



Comhairle Contae **Lú**
Louth County Council

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

**Dated 7th June 2022
7^ú Meitheamh 2022**

Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report – 31st May 2022
Tuairisc Bainistíochta ag an bPríomhfheidhmeannach – 31ú Bealtaine 2022

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Finance and Water Services Airgeadas agus Seirbhísí Uisce

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

Other responsibilities include Motor Tax and Water Services.

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

Ina chuid den freagrachtaí eile ná Mótarcháin agus Seirbhísí Uisce.

Bernie Woods
Director / Stiúrthóir



FINANCE

Expenditure to 31st May 2022 / Caiteachas go dtí 31ú Bealtaine 2022

Section/Rannóg	Actual Expenditure to/Caiteachas Iarbhír go dtí 31/05/2022	Budget Expenditure/ Caiteachas Buiséadaithe 2022	% Spent to/ % Caite go 31/05/2022
Housing/Tithíocht	€13,839,084	€47,728,898	29%
Road Transportation & Safety/Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht	€9,035,545	€26,126,012	35%
Water Services/Seirbhísí Uisce	€3,014,467	€8,379,633	36%
Development Management/Bainistíocht Forbartha	€5,702,455	€17,331,075	33%
Environmental Services/Seirbhísí Timpeallachta	€6,838,234	€19,413,023	35%
Recreation and Amenity/Áineas agus Conláiste	€3,546,109	€9,615,255	37%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare/Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas	€429,476	€1,203,454	36%
Miscellaneous/Ilghnéitheach	€4,224,575	€10,474,400	40%
	€46,629,945	€140,271,750	33%

Income to 31st May 2022 / Ioncam go 31ú Bealtaine 2022

Section/Rannóg	Actual Income to/Ioncam Iarbhír go dtí 31/05/22	Budget Income/Ioncam Buiséadaithe 2022	% Invoiced to/ % Sonraisc Curtha do dtí 31/05/22
Housing/Tithíocht	€15,164,082	€48,920,854	31%
Road Transportation & Safety/Iompar Bóthair agus Sábháilteacht	€832,936	€16,718,183	5%
Water Services/Seirbhísí Uisce	€2,398,891	€8,110,634	30%
Development Management/Bainistíocht Forbartha	€2,065,066	€10,250,958	20%
Environmental Services/Seirbhísí Timpeallachta	€768,195	€2,253,742	34%
Recreation and Amenity/Áineas agus Conláiste	€326,701	€1,043,293	31%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare Talmhaíocht, Oideachas, Sláinte agus Leas	€128,266	€479,424	27%
Miscellaneous/Ilghnéitheach	€1,853,872	€7,097,818	26%
Rates/Rátaí	€34,864,944	€35,030,647	100%
General Purpose Grant (LPT)/Deontas Ilfheidhmeach	€4,933,098	€9,866,198	50%
Provision for Debit Balance/Soláthar faoi Iarmhéid Dochair		€500,000	0%
	€63,336,051	€140,271,750	45%

The above is the current position as at the 31st May 2022. The allocation of the Central Management Charge is estimated in the above figures as the allocation is not completed till mid-month. The full rates demand for 2022 is included in the above figure.

Collection rates as at 31st May 2022 are as follows:

Debtors as at 31st May 2022/Féichiúnaithe mar atá 31ú Bealtaine 2022

	Opening Balance /Iarmhéid Tosaigh	Invoices/ Sonraisc	Receipts/ Fáltais	Write Offs/ Díscríobhanna	Closing Balance/ Iarmhéid Deiridh
Government Debtors/Féichiúnaithe Rialtais	€10,304,674	€20,074,875	(€23,066,547)	(€25)	€7,312,977
Other Local Authorities/Uadaráis Áitiúla Eile	€53,434	€358,114	(€249,256)	(€2,270)	€160,022
Rates/Rataí	€10,273,724	€34,864,944	(€15,919,399)	(€2,075,116)	€27,144,153
Rents/Cíosanna	€2,517,135	€5,389,096	(€5,572,607)	(€11,089)	€2,322,535
Loans/Iasachtal	€241,004	€776,267	(€757,107)	€8	€260,172
Development Levies/Tobhaigh Forbartha	€11,451,043	€2,008,862	(€1,549,134)	(€310,844)	€11,599,927
Fire Charges/Táilí Seirbhíse Dóiteáin	€707,144	€247,833	(€144,187)	(€60,333)	€750,457
Miscellaneous/Ilghnéitheach	€2,513,794	€4,348,558	(€3,937,896)	(€94,882)	€2,829,574
Total Debtors / Féichiúnaithe Iomlána	€38,061,952	€68,068,549	(€51,196,133)	(€2,554,551)	€52,379,817

Above are the debtor balances as at 31st May 2022. The Miscellaneous debtor figure includes the Irish Water SLA recoupments, Corporate, Community & Enterprise, LEO, Planning, Enforcement, Environment, Sports, Vets, Arts, Roads, Library, Museum and Finance miscellaneous billings.

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

WATER SERVICES / SEIRBHÍSI UISCE

Irish Water

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

Water Quality / Cáilíocht Uisce

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

Water Conservation / Caomhnú Uisce

Water conservation is ongoing throughout the County.

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

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

Capital Programmes/Cláir Chaipitiúla

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

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

Tallanstown Rationalisation / Cuíchóiriú Bhaile an Tallúnaigh

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

The Stage 4 workshop has been completed. Our Operations section continues to engage with Irish Water and the design team to support the project. Land acquisition is currently being progressed. Project to include works at Mullacrew Reservoir, new Pumping Station at Allardstown and new Pumping Station at Bannons Cross.

Cavanhill WTW Upgrade/ Uasghrádú Ionad Cóireála Uisce Cavan Hill

We are currently negotiating with Irish Water on the phased transition from the DBO contract to Operations control. We have recruited additional staff who are currently undergoing training and shadowing in conjunction with the DBO Contractor and Irish Water in order to manage and operate Cavan Hill Water Treatment Plant once the facility is taken back in charge by the council under our Service Level Agreement. The proposed date for us to take back in charge the facility is the 30th of June 2022.

Staleen WTW Upgrade / Uasghrádú Ionad Cóireála Uisce Steach Luíne

We are currently negotiating with Irish Water the phased transition from the DBO contract to Operations control. We have recruited additional staff and are currently undergoing training and shadowing in conjunction with the DBO Contractor and Irish Water to manage and operate Staleen Water Treatment Plant once the facility is taken back in charge by us under the Service Level Agreement. The proposed date for us to take back in charge the facility is the 30th of June 2022.

Omeath WWTW / Córas Cóireála Fuíolluisce Ó Méith

Site mobilisation and setup of site compound has been completed. Construction Phase has commenced. Project programmed for completion May 2023.

Shared Waters Enhancement and Loughs Legacy (SWELL)

Re-lining works commenced Dec 2021 and to be completed mid-2022. Irish Water are to consider

further surface water separation. Phase 1 of SWELL Project is complete.

Regional Sewer Network Rehabilitation / Athshlánú an Líonra Séaraigh Aitiúil

Further network surveys are being progressed under the 2022 programme for Louth. Works are progressing on the Drogheda network.

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

We continue to liaise with Irish Water and their Consultants on network verifications. Key risks identified from stage 3 are to be taken forward to stage 4 and options identified to address risks. Detailed Strategic Model to be complete by end of Q2 2022.

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

Consultants are currently progressing the design with Irish Water in consultation with Louth County Council. The detailed design is being progressed by Irish Water's consultants.

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.

Dundalk LNRP / Clár um Atreisiúchan Líonra Áitiúil Dhún Dealgan

Strategic Review underway for Dundalk Wastewater Treatment Plant and Blackrock Wastewater Treatment Plant to facilitate progressing the Local Network Reinforcement Programme.

Drogheda LNRP / Clár um Atreisiúchán Líonra Áitiúil Dhroichead Átha

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

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. Liaising with our Planning section is progressing. Planning and procurement process to progress throughout 2022.

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

Irish Water's consultants are advancing detailed Design. Procurement of contractors has been completed with commencement on site programmed for July 2022.

Greenmount WTW Upgrade/Uasghrádú Ionad Cóireála Uisce Dhroim Chatha

Irish Water have commenced design of the Upgrade of Greenmount WTW. Initial Design Workshop completed. The next Design Workshop is proposed for June 2022. A more detailed programme will be available following the next workshop. However indicative timelines suggest that it will be four years before the project is completed and commissioned i.e., 2026.

Drogheda WWTP/Córas Cóireála Fuíolluisce Dhroichead Átha

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

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

Irish Water are currently tendering for consultant to undertake the Drogheda Drainage Area Plan. It is anticipated that Consultants will be appointed in Q2 and project to progress throughout 2022.

Cockle Hill PS Upgrade / Uasghrádú Stáisiún Ceadéalacháin Chnoic na Ruachan

Workshop four has been completed and contractor has been appointed. Works to be progressed in Q3 2022.

Water Networks / Líonraí Uisce

Water Networks Programme/Ciár Líonraí Uisce

Rehabilitation Programme/Ciár Athshlánúcháin

Work on the four rehabilitation schemes below is being undertaken through this program in May

- Cast iron network replacement in Pearse Park Drogheda - 98% Completed. Work due to be completed in July 2022.
- Cast iron network replacement in Sliabh Breagh – Ardee 100% Completed. Decommissioning of existing main programmed for week commencing 30th May 2022. Properties who refused to connect will remain on an existing 2” back yard main.
- Cast iron network replacement in Tallanstown - Phase 1 completed, Phase 2 98% completed. Phase 2 commenced 4th April 2022 and is due for completion in mid-June 2022.
- Design development for the slip lining of the watermain through the Bridge of Peace – Design ongoing.

Lead replacement / Ionadú Luaidhe Back Yard Services / Seirbhísí Cúlchlóis

Irish Water’s Contractors are continuing to conduct back yard service replacement in Pearse Park (Lourdes) - Drogheda in May – now 90% completed.

Irish Water’s contractors are continued to conduct back yard service replacement in the Corporation cottages, Duleek Street, Drogheda – now 85% completed.

Irish Water’s contractors conducted back yar service / shared services replacement at 38, 40 & 42 Fatima Court, Dundalk in May – 100% completed.

First Fix / Chéad Shocrú

Four first fix type repairs were undertaken by Irish Water contractors in May.

Find & Fix / Aimsigh agus Deisigh

Louth County Council crews undertook Find and Fix activities in Colon, Ardee and Dunleer in May.

Water Scouring Programme 2022 / Clar Sciúrtha Uisce 2022

Localised flushing only in May.

Network Maintenance / Cothabháil Líonra

63 essential water tasks were conducted in May including 46 arising out of the Find and Fix program.

There is a substantial leak in the Marian Park DMA on Congress Avenue which is having an impact on flow and pressure in the area. Because of the location (within the extended footprint of the dwelling) the repair was passed over to Irish Water’s Asset Planning Team where it is currently being reviewed. Mindful of the network condition in this area we have been undertaking planned network repairs in public areas within the Marian Park DMA. An Asset Needs Brief is being prepared and will be forwarded to Irish Water for inclusion in their works programme.

650 wastewater issues were resolved during May (14 Dundalk, 7 Drogheda and 44 in the County Area).

Planning & Water Connections / Pleanáil agus Ceangail Uisce

The Networks Section processed 14 new connections, 14 Pre-Connection Enquiries and 32 Planning Applications in May.

Service Maps / Léarscáileanna Seirbhíse

The Networks Section prepared 12 Service Maps in May.

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

This Directorate has three key areas of responsibility:

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

Infrastructure, including our roads, bridges, and ports

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

Tá trí eochairfhreagracht ag an Stiúrtóireacht seo:

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

Bonneagar, ár mbóithre, ár ndroichid, agus ár gcalaphoirt san áireamh

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

Thomas McEvoy
A/Director / G/Stiúrtóir



Planning, Infrastructure & 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>.

Economic Development

Louth Economic Forum

The Louth Economic Forum met on the 11th May. There was a presentation from Irene McCausland of DKIT on their current status. The next meeting will take place on the 27th July.

Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme 2022

To date this year 9 applications have been received, applications can be submitted until Friday, 30th September, 2022.

Tourism

'sea louth'



There is a competition in association with Ghan House in the 23rd May edition of the Women's Way magazine.

Pól O'Conghaile completed the trail on the 24th May and is due to publish a feature in the Irish Independent.

Mums and Tots magazine printed a feature on the trail in their Summer edition (June to August).

sea louth will have a stand at the Dundalk Agricultural Show on the 12th June to promote the trail.

Festival Grant Funding Applications 2022

The applications received under (1) Louth County Council Festival Grant Initiative 2022 and (2) Louth County Council Large Festival / Participative Event Programme 2022 are currently being evaluated.

Fáilte Ireland Funding

Urban Animation

Work on the project which involves:

- An animated lighting show which will run during festivals and other seasonal events,
- A new Augmented Reality Trail – the first of its kind in Ireland, and
- An urban art trail with an audio story attached.

The response to the tender request for the first stage has been received and is currently being evaluated.

Destination Towns Capital Investment Programme

The tender was reissued on eTenders in May.

The proposed signage will be focused on streets from Magdalene Tower to Millmount and from Westgate to St. Laurence's Gate in Drogheda town centre.

Boyne Valley Flavours

Boyne Valley Flavours Steering Committee have put a strategy document together which outlines the vision, mission, objectives and 5 year plan for the Culinary Project. This strategy document will be presented to Louth and Meath County Council and Minister Helen McEntee on Friday 3rd June, 2022.

New Boyne Valley Flavours Brochure has been created to promote the food and drink producers in the region along with Food Experiences across the two counties and will be available at Bloom on the Discover Boyne Valley Tourism Stand.

LEO Louth

COVID-19 Business Supports



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

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

'Look for Local' / '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:

tradingonline@leo.louthcoco.ie.

Brexit Supports

Brexit Advisory Clinic:

Brexit Advisory Clinics, involving one to one meetings to help assess the impact of Brexit on Louth businesses, continue to be offered to local businesses.

Microfinance Ireland Loan:

Microfinance Ireland is offering a Brexit Business Loan, via LEO, in order to support businesses that will be directly impacted by Brexit.

A full range of Brexit supports to help small businesses is offered by LEO Louth, all information can be found at:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Brexit/>.

National Enterprise Awards 2022 National Finals



Overall National Enterprise Award county winner Conor Kerley of Phytaphix completed his interview with the national judging panel in May.

The National Enterprise Awards will take place on 2nd June, 2022.



Conor Kerley, Setanta Nutrition Ltd. t/a Phytaphix with both his Innovation Award and Overall County Winner Award

Student Enterprise Programme



The national final was held in the Helix on 18th May and while we had no one shortlisted to attend the event we did win two national awards.

Winner of the Most Interactive Business on Social Media went to Bee & Bee from Ardee Community School.



Emma Courtney, Maya Chanda & Kate Powderly, Bee & Bee, from Ardee Community School, Ardee with Thomas McEvoy, Head of Enterprise Louth Local Enterprise Office (Missing from picture student Ava MacCormack)

Junior category winner of the Best Business Poster Award was Handmade by Laoise from Scoil Uí Mhuirí, Dunleer.



Laoise Fogarty, Handmade by Laoise, from Scoil Uí Mhuirí, Dunleer, with Fionnuala Rogers, Student Enterprise Coordinator (Louth) and Thomas McEvoy, Head of Enterprise Louth Local Enterprise Office

Green for Micro



The Green for Micro programme is a free programme which aims to help businesses identify cost savings and improve their green credentials. This is achieved by looking at the business from an environmental perspective.

Projects may vary from assessing energy, water and waste costs, guidance with environmental management system, to the greening of the product or business to adapt to the changing market place.

This programme will continue to be delivered throughout 2022.

1 no. Louth business was approved in May bringing our approvals YTD to 10 no.

LEO Louth continues to welcome new applications.

LEO Louth Client Portfolio Review / Export Adviser Programme

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

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

The Advisers are now actively engaging with 14 LEO Louth portfolio clients for up to 5 days each over the course of 2022.

Business Training



May was another busy month with 6 no. workshops delivered to 97 no. attendees. Workshops included Instagram for Beginners, Advanced Facebook, Google Ad words and Data Protection for Small Business.

Some of the June programmes include Branding for Your Business and How to Sell Successfully.

All training courses are available to view and book online at:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Louth/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/>.

COVID-19 Microfinance Ireland Business Loan



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

During May 3 no. applications for support were received. LEO mentors are continuing to assist applicants.

Head of Enterprise is participating on the MFI Strategy Working group and MFI Board.

Microfinance Ireland – New Electric Vehicle Taxi Loan



Microfinance Ireland has a loan whereby taxi owners who wish to buy an electric vehicle can now apply for loans of up to €25,000.00 from Microfinance Ireland.

Loans of between €5,000.00 and €25,000.00 are available, with a 1% reduced APR if the application is made through the Local Enterprise Office. The loans will be up to 5 years. LEO Louth is accepting applications.

LEAN for Micro Programme



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 €2,500.00.

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

There were 4 no. applications for Trading Online support received in May. 21 no. vouchers have been approved YTD.

Business Advice Clinics

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

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.

20 no. businesses were appointed Mentors during the month of May.

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.

4 no. Louth businesses were approved for Lean in May bringing our approvals YTD to 5 no.

Co-Innovate Programme



Final clients on the Co-Innovate Programme continue to engage with the programme to assist them embed innovation in their business. In total 74 no. Louth businesses participated under Co-innovate.

LEO Louth is working with the CBLEP (Cross Border Local Enterprise Partnership) of Local Enterprise Office along the border, their northern counterpart in the Local Enterprise Agencies, Enterprise NI and in conjunction with partners Intertrade Ireland and East Border region to scope out a potential Innovation Business Support programme under the upcoming PEACE funding.

Craft Sector

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

Louth companies will be able to apply to engage in training programmes, an e-Commerce bootcamp and an export focused programme over the next number of months.

Embassy Visits

Economic and Commercial Counsellor, Luis Carmo Reis from the Portuguese Embassy of Ireland met with local businesses on the 18th May, 2022.



Economic and Commercial Counsellor, Luis Carmo Reis and his assistant from the Portuguese Embassy of Ireland with Riona McCoy, Louth LEO

Employment Incentives & Supports Lunch – 11th May, 2022

Thomas McEvoy, Head of Enterprise, represented LEO Louth at the Employment Incentive & Supports Lunch hosted by Dundalk Chamber of Commerce in association with the Cross Border Partnership Employment Services in the Fairways Hotel on 11th May. The lunch was attended by over 100 no. SMEs in the Cross Border Region.



(Back Row L to R) - Michael Gaynor, Cross Border Partnership for Employment Services, Thomas McEvoy LEO Louth, Eugene Conlon, The Energy Team, (Front Row L to R) - Lorraine O'Malley, Dept. of Social Protection, Barbara Gibson, Dept. for Communities, Sean Farrell, President Dundalk Chamber and Deirdre Maguire, InterTrade Ireland

Launch of Louth Business Awards

On 12th May, LEO Louth took part in the launch of Dundalk Chamber of Commerce 'Louth Business Awards'.

NE Regional Skills Forum

On 18th May, LEO Louth attended the NE Regional Skills Forum.

Drogheda Implementation Board (Sub Group C – Enterprise & Employment)

On 25th May, the Drogheda Implementation Board (Sub Group C – Enterprise & Employment) met, chaired by LEO Louth, to progress actions arising from the Guerin Report.

New Frontier Programme – Phase 2

On 30th May, Niamh Dennehy, Louth LEO presented information on the different LEO supports to the participants commencing Phase 2 of the New Frontier Programme at Dundalk Institute of Technology (DKIT).

Network Louth

Network Louth is the Louth branch of the Network Ireland, a leading business network for female entrepreneurs. The Local Enterprise Office supports Network Louth throughout the year and on 27th May Riona McCoy and Sarah Mallon attended the Network Louth Annual Business Awards ceremony. LEO representatives presented an award to Michelle Rankin of Michelle Rankin Marketing as the winner of the Emerging Businesswoman category and she will go forward to represent Network Louth at the national final in October.

European Relations

Peace IV Programme



Project Updates – Shared Spaces and Services

The construction contract for Peter’s Hill, Drogheda has been awarded to GLAS Civil Engineering Ltd. The tender for the Peter’s Hill Artwork will be awarded soon. Tenders for the extension to Muirhevnamór Community Centre (Construction Works) have been received and are currently being evaluated. Louth County Council has received correspondence regarding a potential copyright issue on The Dundalk World War 1 memorial. The Council is working constructively towards a satisfactory resolution with the artist on this matter.

Completing Projects

The programme delivery of ‘Louth Leading the Way’ concluded on 9th May, 2022 with the closing event taken place over Zoom. The Programme targeted civic leaders, community leaders and leaders working in statutory and non-statutory sectors on both sides of the border with a remit for community engagement in / with Co. Louth. This is the final Building Positive PEACE IV project.



Closing Event - Leading the Way May 2022

Infrastructure

Roads Projects

Narrow Water Bridge

A North South Ministerial Infrastructure Sub Group meeting was held on the 8th April, with a further one to be held in June.

Engagement with DFI Infrastructure, Loughs Agency, NPW, etc. is ongoing in order to discharge the Conditions of Planning. Contracts have been awarded for wind tunnel modelling, bathymetric / topographical surveys and works are ongoing on these contracts. Tenders for an advanced works contract for a compensatory roost site and related water quality monitoring have been issued to the market. A works contractor for the roost site is currently being appointed. Updates to the detailed design and environmental management plans, etc. are currently ongoing.

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

Louth County Council await correspondence from An Bord Pleanála regarding the CPO process, 13 objections were received by ABP. The design team are engaging with the landowners throughout the process.

N2 Ardee to Castleblayney Road Scheme

Jacobs continues to progress the design of the road alignment, and are considering the design of structures, drainage and side roads. Meaningful discussions with affected landowners are planned to start in Q3 2022. Ecological surveys are scheduled for completion in the coming months.

Consultation is underway with the TII Archaeologist to agree a scope for archaeological assessment at this phase of the design process. It is anticipated that any assessments will be undertaken using existing Lidar data and will not require ground excavation.

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

N52 Ardee Bypass

Part 8 planning has been passed by the Ardee MD on the 7th April.

Note: A local environmental group are seeking leave for a Judicial Review against An Bord Pleanála and their directions to Louth County Council concerning the preparations of an EIAR and NIS. The initial application has now been heard and the outcome is awaited.

TII HD17 Schemes

A consultant recently carried out Road Safety Inspections (RSI's) on behalf of the TII on both the N2 and the N33 National Roads in Co. Louth. The consultant's reports are currently in *Draft* form and are being reviewed by the TII. The TII will notify Louth County Council in due course as to the various HD17 schemes they will want Louth County Council to pursue in 2022.

Funshog: A Feasibility and Options Report for the upgrade of the N2 / LS5267-0 junction commenced in 2021. The *Draft* report is currently on hold until the TII review the results of the RSI's that were carried out recently on the N2 as outlined above.

Safety Barriers – N53 and N52

A consultant was engaged to carry out onsite surveys on behalf of Louth County Council in late 2021 at 2 no. locations identified on the N53 and at 3 no. locations identified on the N52 as possible locations for the requirement of safety barriers. The surveys will determine the safety barrier requirement as per TII guidelines. The consultant is in the process of finalising the design for submission to TII for assessment on where safety barriers may / may not be required at the 5 no. locations.

N33 and N51 Pavement Scheme

Surfacing works are complete on the N33 in the vicinity of M1 interchange.

Surfacing Works are complete on the N51 near the tie in to the M1 Interchange.

N2 Collon Safety Scheme

TII have now approved the preliminary design report for the safety scheme in Collon, these works are at detail design stage.

Port Access Northern Cross Route

Hedge removal works are completed within the CPO land. These works were carried out within the permitted season such that if any ongoing discussion with developers in case funding does become available before the hedge cutting season resumes.

Footpath and cycle path works to facilitate development on the Ballymakenny Road which is part of the PANCR scheme are completed. The purchase of land to facilitate the footpath and cyclepath has commenced in line with the CPO procedure. Public lighting columns have been erected. Watermain, foul sewer and telecoms ducting are substantially complete. Kerbing work and footpath and cyclelane are substantially complete. Public lighting is 50% complete.

Boyne Enterprise Link Road

The tender documents for construction of the works were issued to the market via eTenders on 6th May, 2022 with a return date of 31st May, 2022. Ongoing consultations are taking place with stakeholders / landowner.

R178 Cavan to Dundalk Strategic Route Improvement Scheme

The project has been reactivated with Cavan County Council being the lead authority. Currently the consultants are reviewing the route using a RibGeom method of assessment. This type of assessment will identify sections of the route corridor where the greatest collision risk exists and these will form a basis of a phased improvement strategy for the route corridor. Currently the consultants are in the process of completing this process and it's envisaged a Risk Based Safety Improvement Measures Report, subject to approval by DoT, will be completed early in the New Year which will give informed recommendations of the sections of the route corridor that improvements are warranted. As part of DoT grants €100k has been awarded under Strategic Regional Local Roads to commence preliminary design work to the identified Risk sections of the R178, subject DoT approval of the said report and production of a SARs report.

Greenways

Carlingford Lough Greenway - Omeath to Newry *(Joint project with Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and East Border Region)*

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

CPO submissions received and Louth County Council engaging with affected parties to resolve outstanding issues from submissions. Louth County Council have issued a letter to ABP seeking an update to the process.

SEUPB have granted a 12 month extension to the project programme, and have engaged a third party to independently assess the request for additional funding by the three border Interreg Greenway projects with a decision expected in 2022. This funding request has passed initial SEUPB review and will be brought before steering group.

Updated submission to NI planning department in regards to DFI comments. Liaison with DFI ongoing. It is anticipated that Planning Permission in N.I. will be decided upon in 2022 once DFI approval has been given.

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

Greenway - Carlingford to Templetown

Consultant is preparing for Public Consultation No.1 - Constraints Study to be held in June. Wintering Bird survey completed and draft report being reviewed. Scope being prepared for drone survey of route corridors and tender to be issued thereafter. Traffic counts being carried out at several locations by Louth County Council.

TII Funded Greenway: Templetown to Dundalk

TII have allocated monies towards the feasibility of a new greenway from Templetown to Dundalk.

LIHAF Projects

LIHAF Access Road at Newtown, Drogheda

Engaging with Department and Developer. Contract documents are substantially complete and ready for tender, subject to the Departments approval.

The developer has submitted a planning application for 67 units in order to bring the quota of housing up to 200 units, currently we are waiting for that process to be completed.

LIHAF Mount Avenue Improvement

Tender documents have been issued to the market via eTenders with a return date of the 15th June. Louth County Council will then prepare a Tender Assessment Report and will seek Department of Housing approval to proceed with the works.

Safety Improvement Works

Retrofit Fencing

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

Ardee Pedestrian Crossing

A Feasibility and Options Report for the Refurbishment of the Pedestrian Lights on Castle Street, Ardee was forwarded to the TII and approval

was received in 2021 for funding of €136,258 for these works. Unfortunately, due to increased design and construction costs, the TII have instructed Louth County Council to retender for a design team to bring the project forward. Draft documentation was sent to the TII and it is currently under review by TII for this scheme.

Specific Bridge Improvement Grants

Obelisk Bridge

Requested peer review by DTTAS is now completed. Final Tender documents are currently being reviewed by DTTAS prior to release to the Market. Funding of €800k was allocated by DTTAS to progress the scheme.

St. Dominick's Bridge, Drogheda

The bridge closure has been in place from 1st November, 2021 for a period of 6 months. This closure has been extended to 15th July as additional time for completion is required due to global market supply chain issues. The Council regrets any inconvenience that the bridge closure will cause. Scaffolding system still fully in place and channel for River users are in place. Encapsulation system in remaining sections as required to meet necessary projection measures. Repairs to the bridge deck, soffit and web repair elements are progressing and snagging on span 1 under way.

Repairs to masonry wall are substantially completed with all stone work at approaches on wing walls rebuilt. Final pointing to be completed by end May. Bridge deck reinstatement has commenced. Reinforced concrete layer placement underway.

Archaeology licence from Department of Heritage in place for excavations on pavement area on north ends of bridge adjacent the quay walls.



Structural Steel Columns under repair



Reinforced concrete deck being poured



St. Dominick's Bridge- Wing-wall rebuilt

Public Transport

NTA Bus Shelter Installation Programme 2021 – 2022

The NTA have, through discussions with bus operators, their bus shelter supplier, and Louth County Council, developed a revised list of 10 proposed schemes detailed below. 3 no. Tenders have been received and have been assessed. NTA have confirmed approval for the works and a Letter of Intent will now be issued to the successful Tenderer. Please note NTA will supply the actual shelters through their own contractor.

- Drogheda - Donore Road
- Dundalk - Red Barns Road opposite Lennonstown Entrance
- Termonfeckin - Big Street at Credit Union
- Kilsaran - South of Standard Brands
- Drogheda - Rowen Heights, Marley's Lane - Southbound
- Ardee - N2 at Monastery Church
- Clogherhead - John Kirk Park / Chapel Road at Shop
- Clogherhead - Callystown Road
- Drogheda – at Newtown Abbey, Newfoundwell Road (R166)
- Dundalk - Rathmount Estate, Seafield Road, Blackrock



Community Services Building – stripping out underway

Corporate Projects

Ardee Castle RRDF

The Amendment Part 8 process was passed at the May Ardee MD meeting. Detailed design and production of procurement information is ongoing.

Redevelopment Fair Street Offices, Drogheda

Main Contractor, Townlink Ltd. commenced work on site on 28th March, 2022. Site compound has been established. Asbestos removal from existing buildings is substantially complete. Stripping out of existing buildings and removal of waste materials under way. Materials for reuse being assessed, segregated and stored as necessary on site. Site hoarding installed to secure site. Temporary Traffic Management Plan measures will be put in place in Fair Street in early June to ensure safe access and egress for all road users for duration of the contract.



Demolition and removal of Old Glass Houses

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund

Living in Carlingford Visiting Carlingford

Design proposals are being developed and consultation has taken place with Fáilte Ireland. The designs will reflect the feedback gained from the first phase of the non-statutory public consultation and will inform these design options. The Topographical and Ground Penetrating Radar surveys are nearing completion on site. Initial traffic counts and traffic analysis has taken place.

Omeath Public Realm

BDP have been appointed as Lead Consultant to bring the project through to completion. Initial meetings have been held and site visits have taken place with Louth County Council. Procurement documents are being completed for required surveys.



Appointment of BDP

Ardee 2040

The detailed design and the preparation of the EIAR and AA Screening for Development consent application to ABP are progressing. Costings for implementation of the project are being prepared. The report into the Public Engagement Process has been uploaded onto the website:

www.ardee2040.ie.

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Projects

West Gate Vision (Drogheda)

Westgate Vision Project is progressing with agreed planning strategy for EIAR and AA Stage 2 reports for Development consent application to ABP based on the emerging option design. Costings for implementation of the project are being prepared. The report into the Engagement process has been uploaded to www.westgatevision.ie.

Long Walk (Dundalk)

Regular meetings are now taking place with the third party stakeholder to develop the key aspects of the masterplan.

St. Nicholas Quarter and Backlands Regeneration

The Council are proceeding to develop the project through a phased basis, with phase one incorporating the Public Realm aspect of the development and phase two the development of the backlands area of St. Nicholas Quarter. Re-submission of the preliminary business case to allow URDF approval to proceed is at an advanced stage.

Dunleer Town Masterplan

Currently out to tender for a multi-disciplinary design team to lead the Masterplan process.

Active Travel Investment Program

2022 Budget Allocation

The National Transport Authority (NTA) have awarded Louth County Council an allocation of €6.53million to advance a number of projects through the preliminary design phase to construction phase. The fourteen projects commenced in 2021

will continue and an additional nine new projects have been allocated funding for this year.

The Active Travel projects funded are for promoting Walking and Cycling infrastructure and development of transport studies.

The current statuses of the ongoing projects are as follows:

- St. Dominick's Bridge, Drogheda: as reported above
- Drogheda (R132), Bridge of Peace to Train Station (including Marsh Road). Our Design Consultants, Barry Transportation Ltd. are progressing with the development of concept designs and options for the scheme.
- Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda: Works ongoing (see PANCR above)
- Drogheda 2021 Active Travel Projects – a number of Active Travel Projects in Drogheda Urban Centre, namely: *Termonfeckin Road, Collon Road, Hill of Rath to Rosehall roundabouts, Rathmullan Road, Dublin Road and North Road* are amalgamated together in order to achieve economy of scale. RPS Group were the successful design team procured after a tender competition and have been appointed to process initial design proposals.
- Drogheda: Boyne Business Park Link Road: reported as above
- Dundalk: R132 Inner Relief Road: Design Consultants, Barry Transportation Ltd. are progressing with the development of concept designs and options for the scheme which have been forwarded to the NTA for review.
- Dublin Road, Dundalk: Design Consultants O'Connor Sutton Cronin (OCSC) are progressing with the development of the design with a view of a Part 8 process commencing in August, 2022. A Stage F Road Safety Audit has been completed and screening for Environmental Assessment is ongoing.
- Ard Easmuinn Road to Train Station / Friary School Dundalk and Bus Station to Rail Station: Consulting Engineers WSP Ltd. are preparing initial proposals for option development. Detailed GPS surveys to be undertaken in the coming comes.
- Footpath Extensions / Links Package B: see Operations Report on Annagassan.

Cherrybrook and Knockbridge: Works have commenced on site in Cherrybrook, Ardee on the 2nd week of May and are continuing in areas of development.



Footpath works completed in Cherrybrook Ardee



Footpath works completed in Cherrybrook Ardee

- R166 Termonfeckin footpath tenders received and procedures to award of contract to MEAT has been completed. Louth County Council are waiting on contractor to mobilise and commence work on site.
- Transport / Mobility Plans:
 - Drogheda & East Meath Transport Plan: Work on the Area Based Transport Assessment needs for Drogheda and East Meath is ongoing in conjunction with the NTA and Meath County Council. Traffic counts have been undertaken at key locations. The results of Stakeholder engagement and

Public Consultation (online survey) are being collated.

Active Travel Projects 2022

Funding has been approved by NTA for the following projects to advance to Design Process:

- R132 Dublin Road, Dundalk (from the Rank Xerox junction to Greengates) - New Cyclepaths (2.4km)
- R178 Carrickmacross Road Dundalk - New cyclepaths
- New Pedestrian Crossings (two) on R132 Inner Relief Road, at Táin Bridge, Dundalk
- Hoeyes Lane (from junction with Dublin Street to junction Naughtons Close) - New cyclepaths
- Mill Street, Dundalk (from Inner Relief Road junction to Castle Road junction - New cyclepath – 440m and upgrade of junctions
- Hill Street Bridge to Train Station Dundalk - New cyclepaths
- College Heights to Tom Bellew Avenue, Dundalk - New pedestrian / cyclepath link.

Allocations for Works Contracts:

- Remedial works at various junctions in Dundalk Town Centre to improve accessibility, refer to Operations for progress.
- Moneymore, Drogheda – New Permeability footpaths to link to schools to residential areas.

Flooding General

Louth Flood Relief Projects

Dundalk and Ardee Flood Relief Projects

Stage 1 of the Project is continuing, i.e. Options Assessment, Scheme Development. Hydrological and Hydraulic modelling method statements have been approved and hydraulic modelling is now nearing completion for both Ardee and Dundalk in tandem with the processing of information from the recently completed CCTV and Topographical surveys.

Further necessary environmental, ecological, noise and landscape assessments will continue through Q2 2022.

Monthly project briefing notes are being issued to the current relevant stakeholders. The first Project Briefing Session for the Ardee and Dundalk Members was held in September and the first Project Consultation Day was held virtually in mid-September and again in early October. The project website being hosted by OPW is now complete and can be reached at:

www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/dundalk/home.

Drogheda and Baltray Flood Relief Project

RPS has commenced works on Stage 1 of the Project i.e. Options Assessment and Scheme Development. Topographical Surveys are nearing completion on site and post-processing works will commence and continue during June. Tenders for the procurement of the CCTV Surveys required to assist preparation of the hydraulic models for the project have been received and assessed and a Letter of Intent has been issued to the successful Tenderer. Preparation of Tender Documents is also continuing for the necessary environmental and ecological surveys on the project. The project website being hosted by OPW is now complete and can be reached at: www.droghedabaltrayfrs.ie.



Extract from Web Page

Carlingford and Greenore Flood Relief Project

OPW have commenced a data review of the Carlingford and Greenore Flood Defence Project to reappraise the Options identified in the Flood Risk Management Plan. The data review will include additional rainfall data collection and modelling. Two temporary rain gauges are now operational installed at Carlingford Fire Station and at the rear of Carlingford Library for rainfall data collection, providing additional data to inform project design and development.

Balmers Bog Surface Water Pipe

Works on pipe laying and trench reinstatement are now complete with surplus flows now diverted through the pipeline. Landscaping works will be finalised in summer 2022. Manhole and Inlet Chamber Construction, installation of M&E screens, adjustable weir, Penstock and Electrical Control Cabinets are also now complete.

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 raised a number of queries with regard to the Omeath and Ballagan applications which have been responded to and a decision is now awaited from OPW. OPW refused the Bellurgan application but have agreed to reconsider a revised application for a reduced scope of works. This revised application is being prepared and will be submitted in May.

Schools Programme Projects

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

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

Ardee E.T.N.S.

Tender have been received for the construction of the school and is currently being assessed, and the design team are awaiting documentation from the preferred contractor.

Part 8 for the proposed alterations to the SEN units was resolved at the Ardee MD members for the March Meeting.

Coláiste Chú Chulainn and Park at Marshes Lower, Dundalk

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

Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP)

A Section 85 agreement between Kilkenny County Council and Louth County Council has been agreed. Tender for the proposed works have now been received and are being assessed by Kilkenny County Council as lead for the region. A final cost estimate for the element of works in Co. Louth will be carried out during the design process.

Planning

Development Management / Bainistíocht Forbartha

The Planning service indicators for Louth County Council for the month of May, 2022 are given below in tabular form. There were 99 planning applications received during the month of May of which 91 were valid. In addition there were 24 responses received during the month to requests for further information and 24 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	2	15	45	0	62
(ii) No. of decisions determined which required further information / Líon na gcinntí inar iarradh breis eolais	1	11	13	0	25
(iii) Percentage of applications refused / Céatadán na n-iarratas a diúltaíodh	0% (0)	20% (3)	15.56% (7)	0% (0)	16.13% (10)
(iv) Number of appeals determined / Líon na	0	6	3	0	9

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

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

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

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development / Forfheidhmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh		Enforcement in relation to unauthorised development / Forfheidhmiú maidir le forbairt nár údaraíodh	
	May 2022 / Bealtaine 2022	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo	May 2021 / Bealtaine 2021	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	33	105	33	95
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	26	98	24	90
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	18	64	22	67
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	1	3	1	1
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	1	2	0	2
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	0	0	1
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	
	May 2022 / Bealtaine 2022	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	0	6
Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which didn't require follow up / Líon na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise	0	1
Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation / Líon na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht	0	12
Number of cases currently under investigation / Líon na gcásanna atá á n-imscúdú faoi láthair	32	48
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	1	17
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	0	3
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	0	0
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	0
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0

Forward Planning

Proposed Variation No. 1 of the Louth County Development Plan 2021 – 2027

Submissions / Observations are now being invited, to the proposed Variation No. 1 of the Louth County Development Plan and can be made up until 4.00pm on 17th June, 2022.

The proposed Variation, currently on public display at Customer Service desks in Council buildings and libraries, is also available to view / download from the Louth County Council website at:

https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/louth_county_council/latest-news/proposed-variation-no-1-of-the-louth-county-development-plan-2021-2027.html.

Strategic Housing Development (SHDs)

- **Stage 3** – Application re: Lands at Rathgory/ Mulladrillen, Ardee
- CE Report issued to ABP, awaiting decision.

Operations and Waste Management

Oibríochtaí agus Bainistíocht Dramháil

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

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

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

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

Catherine Duff
Director / Stiúrthóir



Municipal District of Dundalk

Dundalk and Cooley Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí
	<p>Litter picks Dundalk Town wide including all approach Roads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dublin Road• Inner Relief Road• Ramparts• Centenary Road• Avenue Road• Hoey's Lane• Tom Bellew Avenue• Fairgreen Road• Old Newry Road• Racecourse Road• Armagh Road• Castletown Road Etc. <p>Cooley Isolated locations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carrickcarnan• Templetown• Rockmarshall• Gyles Quay• Shillinghill• Whitestown
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contract works Dundalk <p>Frequency of Bins: There are approximately 200 bins in Dundalk. These bins are checked nightly with approximately 150 emptied nightly, if bins are less than half full they can be left for a second night.</p> <p>Cooley –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carlingford• Omeath• Gyles Quay• Templetown

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faughart • Greenore and Lordship.
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract works Dundalk. Town Centre is swept nightly. Pedestrian centre footpaths including Market Square, Court House Square are swept nightly. Approach Roads are swept every 3 weeks. Estates are swept every 4 weeks • Cooley rural village sweep programming
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract works Dundalk • Dog waste goes into normal bins as numbered above • Cooley as per bin emptying above
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrhála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly by Park Operative in Dundalk • Carried out by Water Safety Officer in Cooley
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 no. of playgrounds (not including exercise equipment/outdoor gym or Multi use games areas) • Daily by Parks Operative, repairs in house or contractor.

	Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L7088-0 Marsh Road • L7087-0 Point Road • R173-201 • L7078-18 Earls Quarter • Isolated Potholes at various locations <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N53 Castletown Road • R178-1 Castletown Road • L-20010 Ashling Park • L-20010 Farndreg • L-20018-20 Mill Road • R215-20 Crowe Street • R172-26 Roden Place • R215-21 Lisdoon/Armagh Road Junction 	<p>Patching/pothole repairs</p> <p>Road Repairs</p>
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L7062-0 Crossalaney <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <p>Ongoing maintenance to Storm sewer network Town Wide</p>	<p>Drainage Installation and Upgrade Works</p> <p>Essential maintenance Jet Vac</p>
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	<p>None this month</p>	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	<p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R177 Armagh Road 	<p>Repairs and edge restoration</p>
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	<p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R171-181 • Weekly maintenance of all Traffic Lights replacement bulbs (replacement LEDs) Vandalism repairs etc. 	<p>Vandalism Repairs</p> <p>Ongoing Essential Maintenance</p>
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R132-105 Inner Relief Road 	<p>Markings Refresh</p>

Signage / Comharthaíocht	<u>Cooley</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Repairs and Cleaning <u>Dundalk</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning of Signs and Bollards on the Approach roads 	<p>Essential Maintenance</p> <p>Essential Maintenance</p>
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<u>Cooley</u> <p>Numerous small amounts and Tyres removed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long Woman's Grave • Mast Road • Omeath <u>Dundalk</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castleross • Woodlands Park • Newry Road • Riverside Walk • Racecourse Road • Ramparts and Car Parks • Dublin Road • Avenue Road • Ardee Road • Carrick Road • Castletown Road • Castleblayney Road • Quay Street • Point Road • Inner Relief Road 	<p>Domestic Waste</p> <p>Dumped Household Waste, Mattresses, Furniture, Construction and Demolition waste</p>
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None this month 	



The Maid of Erin monument at Market Square, Dundalk which has recently been cleaned *Newly constructed CLÁR funded footpath in Jenkinstown*

Blackrock, Faughart and North Mid-Louth Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackrock – 6 days/week • Knockbridge – once a week • Dromiskin – once a week • Tallanstown and Louth Village – once a week
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain

Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrhála	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LS-7114 Shortstone Hackballscross • LS-7126 Cortial Kilkerry • LS-7118 Bog Road Rassan Hackballscross • LS-7112 Tatebane Hackballscross • LS-7123 Gorteen Edenagrena Road • Rd166 Station Road • Rd166 Annagassan to Castlebellingham • R176 Kilcrouney to Corderry • Rd217 Maine • Rd 170 Louth Village to Corderry and at Dromiskin Village • Rd199 and Rd200 Reaghstown 	Road repairs and patching, preparation for surface dressing.
	N/A	Tree pruning/vegetation maintenance/verge trimming

	N/A	Resurfacing/overlay works (by contract)
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rd 151 Rocktate • L1205 Flowery Cross to Lagan Bridge • L7185 Seabank • L5202 Nicholastown to Reaghstown • L6217 Springhill • L5203 Reaghstown • L5199 Arthurstown • L7115 Cavananore • L7114 Shortstone West • L7184 Green Road • L7126 Cortial • L7123 Gorteen • L7112 Tatebane • L7118 Courtbane 	<p>Drainage Improvement works</p> <p>Drainage maintenance – cleansing and gully cleaning opening outlets and storm drains, preparation for surface dressing.</p>
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L7159 Wallace's Road Blackrock 	Clearing fallen trees and debris
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R172 Blackrock 	Footpath renewal
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R132 junction with Old Golf Links Road (Felda junction) 	Major repair works completed
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A • N/A 	<p>Renewal of junction markings</p> <p>Renewal of existing and provision of additional road markings</p>
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R171 Louth Village • R132 Castlebellingham • L1196 Mills of Louth • L1170 Corderry • L7187 Dromiskin Village <p>N/A</p>	<p>Cleansing/repair/replacement</p> <p>New signage</p>

<p>Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N53 Newtownbalregan • N52 Gibstown Ardee Road • LS7162 Clermont Road Haggardstown • L62161 St Mary's Villas Kilsaran 	<p>Collection of dumped waste for disposal.</p> <p>Collection and disposal after community clean up.</p>
<p>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí</p>	<p>N/A</p>	



Summer wild flowers in full bloom



Pothole repairs at Bog Road Rassin LS7118-0

Ardee Municipal District

South Louth Operations (Rural Area)

<p>Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day) • Clogherhead Car Park daily clean-up around bins 	<p>Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí</p>
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Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ardee Town • Dunleer town 	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 32 Daily • 21 Tuesday and Thursday
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day) 	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrhála <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ardee Town River Dee • Salterstown • Port Beach 	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne <p>Maintenance and cleaning of Fairgreen and Dunleer parks and playgrounds complete with daily checks of the playground and exercise equipment at both locations.</p>	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil

Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R166 Annagassan • R170 Ardee • LS-6329 Castle Lane Annagassan • L-1264-12 Smarmore Road • LT-62742-0 Burren Lane Dunleer • LS-5210 Cookstown • LP-2255-0 Stifyans Cross

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LP-2223-0 Patching at Johnstown • Library road Dunleer • R132 from Dunleer to Cappogue Cross • Smarmore roat at Ballapousta • Patching at LP-2255-0 Stifyans Cross 	
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R165 Salterstown • R170 Ardee • L-6329 Castle Lane Annagassan • L-1264-12 Smarmore Road • R168 Collon – Drogheda Road • LP-1210-41 Knockcurlan • LP-2214-30 outlets in Dromin • Repairs to gullies in Collon • Gullies on R132 	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hedge cut along the N52 • Hedges cut along Fair Green Golf Course Road 	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán		
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá		
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre		
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chevron Sign at Mount Oriel • Replacing signage damaged at Dromgoolestown Stabannon • Washing signage on the R132 	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach		
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí		



Photos above show new line marking at Crooked Street, Clogherhead

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 resources allow and green areas.• Hotspots on Monday – decided by Supervisor following inspection.• Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Daily during working week. Also all Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Saturday p.m.• Drogheda Rural Bring banks are cleared daily during working week
Emptying of Public Bins / Folmhú Araidí Poiblí	Numbers and frequency / Líon agus minicíocht
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Port Oriel Pier, Clogherhead• Clogherhead Beach• Port Beach• Termonfeckin• Baltray• Seapoint Carpark	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7 Daily• 8 Daily• 6 Daily• 6 Daily• 3 Daily• 3 Daily• Drogheda town centre Litterbins emptied daily circa 60 early mornings.• 6 solar powered Compactor Bins around town; 2 West Street, 1 Laurence’s street, 1 Mell river walk, 1 Ramparts walk Meath end, 1 at river walk at Dominic’s Park near bridge of Peace end• About 250 litter bin are emptied weekly in town.• Dominic’s Park and Mell river walk emptied daily.• South Louth Drogheda Borough district rural areas, public Litter bins are emptied

	<p>twice a week or daily when needed especially at beaches/Port Oriel/ Seapoint/Termonfeckin/Baltray – at least 40 bins per day.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach roads in Drogheda town emptied twice a week. • Bin upgrade and maintenance ongoing and street furniture.
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	<p>Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town centre daily. Approach roads fortnightly. • Public Housing Estates, swept every 2 months. Private Housing estates swept every 3 months. When resources allow. • Hotspots weekly on Monday after weekend – decided daily by supervisor after checking Drogheda urban area. • Villages are swept once per month i.e., Termonfeckin, Baltray, Sandpit, Monasterboice, Tullyallen and Tinure. • Drogheda town Boyne river walkways are swept 3 times per week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday) • Town centre weeds removal. • Weed killing on approach roads to Drogheda Town centre commencing 30/5/2022
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / FolmhúAraidí Salachar Madra	<p>Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empty about 35 No. once a week, washed and disinfected.
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrhála	<p>Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 89 ring buoys checked each week Town area (Thursday)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 and 5 daily (4 playgrounds in Drogheda town, Skate Park, Adult Exercise equipment). 3 Playgrounds in Drogheda rural area)

Location / Suíomh		Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	Drainage Works <ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Strand LCC's crew Pot holes repairs around Drogheda. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harmony Heights Moneymore Termonfeckin Road Trinity Street/Mell Dublin Road Beamore Road Meat Market Lane West Street LP-2310 Ballymakenny Road LS-6327 Beaulieu LS-63272 Baltray LS-6281 Castlecoo Hill LP-2304 Ballymaglane LS- 6292 Red Gap Monasterboice LS-6293 Timullen Monasterboice LP-2299 Newline Monasterboice R166 Termonfeckin to Clogherhead 	

Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LT-63324-1 Waterunder culvert repair • LP-2310 Ballymakenny Road • LP-2304 Ballymaglane • R166 Termonfeckin to Clogherhead <p>Annual Drogheda Gully cleaning program ongoing</p>	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree branches removed obstructing Traffic Lights at Bryanstown/R132 junction, Donore Road, Marley's Lane, Bottle Lane. • Tree removed on North Road. 	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	<p>Ongoing</p>	
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Street/Scotch Hall • Sacred Heart School • Windmill/Crosslanes Haymarket junction/R132 • School Warning Signs at Walshestown N.S. timings adjusted, batteries replaced. 	<p>General maintenance of traffic lights, replacement of lamps, repairs to Push Button Units, Remote monitoring system. Traffic lights out at Haymarket junction 03/05/22.</p>
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	<p>Drogheda Town Centre and approach roads.</p> <p>Crooked Street Clogherhead re-lined with double yellow and resident parking bays (See photos above)</p>	<p>Road markings survey to commence.</p>
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<p>Ongoing throughout district</p>	

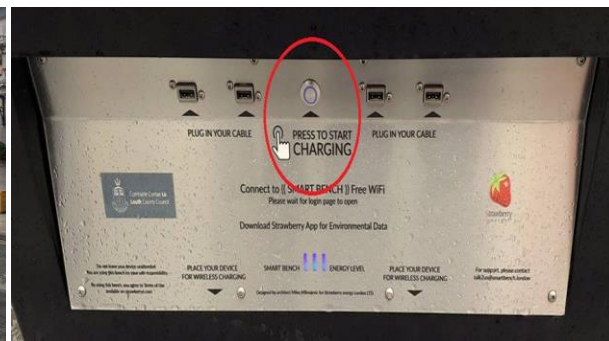
<p>Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach</p>	<p>May 2022:</p> <p>Louth County Council's Operations team removed over 1.5 tons of heavy waste consisting of cookers, beds and bagged rubbish which had been fly tipped at the river bridge on the L2307. The materials had contaminated the river and blocked the flow. With the assistance of heavy equipment supplied by Lagan homes that are developing the lands close by a successful operation was carried out by South Louth Operations crew which was assisted by the warden service being on site to inspect the waste.</p>	<p>Unfortunately on this occasion no evidence was established to identify the culprits. Fly tipping in the area has generated a number of complaints and LCC continue to work with all partners and landowners such as Drogheda and District running club to identify and stamp out this environmental blight on our community.</p>
<p>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications issued to business and premises owners to seek removal of Graffiti. • LCC staff removed graffiti at St Finian's Park and R132 at Drogheda train station. 	



Flytipping at L2307, Greenhills



2no. Ecoloo's have been constructed at Seapoint Carpark, Termonfeckin. Ecoloo's are independent of water, sewer and electricity connection



New Solar Powered Smart Bench located on West Street, Drogheda which provides free WIFI and charging points to the general public

Waste Management, Environment and Climate Action Report

Waste Management

Waste Enforcement

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

Complaint Type	May 2022	In 2022
Air & Noise	13	41
Farm	4	22
Waste	7	129
Water Quality	4	15

A total of 28 complaints were received in the month of May, bringing the total number of complaints in 2022 so far, to 207.

12 waste complaints have been resolved and 16 remain open, pending further investigations.

Waste Facility Permits and Certificate of Registration

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

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

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

Currently there are 24 Waste Facility Permits and 5 Certificates of registration in operation in Louth. There are (2) new applications currently being determined during the month of April along with one renewal application.

Annual Return Validations

All Waste Facility Permit (WFP) and Certificate of Registration (CoR) holders are required to submit Annual Returns (AR) where they collected / processed waste in any given year. The National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO) Eden Portal opened to Local Authorities from 1st April 2022. Waste Enforcement Officers have started working on AR validations. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) identifies a list of waste facilities which must be prioritised for validation by Local Authorities.

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

Producer Responsibility Initiatives

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

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

Anti-Dumping Initiative

The Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications announced that funding is available through the WERLA's to support Local Authorities in 2022 Anti-Dumping Initiative (ADI). The 2022 ADI aims to reduce incidents of illegal dumping by identifying and delivering projects aimed at tackling illegal dumping 'black spots' throughout the County

and adhere to key measures of prevention, abatement, education and 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. Projects are in the process of being finalised. Applications for 9 projects were submitted.

A Grant of €80,000 was received, which is an 83% reduction from the Grant received 2 years ago and 36% reduction from the 2021 Grant.

3 projects have been approved for this year. A Mattress and Sofa amnesty for Drogheda and another for Dundalk and finally Community Summer Clean-Up project.



Figure: 2021 ADI Clean-UP

Litter Enforcement

A total of 45 fines were issued in the month of May. Of these fines, 15 were issued in the Dundalk urban area, 5 in Drogheda urban area and 25 in the remaining County wide area.

There was 1 fine issued for dog fouling in May.

There have been 719 investigations in the year to date with 121 carried out in the month of May.

There have been 159 fines issued in the year to date, 6 of which were for Dog Fouling.

Diesel Laundering Waste

22 ibc's were located in the month of May 2022 with the approximate recovery cost of €27,463.19. So far in 2022 there has been 216 ibcs located costing approximately €269,638.32.



Air / Water / Noise Pollution

There were three water pollution complaints received in May with all three closed.

Eight (8) Air Pollution complaints and six (6) Noise Pollution complaints were received during May 2022.

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. New amending Regulations have now been introduced extending the exemptions to burn waste generated by Agricultural practices until the 1st January 2023.

From January 2022 to end of April 2022 a total of 51 Waste Disposal by Burning applications were received. In May 2022 we received 7 applications bringing the total number of application in 2022 so far to 58.

My Waste

The executive Scientist who was leading this project has left Louth County Council in May 2022 and this will have an impact on progress in MyWaste.

When possible the MyWaste campaign will be looking to move to more focussed interactions with individual dwellings, to establish

compliance with the Waste Presentation and Segregation Bye-Laws.

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

A total of 778 reminder letters issued to householders in the 3 urban areas of Ardee, Dundalk and Drogheda to date. A total of 401 replies have been received to date from the reminder letters.



Bathing Water

The annual Bathing Water Sampling programme has not commenced.

The four beaches identified as designated bathing waters are Templetown, Port, Clogherhead and Seapoint.

Further information on beaches and water quality can be found on the EPA hosted website – www.beaches.ie



Air Monitor for Drogheda

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

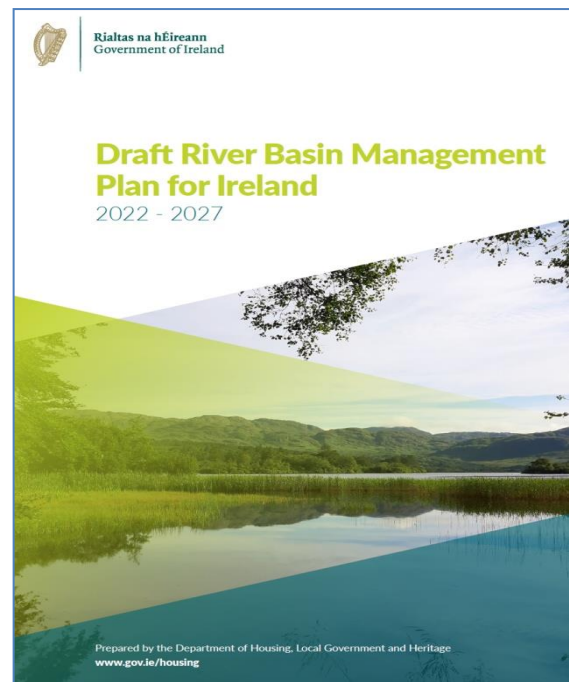
WATER FRAMEWORK/RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANS

The Local Authority catchment assessments being carried out by the LAWPRO inspection teams with the assistance of Louth County Council where required are on-going in the

Castletown catchment. Initial desktop studies have commenced in the Glyde catchment.

LAWPRO works to increase public engagement. It also consults with stakeholders and communities, coordinating these activities across all 31 local authorities. Its work aims to ensure the public and stakeholders are engaged at regional and local level — to enable them to get involved with catchment-based approaches to improving water quality and the development and implementation of measures on the ground.

A key commitment in the Programme for Government, launching a new strengthened River Basin Management Plan will help Ireland protect, improve and sustainably manage our water environment to 2027. Achieving good water quality in our rivers, lakes, estuaries and seas is essential for protecting Ireland's drinking water sources, environment and people's quality of life. The plan is produced in implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD).



Louth County Council will be co-operating with LAWPRO and Dundalk Tidy Towns, who have been awarded a grant to progress an assessment of the Ramparts River in Dundalk employing a process-based approach which

aims to reset / enhance the natural habitat template of a river, to achieve options which are sustainable and require minimal long term management

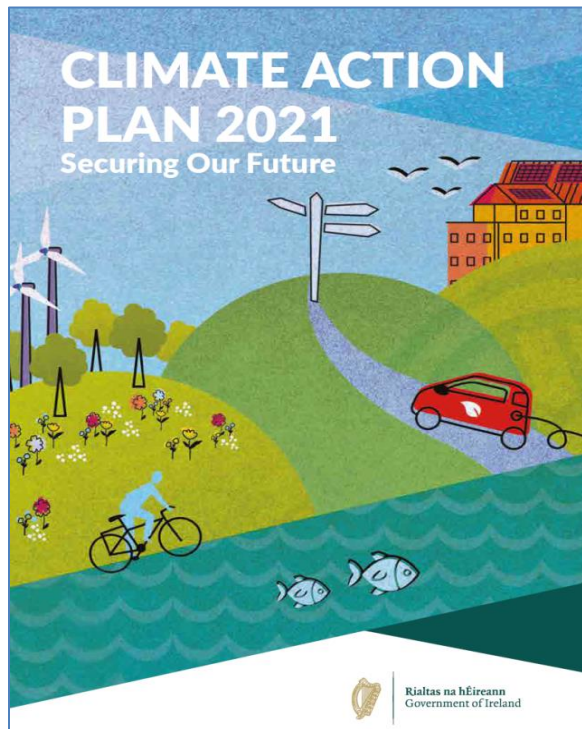
Landfills

The annual environmental performance reports for the three licensed landfills have been submitted to the EPA before the 31st March 2022 deadline. In addition the landfill gas surveys and PRTR reports have also been submitted.

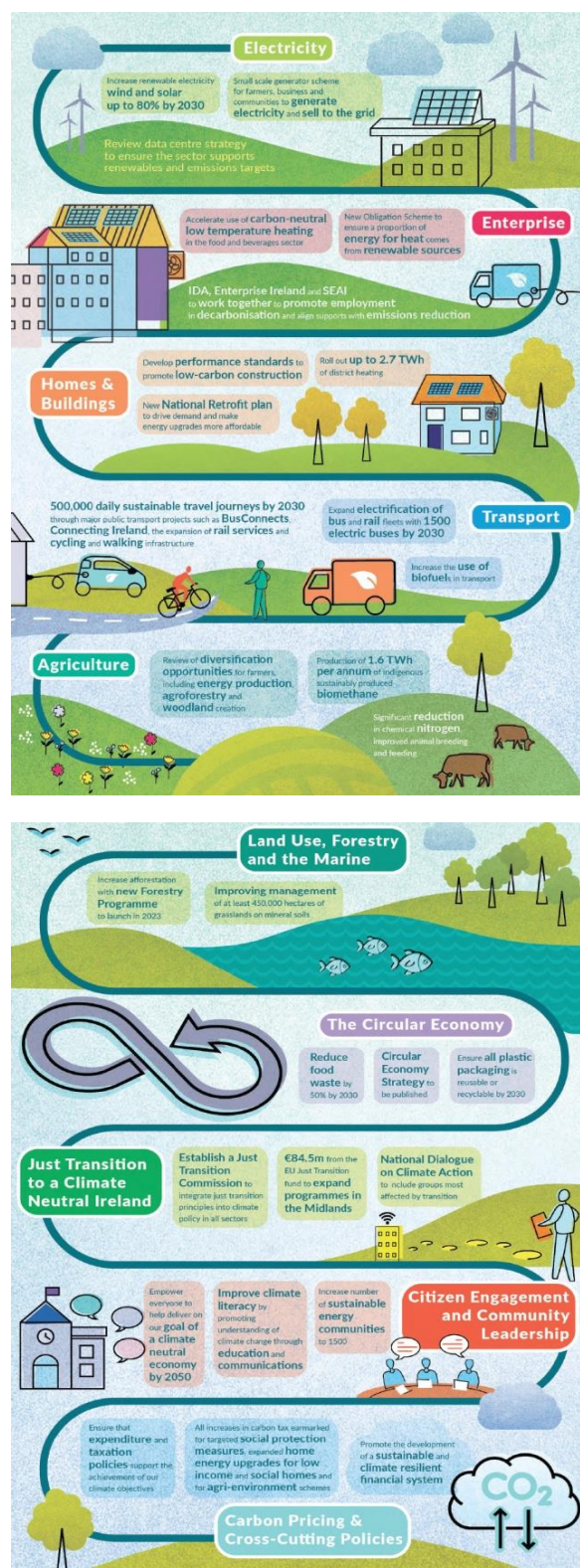
Climate Action

The Climate Action Plan 2021 was published in November 2021 and a subsequent annex of actions was published on 17th December. This provides a detailed plan, with 493 actions for achieving a 51% reduction in overall greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and setting us on a path to reach net-zero emissions by no later than 2050, as set out in the Climate Act 2021.

Louth Climate Action team attended the Louth Leader Partnership's Biodiversity Conference in the Fairways Hotel Dundalk on May 12th 2022. This event consisted of biodiversity / climate action workshops hosted by John Gibbons, Eanna Ní Lámhna, Peter Donegan and Padraic Fogarty.



The info-graphic below gives an outline of the main actions and objectives of the plan.



Climate Change Team

Rory Sheehan has taken up the role of Climate Action Co-ordinator for Louth County Council. Rory will lead the drive for Louth County Council to deliver on Climate Action goals and obligations.

He presented at the EPA Water Conference 2022 on Bog Restoration / Peat Conservation, held in Galway Bay Hotel on 19th May 2022.

A 25 Strong team of Staff from across all sections of Louth County Council have been nominated and trained to participate on the Climate Action Team.

This ensures that the climate action message spreads throughout the organisation and is considered in all the work we do.

It is expected that a recruitment of a Climate Action Community Officer will be sanctioned during 2022 and this person will support communities to take climate actions and to access funding through the Community Climate Action Programme. A Climate Action Community Officer was due to be recruited in May of this year, however this has been postponed nationally until further notice. This position is expected to be filled by the end of the current year.

See <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/de5d3-climate-action-fund/#community-climate-action-programme> for more details.

A member of the Climate Action team was invited to attend the opening of the DCU Centre for Climate & Society Inaugural Conference, *Climate Action: Ireland's Role in a Changing World* on May 5th, a key note address was given by President Michael D. Higgins. Fiona, Jamie and Rory attended this conference.

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2024 & Climate Action Plan

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 Adaption Strategy 2019 to 2024 Action.

The Climate Action Co-ordinator also met the Dunleer SEC to discuss stakeholder engagement and potentially link / interconnect with Dunleer S.E.C on future projects and developments.

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.

Each section of the Council is now required to report as part of the Monthly Chief Executive Report on Climate Action projects and initiatives that are ongoing.

Information is available at the following outlets:

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

Electrical Vehicles Charging Points

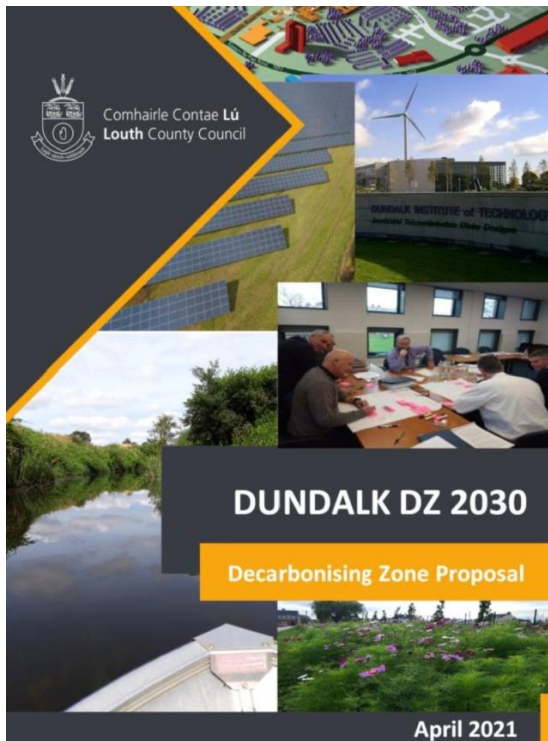


Louth County Council and other associate partners have completed preliminary assessments of sites to generate an approved site list 25 EV Rapid Chargers across the border counties.

Louth County Council has completed the Market Soundings exercise and the next step is to formulate a Project Procurement Strategy for the Project.

Louth County Council are 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.

Dundalk Decarbonising Zone



The Dundalk Decarbonising Zone project, in common with all such projects around the country, awaits guidance from CARO (Climate Action Regional Office) in order to progress.

This is to ensure a common approach with comparable outcomes across the country.

Preparatory work is ongoing, in anticipation of guidance early 2022.

Decarbonisation Zones have now been included within the larger Local Authority

Climate Action Plan. Plans for Decarbonisation Zones have yet to be updated in Climate Action Plan.

V&W Circular Economy Project

V&W operate 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.

During the months of April and May V&W progressed a number of Climate Action initiatives, focussed on the circular economy.

Drogheda Mens Shed worked with V&W to use recycled wood and compost to create raised beds for growing food and flowers.



V&W Recycling also worked with Tallanstown National School to build a bench completely out of recycled wood and paint.



Veterinary Services / Seirbhísí Tréidliachta

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

As of 31st May 2022, Louth County Council Veterinary Section, under a Service Level Agreement with the FSAI, enforces food safety standards on two abattoirs and fourteen meat processing plants under its supervision in the County.

Amhail ar an 31ú Bealtaine 2022, cuireann Rannóg Tréidliachta Chomhairle Contae Lú caighdeán sábháilteachta bia i bhfeidhm, faoi Chomhaontú Leibhéal Seirbhíse leis an USBÉ, ar dhá sheamlas agus ar ceithre cinn déag de mhonarchana próiseála feola atá faoi mhaoirseacht aige sa chontae.

Control of Dogs / Rialú Madraí

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

Dogs impounded May 2022 / Madraí curtha i bpóna, Bealtaine 2022	
Total dogs impounded / Líon madraí curtha i bpóna	27
Strays / Ar seachrán	16
Surrendered by owners / Tugtha suas ag úinéirí	11
No dogs reclaimed by owners / Líon madraí tógtha ar ais ag úinéirí	4
No of dogs rehomed direct / Líon madraí a bhfuarthas úinéirí nua dóibh go díreach	3
No of dogs rehomed to welfare groups / Líon madraí a aistríodh go grúpaí leasa ainmhithe	11
No of dogs on hand in Pound at 30/04/2022 / Líon madraí faoi chúram sa phóna 30/04/2022	9

Dog Licences May 2022 / Ceadúnais Madraí, Bealtaine 2022

No of Licences sold / Líon ceadúnas díolta	485
Licence Checks / Ceadúnais scrúdaithe:	
House calls / Seiceálacha baile	389
Section 16 Notices issued (request to produce licence within 10 days) / Fógraí Alt 16 eisithe (iarratas ar ceadúnas a thaispeáint roimh deich lá)	98
Fixed Penalty Notices / Fógraí Pionós Socraithe	12

Control of Horses / Rialú Capall

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

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

Horses impounded May 2022 / Capaill curtha i bpóna, Bealtaine 2022	
Horses seized / Capaill gafa	0
Reason for seizure: / Cúis na gabhála	
Horses reclaimed by owner / Líon capaill tógtha ar ais ag úinéirí	0
Horses rehomed / Líon capaill a bhfuarthas úinéirí nua dóibh	0
Horses disposed of / Capaill curtha de láimh	0
No of horses on hand in Pound on 31/05/2022 / Líon capaill faoi chúram sa phóna, 31/05/2022	0

Dog Breeding Establishments (DBE) / Bunachais Pórucháin Madraí (BPM)

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

<i>Dog Breeding Establishments May 2022 / Bunachais pórucháin madraí, Bealtaine 2022</i>	
<i>Total no of registered DBE's in Louth, 31/05/2022 / Líon BPM i gContae Lú, 31/05/2022</i>	6
<i>Hunt / Conchróite Seilge</i>	2
<i>Boarding Kennels / Conchróite Cinneála</i>	2
<i>Training Kennels / Conchróite Oiliúna</i>	1
<i>Welfare / Leas Ainmhithe</i>	1



Dogs impounded during May 2022 (above)

Corporate and Emergency Services Seirbhísí Corparáideacha agus Éigeandála

This Directorate has two key areas of responsibility:

Corporate Services – the maintenance and development of systems which facilitate the effective running of our Council, including Human Resources, and Information and Communications Technology.

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

Other responsibilities include Sustainable Energy.

Tá dhá eochairfhreagrachta ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha – ag cothabháil agus forbairt chórais atá baint leis an reáchtáil éifeachtach na Comhairle, agus Acmhainní Daonna, agus Techneolaíocht Faisnéise agus Chumarsáide san áireamh

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

Freagracht eile ag an Stiúthóireacht seo ná Fuinneamh Inbhunaithe.

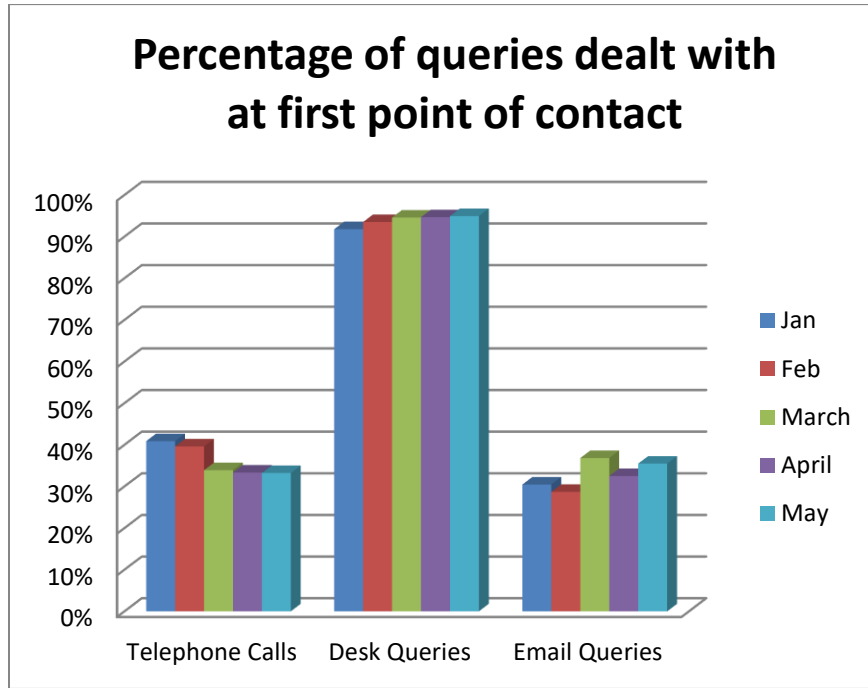
Joe McGuinness
Director / Stiúrthóir



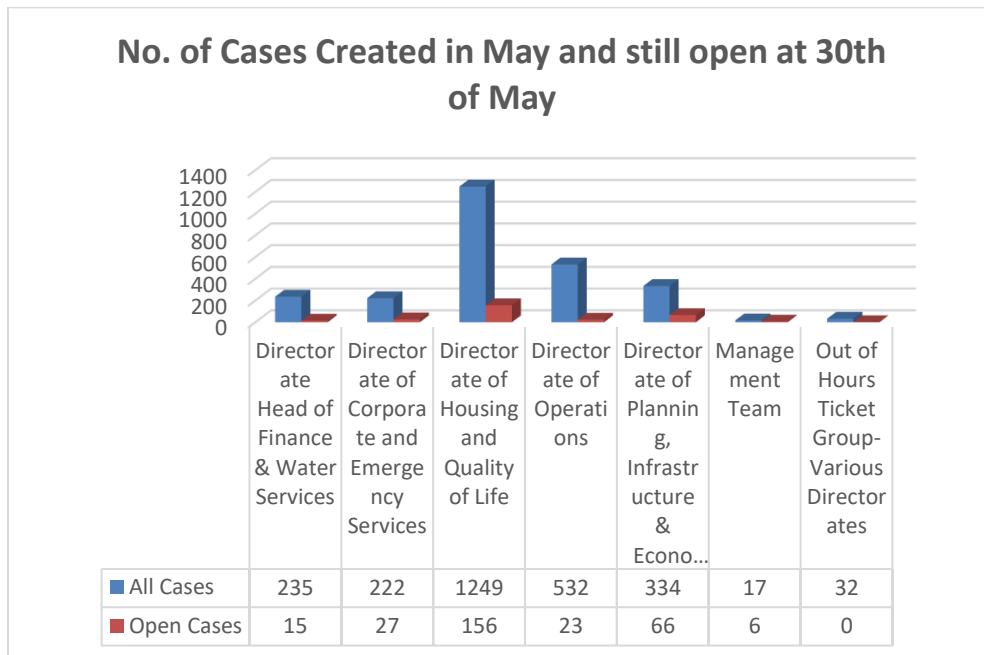
Corporate and Emergency Services

Customer Services Report

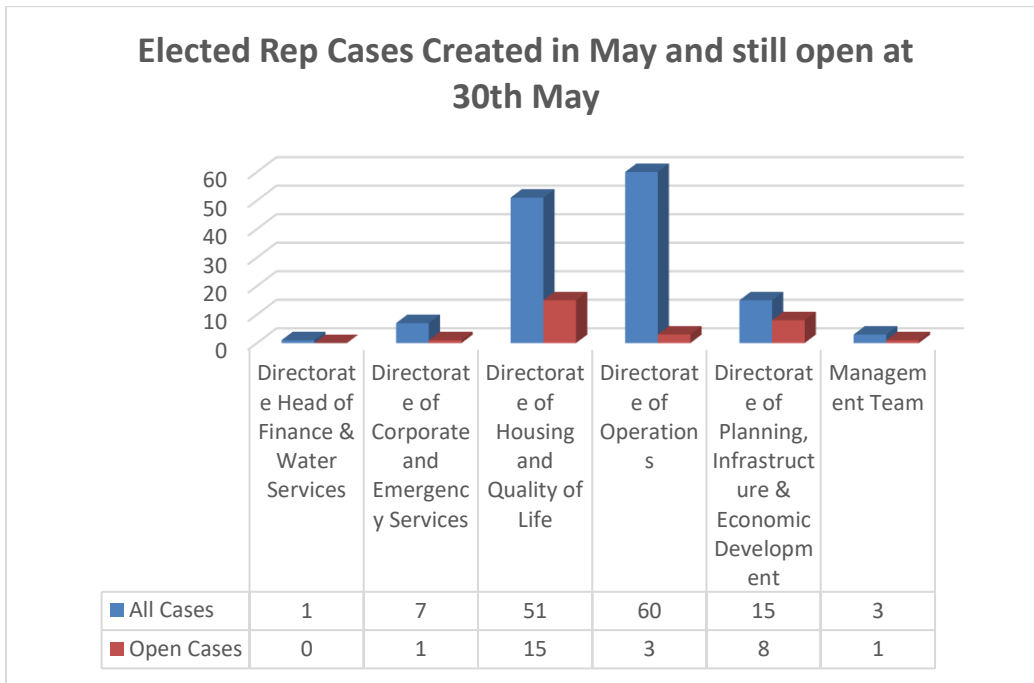
During the month of May, Customer services dealt with 10,938 queries – 6,103 calls, 1,243 e-mails and 3,592 counter queries.



There were 2,621 valid SugarCRM cases recorded during May of which 293 (11%) remain unresolved, broken down by directorate as follows:



During May 137 elected reps. cases were recorded on Sugar of which 28 (20%) remain unresolved broken down by Directorate as follows:



The table below illustrates activity in the redress area.

Requests Received	Same period 2021	2022 Total	MAY 2022
Freedom of Information	49	46	9
Data Protection to include DSAR	6	2	0
Access to Information on Environment	3	4	0
Ombudsman	4	3	0
Complaints Policy	8	18	5

Electoral Register

Since the publication of the Live Register of Electors in February, work commenced on the preparation of the Draft Register of Electors 2023-2024. Over 3,600 letters were issued in May in relation to missing Eircodes and Dates of Birth. Field Officers are calling in a number of Polling Districts throughout the county and forms received from electors are being processed.

Elected Members are once again asked to encourage their electorate to check all their details are correct on www.checktheregister.ie If details are not up-to-date electors are asked to complete the relevant form which can be picked up from Customer Services desks or requested from the Franchise Section (email: register@louthcoco.ie). Electors can register online via the Louth County Council website www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/electoral-register/online-registration/

Event Management

Two events were arranged during May by the Corporate Directorate.

- Covid Volunteer Recognition Event which was jointly co-ordinated with the Louth Volunteer Centre and was held in County Hall Dundalk on May 18th
- Drogheda Mayoral Awards which were held in Highlanes Gallery on May 19th.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance

The Council's energy efficiency at the end of 2020 was 47.36% (i.e. the Council's energy use at the end of 2020 has reduced by 47.36%) compared to the baseline, reported by SEA.

The Council is now focusing on a new energy efficiency target for public sector bodies of 50% energy Efficiency by 2030. However, the Council is also required to reduce its carbon emissions by 51% by 2030 and it is that carbon emissions target that requires increased annual actions by the Council.

Gap-To-Target Plan to 2030

The Local Authority's role in planning to meet energy needs without using fossil fuels is increasing, especially in planning for a just transition to net-zero. Local authorities are being assigned an increasing role to work in partnership with other stakeholders (e.g. industry and communities) to incrementally decrease dependence on fossil fuels and replace these with zero carbon-based solutions that meet the needs and expectations of society. Society cannot simply make an immediate switch from fossil fuels because there are no readily available alternatives in place, and society cannot change overnight. As our energy transition gathers pace local authorities will play a growing leadership and demonstration part in the technological and psychological journey to meet our 2030 and 2050 net-zero goals.

Council staff are now planning energy works as part of the Council's Energy Action Plan for 2022. Staff are developing a Gap to Target Plan to 2030 to identify suitable and sufficient multi-annual energy efficiency works to achieve 51% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030. The improvements will focus on our highest energy users so SEUs.

Energy Management System ISO 50001:2018

The Council's Energy Management System (EnMS) is compliant with ISO 50,001; 2018. It is expected that the Council will have an energy audit later in 2022 to confirm that.

Compliance with the EnMS requires that we continue to monitor the monthly energy use by our Significant Energy Users to identify deviations and address any form of non-conformances. As part of our EnMS we developed a table to monitor energy performance indicators (EnPIs). The EnPI table is updated regularly and reflects energy performance of our SEUs.

Monthly SEU Energy Performance Indicators ISO 50001

Fleet			Public Lighting	Town Hall, Dundalk	County Hall, Dundalk	Gas Town Hall, Dundalk	Gas County Hall, Dundalk	Dundalk Fire	Drogheda Fire	Gas Dundalk Fire	Gas Drogheda Fire	
Fire	Operations	Total										
TBD	litres/100km	litres/100km	Watts/lamp	kWh/m2year	kWh/m2year	kWh/HDDyear	kWh/HDDyear	kWh/m2year	kWh/m2year	kWh/HDDyear	kWh/HDDyear	
		12.55	89.90	119.64	125.22	2,071.83	1,786.94	9.73	7.25	3,278.85	3,336.66	Baseline DEC. 20
		13.18	94.39	125.62	131.48	2,175.42	1,876.29	10.22	7.62	3,442.79	3,503.50	5%
		13.80	98.89	131.60	137.74	2,279.01	1,965.64	10.71	7.98	3,606.73	3,670.33	10%
Dec-20		16.46	93.23	119	125	1,908	1,932	8	13			
Jan-21		16.85	92.92	125	129	1,949	1,954	8	9	1,121	2,055	
Feb-21		17.14	92.61	122	131	1,930	2,008	2	3	956	1,991	
Mar-21		16.91	92.30	121	132	1,933	2,051	2	3	835	1,921	
Apr-21		16.98	92.01	126	136	1,975	2,050	2	2	724	1,707	
May-21		17.28	91.76	129	137	2,011	2,008	2	4	579	1,695	
Jun-21		16.96	91.50	129	138	1,995	2,046	4	5	610	1,940	
Jul-21		16.87	91.26	128	137	2,046	2,037	6	7	1,203	2,555	
Aug-21		16.35	90.98	127	137	2,048	1,998	15	7	1,914	2,748	
Sep-21		15.84	90.70	126	136	2,088	1,994	11	10	2,963	3,307	
Oct-21		15.85	90.42	125	132	2,114	1,931	13	9	3,229	3,472	
Nov-21		14.25	90.14	125	131	2,104	1,866	9	8	3,241	3,422	
Dec-21		12.55	89.90	120	125	2,072	1,787	10	7	3,279	3,337	
Jan-22		11.72	89.66	117	121	2,085	1,731	11	10	3,315	3,351	
Feb-22		11.58	89.42	119	117	2,128	1,643	8	9	3,426	3,446	
Mar-22		11.94	89.17	123	116	2,188	1,588	8	9	3,519	3,522	
Apr-22		11.74	88.92	123	114	2,223	1,549	5	7	3,587	3,608	
May-22												

Above: Updated EnPI table for Louth County Council Significant Energy Users April 2022

Renewable Energy Projects

Louth County Council continues to lead by example in our big switch to renewable energy, and our drive to carbon neutrality. Our new renewable energy projects are demonstrating energy savings. These new project savings, together with our annual projects, combine to continue our journey of improving our energy efficiency towards 2030 and 2050. County Hall Louth County Council took delivery of 3 heat pumps, which are now installed.



Optimising Power@Work Programme

Louth County Council has a service level agreement in place with the OPW for participation in its Optimising Power at Work Programme for energy use behaviour change by our staff. LCC continue to make savings across the 2 participating buildings involved in this Energy saving Programme



Dundalk Town Hall.

From January 21 to December '21 Gas consumption is down 39%.

Savings of 251,520 kWh resulting in financial savings of €12,576 compared to the benchmark year

Control of the heating schedule through the Building Management System (BMS) has been significant in achieving the reduction in gas consumption.

Louth County Hall joined the Optimising Power at Work Programme in 2016. March 2022 figures show the following energy savings:-

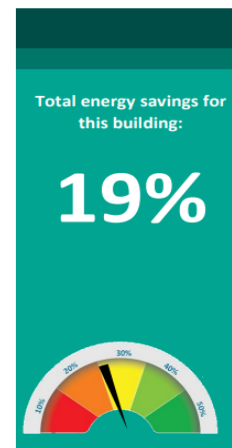
Annual energy performance overview

Energy consumption in this building has reduced by 19% since joining the Optimising Power @ Work campaign in 2016.

The total annual unit consumption of energy has decreased from 689,842 kWh to 559,586 kWh.

Electricity consumption on site has reduced by 12%. The number of units of electricity has decreased from 285,450 kWh to 252,221 kWh.

Gas consumption on site has reduced by 24%. The number of units of Gas has decreased from 404,392 kWh to 307,364 kWh (HDDC).



SENIOR MANAGEMENT COMMITMENT gives credibility to a behavioural change programme. It encourages involvement from staff and helps to break down barriers that may be preventing energy improvements being achieved.

Better Energy Communities Grant 2021

All energy works for the 2021 grant project are now completed and grant claims submitted. Grant monies from SEAI for the approved projects remains pending from SEAI.

Better Energy Communities Grant 2022

LCC intend to partner with Dunleer Sustainable Energy Community for participation in their application for grant funding for energy projects in 2022. LCC have undertaken energy audits for high energy-user Council building, as per new 2022 BEC Grant regulations. These will then be incorporated into the Energy Action Plan for 2022.

Varcities H2020 Funded Project

3 Visionary Solutions are proposed as part of the EU Horizon 2020 Funded varcities project. Dundalk is a pilot city for this project. Part 8 drawings remain on public display. Works will include:-

1. The creation of an Outdoor Learning Pod between Dundalk Library and Museum Quarter to showcase the newest technologies and host shared functions
2. A Green Learning and Sensory Garden for Health and Well Being
3. And new Bike Stations and Sensors Bike-stations and all associated site development works

Plans and particulars of the proposed development may be inspected or purchased, at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, from 20th April 2022 to 18th May 2022 inclusive at the offices of Louth County Council, Millennium Centre, County Hall, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 KFW6 or at Dundalk Town Hall, Crowe Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth, A91 W20C, during public opening hours. Part 8 & Documents have also been uploaded on LCC Website at the following he https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/louth_county_council/latest-news/part-8-dundalk-county-museum-county-library-roden-place-dundalk-.html

Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development may be made in writing with the envelope clearly marked 'Part 8 – VARCITIES, Redevelopment of Dundalk's County Museum and County Library's Courtyard Area' to Gráinne Tuomey, Senior Executive Officer, Louth County Council, County Hall, Dundalk, Co. Louth A91 KFW6 before 5.00pm on 1st June 2022.

Information Technology Section

Helpdesk

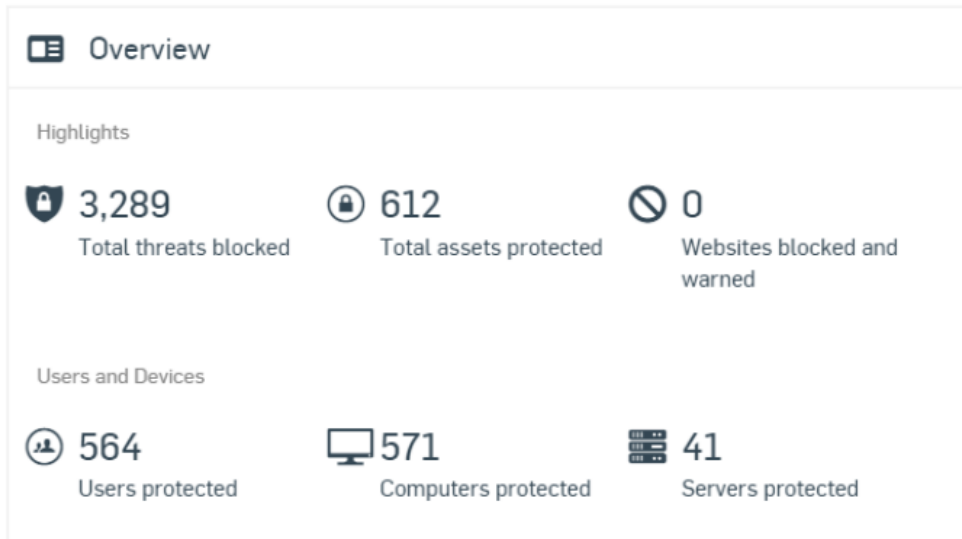
During the month of May there were 561 support calls logged in the IT support system.

Office 365

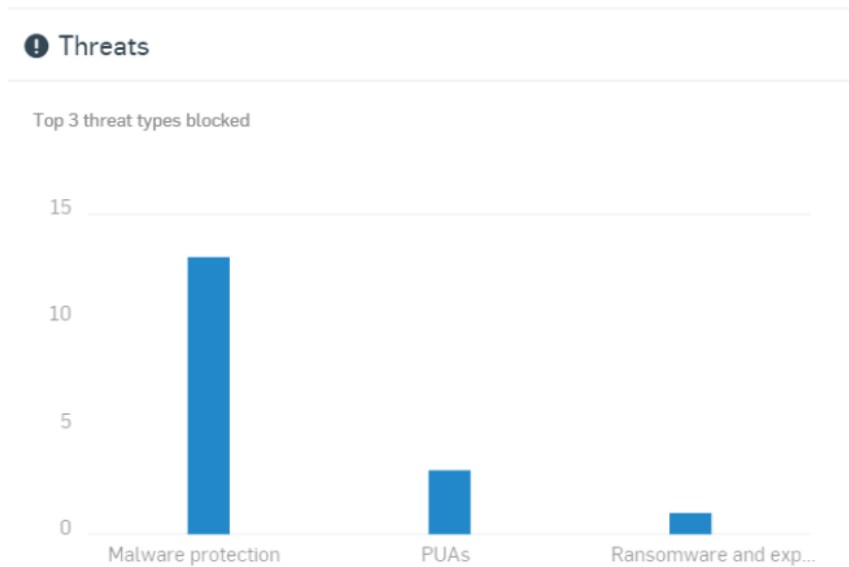
28 Councillors Accounts were migrated to Office 365 in May.

Rollout of Sophos Intercept X

IT have been working on the rollout of Sophos to all computers and servers on our network. This is an antivirus system. It scans the Louth Co Co Network to detect potential threats, indicating devices which need attention. The figure below indicates that there are 571 computers and 41 servers protected by Sophos. 3289 threats were blocked in the last 30 days.



The below diagram shows that Malware was the category of treat blocked most frequently in the last month:



TopSec E-Mail Filtering System

Louth Co Co continues to be targeted with phishing, and spam e-mail. We utilise TopSec to filter and block e-mail being received into the organisation in order to protect our network. Over 39% of the e-mail sent to @louthcoco.ie e-mail addresses in May was potentially harmful.



Inbound Emails

149,386



Blocked Sender

1,110



Blocked at gateway

28,238



Blocked by spam /virus

28,165



Blocked by content rules

359

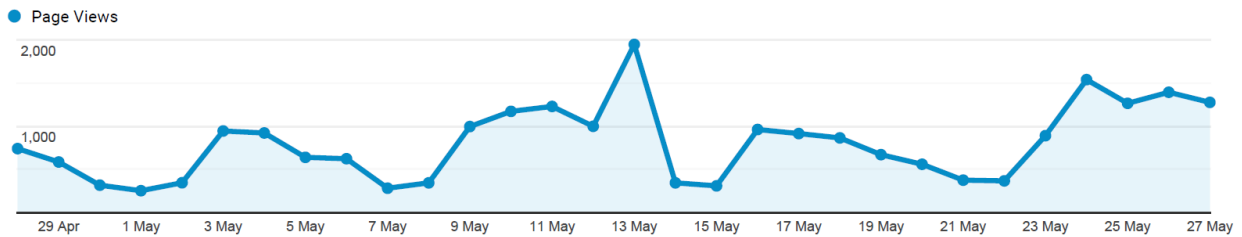


Potentially harmful emails

38.74%

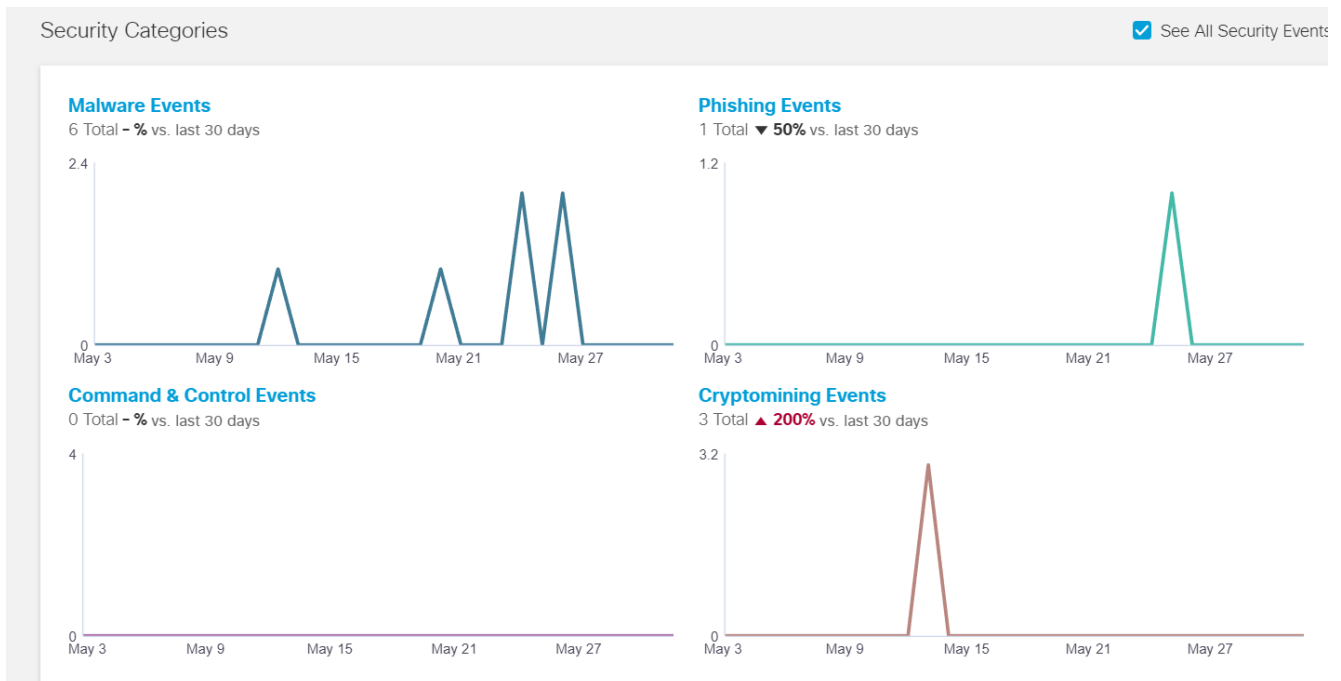
Louth County Council Website

There were 24,082 Page Views on www.louthcoco.ie between the 29th April and 27th May 2022.



Cisco Umbrella

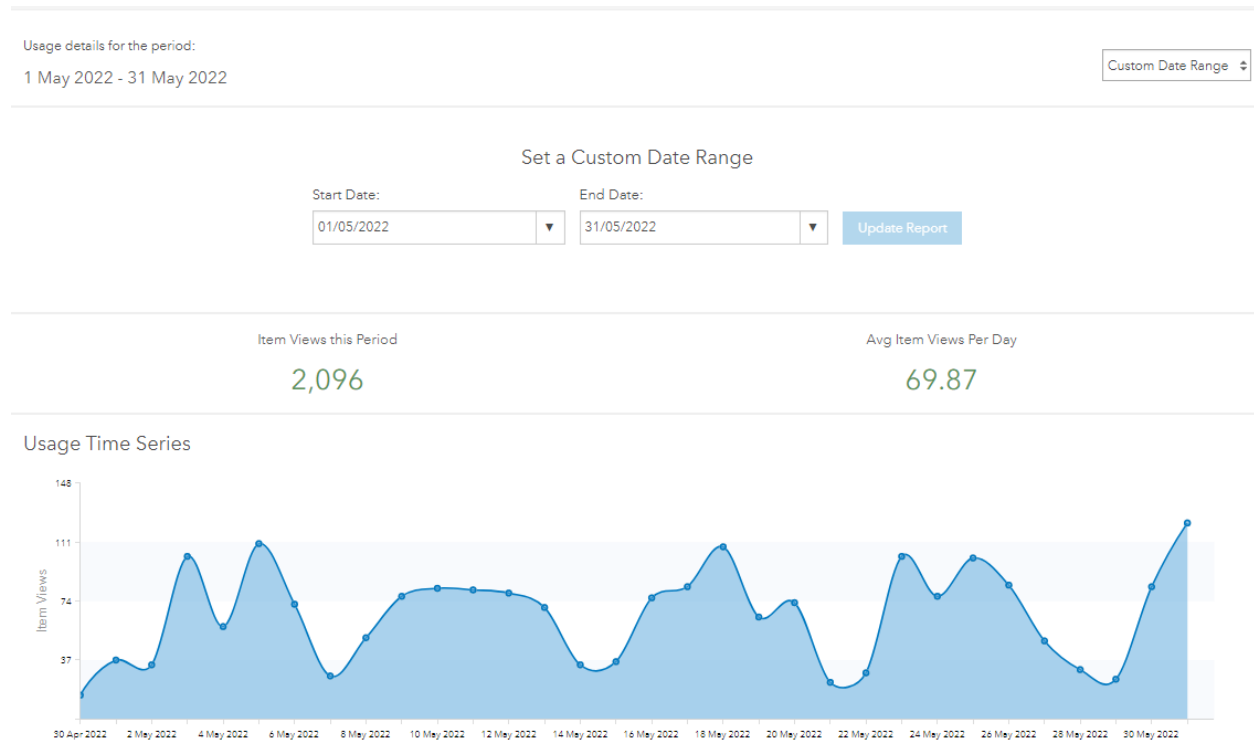
Cisco Umbrella was implemented in 2021 to protect staff and devices accessing websites that may be unsafe. The graphic below show malware & phishing blocks which occurred in May.



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.

The Planning Map viewer received 2,096 views in the past 30 days and an average of >69 views a day.



EMERGENCY SERVICES AND BUILDING CONTROL

Fire Service

A large fire occurred in a fitted kitchen premises in Jenkinstown on 14th May and the building was gutted. Eight fire appliances from Louth and Monaghan were in attendance. As part of ongoing training, a full debrief of the incident has already been held to review the response.

Louth Fire Service's training plan, including training missed during Covid, is being rolled out.

- The second two of four scheduled Breathing Apparatus Refresher courses in 2022 were successfully completed by 20 Louth Fire Service personnel.
- Refresher training in the use of the Aerial Ladder Platform was completed for Dundalk personnel.
- A Station Officer successfully completed a one week NDFEM Road Traffic Collision Instructor Course.
- Louth Officers attended a Critical Incident Stress Management course in Newbridge, Kildare.

The Fire Service is working with the Infrastructure Section to finalise tender documentation for the procurement of a design team for Dunleer Fire Station. The Fire Service is in negotiation with the owner of the new station site.

The design brief for the major improvement works to Dundalk Regional Fire Service Training Centre is drafted and a Quantity Surveyor is being procured for the summary cost plan.

The numbers of retained personnel in Carlingford, Ardee, Dunleer and Dundalk brigades are holding firm. There is an ongoing recruitment process for retained personnel. A number of vacancies still exist for retained firefighters in Drogheda.

The Fire Service provided a colour party and a piper for the Mayoral Awards ceremony in the Highlanes Gallery, Drogheda, on 18th May.

Fire safety inspections of buildings used to accommodate Ukrainian refugees took place in Drogheda, Dundalk and Drumcar and works are nearing completion.

Climate Adaptation Strategy

Work on the Climate Action Plan is continuing, to include Fire Service and Building Control requirements. This will take account of the contribution of Building Control to climate change. It is expected that all new fire service vehicles will be hybrid or electric.

Building Control

All Disabled Access Certificate applications are being processed and inspections of developments for compliance with the Building Regulations are arranged on a risk assessed basis. The Building Control Officer accompanied the National Building Control Office on inspections of developments in Louth and issued notices in respect of a number of developments requiring improvements to comply with the Building Regulations.

Major Emergency Management

Regional Major Emergency Steering and Working Group meetings in relation to Covid have continued. These meetings have included personnel from the three Principal Response Agencies, i.e. the Councils, HSE and AGS.

Louth County Council continues to chair the Major Emergency Regional Steering Group and Regional Working Group. There is an agreed work programme to be delivered in 2022, including training and exercises.

Civil Defence

Louth Civil Defence has continued assisting at rest centres used to accommodate Ukrainian refugees and also transported them to long-term accommodation in Drumcar and Drogheda. Most Civil defence volunteers were involved.

Training during April covered:

- First Aid Responder Training
- New recruit Induction
- Emergency Medical Technician Training
- Emergency First Responder Training
- Search Instructor Recertification
- Critical Incident Stress Management Refresher

Water Safety

Beach Lifeguard activity ceased from mid-September. All water safety infrastructure continues to be checked on a scheduled basis. Recruitment and inductions were completed in relation to Beach Lifeguards for the summer season 2022 which commences initially on a weekend basis in June.

Housing and Quality of Life Tithíocht agus Cáilíocht na Beatha

This Directorate has two key responsibilities:

Housing, which encompasses all initiatives which aim to match need and available resources in a sustainable way throughout our county

Quality of Life, a wide range of initiatives and programmes designed to make living in Louth a stimulating, safe and rewarding experience, including the arts, heritage, and our libraries

Tá dhá eochairfhreagracht ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

Tithíocht, a chuimsíonn gach tionscnamh agus de chuspóir acu ná na riachtanais agus na haicmhainní ar fad atá ar fail a chur le chéile go hinbhuanaithe ar fud ár gcontae

Cáilíocht na Beatha, réimse leathan tionscnaimh agus cláir atá deartha chun saol spreagúil, sásúil, sábháilte a chur ar fail i gContae Lú, na healaíona, an oidhreacht, agus ár leabharlanna san áireamh

Paddy Donnelly
Director / Stiúrthóir



Housing

Addressing Homelessness

As the Responsible Housing Authority for the North East Region, Louth County Council continues to manage this area and achieve the goals set out in the North East Homelessness Strategy 2021-2024. The work done within Louth can be summarised as follows:

Presentations May 2022	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda MD	Total
Number of Person who presented as Homeless	05	111	138	254
Offered advice, support (including fast tracking H.A. for Rent Supplement eligibility)	05	80	86	171
Placed in Temporary Emergency Accommodation	00	19	40	59
Refused Offer of Temporary Emergency Accommodation	00	00	00	20
Not eligible from outside county or non HRC	00	00	00	04

The tables below reflect monthly returns submitted to the Department with regard to Homeless numbers in the NORTH EAST REGION for 23rd – 29th May 2022. This anonymous and aggregated return of all individuals accessing emergency accommodation is returned to the Department of Housing on a monthly basis.

Table 1: Gender

Gender	Total
Male	70
Female	24
Total	94

Table 2: Age Groups

Age Group	Total
18-24	11
25-44	53
45-64	23
65+	07
Total	94

Table 3: Accommodation Type

Accommodation Type	Total
Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA)	31
Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)	55
Temporary Emergency Accommodation (low support)(TEA)	01
Unique Total (note, clients may have accessed multiple accommodation types during the week)	07
Minus people accessing multiple accommodation types during the week	00
Total unique individuals	94

Table 4: County

County	Total
County Louth	89
County Monaghan	04
County Cavan	01
Total	94

Table 5 - Families with dependent children

	No. of families with dependent children	No. of Individual Adults	No. of Dependents

Individuals with dependent children	05	05	08
Total	05	05	08
Couples with dependent children	18	36	48
Total	18	36	48

Isolation units have been made available for homeless persons with suspected/confirmed cases of Covid-19 and protocols have been drawn up to address such cases.

The full range of Homeless Services continues to be provided remotely and staff is available on request, in exceptional cases.

Housing Assistance Payment

The total number of applications in HAP is 3216

Ardee Municipal District	Dundalk Municipal District	Drogheda Borough District	Total
317	1694	1205	3216

Housing First

	Louth	Monaghan	Cavan	Total
Number of tenancies established	27	02	06	35
Number of individuals currently in tenancy	26	01	06	33

Accelerate Social Housing

The Governments **Housing For All** plan published in 2021 established a new approach to accelerating housing delivery in the country. Three key actions to taken by the Council have been identified to improve the housing delivery system.

1. The creation of a single multi disciplinary housing delivery team.
2. Active management of a single annual housing delivery programme.
3. Interventions to remove barriers and accelerate delivery.
- 4.

The Council has been given an ambitious 5 year target of delivering 1323 new build social housing units along with 34 leasing units over the five year period 2022-2026. In addition the Council will in due course receive a target for affordable homes. The Council is currently in discussion with Department officials concerning these targets and how delivery can be best achieved. This target will include delivery of units from Part V provision, AHB's, Acquisitions, Mortgage to Rents, Long Term Leases, Repair and Lease and Buy & Renew Acquisitions. The 2020 - 2023 pipeline delivery progress report is in tables below.

Homeless Services and Covid 19

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

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

The Hostels and family Hub continue to operate with reduced capacity, which reflects government guidelines in respect of social and physical distancing.

2022 Housing Allocations up to 31st May 2022

Numbers allocated	Allocations - social	Allocations - voluntary	Refusals - social	Refusals - voluntary
Ardee MD	06	17	01	02
Dundalk MD	29	94	10	03
Drogheda BD	49	05	10	09
Total Allocations	84	116	21	14

Social housing transfers facilitated up to 31st May 2022

Year	Ardee	Dundalk	Drogheda
2022	06	02	04

Housing List (Excluding HAP Transfers)

Month	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
May 2022	361	699	622	1682

Transfer List from HAP

Month	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
May 2022	317	1694	1205	3216

There are a total of 277 applicants on the approved list for transfer (**Non-HAP**) within Social Housing including **32** applications from the Approved Housing Bodies

Build More Homes

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

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

Rent Management

The number of tenants who pay rent by Household Budget is now **966**

Current Rents Arrears as of 31/05/2022	Number of Account	Value
Rents between 4-6 weeks old	175	€58,387.00
Rents between 7-12 weeks old	156	€98,875.00
Rents greater than 12 weeks old	739	€2,541,033.00
TOTAL	1070	€2,698,295.00

Improve the Rented Sector

	May	Total
No. of properties inspected May 2022	9131	266
No. of advisory notes issued to Landlord	73	273
No. of improvement notices Issued	07	33
No. of prohibition notices Issued	00	02

No. of Rent Book Notices Issued	00	00
Inspections (HAP)	81	256
Improvement Notices (HAP)	07	44
Virtual Inspections Issued	00	00
Private Inspections Complaints	00	04
HAP Complaints	01	11
RAS Complaints	00	00
Re Inspections HAP	09	35
Re Inspections Hap Compliance	14	25
Re Inspections RAS	01	01
Re Inspections RAS Compliance	00	00
AHB Inspection	03	15

Utilise Existing Housing

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

Maintenance	May 2022
No. of Maintenance Requests Received	566
No. of Maintenance Completed	424

Vacant Properties

Currently 22 No. social units have been used as temporary accommodation for isolation or additional homeless need during Covid 19 and are not included in the next table.

Vacant Properties	Total	
Ardee Municipal District	05	
Dundalk Municipal District	27	
Drogheda Borough District	23	
Total Re Lets		55
Vacant Properties CPO Units not yet ready for occupation (all county)		08

Total No. of CPO Properties (Relets & CPO's)		63
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Grant Assistance to the Elderly and Disabled

The private grant process is continuing with some changes to procedure to reflect social distancing guidelines. These changes are reviewed in light of Government announcements.

The following grants are available

- Housing Adaption Grants - Priority 1, which will assist those who need whole time care in the home
- Housing for Older People – Priority 1 to works that will preserve the integrity of the dwelling
- Mobility Aids Grants - Priority 1, which will assist those who need whole time, care in the home.

Private House Grants

Status	HOP	HAG	MAG	Total
Applications Completed 2021	174	119	39	332
Applications rolling into 2022	101	363	166	630
New Applications Up to 31.05.22	147	76	20	243

Estate Management

	DBD & AMD	DMD	TOTAL
Tenancy Inspections	22	19	41
Pre tenancy	04	06	10

Training			
Tenancy Investigations Visits	44	30	74
Tenancy Investigations Remote	15	00	15

The Council awaits confirmation from the Department in respect of the 2022 allocation.

Anti Social Behaviour

	DBD	AMD	DMD	TOTAL
ASB Cases	12	08	20	40
ASB Ongoing	09	03	07	19
ASB Completed	04	01	04	09

	DBD	AMD	DMD	TOTAL
Verbal Warning	02	03	03	08
Written Warning	00	00	00	00
Tenancy Notification	00	00	00	00

Climate Action

The newly revised **2021 Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme** is the first 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.

Currently staff in the energy efficiency retrofit office are preparing documentation and site selections to ensure that tender packages can be offered to qualifying contractors to expedite these works in 2022.

Delivery Stream	Housing for All Projected Delivery 2022-2026				
	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
SHIP CONSTRUCTION	00	11	171	80	262
SHIP CONSTRUCTION RAPID	00	00	00	00	00
REGENERATION	22	00	00	00	22
CAS CONSTRUCTION	01	08	67	00	76
CONSTRUCTION BUY & RENEW SHIP CONSTRUCTION SINGLE STAGE	00	00	00	00	00
SHIP CONSTRUCTION SINGLE STAGE	00	09	00	00	09
SHIP CONSTRUCTION TURNKEY	08	27	00	00	35
SHIP Competitive Dialogue	00	00	00	00	00
CAS CONSTRUCTION TURNKEY & CAS SINGLE STAGE	00	00	00	00	00
PPP	00	00	80	00	00
AHB CALF Construction	00	00	00	00	00
AHB CALF Turnkey	111	495	85	00	691
CALF Part V	29	53	07	00	89
LA Part V	10	07	00	00	17
CAS Part V	00	00	00	00	00
Voids (capped)	00	00	00	00	00

DEFINITIONS

AHB = Approved Housing Body

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

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

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

IPS = Incremental Purchase Scheme

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

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

SHIP = Social Housing Investment Programme

Project Name	Project Phase	Total Number of Social Units Expected	Project Status	Projected Substantial Completion Date	Unit Type
Cox's Demesne Phase 2B	1/1	22	On-site	08/07/2022	2no. * 2 bed, 4no. * 3 bed, 2no. * 4 bed, 6no. * 1 bed Apt & 8no. * 2 bed Apt.
Muirhevnamor, Dundalk Phase 1	1/1	11	Stage 2 Approved	13/12/2023	3no. * 2 bed & 8no. * 3 bed
Boice Court (Phase 2 - 4)	1/1	72	Stage 2 Approved	06/05/2024	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 2 Approved	12/03/2024	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	29/07/2024	2no x 2 bed apt , 2no x 2 bed, 2no x 3bed
Ballymakenny Road - East Site, Drogheda	1/1	80	Stage 1 Approved	31/12/2025	To be confirmed
Moneymore, Drogheda - Infill	1/1	1	Funding Approved Single Stage	30/06/2023	1no. * 2 bed
Gort Uaine, Clogherhead - Infill	1/1	1	Funding Approved Single Stage	30/06/2023	1no. * 4 bed
School Lane, Dunleer - Infill	1/1	1	Funding Approved Single Stage	30/06/2023	1no. * 3 bed
Doire Beag, Collon, Co. Louth - Infill	1/1	6	Funding Approved Single Stage	25/08/2023	6no. * 3 bed
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	1/4	11	Funding Approved Turnkey	30/11/2022	11no x 2 bed (3no Part V of 11)

Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	2/4	6	Funding Approved Turnkey	31/01/2023	3no x 2 bed apt, 3no x 3 bed apt, (1no. Part V of 6)
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	3/4	6	Funding Approved Turnkey	28/02/2023	3no x 2 bed apt, 3 no x 3 bed apt, (1no. Part V of 6)
Ellwood Ballymakenny Road, Drogheda	4/4	22	Funding Approved Turnkey	31/05/2023	11no x 2 bed, 5no x 2 bed apt, 6 no x 3 bed apt, (5no Part V of 22)
Listoke Avenue Ballymakenny	1/1	6	On Site	31/08/2022	6no x 3 bed
Linenfield Ballymakenny	2/2	1	On-site	31/08/2022	1no. * 2 bed

SUMMARY OF PROJECTED 2022 CALF DELIVERY

Scheme	D/HPCLG Ref. No	Project Name	Project Phase	Non-Part V Units Expected	Part V Units Expected	Approved Housing Body	Completed	Projected	Unit breakdown
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.8939	Duiche Roden, Dundalk, Co Louth	1 OF 2	75	12	Cluid Housing	On-site	30/11/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 18 x 3 be duplexes, 22 x 3 bed terraced houses, 19 x 2 bed apartments, 29 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed bungalows and 36 x 1 bed apartments

									across both phases
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AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9681	Newfoundwell Road Drogheda Co Louth	1 OF 2	46	9	Cluid Housing	On-site	30/04/2022	17 x 3 bed terraced houses, 1 x 3 bed duplexes, 25 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed terraced, 4 x 2 bed duplexes, 28 x 2 bed apartments and 19 x 1 bed apartments across both phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8046	Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	2 of 4	10		Tuath Housing	On-site	06/05/2022	6 x 2 bed apartments, 32 x 3 bed terraced houses and 8 x 3 bed semi detached across all phases

AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8046	Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	3 of 4	5	8	Tuath Housing	On-site	31/07/2022	6 x 2 bed apartments, 32 x 3 bed terraced houses and 8 x 3 bed semi detached across all phases
AHB CALF Turnkey		Tierney St, Ardee	1 of 2	5		Circle	Proposal	31/08/2022	3 x 3 bed bungalow, 2 x 2 bed bungalow, 3 x 3 bed terraced and 3 x 2 bed terrace houses across both phases

AHB CALF Turnkey		Tierney St, Ardee	2 of 2	6		Circle	Proposal	01/12/2022	3 x3 bed bungalow, 2 x 2 bed bungalow, 3 x3 bed terraced and 3 x 2 bed terrace houses across both phases
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SUMMARY OF PROJECTED 2023 CALF DELIVERY									
Scheme	D/HPC LG Ref. No	Project Name	Project Phase	Non-Part V Units Expected	Part V Units Expected	Approved Housing Body	Completed	Projected	Unit breakdown
								Substantial Completion Date	
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9739	Donore Road, Drogheda, Co Louth	1 of 1	59	7	Cluid Housing	On-site	30/09/2023	8 x 3 bed apartments, 54 x 2 bed apartments and 4 x 1 bed apartments
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8644	Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth	1 OF 5	12		Tuath Housing	On-site	06/07/2023	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all phases

AHB CALF Turnkey	2021.1033	Scotch Hall, Drogheda, Co Louth	1 of 1	21		Respond	Funding Approved	31/03/2023	6 x 1 bed apartments and 15 x 2 bed apartments
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9501	Dublin Road, Dundalk	1 OF 1	59	6	Respond	On-site	30/06/2023	5 x 3 bed houses, 7 x 3 bed duplexes, 2 x 3 bed apartments, 16 x 2 bed duplexes, 4 x 2 bed apartments, 4 x 1 bed houses and 27 x 1 bed
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.8939	Duiche Roden, Dundalk, Co Louth	2 of 2	43		Cluid Housing	On-site	31/08/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 18 x 3 bed duplexes, 22 x 3 bed terraced houses, 19 x 2 bed apartments, 29 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed bungalows and 36 x 1 bed

									apartments across both phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9 681	Newfoundwell Road Drogheda Co Louth	2 of 2	39		Cluid Housing	On-site	31/03/2023	17 x 3 bed terraced houses, 1 x 3 bed duplexes, 25 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed terraced, 4 x 2 bed duplexes, 28 x 2 bed apartments and 19 x 1 bed apartments across both phases

AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.8 971	Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda	1 of 4	41	6	Respond	On-site	31/03/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9 015	Oriel Heights, Collon	1 of 1	2	11	North & East Housing	Funding Approved	31/03/2023	4 x 3 bed units and 9 x 2 bed units
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8 046	Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	4 of 4	12		Tuath Housing	On-site	06/10/2023	6 x 2 bed apartments, 32 x 3 bed terraced houses and 8 x 3 bed semi detached across all phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8 077	Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	1 of 6	38	7	Clanmil	Funding Approved	24/06/2023	9 x 2 bed apartments and 36 x3 bed houses

AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8 077	Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	2 of 6	38	7	Clanmil	Funding Approved	19/08/2023	9 x 2 bed apartments and 36 x3 bed houses
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8 077	Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	3 of 6	38	7	Clanmil	Funding Approved	21/10/2023	9 x 2 bed apartments and 36 x3 bed houses
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.8 971	Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda	2 of 4	15	2	Respond	On-site	31/03/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases

AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.8 971	Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda	3 of 4	21	2	Respond	On-site	31/03/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.8 971	Newtown View, Marsh Road, Drogheda	4 of 4	43	3	Respond	On-site	31/03/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
AHB CALF Turnkey	2020.9 791	Tullybrook, Slane Road, Drogheda	1 of 1	69	16	Cluid Housing	On-site	31/03/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 22 x 3 bed terraced, 24 x 3 bed duplexes, 22 x 2 bed terraced, 7 x 2 bed duplexes and 8 x 2 bed apartments

SUMMARY OF PROJECTED 2024 CALF DELIVERY									
Scheme	D/HPCLG Ref. No	Project Name	Project Phase	Non-Part V Units Expected	Part V Units Expected	Approved Housing Body	Completed	Projected	
								Substantial Completion Date	Unit breakdown
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8077	Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	4 of 6	38	7	Clanmil	Funding Approved	01/01/2024	9 x 2 bed apartments and 36 x3 bed houses
AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8077	Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	5 of 6	38	7	Clanmil	Funding Approved	20/01/2024	9 x 2 bed apartments and 36 x3 bed houses

AHB CALF Turnkey	2019.8077	Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	6 of 6	38	7	Clanmil	Funding Approved	31/03/2024	9 x 2 bed apartments and 36 x3 bed houses
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AHB CALF Turnkey	n/a	Connolly's Field Dundalk	1 of 1	59	11	Fold	Funding Approved	29/03/2024	51 x 1 bed 9 x 2 bed
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Community and Sport Louth Local Sports Partnership

TY Triathlon

The 9th annual Louth Transition Year Duathlon took place Wednesday 11th May 2022 after a 2 year break due to Covid 19 restrictions

The event, which was organised by Louth Local Sports Partnership, the Louth P.E. Teachers Network, An Garda Síochána and Setanta Triathlon Club saw 66 students representing 7 schools from throughout the county compete in both team and individual events.

Louth Sports Partnership would like to thank Rosewood Complex for the use of their premises. Competitors were required to complete a 1km Run, a 3.6km Cycle and a 3.6km Run.

The schools involved in the event were:

- Dundalk Grammar School
- Bush Post Primary School
- Ballymakenny College Drogheda
- Drogheda Grammar School
- Scoil Ui Mhuire Dunleer
- Colaiste Ris
- Colaiste Chu Chulainn
-



(TY Triathlon at Rosewood Complex)



(Competitors from TY Triathlon crossing the finish line)

National Bike Week 2022 in Louth

Louth Local Sports Partnership in conjunction with Louth County Council and Transport for Ireland delivered a hugely successful programme of events and opportunities for children, adults and families to enjoy cycling across Louth as part of National Bike Week which took place from May 14th – 22nd

In Louth, Bike Week featured over 40 programmes and events catering for beginners, leisure cyclists, families and the more serious cycling enthusiasts.

Bike Week endeavours to attract and encourage cyclists, particularly new cyclists of all ages and abilities to discover the benefits and the enjoyment of cycling while also availing of on-going sustainable cycling opportunities within the county.



(Children from Bellurgan NS enjoying Bike Week)



(Participants from Community Cycle in Cooley)

Sport Leader Awards

Louth Local Sports Partnership will be delivering two Level 1 Young Sport Leaders Award programmes in the coming months. These programmes will take place in Dundalk June 13th - 16th and in Drogheda August 8th – 11th. The programmes will work with teenagers aged 13-17 who wish to develop their leadership skills. The syllabus is designed to develop generic leadership skills that can be applied to a variety of sports and/or recreational situations as well as contributing to the personal development of the learner.

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

Upcoming Volunteer & Coach Education Workshops

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

Workshop	Date	Venue
Safeguarding Level 2	June 9 th	Online
Safeguarding Level 1	June 16 th	Online
Activator Walking Leaders	June 18 th	Muirhevnamor Community Centre
Autism in Sport	June 20 th	Online
First Aid Training	June 20 th	Online

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

Events/Programmes

Bootcamp in conjunction with Our Lady of Lourdes staff

Lourdes Stadium ran a successful bootcamp over a 10 week period for the staff of Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Drogheda (LOL).

Keep an eye on Lourdes Stadium social media platforms for upcoming bootcamps!



Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Drogheda (LOL) 10 Week Bootcamp

Drogheda Special Olympics Club – Sean Carolan Memorial Walk



**Sean Carolan Memorial Walk 2022 at Lourdes Stadium
23rd April 2022**

On Saturday 23rd April, Drogheda Special Olympics club held the Sean Carolan Memorial Walk 2022 at Lourdes Stadium. This fundraiser and sponsored walk was in aid of Palliative Care, Dóchas Centre, Lourdes Hospital and for an electric bocce mat winder for the club.

Upcoming programme

Pride of Place 2021 Awards Ceremony

The Cox's Demesne Youth & Community Project and the Blackrock Coastal Community were honoured at the 2021 IPB/Co-Operation Ireland Pride of Place Gala awards ceremony which took place on Monday evening 16th May 2022 in Killarney. It was also streamed live on the night and hosted by RTE'S Marty Whelan.

The Cox's Demesne Youth & Community Project won the overall prize in the Community Wellbeing Initiative category and the Blackrock Community also made a podium finish, where they came runner up in the Island and Coastal Communities category. They were competing against eighty four projects, which were put forward by 34 Local authorities across the island of Ireland.

It is a significant accomplishment, being recognised in such a prestigious all Island competition and both groups have showcased that community spirit is alive and well and we wish them continued success in all their future endeavours.

Warmest Congratulation's to all participants involved.



The Cox's Demesne Youth & Community Project won the overall prize in the Community Wellbeing Initiative category Pride of Place 2021

Pride of Place 2022

This year is the 20th Anniversary for the IPB Pride of Place competition. Entry forms for both Louth County Council's nominees, "The Red Door

Project” and Creative Spark were submitted on the 13th May 2022.

Summaries of both projects are to be submitted along photographs by 10th June 2022.

The judging season will take place over the summer months, with adjudicators visiting each nominee on site this year. This will give them an opportunity to meet the judges in person and make a presentation on their activities, achievements, and future plans.

Tidy Towns National Competition 2022

The **SuperValu TidyTowns** competition is open to all areas, big or small, urban or rural, and each are entered under their respective population categories. The closing date for entry into the competition was Friday 20th May.

The community support team offered their assistance and support to Tidy Towns groups with their entries into the competition. In addition, groups were invited to a zoom meeting where a presentation was made on the application process followed by a question & answer session. The meeting was recorded and a copy of the recording and presentation was emailed to groups who could not attend the on line meeting.



A photograph submitted to the Tidy Towns National Competition 2022

Anti-dumping Initiative funding 2022

The community support team were successful in securing funding under the Anti-dumping initiative

fund for a summer weekend clean up event in Dundalk. This proposal was submitted following the success of the Drogheda Spring Clean weekend, held during March. The Dundalk Summer Clean weekend event will be carried out in partnership with Dundalk Tidy Towns. Local radio will run an awareness campaign to inform and encourage people to register for the event, one month prior to its roll out. Plans are currently being progressed.

Tidy Towns Project Scheme

The scheme provides funding to groups to carry out small scale capital type improvement works in their town or village during 2022. A total of 18 applications for the Tidy Towns grant scheme were received from Tidy Town groups around the county.

Nine applications were received through the new on line portal system on Louth County Council’s website this year, eight by email and one by post. Most of the successful groups were contacted and can commence work on their proposed projects.

Amenity Grants

Amenity grant applications are being prepared to go before elected representatives for their approval at the June Council Meeting. An increase of 10% was considered for each application, given the rising costs of fuel etc, this year.

A total of 205 applications were received from Residents Associations, Community groups and Tidy Towns groups.

100 groups applied through the online portal this year, with the remaining 105 groups applying through email, post or by hand.

Green Schools flag awards ceremony 2021-2022

There are 12 schools in Louth that are involved in the Green schools programme who received their flag at an online ceremony on the 25th May.

Congratulations to all the schools and their Green Schools Committees for all their hard work.

Louth In Bloom 2022



Cllr Jim Tenanty and Chief Executive Joan Martin along with Heidi Rice, Emily Andzelyte, Milena Kuzmina and Alisa Jurenas at the Launch of Louth In Bloom 2022.

“Louth In Bloom 2022”, was launched on Monday 30th May by Councillor Jim Tenanty, Cathaoirleach of Ardee Municipal District and Chief Executive Joan Martin.

The format of the competition is changed this year. Judges will be out and about visiting the nominees, this year. Allowing us to actively engage with communities and recognise the marvellous work that people undertake to beautify their community and our county.

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

Entries can be submitted through [an online portal www.louthcoco.ie/louthinbloom](http://www.louthcoco.ie/louthinbloom),

The nomination entry form will also be available to download on www.louthcoco.ie/louthinbloom and can be submitted by post or by dropping same, into any of the Louth County Council customer

services desks at any of our offices in Ardee, Drogheda and Dundalk.

The nomination entry form is also available in this week’s local newspapers and the closing date for receipt of entries is Friday 08/07/2022.

LEADER Programme

The LAG at its April 2022 meeting approved funding support, in the amount of €648,647.21 for a total of 12 LEADER projects, under the Transitional LEADER Programme, 2021-2022. These projects funded were spread across the county in Ardee, Louth Village, Dundalk, Castlebellingham and Carlingford

Age Friendly

Louth County Council was represented by the Community Section at the 2022 National Older People’s Council Convention held in Trim. The two day conference held on 12th and 13th May. On day 1 Health & Wellbeing of Older People was the main topic which included talk and workshops covering topics such as Nutrition/Wellbeing Workshops, Climate Change and Healthy Age Friendly Homes. Day 2 included talk around crime prevention and technology.



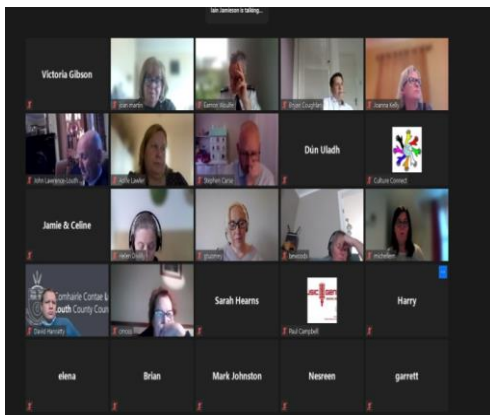
Mary Cappelis (LCC), Harry McCarty (Chairperson, Louth Older People’s Council) and Dara McGabhann (Louth LEADER Project) represented Louth at National Older People’s Council Convention

Project Updates – Shared Spaces and Services

The construction contract for Peters Hill Drogheda has been awarded to GLAS Civil Engineering Ltd. The tender for the Peters Hill Artwork will be awarded soon. The extension to Muirhevnamór Community Centre (Construction Works) is advertised on etenders with a closing date of 27th May 2022.

Completing Projects

The programme delivery of 'Louth Leading the Way' concluded on 9th May 2022 with the closing event taken place over Zoom. The Programme targeted civic leaders, community leaders and leaders working in statutory and non-statutory sectors on both sides of the border with a remit for community engagement in/with Co. Louth. This is the final Building Positive PEACE IV project.



Closing Event - Leading the Way May 2022

Comhairle na nÓg May 2022

Members of Louth Comhairle na nOg have been planning meetings with local councillors on a Municipal Basis over the last few weeks. On the 30th May Dundalk Comhairle members met with Councillors to discuss what their role is in Local Government and how to make better links for the future. Lots of issues were discussed including access to local facilities, safety and security, getting elected and elections, attending meetings and the benefits and challenges of social media. Many thanks to Cllrs, Meenan, Yore, Coffey,

Butler and Sharkey for their attendance and meaningful interaction with the group.

This event is part of the Comhairle training in civic leadership which will continue throughout the summer months.

Louth Comhairle na nOg representative Kaitlin Gaddy has been selected to sit on a country wide policy development committee to explore the issue of Bullying in schools. This will involve six months work facilitating consultations with peers, speaking to the Department of Education and presenting to various committees in Dail Eireann. Kaitlin is from Drogheda and will be an excellent representative for County Louth.



Cllrs. Kevin Meenan, Emma Coffey and Maeve Yore with members of Dundalk Comhairle na nOg

Quality of Life Service

Climate Change Adaption Strategy 2019-2024

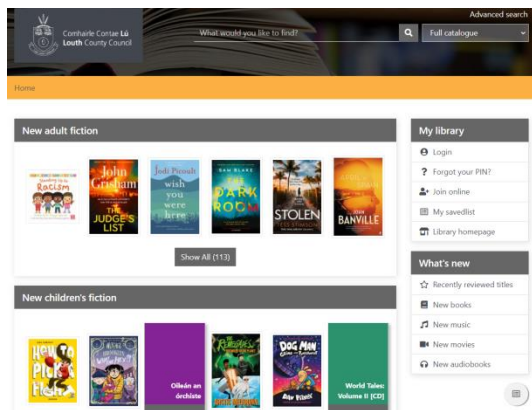
Amanda Branigan and Brendan McSherry are the Quality of Life Reps on the Louth County Council Climate Action Team.

Archives

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

LOUTH LIBRARY SERVICES

New Library Management System



A new national library management system, Spydus went live on March 29th with improved functionality and a fresh look.

Members can manage their library accounts online, browse a catalogue of 12 million items, and reserve items to borrow.

The new system has many improved features.

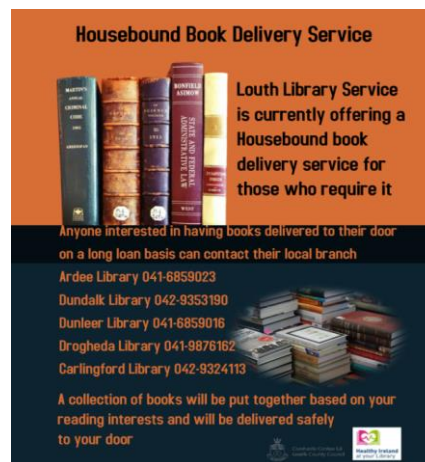
- Logging into your library account, and managing your reserves, reading lists and contact information is much easier.
- The catalogue is easier to use and has images and recommendations as well as themed bookshelves and links to useful resources.
- You can now find, borrow and reserve eBooks and eAudiobooks as well as physical books in one searchable catalogue.
- You can renew your library membership online for the first time.
- The new system has a new look and works great on mobile phones and tablets.

You can check it out at <https://louth.spydus.ie>

The first time you log in to the new system, you will be asked to reset your PIN. This is because your PIN is encrypted and private to you so it could not be transferred to the new system.

Library Housebound Service

The Library service continues to offer the Housebound delivery service to our elderly customers with over 249 deliveries made since January 2022.



eServices



There is a wide range of eServices available to library members, including free eBooks & eAudiobooks through Borrow Box. Louth Library service have seen an increase of 28% more users since March 2020.



In addition, free newspapers and magazines and Comic Books are available through Press Reader and Libby.

Lastly there is a host of online courses with Universal Class and Transparent Language online.

For more information on these services click [here](#)

Library Newsletter



The June edition contains the latest news, events, services, and recommendations from our libraries.

Anyone interested in receiving this monthly newsletter to their inbox can sign up here:

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

Click here to read this month's newsletter

<https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/library/blog-and-newsletter/>

A Welcome for Ukraine



Dundalk Library continues to host weekly information sessions for Ukrainians and their host families every Thursday from 4pm-6pm. This informal gathering is an opportunity for Ukrainians of all ages and host families to meet others in the same position.

A welcome brochure, in Ukrainian, is now available in all of our branches and on our website. The brochure can be accessed here:

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

The Welcome Sanctuary group at DKIT invited Louth Libraries to an event to welcome Ukrainians currently taking refuge in the area. DKIT shared with attendees that DKIT is a place of welcome and sanctuary. Library staff met attendees who are staying in the Crowne Plaza and local Bed and Breakfast accommodation. Library staff provided information on the range of library services available with information on events taking place in the library. They signed up new members, provided information on how to access electronic services and answered some questions on the local area.

Louth Libraries were invited by Louth Leader Partnership to attend a coffee morning for Ukrainians in the Barbican Centre in Drogheda on the 20th of May. Library staff attended with other local services and promoted the library as a safe space, signed up new members and provided information on the electronic services available. Staff also discussed ongoing events such as Baby Book Club, Parent & Toddler Group, and initiatives such as the Little Library Book bag.

Eduroam



Louth Library Service Eduroam (education roaming) partnership with HEAnet in Dundalk, Drogheda and Ardee Libraries is proving to be very successful now that libraries have fully re-opened and study spaces are available again. Covid 19 has resulted in more remote learning off-campus with not all locations having access to good quality Broadband. This initiative aims to create extended virtual campuses and offer students multiple options to go online and connect to their Further and Higher Education institutions while studying in the library. In March 276 devices connected to Eduroam in our libraries with DKIT and TU Dublin the most prominent home institutions, with a wide variety of other colleges such as TCD, UCD RCSI, DCU, IADT, UL as well as international institutions.

Digital Learning Space

Work is continuing on the installation of the new digital learning space in Drogheda Library with new PCs now in use for library customers. The rollout of the equipment has progressed to all other branch libraries. Our customers can look forward to the use of new PCs, iMacs, HP Sprouts

and gaming zones, along with a programme of STEAM events.



Summer Stars 2022



Summer Stars is back, and Louth Library Service are looking forward to providing a fully in-person programme for the first time since 2019. Summer Stars is a National Right To Read programme, which encourages children to read for enjoyment during their Summer Holidays. The initiative will be launched on the week of Monday 13th June, with events taking place throughout the county. From then, families are invited to visit their local library branch to pick up a reading card, and some recommended reads for the Summer months.

On Saturday 18th June, all five library branches will celebrate "Sign up Saturday"; author Valerie Murphy will give workshops in Ardee and Dunleer Libraries, and library staff will facilitate storytime in Dundalk, Drogheda and Carlingford Libraries.

A programme of events, including Young Adult Books Clubs, Art & Crafts and Children's Storytime, will run throughout the summer months in all our library branches.

Book Wizards

Book Wizards is a new initiative that will be launched as part of Summer Stars this year. Book Wizards is a book prescription service which will be facilitated by library staff. If parents have a child who is wondering what to read next; whether they are a reluctant reader or have read everything they can find, the Book Wizards will help them choose their next favourite book. By answering a few questions about their likes and dislikes and a short consultation with one of our wizards, they can go away with a list of new books perfect for them.

For more information parents can contact bookwizard@louthcoco.ie or contact Dundalk Library on 042 9353190 or Drogheda Library on 041 9876162



Enjoying the Baby Book Club in Drogheda Library

Parent & Toddler Mornings



Enjoying the Toddler Morning in Dundalk Library

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

Baby Book Club

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



Louth Meath Education & Training Board (LMETB) are running weekly language classes in Drogheda Library for Ukrainians'.

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

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

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

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

Ciorcal Cómhrá Irish Conversation

Ar mhaith leat do chuid Gaeilge a úsáid nó a chleachtadh?

Would you like to use or practice your Irish skills?

Beidh ciorcal cómhrá ar siúl ar an gcéad Máirt chuile mhi ag 4 i Leabharlann Dhún Dealgan.

The Irish conversation group meets at 4pm on the first Tuesday of every month in Dundalk Library.

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



Comhairle Contae Lá
Louth County Council

- Outreach events for schools in conjunction with the Faraway Hills Exhibition in County Museum, Dundalk
- Continued conservation and digitization of a quantity of Rural District Council and Board of Guardian minute books that support the 1921-1923 period

Spiritual Wounds, Trauma, Testimony and the Irish Civil War with author and historian Siobhra Aiken.
Tuesday 28th of June at 6pm in Dundalk Library

Louth County Council Decade of Centenaries Programme 2022



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

Funding of €50,176 has been approved towards the LCC Decade of Centenaries programme from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

This year's programme will include:

- A continuation of the Historian in Residence series of talks and lectures with Louth Library Service
- Creative writing workshops for primary and secondary schools with Louth Library Service
- Part 3 of the Remembrance Trilogy, community theatre with An Táin Arts Centre
- County Louth Artists Book Project with Creative Spark

LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL
 DECADE OF CENTENARIES
 PROGRAMME 2022

SPIRITUAL WOUNDS

TRAUMA,
 TESTIMONY
 AND THE IRISH
 CIVIL WAR

with author & historian

● Dr. Síobhra Aiken

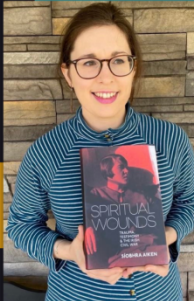
in conversation with LCC Historian in Residence Dr. Thomas Tormey.

**Tuesday, June 28th, 6pm
 at Dundalk Library**

All welcome, no booking required.

Contact 042-9353190 for more information.

Supported by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media under the Decade of Centenaries 2012-2023 initiative.



Comhairle Contae Lá
 Louth County Council

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

Author and historian Siobhra Aiken will give a talk in Dundalk Library on Tuesday 28th of June at 6pm. All are welcome to attend.

Decade of Centenaries History Lecture Series



The full programme of talks relating to the LCC 2021 Decade of Centenaries Programme is now available as podcasts via Spotify.

<https://open.spotify.com/show/52FI238xrRbDKKOFrUxy2b?si=PvHWxAJPSEaRkoBL--aBGQ>

Other Events

Pride 2022

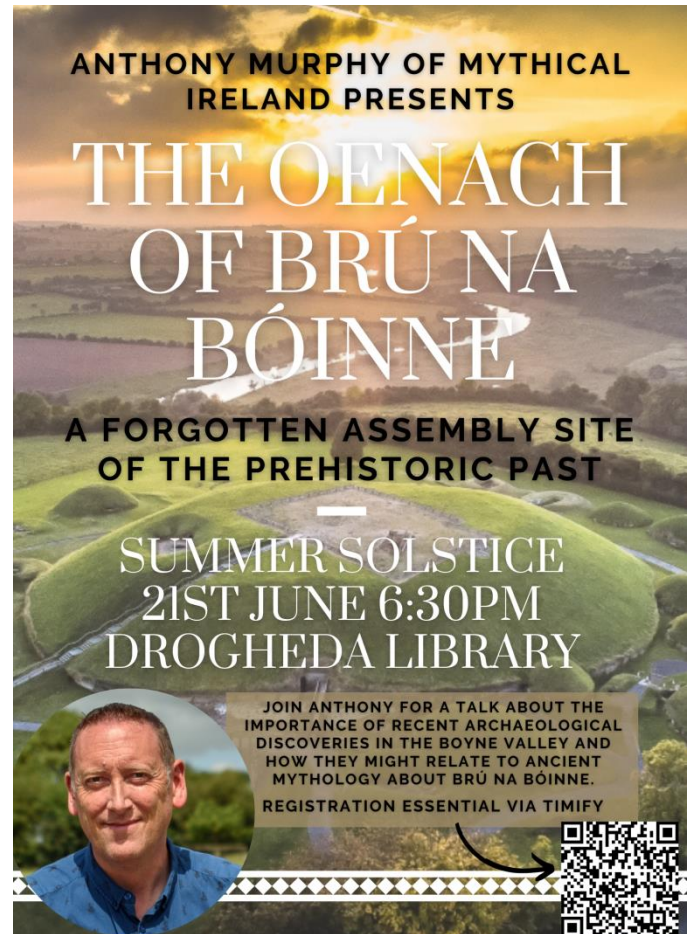
Coffee & Chat LGBTQ+ Drop In
Tuesday 14th of June from 3pm-5pm in Drogheda Library



As part of our Pride celebrations members of the public are invited to Drogheda Library on Tuesday 14th June from 3pm-5pm for a cuppa, a chat and some LGBTQ+ book recommendations for all ages.

Whether you are a teen looking to fill the Heartstopper-shaped hole in your life, or a parent looking for some diverse children's books, pop in and have a chat with our friendly librarians. All are welcome, no booking required.

The Oenach of Brú na Bóinne: A forgotten assembly site of the prehistoric past'
a talk with Anthony Murphy
Tuesday 21st of June at 6.30pm in Drogheda Library



Anthony Murphy of Mythical Ireland will present a special talk on summer solstice in Drogheda Library on Tuesday 21st of June at 6.30pm. The talk is titled: 'The Oenach of Brú na Bóinne: A

forgotten assembly site of the prehistoric past'. This presentation is about the importance of recent archaeological discoveries in the Boyne Valley and how they might relate to ancient mythology about Brú na Bóinne.

Booking via Timify:
<https://bit.ly/3Lt1FcP>



Age Action Computer Classes

A new five week course with Age Action began on Friday 03rd June in Drogheda library and will continue until Friday 01st July. 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 or telephone 01 4756989.

Primary Schools Service

For the first time in more than two years, schools across County Louth are enjoying visits from our Schools Van. Staff have coordinated with our local schools to organise a collection route before summer holidays, to allow teachers and pupils to return stock that's been borrowed over the past three years. This will allow us to fully replenish our schools collection and identify any gaps in our stock.

Though it's been a while since our last trip to the schools, the appetite for this service has not waned. If anything, the collection route has reinforced the demand, and our school communities are looking forward to seeing the van back in action as soon as possible, with some

teachers making the visits part of their class curriculum.

We had a great response from our local schools for the annual Bike Week Art competition, run by Louth Library Service, Louth County Council's Road Safety Officer and Louth Sports Partnership. Primary school students from 3rd to 6th class were invited to submit an original poster to the theme 'Cycling Safely in County Louth' using the Road Safety Authority's 'Rules for Safe Cycling' as guidance. Winners will receive some art-themed prizes.

In other competition news, we're delighted to announce Rang 4 from Gaelscoil Dhún Dealgan as the winners of the 'Squeeze in a Read' schools photography competition for the Ireland Reads campaign earlier this year. The winning photograph will be used to promote the Primary Schools Service. To reward the school for their participation in the competition, they will also help us launch Summer Stars with a bilingual storytelling event with Seanchaí Seosamh Ó Maolalaí on 13th of June.



The winning entry from Gaelscoil Dhún Dealgan



In Dunleer Library an exhibition is on display featuring the artwork and poetry of the children of

available to them. LMETB attended to discuss training options available and library staff gave a talk on the services and events available to attend in Louth Libraries.

Mosney Residents Collaboration

Louth and Meath Library Services are supporting the set up of a library in the community room in Mosney. As part of this collaboration, Louth Libraries will visit Mosney on 17th of June with an eservices roadshow and to encourage residents to join the library.

Sensory Library Service

Magic Table

Available in Ardee, Dundalk and Drogheda Libraries this facility is ideal for those with sensory difficulties, for Autistic people or people 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 Dundalk & Drogheda libraries every Monday 6pm-7pm
Ardee library every Saturday 10am-11am



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

Phones will be turned down, lights dimmed, and sensory equipment and toys will be laid out. For more information, contact your local branch library.



Sensory area with dimmed lights

LOUTH COUNTY ARCHIVES



Archives Entrance Gate Sign

National Retention Policy Records Management Working Group

The draft revisions for Community, IT, and Library are in progress, while Environment is close to being finalised. To date, Health & Safety, Planning & Development, Housing, Procurement, Finance, HR, Water, Corporate and Enterprise & Economic Development have been completed, approved and issued out to local authorities.

The County 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 on reviewing and appraising records for archives or destruction is continually being carried out.

Historic Structures Fund 2022

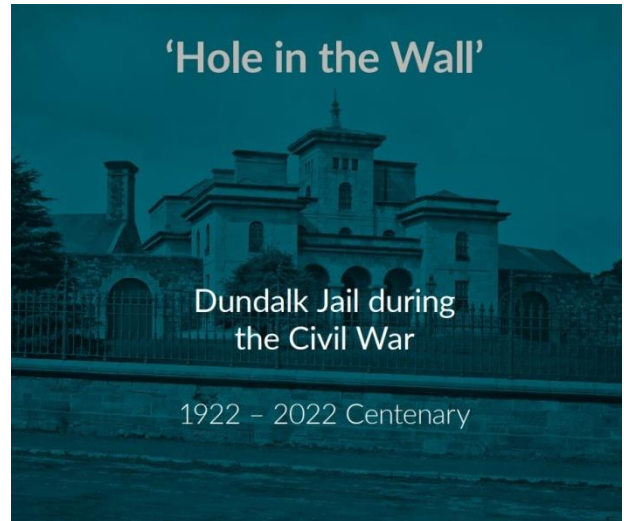
The Co Archives has been successful in receiving a provisional grant offer from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage via the Conservation Section for conservation repair works to the interior of the south gable wall of the Co Archives building. Exterior repair works to address damp issues were carried out with a HSF grant in 2021. Tendering for the works has been completed and costs are now being reviewed.

LGMA Library Unit Digitisation Project

A section of an archive collection, the Joseph Dolan Papers, has been selected for digitisation under the Library Unit's Decade of Centenaries digitisation project. An external digitisation company is currently carrying out the scanning work on the relevant documents in the collection.

Decade of Centenaries

As part of the Louth County Council Decade of Centenaries Programme 2021, a talk in collaboration with the County Louth Archaeological & Historical Society will take place on 15th June on the topic of 'Dundalk Jail during the Civil War period'. It is linked to the short-film and accompanying booklet of the same name that was launched recently. It commemorates the forthcoming centenary of the 'Hole in the Wall' escape that occurred on 27 July 1922.



"Hole in the Wall" Centenary Booklet

The short-film is still available on Louth County Archives YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbO_FVI7Rb408fJeBb1qC3Q and both the booklet and film can be accessed on the web-page <https://www.louthcoco.ie/en/services/archives/louth-1916-1923/dundalk-jail-during-the-civil-war.html>, while hard-copies of the booklet are still available from Louth Libraries and Louth County Archives. The Decade of Centenaries Programme is funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

Donating Archives

The Service welcomes donations of archives and records from the public that relate to all aspects of the development of County Louth including material from community groups, clubs and societies, national schools, individuals, local organizations and local businesses. These collections make available unique and valuable research sources for the study of Louth's heritage. If you have a collection that you would be willing to donate, or know of someone who would, please contact the County Archivist by email at archive@louthcoco.ie or by telephone at 042-9324358.

Research Enquiries

The Archivist continues to assist researchers with various enquiries including those from private

individuals, academics, professionals and state agencies.

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.

Arts Service

Creative Ireland

Cruinniú na nÓg will take place on Saturday 11th June. We have a huge range of events happening across the county both on the day and in the weeks running up to it. Since early May we have had a series of workshops in Filmmaking, Stop Motion Animation, Jing and mixed media going on across the county. We've been working with Redeemer Family Resource Centre in Dundalk, Connect Family Resource in Drogheda and The New Leaf programme in Ardee & Dunleer. All works created across the workshops will be showcased in either Creative Spark in Dundalk (Redeemer Projects), Drogheda Library (Connect Projects) and the Bohemian Centre in Ardee (New Leaf Projects).



On Saturday 11th June we also will have workshops running in Droichead Arts Centre, An Táin Arts Centre and Carlingford Heritage Centre. These include Dance for Musical Theatre, Screen-printing and Origami, Pottery and Storytelling. We also will have workshops in Drogheda Library with Ukrainian artist Olga Dukas

who will be making Berehynias, traditional Ukrainian dolls. MAD Youth Theatre and Drogheda Youth Theatre will be giving free drama workshops. And if that wasn't enough young musicians from our Music Generation Louth programme will be performing live at Market Square in Dundalk.

For the full details and booking information on all our events please go to the Creative Ireland Louth page [here](#)

In our community grants AAEX will start their workshops in Irish Sign Language in Droichead Arts Centre. Details and booking can be found [here](#)

Filmmaker Laurence McKeown has been working with the Holy Family Boxing Club since March on a documentary about the club and the benefits to the participants. The participants learned about the process of documentary making and scriptwriting in the process. There will be a private launch of the film in An Táin Arts Centre on 8th June and the documentary will then be screened at the DOCS Ireland film festival, a sister festival of Belfast International Film festival which showcases documentaries only.

Finally Boomerang Café in Drogheda will begin working with the young musicians they have identified from the local area to create an album. The recording will start at the end of June.

Bealtaine 2022

Our Bealtaine 2022 programme took us around 7 nursing homes across the county with our Musical Memories Series. Musicians Grainne Hope, Liam Merriman and Lisa McGuinness brought much needed music and dance to the residents and staff of the facilities.



Residents at Moorehall Lodge in Ardee enjoying the Musical Memories Series.

One of the facilities sent us a lovely Thank You email saying “This was a huge hit with all of our residents and they have all been buzzing about the performance this morning!”. It was a pleasure to watch the joyous reaction of the residents and staff as they immersed themselves in music.

Drogheda Arts Festival

Drogheda Arts Festival finished up on the 2nd May with our jam packed Family Fun day in St Dominic’s Park. Hundreds turned out to enjoy the Autin Dance Giant Puppet, Tumble Circus, Grainne Rafferty’s Storytelling workshops and our live music stage. It was great to be back and in person for this year’s festival where we provided a total of 23 events for the public to attend.



Autin Dance Giant Puppet taking a stroll around the park on DAF Family Big Day Out.

Cairde na Cruite – Harp Festival

The annual Harp Festival will take place from 30th June to 2nd July at An Grianán, Termonfeckin. There are a range of workshops, evening concerts and lunchtime sessions that will take place across the 3 days in this extensive programme. For full details of the schedule and booking please see their website [here](#)

Local Live Performance Scheme Phase III

June marks the final month for events under Phase III of the Local Live Performance Scheme. Across the month we have events taking place across the county.

Carlingford Heritage Centre will see Sibéal Ní Chasaide perform on 5th June with Eamonn De Barra, Mike Neilsen and Odhran O Casaide. On 12th June the Heritage Centre then welcomes ‘The 4 of Us’ featuring Declan and Brendan Murphy.

All concerts are from 4-5.p.m and are free of charge but tickets must be booked [here](#)

In Dundalk Market Square is set to come alive with Tumble Circus performing on Sat 4th June, curated by An Táin Arts Centre. Comhaltas will also host an evening of traditional music in An Táin Arts Centre on 10th June. Details of these events can be found [here](#)

Then on 24th June there will be a 3 staged event at the Spirit Store featuring local bands and Djs including Finnian, Tommy McGovern, Four Way Mirror, Pork Pie, Little Fish and Decksta. Details will be listed [here](#) shortly.

In Drogheda ‘Kick up the Arts’ will bring you music on the pontoon on the Boyne on 18th June and on 19th June there will be music at the Courtyard Coffee venue.

Music Generation will host concerts with Glas Quartet, Zoë Conway and John McIntyre in Carlingford, Termonfeckin and Ardee. All concerts will feature children from local schools who partake in the Music Generation Programme. Details can be found on their website [here](#)

Louth Contemporary Music Society

LCMS Mid Summer Festival is back for 2022 'Nothing has changed. Everything has changed' will take place on 17th & 18th in St Nicholas Church Dundalk and the chapel of St Vincent's Secondary School. The festival will feature music from Andrew Synott, Linda Caitlin Smith, Pascal Dusapin & Siobhan Cleary to name a few. Details of all the events and performers can be found [here](#) LCMS is funded by the Arts Council and financially supported by Create Louth

An Táin Arts Centre

The Táin Tapestry will remain on display in the foyer until 11th June. The tapestry, funded under the Creative Ireland Initiative, tells the story of the Táin Bó Cúailnge. There are 5 tapestries, each one made in one of the 5 counties of the Táin March, Louth, Meath, Roscommon, Longford and Westmeath.



Táin Tapestry on display in An Táin Arts Centre foyer until 11th June.

Louth Culture Quest is fully launched and all 4 zones are now available. This app-based, county-wide, futuristic arts and culture treasure hunt will take you across Louth to view newly commissioned pieces of art on display around some of our fantastic cultural and heritage sites. The app is €5 and there are 20 sites in all to visit. What better way to spend your summer evenings and weekends than exploring all that Louth has to offer? Details can be found [here](#)

An Táin Arts Centre have a range of theatre events happening throughout the month from Leonard Cohen Tribute concerts to the one man

show 'Strolling Through Ulysses!' Details of all events can be found at www.aintain.ie

Droichead Arts Centre

Objects & Oscillations exhibition continues until 18th June in the gallery space of Droichead Arts Centre. Launched at the Drogheda Arts Festival this exhibition by local artist Brian Hegarty is an exploration on the transverse between the visual and sound using a combination of collage, appropriation and audio elements. The exhibition also features aspects of 'thirtythree-45' a crossover project in Brian's practice where he promotes underground music, runs a D.I.Y music label, publishes photo zines and streams an internet radio station.

DRAWDA Urban Art Trail launched recently and all 6 murals are now completed. Check out the details of all the murals on Droichead Arts Centre website [here](#) These murals were funded by the Arts Council of Ireland and CreateLouth, the Arts service of Louth County Council. The project is produced by Droichead Arts Centre and Love Drogheda BIIDS.



Boann mural at Abbey Lane in Drogheda.

Theatre events in Droichead throughout June include the last in this seasons Slow Sessions with Brendan McCreanor and Deirdre Kinahans play 'The Visit'. For details of all listings visit www.droichead.com

Other Funding opportunities:

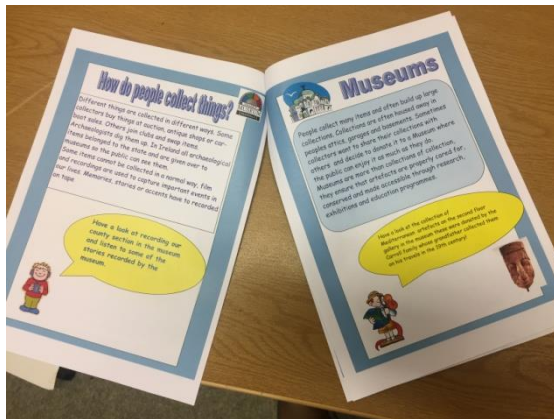
Current funding opportunities available nationally are:

Arts Council Funding: a range of bursary awards opened on 23rd & 24th May on the Arts Council portal for applications. The various disciplines available for bursaries are in Circus, Dance, Literature, Music, Theatre, Visual Arts, Arts Participation and Children & Education. Closing date for all of the applications is 23rd June 2022 and details of all schemes can be found [here](#)

County Museum

The Museum is currently changing artefacts from its exhibition on the First Floor Gallery. Items to be changed relate mainly to the 20th Century display. It is currently in the process of selecting and preparing the new items for exposition.

International Museums' Day



Floors and Stores worksheet

To mark International Museums' Day (May 18th) the Museum organised a variety of workshops aimed at an audience of National School children. The workshops comprised the 'Floors and Stores' tour of the Museum as well as a workshop entitled *Fionn and Una* presented by the Armagh Rhymers. Conducted and led by staff members, the *Floors and Stores* tour was (and is) aimed at children, introducing them to the principles of collecting, explaining how the Museum organises,

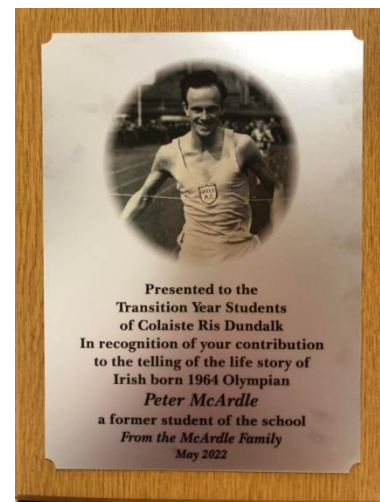
catalogues, cares for and displays its collection. This workshop includes a 'behind-the-scenes' tour of the Museum stores introducing visitors to principles of storage care, environmental control etc. Participants were then invited to examine, identify and categorise a diverse range of items from the Museum's handling collection.



The Armagh Rhymers

The Armagh Rhymers presented their show *Fionn MacCool and the Scottish Giant* (also known as *Fionn & Una*). One of the Rhymers' most popular and loved folk tales this is the story about how the Giant's Causeway was created.

Old Dundalk Society event



Presentation made to Coláiste Rís students following Old Dundalk Society event

Earlier this month the Museum hosted an event in association with the Old Dundalk Society. The presentation was on the life and career of Louth athlete Peter MacArdle, who represented America at both the Pan-American Games and the Tokyo

Olympics. The project was developed with students from Coláiste Rís.

Recent acquisitions



Selection of recent acquisitions

The Museum recently received a selection of hats and religious materials to add to its collection following a house clearance.

Heritage Office

May includes both Biodiversity Week and Volunteers Week, so what better way to celebrate both simultaneously than to have volunteers from all over the world, including Ukraine, carry out works to conserve biodiversity on the Council's very own nature reserve at Clogherhead. Recent surveys suggest that Clogherhead may now be the most important site in Ireland for the rare Spring quill (*Scilla verna*).

News was received that four of our biodiversity funding applications to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage were successful. These are for:

The Louth Nature Trust's Little Tern Wardening Project at Baltray	€27,450
A survey of nesting swifts in County Louth	€13,090
Assessment and conservation planning of sand dunes	€2,550
Louth Barn Owl Trust for a survey of Barn Owls	€2,022

An application to plant a wildflower meadow in Blackrock Park was rejected. The Department does not support the creation of 'artificial' wildflower meadows, preferring instead to rely on natural regeneration of native species suited to that site and already present in the soil.

The Friends of Ardee Bog received a grant of €16,100 from the Department's Peatlands Community Engagement Scheme for an ecological survey of part of Corstown Bog.

Three of our five applications to the Community Monuments Fund (also DHLGH) were also successful. These were for:

Conservation works at Glaspistol towerhouse	€100,000
Conservation assessment of Drogheda's town walls	€20,000
Conservation assessment of Cill Mhuire church (Cooley)	€11,070

Heritage Plan funding of €15,000 has been obtained from the Heritage Council. The Heritage Council has also offered the following grants from its Community Heritage Fund:

Cooley Connect, for a survey of monuments in the Cooley mountains	€10,000
Louth Nature Trust, to develop a new website	€3,758

The Heritage Stewardship Fund also provided €15,000 for the repair of the gate piers at Townley Hall AND €3,091 to the County Museum, Dundalk.

The Historic Towns Initiative also awarded us €20,000 for the development of a Heritage-led Regeneration Plan for the western end of Fair Street, Drogheda.