged to apply through the online portal on Louth County Council's website which will go live on the 6th February.

Tidy Towns Project Scheme

The Tidy Town Project Scheme was launched on 4th January 2023. As part of the Council's commitment to strengthening participation in community led development, the Tidy Towns Project Scheme 2023 will focus on improving the marks awarded to participating groups in both the National Tidy Towns Competition and local competitions. The deadline for

applications is 30th January 2023. Applications are available online and can be found by [clicking here](#).

Community Well-Being Statement

Further to the Public Consultations / Workshops run across the 3 Municipal Districts of County Louth last November, Louth PPN has issued a draft of the Community Well-Being Statement online for comment. This document is available to view on Louth PPN’s website, Facebook page and Friday Communique for a period of 6 weeks. All comments received in this period will be reviewed and the document adjusted accordingly before being ratified at the next Plenary Meeting due to take place in March 2023 (exact date to be confirmed).

Louth PPN’s Secretariat held their first meeting of 2023 on Wednesday January 18th and agreed the following:
Louth PPN

Training

It is anticipated that Louth PPN will be offering training in Charities Governance Compliance and Writing Effective Funding Applications in the first quarter of 2023. Exact details of dates and times to be confirmed.

Thematic Projects

The themes of the PPN’s 2023 projects will be as follows:

- Youth
- Intercultural Sports
- Community Peer Mentoring
- Environmental

PPN Municipal District Meetings

The Municipal District meetings will be arranged to take place across the 3 Municipal Districts of County Louth in February / March.

LEADER

The LAG at its recent meeting approved funding support, in the amount of €75,855.00 for three LEADER projects, under both the Transitional LEADER Programme, 2021-2022 and EURI funding. These projects supported were in Ardee and County wide.

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

Promoter	Amount
Dundalk Gaels GAA Club:- Community Gym Capital Equipment Ref: 117023	€5,397.05
Drogheda & District Chamber CLG: Tele-Conference & Training Supports Upgrade Ref:116154	€6,690.84
Louth Local Development CLG:- Recycling Plastics in County Louth Ref: 113352	€7,470.00
Dundalk Youth Centre CLG:- Digital Arts Capital Project Ref: 117169	€10,452.23
Total	€30,010.12

Healthy Ireland Fund 2023-2025

The Healthy Ireland Public Consultation is now complete. Following a very successful online survey that got 436 responses there were 5 focus group sessions and an “Inspiration Station” Co-design workshop with key stakeholders.

The focus groups were representative of the entire population including input from groups representing ethnic minorities, older people, people with disabilities, young people and the general population. The information taken from the survey and focus groups were used at the “Inspiration Station” Co-design workshop, where stakeholders collaborated to identify the Health & Welfare priorities for the county. By engaging with people with “lived experience” and the local expertise the HIF has been developed from the outset with the needs of the people of Louth at the core.

At the January meeting, the LCDC approved in principle the Outcome Indicators, Project Outcomes and Project Outputs for the HIF 2023-2025 Local Strategy for Louth strategy for the next three years. The LCDC also approved the Terms of Reference of the Louth LCDC Health and Wellbeing Subgroup. The purpose of which is to oversee the coordination and monitor the implementation of the Healthy Ireland programme in County Louth. It also provides

a platform to inform and expand to include other future health related funding under the remit of Louth LCDC.

Louth County Council submitted the HIF 2023-2025 Local Strategy for Louth to Pobal on 27th January and is awaiting approval from Department of Health



Healthy Ireland Focus Groups

Comhairle na Nóg



Louth Comhairle na Nóg prepared their Annual Report for 2022 it outlined the many actions, events and activities CNN members undertook in 2022. This included 8 full Comhairle meetings, 38 subcommittee or local committee meetings. Over 20 presentations were made by Comhairle members to the Community SPC, local schools, PPN, National & local consultations and LCDC and CYPSC. Comhairle members were also consulted and actively participated in consultation on the

development of the new Louth Peace Plan, and Healthy Ireland Strategy. Louth Comhairle Na nÓg held their AGM in October 2022 where they identified key topic's to address during 2023 which include:

- Inclusion and Engagement
- Civic Leadership Cross Border
- Active and Healthy

Joint Policing Committee

The JPC Steering Committee met on Tuesday 17th January 2023 to agree a work plan for 2023. Steering Committee Members agreed the Community Safety Strategy will form basis of the JPC Work Programme for 2023. It was further agreed the Community Safety Strategy 2016-2022 will be extended for one further year to allow for adoption of new Local Economic & Community Plan LECP 2023 and to allow for new operational structures in An Garda Síochána. Draft dates were also agreed for JPC meeting schedules for 2023 and dates for public meetings in September were also agreed. A draft JPC Annual Report for 2022 was prepared and circulated to members for approval in principle prior to presentation to the JPC members for approval at next JPC meetings in March 2023.

Louth Meath Joint Migrant Integration Strategy/Forum

The Louth Meath Joint Migrant Integration Strategy Forum held a meeting on 19th January 2023 to discuss and agree the annual report. A draft copy of the annual report was presented to the members for approval and noting.

Forum members considered and agreed in principle to extend the lifespan of the current Louth Meath Joint Migrant Integration Strategy 2019-2022, with agreement that a review will be carried out at end of 12 months and a new strategy will be prepared thereafter. This proposal will be presented to the LCDC in each county for final approval at next LCDC meeting.

Older People's Council



The Older Peoples Council provides a platform for older people to actively participate in their community. Louth Older People's Council held a meeting on Tuesday 24th January 2023; this was the first OPC meeting of 2023. OPC members commenced a review of the Age Friendly Strategy 2016-2022 and provided timely updates on some of the actions contained within the strategy. Members also contributed ideas towards an action plan for 2023. The Age Friendly Programme Manager for Co Louth updated the OPC members on all Age Friendly activities, initiatives and events Age Friendly Louth participated in during 2022. The next OPC meeting is scheduled for 14th February 2023.



Louth Older People's Council Open day

Sports

Dundalk Sports Centre

Development Basketball

DSC Development Basketball, a collaboration project between the Sports Centre and the Dundalk Ravens got off to a great start in January, with many participants returning for the New Year. Development basketball training sessions run every

Saturday from 12pm to 3pm, costing €4. Throughout the year we will be hosting internal competitions for these participants after the success of running them last year.

Sister Sister Club

The 'Sister Sister Club' was developed to allow teenage girls who have dropped out of sport, a chance to socialise through the sport of Basketball.

For anyone interested, the club is held every Wednesday evening from 7pm to 9pm. It is for girls aged 13-17. Basketball experience not required.



Strength & Balance

Strength & Balance is designed to develop older adults muscle strength, bone density and overall balance. The participants begun the year with some fitness testing and will be working hard over the next 8 weeks before their re-tests. These classes are held every Wednesday morning from 11:30am - 12:30pm, with social tea/coffee afterwards.



Lourdes Stadium

Teenage After Schools Athletics

Lourdes Stadium 'After Schools Athletics' programme restarted for 2023 on Wednesday 18th January.

The programme, which takes place every Wednesday from 4:15pm to 5:30pm, is aimed at secondary school students aged 11-19 who have an interest in athletics or want to try different athletics disciplines.

Sessions are varied weekly and consist of javelin, shot put, long jump, high jump, 60m, 80m, 100m and relays.



Lourdes Stadium New Year Outdoor Bootcamp

Lourdes Stadium New Year Outdoor Bootcamp commenced on Tuesday 10th January 2023 and will run for 6 weeks every Tuesday and Thursday from 5pm to 6pm.

The bootcamp, which is tailored to all fitness levels, is a fun way to get back to fitness, make new friends and become gradually stronger and fitter. Sessions consist of both strength and cardio based exercises.

The qualified staff are supporting all individuals in reaching their desired goals whilst implementing plenty of fun exercises and team activities to ensure everyone enjoys working out this New Year!



Nordic Walking

After the completion of Boyne Nordic Walks 8 week Introduction to Nordic Walking programme in conjunction with Louth LSP before Christmas, the group has returned this New Year to continue their Nordic walks on the track.



Louth Local Sports Partnership

Coach & Volunteer Education Programmes 2023

Louth Local Sports Partnership will be facilitating the following Volunteer & Coach Education workshops in the coming months for volunteers and sports coaches in Louth

Safeguarding

Activity	Date & Time	Venue
Safeguarding Level 1	February 2 nd 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	March 9 th 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	March 23 rd 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	April 13 th 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	April 27 th 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	May 11 th 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	May 25 th 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	June 8 th 2023 6:30pm	Online

- The needs of Teenage Girls
- Retention Rates
- Positive Coaching Environments
- Communication & Relationships
- Maturation/Body Image & Sport

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



Disability Inclusion

Activity	Date & Time	Venue
Autism in Sport	February 22 nd 2023 6:30pm	Online
Autism in Sport	October 18 th 2023 6:30pm	Online

First Aid

Activity	Date & Time	Venue
First Aid Online	February 7 th 2023 6:30pm	Online

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

Coaching Teenage Girls

Louth Local Sports Partnership is delighted to facilitate the Sport Ireland Coaching Teenage Girls in Sport Workshop, designed specifically to support coaches of girls aged 12-17 years on March 8th 2023.

The workshop will provide a wealth of knowledge with realistic outcomes that promotes positive working relationships with young female player/athletes. The workshop will cover the following topics:

Ireland Lights Up – Community Walking Programmes

The GAA's popular 'Ireland Lights Up' initiative returned in January 2023 in partnership with RTE's Operation Transformation, Get Ireland Walking and the Irish Life "My Life" app.

'Ireland Lights Up' encourages GAA clubs across the 32 counties to turn on their floodlights and open their walking tracks so their community can come together to walk and talk in a safe environment during the dark winter evenings.

Participating clubs are asked to organise a community walk a minimum of one evening per week for seven weeks, starting from Wednesday, January 11th, and running to the conclusion of Operation Transformation on March 1st.

Louth Local Sports Partnership is supporting 9 GAA clubs in Louth to provide walking community programmes during Ireland Lights Up 2023.

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



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

Women’s Social Soccer

Louth LSP will be delivering a 7 Week Women's Social Soccer every Monday evening 7pm - 8pm from January 16th to February 27th 2023 at DKIT Sport Indoor pitches in Dundalk. This programme is for women who do not currently play competitive Soccer at club level, and for women who want to enjoy some exercise in a fun and relaxed environment.

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



One of the Men on the Move Groups



Swimmin’ Women Mid Life Programmes

Louth Local Sports Partnership is delighted to host two Swimmin’ Women programmes in the new Pop up Pool in Ardee launched in January.

The goal of this programme is to encourage and empower women to participate in aquatic sports, so they can experience how Swimming, Aqua Aerobics and other Aquatic activities can support females throughout the major milestones of life. The two programmes will run for 8 weeks while the pop up pool is in Ardee.

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

Men on the Move Programmes underway in Cooley & Termonfeckin

Louth Local Sports Partnership is delighted to be facilitating two new Men on the Move Programmes in Cooley Kickhams GAA Club, and St Feichins GAA Club Termonfeckin with 72 men taking part in the programmes.



New GAA All Stars programme launched in St Pats GAA Club Lordship

Louth Local Sports Partnership was delighted to support St Patricks GAA Club in Lordship to launch a GAA All-Stars programme in their club which got underway in January.

Their main objective of the programme is to provide children with disabilities with a suitable opportunity to take part in Gaelic Games, assisting them with ball skills, exercise, and of course, fun and enjoyment in a safe environment. Another important goal for the programme was to promote the ethos of inclusion in the community and the club. The children need 1:1 or 1:2 support. The group is child-centred with an emphasis on keeping the children and young people safe when they come to our sessions.

For more information on the course please contact Odhrán Doherty Louth Local Sports Partnership Odhran.Doherty@louthcoco.ie or call 042-9324318

Level 1 Sports Leader Award – April 2023

Louth Local Sports Partnership is delighted to announce that we will be hosting a Level 1 Sports Leaders Award in during the Easter Mid-Term break in Dundalk Sports Centre,

Date: Tuesday April 11th - Friday April 14th
Time: 9:30am - 4:00pm

The Level 1 Qualification in Sports Leadership provides the ideal starting point for participants aged between 13 and 17 years old who wish to develop their leadership skills in Sport and Physical Activity. Attendees will gain a Sport Ireland recognised qualification in Sports Leadership. For more information on the course please contact Odhrán Doherty Louth Local Sports Partnership Odhran.Doherty@louthcoco.ie or call 042-9324318



Waste Management, Environment & Climate Action

Waste Enforcement

Cases continue to proceed through the courts. There was one court case taken in Jan 2023 in Drogheda District Court following an offence under Section 34 of the Waste Management Act, 1996 regarding the illegal collection and transportation of

an ELV without a waste collection permit. A successful prosecution was achieved.

Complaint Type	Jan 2023	In 2023
Air & Noise	10	10
Farm	0	0
Waste/C&D	9	9
Water Quality	4	4

A total of 23 complaints were received in the month of January 2023. 14 complaints have been resolved and 9 remain open, pending further investigations.

Waste Facility Permits & Certificate of Registration

The Waste Management Act 1996 requires that, with a few exceptions, any person carrying out the recovery or disposal of waste shall hold a waste license, a waste facility permit or a certificate of registration, depending on the nature and extent of the activity. Waste licenses are issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) while waste facility permits, and certificates of registration are granted by the Local Authority for privately owned waste facilities.

Waste facility permits and certificates of registration are governed by the Waste Management (Facility Permit and Registration) Regulations 2007, as amended.

Examples of activities which require a waste facility permit or a certificate of registration include land reclamation/development, car dismantling, composting centers, recycling of construction & demolition waste and the reception and storage of waste.

1 new Waste Facility Permit application is currently being assessed in January 2023. Currently there are 25 Waste Facility Permits and 5 Certificates of Registration in operation in Louth. There is one (1) review application currently being determined.

Producer Responsibility Initiatives

Producer Responsibility Initiatives have been introduced based on the producer pays principle. Under these initiatives producers are given significant responsibilities.

Approved bodies have been set up to assist producers with compliance:



Louth County Council conduct PRI and levy compliance inspections with the following:

- Packaging Producers
- Tyres
- Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)
- Batteries
- End of Life Vehicles (ELVs)
- Food Waste
- Plastic Bay Levy
- Farm Plastic Levy

Amendments were made to the European Union (Packaging) Regulations 2014 which came into operation on 1st January 2023. The amended Regulations have removed the option for major packaging producers to self-comply with local authorities. From January 2023, major producers must now register with Repak.

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 31 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) were issued in the month of January. Of these FPNs, 6 were issued in the Dundalk urban area, 11 in Drogheda urban area and 14 in the remaining County wide area.

There were no FPNs issued for dog fouling in January.

There have been a total of 90 investigations carried out in the month of January.

Diesel Laundering Waste

3 IBC's were located in the month of January 2023 so far with an approximate cost €3,744.46.



IBC's located by Louth County Council

Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning

The Waste Management Act (Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning) Regulations 2009 allows farmers as a last resort, to dispose of green waste by burning i.e. untreated/uncontaminated wood, trees, tree trimmings, leaves and brush or other similar waste generated by agricultural practices. All exemptions to burn waste generated by Agricultural practices ceased on 1st January 2023. (This exemption has this week been re-instated for a further year.)

From January 2022 to end of December 2022 a total of 123 Waste Disposal by Burning applications were received.

Air / Water / Noise Pollution

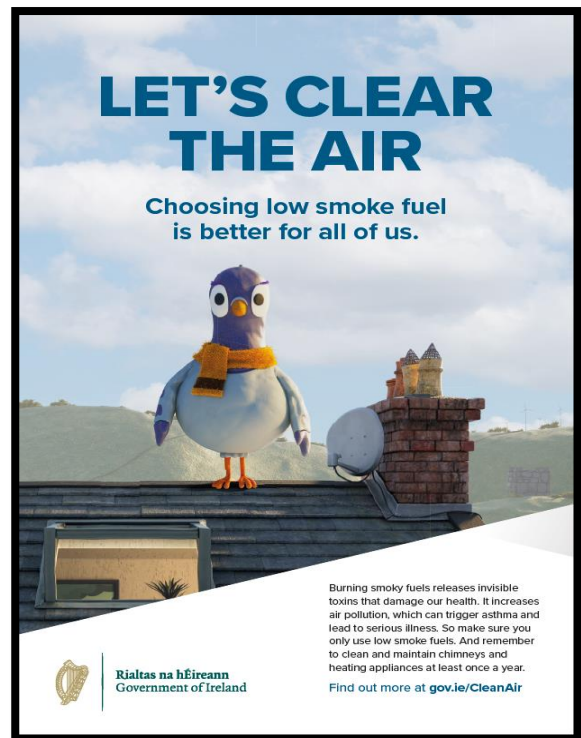
There were 4 water pollution complaints received in January, 3 of which have been closed.

Eight (8) Air Pollution complaints and two (2) Noise Pollution complaints were received during January 2023.

The Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, Eamon Ryan, signed the [new Solid Fuel Regulations for Ireland \(S.I. 529 of 2022\)](#), which commenced on 31 October 2022.

The primary focus of these regulations is on improving air quality and improving people's health chances and outcomes, by restricting the retail, online and commercial sale of smoky fuels, including smoky coal, turf and wet wood. These fuels are proven to be a major contributor to air pollution in Ireland.

FAQs about the new regulations for retailers/ producers / haulage companies/ households are located: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/e3da2-air-quality/>



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 30 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 inspection of these sites is currently being drafted up for inclusion in the RMCEI Inspection 2023.

This plan covers areas in waste, air, noise, water and litter. The Council is required to submit this plan by the end of February 2023 to the EPA and is also required to submit an annual statistical return by mid February 2023 to the EPA. This statistical return is currently being merged with the Department's

NEMIS system whereby returns will be made electronically.

Water Framework/River Basin Management Plans.

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. 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 waters. 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.

The Community Water Office has of the 1st of December launched the Community Water Development Fund 2023. Guidelines are available from the following websites. Any proposals for funding are advised to contact the local Community Water Officer at Monaghan County Council, Civic Offices, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan. Grants are available towards water, biodiversity and climate initiatives.

<https://lawaters.ie/community-water-development-fund-2023/>

<https://lawaters.ie/app/uploads/2022/11/DF-Guidelines-2023.pdf>

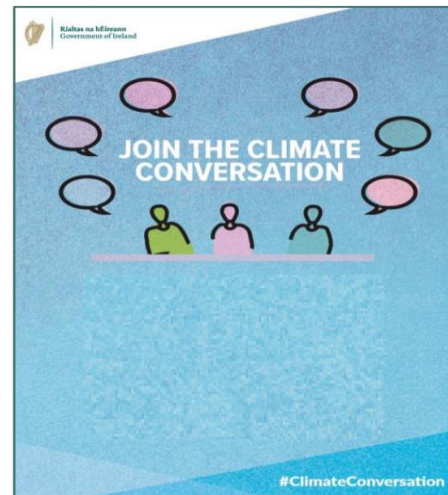


Louth County Council will be co-operating with LAWPRO and Dundalk Tidy Towns, who have been awarded a grant to progress an assessment of the Ramparts River in Dundalk employing a process-based approach which aims to reset / enhance the natural habitat template of a river, to achieve options which are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

Landfills

All monitoring and inspections required by the conditions of the three landfill licences are currently being drafted for inclusion in the 2023 RMCEI Inspection plan. Work is currently on-going 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. Work is on-going for three sites on the preparation and submission the following to the EPA- Landfill gas surveys, annual environmental reports, biannual report (2nd) 2022 and pollution release and transfer register.

Climate Action



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.

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).

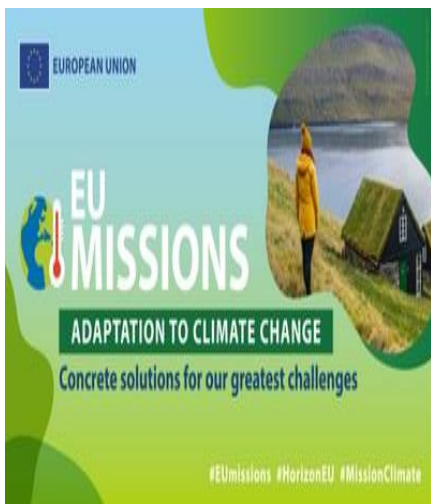
Draft Guidance documents were issued to help Local Authorities prepare for the development of Climate Action Plans which will incorporate all the relevant National Climate Action targets at a local level.

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.

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

The Climate coordinator attended the launch of the EU Mission Climate Adaptation, a community of practice event. This will allow Louth County Council and local community groups to access best practice examples of climate adaptation.



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.

After the success of the "African Bicycle Appeal", V & W officially launched the "Ukraine Appeal".

V&W have joined forces with a local bike repair business which fix and donate used bicycles for refugees from Ukraine, around the Dundalk area. V&W have allocated an area at the recycling centre to accept suitable bicycles from the public. They grade, sort and organise delivery of these bikes to the local bike repair business. Repaired bicycles are then distributed to Ukraine refugees in the area. Please contact V & W directly if you can provide bikes or if you are aware of potential beneficiaries.



Ukraine Appeal, V&W Centre Dundalk

Education and Awareness Initiatives

V & W continue with onsite School visits, linking in with their green school projects. They explain the process involved in Recycling and what becomes of the different materials. Each group is presented with a Certificate of Attendance.

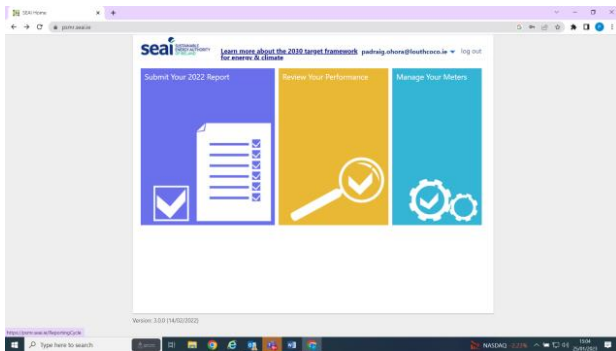
V & W's Education Officers continue to work with Tidy Towns groups and Community groups promoting the benefits of recycling

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance

The Council's energy efficiency at the end of 2021 was 47.84%, according to SEAI's Annual Report for Public Sector Bodies for 2021.

The energy reporting process for energy consumption for 2022 has now commenced. Council staff are updating the list of energy meters attributable to Council consumption for submission to SEAI by 27Jan. This is done by providing the current list of energy meters (attributable to Louth County Council energy consumption) to SEAI's Public Sector Monitoring and Reporting Digital Portal. The Council will then have a further 2 months to report other energy uses.



“Gap-To-Target” Plan to 2030

Council staff are progressing energy works as part of the Council's Energy Action Plan for 2022. Staff are also developing a 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 improvements will focus on our highest energy users, and be determined by

energy emission savings, and a project return period for capital investment.

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'. Louth County Council manages the project for the 'Dundalk Pilot'.

At present the project is approaching construction stage and it is now expected that the works will be constructed in Quarter 2 of 2023. Further liaison with landowners and tenants adjacent to the site is planned to update them on the next stage of the project and to minimise any disruption for tenants of adjacent properties who have right-of-access through the site.

Better Energy Communities Grant 2022 and 2023

Louth County Council has partnered with Dunleer Sustainable Energy Community for participation in their application for grant funding for energy projects in 2022. SEAI has now approved a grant offer of €66,030.20 for Council energy projects at the Council's Archives building and at Dundalk Fire Station. Those projects form part of the Council's Energy Action Plan for 2022 and must be completed and the grant claimed not later than November 2023 to meet the conditions of the grant offer.

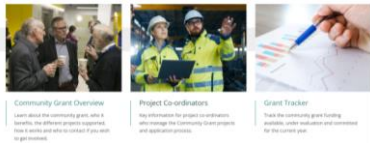


The Council is now also developing its Energy Action Plan for 2023 with a focus as indicated earlier.

The first stage in developing such action plan, is to identify suitable funding. SEAI's Community Energy Grant Programme offers public bodies 30% grant funding for qualifying sustainable energy projects. In order to be considered for such funding, building owners are required to undertake Energy Audits, approved by SEAI, for buildings proposed for energy

projects. We are now therefore, planning and progressing energy audits for 3 significant energy user buildings for consideration with energy audits already recently undertaken. Once the energy opportunities have been sufficiently identified for inclusion in the grant process, a decision will be made on which projects to progress, and the plan is to include those in the next grant application for community energy funding to SEAI.

The SEAI Community Grant supports energy efficiency community projects through capital funding, partnerships, and technical support.



Community Grant Overview
Learn about the community grant, what it covers, the different project types, how to apply and how to track your grant.

Project Co-ordinators
Supports the planning and delivery of the community grant projects and applications process.

Grant Tracker
Track the community grant funding available, under what grant funding for the community grant.

Veterinary Services

Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI)

As of 31st January 2023, Louth County Council Veterinary Section, under a Service Level Agreement with the FSAI, enforces food safety standards on one abattoir and fourteen meat processing plants under its supervision in the County. Louth County Council has carried out 13 inspections in the year to date.

The veterinary team participated in an episode of RTE's 'Ear to the Ground', filmed at Commins' abattoir in Ardee.

Control of Dogs

Control of Dogs Act 1986

Dogs impounded January 2023	
Total dogs impounded	35
Seized under Section 16	0
Strays	13
Surrendered by owners	22
No dogs reclaimed by owners	3
No of dogs rehomed direct	13
No of dogs rehomed to welfare groups	14
No of dogs on hand in Pound at 31/01/2023	9

Dog Licences January 2023

No of Licences sold	674
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Licence Checks:

House calls	194
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Section 16 Notices issued (request to produce licence within 10 days)	165
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Fixed Penalty Notices	11
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Control of Horses

Control of Horses Act 1996

Control of Horses Bye-Laws 2003

Horses impounded January 2023

Horses seized, and reason for seizure:	0
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Horses reclaimed by owner	0
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Horses rehomed	0
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Horses disposed of	0
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No of horses on hand in Pound on 31/01/2023	0
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Dog Breeding Establishments

Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010

Dog Breeding Establishments(DBEs) January 2023

Total no of registered DBE's in Louth (as at 31/01/2023)	6
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Hunt	2
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Boarding Kennels	2
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Training Kennels	1
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Welfare	1
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Dogs impounded during January 2023

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 January – 27th January 2023 can be summarised as follows:

Presentations of January 2023	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda MD	Total
Number of Person who presented as Homeless	7	127	112	246
Offered advice, support (including fast tracking H.A. for Rent Supplement eligibility)	6	85	86	177
Placed in Temporary Emergency Accommodation	1	30	20	51
Refused Offer of Temporary Emergency Accommodation	0	10	6	16
Not eligible from outside county or non HRC	0	2	0	2

The tables below reflects details for Louth for the period 1st January – 27th January 2023. This figure shows the number of adults accessing emergency accommodation during the above period.

Table 1: Gender

Gender	Total
Male	99
Female	54
Total	153

Table 2: Age Groups

Age Group	Total
18-24	31
25-44	83
45-64	32
65+	7
Total	153

Table 3: Accommodation Type

Accommodation Type	Total
Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA)	61
Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)	110
Temporary Emergency Accommodation (low support)(TEA)	0
Unique Total (note, clients may have accessed multiple accommodation types during the week)	171
Minus people accessing multiple accommodation types during the period	18
Total unique individuals	153

Table 4: North East Region by County

County	Total
County Louth	153
County Monaghan	8
County Cavan	18
Total	179

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	14	22
Total	13	14	22
Couples with dependent children in Louth	14	33	35
Total	14	33	35

Housing First

	County Louth
Number of tenancies established	33
Number of individuals currently in tenancy	27

Housing Assistance Payment

The total number of applications in HAP is 3103

Ardee Municipal District	Drogheda Borough District	Dundalk Municipal District	Total
306	1168	1629	3103

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.

Two collaboration meetings with have been held with the HSE; Adult Mental Health Services and Adult Disability Services, to facilitate provision of housing and related supports to disabled people. Both agencies find the meetings beneficial

2023 Housing Allocations up to 27th January, 2023

District	LA	LA Refusal	AHB	AHB Refusal
Ardee	1	2	0	0
Drogheda	1	4	1	0
Dundalk	4	1	5	1
Total	6	7	6	1

Transfers

District	Number
Ardee	0
Drogheda	0
Dundalk	0
Total	0

Housing List

January 2023	Ardee	Drogheda	Dundalk	Total
Housing List	367	558	756	1681
HAP Transfer List	306	1168	1629	3103
Total Housing List	673	1726	2385	4784

There are a total of **272** applications on the transfer list (Non HAP) within Social Housing including 38 applications from the Approved Housing Bodies.

Rent Management

The total number currently paying rent by Household Budget is 931.

Current Rents Arrears as at 27th January 2023	No of Accounts	Value
Rents between 4-6 weeks old	198	€78,776
Rents between 7-12 weeks old	170	€112,409
Rents greater than 12 weeks old	762	€2,691,958
TOTAL	1130	€2,883,143

Vacant Properties

Vacant Properties on 27 th January 2023	Total
Ardee Municipal District	7
Dundalk Municipal District	17
Drogheda Municipal Borough District	33
Subtotal (re-lets) Vacant Properties	57
Vacant Properties (CPO units not yet ready for occupation) (All County)	4
Total Number of Properties (Relets & CPO)	61

Currently 16 number social units being used as temporary accommodation for homeless or emergency, and are not included in the above figures.

Maintenance Calls

Maintenance	1 st -27 th Jan 2023	Total (YTD)
No. of Maintenance Requests Received	761	761
No. of Maintenance Requests Completed	629	629
No. of Maintenance Requests in Progress	96	N/A
No. of Maintenance Requests Refused	36	36

Private Rental Inspections

	1 st - 27 th Jan 2023	Year to Date
Properties inspected monthly	58	
Advisory Letters issued	43	
Improvement Notices issued	0	
Private Inspections	1	
HAP Inspections	49	
RAS Inspections	0	
AHB Inspections	7	
Private Re-Inspections	0	
HAP Re-Inspections	1	
RAS Re-Inspections	0	
AHB Re-Inspections	0	
Inspections from Complaints	0	
Virtual Re-Inspections	0	
Properties made Compliant	0	

Grant Assistance for 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.

The Council is currently reviewing all private house adaptation grant applications and waiting for confirmation from the Department on Louth County Council's 2023 funding allocation.

Private House Grants to 1st January to 27th January, 2023

Status	HOP	HAG	MAG	Total
Applications completed 2022	175	42	17	234
Applications received 1/01/2023 to 27/01/2023	14	19	3	36



New Windows and Door funded by a housing adaptation grant in 2022

Tenancy Engagement

1 st January, 2023 to 27 th January, 2023	Drogheda BD	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Monthly Total
Tenancy Inspections Completed	4	0	13	17
Pre tenancy Training	2	3	7	12
Tenancy Investigations Visits	26	2	30	58
Tenancy Investigations Remote	1	0	4	5

Anti Social Behaviour

1 st January to 27 th January, 2023	Drogheda BD	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Monthly Total
ASB Cases received	8	2	3	13
ASB Ongoing	4	1	3	8
ASB Completed	4	1	0	5

Breach of Tenancy Letters

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

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 are awaiting Department approval to purchase properties for applicants who are homeless and disabled. In January, Louth County Council acquired 2 properties in addition to the purchase of 3 part v units.



Former long term leasing unit which was acquired in 2023 at Ath Leathan, Dundalk

Affordable Housing

Louth County Council adopted a Scheme of Priority for Affordable Dwelling Purchase Arrangements on 19th September, 2022.

Notwithstanding the eligibility criteria that is set down by regulations for Affordable Housing schemes the Council wishes to establish the level of interest for affordable housing in County Louth.

Louth County Council are conducting an online survey to determine the level of interest in Affordable Housing in County Louth – this will help us to establish the need in Louth and plan the delivery of affordable housing in the County.

Availability of any affordable housing schemes progressed by the Council in the future will be advertised separately, and a formal application process will apply with the legislation in place at that time. The survey is now available on Louth County Council's website and will be open until 10th February 2023. The link for the survey is:

<https://consult.louthcoco.ie/en/content/louth-county-council%E2%80%99s-scheme-priority-affordable-dwelling-purchase-arrangements-survey>

Home Loans

Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan and Local Authority Home Loan Allocation 2022
Break down of Funding

2022 Budget Allocation	€8,920,000
RHIL / LAHL Approvals at 31/12/2022	€7,594,680

Breakdown of RIHL/ LAHL applications processed at 31st December, 2022.	
Total number of Applications at 31/12/2022	100
Invalid/Returned	14
Approved	40
Declined	41
For review	3
Outstanding – waiting on further information	2

The unit is a 3-bedroom detached bungalow. This house is scheduled to be completed towards the end of 2023.



Site clearance works for new housing unit - School Lane, Dunleer

Capital Housing Delivery

New Housing Scheme, School Lane, Dunleer, Co. Louth

Louth County Council Housing Capital Section recently commenced construction of 1 social housing unit at School Lane, Dunleer, Co. Louth.

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 4 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 4 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. * 3 bed
Gort Uaine, Clogherhead - Infill	1/1	1	On-site	29/09/2023	1no. * 4 bed
School Lane, Dunleer - Infill	1/1	1	On-site	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	Completed	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	Completed	28/11/2022	1no. * 3 bed, 2no. * 2 bed.
Cuirt Na Gcloch, Stoneylane, Ardee	1/1	14	Completed	29/11/2022	14no. * 2 bed
Park Green, Coulter Place, Dundalk	1/1	24	Completed	02/12/2022	24no. * 3 bed.
Rath Na Gloine, Dromiskin	1/1	1	Completed	09/12/2022	1no. * 3 bed

Balfeddock Manor, Termonfeckin	1/1	8	Completed	25/11/2022	1no. * 3 bed, 7no. * 2 bed.
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	1/5	1	Completed	25/11/2022	1no. * 3 bed
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	2/5	2	Completed	25/11/2022	2no. * 2 bed
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	2/5	1	On-site	31/03/2023	1no. * 2 bed
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	3/5	1	On-site	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
Bellewsbridge Dundalk, Circle Housing	1	5	completed	31/12/2022	3no. 1bed apartment, 2no* 2 bed apartment
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 semi detached & 15no.*3 bed terraced

Newtown Marsh Drogheda Respond Housing	View, Road,	2/3	46	On site	30/9/2023	13no.*2 bed terraced, 18no.*3 bed semi detached & 15no.*3 bed terraced
Newtown Marsh Drogheda Respond Housing	View, Road,	3/3	47	On site	31/12/2023	2no.*4 bed detached, 11no.*2 bed terraced, 1no.*3 bed detached, 22no.*3 bed semi detached & 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 Dundalk Respond Housing	Road,	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 Dundalk Cluid Housing	Roden,	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 Drogheda Cluid Housing	Road	1/1	66	On site	30/9/2023	4 no.*1 bed apt, 54no.*2 bed apt & 8 no.*3 bed apt
Duiche Dundalk Cluid Housing	Roden,	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 Dundalk Respond Housing	Road,	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
Coulter Park, Dundalk,	Tuath	10	Stage 3 Approved	03/03/2024	5no.* 2 Bed house, 1no.* 2 Bed ambulant unit, 1no.* 4 Bed Communal unit
Riverwell Close, Dundalk, Co Louth	Respond	1	On hold	30/07/2024	1no.* 4 Bed House
10-16 The Alleys, St Peters Place, Drogheda	P McVerry	14	Stage 2 Approved	30/01/2024	14no.*Studio apartments
Barrack Street, Dundalk, Co Louth	Dublin Simon	30	Stage 2 Approved	15/01/2025	19no.*1 Bed apartments 3no. *accessible units 8no. *Studio apartments
St John's Home, Peters Street, Drogheda	North & East	4	Stage 3 Approved	30/01/2024	4no. *1 Bed units
Kincora House, 1-2 Seatown	P McVerry	8	Stage 1 approved	30/01/2024	8no.* 1 Bed apartments
Highfield, Newry Road, Dundalk, Co Louth	Womens Aid Dundalk	12	Stage 1 approved	02/06/2024	5no.* 1 bed apartments 7no.* 2 bed apartments
3 Paradise Place	P McVerry	4	Stage 1 approved	01/01/2024	4no.*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 has now been approved by the LGMA Board and issued out while IT is waiting approval and adoption. To date, Health & Safety, Planning & Development, Housing, Procurement, Finance, HR, Water, Transport and Infrastructure, Corporate, Environment 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. Work is continuing to take place in reviewing and appraising records for retention as archives or for destruction.

Mother and Baby Institutions Payment Scheme

This Scheme is operated by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth and is part of the Government's Action Plan for survivors and former residents. The scheme is due to open in June 2023 and central to it is a National Centre for Research and Remembrance (NCRR) which will form part of the National Archives. It will

be a centre with a space for survivors to research. The Co Archivist completed an audit for the National Archives' NCRR Archives sub-group in October and continues to receive updates from the sub-group and provide feedback as requested.

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.

Research Enquiries

The Archivist continues to assist researchers with various enquiries including those from private individuals, academics, professionals and state agencies. The Archivist also receives many internal enquiries from staff in various sections and has been busy assisting in looking for records and information.

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.

Libraries

Climate Change Adaption Strategy 2019-2024

A Climate Action champion for each library branch has been appointed.

My Open Library Service



The My Open Library service has seen an incredible uptake since its reintroduction following the pandemic in Ardee and its launch in Drogheda late last year.

The My Open Library service is available from 8am – 10pm, 7 days per week, 365 days a year and provides access to the library outside of staffed hours for browsing, borrowing, studying, using IT equipment or having a meeting.

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

Creative Ireland



Fighting Words

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

Participants from Boomerang, Southside Project and Boyne Youth Project are creating a visual

aspect to the stories they produced in Phase 1, with great engagement from all of the groups.

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

Women In Wellness Programme

Louth Library Service is delighted to receive a Creative Ireland Excellence Grant for a 6 week workshop called Women In Wellness.

Drogheda Library will host this program with facilitator Tracey O' Brien. This program will start on Friday the 3rd February and finish Friday 10th March.

Participants will be given the tools to provide a solid base for healing resulting from stress and trauma and promote a way to live in wellness in the midst of the challenges of life.

For more information and to book your place please contact Drogheda Library on 041-9876163.

Library Housebound Service

An advertisement for the Housebound Book Delivery Service. The top half has an orange background with the title "Housebound Book Delivery Service" in white. Below the title is a photograph of several books. To the right of the books, white text reads: "Louth Library Service is currently offering a Housebound book delivery service for those who require it". The bottom half of the advertisement has a dark blue background. It contains white text: "Anyone interested in having books delivered to their door on a long loan basis can contact their local branch". Below this is a list of library branches and their phone numbers: "Ardee Library 041-6859023", "Dundalk Library 042-9353190", "Dunleer Library 041-8859016", "Drogheda Library 041-9876162", and "Carlingford Library 042-9324113". At the bottom, it says: "A collection of books will be put together based on your reading interests and will be delivered safely to your door". There are also small logos for Creative Ireland and Louth Library Service at the bottom right.

The Library service continues to offer the Housebound delivery service to our elderly or vulnerable customers with 43 deliveries made during January.

eServices



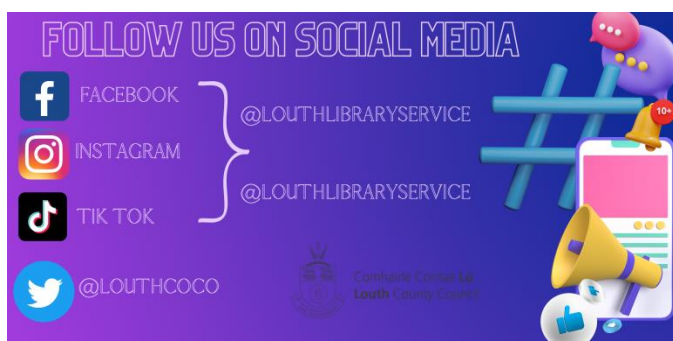
The wide range of services include:
Borrow Box for free eBooks & eAudiobooks, Press Reader offers for newspapers & Libby for magazines.
Transparent Language Online with over 100 languages to choose from.
Universal Class for various courses.

eServices information sessions are held every month in:
Dundalk library on the last Friday of every month from 11am - 12pm,

Drogheda Library on the last Thursday of every month from 2.30pm-3.30pm

Ardee Library on the last Friday of every month 10.30am-11.30am

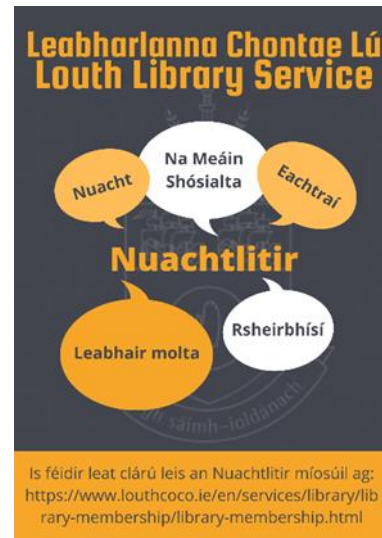
For more information on the above please email Libraryhelpdesk@louthcoco.ie or the library website <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/online-services/>



For all events and bookings please follow us on Facebook & Instagram by searching Louth Library

Service. You will also find our events on Twitter under Louth County Council.
Follow us on Tik Tok for all content regarding our collection and tutorials on how to access Borrow Box or the online catalogue.

Library Newsletter



Sign up here to receive our monthly newsletter:
<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 Primary Schools Service

The schools mobile is continuing to visit schools. Class sets/novels are available to borrow throughout the school year. Teachers can book a visit to the HQ Store in Dundalk from 3:30pm – 5pm Tuesday – Friday to view our full schools collection.
For more information contact Orla on orla.muckian@louthcoco.ie

Louth Library Secondary Schools Service

St. Oliver's Community College in Drogheda requested a repeat of last year's literacy support for their paired reading programme from Louth Library Service. Library staff visited two JCSP classes and

work-shopped reading for pleasure, providing new engaging resources for the students to choose from. A total of 19 transition year students and 30 first year students took part.

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.

Quiet Time



Quiet time in Drogheda and Dundalk Libraries Monday 6pm – 7pm, Ardee Library Saturday 10am – 11am



Sensory area with dimmed lights



Healthy Ireland at your Library

Healthy Ireland Events

Online talk with Dr Colman Noctor & Dr Aileen McGloin

Want to make
healthy changes
this year?



START talk from **safefood** in partnership with 

Sign up for a free talk with experts Dr Colman Noctor and Dr Aileen McGloin about how a small daily change can start families on the way to a healthier life

Date: 07 February 2023

Venue: Tallaght Library, Library Square, Tallaght, Dublin, D24A3EX or online on Zoom

Time: 7:00pm to 8:00pm

The online stream will begin at 7:00pm on Zoom. Those joining in-person are welcome to join us from 6.30pm for light refreshments.

You will have the option to join us in-person or online on Zoom when registering. In person places are limited, we encourage you to register early to avoid disappointment.



Scan the QR code & register now!

Or visit www.safefood.net/events

E-mail: events@safefood.net

Call: (ROI) 0818 40 4567 (NI) 0800 085 1683

This free talk in association with Safe Food will be live streamed from Tallaght Library on Tuesday 07th February at 7pm. To register scan the QR Code or Email: events@safefood.net Telephone 0818404567

Mindful Colouring Group for Adults

Wednesday at 3pm in Dundalk Library throughout the month of February. Colouring is a simple activity that has a myriad of benefits – relaxation, clarity, focus etc. No booking required.



Ireland Reads



Ireland Reads is a campaign to get the whole country reading this month in the lead up to a national day of reading on Saturday, February 25th

Ireland Reads is a Healthy Ireland initiative and aims to celebrate reading and all the benefits it can have for wellbeing and enjoyment.

Louth library service is delighted to announce our reading ambassadors for Ireland Reads 2023. Recent 'Page Turners' featured author, Florence Gillan will meet with library staff she taught in a Dundalk Secondary School.

Louth journalist and author of *Emerald Exiles*; *How the Irish Made Their Mark on World Football*, Barry Landy will be telling us all about his love of reading, and local authors Nicola Pierce and Nicola Cassidy return for the 3rd year of Ireland Reads.

We are urging people to visit www.IrelandReads.ie to pledge a reading time, there are more than 1,500 recommendations from librarians all around the country.

Do visit your local library branch in Dundalk, Drogheda, Ardee, Dunleer & Carlingford throughout

February but more importantly on Ireland Reads Day February 25th.

You can get involved by pledging to 'squeeze in a read' on Ireland Reads Day, Saturday, February 25th and don't forget to follow online using the following #IrelandReads & #SqueezeInARead.

To celebrate Ireland Reads Day author and illustrator Alan Nolan will visit Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries for a fun and interactive workshop. The workshops are suitable for children age 8-12yrs and booking is essential. To book your place contact Dundalk Library on 041 9353190 and Drogheda Library on 041 9876162.

Alan is the author and illustrator of *Fintan's Fifteen*, *Conor's Caveman* and the *Sam Hannigan* series, and he is the illustrator of the popular *Gordon's Game* books written by Gordon D'Arcy and Paul Howard, as well as *Animal Crackers* by Sarah Webb. His new historical novel, *Molly Malone and Bram Stoker in The Sackville Street Caper*, is out now from The O'Brien Press.



Author Alan Nolan

Lets Get Louth

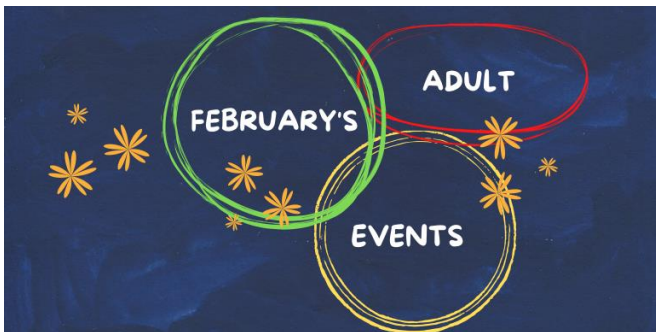


Louth library service is delighted to announce two episodes on the Louth Library Service Podcast; Let's Get Louth for Ireland Reads 2023.

Join us during February to listen to library staff chat about the Ireland reads campaign, the many ways you can take part in the campaign, and how your local library branch can help you get reading.

During the two episodes staff will chat about their love of reading and what books they have read and would recommend. We chat about the benefits of reading for mental health and wellbeing, and the different genres to choose in the library, be it adult fiction, graphic novels or nonfiction such as gardening or memories. To access the podcast, the link is available here; <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/ireland-reads/>

Adult Events



Dundalk Library

Poetry Reading Group

Do you have an interest in reading, listening to, or discussing poetry? Come along to our new poetry

reading group and meet some fellow poetry enthusiasts on Friday 17th February at 11am. Everyone welcome.

Family Events



Dundalk Library

- Baby Book Club Ireland Reads Special Wednesday 08th February at 10.30am.
- Storytime for invited school audience Friday 10th February at 10am.
- Crafts with Amy Saturday 11th February at 3pm.
- Children's Storytime Saturday 18th February at 11am.
- Storytime for invited school audience Friday 24th February at 10am.
- Alan Nolan's Uncanny Ireland! Fun interactive Workshop for children aged 8-12yrs Saturday 25th February at 11am. Booking is required: please contact Dundalk Library on 042 9353190

Drogheda Library

- LGBTQ+ Coffee & Chat Wednesday 08th February from 6pm-7.30pm for a cuppa, a chat and some LGBTQ+ book recommendations for all ages. All are welcome, no booking required.
- Crafts with Eileen & Eilish on Saturday 11th February from 11:30-12:30. Booking is required; please contact Drogheda Library 041 9876162.
- Storytime with Annemarie on Saturday 18th February at 11:30am. All welcome, no booking required.
- Alan Nolan's Uncanny Ireland! Fun interactive Workshop for children aged 8-12yrs, Saturday 25th February at 3pm.

Booking is required: please contact Drogheda Library on 041 9876162

Carlingford Library

- Children's Storytime with John Saturday 25th February at 11am

Dunleer Library

- Storytime with Amy Saturday 25th February at 11am

Parent & Toddler Mornings



Toddler Morning in Drogheda Library

- 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 Library and the first Tuesday of each month in Drogheda Library.



Baby Book Club in Dundalk 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 9353190

Other Events

Drogheda Library 041 9876162 Age Action Computer Classes

A five week course will commence on Friday 10th February at 10.30am in Drogheda Library.

The course offers free one-to-one tuition for people over the age of 55 who have little or no computer experience

To book email gettingstarted@ageaction.ie

Free Courses with The Innovation Recovery Project



Course Timetable (Jan/Feb/Mar 2023)

Drogheda Area			
Course	Day	Date	Time
Getting a Good Night's Sleep	Wednesday	25 th Jan 2023	10:30am – 12:30pm
Introduction to the Menopause	Wednesday	15 th Feb 2023	10:30am – 12:30pm
Top Tips for Anxiety	Wednesday	22 nd Feb 2023	10:30am – 12:30pm
Men's Health & Wellbeing	Wednesday	1 st Mar 2023	10:30am – 12:30pm
Practicing Self-Care	Wednesday	8 th Mar 2023	10:30am – 12:30pm

Venue: Drogheda Library
Stockwell Lane, Drogheda, Co. Louth

Interested in a course? Get in touch and register today:

NI: (048) 3025 7012

RO: 086 031 8919

recoverycollege.east@southerntrust.hscni.net

The Innovation Recovery Project aims to build mental health resilience among our population within the cross border region, through provision of education and training. The ethos of recovery education is based on the principles of optimism, hope, opportunity and control, aiming to change the narrative of our mental health to one of strength and resilience.

All courses are co-designed and co-delivered by people with lived experience of mental health difficulties alongside those with professional experience and knowledge, aiming to helping people to tap into their own personal resilience and resourcefulness, become experts in their own self-care and work toward achieving their goals and ambitions.

A number of free courses will be delivered by the Innovation Recovery Project throughout the months of February and March in Drogheda Library beginning on Wednesday 15th February.

To register
telephone: 086 031 8919 or email
recoverycollege.east@southerntrust.hscni.net

Drogheda Women's Refuge Information Stand

Drogheda Women's Refuge Outreach Service will have an information stand in Drogheda Library on Wednesday 22nd February from 10.30am-1pm. The service offers practical and emotional support and options to those experiencing domestic violence

Ardee Library 041 6859023 Cultúr Drop In Clinic

Deirdre from Cultúr will be hosting a drop in clinic in Ardee Library for those seeking to improve their job seeking confidence and skills, advising on CV and interview preparation.

Cultúr is a community working with ethnic minorities including immigrants, migrant workers, asylum seekers and refugees. Deirdre will launch this information stand 10am Thursday 2nd February and will be in the library the first Thursday of every month going forward.

Audiobook Club

The Ardee library audiobook club has its first meeting on Thursday 16th February at 6pm, and every third Thursday of the month at 6pm going forward. All are welcome to join.

'Vere Foster' Writers Group

Every Friday from 10.30am-12.30pm. All writing abilities welcome.

English Language Learning

Conversational English classes for migrants and refugees continues every Tuesday between 6pm and 8pm. Classes are organised by Cultúr Migrants Centre. Please contact Angel at angel@cultur.ie or 0873315169 for further information.

Migrant Women's Group Meetings

A women's group for migrant and refugee women meets every Tuesday morning from 11am to 1pm in Ardee Library. 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

Every Thursday at 2:30pm
For more information contact Ardee Library (041) 685 9023
No booking required, just pop along.

Arts

Brigid of Faughart Festival 2023

The first bank holiday in honour of St Brigid takes place on 6th February 2023. The arts office provided support to the Brigid of Faughart festival for their 2023 program of events. The local committee facilitated a varied and extensive program to celebrate the first in-person festival in 3 years. Alongside these events the arts office and library service have also engaged the Go Fly Your Kite team to facilitate St. Brigid themed workshops on 10th February. The arts office also supported the

Creative Spark/AAEX collaboration on 30th January which included an outdoor exhibition and a performance and display of a Brigid Cloak that was worked on with Gaelscoil Dun Dealgan.



Arts Officer Moya Rodgers along with the organising committee of the Brigid of Faughart 2023 festival.

Brigid1500

As part of the councils Brigid1500 program to commemorate the anniversary of her passing in 2024, Louth County Council announced the competition on E-Tenders for our Artist in the Community project which will be a wonderful opportunity for a local artist collective to work within the community throughout the next 12 months to create a series of artistic pieces for exhibition in 2024. A St.Brigid grant scheme is also set to be announced in February with grants available for community groups, commercial business and artists to create events and initiatives specifically around the Brigid1500 theme throughout the year.

Creative Ireland

Following the announcement of the extension of the Creative Ireland programme until 2027, we have been putting the finishing touches to the new Louth Culture and Creativity Strategy. All 31 local authority strategies will be launched together on the 23rd of February at a special gathering in Dublin. The new Louth Culture and Creativity Team have met and are made up of representatives from several sections within the local authority. This new initiative is about embedding creativity into the work of the local authority and ensuring we engage with the

community on all levels. We will be announcing the new Creative Ireland Grants in February which will be open to all community groups and artists.

St. Brigid's Project

Artist Shauna Swords has been working with students at St. Brigid's Special school in Dundalk since November on Creative Ireland project around the theme of St. Brigid. The students are working on a fabulous cloak made out of metallic foils with each shape hand cut and designed by the students with the help of Shauna. The fantastic piece will be displayed in an exhibition in May of this year which will start off in the Dundalk library and then travel to Ardee and Drogheda libraries where everyone will have an opportunity to see the magnificent creation in all its glory.



Some of the metallic pieces which will make up the Cloak of St. Brigid which will be on exhibition in the libraries in May & June.

Drogheda Classical Music Series

DCMS kick started the 2023 leg of their 22/23 series with a magnificent festival weekend featuring Irish mezzo-soprano Tara Erraught returning to her home county to lead a weekend of vocal training with lectures, workshops, master classes and concerts. The training weekend is always a highlight of the DCMS calendar and this year was no exception. Next up will be a one off concert featuring Leon McCawley, Mia Cooper and Brian O'Kane performing Clara Schumann's Piano Trio on Friday 10th February in St.Peter's Church of Ireland. Ticket details can be found [here](#)

Féile na Tána 2023

Féile na Tána is back and in person for 2023. Taking part over the first weekend of February the festival

celebrated the very best of traditional music, song and dance in the heart of the Oriel. Tutors for the festival included Zoe Conway, Gerry Banjo O'Connor, Louise Mulcahy and Seomsamh Ó Neachtain. Supported by the arts office the festival continues to go from strength to strength and through covid received a wide reaching audience from all corners of the world.

Other News

The Arts Council have released the funding dates for their 2023 schemes. All details can be found on the Arts Council funding page [here](#)

Arts Council 2023 Funding Schedule		
FUNDING PROGRAMME	OPEN	CLOSE
Liam O'Flynn Award	6-Dec-22	19-Jan-23
Touring 2023, Round 2 and Advance Planning 2024	20-Dec-22	2-Feb-23
Agility Award 2023, Round 1	3-Jan-23	9-Feb-23
Bursary Award, 2023, Round 1	3-Jan-23	9-Feb-23
Markievicz Award	17-Jan-23	16-Feb-23
Deis Recording & Publication	17-Jan-23	16-Feb-23
Dance Artist Residency Scheme	24-Jan-23	23-Feb-23
Commissions	24-Jan-23	23-Feb-23
Young Ensembles Scheme	31-Jan-23	2-Mar-23
Opera Projects & Production 2024	21-Feb-23	23-Mar-23
Project Award 2023, Round 2	21-Feb-23	23-Mar-23
Creative Places	28-Feb-23	30-Mar-23
International Residency Scheme	7-Mar-23	6-Apr-23
Teacher Education University Residencies (YPCE)	7-Mar-23	6-Apr-23
Next Generation Artists Award	14-Mar-23	13-Apr-23
Culture Night Late	14-Mar-23	13-Apr-23
Arts Grant Funding 2024	21-Mar-23	11-May-23
Capacity Building Support Scheme	4-Apr-23	4-May-23
Creative Schools (2023/24)	11-Apr-23	15-Jun-23
Festivals Investment Scheme 2024, Round 1	2-May-23	1-Jun-23
Authored Works	9-May-23	8-Jun-23
Reel Art	9-May-23	8-Jun-23
Agility Award 2023, Round 2	23-May-23	22-Jun-23
Bursary Award, 2023, Round 2	23-May-23	22-Jun-23
Touring 2024, Advance Planning 2025	TBC	TBC
Full-time Islandwide Dance Company	27-Jun-23	27-Jul-23
Strategic Funding 2024	27-Jun-23	7-Sep-23
Arts Centres 2024	4-Jul-23	14-Sep-23
Creative Production Supports	18-Jul-23	31-Aug-23
Partnership Funding 2024	25-Jul-23	5-Oct-23
Visual Arts Workspace Scheme	15-Aug-23	14-Sep-23
Invitation to Collaboration	15-Aug-23	14-Sep-23
Open Call 2024	TBC	TBC
Project Award 2024	10-Oct-23	16-Nov-23
Festivals Investment Scheme 2024, Round 2	24-Oct-23	23-Nov-23
Co-funding Awards	7-Nov-23	7-Dec-23

*Please note that dates or schemes could change over the course of the year. We will update this list accordingly as soon as possible. Make sure to read the guidelines carefully for each award for any updates

Date of Issue: 06/12/2022

Summary sheet of Arts Council Funding Dates

Museum

Exhibition

The exhibition Peace Heroines has now closed. The exhibition which featured many of the women involved in the Peace Process has now moved to Derry from where it will visit Belfast and then New York.



Peace Heroines

St. Brigid's Day

To mark St. Brigid's Day this year the Museum has organised a talk to be given by Dr. Karen Ward, (author of Goddesses of Ireland: ancient wisdom for modern women and the recently released children's book Glorious Goddesses of Ancient Ireland) and will provide an overview of Brigid's life and how it continues to have relevance today. The talk will take place on Tuesday January 31st at 2.30 p.m. in the AV Theatre.

We have also organised display of items associated with St. Brigid including a number of Crosses from the Museum collection as well as sample of artefacts highlighting the importance of her shrine at Faughart. Located on the Museum's mezzanine floor the display will run for the month of February.



St. Brigid display

The Museum will also feature a number of kite-making workshops with a St. Brigid theme in the run-up to the St. Brigid's Day.

Recent acquisitions



Patchwork quilt donation

The Museum has recently added to its collection through the donation of a couple of patchwork quilts. These magnificent handmade quilts date from the early 20th Century and in one instance have the year 1913 embroidered.