



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 5th May 2023
5^ú Bealtaine 2023**

Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report – 30th April 2023
Tuairisc Bainistíochta ag an bPríomhfheidhmeannach – 30 April 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



Financial Report

Expenditure to 30th April 2023 / Caiteachas go dtí 30 Aibreán 2023

Section/Rannóg	Actual Expenditure to/Caiteachas Iarbhír go dtí 30/04/2023	Budget Expenditure/ Caiteachas Buiséadaithe 2023	% Spent to/ % Caite go 30/04/2023
Housing/Tithíocht	€12,476,779	€57,155,409	22%
Road Transportation & Safety/Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht	€8,364,484	€27,351,782	31%
Water Services/Seirbhísí Uisce	€3,115,721	€8,619,589	36%
Development Management/Bainistíocht Forbartha	€6,204,888	€23,666,110	26%
Environmental Services/Seirbhísí Timpeallachta	€5,749,851	€20,837,206	28%
Recreation and Amenity/Áineas agus Conláiste	€2,818,430	€10,361,634	27%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare/Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas	€516,897	€1,468,858	35%
Miscellaneous/Ighnéitheach	€2,304,818	€9,018,942	26%
	€41,551,868	€158,479,531	26%

Income to 30th April 2023 / Ioncam go 30ú Aibreán 2023

Section/Rannóg	Actual Income to/ioncam Iarbhír go dtí 30/04/23	Budget Income/ioncam Buiséadaithe 2023	% Invoiced to/ % Sonraisc Curtha do dtí 30/04/23
Housing/Tithíocht	€12,575,720	€58,718,513	21%
Road Transportation & Safety/Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht	€1,107,778	€16,635,478	7%
Water Services/Seirbhísí Uisce	€2,047,338	€8,303,355	25%
Development Management/Bainistíocht Forbartha	€3,080,305	€14,403,330	21%
Environmental Services/Seirbhísí Timpeallachta	€399,892	€2,295,719	17%
Recreation and Amenity/Áineas agus Conláiste	€257,572	€1,208,037	21%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas	€94,835	€543,472	17%
Miscellaneous/Ighnéitheach	€586,929	€11,296,768	5%
Rates/Rátaí	€34,488,336	€34,708,660	99%
General Purpose Grant (LPT)/Deontas Ilfheidhmeach	€1,644,366	€9,866,198	17%
Provision for Debit Balance/Soláthar faoi Iarmhéid Dochair	€0	€500,000	0%
	€56,283,071	€158,479,531	36%

The above is the current position as of the 30th of April 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 30th April 2023 are as follows:

Debtors as of 30th April 2023/Féichiúnaithe mar atá 30ú Aibreán 2023

	Opening Balance /Iarmhéid Tosaigh	Invoices/ Sonraisc	Receipts/ Fáltais	Write Offs/ Díscriobhanna	Closing Balance/ Iarmhéid Deiridh
Government Debtors/Féichiúnaithe Rialtais	€7,546,239	€17,317,606	(€17,847,341)	€15	€7,016,519
Other Local Authorities/Uadaráis Áitiúla Eile	€56,584	€240,328	(€150,260)	(€0)	€146,652
Rates/Rataí	€7,561,465	€34,488,336	(€12,021,810)	(€553,988)	€29,474,003
Rents/Cíosanna	€2,621,885	€4,687,118	(€4,666,405)	(€0)	€2,642,598
Loans/Iasachtal	€295,384	€647,749	(€658,740)	(€0)	€284,393
Development Levies/Tobhaigh Forbartha	€10,943,505	€896,423	(€682,559)	(€253,675)	€10,903,694
Fire Charges/Táilí Seirbhíse Dóiteáin	€717,575	€194,550	(€130,587)	(€28,725)	€752,813
Miscellaneous/Ilghnéitheach	€1,804,894	€3,365,260	(€2,358,463)	(€17,203)	€2,794,488
Total Debtors / Féichiúnaithe Iomlána	€31,547,531	€61,837,370	(€38,516,165)	(€853,576)	€54,015,160

Above are the debtor balances as of 30th of April 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 Audit

The notice of commencement of the Audit for the year ended 31st December 2022 was published in this week's newspapers. The Audit is due to commence on the 17th May 2023.

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 @IWCare or @IrishWater or go to www.water.ie.

Water Quality / Cáilíocht Uisce

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

Water Conservation / Caomhnú Uisce

Water conservation is ongoing throughout the County.

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

Water Services continue to engage with 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 will 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 was submitted to Louth County Council on 16th February 2023.

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 October 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

The 2023 Programme has now commenced with works currently underway in the Drogheda Agglomeration.

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 currently at Detailed Design stage.

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

Operational modifications to the Pumping Station were undertaken by EPS. Options for cleaning of

existing large diameter sewer are being progressed within 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 continues to progress, including extensive engagement with developers and landowners' representatives. The Planning Submission for the proposed Pumping Station is currently being progressed with procurement to follow.

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

Construction works are substantially completed along the Inner Relief Road and Quay Street. Mains testing is currently progressing with permanent reinstatement to be undertaken upon completion.

Greenmount WTW Upgrade/Uasghrádú Ionad Cóireála Uisce Dhroim Chatha

Uisce Éireann are progressing the design of proposed Upgrade Works at Greenmount Water Treatment Works. 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 continues to work closely with EPS Ltd who operate the plant on behalf of Uisce Éireann. Works have been undertaken within the Wastewater Treatment Plant and at both the East Meath Pumping Station and the Bryanstown Pumping Station. The next phase of the Capital Programme involves works to the anaerobic digesters within the plant and works to manhole covers at various locations within the network.

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. The Catchment Planning Meeting was completed in January 2023 with the Stage 1 Data Collection and Scoping Report completed in March 2023.

Cockle Hill PS Upgrade / Uasghrádú Stáisiún Ceadalacháin Chnoic na Ruachan

The Detailed Design Report and Workshop 4 were completed in January 2023. The project commenced on site in mid-April and works are progressing at present.

Greenhills Sewer Replacement Project/ Tionscadal an Áthsholáthair Séarachais na nGlaschnoc

UÉ contractors GMC have commenced on site in February 2023. The project is programmed for completion within 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 progressing. Design Workshop 4 was completed on 7th March 2023.

Water Networks / Líonraí Uisce

Rehabilitation Programme/Clár Athshlánúcháin

Uisce Éireann undertook No rehabilitation works in April.

Lead replacement / Ionadú Luaidhe Back Yard Services / Seirbhísí Cúlchlóis

Uisce Éireann contractors undertook NO back yard service replacement in April.

First Fix / Chéad Shocrú.

Uisce Éireann contractors undertook 7 first fix type repairs in April.

Water Scouring Programme 2023 / Clár Sciúrtha Uisce 2023

Louth County Council crews undertook no network flushing in April.

Network Maintenance / Cothabháil Líonra

50 essential water tasks were carried out in April including 32 arising out of our Find and Fix program (2 in Cooley, 5 in Blackrock, 2 in Tallanstown, 3 in Knockbridge, 4 in Drogheda, 1 in Dromiskin, 11 in Dundalk, 1 in Clogherhead, 1 in Hackballscross and 2 in Ardee).

Planning & Water Connections / Pleanáil agus Ceangail Uisce

The Networks Section processed 15 new connections, 10 Pre-Connection Enquiries and 22 Planning Applications in April.

Service Maps / Léarscáileanna Seirbhíse

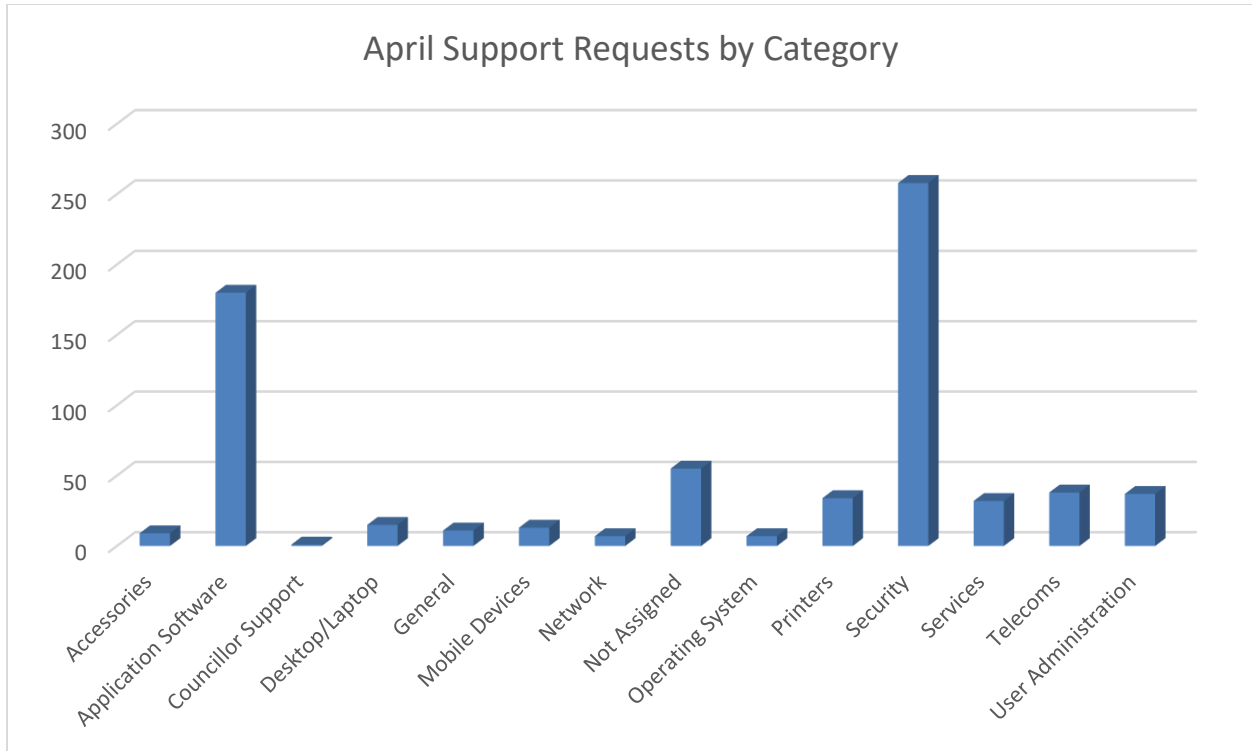
The Networks Section prepared 25 Service Maps in April.

Information & Communication Technology

Helpdesk

Between 01/04/2023 and the 30/04/2023 there were 697 support calls logged in the IT support system.

Security and application support were the two highest category of support requests in April.



E-Mail Filtering System

Louth County Council continues to be targeted with phishing, and spam e-mail. We use an e-mail filtering system to scan all e-mail being received into the organisation. In April 35.24% of inbound e-mails were identified as potentially harmful.



Inbound Emails

151,016



Blocked Sender

892



Blocked at gateway

24,946



Blocked by spam /virus

26,775



Blocked by content rules

604



Potentially harmful emails

35.24%

Louth County Council Website

There were 13,994 unique page views of www.louthcoco.ie in April.

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

Page URL	Pageviews	Unique Pageviews
/en/	4,090	2,697
/en/services/planning/online-planning-and-maps/	958	737
/en/services/dog-pound/	807	559
/en/louth_county_council/vacancies/	556	475
/en/services/	556	433
/en/home/	428	326
/en/services/library/	426	322
/en/services/library/online-services/	347	272
/en/contact/louth-county-council/	308	265
/en/services/planning/	301	240
/en/services/housing/	324	232
/en/louth_county_council/vacancies/creative-communities	175	159
/en/publications/development-plans/	245	159
/en/publications/development-plans/louth-county-develop	216	140
/en/services/planning/planning-lists/	175	138

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 1,608 views in April, an average of 55 views a day.

Start Date: End Date: [Update Report](#)

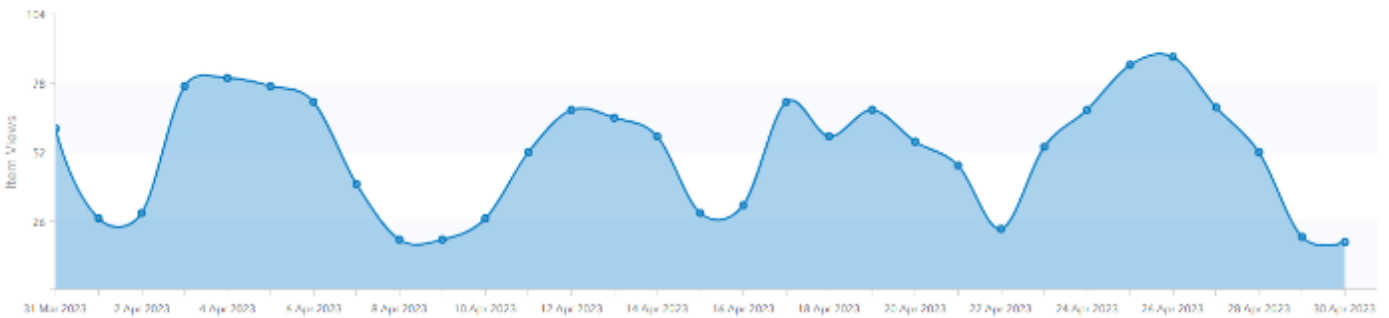
Item Views this Period

1,608

Avg Item Views Per Day

55.45

Usage Time Series



This Directorate has three key areas of responsibility:

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

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

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

Tá trí eochairfhreagracht ag an Stiúrtóireacht seo:

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

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

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

**Thomas McEvoy
Director / Stiúrtóir**



Economic Development

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

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

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

Louth Economic Forum

The next meeting of the Louth Economic Forum is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 24th May, 2023.

Economic input to Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)

A series of public consultation workshops took place in April to encourage people to share their views and vision for the county as part of the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2023 - 2029 process.

Strategic Economic Development SPC

The Strategic Economic Development SPC meeting took place on the 27th April, 2023 via Zoom.

Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2022

24 applications were received by Louth County Council under the Streetscape Enhancement Scheme. 21 Letters of Offer have been issued to date.

Business Improvement District Scheme (BIDS) – Dundalk 2024 - 2028

The proposal from Dundalk BIDS Company to extend the term of the Business Improvement District Scheme for a further period of five years from January 2024 was on public display until Friday 21st April, 2023.

For full details please visit: <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/economic-development/dundalk-bid-proposal/dundalk-bid-proposal-2024-2028/>.

Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme 2023

The scheme opened to applications on Monday 3rd April, the closing date for receipt of applications is Friday, 29th September, 2023.

The 2023 scheme was extended to areas not covered by the existing scheme via an Expression of Interest. The closing date for receipt of the Expressions of Interest was Friday, 5th May, 2023. Expressions of Interest received are currently being assessed and applicants will be notified shortly if they are eligible to apply for funding under the main scheme.

For full details of the scheme please visit: <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/economic-development/business-incentive-schemes-retail-prospectus/>.

Tourism

Festival Funding 2023

Applications for Festival Funding for small and large festivals were open from the 1st to 31st March, 2023. 22 applications were received under the small festivals and 8 under the large festivals initiative. Applications are currently being assessed with letters of offer to issue shortly.

Visit Louth and sea louth

As part of the itinerary's series on the Visit Louth website and to capitalise on the recent visit of US President Joe Biden to Co. Louth we have compiled a 'President Biden' itinerary. You can follow in the footsteps of the President and visit all the places he went to on his recent and previous visits to Co. Louth: <https://www.visitlouth.ie/visitor-info/itineraries/the-biden-bucket-list.html>.

On the day of the visit there were continuous updates across the sea louth and Visit Louth social media channels following along his journey.

Brigid 1500

The schedule of events planned to commemorate St. Brigid's 1,500 year anniversary in February 2024 will be published shortly.

Táin Trail

Fáilte Ireland have engaged the Paul Hogarth Company to compile a report on the potential reimagining of the Táin Trail. They are engaging with Louth County Council and other Local Authorities along the trail. The report is due to be published later this year.

Destination Towns Capital Investment Programme

Ground works have commenced in Drogheda and the base stones for the Wayfinding signs are now in place.

Funding Opportunities

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 job specification has been agreed at a national level and approval has been sought from the Department to fill the position. Following receipt of this approval the recruitment process will continue.

Shared Island Funding

A Tender has been published on eTenders for a consultant to carry out a 'Feasibility Study to develop Carlingford Lough'. For full details please visit: https://irl.eu-supply.com/ctm/Supplier/PublicPurchase/241313/0/0?returnUrl=ctm/Supplier/publictenders&b=ETENDERS_SIMPLE.

Boyne Valley Flavours

Events

12 events are confirmed for the Food Series this year so far. Upcoming events are The Bective Seafood Festival, Charity Apple Blossom Walk, and Sheridan's Cheese & Wine Evening. We are planning to have a full calendar of events for our 10th Boyne Valley Food Series anniversary. For information on upcoming events please see <https://boynevalleyflavours.ie/blogs/food-series>.

Summer Symposium and Meet the Maker

We are super excited to announce we are hosting our first Networking event in a while. We have invited buyers to this event to meet our Producers, who will be showcasing their products from 12pm on the 10th May at Slane Castle, along with speakers for our symposium, which will begin at 10am.

Food Development Officer

Our newly appointed Food Development Officer will start their new role in May.

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.

2 no. Louth business were approved YTD.

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



April had 5 training courses delivered to 65 attendees. They included a Start Your Own Business course, Digital Marketing Strategy, Book Keeping for Small Businesses, Data Protection and Canva for Small Business. We also held an information webinar on the Temporary Business Energy Support Scheme with 22 businesses attending.

In May, some of the business workshops on offer include; Advanced Facebook, Trading Online Voucher Workshop, Email Marketing using Mailchimp, Google Adwords and Social Media for Small Business.

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

Trading Online Voucher Scheme



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

Trading Online training workshops to assist applicants apply continue to be delivered on a regional basis with Cavan and Monaghan LEOs. The next workshop is on 11th May, 2023.

15 Trading Online Voucher applications have been received YTD.

Business Advice Clinics

26 business advice appointments were provided by telephone and video conference to entrepreneurs throughout the county during April.

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.

18 businesses were appointed Mentors during the month of April.

Microfinance Ireland Business Loan



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

5 applications were received YTD.

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.

2 Louth business was approved YTD.

Food Academy

1 application was received for this year's Food Academy Programme run by SuperValu, Bord Bia and the LEO Network. The decision will be made at the end of May 2023 if they have been accepted on to the programme.

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.

Creating Economic & Business Opportunities from Climate Change Conference

On 26th April, 2023, Niamh Dennehy represented LEO Louth at the "Creating Economic & Business Opportunities from Climate Change" conference in Tullamore organised by the Climate Action & Economic Opportunities Steering Group, convened under the Business, Tourism, Enterprise, Innovation and Urban / Town Economic Renewal (BTEIUR) Committee of the County and City Management Association (CCMA).

National Connected Hubs Showcase – Creative Spark Downtown Hub

On 26th April, 2023, Sarah Mallon represented LEO Louth at an event in the Creative Spark Downtown Hub as part of the National Connected Hubs Showcase. On the day hubs across the Connected Hubs network held events to display the incredible variety and regional diversity of the national hub network with a focus on promoting why their hub and its locality is a great place for innovation driven enterprises and remote workers.

Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, officially launched the series of open day initiatives from Creative Spark Downtown Hub with a "Why Choose Dundalk" event focusing on town regeneration, hub users and their experience of returning to the area and working from the hub.



Ciara Breen, Creative Spark Downtown Hub, Minister for Rural & Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, Sarah Mallon, Programme Manager LEO Louth, Amanda Kirk, Enterprise Ireland, Sarah Daly, Executive Director Creative Spark, Stephen Carolan, Western Development Commission / Connected hub

Network Louth Business Awards County Final

On 27th April, 2023, Sarah Mallon represented LEO Louth as part of the judging process of the Network Louth Business Awards.

European Relations

Peace IV Programme



PEACE IV

St. Peter's Hill, Drogheda and the Extension to the Muirhevnámór Community Centre, Dundalk

Work is nearing completion at both sites and dates for opening events are being planned for May. Please keep an eye on the Louth County Council website for updates.

A PEACE IV Partnership meeting via Zoom took place on 25th April, 2023.



'Inspired To Meet' artwork installed at St. Peter's Hill



Muirhevnámór Community Centre Extension near completion

PEACEPLUS



The sixth PEACEPLUS partnership meeting took place on 27th April, 2023.

Public Consultation

Arising from the public consultations on PEACEPLUS in late 2022 and early 2023 hundreds of concepts have been received from members of the public. These will be assessed for eligibility and feasibility by our consultants Blu Zebra as part of the stage two consultation process in 2023.

Please keep an eye on our website, via <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/economic-development/peaceplus/> and on <https://www.seupb.eu/PEACEPLUS>. Contact peaceplus@louthcoco.ie for further information.

Heritage

The Heritage Officer attended the visit of Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, to the Hill of Faughart, birthplace of Saint Brigid, where heritage interpretation panels were erected in 2023. He also took part in a Podcast with Louth Library for Earth Day on 22nd April and gave the keynote speech at the AGM of the Carlingford Lough Heritage Trust.

Fire & Emergency Services

Fire Service

The Crisis Management Team was convened on 12th April for the visit of President Biden to Louth. Louth Fire Service played a central role in these emergency arrangements. Ardee Fire Brigade and Carlingford Fire Brigade were both mobilised on duty as part of the emergency preparedness process.

Louth County Council has agreed the details of the site for the new fire station in Dunleer with the Vendor and once this is completed, the design team will proceed with the design of the new station.

There were two station audits and a meeting with a Health and Safety Consultant who is assisting Louth Fire Service in preparing for ISO 45001 Health and Safety Management accreditation. Several issues were identified which will have to be resolved prior to the first National Standards Authority of Ireland ISO audit, which is expected in September.

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

- Wildland Fire Fighting course, delivered by Northumberland Fire Service
- Heavy Goods Vehicle RTC Instructor course
- Winch Training Courses
- Health and Safety course

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

The Fire Prevention Section has developed a system for capturing operational intelligence data on incidents and rescues. This is part of the Fire Service Pre-Fire Planning process.

Major Emergency Management

There was a regional Major Emergency Management meeting in Monaghan on 4th April, chaired by Louth County Council. This included planning for a major emergency exercise in Quarter 4 of 2023.

Two On-Site Co-ordinator courses were delivered on 30th March and 25th April, attended by four Louth County Council personnel. This course is intended for staff that could oversee a major emergency.

Climate Adaptation Strategy

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

Civil Defence

20 Civil Defence volunteers mobilised to assist with Louth County Council's response to the visit of President Biden. They were stationed at Market Square, Clanbrassil Street and Earl Street, Dundalk and provided a medical response.

Training during April was as follows:

- Weekly Training
- Emergency First Responder (EFR) examinations in Roscrea x 2 days
- First Aid Responder Training
- Emergency Medical Technician Continuous Professional Competence Training
- Missing person instructor course

Two Civil Defence volunteers were training as Emergency Fire Responder examiners in Civil Defence Headquarters in Roscrea.

There was a SafeTALK presentation by the HSE to volunteers on suicide prevention.

Building Control

The Building Control Officer has continued to inspect new developments in compliance with national requirements.

The increase in the number of Certificates of Compliance on Completion in recent months continued during April.

The Building Control Section carried out a number of building control inspections on sites where a valid Commencement Notice was submitted, and a number of these projects had not started within the statutory 28-day period. In some instances, new Commencement Notices are required.

Planning

Development Management / Bainistíocht Forbartha

The Planning service indicators for Louth County Council for the month of March, 2023 are given below in tabular form. There were 89 planning applications received during the month of March of which 72 were valid. In addition there were 20 responses received during the month to requests for further information and 35 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	18	39	0	62
(ii) No. of decisions determined which required further information / Líon na gcinntí inar iarradh breis eolais	5	7	12	0	24
(iii) Percentage of applications refused / Céatadán na n-iarratas a diúltaíodh	0.00% (0)	38.89% (7)	20.51% (8)	0.00% (0)	24.19% (15)
(iv) Number of appeals determined / Líon na n-achomharc a cinneadh	0	0	0	0	0
(v) Percentage of decisions overturned on appeal / Céatadán na gcinntí a cuireadh ar ceal ar achomharc	0.00% (0)	0.00% (0)	0.00% (0)	0.00% (0)	0.00% (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	
	March 2023 / Márta 2023	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo	March 2022 / Márta 2022	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	18	46	24	72
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	9	27	26	72
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	16	44	14	46
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	0	0	0	2
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	0	0	0	1
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	0	0	0
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	
	April 2023 / Aibreán 2023	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	0	2
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	1	4
Number of cases currently under investigation / Líon na gcásanna atá á n-imscúdú faoi láthair	20	23
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	0	1
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	0	5
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	0	0
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	0
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0

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

Fairgreen

Laurels

Ramparts

Armagh Rd ,

Moorland /Lennon Melia Crescent

Inner Relief Rd

Newry Rd/Riverside Walk

Racecourse Rd

Dundalk By Pass

Centenary Rd

Dublin Rd

Mourne View Walkway

Ardee Rd

Carrick Rd

Castletown Rd,

Under bridges at Fr Murray Pk

Ecco Rd ,

Market Sq ,borders and Planters

Mount Ave

Castleross hedgerow

Ashling Pk Estate

	River Grids Carlingford, Omeath, Gyles Quay, Templetown, Willville
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht
Bins removed from Market Sq and Clanbrassil St for Visit of President Joe Biden. Leaving aside for Spray Painting and will reinstall as soon as painted	Nightly By Contractor 200 Bins
Replaced Black bins- 4 new ones at Crowe St, Earl St, Francis St, Roden Place	
Extra Planting in Town Centre and at the library for Easter and Presidential visit	
Street Furniture and poles cleaned down and painted	
All stickers and graffiti removed from poles around Market Sq, Clanbrassil St and Church St	
Solar Bins Power washed and replaced	
Emptying of bins in Carlingford, Omeath, Greenore, Templetown car park, Gyles quay area.	
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain
	Power washing of paved areas at Court House Sq, Market Sq, Clanbrassil St ,Roden Place, Entrance to library, Earl St Laurels
	Contract Sweeper- as per contract Extra sweeps were carried out For Visit of President Biden Concentration on all the approach routes Town cleaned up after the event
	Carlingford village for POTUS' visit.

Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain
By Contractor Nightly as part of the street bin collections	200 between dog bins and litter Bins throughout the town
As per bin management in Carlingford- Cooley region	
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain
	Ring Buoys checked Weekly. Report sent to Water Safety Officer For Dundalk. Some new lifebuoys buoys replaced. New rope attached to some replaced Units at Toberona.
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil
	Daily/Weekly Check lists carried out by Parks caretaker
	Power washed play area in Muirhevnamor
	Power washed play area in Ashling Park, Cleaned area at Skate park
	Lordship, Cooley, Carlingford & Omeath

Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<p><u>Cooley</u> Ongoing patching of local roads, Preparation roads for surface-dressing, drainage, loose Krebs replaced in carlingford village.</p> <p><u>Dundalk</u> Tar Patching using bagged tar at Castletown Rd, Point Rd, Carrick Rd, at Tesco corner of Stapleton Place, Aghameen corner of Hoeys lane</p> <p>Footpath repaved by Contractor at Side of Earl St and Crowe St</p>

<p>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</p>	<p><u>Cooley</u> Jet-vac lorry in cooley area, blocked toilets in Templetown and Gyles Quay,</p> <p><u>Dundalk</u> None this month</p>	
<p>Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha</p>	<p>None at this time in Cooley region & Dundalk</p>	
<p>Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán</p>	<p><u>Cooley</u> Templetown car park , Gyles Quay carpark, Greenore sweeping /tidying</p> <p><u>Dundalk</u> Footpath repairs at Riverside Crescent and tactile paving</p>	
<p>Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá</p>	<p>On Going Repairs, Bulb Replacement. Traffic Lights at Oriel Terrace and Ice House Hill repaired.</p>	
<p>Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre</p>	<p>None at this time in Cooley & Dundalk</p>	
<p>Signage / Comharthaíocht</p>	<p><u>Cooley</u> Ongoing road advanced signs been put up and replaced in Ravensdale area</p> <p><u>Dundalk</u> Yield Signs Replaced. Replaced Bollards on Newry road and Park Drive.</p>	
<p>Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach</p>	<p><u>Cooley</u> Cooley mast Road Omeath , isolated dumping at Rockmarshall and Ravensdale</p> <p><u>Dundalk</u> Creative Spark Lands Hoey's Lane, Mooreland Rd Inner Relief Rd Racecourse road past Ath Leathan estate</p>	

	Mount Ave By Pass at WuXi Roundabout Coes Rd Bags of litter picked up from all estates weekly	
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifití	Cleaned Graffiti off Road Signs	



Powerwashed Market Square & Clanbrassil Street



Infant feeding benches installed in Various parks across Co Louth



Footpath accessibility works completed at Castle Road

Blackrock, Faughart and North Mid-Louth Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí N/A
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 N/A
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain N/A

Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackrock (7No.) checked weekly • Annagassan (11No.) checked weekly
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"> • Killanny, Louth Village, Castlebellingham – checked weekly • Blackrock – checked weekly

Location / Suíomh		Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<p>LS-7124 Killaconner Knockbridge, LS-7121 Killyclessy Anaghvacky, LS-7120 shanmullagh Anaghvacky, LS-5137 Little Ash Knockbridge, LP-3095, Claret Rock Faughart, LP-3167 Stephenstown Road Knockbridge, from junction n52 to Knockbridge Village, LS-7105 Dungooly Kilcurry, LS7106 Lennonstown Kilcurry, LT31521 Jones lane Hackballscross, R171 Knockbridge Road, tar patching in preparation for surface dressing on LS-7162 Clermont Road Haggardstown, LS-7164 Mullaharlin Haggardstown</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>Road repairs and patching & cleaning up</p> <p>Tree pruning/vegetation maintenance/verge trimming</p> <p>Resurfacing/overlay works (by contract)</p>
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<p>LS-7162 Clermont Road Haggardstown, LS-7164 Mullaharlin Haggardstown, LP-3117 Sheelagh Road Hackballscross.</p>	<p>Drainage maintenance – cleansing and gully cleaning, opening outlets & storm drains, preparation for surface dressing.</p>

	Rd140 Louth Village – Channonrock and at Rd142 Stonetown Upper	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	N/A	Clearing fallen trees & debris.
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	Sections of a footpath in Tallanstown	Footpath renewal
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	N/A	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 installed
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	LS-7114 Killin Brid A Crin, LS- 7132 Clermont Road Blackrock, LS-7103 Carn More Kilcurry. N/A	Collection of dumped waste for disposal. Collection & disposal after community clean up
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	N/A	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 Ardee Town Dunleer town Collon	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht 37 Daily 20 Tuesday and Thursday 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 N/A
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain Ardee town River Dee Salterstown Port Beach

**Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Number of sites checked daily /
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
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	LP 1260-31 Blackstick, R166-260 Annagassan, L-1229-0 Link road at Dawsons Demesne L-5259-0 at playschool Ardee, L-5256-0 Jumping church road, L-5266-39 Oriel road collon, link road N33 Dunleer, R170 Ravel, L-1296-0 Leabby Cross to Collon, R169 Collon road, L-2255-0 Stifyans cross to N2, L-2239-0 Mountaintown road, L-2214-31 Dromin school road	
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	L-2226-0 Dug out and repaired gullies at Drumcar road L-2290-0 Gullies at Priest hill Collon R-168 Collon village	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	N/A	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	Footpaths Ardee main street repairing trip hazards	

Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráichta	N/A	
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	N/A	
Signage / Comharthaíocht	Bollards removed main street Ardee.	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	N/A	
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	N/A	

Borough District of Drogheda

Drogheda Town Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steps and lane ways weekly 22 steps when recourses allow and green areas. • Hotspots on Monday – decided by Supervisor following inspection. • Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Daily during working week. Also all Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Saturday p.m. • Drogheda Rural Bring banks are cleared daily during working week.

- Approach roads, road sweeping @ North Side of Town.
- Housing Estates, road sweeping all estates off Marleys Lane.
- Watterly Hill Steps – cut back over growth and remove dumping.
- Power washing paving at West St
- Power washing litter bins on- going throughout town.
- Preparation for 10 K run - Street Cleaning route.
- Weed control of steps throughout town – North Quay, Dale, Watterly Hill, Pitcher Hill.

Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí

Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht

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

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

- 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/Portoriel/Seapoint/Termonfeckin/Baltray – at least 40 bins per day.
- Approach roads in Drogheda town emptied twice a week.
- Bin upgrade and maintenance ongoing + street furniture

Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town centre daily. Approach roads fortnightly. • Public Housing Estates, swept every 2 months. Private Housing estates swept every 3 months. When resources allow. • Hotspots weekly on Monday after weekend – decided daily by supervisor after checking Drogheda urban area. • Villages are swept once per month – i.e., Teromenfeckin, Baltray, Sandpit, Monasterboice, Tullyallen & Tenure. • Drogheda town Boyne river walkways are swept 3 times per week (Monday, Wednesday & Friday).
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / FolmhúAraidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empty about 35 No. once a week, washed and disinfected.
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe 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) + disinfected

Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
<p>Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre</p>	<p>L-2307-1 Morgans Pub LS-6315-0 Lynchs Cross Tullyallen R-166 Termonfeckin LP-2290 Collon to Tinure LP-2290-42 Tinure to Castle town</p> <p>Drainage Works</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned gully cleaning at Mell / Trinity St and West St. <p>Pot hole repairs at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rathmullen Road. Newtownstalabon. Yellowbatter. IDA Rd. Blackbush Lane. <p>Preparation for 10 K Run</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Street Cleaning route. New railing on ramparts at bridge. Highlight bollards at Narrow West St. Bollards at St Dominicks Bridge and Ramparts. <p>Pedestrian Railing Maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> R132 / Crosslanes / Cement Rd Byranstown Cross route / R132 Junction. <p>Road Works Program – Resurfacing works at</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RWP 2023 – Commence setting out roads. CIS – Tenders due May 2023.

Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	Drainage repairs Tinure Village Annual Drogheda Gully cleaning program ongoing. Tender documents to be advertised on supplygov.ie.	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	Tree Down N51 at Townley Hall Highfield Step off R132.	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	Clearing sand at Clogherhead Car Park Footpaths maintenance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meadowview • Yellowbatter 	
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DR03 R132 James St - Scotch Hall Jct (R132C) –Vehicle Phase lamp fail, Phase I Red • DR04, R132 @ Bull Ring/North Quay/South Quay Jct (R132D) –Vehicle Phase lamp fail, Phase I Green • DR23 – Crosslanes / Windmill Rd (unable to dial into site and possible traffic loop damage/fault) • DR56 Pedestrian Crossing @ Bother Brugha Drogheda – Green man out • DR28 R132/Patricks St. – Vehicle Phase present fail 25\11\01, 26\11\01 • DR21 Hardman Gardens Ped –green light out • DR06 R132 @ Westgate - Fair St Jct (R132E) –Vehicle Phase lamp fail, Phase H Green • DR04, R132 @ Bull Ring/North Quay/South Quay Jct –(Filter arrow turning right towards the marsh road, lamp out) fault no showing on RMS • DR56 Pedestrian Crossing @ Bother Brugha Drogheda – Green man out 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DR29 Platin Rd/Beamore Rd Pedestrian lamp fail, phase E Amber 	
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	<p>Road marking survey in progress.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bolton St. Patricks St 	Road marking survey in progress.
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<p>Replaced Stop Sign Tullyallen</p> <p>Maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> West St. Hardman Gardens. Anneville Crescent. Town Centre. 	
Weed killing / Marú fiailí	Parks Section has commenced weed control in Drogheda Town.	
Litterbin cleaning disinfecting / Díghalrú glantacháin boscaí bruscair	Dog Bin disinfecting complete on approach roads.	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<p>Mary Street</p> <p>Cearnog Brugha,</p> <p>Byranstown Manor</p> <p>Drogheda- Kearney Lane near the Reservoir.</p> <p>Marley's Lane</p>	<p>Illegal dumping no evidence detected</p> <p>Reports of dumping ongoing enquires with residents</p> <p>Reports of dumping ongoing enquires with residents</p> <p>Mattresses and Gaming chair blocking entrance into field. Checked and passed to cleansing for removal</p> <p>Illegal dumping at old shop site. Contact made with owners to secure location.</p>

	<p>Mary Street Car Park</p> <p>Moneymore/Twenties lane</p>	<p>Issue regarding local takeaways. Follow up communications with business is ongoing.</p> <p>Major improvement works to reclaim dumping area by clearing vegetation that was a high volume dumping area.</p> <p>Illegal dumping. Fixed Penalty Noticed issued.</p> <p>Illegal dumping. No evidence detected.</p>
<p>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí</p>	<p>Eir telecommunications company various locations</p> <p>ESB Networks</p>	<p>Eir have removed graffiti from their locations following interaction with warden service.</p> <p>A process has begun to identify locations and interact with services to remove.</p>



Ongoing works at Newtownstalaban



Repairs on the LP 2290 Collon to Tinure



Repairs on the L 2307-1 Morgans Pub



Sand Cleared at Clogherhead Car park

Physical Development

Roads Projects

Narrow Water Bridge

The Suitability Assessment Documentation submissions, to prequalify a panel of Contractors capable of constructing the project, was completed and a restricted panel established. Tender Documents have been released to this restricted panel on with a return date of 6th Oct. 2023. A North South Ministerial Infrastructure Sub Group meeting was held on the 28th March, with a further one to be held on the 4th of May

Engagement with DFI Infrastructure, Loughs Agency, NPW, etc. is ongoing in order to discharge the Conditions of Planning. Land Valuation Services has been procured. Tenders have been received for a Category 3 Bridge checker to be appointed pending completion of a tender assessment.

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

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 inspector's report is completed and is currently awaiting the Board decision. The design team continues to engage with the landowners, their agents and other stakeholders. A technical acceptance report has been prepared for structures. GI tender and archaeological test trenching package is currently being prepared for field work and testing. Louth County Council has written to An Bord Pleanála regarding a progression of the Board decision.

N2 Ardee to Castleblayney Road Scheme

A request for additional funding of €600,000 to complete the Phase 3 design work was submitted to TII on the 8th March 2023. A response has not yet been received.

A request was issued to Minister Eamon Ryan on the 9th March 2023 requesting an urgent meeting with Monaghan County Council. No response has been received.

Due to ongoing changes in Government policy and design standards, additional design works are required, and the Project Team has indicated that more funding will be required to close out and complete the current Phase 3 design process. Monaghan County Council has requested clarification from TII as to whether additional funding will be provided in this regard if required.

The latest update to the Design has been completed and was published on the Project Website Monday 27th February. The updated design follows from feedback provided from the public, safety issues identified as part of the Road Safety Audit and input provided by the environmental assessment team. An Elected Representative briefing on the design updates took place.

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 28th March for mention and was adjourned to the next available date of 9th May to allow the applicant to reply to the opposition papers filed by An Board Pleanála. 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 scheduled to commence. TII have now made funding available.

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 have 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 ongoing on the installation of a 450mm diameter watermain along the route for Irish Water and ducting for ESB and telecom.



Ballymakenny Road Realignment

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



Ballymakenny Road Roundabout location

Boyne Enterprise Link Road

The contractor commenced work on the LCC owned lands on 24th April 2023 with a proposed programme of 16 No. weeks to complete. Currently site clearance is in progress. Ongoing consultations are taking place with stakeholders / landowners, a valuation process has started. Other mechanisms for acquiring the land are also been explored.



Topsoil Strip

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. Draft Report programmed to be submitted by early May.

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 at the start of May.

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. Notice to treat was issued by LCC to the Landowners in the CPO.

A revised major planning application was submitted in Feb 2023 and granted in March. The minor planning application for the route change will be submitted in April 2023 and 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 monthly 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) approved by TII. Tender documents have been drafted for publication on etenders which will take place at the start of May.

The 2023 Grant Allocations to Local Authorities for National Roads, Active Travel and Greenways has allocated €700,000 to the scheme. The allocation allows for the procurement of consultants for environmental studies on the scheme. 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 towards the end of Q2 beginning of Q3. 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. Consultant has made the final amendments to the screening reports – all three schemes have screened out and are now proceeding with the detailed design. A draft preliminary design is now complete and is currently reviewed.

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. The developer is currently updating construction drawings.

LIHAF Mount Avenue Improvement

Gibson Bros Ireland has been appointed and has completed hedge clearance works and tree removal following ecological surveys and potential bat roost locations. A scheme archaeologist has monitored the soil stripping works. Appointment of a consultant to supervise the works is progressing, tender assessment is now complete, and a letter of acceptance has issued. A sod turning event took place on Monday 24th April.

A road closure is in place from Monday the 17th April. Drainage works are ongoing along with boundary wall removal, earthworks, and site services.



Sod Turning at Mt Avenue



Culvert installation at Roundabout Location

Specific Bridge Improvement Grants

Obelisk Bridge

Tender documents have been issued to the Market and were submitted on the 21st April 2023. These tender documents will now undergo the assessment process to determine the winning Tenderer. The Department of Transport are to be notified to seek their approval to proceed to the construction stage. A Road Closure with traffic diversion will be required to carry out the works. It's envisaged that this will be advertised in May.

Corporate Projects

Redevelopment Fair Street Offices, Drogheda

Existing Building Block B:

Block B former Chamber, Forming new door opening into link building. Replacing damaged bricks. Removing temporary roof placed after fire in advance of truss replacement.

Block N New Link Building:

Ground beams poured to central section of New Link Building and ESB and Water plant room reinforced concrete walls and preparation of floor build up for final section of subfloor concrete.

Block C Community Services Building

Lift Shaft base construction in reinforced concrete and waterproofing. Foundation for North West external wall. Removal of roof rafters.

Block E Annex building

Roof removal, internal demolition and floor break out.



Block B – forming new openings to New Link



Block N New Link Building- Sub floor steel



Block B Council Chamber Building – Temporary Roof Removal



Block N New Link Building- Sub floor, crane to commence erecting steel frame



Block C Community Services Building- Lift base



Block N New Link Building ESB substation Walls



Block B trusses in production

Dunleer Fire Station

A re-tender Document for design consultants was received on the 28th of Nov. with 3 tenders been received. These tender submissions have been assessed for SAQ. LCC have progressed with the assessment of the quality and cost criteria of the submissions. LCC have issued a letter of intent to Preferred Consultant. The final purchase of the lands process is on-going.

Louth Flood defence and Coastal Erosion Projects

Dundalk and Ardee Flood Relief Projects

Consultant Engineers Binnies/ Nicholas O'Dwyer JV continue working on Stage 1 of the Project, i.e. Options assessment, Scheme Development and Environmental Assessment. Hydraulic modelling is almost complete. 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 Options development is being considered for Ardee and is currently being finalised. In Ardee the WFD, Geomorphology & Soils/Geology analysis is nearing completion.

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

The Consultant Engineers RPS are continuing work on Stage 1 of the Project, with Options Assessment and Scheme Development. Work continues on the Hydrological Analysis Report. Calibration of the Hydraulic Model is progressing toward the initial options development stage.

The Tendering Report for the Project Site Investigation works has been completed and the Tender is to be awarded to the successful contractor. The EIA Scoping consultation has been completed and submissions are being compiled, with a report due shortly. Appropriate Assessment and Archaeological Impact Assessment have commenced.

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.

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. The Ecologist works have been tendered with the contract is being awarded to the successful contractor for preparation of an AA Screening Report for this works.

In February the OPW approved €135k funding for proposed works at Bellurgan. Works on procuring environmental studies is no complete, with these works starting shortly on site.

OPW have requested further comments from LCC on the 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 tender report on including the extension for the SEN units has been approved by the Dept. of Education. A letter of acceptance has been drafted and discussions are ongoing with the contractor regarding a commencement date.

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.

Faster Project

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, which has now been released. 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/> .

Louth County Council have advertised the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire and Assessment invitation to Participate in Dialogue for the project's Design Build Operate contract, which was advertised on ETenders and OJEU until 17th April. The project team is currently assessing the submissions received. 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
YouTube	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0FqxddlP7WXJr9ShzUaxQ

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

On the 1st February 2023 The National Transport Authority (NTA) awarded Louth County Council a budget allocation of €5.3 million. This budget is to proceed with the design, planning and detailed design of twenty four (24) number Active Travel Projects.

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

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

- Band 1 €0 - €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, i.e. (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

The current status of the ongoing Active Travel projects is as outlined in the table below.

National Awareness Campaigns

National Bike Week 2023

Louth County Council have received notification that we were awarded ≈ €16,000 to promote Cycling Activities during National Bike Week which will take place between 13th May 2023 – 21st May 2023. The Active Travel Section along with Louth Local Sports Partnership will be promoting several activities during this week, in particular with the four schools included in our Safer Routes to School Infrastructure Programme, namely, Rehab Care Mill Street Dundalk, St Louis Secondary School, Dundalk, St Brigid's and St Patrick's School, Bothar Bruga, Drogheda and Scoil Aonghusa, Sundays Gate, Drogheda.

A link to all National Bike Week activities in County Louth is located here...

<https://www.transportforireland.ie/getting-around/by-bicycle/bikeweek/louth/>

Study Tour

On the 25th April to 27th April 2023, a group of four councillors and six officials travelled to Copenhagen in Denmark to learn about cycling infrastructure and cycling habits / cultures in Copenhagen. The study tour was broken into a mixture of classroom lectures, meeting Danish elected officials, engineers and a cycling tour on bicycles to experience

cycling in a busy urban environment. It was a valuable experience to witness that every day, 49% of Copenhageners commute to work or school on a bike. Biking is simply the logical choice and an integral part of every kid's upbringing.



Officials & Elected Members at a lecture on Danish Cycling Infrastructure, visiting & experiencing infrastructure

Active Travel Projects

Project Name	Allocation 2023	Project Band	Current Phase	April 2023- Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
Drogheda: St. Dominick's Bridge.	€111,000	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. It is anticipated to have an official opening in June 2023.	Substantially completed in November 2022
Drogheda: R132, Bridge of Peace to Train Station (incorporating Marsh Road)	€415,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	Revised Gateway 2 Report submitted to the NTA in Feb 2023. Junction modelling currently on-going. It is anticipated to have an on-line briefing on the proposed scheme to Drogheda Municipal District Councillors in early June in advance of public consultations.	Proposed Part 8 display towards early Q3 2023
Drogheda: R166 Termonfeckin Rd, design.	€100,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	RPS has 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.	Proposed Part 8 display early Q3 2023
Drogheda: R168 Collon rd, Hill of Rath RAB and Rosehall RAB.	€100,000	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.	Proposed Part 8 display in Q3 2023
Drogheda: Rathmullan Road including Marley's (Pathfinder Project)	€400,000	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 undertaken in February / March 2023. It is anticipated to have an on-line briefing on the proposed scheme to Drogheda Municipal District Councillors in early June in advance of public consultations.	This received Pathfinder status approval on the 14 th Oct 2022. Proposed Part 8 display towards end of Q2 2023
Drogheda Dublin and North roads, design.	€200,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	RPS has commenced design and are currently developing options. As above	Proposed Part 8 display in Q3 2023
Drogheda: Boyne Business Park Link Road.	€250,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 6 - Construction	Please refer to relevant update in this report.	Part 8 Completed

Project Name	Allocation 2023	Project Band	Current Phase	April 2023- Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
Dundalk: R132 Inner Relief Rd. (Pathfinder Project)	€550,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	Revised Gateway 2 Report submitted to the NTA in Feb 2023. Junction modelling currently on-going.	Proposed Part 8 display early Q3 2023
Dundalk: Dublin Rd Xerox Junction to Ladywell Bridge	€464,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	LCC have received comments on draft Phase 2 Report from the NTA. Final Gateway 2 report received from the design consultant on the 26 th March 2023, currently been revived and expected to be formally submitted on 3 rd April 2023.	Proposed Part 8 display late Q2 2023
Dundalk: Ard Easmuinn Rd to Train Station / Friary School Dundalk & Dundalk Bus Station to Rail Station.	€400,000	Band 3 >10mil	Phase 3 - Preliminary Design	Received Phase 2 Gateway status approval from the NTA in early August 2022. Phase 3 Preliminary Design is now completed and Gateway 3 Report submitted to the NTA. On-Line Briefing session given to Dundalk MD Councillors on Tuesday 28 th March. Positive and good commentary received which will be incorporated into revised scheme drawings. Active Travel Team are scheduled to meet key stakeholders in person on week commencing Monday 3 rd April 2023.	Proposed Part 8 display Mid/late Q2 2023
Transport / Mobility Plans: Including Dundalk, Drogheda, Ardee, Clogherhead, Dunleer, Termonfeckin & Castlebellingham	€250,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	Drogheda Online survey completed and synopsis. 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. Tender for Dundalk Transport Study currently on etenders with a closing date of 6 th April 2023. This mobility Plan will form part of the Dundalk LAP.	N/A
Hoey's Lane, Dundalk	€150,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	Procurement competition for design consultants for Dundalk Active Travel Projects completed. Approval received from the NTA on the 1 st February to appoint the Preferred tender.	2024
Mill Street, Dundalk	€250,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	Procurement competition for design consultants for Dundalk Active Travel Projects completed. Approval received from the NTA on the 1 st February to appoint the Preferred tender.	2024

Project Name	Allocation 2023	Project Band	Current Phase	April 2023- Project update	Anticipated Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways	Part 8
Hill Street Bridge to Train Station, Dundalk	€150,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	Procurement competition for design consultants for Dundalk Active Travel Projects completed. Approval received from the NTA on the 1 st February to appoint the Preferred tender.	2024	
R132 Dublin Road, (Rank Xerox Junction to Greengates)	€100,000	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 1 - Scope and Purpose	Procurement competition for design consultants for Dundalk Active Travel Projects completed. Approval received from the NTA on the 1 st February to appoint the Preferred tender.	2024	
Moneymore, Active Travel elements	€200,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 2 – Concept Proposals	Consultants are preparing options and preliminary design proposals.	N/A	
Drogheda improvement of accessibility	€60,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 3 – Preliminary Design	Various locations in the town of Drogheda	N/A	
Dundalk improvement of accessibility	€60,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 3 – Preliminary Design	Various locations in the town of Dundalk	N/A	
Ardee improvement of accessibility	€40,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 3 – Preliminary Design	Various locations in the town of Ardee	N/A	
Termonfeckin Active Travel elements	€165,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 5 - Detailed Design and Procurement	Project to be issued to tender in March 2023		
Safe Routes to Schools 1. St Louis Secondary School Dundalk 2. Rehab Care Mill Street Dundalk 3. Saint Brigid's and Saint Patrick's	€600,000	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 3 – Preliminary Design	All four projects reviewed. St Louis, Dundalk - Meeting held with An Taisce and Principal. Action plan now agreed and signed off.. Rehab, Mill Rd, Dundalk to be incorporated into LHCC/22/0003 above Drogheda x 2 - Preliminary Design / Concepts developed. Following a procurement competition, Barry Transportation were appointed Design Consultants on 3 rd April 2023.	No part 8's but possible Section 38's	

Project Name	Allocation 2023	Project Band	Current Phase	April 2023- Project update	Anticipated Part 8 Completions, subject to NTA approval of Gateways
4. School, Drogheda Scoil Aonghusa, Drogheda					

Place Making

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Projects (URDF)

West Gate Vision (Drogheda)

The first stage of review by LCC of the Westgate project planning drawings has been completed with comments returned to Turley planning consultants for the planning submission to ABP. The statutory EIAR and AA Stage 2 Reports is also due from Turley Planning for LCC review prior to the consent process to An Bord Pleanála.

<https://www.westgatevision.ie/>

St. Nicholas Quarter and Backlands Regeneration (Dundalk)

BDP Ltd have been appointed as the Urban Design Team for the first phase of the St. Nicholas Quarter project. Phase 1 of the project involves the enhancement of the public realm along Bridge Street, Linenhall Street and Peace Park. Contract signing to be held on May 2nd and a proposed workshop for all stakeholders involved will be held on May 11th. For phase 2 of the project, which involves the re-development of the Backlands area of the St. Nicholas Quarter, the consultancy services tender documents are currently being finalised and will be advertised on eTenders in the coming weeks.

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF)

Ardee Castle

Detailed design and bill of quantities has been completed for including in the tender pack which will be advertised by end of Q2. 3D views of the Castle have been completed and included in the Ministerial Consent application pack which will be submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage by the 12th May.

Omeath Public Realm

The detailed design and tender pack for the project is complete and after receiving approval from the funding body (RRDF) the tender was advertised on eTenders.

The tender submission deadline is May 19th with assessment and appointment to take place afterwards.

Proposed works are anticipated to commence in Q3 this year.

OMEATH PLACEMAKING SCHEME

Backlands Road, Clough Na Mara and intersections of the Main Street
(at the junction of both Station Road/Clough Na Mara)
Improvement of Public Realm



Currently out for Tender

Response Deadline: 15th May 12.00 noon

Tender advertised on eTenders: <https://www.etenders.gov.ie/>

System ID: 238004

Tender Reference: 23-016

Controlling authority: South County Council, County Hall, Millennium Centre, Dundalk, Co. Louth.



Ardee 2040

The Ardee 2040 planning pack of drawings, EIAR and planning reports are currently under LCC review with comments to be returned to Turley planning consultants for the planning consent process to An Bord Pleanála.

www.ardee2040.ie

Living in Carlingford Visiting Carlingford



This project is now on public display in County Hall, Dundalk and Carlingford Library as part of the Part 8 planning procedure. It is also available to view on the Louth County Council Consultation Portal. Submissions or observations can be made in writing before Tuesday 30th May 2023. The Part 8 report will be presented at the July Dundalk Municipal District meeting.

Additional projects

Town Centre First - Dunleer Town Masterplan

The consultants are finalising the masterplan's framework and the key themes/interventions. The consultants are working on the stage 2 report showing key themes/interventions.

Clogherhead Regeneration Masterplan

The process to appoint urban design consultants has commenced with the uploading of tender documents to the eTenders website.

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

The new outdoor dining facility has now reached substantial completion, with initial snags complete onsite and re-seeding completed to affected boundary. New picnic tables and benches are currently being procured with the aim to be installed later this year.



St Laurence's Gate Plaza, Drogheda

The Part 8 Planning process for St Laurence's Gate Plaza is being progressed including preparation of reports by Consulting Archaeologists & Conservation Architects Grade 1 ahead of Pre planning departmental consultation in the coming weeks.



Cross Departmental Projects

Play Spaces

Tender documents for three play space sites in the villages of Collon, Termonfeckin and upgrade of the playground in St Dominic's Park, Drogheda were published on eTenders/OJEU in February 2023. Tender responses were returned for Collon and St. Dominic's Park in March 2023, and for Termonfeckin in April 2023. The responses are currently being assessed and it is anticipated that contracts will be awarded before the end of Q2.

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

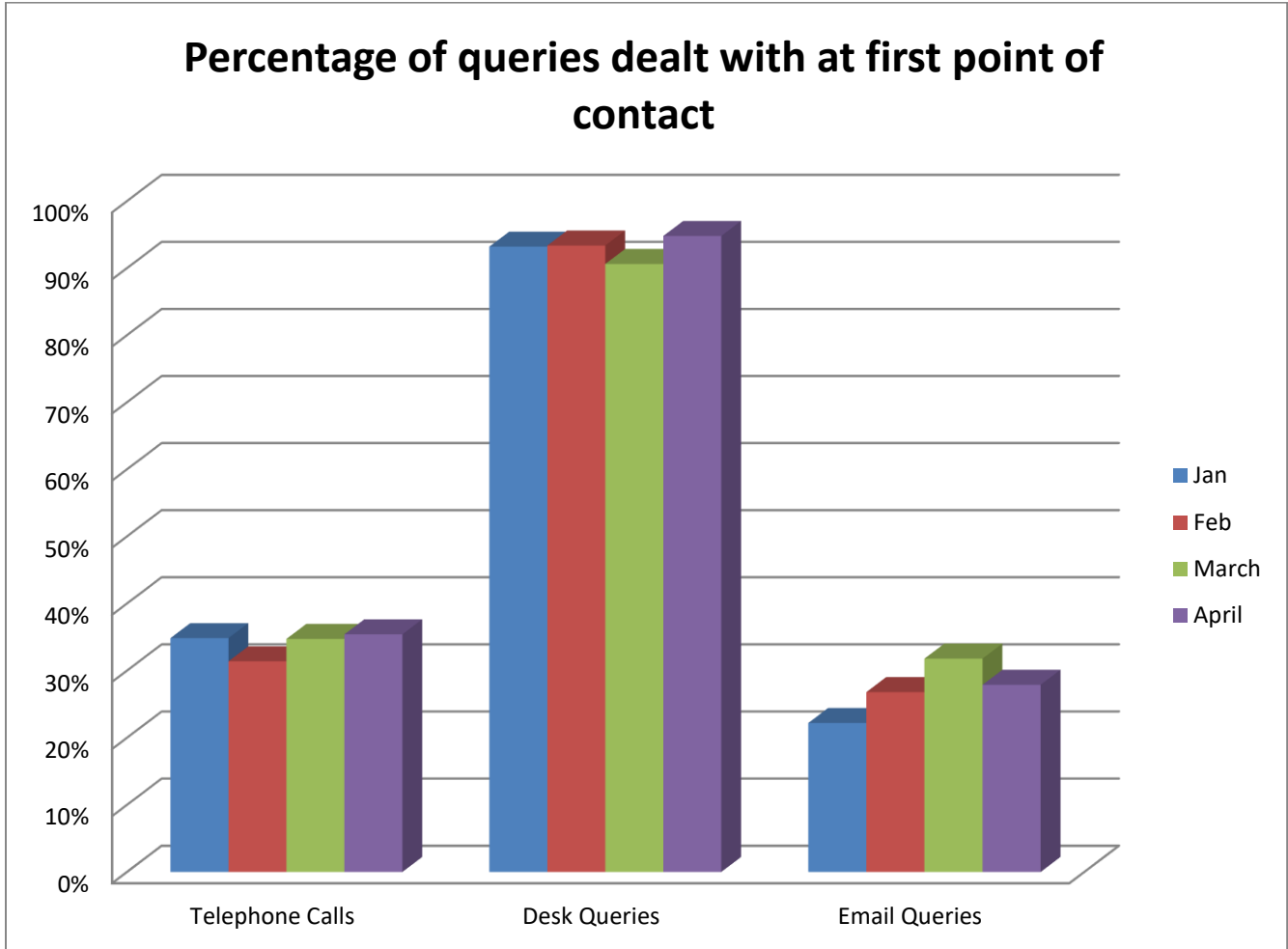


Joe McGuinness
Director / Stiúrthóir

Corporate Services

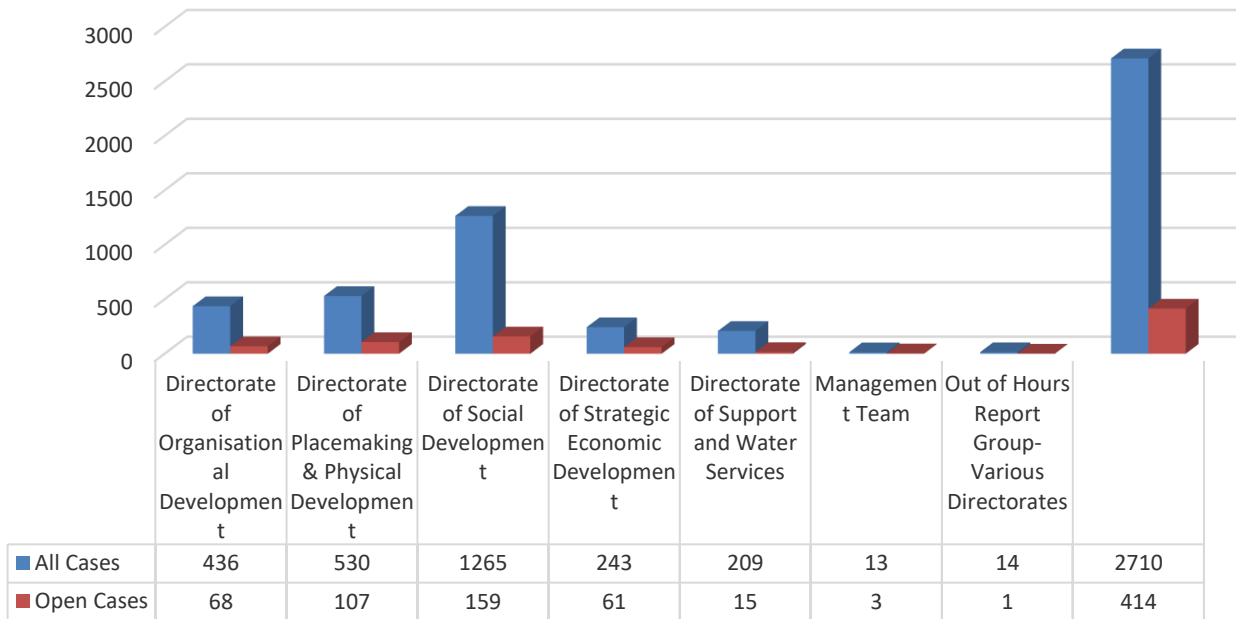
Customer Services Report

During the month of April 2023 Customer Services dealt with queries 5946 calls, 1230 e-mails and 4148 counter queries.

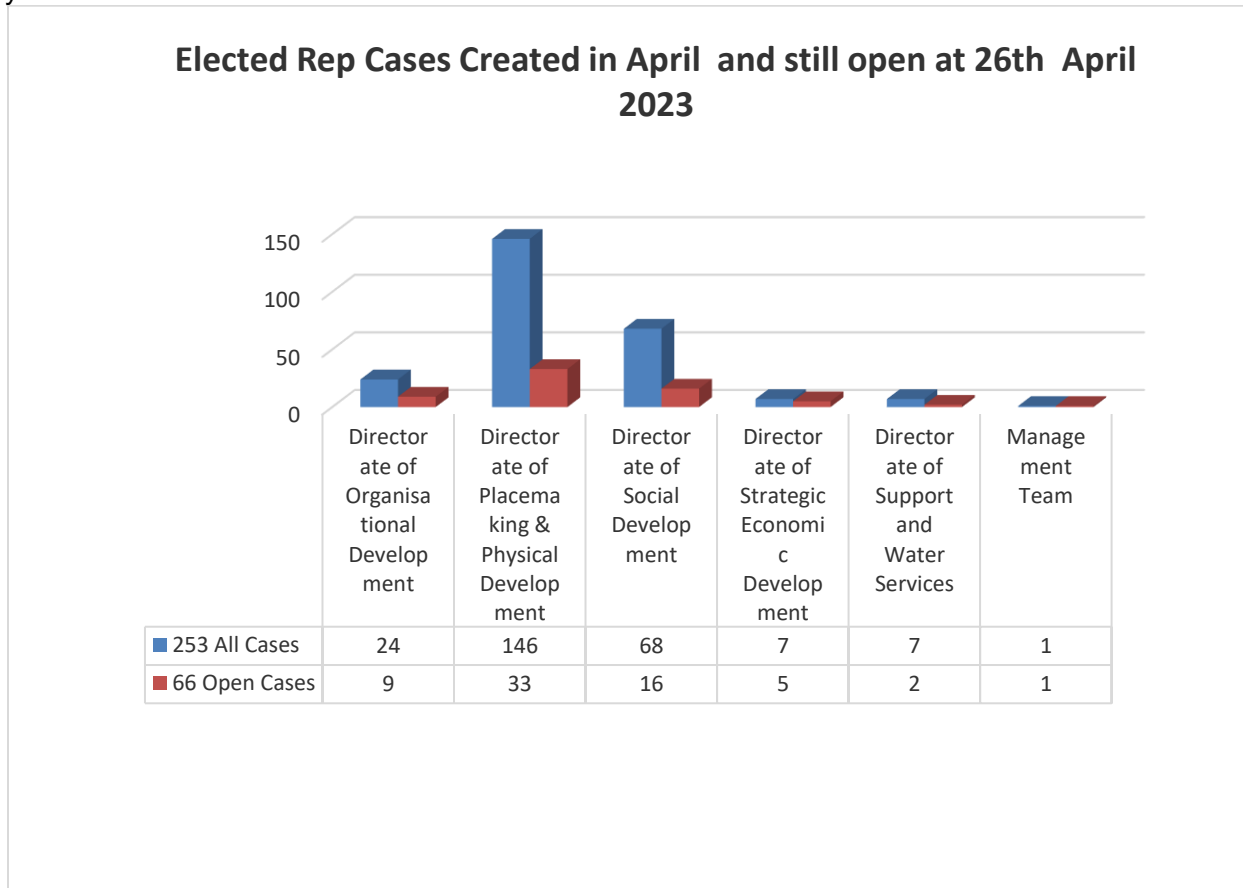


There were 2515 valid Sugar CRM cases recorded during April of which 608 (24%) remain unresolved, broken down by directorate as follows:

No. of Cases Created in April and still open at 26th of April 2023



During April 253 elected reps. cases were recorded on Sugar of which 66 (26%) remain unresolved broken down by Directorate as follows:



The table below illustrates activity in the redress area.

Requests Received	Same period 2022 (JAN-APR 2022)	2023 Total (JAN-APR)	APR 2023 (Month of APRIL only)
Freedom of Information	37	38	6
Data Protection Request	1	1	1
Data Subject Access Request	1	5	4
Access to Information on Environment	4	6	1
Ombudsman Complaints	3	5	0
LCC Complaints Policy	13	15	6

Electoral Register

The Rolling Register of Electors was run on the 18th April by the Franchise Section, copies of which were sent via share file to all Councilors and Members of the Oireachtas.

On the 18th April 2023 there was a total of 94,917 electors on the Rolling Register for County Louth, the figures are current on that date only as the Register is being updated on a daily basis.

Just after the General Election in February 2020 there was a total of 97,487 electors on the Register, there has been a reduction in 2,570 electors since then.

The LGMA recently issued statistics which show that Louth County Council has 98% of the electorate with a date of birth and 94% of the dwellings are in the correct Eircode. This means that we are rated 2nd in the Country with a combined percentage of 92% for Dates of Birth and Eircodes. These high percentages were achieved over the past three years due to the huge amount of work undertaken by the Franchise Section, which included issuing numerous mailouts and working with Field Officers.

When electors submit information such as their Eircode and date of birth it helps to ensure the accuracy of the electoral register, which includes ensuring electors are voting at the correct polling station. 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 Support

LEADER

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

Promoter	Amount
Louth Tidy Towns Together Louth Looking Good 2022 Ref: 117451	€6,416.18
Alana Creations Ltd EURI- Stone Routing & Finishing Centre Ref: 117912	€96,600
B & A Catering Ltd EURI- Roof Mounted Solar Panels Ref: 116758	€16,500
Dundalk Youth Centre Arts Engagement 2022-2023 Ref: 117170	€36,000
Total	€155,516.18

LEADER Programme 2023-2027

KPMG have been appointed to undertake research, consultation and drafting of the County Louth Local Development Strategy (LDS), 2023-2027. The completed LDS must be submitted to DRCD by 14th July, 2023

Public Consultations will take place at the following locations and times:

- Monday 15th May, Crowne Plaza Dundalk, 7-9pm
- Tuesday 16th May, Four Seasons, Carlingford, 7-9pm
- Wednesday 17th May, The D Hotel, Drogheda 7-9pm
- Thursday 18th May, The Market House, Dunleer, 7-9pm

Louth Meath Joint Migrant Integration Strategy/Forum

The Louth Meath Joint Migrant Integration Strategy Forum held an on-line meeting on 26th April 2023.

The meeting focused on Goal 5 of the strategy Promoting Civic and Civil Engagement and Political Participation and specifically Action 5.4 Increasing awareness among migrants of their entitlements to vote and continue to engage migrant communities to register to vote.

A member of staff from LCC, Corporate Services gave the members a presentation on the Register of Electors and how migrants & international protection applicants can access information around their voting rights and how they can register to vote. It was agreed that LCC will continue to liaise with migrant and intercultural groups locally to promote and encourage migrants and international protection applicants to register to vote.

Diversity & Inclusion Training will be provided by the Immigrant Council of Ireland for elected members towards the end of May 2023. Corporate Services will be in contact with elected members with further details regarding the training.



Older People's Council

The Older Peoples Council provides a platform for older people to actively participate in their community. Members of the Louth Older People's Council recently took part in a number of focus groups as part of the LECP public consultations. It was an opportunity for older people to have their say on how community development and specifically issues and matters that affect older people and age friendly initiatives should be planned and developed in Co Louth over the next 6 years.



Jackie & Joe from Louth OPC at the focus group for Age Friendly/ Older People, as part of the LECP Public Consultations in Drogheda.

Age Friendly Alliance

The Louth Age Friendly Alliance met on 13th April 2023. Chairperson Rod Bond welcomed a number of new members to the Alliance including representatives from the HSE and Joe Grogan Chairperson of the Louth Older People's Council and Harry McCarthy member of the Louth Older People's Council. The members agreed to prepare a submission to the Local Economic & Community Plan 2023-2029 on behalf of the Louth Age Friendly Alliance.

Preparation of New Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) 2023-2029

The primary aim of the LECP is to set out the objectives and actions needed to support the economic and community development of the county for the next 6 year period.

On 6th March the LCDC and the Economic SPC met and agreed the Draft High level Goals for the New Local Economic & Community Plan 2023-2029.

Consultation is an important element of the LECP and a comprehensive public consultation process was subsequently undertaken across the county on the High level Goals and on what groups, clubs, organizations and members of the public would like to see included in the new plan. Representatives from community and sporting groups, traders and

business owners and all members of the public were invited to attend the public consultations and give their thoughts and comments on the goals from across all of Co Louth. Face to face public consultations took place in Drogheda, Dundalk, Ardee & Carlingford and a number of follow up on-line consultations are also being arranged. LCC are still accepting submissions and comments in relation to the High-Level Goals until 9th May 2023. Alternatively, you can fill in our community and business surveys in relation to the LECP. For further details on how to make a submission or to fill in one of the surveys :

https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/louth_county_council/latest-news/local-economic-and-community-plan-2023-202911.html



Attendees at the LECP public consultations in Carlingford

Louth Comhairle na nÓg Update

Comhairle na nÓg had the privilege of meeting President Joe Biden during his official visit to Dundalk. As participants on an International fund for Ireland Programme the young people got to spend some time with the President in the Windsor to outline the scope of the project and to highlight the benefits that it has had on their lives. President Biden wished the young people well in their future projects. In addition, the young people got to meet with the Irish Ambassador to Washington, Geraldine Byrne Nason and the Presidents Sister Valerie Biden.



Participants who took part in the public consultations in Drogheda in relation to the new LECP.



Participants who took part in the recent LECP public consultations in Ardee including members of Ardee Dee Hub.



Members of Louth Comhairle na nÓg with An Tánaiste Micheál Martin and POTUS Joe Biden

On the 6th April Louth Comhairle hosted a cross border event to kick off the new project with Newry Mourne and Down Youth Council. The two groups

met up and got to know each other and planned out a further event for the 29th April in the Youth Resource Centre in Newry.

On the 4th April 14 young people from Louth Comhairle attended the Comhairle na nÓg Annual Showcase event in Croke Park. This event highlights the work of all 32 Comhairli from all around the country and provides an opportunity to engage directly with local and national decision makers. The Taoiseach Leo Varadkar and Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth Roderic O Gorman were both in attendance. Ruairi O Murchu TD, Senator Erin McGreehan and Councillor Kevin Meenan were in attendance and took part in all events on the day. Aisling McQuillan and Leah Shevlin accepted the Certificate of Achievement for 2023.



Members of Louth Comhairle na nÓg attended the Comhairle na nÓg Annual Showcase event in Croke Park

April Spring Clean Month

The National Spring Clean takes place during the whole month of April and encourages every sector of society to actively participate and take responsibility for litter by organising clean ups in their own communities.

The community support team were busy during April, raising awareness, encouraging groups to register, supporting them by supplying litter picking equipment and advising them on how to plan a cleanup event. Groups and individuals were also encouraged to reuse and recycle where possible and to heighten awareness of litter and waste, within their communities.

Louth has had a great response with over 120 registered for the event this year with An Taisce , in addition Tidy Towns groups around the county, organised big clean ups within their areas. Community groups, residents associations and schools are still contacting the team to request supplies. Well done to all who got involved.



April is Spring Clean Month

The Amenity Grant Scheme 2023

At the County Council meeting in April, elected members approved the amenity grant scheme applications for the three municipal districts, Ardee, Drogheda & Dundalk.

Successful applicants can be view on our website, click the following link- <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/communities/funding/amenity-grant-scheme/>

The National Tidy Towns competition 2023

The community support team organised an information session on zoom to support Tidy town groups who are entering into the national competition on Thursday 27th April 2023. The team offered assistance and support on the application process. The closing date is 10th May for receipt of entry forms and is earlier than normal into this year's competition.



Thematic Projects

Peer Mentoring The aim of this project is to train up to 20 of our PPN members from across the County in the essential skills and techniques required to work effectively as a mentor for other community groups within Louth PPN’s membership. As such, the benefits of this project will be 2-fold:

- it will benefit those trained to be a mentor by teaching them valuable skills they may use in their own community group
- it will benefit community groups who receive mentoring to develop their organisation and build capacity

Registration is now open for any Louth PPN member to sign up as either a mentor or as a group to receive mentoring.

Intercultural Sports

This project aims to help integrate members of County Louth’s new communities through the medium of sport. Two dates have been provisionally booked for family sporting days both at the Lourdes Stadium in Drogheda (August 12th) and the Sports Centre in Dundalk (July 29th). Members from all cultures and backgrounds shall be invited to participate. Representatives from local sporting clubs shall also be in attendance.

Youth

Louth PPN’s Youth Project will involve the training up of young people to confidently and comfortably sit on various boards and committees – it is hoped that this training will help build capacity of community groups to have their voices heard at decision and policy making structures in the County both now and in the future.

Environment

Louth PPN’s environment project will involve multiple aspects including:

Clár 2022

Clár is a targeted investment programme for rural areas that aims to provide funding for small infrastructural projects in areas that experience disadvantages. The programme opened in April for applications from schools, community and voluntary groups and local development companies located in the CLÁR area in Co Louth. Expressions of interest are being sought for the CLAR 2023 programme; applications will be subject to short listing and must be submitted by email to community@louthcoco.ie before Monday 8th May 2023.

For further information click the link <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/communities/funding/clar-funding-scheme/clar-funding-scheme-2023/>

PPN

Secretariat Meeting

Louth PPN held its fourth Secretariat Meeting of 2023 on April 17th in Dundalk.

Training

The following courses are currently being offered to Louth PPN members:

Canva – April 24th

Charities Governance Compliance Training – April 12th, April 26th, May 10th, May 24th, June 7th

- Re-introduction of the red squirrel at Rathscar lake, Dunleer 2
- A community-based planting of native trees such as the Hazel tree which will offer food and shelter to wildlife.
- Construction of bee-hotels



Sport

Dundalk Sports Centre

Dundalk Sports Centre has seen continued success in all of its programmes over the month. This month's report will focus on what programmes are available for older adults and our upcoming Summer Camps. The centre has programmes to meet the needs of all. Classes are also varied, so that older adults can get a range of physical activities throughout the week. All programmes are €3, including social tea and coffee afterwards.



Active Dance

Active Dance is a one-hour dance class held every Monday from 10:30 – 11:30am in the main hall. Dance styles vary from week to week and are influenced by songs which the participants have requested from the instructor.

Active Ageing

Active ageing is held every Tuesday in the main hall from 10:30-11:30am. Sessions include a full body workout, followed by a range of activities such as boccia, flisk, badminton and basketball. It all depends on what the coach plans and on feedback from participants.

Strength & Balance

This class is fantastic for older adults who want to increase their muscle strength and balance. Classes consist of a gentle warm-up, followed by a full body workout using dumbbells, kettle bells, resistance bands and bodyweight. Balance exercises are also incorporated.

Two classes are on offer. Firstly a beginners' class from 10:30 – 11:30am on Wednesdays, suitable for those who are particularly at risk for falls and those who want to learn the correct techniques before advancing to the more difficult class.

The second class from 11:30 - 12:30pm on Wednesdays is more advanced and involves a circuit of exercises designed to improve upper and lower limb strength, followed by balance exercises and games.

Chair Yoga

A gentle chair based class to calm the mind and improve flexibility and core strength. Classes are held every Thursday from 10:30 – 11:30am, followed by social tea and coffee.

Summer Camps

We have a range of Summer Camps coming up in the next few months. These camps range in activities and abilities.

We have two adult inclusion camps taking place this summer, one on the 26th & 27th of June and the other on the 28th & 29th of August. These camps are running from 10am – 12 noon and cost €10 per person, per two day camp.



We are also running three different camps for basketball. The Junior Basketball camp is running from the 10th – 14th of July from 1pm – 5pm for children aged 6 – 12 years old and costs €60 per child. The Senior basketball camp is running from the 17th – 21st July from 1pm – 5pm for children aged 13 – 17 years old and costs €60 per child. The Junior Development basketball camp is running from the 31st of July to the 4th of August from 1pm – 5pm for children aged 6 – 12 years old and costs €60 per child.



We also have three multi sports camps running throughout the summer. These are being held on the 3rd – 7th of July, 24th – 28th of July and the 14th – 18th of August. These camps will be running from 10am – 2pm and are for children aged 6 – 14 years old. The cost is €60 per child.



We currently have open basketball slots available from 5pm each evening. These are supervised but are open slots to everyone within the specified age group. On Mondays the slot is open to U14 girls from 5 – 7pm. On Tuesdays the slot is open for U12 boys and girls from 5 – 8pm. The Wednesday slot is open for U16 and U18 boys from 5 -7pm. On Thursday the slot is open for U14 boys from 5 – 7pm. The Friday slot is open from 5 – 7pm for U16 and U18 girls.



Lourdes Stadium

Bootcamp

Lourdes Stadium second Outdoor Bootcamp for 2023, delivered by Lourdes Stadium staff, commenced on Tuesday 7th March 2023 and ran for 6 weeks until the 18th April. The bootcamp ran at capacity and was enjoyed by all. Sessions consisted of both strength and cardio exercises which are tailored to suit all fitness levels to ensure everyone benefits over the 6 weeks. The next Bootcamp will commence on the 9th of May.



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	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
Safeguarding Level 1	June 22 nd 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	July 6 th 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	July 27 th 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	Aug 10 th 2023 6:30pm	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	Aug 24 th 2023 6:30pm	Online

Disability Inclusion

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

First Aid

Activity	Date & Time	Venue
First Aid Online	May 16 th 2023 6:30pm	Online

Volunteer Support Workshops

Activity	Date & Time	Venue
Dealing with Difficult Behaviour	May 25 th 2023 6:30pm	Online
Involving & Managing volunteers with additional support needs	October 19 th , 2023 6:30pm	Online

Social Media for Community Groups	November 23 rd , 2023 6:30pm	Online
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For further information on volunteer and coach education workshops please email louthlsp@louthcoco.ie or telephone Louth Local Sports Partnership 042-9324318.

Bike Week 2023

Following a hugely successful Bike Week Louth 2022, plans are back in motion to organise the week-long celebration of cycling throughout the county for 2023! Bike Week will take place from May 13th – 21st 2023.

Bike Week Louth is an integral part of the overall National Bike Week initiative and is coordinated locally by a multi-agency group comprised of Louth Local Sports Partnership and Louth County Council.

Each year, Bike Week Louth is supported by numerous community groups, organisations, clubs, schools, workplaces and disability services that organise and take part in events throughout the week.

In 2023, 35 events will take place throughout the county during Bike Week, with numerous opportunities for everyone to enjoy cycling regardless of ability or experience.

To find out more about the events happening in Louth or to book a place on an activity during Bike Week please visit;

<https://www.transportforireland.ie/getting-around/by-bicycle/bikeweek/louth/>

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



New Sport Inclusion Disability Officer appointed in Louth LSP

Louth LSP is delighted to welcome Ms Julie Duffy into the post of Sport Inclusion Disability Officer for Louth Local Sports Partnership, Julie began her role on April 17th. The Sport Inclusion Disability Officer (SIDO) will aim to increase the participation of people with disabilities in sport, fitness and physical activity throughout the county. This is achieved through working in partnership with statutory agencies, sports clubs, community groups, facility providers, schools, disability service providers and people with disabilities.

Julie can be contacted by email Julie.Duffy@louthcoco.ie or phone 086-1659212



Julie Duffy Louth LSP new Sport Inclusion Disability Officer

Daily Mile Lú launched in all primary schools in Louth

Louth Local Sports Partnership has re-launched our successful Daily Mile Louth Activity Charts aimed at increasing participation among primary school children in daily physical activity. This programme, originally piloted in 2019 will enable the pupils and teachers to build physical activity into the daily routine in school.

Over 1,000 wall charts have been provided to every classroom in the 76 primary schools in Louth to support the children and teachers to develop the activity programme in their school and to track their progress each week.

The Daily Mile' is the brain child of Elaine Wyllie, in February 2012 she carried out a pilot study of physical activity in her class of ten year olds, the inconvenient truth was that most of the children could not run continuously around the school pitch. Something had to be done & 'The Daily Mile' was born.

This year's Daily Mile Louth Activity charts are 'as gaeilge' to encourage children use the Irish language as part of the programme on a cross-curricular basis. The new programme is based on the children taking part in 8 weeks of The Daily Mile Lú/Louth Activity Charts. The idea is to allow the children to track their progress each day and get as many laps as possible at their own pace; this encourages the children to work hard and gives them sense of achievement.

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



Participants in Louth LSP Level 1 Sport Leaders Award programme

Summer Outdoor Bootcamp & Couch 2 5k programmes in Dundalk

Louth Local Sports Partnership is delighted to launch two new summer programmes in Dundalk Sports Centre to support the local community to get active and improve their fitness. The Fitness Bootcamp and Couch 2 5k programmes are suitable for all levels of ability and fitness and are a great way to socialise while doing some exercise.

For more information email Louthlsp@louthcoco.ie or call 042-9324318.



available through the WERLA's to support Local Authorities in 2023 Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI). The 2023 ADI aims to reduce incidents of illegal dumping by identifying and delivering projects aimed at tackling illegal dumping 'black spots' throughout the County and adhere to key measures of prevention, abatement, education & awareness and enforcement. The Department continues to strongly encourage innovative projects, which recognise waste as a resource that can be repurposed for use in a Circular Economy. A total of 8 project applications were submitted for approval under the ADI 2023 totalling €157,741.68.

Waste Management, Environment & Climate Action

Summary of Complaints

A total of 29 complaints were received and investigated by the Environmental Compliance team in April, some of which remain open pending further investigations.

A total number of 120 complaints have been received in 2023 to date and these are further detailed as follows:

Complaint Type	Received in April 2023	Total Received in 2023
Air & Noise	8	40
Farm	1	5
Waste/C&D	13	50
Water Quality	7	25

Waste Management

A total of 13 complaints were received in April relating to Waste and Construction & Demolition (C&D) Waste. All complaints relating to waste were investigated and followed up with appropriate actions.

Anti-Dumping Initiative

The Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications announced that funding is

Article 27 By-Products

Article 27 of the European Communities (Waste Directive) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 126 of 2011) makes a distinction between the regulatory regime for substances or objects that are defined as "waste" and those that are instead to be viewed as a "by-product" and certain criteria must be met for it to be considered a by-product and not a waste.

By-product notifications are made to the EPA through an online portal. Louth County Council Waste Enforcement Section have a role to carry out site inspections at site of origin and/or site of destination to check material meets criteria of notification.

In April a total of 4 notifications were investigated by Louth County Council Waste Enforcement Section either a site of origin or a site of destination. All notifications inspected were for soil and stone materials and met the requirements of the notifications.

The EPA carries out an assessment of all notifications and then makes a determination if the material is a by-product, or that the material is a waste.



Waste Facility Permits & Certificate of Registration

One transfer Waste Facility Permit application along with one technical amendment is being reviewed by the Waste Team in April. A surrender application for one of the Certificates of Registration is being assessed also. Currently there are 25 Waste Facility Permits and there are 4 Certificates of Registration (COR) in operation in Co. Louth.

Litter Enforcement

A total of 17 litter Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) were issued in the month of April. In addition to this, all litter wardens engage with members of the public on all matters relating to litter.

There were no FPNs issued for dog fouling in April.

There have been 454 litter investigations completed to date in 2023 with 107 carried out in the month of April. There have been 112 litter FPNs issued in the year to date.

Litter Investigations

A large illegal dumping incident occurred in April near Drogheda at Dummies Lane. A significant amount of household waste was fly tipped here blocking access to the road. Our litter team investigated in collaboration with the South Louth Operations Team. Several items of evidence were found and FPNs are being issued accordingly. Waste of this volume comes at a significant cost for the Local Authority to clean up.

Another incident of fly tipping occurred near Killineer with the dumping of mattress, bed frames and other household waste. Our litter team investigated and unfortunately no evidence found on this occasion. Approximately 40 tyres were also dumped along the turf road at Bavan in April. Our litter team organised the removal of same with Coillte and our operations team.





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.

On 27th January 2023, regulations were signed to provide for an extension to the exemption which expired on 1 January 2023, until 28th February 2023. The exemption will then be reopened for a final three-month period from 1st September 2023 to 30th November 2023 to allow the agricultural sector to deal with untreated/uncontaminated waste accumulated in the interim.



Diesel Laundering Waste

3nr. IBC's (bulk containers) containing laundered diesel sludge were dumped at various locations in the county during the month of April with an associated removal cost of €3,744.46 approx. So far in 2023 there have been 17 IBC's dumped within Co. Louth with an associated removal and safe destruction cost of approximately €21,218.61.

Air / Water / Noise Pollution

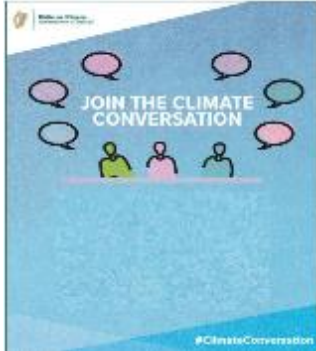
There were 8 water quality complaints received including farms in April which were investigated and followed up with appropriate actions.

There was 1 Air Pollution complaint and 7 Noise Pollution complaints received and investigated during April 2023.

The Solid Fuel Regulations for Ireland (S.I. 529 of 2022) , came into effect on 31 October 2022 and 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/>

Climate Action



Preparation of a Baseline Emissions Inventory for County Louth has been ongoing. The Climate Action Team has 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.

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.

The Climate Action Co-Ordinator and Community Climate Officer recently attended a CARO Climate Action Plan training workshop in Mullingar Park Hotel.

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.

On the 24th of February, the Minister for Environment, Climate and Communications, Eamon Ryan called for all Local Authorities to commence drafting a climate action plan for their area. Each Local Authority will have 12 months to deliver on this requirement.

Additional preparation for this process continued during this period.

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.



Community Climate Action

The Community Climate Action fund was launched by Minister Ryan. Training around state and administering this fund was attended by the Climate Coordinator and Community Climate Action Officer.

The Community Climate Action fund will be available to non-profit community groups across Louth. The Climate Action Team will launch this funding at a later date.

The Community Climate Action Officer recently attended a workshop in Navan, on Inclusive Community Engagement in Local Planning and Decision Making.

A member of the climate action team also recently attended both LECP workshops in Dundalk and Drogheda on behalf of the Climate Action Team.

Fiona Lennon has been appointed as the Community Climate Action Officer for Louth County Council.

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.



Ukraine Appeal, V&W Centre Dundalk

V & W also continue to supply the men’s sheds with organic compost and garden tools for their work projects.

Education and Awareness Initiatives

As April is National Spring Clean Month we are promoting and encouraging members of the public to actively participate and take responsibility for their environment.

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

Public bodies have saved €1.8 billion and 6 million tonnes of CO2 emissions through avoided energy use and exceeded the 33% energy efficient target for 2020.

Louth County Council's energy efficiency at the end of 2021 was 47.84% against its baseline year of 2009, according to SEAI's Annual Report for Public Sector Bodies for 2021. The energy reporting process for energy consumption for 2022 is now in progress. The final deadline for uploading data is Fri 28th April 2023.



Gap-To-Target Plan to 2030

The public sector has a target of improving its energy efficiency by 50%, and reducing its energy-related greenhouse gas emissions by 51% by 2030. This target is essential for our economy, our environment and the country. Council staff is progressing energy works as part of the Council's Energy Action Plan for 2022.



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'.

Currently, in its third year, the project is halfway through its co-implementation phase. The Council, together with their technical providers Sensedge and Integrated Environmental Solutions, are due to imminently purchase a number of VARCITES's sensors. The sensors will be deployed as part of LCC's Visionary Solutions, which will see the greening and regeneration at the pilot site. Sensors will measure microclimate parameters (temperature and humidity, VOCs, Barometric pressure, CO2, Oxygen, Particulate Matter) in the vicinity, as well as in town, noise levels, people counters. The measurements help track the difference in climate and air quality parameters between the Pilot site and the urban centre of the city. This data will also feed into the upcoming Health and Well-Being Platform, currently under development.



Staff Energy Awareness Events – Service Level Agreement with OPW – Optimising Power @ Work

Louth County Council is a long-standing participant in OPW's Optimising Power @ Work programme. This campaign focuses on staff behavioural change.

A recent initiative of the programme saw an OPW Energy Advisor attend Co. Hall and offer staff free 15 min energy advice clinics. Staff were encouraged to bring in a recent utility bill learn how to best read and understand their energy bills.

Many took the opportunity to discuss renewable energy options that may best suit their home such as heat pumps, PV panels etc. Staff feedback was very positive.

Webinars are also being provided for staff with themes focusing on promoting energy efficiency at work, home and when we travel.



Veterinary Services

Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI)

As of the 30th April 2023, Louth County Council Veterinary Section, under a Service Level Agreement with the FSAI, enforces food safety standards on one abattoir and thirteen meat processing plants under its supervision in the County. Louth County Council has carried out forty-three inspections in the year to date.

One meat plant had its approval rescinded, and the business is now closed. The owner was successfully prosecuted in Dundalk Circuit Court this month on foot of counterfeit labels on 135 boxes of frozen meat, all of which was seized and destroyed by Louth County Council.

Control of Dogs

Control of Dogs Act 1986

Dogs impounded April 2023	
Total dogs impounded	24
Seized under Section 16	0
Strays	15
Surrendered by owners	9
No dogs reclaimed by owners	5
No of dogs rehomed direct	10
No of dogs rehomed to welfare groups	10
No of dogs on hand in Pound at 30/04/2023	7

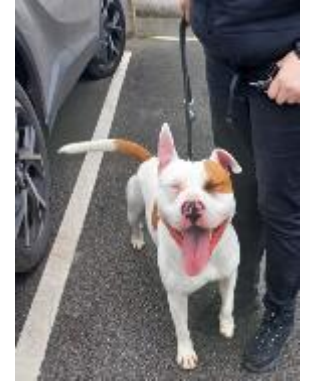
Dog Licences April 2023	
No of Licences sold	402
Licence Checks:	
House calls	211
Section 16 Notices issued (request to produce licence within 10 days)	55
Fixed Penalty Notices	3

Control of Horses

Control of Horses Act 1996

Control of Horses Bye-Laws 2003

Horses impounded April 2023	
Horses seized, and reason for seizure:	0
Horses reclaimed by owner	0
Horses rehomed	0
Horses disposed of	0
No of horses on hand in Pound on 30/04/2023	0



Billy Bob arrived at the pound and although it took a while to find his forever home, he has now happily been adopted, getting on great and has just had his first training session.

Dog Breeding Establishments

Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010

Dog Breeding Establishments April 2023	
Total no of registered DBE's in Louth (as at 30/04/2023)	5
Hunt	1
Boarding Kennels	2
Training Kennels	1
Welfare	1

On the 21st April, Louth County Council Dog Warden Service hosted a delegation from Dublin City Council at the Animal Compound, showing them the facilities and sharing best practices.

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

Cultural Services, 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

Seirbhísí Cultúrtha, 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 following work done within County Louth in the period 20th March – 19th April 2023 can be summarised as follows:

Table 1: Actions by Homeless Services

20 th March – 19 th April 2023	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda MD	Total
Offered advice, support (including fast tracking H.A. for Rent Supplement eligibility)	5	105	101	211
Placed in Temporary Emergency Accommodation	0	24	31	55
Refused Offer of Temporary Emergency Accommodation	0	2	3	5
Not eligible from outside county or non HRC	0	0	2	2
Total number of Person who presented as Homeless	5	131	137	273

Tables 2 - 4 below reflect details of the adults who were in emergency accommodation in County Louth on 19th April 2023. Also included at Table 5 is the breakdown of families in emergency accommodation at that date.

Table 2: Gender

Gender	Total
Male	80
Female	48
Total	128

Table 3: Age Groups

Age Group	Total
18-24	21
25-44	63
45-64	36
65+	8
Total	128

Table 4: Accommodation Type

Accommodation Type	Total
Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA)	59
Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)	69
Total unique individuals	128

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	12	13	22
Total	12	13	22
Couples with dependent children in Louth	9	20	24
Total	9	20	24

Table 6 - Housing First

	County Louth
Number of tenancies established	36
Number of individuals currently in tenancy	29

Housing Allocations

District	LA	LA Refusal	AHB	AHB Refusal
Ardee	16	6	1	0
Drogheda	34	11	2	1
Dundalk	48	4	13	5
Total	98	21	16	6

Transfers

District	Number
Ardee	2
Dundalk	7
Drogheda	1
Total	10

Housing List

April 2023	Ardee	Drogheda	Dundalk	Total
Housing List	394	646	945	1985
HAP Transfer List	302	1159	1615	3076
Total Housing List	696	1805	2560	5061

There are **275** applications on the transfer list (Non HAP) within Social Housing including **37** applications from the Approved Housing Bodies.



Completed apartments at Patrick Tierney Crescent & Aisling Crescent (Cox's Demesne Phase 2), Dundalk. The official opening took place this month.

Housing Assistance Payment

The total number of applications in HAP is 3,076

Ardee Municipal District	Drogheda Borough District	Dundalk Municipal District	Total
302	1159	1615	3076

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.

Up to 22nd March 2023, Louth County Council has made 19% of the overall allocations to disabled people. The housing allocations were made for the following types of disability; 9% physical disability, 0% sensory disability, 7% mental health disability and 3% intellectual disability of the overall allocations. 17 units of accommodation were provided to disabled people and consisted of 9 single storey dwellings (1 standard and 8 adapted) 2 apartments (2 adapted) and 6 standard two-storey dwellings. Collaboration with the HSE continues and meetings with the Louth Meath Mental Health Services and Louth Adult Physical and Sensory Disability Service were held to facilitate provision of housing and related supports to disabled people.

Rent Management

The total number currently paying rent by Household Budget is 955.

Current Rents Arrears as at 27th April 2023	No of Accounts	Value
Rents between 4-6 weeks old	€190.00	€66,510.00
Rents between 7-12 weeks old	€146.00	€110,807.00
Rents greater than 12 weeks old	€825.00	€2,765,336.00
TOTAL	€1,161.00	€2,942,653.00

Vacant Properties

Vacant Properties on 26 th April 2023	Total
Ardee Municipal District	6
Dundalk Municipal District	11
Drogheda Municipal Borough District	35
Subtotal (re-lets) Vacant Properties	52
Vacant Properties (CPO units not yet ready for occupation) (All County)	3
Total Number of Properties (Relets & CPO)	55

Currently 12 number social units are being used as temporary accommodation for homeless or emergency, and are not included in the above figures.

Maintenance Calls

Maintenance	1 st -26 th Apr 2023	Total (YTD)
No. of Maintenance Requests Received	563	2,453
No. of Maintenance Requests Completed	389	1,906
No. of Maintenance Requests in Progress	131	N/A
No. of Maintenance Requests Refused	43	145



Darragh O'Brien TD, Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage at the official opening of Patrick Tierney Crescent (Cox's Demesne Phase 2) with Cllr. Conor Keelan, Cathaoirleach Louth Co Co, Cllr. Kevin Meenan, Cathaoirleach Dundalk MD, Cllr Sean Kelly, Senator Erin McGreehan and residents of Patrick Tierney Crescent, Belinda Kassab, Ayo Joseph Aluede and Ronan Cooney.

Private Rental Inspections

	1 st - 26 th Apr 2023	Year to Date
Properties inspected monthly	11	128
Advisory Letters issued	12	90
Improvement Notices issued	12	15
Private Inspections	0	2
HAP Inspections	8	98
RAS Inspections	0	0
AHB Inspections	0	8
Private Re-Inspections	0	0
HAP Re-Inspections	3	17
RAS Re-Inspections	0	0
AHB Re-Inspections	0	0
Inspections from Complaints	0	0
Virtual Re-Inspections	0	0
Properties made Compliant	5	18

Tenancy Engagement

The Estate Management staff continued to engage with tenants in Council dwellings in maintaining neighbourhoods. Lavin Park Residents Association in Tullyallen recently took delivery of a new ride on mower, with assistance from Estate Management Section, for use on the green areas in the estate.



New lawn mower for Lavin Park Residents Association

Notifications Issued for Tenancy Breaches

1 st April to 27 th April, 2023	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly	Yearly
Verbal Warnings	3	0	0	3	14
Written Warnings	1	0	0	1	1
Tenancy Notifications	0	0	1	0	6

Local Authority Home Loans

2023 Budget Allocation	€8,030,000
LAHL Approvals at 28/04/2023	€1,840,248

Breakdown of LAHL applications processed at 28 th April, 2023.	
Total number of Applications at 28/04/2023	37
LAHL carried over from 2022	5
Invalid/Returned	6
Approved	10
Declined	12
For review	13
Outstanding – waiting on further information	1

1 st April to 28 th April, 2023	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly Total	Yearly Total
No. Tenants who attended Pre-tenancy training	4	3	9	16	113
Post-tenancy inspections	9	2	0	0	115
Tenancy Investigation Visits	18	3	0	14	185
Tenancy Investigations Remote	0	0	0	0	20

Anti-Social Behaviour

1 st April to 27 th April, 2023	Drogheda	Ardee	Dundalk	Monthly	Yearly
ASB Cases received	5	0	5	10	40
ASB cases Ongoing	5	1	0	6	39
ASB cases complete	4	0	0	4	28



Minister, Darragh O' Brien TD with the Chief Executive, Members and staff of Louth County Council at the official opening of Patrick Tierney Crescent/ Ashling Crescent (Cox's Demesne, Phase 2)

Due to the high volume of applications received, no further grant applications can be accepted.

Status	HAG	MAG	HOP	Monthly Total
Applications completed 2022	42	17	175	234
Applications Received 01/03/2023 to 28/03/2023	13	0	23	36
Applications on hand 28/04/2023	305	18	268	591

Climate Action

The newly revised **Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme** is now in the third 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 has not received notification on the 2023 allocation for the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme.

Affordable Housing

Louth County Council are in discussions with several developers looking to bring affordable properties to the market in the coming months.

Discussions are at an advanced stage with one developer and we are hopeful of a positive update in the coming weeks.

Housing Acquisitions

Louth County Council has received sanction from the Department to purchase HAP tenancy properties. Housing Acquisitions are actively engaging with HAP landlords that are selling their properties. Louth County Council is also acquiring properties for applicants who are homeless and or have a disability.

Grant Assistance to the Elderly and Disabled

The following grants are available:

- Housing Adaptation Grants – to assist with carrying out works for the purpose of rendering a home more suitable for the accommodation of a person with a disability.
- Mobility Aids Grants – to assist with carrying out works for persons with mobility problems in the home.
- Housing for Older People – to assist older people living in poor housing conditions to have necessary repairs or improvements carried out.

The Council received an allocation of €2,335,813 in 2023 for Private House Grants. €467,163 of this will be funded by the local authority's own resources.

Acquisitions

Louth County Council has the delegated sanction to purchase properties from the second-hand property market for specific categories of housing need, including where a landlord has issued a notice to quit with the intention of selling and the tenant is in receipt of HAP. Louth County Council are actively working with tenants and landlords in relation to the tenant in situ scheme. Louth County Council acquired one property in April for applicants with a disability.



Recently acquired property in Drogheda..

Vacant Homes

A survey of vacant homes in the county began in February resulting in 208 properties been inspected. 98 property owners have contacted the council with their proposals for each property. This is a positive outcome with these properties been brought back into use in the coming months. Capital Housing Delivery

Capital Housing Delivery

Official Opening of Patrick Tierney Crescent, Dundalk / Ashling Crescent (Cox's Demesne, Phase 2



Darragh O'Brien TD, Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage, officially opening Patrick Tierney Crescent & Aisling Crescent (Cox's Demesne Phase 2), Dundalk in the presence of Joan Martin, CE Louth Co. Co., Cllr. Conor Keelan, Cathaoirleach Louth Co.Co, Cllr. and Cllr. Kevin Meenan, Cathaoirleach of Dundalk MD.

SHIP Delivery

Project Name	Project Phase	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Muirhevnamore, Dundalk Phase 1	1/1	11	Stage 4 Approved	01/07/2024	3no. * 2 bed & 8no. * 3 bed
Boice Court (Phase 2 - 4)	1/1	72	Stage 4 Approved	15/11/2024	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	15/11/2024	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	16/10/2025	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	31/03/2024	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	2/6	11	On-site	30/06/2023	11no. * 2 bed
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	3/6	6	On-site	30/06/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt.

Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	4/6	6	On-site	30/06/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt.
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	5/6	6	On-site	30/06/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt.
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	6/6	6	On-site	30/06/2023	3no. * 2 bed Apt, 3no. * 3 bed Apt.
Newtown Wood, Drogheda	2/5	1	Completed	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
Point Road, Dundalk	1/1	49	SHIP Accl Delivery, MMC Proposal	31/12/2026	To be confirmed
Dunleer (Ravel Grange)	1/1	72	SHIP Accelerated Delivery, MMC Proposal	31/12/2026	To be confirmed
Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda - West	1/1	105	SHIP Accelerated Delivery, MMC Proposal	31/12/2026	To be confirmed
Mullavalley, Louth Village	1/1	43	SHIP Accelerated Delivery, MMC Proposal	31/12/2026	To be confirmed
Greenhills, Drogheda	1/1	20	SHIP Accelerated Delivery, MMC Proposal	31/12/2026	To be confirmed

CALF DELIVERY

Project Name	Project Phase	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Non Part V/ Part V	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Tierney Street, Ardee Circle Housing	1/2	5		On site	30/07/2023	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	30/05/2023	12no.*1 bed apt & 27no.*2 bed apt
Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda Respond Housing	1/3	40	36/4	On site	30/08/2023	1no.*3 bed detached, 10no.*2 bed terraced, 14no.*3 bed semi detached & 15no.*3 bed terraced
Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda Respond Housing	2/3	46	43/3	On site	30/9/2023	13no.*2 bed terraced, 18no.*3 bed semi detached & 15no.*3 bed terraced
Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda Respond Housing	3/3	47	41/6	On site	30/03/2024	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	69/16	On site	31/8/2023	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	01/03/2024	12no.*3 bed house
Dublin Road, Dundalk Respond Housing	1/2	49	43/6	On site	30/9/2023	18no.*1 bed apt, 7no.*3 bed duplex, 5no.*3 bed terraced, 5no.*2 bed apt & 14.no*2 bed duplex
Duiche Roden, Dundalk Cluid Housing	2/3	24		On site	30/06/2023	6no.*1 bed apt, 8no.*2 bed apt, 6no.*2 bed terraced & 4no.*3 bed terraced
Donore Road Drogheda Cluid Housing	1/1	66	59/7	On site	30/09/2023	4 no.*1 bed apt, 54no.*2 bed apt & 8 no.*3 bed apt
Duiche Roden, Dundalk Cluid Housing	3/3	59		On site	1/8/2023	30no.*1 bed apt, 11no.*2 bed apt & 18no.*3 bed duplex
Drybridge, Drogheda North & East Housing	1/1	16		On site	30/05/2023	2no.*3 bed apt, 10no.*2 bed apt & 4 no.*1 bed apt
Dublin Road, Dundalk Respond Housing	2/2	16		On site	30/9/2023	9no.*1 bed apt, 2no.*3 bed apt, 1no.*2 bed duplex & 4no.1*bed semi
Connollys Field Dundalk Fold Housing	1/2	30	19/11	On site	29/03/2024	20no*1 bed apt 10no*2 bed apt
Connollys Field Dundalk Fold Housing	2/2	40		On Site	17/05/2024	31no*1 bed apt 9 no*2 bed apt
An Caislean, Flaxmill Lane, Yellowbatter Drogheda North &East	1/1	17	14/3	On site	15/12/2023	7no*1 bed apt 7 no*2 bed apt 3no*3 bed apt
Seabrook Dromiskin	1/1	23	21/2	On site	31/03/2024	3*3 Bed bungalow 20*3 bed semi detached

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	03/06/2024	5 * No 2 Bed, 1 * No 2 Bed ambulant unit, 1 *No 4 Bed Communal unit
10-16 The Alleys, St Peters Place, Drogheda	P McVerry	14	Stage 2 Approved	30/07/2024	14 * Studio apartments
Barrack Street, Dundalk, Co Louth	Dublin Simon	30	Stage 2 Approved	15/01/2025	19 * 1 Bed units 3 * accessible units 8 * Studio
St John's Home, Peters Street, Drogheda	North & East	4	Stage 3 Approved	30/09/2024	4 * 1 Bed units
Kincora House, 1-2 Seatown	P McVerry	8	Stage 1 approved	30/07/2024	8 No * 1 Bed apartments
Highfield, Newry Road, Dundalk, Co Louth	Womens Aid Dundalk	12	Stage 1 approved	02/06/2024	No 5 * 1 bed No 7 * 2 bed
3 Paradise Place	P McVerry	4	Stage 1 approved	01/09/2024	4 No * 1 Bed apartments

Cultural Services

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. The IT draft NRP is currently out for comment with local authorities. 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 receives occasional updates from the sub-group.

Digital Access to Cultural Memory

The Co Archivist along-with the Local Studies Librarian attended the Local Studies and Archives meeting held by Libraries Development in the LGMA at the end of March. The meeting discussed issues in relation to a national programme under the new public library strategy for increasing digital access to cultural heritage. An audit of collections in local studies and in archive services is due to take place in April – May.

Research Enquiries

The service continues to receive a steady volume of enquiries on archives. Research enquiries include those from private individuals, academics, professionals and state agencies. The Archivist also receives many internal enquiries from staff in various sections.

A handwritten list of names and amounts, titled 'Subscription List for 1854'. The list is written in cursive and includes names such as Mrs. Harcourt, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Fortescue, Miss Fortescue, Rev. J. Davis, Rev. W. H. Filgate, Rev. J. D. Logan, Sir J. D. Foster, W. J. H. Filgate, H. J. L. Norman, N. Humbertovich, N. Ditchie, N. Kelly, N. Selan, N. Caughfield, N. Harmon, N. Phil. W. Donnell, W. C. Doylan, N. Cochran, N. O'Rourke, N. Fitzgerald, N. Terman, and Miss Ellis. The amounts are listed in the right-hand column, ranging from 100 to 500. The total amount at the bottom right is 35 10 0.

Name	Amount
Mrs. Harcourt	5 0 0
Mrs. Robinson	5 0 0
Mrs. Fortescue	2 0 0
Miss Fortescue	5 0 0
Rev. J. Davis	1 0 0
Rev. W. H. Filgate	1 0 0
Rev. J. D. Logan	0 10 0
Sir J. D. Foster	5 0 0
W. J. H. Filgate	1 0 0
H. J. L. Norman	1 0 0
N. Humbertovich	7 0 0
N. Ditchie	0 10 0
N. Kelly	1 0 0
N. Selan	1 0 0
N. Caughfield	1 0 0
N. Harmon	1 0 0
N. Phil. W. Donnell	0 10 0
W. C. Doylan	0 10 0
N. Cochran	0 10 0
N. O'Rourke	0 5 0
N. Fitzgerald	0 5 0
N. Terman	0 10 0
Miss Ellis	1 0 0
Total	35 10 0

Ardee Ladies Association for the Sick Poor Subscription List, 1854

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.

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

LAMA Awards

Louth Library Service staff attended the LAMA awards ceremony which was held in the Minella Hotel in Clonmel on the 15th of April. The LAMA awards recognise and celebrate communities and councils working together. They provide a great opportunity to highlight and celebrate the work done within our communities, to reward our unsung heroes and recognise the phenomenal contribution they've made to our lives.

Louth Library Service was shortlisted in the Most Inclusive Project 2022 category for the recent Library of Sanctuary award. This award is for an individual, team, group, or network who initiated and lead action to remove barriers to attract and improve working experience and engagement levels and make the environment more inclusive for all.



Leona Burgess, Executive Librarian and Amanda Branigan, Acting County Librarian

LAI/CILIP Joint Annual Conference 2023



The LAI/CILIP joint annual conference took place in the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Dundalk on 26th & 27th April. The theme of the conference was "Libraries Making a Difference" and what that means in all library contexts. Louth Library Service was represented at the conference with staff both presenting and submitting posters.

Library of Sanctuary presented by Executive Librarian Leona Burgess
Pride in Louth Library Service presented by Library Assistants Ray Gainford & Ciara Brodigan
The poster submissions highlighted various initiatives including:

- Louth Science Festival
- Room for All
- 1 Card 6 Libraries, collaboration between Louth Library Service and DKIT Library Service

- Library outreach in secondary schools via Junior Achievement Ireland
- Library Housebound Service



Executive Librarian Leona Burgess presenting on Louth Library Service's Library of Sanctuary award



Ray Gainford and Ciara Brodigan presented on 'Pride in Louth Library Service' at the LAI/CILIP Conference



Some of the team representing Louth Library Service at the joint LAI/CILIP Conference

Creative Ireland



Fighting Words

Fighting Words project, funded by Creative Ireland's Legacy Grants, continues in Drogheda Library. The final outcome of The Southside Community Youth Project has taken the story from the page to the screen, watch the short film here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PbxffX9KQIs> As part of the project both groups final short film will be screened in Droichead Arts Centre later this year.

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

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/>

LOTE Online 4 Kids



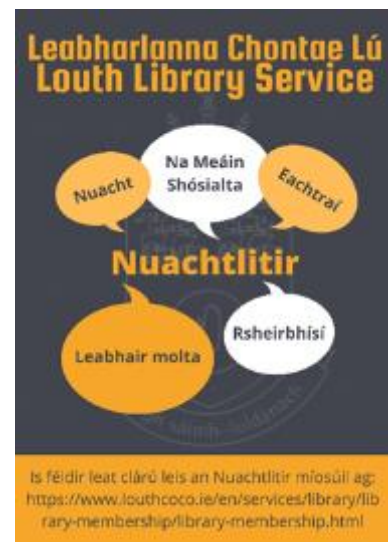
LOTE Online 4 Kids is a database of digital books in World Languages, created for children to enjoy books and learn language through storytelling. The platform provides over 2250+ digital books in 60+ languages together with English translations. New books and languages are released each month, so stay tuned.



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

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



Sensory area with dimmed lights



Healthy Ireland
at your Library

Physiotherapy Workshop for Older People Wednesday 24th May in Dundalk & Ardee Libraries

Paul Bolger from Nano Physiotherapy will lead a physiotherapy talk for older adults in Dundalk and Ardee Libraries on Wednesday 24th May.

- 11am-12.30pm in Dundalk Library
- 2.30pm-4pm in Ardee Library.

All welcome but booking is essential. To book your place contact Dundalk Library on 042 9353190 or Ardee Library on 041 6859023.



Spring Into Storytime



Louth Library Service delivered a very successful Spring into Storytime 2023 programme to all branches throughout the month of April. The programme consisted of over 30 in-house events, from an egg-stra special Baby Book Club in Dundalk Library, to Storytime and Songs in Drogheda Library. All events were enjoyed by schools & families with over 700 participants visiting Louth Library Service throughout the month of April.



Spring Crafts workshop in Drogheda Library



Storytime fun in Drogheda Library

Down Syndrome Ireland Awareness and Book Club Training

Library staff recently attended a workshop on how to establish and maintain a book club for adults with Down syndrome in the Drogheda area. Sinead Flynn, Adult Education Officer with Down Syndrome Ireland, delivered the workshop with Mike Egan, Resource Officer in the Louth Meath Down Syndrome Ireland Branch and Down Syndrome

Ireland members Jason McGivern, Megan McCormack and Conor O'Dowd.



Staff from Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries with Sinead Flynn Adult Education Officer with DSI and DSI members Megan McCormack and Conor O'Dowd

Adult Events

Ciorcal Cómhrá / Irish Conversation first Tuesday of every month at 4pm in Dundalk and every Wednesday at 1pm in Drogheda Library

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 and Drogheda Library on 041 9876162

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. The next meeting will be on Friday 05th May at 11am. Everyone welcome.

Children's Events

Ardee Library

Ardee Library presents Picture Book Storytime and Colouring Club every Friday afternoon from 3.30pm-4.30pm throughout the month of May. All welcome to attend but booking is essential. To book your place contact Ardee Library on 041 6859023.

Parent & Toddler Mornings

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

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Baby Book Club

Explore the benefits of reading to your baby from an early age during Baby Book Club,

- the first Wednesday of each month in Dundalk Library
- the first Tuesday of each month in Drogheda Library.



Baby Book Club in Drogheda Library

Other Events

Bealtaine Festival



Louth Library Service has a packed schedule of events to celebrate the Bealtaine Festival, Ireland's national celebration of the arts and creativity as we age.

Dundalk Library

Flower Arranging Demonstration

Tuesday 09th May at 3pm

Join Mary Bell Ryan for a Flower Arranging Demonstration where attendees will learn the techniques of creating fabulous floral displays.

To book your place contact Dundalk Library on 042 9353190

Bealtaine Table Quiz

Thursday 18th May at 2.30pm

Calling all quizzers to the welcome return of the Bealtaine Table Quiz in Dundalk Library.

For further information contact Dundalk library on 042 9353190

Down Memory Lane

Dundalk library's Magic Table in their 'Room for All' will be hosting a special memory focused programme as part of the Bealtaine Festival. Photographs of Dundalk through the years will take users down memory lane. This programme will run throughout the month of May. For further information contact Dundalk Library on 042 9353190.

Drogheda Library

Drogheda Male Voice Choir Lunchtime Recital

Friday 05th May at 2pm

Drogheda Library is delighted to welcome members of the Drogheda Male Voice Choir under the direction of David Leddy for a lunchtime recital in Drogheda Library. All are welcome to attend

Tracing Your Family History

Tuesday 09th & Thursday 18th May from 11am-1pm & 2pm-4pm

Free Genealogical and Family History Consultation on a one to one basis with library staff.

To book your place contact Drogheda Library on 041 9876162.

Flower Arranging Demonstration

Monday 15th May at 3pm

Join Mary Bell Ryan for a Flower Arranging Demonstration where attendees will learn the techniques of creating fabulous floral displays.

To book your place contact Drogheda Library on 041 9876162

Bealtaine Table Quiz

Tuesday 16th May at 2.30pm

Drogheda Library would like to welcome all quizzers to the Bealtaine Table Quiz.

To book your place contact Drogheda Library on 041 9876162.

Ardee Library

Flower Arranging Demonstration

Thursday 11th May at 11am

Join Mary Bell Ryan for a Flower Arranging Demonstration where attendees will learn the techniques of creating fabulous floral displays.

To book your place contact Ardee Library on 041 6859023.

Earth Day 2023



To celebrate Earth Day 2023 Siobhan McGuinness interviews Louth County Council's Heritage Officer Brendan McSherry.

To access the podcast click here

<https://open.spotify.com/show/7ztj4EOVoUCjWJfi4HxDck>

Or scan the QR in the poster above

Drogheda Library 041 9876162

Rainbow Reads

Drogheda Library hosted their monthly Rainbow Reads event on 19th April. Every month, our team of friendly library staff put together a display of LGBTQ+ titles and offer recommendations over a cup of tea or coffee. This event is open to all and no booking is required.



Drogheda Library staff Lisa Doyle, Ray Gainford and David Donnelly

Creative Spark Decade of Centenaries Project



Creative Spark project display in Drogheda Library

Louth Library Service is delighted to host the Creative Spark project which brings together fifteen local artists who have each created a unique handmade artist book in response to the collection at the Louth Archives under the theme of the "Decade of Centenaries". The project has been displayed in Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries on a large bookshelf shaped like a book. For the final part of the project the display will move to Ardee Library where the community of Ardee will have the opportunity to browse through each artist's book from 02nd May.

Creative Writing Group

Would you like to be part of a Creative Writing group? Come along to our Creative Writers Group to meet fellow writers on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month from 2.30pm-4pm. New members welcome.

Age Action Computer Classes

A new five-week course will begin in Drogheda Library on Friday 05th May. 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

Drogheda Women's Refuge Information Stand

Drogheda Women's Refuge Outreach Service will have an information stand in Drogheda Library on Wednesday 31st May from 10.30am-1pm. The service offers practical and emotional support and options to those experiencing domestic violence.

Ardee Library 041 6859023

Film Screenings at Ardee Library

Ardee Library welcomes the start of film screenings every Tuesday afternoon at 2.15pm. Films will be appropriate for an adult audience- the planned line-up for May is as follows:

Frantic (1986)	2 nd May
Goodbye Mr Chips (1939)	9 th May
The Lady Vanishes (1938)	16 th May
Finding Forrester (2000)	23 rd May
Marginal Call (2011)	30 th May

Ardee Library Board Games Club

Fancy honing your Chess skills? Maybe Draughts is more your thing? Why not give Scrabble a go? All welcome to attend the Ardee Library Board Game Club every Saturday afternoon at 2.15pm. Bring a friend or meet new people for a chat while playing your favourite board game. First meeting will take place on Saturday 6th May.

National Volunteer Week

Karen from Volunteer Louth will facilitate a coffee morning in Ardee Library to celebrate National Volunteer Week on Thursday 18th May from 10am-12noon. Come along and learn about the wonderful possibilities and opportunities volunteering can give you.

Cultúr Drop In Clinic

Deirdre from Cultúr hosts a monthly drop in clinic in Ardee Library on the first Thursday of every month with advice 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.

Audiobook Club

The Ardee Library Audiobook Club meets every third Thursday of the month at 6pm. The next meeting will be on Thursday 18th May at 6pm. All are welcome to join.

'Vere Foster' Writers Group

Every Friday from 10.30am-12.30p. This is a group for adults to share their writings with others and build confidence in their writing. New members 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 Viktoriaa or Angel at angel@cultur.ie or 0873315169. All welcome.

Knitting & Crochet Group

Every Thursday at 2:30pm
Everyone welcome, no booking required.

Arts

Creative Ireland

April saw two projects come to fruition which the Creative Ireland Louth team committed funding under actions for the Drogheda Implementation Plan.

A new Youth Arts Festival took place on Sunday 30th April in Droichead Arts Centre.



The festival was programmed and curated by five young people selected especially by local youth representatives. The young participants were aged between 16 & 18 and were mentored by local artists from Droichead Arts Centre and Boomerang Café. The participants worked with the mentors throughout March and April learning how to programme, produce, budget and market their own one day arts festival.

Alongside the Youth Arts Festival there was also a photography exhibition 'Pride and Place' which launched in the gallery space of Droichead Arts Centre. In partnership with Youth Work Ireland Louth Southside CYP and Foróige Cable Project, the exhibition is a series of photographs taken by young people by and from Drogheda. Facilitator Karen Smyth worked with 40 young people from the area on the project covering themes of identity and pride in their area.



The new Louth Creativity and Cultural Strategy 2023-2027 is now available to view on our website [here](#). There will also be English and Irish printed versions available to view on our libraries in the coming weeks. Creative Ireland Louth Co-Ordinator

Moya Rodgers presented an overview of the Creative Ireland programme and the new strategy to the Strategic Policy Committee for Community on Wednesday 22nd March at their meeting in Ardee library.

Cruinniú na nÓg

Plans are well underway for our annual Cruinniú na nÓg day which will take place on Saturday 10th June. In Drogheda we are partnering with Meath on a range of outreach projects that will take place in the run up to Cruinniú day in the East Meath area, as well as plenty of live events on the day in Drogheda town itself.

We are also looking at another live Music at the Square event in Dundalk following on from our successful run last year. A full programme will be announced towards the second half of May with full details on all events.

Brigid1500

Creative Spark was the successful contractors of the recent tender for the Artist in the Community project. Their partnership with AAEX (Art as Exchange) will see four artists work with a range of community groups and schools across the county between now and the end of the year with an exciting exhibition of works being launched in time for the 1500 commemorations in February 2024. Full details on this will be on the Brigid1500 page on the VisitLouth site [here](#)

Drogheda Arts Festival

Drogheda Arts Festival took place on Sat 29th & Sunday 30th April. Events included local artist David Keenan performing in Droichead Arts Centre on the Sat night while Mary Coughlan played to a sold out Gerrard's Church on the Sunday evening.



Families were delighted on the streets of Drogheda with performances from Tumble Circus & The Trinitones throughout the Saturday afternoon in West Street and then later in Scotch Hall. Renowned author Irvine Welsh was also due to attend for an 'In Conversation' session in Highlanes Gallery, but due to a family bereavement had to postpone. The festival committee hopes he will be able to facilitate the event later in the summer. Tickets purchased will be valid for the new date, once confirmed.

Youth Theatre events

MAD Youth Theatre performed 'This is A Room' by playwright Caryl Churchill in An Táin Arts centre from 12th – 14th April. Later this year they will perform a newly devised play in an offsite location. Both productions are being supported by CreateLouth, arts service of Louth County Council, and Creative Ireland Louth.

Droichead Youth Theatre performed 'The Night Witches' by Rachel Bublitz, a play involving the performers making WWII fighter planes out of their bodies and props, pulling incredible stories of women in WWII out of the shadows and into the spotlight. Funded by the Arts Councils Young Ensemble scheme, the production took place in Droichead Arts Centre from 13th-15th April.

CreateLouth Arts Grants

The arts service of Louth County Council closed their annual arts grants scheme in April. The grant awards this year include a range of bursaries for emerging and established artists, as well as arts grants for creative projects, Tyrone Guthrie bursary, and Drama League of Ireland Summer School Bursary. The applications were assessed by a panel including an independent assessor from another

local authority arts office. Full details of the awards will be noted at the May council meeting and all applicants will be notified of the outcome before the end of May.

Museum

Display on St. Brigid of Ireland



View of St Brigid display at the County Museum, Dundalk

Unfortunately, this popular display has now ended its run at the Museum. This display featured items from the Museum's collection of Brigid's Crosses, as well as a number of sketches and samples of promotional material for pilgrimages to her shrine in the 1930s.

Events

The Museum hosted the local launch for the 'Darkness Into Light' campaign in the run-up to Easter. The event itself will take place on the morning of Saturday 06th May.

In addition to the above Primary and Secondary schools, community groups and associations continue to host the Museum including a Dublin-based vintage and veteran car group who visited during the month.

Ambassadorial Visit

The Museum hosted a visit by the Japanese Ambassador to Ireland, His Excellency, Mr Maruyama Norio. The Ambassador called into the

Museum following his attendance at the Japanese Film Festival at the An Táin Arts Centre.

Recent Acquisitions

The Museum continues to develop its collection with the welcome addition of a wide variety of items over the month of April. The diverse nature of the collection of over 80,000 was maintained through the acquisition of a multiplicity of artefacts including:

- A school desk
- A sign welcoming US President Joseph R. Biden home to County Louth.
- A beautiful 19th century example of slipware pottery

A handmade wooden model of a GNR locomotive and stage coach.



20th Century school desk



Welcome sign for Presidential Visit



Example of 19th Slipware pottery



Handmade wooden model of GNR locomotive



Handmade wooden model of GNR locomotive

Ukrainian Humanitarian Response Freagairt Dhaonnúil na hÚcráine

This Directorate is a temporary creation to lead on the response to the Ukrainian Humanitarian Response and is led by the undersigned.

Is cruthú sealadach í an Stiúirtheacht seo chun ceannaireacht a thabhairt ar an bhfreagairt ar Fhreagra Dhaonnúil na hÚcráine agus tá sí faoi stiúir ag an té atá sínithe thíos.

Yvonne O'Brien
Director / Stiúirthóir



Ukrainian Humanitarian Response

Offer A Home Programme

Property Figures as at 28/04/2023

Property offers recorded	33
Owners successfully contacted	33
Properties allocated	18
Beneficiaries assigned	52
Assessments	28
Assessments currently underway	1
Properties assessed as suitable	18
Properties with minor works required	4
Properties withdrawn	3
Properties not viable	7

All licence agreements that were due to expire in June and July have been extended for a further 6 months.

Irish Red Cross Pledges

The Ukrainian Response team are to receive training on the CRM database for the Irish Red Cross Pledges in May and will have data on the number of offers going forward. This will eliminate duplication of vacant properties being offered to Local Authorities and the Irish Red Cross.

Refurbishment Programme

Local Authorities are facilitating and acting as agents for the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage refurbishment programme. Currently 13 properties are being assessed for their suitability to provide accommodation for Ukrainian Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection.

Integration Support

Two excursions were organised by the Ukrainian team with funding awarded from Healthy Ireland for Ukrainian Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection Health and Wellbeing Support. 139 people went on the trip to the zoo and 38 people went to Funtasia Water Park. A 10 week yoga programme started this

month in St. Nicholas GFC, Drogheda which was also funded by Healthy Ireland.

Protocol for Social Housing Tenants Offering a Shared Room in their Property

LGMA confirmed that social housing tenants are entitled to share their home with Ukrainian beneficiaries of temporary protection and receive the €800 Accommodation Recognition Payment from the Department of Social Protection. All shared properties are currently offered to the Irish Red Cross.