



Comhairle Contae **Lú**
Louth County Council

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

**Dated 5 November 2021
5 Samhain 2021**

Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report - 31 October 2021
Tuairisc Bainistíochta ag an bPríomhfheidhmeannach - 31 Deireadh Fómhair 2021

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Finance and Water Services

Airgeadas agus Seirbhísí Uisce

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

Other responsibilities include Motor Tax and Water Services.

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

Ina chuid den freagrachtaí eile ná Mótarcháin agus Seirbhísí Uisce.

Bernie Woods
Director / Stiúrthóir



Finance

Expenditure to 31st October 2021

Section	ACTUAL EXPENDITURE TO 31/10/21	BUDGET EXPENDITURE 2021	% SPENT TO 31/10/21
Housing	25,833,631	39,706,362	65%
Road Transportation & Safety	17,830,290	26,232,178	68%
Water Services	5,397,040	7,854,289	69%
Development Management	12,448,152	17,057,986	73%
Environmental Services	13,403,439	18,475,519	73%
Recreation and Amenity	6,611,406	9,425,077	70%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	782,231	1,180,833	66%
Miscellaneous	15,274,821	10,604,375	144%
	97,581,010	130,536,619	75%

Income to 31st October 2021

Section	ACTUAL INCOME TO 31/10/21	BUDGET INCOME 2021	% INVOICED TO 31/10/21
Housing	26,117,211	40,590,850	64%
Road Transportation & Safety	6,100,110	16,802,175	36%
Water Services	4,813,525	7,598,460	63%
Development Management	7,282,055	10,177,060	72%
Environmental Services	1,591,088	2,150,427	74%
Recreation and Amenity	571,999	962,409	59%
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	357,449	455,146	79%
Miscellaneous	4,025,279	6,496,645	62%
Rates	35,387,113	35,437,249	100%
General Purpose Grant (LPT)	8,221,830	9,866,198	83%
	94,467,659	130,536,619	72%

The above is the current position as at the 31st October 2021. The allocation of the Central Management Charge is estimated in the above figures as the allocation is not completed till mid-month. The full rates demand for 2021 is included in the above figure.

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

Debtors as at 31st October 2021

	Opening Balance	Invoices	Receipts	Write Offs	Closing Balance
Government Debtors	9,101,755	66,204,351	(70,857,214)	(152)	4,448,740
Other Local Authorities	111,441	614,531	(705,165)	0	20,807
Rates	11,030,292	35,387,113	(22,112,597)	(10,135,016)	14,169,792
Rents	2,968,564	10,569,166	(10,975,557)	(55,198)	2,506,975
Loans	283,360	1,450,730	(1,496,273)	0	237,817
Development Levies	10,622,066	2,766,262	(2,645,708)	0	10,742,620
Fire Charges	750,804	363,573	(258,929)	(68,504)	786,944
Miscellaneous	1,847,991	7,098,734	(6,757,261)	(36,460)	2,153,004
TOTAL DEBTORS	36,716,273	124,454,460	(115,808,704)	(10,295,330)	35,066,699

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

Covid19 - Rates Waiver

The Government has announced the continuation of the Rates Waiver scheme for the final quarter of the year but the eligible businesses are severely restricted compared to the previous rates waiver schemes.

We have posted the first nine months' waivers to the accounts at a figure of €9.3m. The final quarter waiver will be applied to the eligible customer accounts in October.

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

Budget 2022 Meeting

We are in the final stages of preparing the Draft Budget for 2022. We are still waiting for clarification from Central Government on any additional funding that maybe available to the local authorities. The Draft Budget will be up on Decision Time and hard copies will be delivered to Councillors on Monday the 8th November. The 2022 Budget meeting is due to be held on Monday the 15th November following the monthly council meeting.

Water Services

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

Water Quality

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

Cavan Hill Water Supply Zone

Louth County Council, at the request of Irish Water, undertook extensive uni-directional mains flushing of the Cavan Hill Water Supply zone following reported manganese exceedances in the Network. The 7 week long flushing programme was completed on 15th October.

Water Conservation

Water conservation is ongoing throughout the County.

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

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

Capital Programmes

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

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

Tallanstown Rationalisation

Ryan Hanley Consultants are currently progressing the Project Design. Land Acquisition for Pumping Station sites is also currently being progressed. Consultant is currently working on detailed design and preparing to lodge planning application. Engagement with Louth County Council Operations section is ongoing.

Cavanhill WTW Upgrade

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

Staleen WTW Upgrade

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

Omeath WWTW

Workshop 7 completed. Programme issued and date for handover to Louth County Council is Dec 2023. Hazop workshop scheduled for mid-November. Ongoing engagement continues with Louth County Council Operations section.

Shared Waters Enhancement and Loughs Legacy (SWELL)

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

Regional Sewer Network Rehabilitation

Irish Water undertook survey works on Drogheda Sewer network which were completed in early July. Further network upgrade is to be considered by Irish Water.

Dundalk Drainage Area Plan (DAP)

DAP Workshop 2 with Irish Water, Louth County Council and Arups Consulting Engineers completed in February 2021 to review the progress on the survey and modelling project. LCC Operations staff continues to liaise with IW and Consultants with network verifications. Stage 3 Workshop complete. Key risks identified from stage 3 to be taken forward to stage 4 and options identified to address risks.

Dundalk East Strategy - In advance of completion of Dundalk DAP

- Route Selection completed
- Consultants progressing design with IW in consultation with Louth County Council.
- Site Investigation was completed in Q3 and contract programmed to commence in Q4 2021.

Coe's Road Pumping Station

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

Dundalk LNRP

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

Drogheda LNRP

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

North Drogheda Wastewater Network Strategy

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

Quay St/St. Helena Rising Main, Dundalk

Workshop 2 was completed in early June 2021. IW are progressing the Detailed Design through Q4 2021 followed by Workshop 4

Baltray Rising Main

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

Greenmount WTW Upgrade

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

Water Networks

Water Networks Programme

Rehabilitation Programme

2 jobs carried out under the Rehabilitation under this program in October 2021

1. Pearse Park (Lourdes) Drogheda - new mains laid with new services to properties and decommissioning existing mains
2. Ecco Road Dundalk - new mains laid with new services and decommissioning existing main

Lead replacement / Back Yard Services

Irish Water's Contractors carried out no BYS in Louth in October.

First Fix

There was one first fix type repair undertaken by Irish Water contractor in October.

Find & Fix

Louth County Council crews continued their Find & Fix program in the Cooley area in October.

Network Maintenance

38 essential water tasks were carried out in October including 10 (all in Dundalk) under the Find and Fix program.

Planning & Water Connections

The Networks Section processed 23 new connections, 20 pre connection enquiries and 48 Planning Applications in October.

Service Maps

The Networks Section prepared 25 Service Maps in October.

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

This Directorate has three key areas of responsibility:

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

Tá trí eochairfhreagracht ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

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

Frank Pentony
Director / Stiúrthóir



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 next meeting of the Louth Economic Forum is due to take place on 24th November.

Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme 2021

The 2021 Shop Front Improvement Grant Scheme opened to applications on Monday 17th May, 2021 and the closing date for receipt of applications was 5.00pm on Friday 29th October, 2021.

33 Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme applications were received prior to the closing date, 15 from Drogheda, 15 from Dundalk and 3 from Ardee.

Tourism

Louth County Council, in association with Fáilte Ireland, ran a national radio advertising campaign on Today FM and 98 FM with ad slots across all the stations' prime time shows from 4th to 15th October, 2021. The advert highlighted how much County Louth has to offer for a getaway break, by way of the fantastic range of tourism activities we have, such as outdoor adventures, historical attractions, festivals, top class accommodation, blue flag beaches, miles of mountain and coastal walks and the new sea louth seafood trail. The campaign also included website homepage takeovers on todayfm.com and newstalk.com on 8th and 9th October with advert links to the www.sealouth.ie and www.visitlouth.ie websites. In addition, an online competition for a two night family break to County Louth ran on todayfm.com

from 7th October to 8th November, 2021 with fantastic prizes provided by our Tourism partners.

'sea louth' - Scenic Seafood Trail Update



Travel journalist Pól Ó Conghaile included sea louth as one of the things to do for the midterm break on the Today FM Alison Curtis show on Saturday 2nd October. You can listen back here <https://www.todayfm.com/podcasts/weekend-breakfast-with-alison-curtis/travel-tips-for-mid-term-with-pol-o-conghaile>.

The Irish Times featured the sea louth oyster season in their Food File on Sunday 10th October. Read the article here: <https://www.irishtimes.com/life-and-style/food-and-drink/oyster-season-in-full-swing-at-the-sea-louth-seafood-trail-1.4687663>.

The seafood trail received a full page feature in the Travel section of The Irish Daily Star's Chic Magazine on Saturday 16th October.

See how RSVP Magazine's Mikie O'Loughlin got on when he explored the seafood trail here: <https://www.rsvplive.ie/life/travel/48-hours-louth-see-best-25237524>.

A number of the participating accommodation providers have set up sea louth special offers / discounts which are listed here <https://www.sealouth.ie/specialoffers>.

Púca Festival

The Púca festival took place from the 23rd – 31st October, 2021. As part of the festival Drogheda hosted a number of music / comedy events with some well known artists e.g. Aoife Scott and Joanne McNally. A number of associated events were organised including shows in the Droichead Arts Centre and an outdoor cinema, music and dance events at the Old Abbey which was organised by the Drogheda Festival committee and supported by Fáilte Ireland / Louth County Council.

Fáilte Ireland Funding

Urban Animation

Louth County Council were thrilled to be awarded €672,000 from Fáilte Ireland under the Urban Animation Capital Investment Scheme.

As one of only seven applicants to receive this funding nationwide, this project will see the transformation of Drogheda with a number of new innovation experiences. These include:

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

These projects will enliven the senses through sight, sound and vision at strategic locations in Drogheda's Town Centre and will capture and portray a sense of place, linking Drogheda with its ancient past through audio and visual experiences that can be enjoyed both in day and evening time.

Destination Towns Capital Investment Programme

Work is ongoing on the project which is due to be completed in the summer of 2022.

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

Boyne Valley Flavours

The Annual Samhain Festival was held in Kells on the 5th – 7th November and involved producers from across Louth and Meath. There were approximately 30 different events to the festival.

A review of the Food strategy for 2022 is currently in the early planning stage.

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' Campaign

The Louth online shopping directory is available at: www.louthcoco.ie/ShopLocal.

LEO continued to promote #ShopLocal #LookforLocal with a national and local campaign. Businesses can be included on the Louth online directory by emailing: tradingonline@leo.louthcoco.ie.

Retail Powerhouse Forum



LEO Louth is supporting 12 local retailers on the Retail Powerhouse Forum in 2021. This is a commercial retail forum that focuses on building trade with expert tips specifically for retailers.

Brexit Supports

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



Brexit Advisory Clinic:

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

Brexit Microfinance Ireland Loan:

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

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

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



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

The 5 programmes are:

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

Export Development Programme



The Export Development Programme commenced in January with **15** Louth businesses. Workshops and mentoring sessions were delivered in October and continue to be delivered over the autumn period. The programme is expected to be completed in mid-November.

Financial Management Programme



The Financial Management workshops concluded in August with extra company one to one mentoring taking place during October.

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

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

Green for Micro



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

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

An additional **2** applications were approved in October giving a total of **19** businesses engaging in this programme so far.

LEO Louth continues to seek new applications.

Innovation Programme



The Innovation Programme is designed for SME business leaders who have ambitions to embed innovation in their businesses. The programme which commenced in April is being delivered over a 7 month period.

All participants have completed their penultimate workshop and have completed a minimum of 7 mentoring sessions with some participants availing of up to 20 sessions. Participants are now finalising their Innovations Plans. The programme is due to complete by mid-November.

Superior Retailing Development Programme



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

The group workshops finished in July with overall attendance on the programme exceptionally high at 93%. Company one to one mentoring continued into October.

Engagement and participation on the programme has been excellent. The end of programme evaluation showed e-Commerce as the top priority for participants and an additional, final Masterclass was delivered on the specific subject of “Free Google Tools to improve your Online Presence”.

Additional assistance to participants requiring facilitation, advice and motivation was provided during October under the programme.

Business Training



During October **61** businesses booked onto training courses. Training was varied in nature with businesses leaning more about Book Keeping, Customs Procedures and our very first Google Adwords training session introducing trainees to best practice in implementing Adwords into their Digital Marketing Strategy.

Training in November is equally varied with more digital focused workshops such as Instagram for Beginners, Advanced Facebook and Social Media for Small Business. For those who require advice on finance, there is an Introduction to VAT workshop as well as Accessing Finance, introducing participants to the various sources of finance available for their business.

Recent recipients of the Trading Online Voucher will benefit from 'Your Website is Live. What now?' which will enable them to keep their website fresh and current, especially in the run up to Christmas.

Training courses for 2022 will be available to view online in the next couple of weeks and will continue to cater for entrepreneurs who have recently graduated from Start Your Own Business Programmes as well as more established businesses looking to refresh their skills.

All training courses are available to view and book online:

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

LEO Louth Client Portfolio Review / Export Adviser Programme

Under this programme LEO has appointed 3 no. consultants who engaged with our portfolio clients during October.

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.

Trading Online Voucher Scheme



The Trading Online Voucher Scheme to assist businesses to get online or enhance their online presence, under which LEO can provide 50%

support up to a maximum grant of €2,500, is continuing in 2021.

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

There were 3 applications in October.

Business Advice Clinics

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

LEO Louth Mentor Programme



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

12 businesses were appointed Mentors during the month of October.

COVID-19 Microfinance Ireland Business Loan



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

During the month of October, there was 1 application for support.

LEO mentors are continuing to assist applicants.

Micro-Finance Ireland - New Electric Vehicle Taxi Loan



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

Loans of between €5,000 and €25,000 will be available, with a 1% reduced Annual Percentage Rate if the application is made through the Local Enterprise Office. The loans will be up to 5 years.

LEO Louth is accepting applications.

National Women's Enterprise Day



National Women's Enterprise Day took place on 7th October. LEO Louth engaged with the organisers of the national virtual event in relation to planning and potential themes for this inspirational event. Dundalk based ceramicist Sarah McKenna represented Louth as the Leading Light for the County.



Sarah Mallon LEO Louth with Dundalk based ceramicist Sarah McKenna, of Sarah McKenna Ceramics

Information on National Women's Enterprise Day can be found at:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Enable-Enterprise-Culture/NWED/NWED-2021/NWED1.html>.

Innovate Accelerate Europe



Innovate Accelerate Europe launched on Monday 18th October, with 7 businesses from Louth participating. The cross-border programme will focus on small businesses as they will be among the most challenged by Brexit and Covid.

It is a 12 week programme and the main features include:

- Participating businesses get a free promotional video of their business which they can use for export campaigns.
- Each business will get to work with an international mentor and digital consultant to help improve their online enquiries / sales and export potential.
- A network of EU agents will set up meetings for each business with potential partners.
- The opportunity to attend a buyer's event and receive €400 towards the cost of attending or implementing a strategy adopted.

Student Enterprise Programme



The Student Enterprise Programme for the 2021 - 2022 academic years continued during October. LEO Louth is delivering this programme to students in all 19 no. post-primary schools throughout the county.

LEAN for Micro Programme



LEO Louth continues to offer the LEAN Programme to small businesses locally. The programme helps businesses to identify issues and potential improvement areas and provides support to implement these as well as achieve savings and improvements in capability and capacity to deliver.

Businesses with an interest in improving competitiveness should contact LEO Louth to discuss how both the LEAN Programme and the LEAN Network can be of assistance.

LEO approved 1 application in October.

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 73 Louth businesses participated under Co-Innovate.

Due to an extension of the programme into the early part of 2022 a further opportunity has arisen for additional clients to engage in early stages of this programme and the LEO continues to work on identifying suitable companies.

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 later in the year.

Showcase 2022

Showcase is the leading trade show for the craft and gift sector. LEO Louth will take 5 companies to the event to allow them connect with Irish and international buyers.

Regional Enterprise Plan – North East

LEO has inputted to a new Regional Enterprise Plan which is now in draft format and with the Department of Enterprise, Trade & Employment for approval.

Blas na hÉireann Awards 2021

Louth Food & Drink Producers win big at 2021 Blás na hÉireann Awards.

Now in their 14th year, the Blas na hÉireann awards are the all-island food awards that recognise the very best Irish food and drink products, and the passionate people behind them. Products from every county in Ireland were entered into this year's competition to win Gold, Silver or Bronze Blas na hÉireann awards in over 150 food and drink categories.

Congratulations to the 6 companies from County Louth who together won 13 awards across the different categories:

- Carlingford Oyster Company Ltd. - Silver
- Hilton Foods - Silver & Bronze
- MacNamee's Tea - Bronze
- Morgan's Fine Fish - Seafood Innovation Award
- Nature's Best - Gold, Bronze & Best in Louth, supported by LEO Louth
- Pearse Lyons Brewing & Distilling - Gold, Silver & Bronze



Joe Walls of Pearse Lyons Brewery and Distillery, Gillian Morgan and Brian McCullagh of Morgan's Fine Fish, Kian and Mary Louet Feisser of Carlingford Oyster Company, Paul and Patricia MacNamee of MacNamee's Tea Room and Store, Dunleer and Adrian Regan and Alan Uzell of Hilton Foods, Drogheda award winners at this year's Blas na hÉireann, the Irish Food Awards 2021 pictured after receiving their awards from Thomas McEvoy, Head of Enterprise, LEO Louth

Also, Congratulations to Carlingford Oyster Company who was announced as the winners of The Great Taste Awards – 2021 Golden Fork Award for Ireland sponsored by Bord Bia. Kian and Mary Louet Feisser travelled to Harrogate, North Yorkshire to attend the awards ceremony where they were announced as the winners and were presented the award. This is a great achievement for the local family run business.

European Relations

Peace IV Programme



New Projects

Louth Peace IV Partnership Committee advertised request for tenders and received submissions for the delivery of a new project, listed below, as part of the implementation of the Local Authority Peace IV Action Plan. Tender assessment took place in October and awarding of contracts will take place in November.

1. **Peter's Hill Drogheda** (Theme: Shared Spaces & Services)

Closing Event

A live closing event for two projects – Anticlockwise and Peace Arts – will take place at 11am on Friday 12th November in Dundalk Youth Centre. These projects were funded under the theme: Children & Young People.



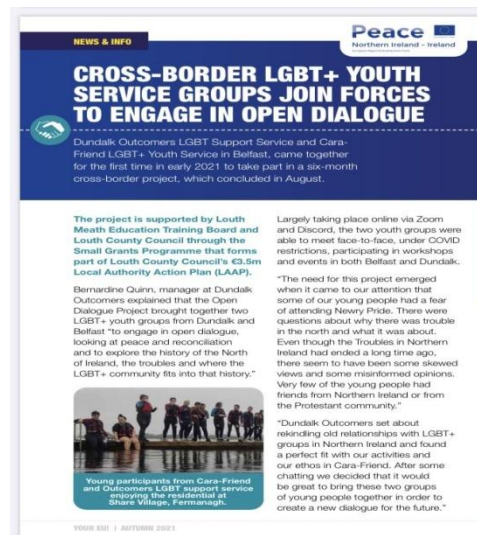
Other closing events are due to take place in November and December 2021 for the following projects.

- Creative Interventions
- Good Relations Initiative
- Adapting Aftermath Archives
- Civic Leadership Project
- Cross Border Youth Council Networking Project
- Small Grants Programme

Featured in EU magazine – Open Dialogue Project

We were delighted to get coverage in when Louth PEACE IV's Dundalk Outcomers Open Dialogue project was selected to be showcased in the Autumn 2021 edition of the SEUPB Corporate Magazine *Your EU*. Dundalk Outcomers LGBT Support Service and CaraFriend LGBT+ Youth Service in Belfast, came together to take part in a six-month cross-border project, which concluded in August 2021.

Project Manager Bernadine Quinn in the article commented 'After only two meetings the young people are making new friends and sharing their experience and showing (as we expected) that all of us have more similarities than differences and share anxieties around our sexuality and gender identity. As we look to the future, we see that the Open Dialogue Project is going to create long lasting friendships and more informed opinions and great memories for all involved'.



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Good Relations Initiative: Networking Event Theme: Building Positive Relations

A community networking event took place on 5th November which brought participants of the 'Empowering You' strand of the GRI programme (Capacity Building and Conflict Resolution Training) together with community organisations in the area. The event combined with the presentation of Louth Volunteer Leaders' Awards. The purpose of this was to showcase how volunteering is valued in our community and to bring a larger base of community groups and members together to reflect on their role in our community. Certificates were presented to the PEACE IV 'Empowering You' programme members. This networking event provided an opportunity to showcase the value of PEACE IV projects in our community.



Infrastructure

Roads Projects

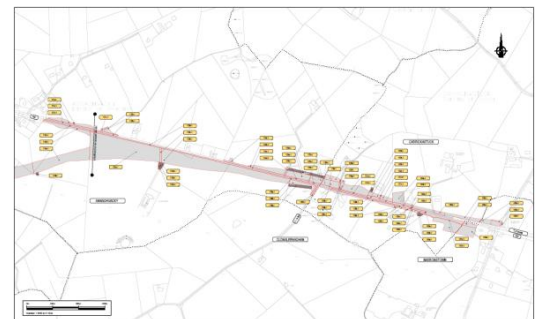
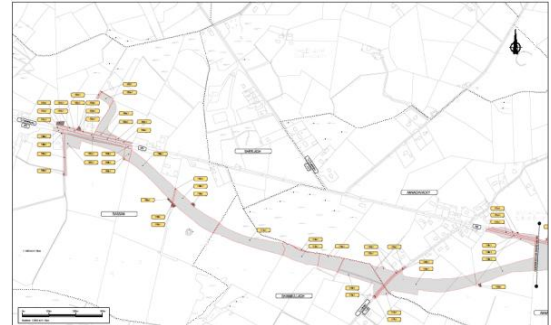
Narrow Water Bridge

The council and designer continue to progress the collating of the numerous files together in relation to the project to ascertain a programme for the project and the services and approvals required to bring the scheme to construction stage.

A North South Ministerial Infrastructure Sub Group meeting was held on the 30th September in Louth County Council offices. The two ministers met in Warrenpoint to discuss the project, in mid October.

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

Part 8 planning was approved by the members of Dundalk MD at the September meeting. Following completion of a design report, project appraisal and total scheme budget a presentation has been made to TII along with a request to proceed to CPO for the scheme. The CPO has been prepared for publication on the 2nd November. The CPO schedules and deposit maps have been prepared and letters will issue to all the landowners concerned.



CPO Drawings

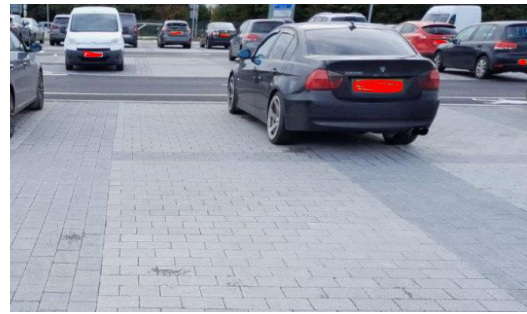
N2 Ardee to Castleblayney Road Scheme

A variety of surveys are continuing on the project. The information gathered will inform the ongoing design process. Topographical surveys on the N2 Ardee to Castleblayney Road Scheme are substantially complete. Ground Investigations are ongoing. The contractor, their liaison officer and the project team have been working with landowners to arrange access to private lands for trial holes and drilling rigs. The N2 Project Team would like to thank landowners for their co-operation and for allowing access to the lands.

Ground investigation will also be required along the N2 mainline and adjoining sideroads – traffic management will be in operation, however significant traffic disruption is not expected.

Noise monitoring is proposed at various locations in the study area, and the project team will soon be in contact with relevant landowners to request access for survey equipment. Noise monitoring is not required at every dwelling house - the selected locations will be representative of the wider area, the results of the noise surveys will be used in the development of a model, allowing noise impacts to be assessed at every dwelling in the study area.

N2 Project Phonenumber 087 340 3786 or email: ArdeeCastleblayney@N2MonaghanLouth.ie website: www.N2MonaghanLouth.ie.



Park & Share

N52 Ardee Bypass

Feedback from the public consultation on the junction review has now been completed and a junction strategy report is now being completed. An EIA screening report and AA screening report have been prepared and the scheme screens out in both. An opinion has been sought from An Bord Pleanála prior to publication of the Part 8. Further information sought by An Bord Pleanála was provided in mid-September. This opinion from ABP and subsequent to their findings will push the Part 8 process to Q4.

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

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

Further archaeological investigation is planned to take place in these areas

Park and Share / Park and Ride Pilot Scheme

ACS Civils commenced works on the 8th March. Works are now complete and the facility is open and in use. An official opening by Minister Eamon Ryan is planned for the future. Works will now commence on lining and hatching of the N53 (Castleblayney Road) to prevent parking at that location.

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

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

TII HD17 Schemes:

Site inspections have been carried out at priority locations on National Roads including the N33 and the Funshog Junction on the N2, in conjunction with TII Safety Section.

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

N33: Road Markings and signage is now completed.

N2 Public Lighting Remedial Works: A Feasibility & Options Report for Public Lighting Remedial Works has been approved by TII for 3 no. locations on the N2: Contractor on site completing civil works, Mechanical and Electrical now complete at Tierney Street Junction Ardee, Slieve Breagh / N2 Junction, Main Street Collon-R188 / N2 Junction. Awaiting on ESB to complete the connections.

Safety Barriers – N53 and N52

2 locations identified on N53 and 3 locations on N52 have been surveyed for safety barrier requirements as per TII guidance to determine needs along both of these routes.

A Feasibility & Options report has been prepared and submitted to TII in relation to Daly's Cross. Further conversations will take place with TII and the timescales.

N33 West Pavement Scheme

Works are well advanced on renewal of a 3km section of the N33. Resurfacing works and lining works are now complete with renewal of filter drains and provision of studs commencing. Bridge expansion joint replacement is being organised.



Laying of new road surface

N2 Collon Pavement Scheme

Kerbing and drainage works are ongoing on N2. The scheme is approx 1.6km in length and will involve night time works. Additional works are being planned to address collisions identified by TII. Approval is now awaited from TII to award this element of works. Kerbing and drainage are now substantially complete and work has commenced on reconstruction. Night time works will commence on completion of this phase.

N2 Short Term Safety Measures

Short term safety measures have continued in 2021 on the N2 north of Ardee. Signage works have commenced and are now substantially complete. A further contract for hedge clearance is ongoing.

Port Access Northern Cross Route

Land Acquisition ongoing. Fencing completed at R132. Fill material being stockpiled, for embankment use. Existing ESB 38kv line has been diverted. Footpath and cycle path works to facilitate development on the Ballymakenny Road which is part of the PANCR scheme are ongoing. The purchase of land to facilitate the footpath and cycle path has commenced in line with the CPO procedure. Public lighting columns have been erected. Watermain, foul sewer and telecoms ducting are presently being laid. Kerbing work is

substantially complete and footpath work is ongoing.

Boyne Enterprise Link Road

The project has approval for Part 8 planning which was presented at the Drogheda M.D. in September. The consultant has now completed detailed design and tender documentation are being finalised to issue to eTenders in early November.

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. A final preliminary design review report is due before the end of 2021.

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

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

The CPO submissions period ended on 7th October. Submissions received and Louth County Council will commence engagement with affected parties to resolve outstanding issues from submissions.

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

It is anticipated that Planning Permission in N.I. will be decided upon in 2021 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

Consultants have been appointed to the project and have commenced the baseline data collection

for the project which will go toward informing the route options for the scheme.

Site walkover as part of route option assessment carried out.

Meetings are currently ongoing with consultants with initial draft Route Option assessment due this month. Once completed Stakeholder consultations will commence.

Dundalk Municipal Athletics Grass Track

Earthworks, topsoiling, seeding, fencing, public lighting and drainage are substantially complete. Footpaths are now substantially complete. A period of time will be needed in order for grass growth to take hold. This will be continually reviewed until such time that it can be opened to sports activities.

LIHAF Projects

LIHAF Access Road at Newtown, Drogheda

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

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

LIHAF Mount Avenue Improvement

The Oral hearing in to the CPO was held on the 3rd March, 2020. The CPO has been approved by ABP on the 23rd June, 2020. Accommodation works details and contract documents are drafted. An updated costing, programme for delivery of housing and programme for LIHAF infrastructure has been provided to the Department of Housing for agreement. The Department has verbally given the go ahead to tender the project, finalisation of tender documents are currently ongoing.

Safety Improvement Works

Low Cost Safety Schemes

- Anne Street, Dundalk: Tenders have been returned and assessed. Tender prices received exceeded available funding under

Low Cost Safety, Operations are seeking alternative funding route.

- Tullyallen National School: Tender prices received exceeded available funding under Low Cost Safety, Operations are seeking alternative funding route

Ardee Pedestrian Crossing

Feasibility & Options Report for the Refurbishment of the Pedestrian Lights on Castle Street, Ardee has been forwarded to the TII and approval has been received on 25th February, 2021 for funding of €136,258 for these works. TII have instructed Louth County Council to retender for a design team to bring the project forward. Documentation for this process is underway.

Specific Bridge Improvement Grants

Obelisk Bridge

Tender documents are complete. DTTAS have requested Louth County Council complete a peer review on the tender documents prior to issuing to the market. This is being progressed at present and expected to be completed by end of November 2021. We will then await approval from DTTAS to release to the market. It is envisaged, subject to DTTAS approval the tender will be issued in early 2022.

St. Dominick's Bridge, Drogheda

Louth County Council has signed the contract with the contractor for completion of the works. The construction works are being undertaken by Jons Civil Engineering Co. Ltd. and the contract is valued at €2.2 million. The works are being funded by the National Transport Authority through its Active Travel Investment Programme and O'Connor Sutton Cronin has been engaged as consultant engineers for the project. The Bridge will be closed from 1st November, 2021 for a period of 6 months and the Council regrets any inconvenience that the bridge closure will cause.



St Dominick's Bridge- Contract signing

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 list of 11 schemes detailed below. The NTA, have approved an allocation of funding for 2021 of c.€13k, with a potential further €198k in 2022, for Louth County Council to bring the civil construction elements to site. 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
- Ardee - N2 at Boys School
- 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

Town & Village Renewal

Blackrock Footpaths

Additional speed humps have been provided adjacent to pedestrian crossing areas. EIR utilities are due to complete removal of infrastructure. Airtricity have now completed public lighting with ESB due to connect. Design works for the 2021 allocation have commenced.

Dromiskin Footpaths

Design works have been completed and tender issued for construction of works with a tender return date of 2nd September. Tenders have been received and are currently being assessed with the view of a contractor being appointed in October. Works expected to commence in November. Infrastructure has been working closely with the

Elected Representative / Community Group to secure the lands required to construct the footpath.

Stabannon Footpaths

Infrastructure is working closely with the Community Group to open discussions with the adjacent landowners. A contractor has been appointed, with the view of works commencing on site in early November.

Corporate Projects

Ardee Castle RRDF

Engagement with key stakeholders is progressing and we are intending to proceed with an amendment to the existing Part 8 in Q3 2021.



Design impression of proposed works

Redevelopment Fair Street Offices, Drogheda

Value engineering review is now completed by the design team in order to minimise the global increase in cost of materials. The tender documentation has been issued to the restricted panel, and additional 4 weeks extension to the return date has been given therefore a new return date is the 6th December, 2021.



3D view of proposed works

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund

Carlingford Rural Regeneration

The plans for the first stage of non-statutory public consultation are progressing with the process commencing in November.

Omeath Public Realm

The tender for the design consultants has been published and is due to close in late November

Ardee 2040

Ardee 2040 project is progressing with agreed planning strategy for EIAR and AA Screening for Development consent application to ABP based on the emerging option design.

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.

Long Walk (Dundalk)

Engagement with the third party stakeholder continues with the focus on engaging a multi-disciplinary design team.

St. Nicholas Quarter & Backlands Regeneration

A project action plan meeting with officials from the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage has been scheduled for mid- November.

Active Travel Investment Program

2021 NTA Allocation

Under this current heading allocation there is 14 number projects.

These projects range from new footpath, design and construction of new footpath / cycle lanes, transport studies and active travel studies, current status is as follows:

- St. Dominick's Bridge, Drogheda: as reported above

- Drogheda R132, Bridge of Peace to Train Station (incorporating Marsh Road): Letter of Intent issued to the Consultant with the most economically advantageous tender and awaiting on information before award.
- Ballymakenny Road Drogheda: works ongoing (see PANCR above)
- Drogheda: Twenties Lane & R166 Termonfeckin Road: Tender for consultants to be issued in October for Termonfeckin Road
- R168 Collon Road, Hill of Rath RAB and Rosehall RAB: Tender for consultants to be issued in October.
- Rathmullan Road from Marley's Lane junction, design: Tender for consultants to be issued in October.
- Drogheda: Boyne Business Park Link Road: reported as above
- Drogheda Dublin and North roads, design: tender for consultants issued to NTA framework in August and were returned in September and have been assessed. No suitable Tenderer was identified. Tender documents to be reviewed and revised and Consultant procured through Open Competition procedure.
- Dundalk: R132 Inner Relief Road: Letter of Intent issued to most economically advantageous tender and awaiting on information.
- Inner Relief Road to Riverside Walk Dublin Road R215: Tender has been awarded to OCSC and preliminary design work has commenced on the scheme.
- Ard Easmuinn Road to Train Station / Friary School Dundalk & Dundalk Bus Station to Rail Station: Tender for consultants issued in August to NTA Framework and were returned in mid-September and are now being assessed.
- Transport / Mobility Plans:
 - Preparation work has commenced on the Transport Plan (Area Based Transport Assessment- ABTA) for Drogheda & East Meath in conjunction with Meath County Council. The development of the ABTA will align with the progression of the Urban Local Area Plan for Drogheda.
 - Tender document to be prepared for the procurement of Consultants to develop Walking & Cycling Strategies for various towns in County Louth, i.e. Collon, Clogherhead, Ardee and Termonfeckin.

- Footpath Extensions / Links Package A: Works ongoing in Termonfeckin Strand Road (See operations Report), remaining Footpath construction packages to be issued in October. R166 Termonfeckin footpath tender docs have been issued with a return date in November.
- Footpath Extensions / Links Package B: See Operations Report on Annagassan. Cheerybrook & Knockbridge footpaths tenders have been received and are currently being assessed.



Contract Signing

Flooding General

Catchment based Flood Risk Assessment & Management Study (CFRAM)

Dundalk and Ardee Flood Defence projects

Stage 1 of the Project has now commenced, i.e. Options assessment, Scheme Development. Hydrological and hydraulic modelling method statements have been approved and modelling is now ongoing for both Ardee and Dundalk in tandem with the processing of information from the recently completed CCTV & Topographical surveys. Further tender documentation for necessary environmental, ecological, noise and landscape assessments has been issued and Contractors will be appointed to carry out these works later in August and into September.

Monthly project briefing notes are being issued to the current relevant stakeholders. A briefing session for the Ardee and Dundalk Members was held on 8th September prior to first public consultation. The first Project Consultation Day was held virtually in mid-September but was beset with technical issues and therefore another Project Consultation Day was held on the 6th October. The Project website being hosted by OPW is now complete and can be reached at www.floodinfo.ie/frs/en/dundalk/home.

Drogheda & Baltray Flood Defence Projects

The Project Commencement Meeting was held on 30th September and RPS will commence works on Stage 1 of the Project, i.e. Options assessment & Scheme Development.

A Section 85 Agreement between Meath County Council and Louth County Council is in place to facilitate any required Works in County Meath.

Carlingford & Greenore Flood Defence Project

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

Balmers Bog Surface Water Pipe

OPW has approved funding, €668,571, for these works to be undertaken in advance of the Dundalk Flood Relief Scheme. Works on pipe line laying are progressing well and concrete works on the inlet chamber are nearing completion.



Pipe laying



Inlet Chamber

Marine Projects

Coastal Protection Works

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

Works have now been completed at Seabank and Salterstown.

Schools Programme Projects

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

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

Ardee E.T.N.S.

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

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

Coláiste Chú Chulainn & Park at Marshes Lower, Dundalk

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

Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project (PLEEP)

A Section 85 Agreement between Kilkenny County Council and Louth County Council has been agreed. Design and preparation of the tender documents for construction works are completed and issued on eTenders on 4th September with a return date of 27th October, 2021.

A final cost estimate for the element of works in Co. Louth will be carried out during the design process. The Members have approved for Louth County Council to seek a loan for the works at the June Council meeting.

Planning

Development Management / Bainistíocht Forbartha

The Planning service indicators for Louth County Council for the month of September, 2021 are given below in tabular form. There were 141 planning applications received during the month of September of which 132 were valid. In addition there were 53 responses received during the month to requests for further information and 20 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	55	46	2	105
(ii) No. of decisions determined which required further information / Líon na gcinntí inar iarradh breis eolais	1	27	23	0	51
(iii) Percentage of applications refused / Céatadán na n-iarratas a diúltaíodh	0% (0)	38.18% (21)	4.35% (2)	0% (0)	21.9% (23)
(iv) Number of appeals determined / Líon na n-achomharc a cinneadh	2	0	3	0	5
(v) Percentage of decisions overturned on appeal / Céatadán na gcinntí a cuireadh ar ceal ar achomharc	0% (0)	0% (0)	33.33% (1)	0% (0)	20% (1)

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	
	September 2021 / Meán Fómhair 2021	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo	September 2020 / Meán Fómhair 2020	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	32	255	36	203
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	29	227	29	158
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	22	186	18	104
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	2	6	0	12
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	1	5	1	5
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	4	0	0
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0	0	0

Planning Enforcement – Short Term Lettings Enforcement

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

Description / Cur Síos	Enforcement in relation to Short Term Lettings	
	October 2021 / Deireadh Fómhar 2021	Year to Date / Bliain go dtí seo
Number of Planning Enforcement Complaints Investigated / Líon na nGearán maidir le Forfheidhmiú Pleanála a Imscrúdaíodh	2	58
Number of Planning Enforcement cases received which didn't require follow up / Líon na gcásanna Fhorfheidhmithe Pleanála nuair nár ghá obair bhreise	0	12
Number of cases closed / resolved through negotiation / Líon na gcásanna dúnta / a réitíodh le hidirbheartaíocht	1	9
Number of cases currently under investigation / Líon na gcásanna atá á n-imscúdú faoi láthair	2	43
Number of Warning letters issued / Líon na Litreacha Rabhadh a eisíodh	4	7
Number of Enforcement Notices issued / Líon na bhFógraí Forfheidhmiúcháin a eisíodh	0	0
Number of cases referred for legal proceedings / Líon na cásanna a tarchuireadh le haghaidh imeachtaí dlí	0	0
Number of Injunctions / Líon na n-urghairí	0	0
Number of Prosecutions / Líon na n-ionchúiseamh	0	0

Forward Planning

Louth County Development Plan 2021 – 2027

Formal correspondence was received from the Office of the Planning Regulator with regard to the

making of the County Development Plan on 30th September last. In summary, they advised that:

“Taking account of the amendments made to the Plan, in response to the input of the Office, the

reasons and commitments given in relation to recommendations not presently addressed, the Office is broadly satisfied that the adopted plan sets out an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development for County Louth for the plan period.”

The Plan will come into effect on Thursday 11th November, 2021.

Strategic Housing Developments (SHDs)

- Stage 3 - Application re: Lands at Old Slane Road, Drogheda
- Submissions to ABP due by 18th November, 2021
- CE Report being prepared for submission to ABP.

Operations and Waste Management

Oibríochtaí agus Bainistíocht Dramháil

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

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

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

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

Catherine Duff
Director / Stiúrthóir



Municipal District of Dundalk

Dundalk and Cooley Area

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí Litter picks Dundalk Town wide including all approach Roads: <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• Racecours Road• Armagh Road• Castletown Road Etc. Cooley Isolated locations including: <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 Frequency of Bins: There are approx 200 bins in Dundalk These are checked nightly and approx 150 emptied nightly, if bins are less than half full they can be left for a second night.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooley - Carlingford, Omeath, Gyles Quay, Templetown, Faughart, Greenore and Lordship.
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	<p>Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain</p> <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 with Leaf fall now at its peak the Contractor is concentrating and doing extra sweeping on areas where there is a high percentage of leaf fall. • Cooley rural village sweep programming
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra	<p>Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract works Dundalk • Dog waste goes into normal bins as numbered above • Cooley as per bin emptying
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	<p>Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain</p> <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	<p>Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 no. of playgrounds (not including exercise equipment/outdoor gym or MUGA's) • Daily by Parks Operative, repairs in house or contractor.

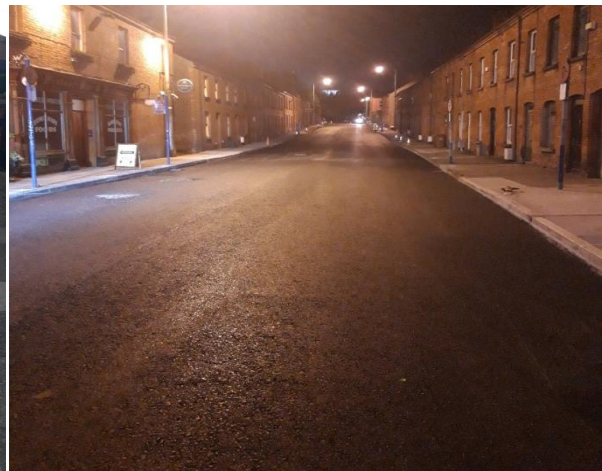
Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
<p>Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre</p>	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L-70631-0 River Street Mountain Park, Carlingford • R173 Bush • R174 Ravensdale <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L-20049-1 Vincent Avenue • L-21110-1 Hyde Park • L-20010-50 Oakland Park • R-215-27 Newry Road • L-20014-2 Grange Close <p>Isolated minor repairs Town Centre</p> <p><i>Community Involvement Scheme CIS:</i></p> <p><u>North Louth</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LT-62162 Bolies, Castlebellingham • LT-11401 Channonrock Lane • LT-71142, Ballybinaby Lane, Hackballscross
<p>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</p>	<p><u>Cooley</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L-707816 Earls quarter bush • L-70631 Mountain park • L-3061-27 Kilwirra • R173 Roganscross <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Omeath Village, • Templetown Car Park • L7070 Bush School Road • L-70631-0 River Street • Ravensdale • Anaverna • Ballymakellett, • R173 into Carlingford <p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <p>Ongoing maintenance to Storm sewer network Town Wide</p>
	<p>Patching/pothole repairs</p> <p>2021 RWP Roads Resurfacing</p> <p>Isolated Essential Repairs</p> <p>Community Involvement Scheme</p>
	<p>Drainage Installation and Upgrade Works</p> <p>Essential maintenance Jet Vac</p> <p>Essential maintenance</p>

Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha	None this month	
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán	<u>Dundalk</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Market Square 	Power Washing
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	<u>Dundalk</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Carrickmacross Road</i> <p>Weekly maintenance of all Traffic Lights replacement bulbs (replacement LEDs), vandalism repairs, Etc.</p>	Essential maintenance and vandalism repairs Ongoing essential maintenance
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	<u>Cooley</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bush School Road Ardagh School Road 	School Warning Refresh
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<u>Cooley</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Repairs and Cleaning <u>Dundalk</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speed Signage Refresh Works Traffic Island Bollards 	Essential Maintenance Town Boundary Within Town Boundary
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<u>Cooley</u> <p>Numerous small amounts and tyres removed at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long Woman's Grave Mast Road Omeath Whitestown. Rockmarshal and Templetown Car Park Clean-up 	Domestic Waste Lifting Waste from Community Clean-ups Templetown and Greenore Anti-Dumping Initiative Clean-up

	<p><u>Dundalk</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Castleross • Woodlands Park • Hoey's Lane • Rockfeild Manor • Castleross • Salttown • Toberona • Inner Relief Road • Creative Spark • Doolargy • Muirhevnamore, • Hardy's Lane • Rampart River • Lady Well • Moorland Road • General Blackspots 	Large Household Waste
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí	None this month	



Hyde Park RWP 2021



Vincent Avenue RWP 2021



*Grave-yard Lay-by installation
Castlebellingham*



LIS Lane Ravensdale



CIS Bolies

Blackrock, Faughart and North Mid-Louth Area

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

Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackrock (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"> • L5145 Rosslough • L5144 Loughtate • R166 Mansfieldtown • R171 Louth Village to Knockbridge • L5139 Coolcreedan • L5197 Rahanna Charlestown & Arthurstown • L6217 Castlebellingham • L5181 Cullenstown • R177 Armagh Road (M1 flyover to county boundary) • L71201 Annaghvackey • L31221 Carrickalust • L3112 Gorteen • L7115 Cavananore • L7164 Mullagharlin • L7123 Ednagrena • L1183 Milltown • Various junctions at Walterstown (L1182/R215) • Crowmartin (L5206, L1205) & Flowery Cross

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R177 Armagh Road (M1 flyover to county boundary), N2 vegetation maintenance. • L6217 Maine (section) • R166 Sections at Rathbrist Cottages and Glyde Farm Road junction • L7063 Chapel Road Haggardstown. 	Resurfacing/overlay works (by contract)
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R166 Annagassan and L7115 Cavananore. • R171 Louth Village to Knockbridge • L1185 Parabees Cross to Milltown • St Oliver's Park Kilsaran • R177 Armagh Road (M1 flyover to county boundary) • L3161 Rock Road Blackrock, also Ard na Mara, The Ferns, Birches Lane and Mariner's Court - all in Blackrock. 	<p>Drainage Improvement works</p> <p>Drainage maintenance – jetting/cleansing and gully cleaning.</p>
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha		
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán		
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráchtá	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R215 Southern Link Road at Haynestown 	Major repairs after road traffic accident.
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre		
Signage / Comharthaíocht	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Station Road Castlebellingham, • R177 Armagh Road from M1 flyover to county boundary. 	Cleansing/repair/replacement

Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R215 Ardee Road • L3122 Maghereagh Cross • N53 Newtownbalregan • Faughart graveyard 	Collection of dumped waste for disposal.
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí		



Verge maintenance on N52



RWP Maine Castlebellingham



Works at Darver Bridge

Ardee Municipal District

South Louth Operations (Rural Area)

Litter Picking / Píocadh Bruscair	Location and metres per month / Suíomh agus méadar sa mhí
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day) • Clogherhead Car Park daily cleanup around bins 	

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"> • 30 Daily • 20 Tuesday and Thursday
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All routes in Ardee Town (5.2km per day) 	
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / Folmhú Araidí Salachar Madra Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain	
Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrthála Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ardee Town River Dee • Salterstown • Port Beach 	
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil Corpacmhainne Number of sites checked daily / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain <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>	

Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LP 1297 Kells Road • LP 1297-27 Collon • LP 2296-0 Smarmore • LP 2214-0 Brananstown • LS 5234-0 Bog Road

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R170 Ardee – Dunleer Road • LS 5288-0 Coolamoney • LS 5207-0 Stormanstown • R166-260 Strand Road Annagassan • R170 Barn Road Dunleer • LP-1264-0 Smarmore 	<p>Edge repairs</p> <p>Road Work Programme Developer repairs from damage from Planning reference 19/569</p>
Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gullies on Drogheda Road Ardee • Gullies in Dunleer • R132 Pipe work at Cappogue • R170 Pipe work and outlets at Dromin • Outlets on LS 5258-0 Roestown • Drainage works in Hoathstown R170 • LP 2239-20 Mountaintown outlets • Gullies repair at Campbell's park • Outlets on LS 6238-0 • Drainage works on Knockalevy Road • LP-1212-36 Stabannon • LP-1264-0 Smarmore. 	
Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha		
Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán		
Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráichta		
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre		
Signage / Comharthaíocht	Washing and replacing of signage Dunleer area	
Illegal Dumping /		

Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach		
Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifítí		



Edge repairs on R166 at the seafront Annagassan before and after



Edge repairs on the LP1264 Smarmore



Resurfacing on the R170 Barn Road Dunleer



Resurfacing on the R166 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 recourses allow and green areas.• Hotspots on Monday – decided by Supervisor following inspection.• Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Daily during working week. Also all Bring Banks in Drogheda urban are checked and cleared Saturday p.m.• Drogheda Rural Bring banks are cleared daily during working week
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">• 5 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)• 8 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)• 5 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)• 5 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)• 3 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)• 3 Daily (incl weekends and Bank Hols)• Drogheda town centre Litterbins emptied daily circa 60 early mornings. New bin installed at top of Peter Street. 1 Bin relocated at Laurence's street to facilitate Café beside Fishmonger• About 250 litter bin are emptied weekly in town.• Dominic's Park & Mell river walk emptied daily.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Louth Drogheda Municipal district rural areas, public Litter Bins are emptied twice a week or daily when needed especially at beaches/Port Oriel/Seapoint/Termonfeckin/Baltray – at least 40 bins per day. • Approach roads in Drogheda town emptied twice a week. • Bin upgrade and maintenance ongoing and street furniture • Bin burnt at Clogherhead’s Port Oriel Public Car Park and replaced. • All litterbins were washed and disinfected in the town centre.
Road Sweeping / Scuabadh Bóithre	Routes per week / Bealaí sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town centre daily. Approach roads fortnightly. • Public Housing Estates, swept every 2 months. Private Housing estates swept every 3 months. When resources allow. • Hotspots weekly on Monday after weekend – decided daily by supervisor after checking Drogheda urban area. • Villages are swept once per month i.e., 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. Also, contractor following weed killing list for town, Housing estates and checking tourists locations.
Emptying Dog Waste Receptacles / FolmhúAraidí Salachar Madra	Number per week / Líon sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empty about 35 No. once a week, washed and disinfected.

Ring Buoy Checking / Seiceál Baoithe Tarrhála	Number checked weekly / Líon Seiceáilte sa tseachtain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 89 ring buoys checked each week Town area (Thursday) • 9 ring buoys checked each week at Rosehall (Friday)
Checking of Playground and Gym Equipment / Seiceál Trealamh Áiteanna Sugartha agus Corpacmhainne	Number of sites checked daily / Suíomhanna Seiceáilte Laethúil <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 4 and 5 daily (4 playgrounds in Drogheda town, Skate Park, Adult Exercise equipment). 3 Playgrounds in Drogheda rural area) disinfected also.

Location / Suíomh	Notes / Nótaí
Road Repairs / Deisiú Bóithre	<i>Road Resurfacing Works (RWP) program 2021 - roads resurfaced this month:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R166 Clogherhead • Baltray Village patching • LP-2278-32 Sandpit • R167 Termonfeckin • LP-2307-0 Newtownstalaban • L-2290-15 Tinure • LP-2240-26 Togher • LS-6283-0 Callystown • R132 - Dublin Road, James Street and Bull ring • Rathmullen Road junction with R132 at Bridge of Peace • L-1662 Crushrod Avenue Junction with Ballymakenny Road – patch resurfaced. • R168 Loughbouy/Mell – Speed ramp repaired

	<p><i>Community Involvement Scheme</i> <i>CIS</i> <u>South Louth</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L-63022 Whitehouse, Monaterboice • LT-22902 Rathgory, Tinure • LT-62481 Killally Lane, Togher <p>LCC's crew</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pot holes repairs around Drogheda town (e.g., Bothar Brugha, Skelly's Lane, Money more Housing estate). • Installing No Dumping signs at Skelly's Lane, Money more • Installing Bicycle racks in Drogheda town and district at: George's street, Fair Street, Dominic's park, Lower Mell car park, North Road, Seapoint car park • Assisting <i>Puca</i> Festival • Checking flooded areas following heavy rain. 	<p><i>Community Involvement Scheme</i></p> <p>Road repair to potholes, No Dumping Sign installation, Bicycle rack installation.</p>
<p>Drainage Remediation / Feabhasúchán Draenála</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LP-2278 Blackhall • Annual Drogheda Gully cleaning program commenced and on-going for 6 weeks 	<p>Survey in preparation of repairs to eliminate flooding</p>
<p>Fallen or Dangerous Trees / Crainn Leagtha nó Chontúirteacha</p>		
<p>Footpath Maintenance/ Cothabháil Cosán</p>	<p>Drogheda Dropped kerbs and raised Crossing Program at 18 locations completed.</p>	
<p>Traffic Light Repairs / Deisiú Soilse Tráichta</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Haymarket / Donore Road Junction. 2. Trinity Street / Mell National School. 3. Pedestrian crossing at 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vehicle detector fail. 2. Lamp replacement. 3. Lamp replacement.

	<p>Hardman Gardens.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. R132 at Byranstown Junction. 5. Trinity Street / Simcocks Lane. 6. North Quay Pedestrian Crossing. 7. Westgate junction. 8. Marsh Road / Scotch Hall. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Faulty PBU. 5. Lamp Replacement. 6. Lights out due to internal software fault. 7. Lamp replacement. 8. Lamp replacement -Lamps all out.
Road Markings / Marcáil Bóithre	Ongoing throughout town	
Signage / Comharthaíocht	Ongoing throughout district	
Illegal Dumping / Dumpáil Neamhdhleathach	<p><u>List sent to wardens</u></p> <p><u>Bring Banks,</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bolton Square • King Street • Mell Car Park • Wheaton Hall • Old Hill, • Ballsgrove • IDA Road <p><u>Dumping</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cement Road at Old Halting Site and St. Anthony's Park, • Bexwell Lane, • Batchlor's Lane, • Harpour's Lane, • Highlane steps, • Northstrand 3 sets of steps, • Cash For Car signs, • Palace Street, • Williams Street, • Reilly's Car Park, • Skellys Lane, • Laurances Park including Bonfires, • Lourdes Square, • Scarlet Crescent, • Walkway on Dominics Park and Dominic's park area • Dublin Road, 	<p>This is an ongoing issue where Supervisors and Litter Wardens check on daily basis; arrange for inspecting illegal waste disposal for evidence and issuing fines and clearance of area.</p> <p>Public complaints are also checked and followed up as above.</p> <p>Illegal waste tonnage disposed and removed by LCC for October circa 200kg plus Bonfire material like Pallets and tyres</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marsh Rd, • Rathmullen Pk, • Finians Pk, • Byrstown Cross route, • Marley's Lane, • Ballsgrove, • Cromwell Lane <p>Clearing front of Wogan's along Boyne river walk</p> <p>Moneymore and Skelly's Lane area cleared of illegal waste disposal, installed anti-dumping sign, cleared stone rubble and landscaped area.</p>	
<p>Graffiti Removal / Glanadh Graifití</p>	<p>Two incidents of graffiti reported in the month of October in public environments.</p> <p>Warden service checked and discovered it had been removed by third party on both occasions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jim Garry Way • Rathmullen 	<p>Updated survey of Graffiti in town completed. Removal of same on public buildings to be progressed. Graffiti on private properties to be followed up - ongoing</p>



Resurfacing on Dublin Road Drogheda



Raised Courtesy Crossing at Peter's Street, Drogheda



***House on Skelly's Lane demolished as part of Anti-Dumping Initiative.
Pictures before, during and after.***



CIS Whitehouse, Monasterboice



CIS Rathgory



Clean up on back alley Marley Court, Drogheda

North Louth Quarterly Recycling figures

Quarter 3 recycling figures from V&W Recycling Centre in Dundalk are as follows:

Paper/Cardboard		161
Plastic		73
Glass		51
Textiles		7
Batteries		0
Greenery		816
Wood		189
Scrap Metal		66
WEEE		69
Total	Tonnes	1432

South Louth Quarterly Recycling figures

Quarter 3 recycling figures from V&W Recycling Centre in Drogheda are as follows:

Paper/Cardboard		128
Plastic		95
Glass		70
Textiles		10
Batteries		0
Greenery		334
Wood		146
Scrap Metal		81
WEEE		126
Total	Tonnes	990

Waste Management and Environment Report

Waste Management

Waste Enforcement

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

Litter Enforcement

A total of 29 fines were issued in the month of October. Of these fines, 5 were issued in the Dundalk urban area, 18 in Drogheda urban area and 6 in the remaining County wide area. There were 0 fines issued for dog fouling in October.

There have been 1747 investigations in the year to date with 146 carried out in the month of October. There have been 356 fines issued in the year to date, 3 of which were for Dog Fouling.

Diesel Laundering Waste

A total of 16 IBC's of Diesel Sludge were recovered in October 2021. The approximate cost of clean-up and disposal of the material is €19,973.24. So far in 2021, a total of 167 IBC's at a cost of €208,470.61 approx.

My Waste

A total of 778 reminders letters have been issued to householders in the 3 urban areas of Ardee, Dundalk and Drogheda to date. A total of 389 replies have been received to date from the reminder letters.

Area	Ardee	Dundalk	Drogheda	Total
No of Estates surveyed	8	196	49	253
Total No of Houses	539	5031	4223	9793
No of houses not presenting a bin	108	1866	1432	3406

% of Houses not presenting a bin	20	37	34	35
No of Letters sent out to date	108	921	544	1573
No of reminders letter sent out	92	289	397	778
No. of Replies	51	152	186	389

Air / Water / Noise Pollution

There were four water pollution complaints received in October with two open and two closed. One legal case under the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1977 is on-going in the district court. Six Air Pollution complaints and five Noise Pollution complaints were received during October 2021.

Bathing Water

The online public consultation on the review of the Bathing Water Directive has been launched 28th October 2021. The online survey is open from now until 20 January 2022 at https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12658-Bathing-water-quality-review-of-EU-rules/public-consultation_en.

Air Monitor for Drogheda

The EPA in cooperation with Louth County Council has installed a permanent air quality monitor in Drogheda. The station became operational in the week starting 25th April and data is available to view at: <https://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.

The Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien, TD. has published the draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022 – 2027 for public consultation. The Minister now invites submissions, observations and comments on the proposed plan.

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).

All relevant documentation is available from the gov.ie website. The public consultation period will conclude on 31st March 2022.

Domestic Wastewater

The new Code of Practice for Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems (Population Equivalent ≤ 10) was published on 24th March 2021 and has come into effect since 7th June 2021. Link to code of practice is at - <https://www.epa.ie/pubs/advice/water/wastewater/code%20of%20practice%20for%20single%20houses/>

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

Climate Action

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019-2014

We continue to work with the Eastern and Midlands Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) to work

towards achieving the goals and objectives of the Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2019 to 2024 Action.

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

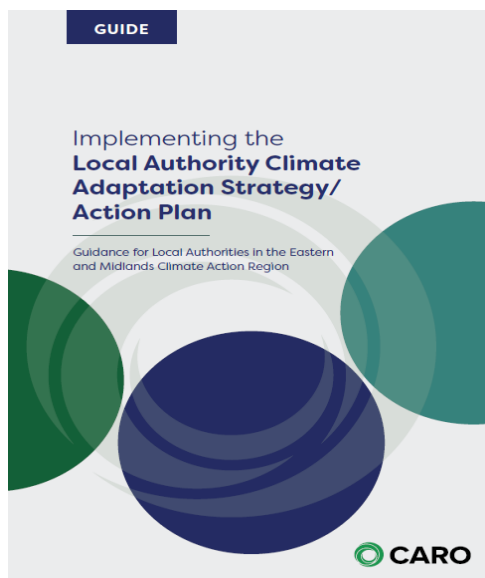
Electrical Vehicles Charging Points

The Project Lead was appointed to the project and the official Launch of the FASTER project took place on the 9th of September in Armagh City Hotel.

Louth County Council and other associate partners are carrying out preliminary assessments of sites to short list for final selection for the 25 EV Rapid Chargers across the border counties.

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

Decarbonised Zones- Dundalk



Veterinary Services / Seirbhísí Tréidliachta

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

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

Amhail ar an 30ú Deireadh Fómhair 2021, cuireann Rannóg Tréidliachta Chomhairle Contae Lú caighdeáin sábháilteachta bia i bhfeidhm, faoi Chomhaontú Leibhéal Seirbhíse leis an USBÉ, ar dhá sheamlas agus ar cúig cinn déag de mhonarchana próiseála feola atá faoi mhaoirseacht aige sa chontae, n-áirítear gléasra nua próiseála feola i nDún Dealgan a thosaigh táirgeadh Deireadh Fómhair 2021.

Control of Dogs / Rialú Madraí

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

Dogs impounded October 2021 / Madraí curtha i bpóna, Deireadh Fómhair 2021

Total dogs impounded / Líon madraí curtha i bpóna	8
Strays / Ar seachrán	3
Surrendered by owners / Tugtha suas ag úinéirí	4
No dogs reclaimed by owners / Líon madraí tógtha ar ais ag úinéirí	2
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	4
No of dogs on hand in Pound at 31/10/2021 / Líon madraí faoi chúram sa phóna 31/10/2021	3

Dog Licences October 2021 / Ceadúnais Madraí, Deireadh Fómhair 2021

No of Licences sold / Líon ceadúnas díolta	575
Licence Checks / Ceadúnais scrúdaithe:	
House calls / Seiceálacha baile	527
Section 16 Notices issued (request to produce licence within 10 days) / Fógraí Alt 16 eisithe (iarratas ar ceadúnas a thaispeáint roimh deich lá)	136
Fixed Penalty Notices / Fógraí Pionós Socraithe	16

**Dog Breeding Establishments (DBE) /
Bunachais Pórúcháin Madraí (BPM)**

**Dog Breeding Establishments October
2021 / Bunachais pórúcháin madraí,
Deireadh Fómhair 2021**

Total no of registered DBE's in Louth, 31/10/2021 / Líon BPM i gContae Lú, 31/10/2021	6
Hunt / Conchróite Seilge	2
Boarding Kennels / Conchróite Cinneála	2
Training Kennels / Conchróite Oiliúna	1
Welfare / Leas Ainmhithe	1



*Dogs impounded during October 2021 / Madraí curtha i
bpóna i mí Deireadh Fómhair 2021*

Control of Horses / Rialú Capall

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

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

**Horses impounded
October 2021 / Capaill curtha i bpóna,
Deireadh Fómhair 2021**

Horses seized / Capaill gafa	0
Reason for seizure: / Cúis na gabhála	n/a
Horses reclaimed by owner / Líon capall tógtha ar ais ag úinéirí	0
Horses rehomed / Líon capall a bhfuarthas úinéirí nua dóibh	0
Horses disposed of / Capaill curtha de láimh	0
No of horses on hand in Pound on 31/10/2021 / Líon capall faoi chúram sa phóna, 31/10/21	0

Corporate and Emergency Services

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha agus Éigeandála

This Directorate has two key areas of responsibility:

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

Tá dhá eochairfhreagrachta ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

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

Joe McGuinness
Director / Stiúrthóir



Corporate and Emergency Services

Climate Change Adaption Strategy

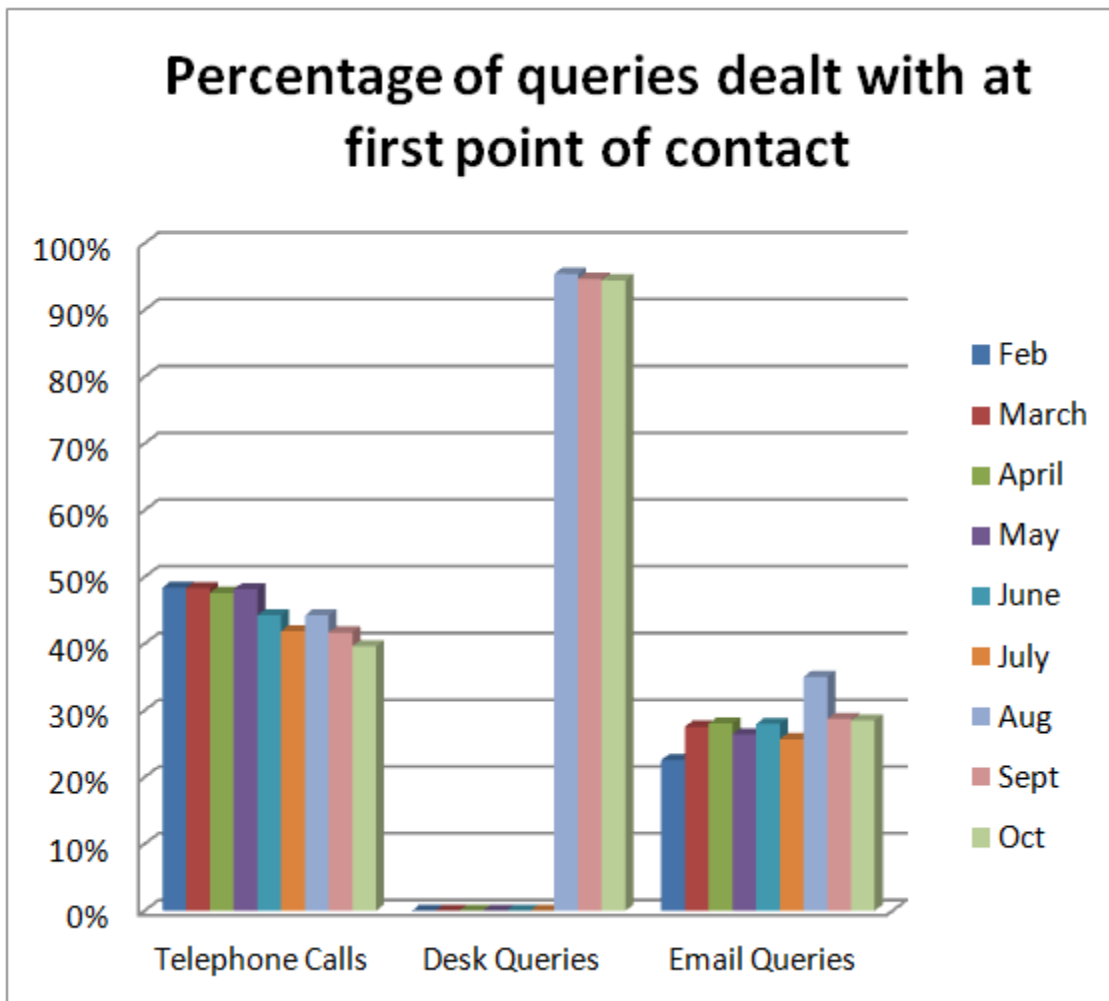
As part of the Council's Climate Change Adaption Strategy 2019-24, the following mitigations were undertaken in the last month in this Directorate

- Installation of Air Sourced Heat Pumps in County Hall, outlined later.
- Further installation of Energy Loggers on some of our buildings.

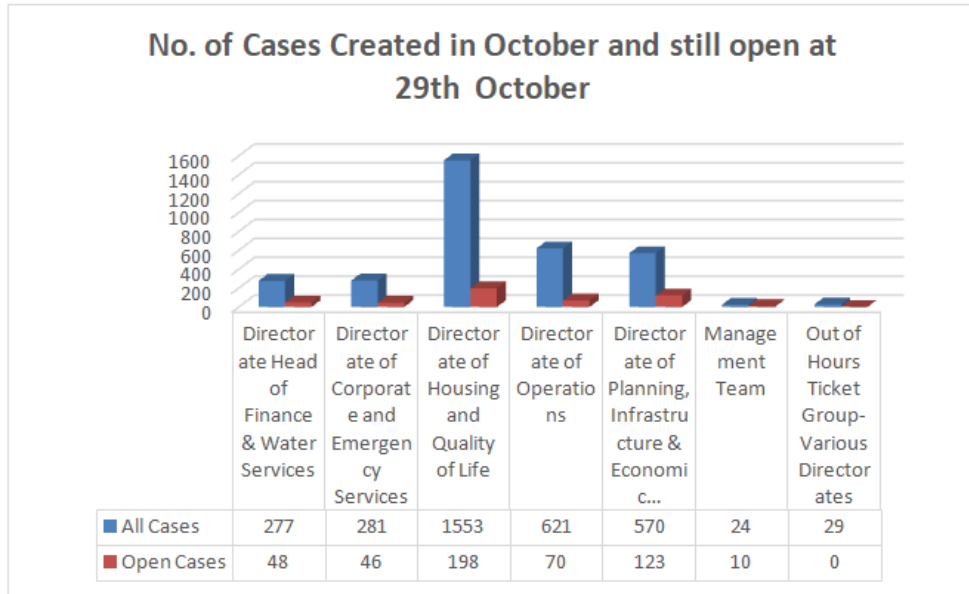
Customer Services Report

October 2021

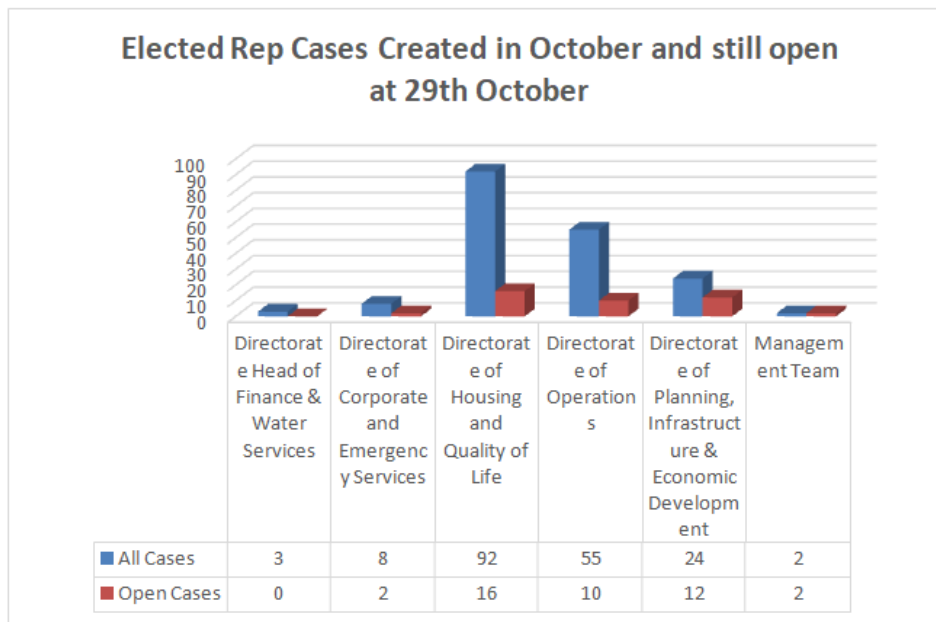
During this month Customer Services dealt with 10,873 queries - 6,073 calls, 1,432 e-mails and 3,368 counter queries.



There were 3,355 valid SugarCRM cases recorded during October of which 495 (15%) remain unresolved, broken down by directorate as follows:



During October 184 elected reps. cases were recorded on Sugar of which 42 (23%) remain unresolved broken down by Directorate as follows:



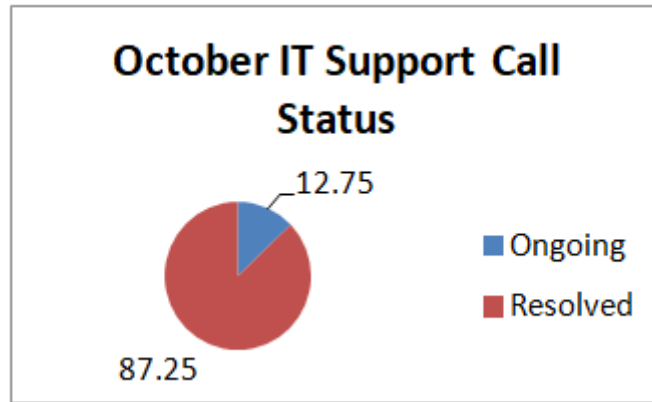
The table below illustrates activity in the redress area.

	Same period 2020	2021 Total	October 2021
Freedom of Information	85	110	19
Data Protection/DSAR	12	14	0
Access to Information on Environment	5	5	1
Ombudsman	8	13	4
Complaints Policy	16	28	4

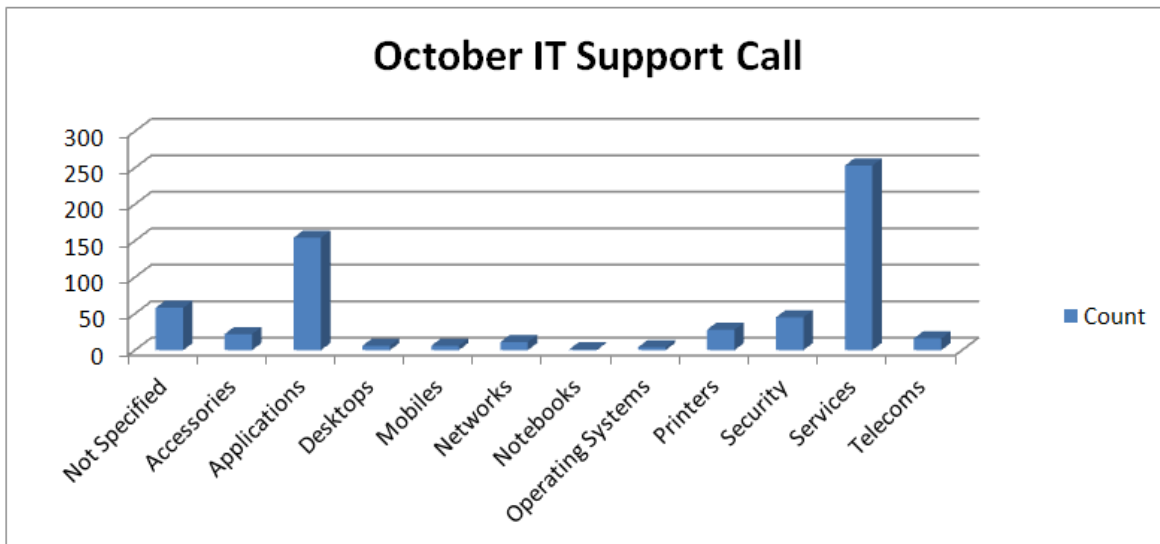
Information Technology

Helpdesk

During the month of October there were 608 support calls logged in the IT support system. 87% of these have been resolved and 13% of these are ongoing.



The below chart indicates the breakdown of calls by Problem Category



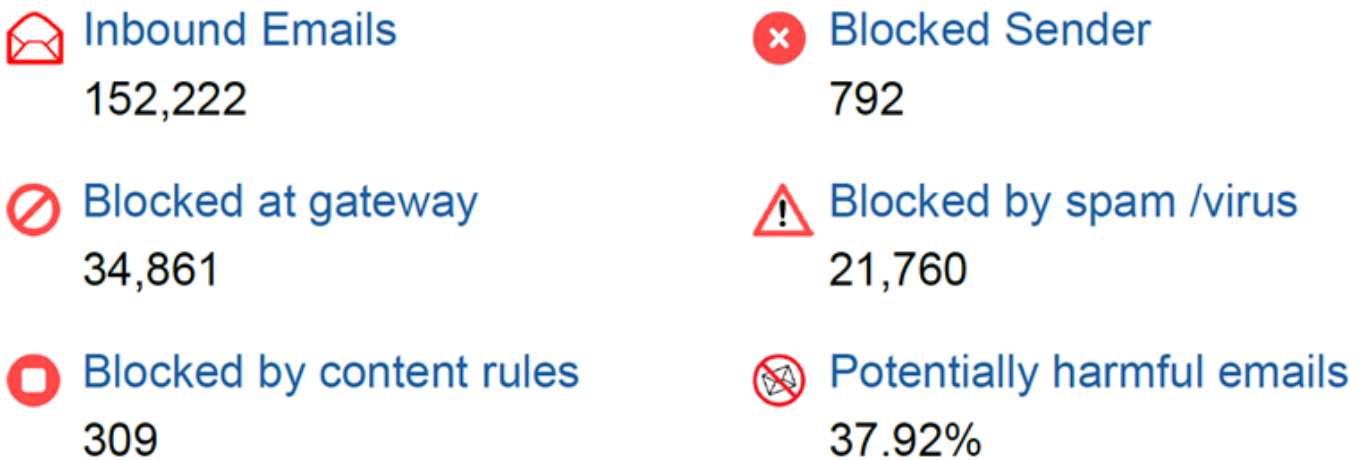
Rollout of Sophos Intercept X

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 County Council Network to detect potential threats, indicating devices which need attention. The figure below indicates that there are 517 computers and 46 servers protected by Sophos. 1191 threats were blocked in the last 30 days. This illustrates the ongoing challenge to the organisation, to combat cyber security and is illustrated on page over with regard to activity.



TopSec E-Mail Filtering System

Louth County Council continues to be targeted with phishing, and spam e-mail. We utilised TopSec to filter and block e-mail being received into the organisation in order to protect our network. The following illustrates monthly activity.



Windows 7 Project

Since July LCC IT staff has removed approximately 140 “Windows 7” devices from the LCC Network. Work to remove all remaining Windows 7 devices is ongoing as this is now a recognized vulnerability to any organisation dependant on an IT network structure.

Electoral Register

October saw the completion of ongoing efforts to get the draft Electoral Register ready for publication on the 1st November, 2021. The net result of efforts carried out by Corporate Services as the Registration Authority for Co. Louth, resulted in over 2,500 amendments being made to the register in Louth, which included deletions! 91% of the electorate are now in an EIRCODE address which has been validated against our Polling Scheme to ensure the correct assignment of Polling Places. In the coming year we will be aiming to increase this percentage.

All the electorate will be encouraged to check the register to ensure all eligible household members are registered to vote and that all details are correct by clicking on www.checktheregister.ie from the 1st November.

We would encourage Elected Members to advise voters to consider any of the following changes that may have occurred and which could affect Electoral

Register details and a person's ability to vote:

- Moving address,
- The number of adult household occupants has increased or decreased,
- If anyone in the house will be 18 yrs old on or before the 15th February 2022

If any of the above occurred and voters have not updated these details, they should fully complete and submit [RFA1 form](#) to asap to submit a claim for a correction to the register.

The closing date for claims is 25th November 2021. Persons living in Louth can either submit the completed form by email to Register@louthcoco.ie or by internal post to 'Register Corporate Services' asap. **Late entries** after the 25th November **cannot be accepted**. Persons who are not registered to vote cannot vote.

Sustainable Energy

Public Sector Energy Efficiency Performance

The Council's energy efficiency has improved to 47.36% (end of 2020) as reported by SEAI.

Energy Management System

The Council's Energy Management System is registered with ISO 50,001; 2018. A 1 day Surveillance Audit has now been arranged with NSAI for Wed. 15th Dec. 2021. It is required to confirm ongoing compliance with that ISO standard. Council staff undertake regular tasks throughout the year to maintain that system. In addition, we are now focused also on preparing for that audit.

The Council is also completing the final tasks associated with the provision of new energy works as part of the Energy Action Plan 2021. Those works are as follows:

Heat Pumps



As part of ongoing energy saving measures, and to meet our obligation to improve our energy efficiency under our Energy Action Plan, three Air Source heat pumps were installed in Co. Hall during October 2021 to heat our under-flood heating. Energy outputs will be monitored to measure the comparative before and after results. Archives Building – We have also completed installation of a new Air Sourced Heat Pump and undertaken improvements to lighting and interiors to windows to improve energy efficiency.

Solar Photo Voltaic Panels

Dundalk Town Hall and Civil Defence Building Dundalk have now had Solar Photo Voltaic Units

installed. In addition, new energy loggers to monitor gas and electricity use have already been installed at Dundalk Town Hall, this will provide us with evidence based opportunities to further contribute to Climate Action.



New 11KW Solar PV Electricity Generator at Dundalk Town Hall

Energy Data Loggers

As well as above energy loggers, to monitor gas and electricity use, are now in place at County Hall, Dundalk Town Hall and Outdoor Staff Office and at Dundalk, Drogheda and Carlingford Fire Stations.

Better Energy Communities Grant 2021

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

Council staff are working with staff from Dunleer SEC and its partner, to finalise the completion of those energy projects, in anticipation of audits on the grant-funded works by SEAI later in the year.

Sustainable Energy Communities

The Council's energy policy was presented to the recent meeting of the Climate Change and Energy Strategic Policy Committee. It was agreed to amend it slightly for the next meeting.

In addition, the Council is asked to consider a Memorandum of Understanding between the Council, and SEAI to support Sustainable Energy

Communities. That MOU was developed by the Mid-West Region and has already been signed by a small number of Local Authorities there. It is planned to bring that also to the attention of the Climate and Energy SPC.

GenComm Interreg Energy Storage Project

Members are encouraged to review the project website for an up-date on progress and in particular for more detail from the project on the potential for hydrogen use as a Sustainable Energy source. The project partners consider how hydrogen offers the opportunity to make energy production a primary driver of the economy rather than responding to the needs of the economy as at present.

The Gencomm Project Team has been invited to present on that project at the December meeting of the Climate Change and Energy SPC.

Varcities H2020 Funded Project

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



The next stakeholder meeting for the Dundalk pilot will be held on Thursday 25th November and elected members will again be invited to attend. We look forward to strong support from the elected members for that event. The conceptual design for the project is required to be completed by the end of February 2022 and that is being developed at present.

Meanwhile one to one meetings are being undertaken with adjacent property owners / occupiers who have responded to the Council's letter and with key stakeholder such as An Garda Síochána.

Fire and Emergency Services

Fire Service

Louth Fire Service continue to monitor public health advice and measures due to the high level of Covid cases currently in the community and the implication of a crew being unavailable due to Covid.

On 18th October Louth Fire Service held an Officers Training Day for Station Officers and senior officers. This was a success and included Health and Safety presentations, an electric vehicle presentation and demonstration and a UK case study. During October, Emergency First Responder refresher courses continued for Louth Fire Service personnel. A two week BA wearers course has commenced for recent Louth recruits and also includes personnel from other Fire Services.

During October a fire service fitness programme commenced. This was arranged in conjunction with the Sports Section.

A Quantity Surveyor has completed a summary cost plan and a design brief is also complete for the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Approval has been sought from the DHLGH for the procurement of a design team.

The development of a fire service health and safety management system to satisfy ISO 45001 requirements is continuing. A benchmark audit of the system by an external Health and Safety Consultant took place on two dates in October. The recommendations are being followed up with the Health and Safety Section.

The number of fire safety certificate applications received by Fire Prevention Section has increased in recent months and inspections of these are

continuing. A number of premises with serious fire safety deficiencies came to the attention of this section during October and action was taken to close these premises.

Climate Adaptation Strategy

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

Major Emergency Management

Regional Major Emergency Steering and Working Group meetings in relation to Covid have continued. The most recent meeting took place in Louth and was the first in-person meeting of the Committee since the start of Covid. These meetings have included personnel from the three Principal Response Agencies, i.e. the Councils, HSE and AGS.

Civil Defence

Normal Civil Defence activities have resumed, including training courses with full occupancy and attendance at events to provide medical and other cover. Two events in the Cooley mountains were attended during October, including Cross Cooley Challenge.

The training delivered during October included:

- EMT Training
- Weekly Training
- CFR Training
- Manual Handling Training
- Peer to Peer Training
- Drone Training
- CFR Advanced Training

Water Safety

Beach Lifeguard activity ceased from mid September. All water safety infrastructure continues to be checked on a scheduled basis..

Housing and Quality of Life Tithíocht agus Cáilíocht na Beatha

This Directorate has two key responsibilities:

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

Tá dhá eochairfhreagracht ag an Stiúrthóireacht seo:

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

Paddy Donnelly
Director / Stiúrthóir



Housing

Pillar 1: Addressing Homelessness

As the Responsible Housing Authority for the North East Region, Louth County Council continues to manage this area and achieve the goals set out in the North East Homelessness Strategy 2021-2023. The work done within Louth can be summarised as follows:

Presentations October 2021	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
Number of Person who presented as Homeless	05	251	157	413
Offered advice, support (including fast tracking H.A. for Rent Supplement eligibility)	05	226	150	381
Placed in Temporary Emergency Accommodation	00	25	04	29
Refused Offer of Temporary Emergency Accommodation	00	02	01	03
Not eligible from outside county or non HRC	00	00	00	00

The tables below reflect monthly returns submitted to the Department with regard to Homeless numbers in the NORTH EAST REGION between 25th – 31st October 2021. This anonymous and aggregated return of all individuals accessing emergency accommodation is returned to the Department of Housing on a monthly basis.

Table 1: Gender

Gender	Total
Male	60
Female	21
Total	81

Table 2: Age Groups

Age Group	Total
18-24	07
25-44	45
45-64	24
65+	05
Total	81

Table 3: Accommodation Type

Accommodation Type	Total
Private Emergency Accommodation (PEA)	10
Supported Temporary Accommodation (STA)	61
Temporary Emergency Accommodation (low support)(TEA)	10
Unique Total (note, clients may have accessed multiple accommodation types during the week)	00
Minus people accessing multiple accommodation types during the week	00
Total unique individuals	81

Table 4: County

County	Total
County Louth	73
County Monaghan	04
County Cavan	04
Total	81

Table 5 - Families with dependent children

	No. of families with dependent children	No. of Individual Adults	No. of Dependents
Individuals with dependent children	07	07	14
Total	07	07	14
Couples with dependent children	02	04	06
Total	02	04	06

Housing First

	Louth	Monaghan	Cavan	Total
Number of tenancies established	23	02	05	30
Number of individuals currently in tenancy	23	02	05	30

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

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

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

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

Inspections of Private Emergency Accommodation

The Homeless Office carries out random and unannounced inspections on all B&BS, Hotels and Hostels providing Private Emergency Accommodation on behalf of Louth County Council. This will continue on a monthly basis subject to Covid 19 permissions.

Housing Assistance Payment

The total number of applications in HAP is 3308

Ardee Municipal District	Dundalk Municipal District	Drogheda Borough District	Total
327	1761	1220	3308

Pillar 2: Accelerate Social Housing

Over the period 2018 to 2021, a target has been set for the provision of 1074 units. Housing for All sets a target of 1357 Units for the period 2022-2026 These targets will include delivery of units from Part V provision, Acquisitions, Build Mortgage to Rents, Long Term Leases, Repair and Lease and Buy & Renew Acquisitions. The 2020 - 2023 pipeline delivery progress report is in tables below.

**2021 Housing Allocations up to
31st October 2021**

Numbers Allocated	Allocations- Social	Allocations - Voluntary	Refusals - Social	Refusals - Voluntary
Ardee MD	32	31	12	05
Dundalk MD	137	97	24	24
Drogheda BD	89	32	32	08
Total Allocations	258	160	68	37

Social housing transfers facilitated up to 31st October 2021.

Year	Ardee	Dundalk	Drogheda
2021	00	13	12

Housing List (excluding HAP Transfers)

Month	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
October	379	649	649	1677

Transfer List from HAP

Month	Ardee MD	Dundalk MD	Drogheda BD	Total
October	327	1761	1220	3308

There are a total of 267 applicants on the approved list for transfer (Non-HAP) within Social Housing including 25 applications from the Approved Housing Bodies.

Pillar 3: Build More Homes

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

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

Rent Management

The number of tenants who pay rent by Household Budget is now **983**

Current Arrears as of 31/10/2021	Rents as of	Number of Account	Value
Rents between 4-6 weeks old		173	€60,821.00
Rents between 7-12 weeks old		129	€87,425.00
Rents greater than 12 weeks old		755	€2,629,304.00
TOTAL		1057	€2,777,550

Pillar 4: Improve the Rented Sector

	Oct	Total
No. of properties inspected Oct 2021	45	195
No. of advisory notes issued to Landlord	20	26
No. of improvement notices Issued	09	87
No. of prohibition notices Issued	03	07
No. of Rent Book Notices	00	00

Issued		
Inspections (HAP)	32	125
Improvement Notices (HAP)	32	125
Virtual Inspections Issued	00	50
Private Inspections Complaints	00	00
HAP Complaints	08	19
RAS Complaints	01	01
Re Inspections HAP	09	40
Re Inspections Hap Compliance	00	20
Re Inspections RAS	00	00
Re Inspections RAS Compliance	00	00
AHB Inspection	04	07
Long Term Leases	00	75

Pillar 5: Utilise Existing Housing

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

Maintenance	Total (YTD)	This month
No. of Maintenance Requests Received	3344	528
No. of Maintenance Completed	2365	434

Vacant Properties

Currently 18 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	02	
Dundalk Municipal District	22	
Drogheda Borough District	24	
Total Re Lets		48
Vacant Properties CPO Units not yet ready for occupation (all county)		03
Total No. of CPO		

Properties (Relets & CPO's)		51
--	--	-----------

Grant Assistance to the Elderly and Disabled

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

The following grants are available:

- Housing Adaption Grants - Priority 1, which will assist those who need whole time care in the home
- Housing for Older People – Priority 1 to works that will preserve the integrity of the dwelling
- Mobility Aids Grants - Priority 1, which will assist those who need whole time, care in the home.
- The Dept have notified Louth County Council that the allocation for 2021 is €1,889,980, of which €377,996 is to be provided from the authority's own revenue resource.
- Additional funding of €962,500 has been allocated from the Dept of which €192,500 is to be provided from the authority's own revenue resource.

Private House Grants

Status	HOP	HAG	MAG	Total
Applications Completed 2020	131	60	36	227
Applications rolling into 2021	101	310	70	481
New Applications	228	136	82	446

Estate Management

	DBD & AMD	DMD	TOTAL
Tenancy Inspections	05	06	11
Pre tenancy Training	15	10	25
Tenancy Investigations Visits	19	20	39
Tenancy Investigations Remote	10	17	27

Anti Social Behaviour

ASB Cases	DBD	AMD	DMD	TOTAL
ASB Ongoing	09	03	04	16
ASB Completed	07	01	05	13
Total	16	04	09	29

	DBD	AMD	DMD	TOTAL
Verbal Warning	01	01	01	03
Written Warning	00	00	00	00
Tenancy Notification	02	00	00	02

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 PFG retrofit commitment. The new programme sees a significant upscaling (from 'shallow' to 'deep retrofit') on what has been completed by local authorities to date and will target **2,400** social homes for upgrade works in 2021.

For 2021 Louth County Council were successful in obtaining an allocation of €1.4 million with a requirement to retrofit a minimum of 52 properties to a B2/Cost Optimal standard.

An additional allocation coupled with positive tender prices allows for 12 more units to be done in 2021.

The distribution works on Energy Retrofitting in each district is as follows:

Municipal/Borough District	Number of Retrofitting Houses
Drogheda Borough District	23
Ardee Municipal District	20
Dundalk Municipal District	21
Total	64

Delivery Stream	Rebuilding Ireland Projected Delivery 2018-2021				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
SHIP CONSTRUCTION	00	00	00	17	17
SHIP CONSTRUCTION RAPID	00	00	00	00	00
REGENERATION	00	00	00	00	00
CAS CONSTRUCTION	01	00	00	01	02
CONSTRUCTION BUT & RENEW SHIP CONSTRUCTION SINGLE STAGE	23	26	07	02	58
SHIP CONSTRUCTION SINGLE STAGE	00	00	00	02	02
SHIP CONSTRUCTION TURNKEY	00	05	131	28	159
SHIP Competitive Dialogue	00	00	00	00	00
CAS CONSTRUCTION TURNKEY & CAS SINGLE STAGE	00	05	00	12	17
PPP	00	00	80	00	80
AHB CALF Construction	10	15	02	00	27
AHB CALF Turnkey	119	188	54	210	571
CALF Part V	14	115	05	10	144
LA Part V	04	00	06	06	16
CAS Part V	00	00	00	00	00
Voids (capped)	02	05	00	00	07

DEFINITIONS

AHB = Approved Housing Body

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

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

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

This process is used to acquire vacant and derelict houses for refurbishment and allocation.

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 Units Expected	Approved Housing Body / Louth County Council	Project Status	Date	Breakdown of Units
Tierney Street, Ardee	1/1	7	Oaklee Housing Trust	Stage 3 Approved	31/03/2022	1x 3 bed, and 1x 4 bed house to 7 x 1 bed
CPO All bundles 2020 Delivery Q1	1/4	5	Louth County Council	Onsite	20/05/2020	
St. John's Home, Peter's Hill, Drogheda, Co. Louth	1/1	4	North & East Housing Association Ltd	Stage 3 Approved	30/06/2022	4 x 1 bed
CPO All bundles 2020 Delivery Q2	2/4	5	Louth County Council	Onsite	30/06/2020	
Barrack Street, Dundalk	1/1	21	Simon Community : Dundalk Simon	Revised Stage 2 Site investigation works to commence	01/03/2023	19 x 1bed 2 x 2 bed
5 Slieveroe Cresent, Dundalk	1/1	1	Cluid Housing Association	Stage 4 Approved	31/12/2021	1 x 3 bed
CPO All bundles 2020 Delivery Q3	3/4	1	Louth County Council	Onsite	31/12/2020	
CPO All bundles 2020 Delivery Q4	4/4	9	Louth County Council	Onsite	31/12/2020	
Father Finn Park (Phase 2)	1/1	17	Louth County Council	Completed	08/04/2021	7 x 2 bed & 10 x 3 bed
Four Winds, Mullacapple, Collon	1/1	1	St. John of God Housing Association Ltd	Stage 2 Approved	31/03/2022	1 unit, 4 beds
Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	1/4	45	Clanmil	Funding Approved	31/03/2023	9 x 2 bed apartments, 34 3 bed units and 24 x 4 bed units
Harbour View, Coulter Place, Dundalk	2/2	12	Cluid Housing Association	Completed	July 2021	12 x 1 bed and 12 x 2 bed apartments across both phases
Newtown View Marsh Road Drogheda	1/4	17	Respond	Onsite	31/04/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
Newtown View Marsh Road Drogheda	2/4	23	Respond	Onsite	31/07/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases

Hallidays Mill Quay St Dundalk	1/1	85	Co Operative Housing	Onsite	30/11/2021	15 x 3 bed apartments, 58 x 2 bed apartments and 12 x 1 bed apartments
Clonmore Close, Ardee, Co Louth	3/4	15	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	30/11/2021	8 x 3 bed and 7 x2 bed units in this phase
Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	2/3	16	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	31/01/2022	4 x 4 bed houses, 36 x 3 bed houses and 6 x 2 bed apartments across all phases
Clonmore Close, Ardee, Co Louth	4/4	13	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	31/03/2022	10 x 3 bed and 3 x 2 bed units in this phase
Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth	3/5	16	Túath Housing Association	Completed	12/10/2021	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth	4/5	11	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	31/11/2022	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
Cox's Demesne Phase 2B	1/1	22	Louth County Council	Onsite	31/03/2022	2 x 2 bed, 4 x 3 bed, 2 x 4 bed , 6x .1 bed Apt & 8 x 2 bed apt
Newfoundwell Road Drogheda	1/2	55	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	31/03//2022	17 x 3 bed terraced houses, 1 x 3 bed duplexes, 25 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed terraced, 4 x 2 bed duplexes, 28 x 2 bed apartments and 19 x 1 bed apartments across both phases
Cathedral View, Dundalk, Co Louth	5/5	12	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	31/03/2022	14 x 2 bed apartments, 9 x 2 bed houses, 14 x 3 bed duplexes, 14 x 3 bed terraced houses and 14 x 4 bed houses across all schemes
Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk, Co. Louth	2/3	19	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	30/06/2022	4 x 4 bed houses, 36 x 3 bed houses

						and 6 x 2 bed apartments across all phases
Newtown View Marsh Road Drogheda	3/4	46	Respond	Onsite	30/10/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
Dúiche Roden (formerly Kitchen Garden), Demesne Road, Dundalk	1/2	87	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	31/08/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 18 x 3 be duplexes, 22 x 3 bed terraced houses, 19 x 2 bed apartments, 29 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed bungalows and 36 x 1 bed apartments across both phases
Dúiche Roden (formerly Kitchen Garden), Demesne Road, Dundalk	2/2	43	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	30/08/2023	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
Newtown View Marsh Road Drogheda	4/4	47	Respond	Onsite	31/10/2023	2 x 4 bed houses, 97 x 3 bed houses and 34 x 2 bed houses across all 4 phases
Moneymore, Drogheda - Infill	1/1	1	Louth County Council	Funding Approved Single Stage	23/12/2022	1 x 2 bed
Gort Uaine, Clogherhead - Infill	1/1	1	Louth County Council	Funding Approved Single Stage	23/12/2022	1 x 4 bed
School Lane, Dunleer - Infill	1/1	1	Louth County Council	Funding Approved Single Stage	23/12/2022	1 x 3 bed
Newfoundwell Road	2/2	39	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite	31/03/2023	17 x 3 bed terraced houses, 1 x 3 bed duplexes, 25 x 2 bed terraced houses, 4 x 2 bed terraced, 4 x 2 bed duplexes, 28 x 2 bed apartments and 19 x 1 bed apartments across both phases

Boice Court (Phase 2/4)	1/1	72	Louth County Council	Stage 2 Approved	16/01/2024	27 x 3 bed, 4 x 4 bed, 8 x 1 bed apt, 25 x 2 bed apt, 8 x 3 bed apt
Mount Avenue, Dundalk	1/1	93	Louth County Council	Stage 2 Approved	06/12/2023	29 x 2 bed, 23 x 3 bed, 9 x 4 bed, 10 x 1 bed apt, 6 x 2 bed apt, 16 x 3 bed apt
Muirhevnamor, Dundalk Phase 1- Infill	1/1	11	Louth County Council	Stage 2 Approved	21/08/2023	3x 2 bed & 8 x 3 bed
Rathmullen Park, Drogheda - Infill	1/1	4	Louth County Council	Funding Approved Single Stage	03/11/2023	2 x 2 bed 2 x 3 bed
Donore Road, Drogheda	1/1	66	Cluid Housing Association	Funding Approved	30/09/2023	8 x 3 bed apartments, 54 x 2 bed apartments and 4 x 1 be apartments
Racecourse Meadows, Dundalk	1/1	2	Túath Housing Association	Onsite	30/01/2022	2 x 3 bed units
Dublin Road, Dundalk	1/1	65	Respond	Onsite	30/11/2022	5 x 3 bed houses, 7 x 3 bed duplexes, 2 x 3 bed apartments, 16 x 2 bed duplexes, 4 x 2 bed apartments, 4 x 1 bed houses and 27 x 1 bed apartments
Doire Beag, Collon, Co Louth Infill	1/1	06		Funding Approved Single Stage	10/07/2023	6 x 3 bed
Termon River Termonfeckin	2/2	01		On Site	30/11/2021	1 x 4 bed
Highfield Dundalk	1/1	12	Women's Aid	Stage 1 Approved	30/06/2023	5 x 1 bed 7 x 2 bed
10-16 The Alleys Drogheda	1/1	14	Peter McVerry	Stage approved	28/02/2023	14 Studio Apts
Riverwell Close Dundalk	1/1	1		Revised stage 1 to be submitted	31/03/2022	1 x 4bed

Coulter Place	1/1	7		Stage approved Planning Granted	2	31/12/2022	5 x 2 bed 1 x 4 bed
Scotch Hall	1/1	21	Respond	Funding Approved		31/07/2022	
Fairways Gardens	1/1	08	Cluid	Onsite		31/11/2021	
Linenfield Ballymakenny	1/2	05		On Site		31/12/2021	5x 2 bed
Linenfield Ballymakenny	2/2	01		On Site		28/02/2022	1 x 2 bed
Ellwood Ballymakenny Rd Drogheda	1/3	17	Funding Approved Turnkey	07/02/2022		TBC	
Ellwood Ballymakenny Rd Drogheda	2/3	15	Funding Approved Turnkey	30/05/2022		TBC	
Ellwood Ballymakenny Rd Drogheda	3/3	13	Funding Approved Turnkey	05/09/2022		TBC	
Tullybrook, Slane Rd, Drogheda	1/1	85	Cluid Housing Association	Onsite		31/05/2022	2 x 4 bed houses, 22 x 3 bed terraced, 24 x 3 bed duplexes, 22 x 2 bed terraced, 7 x 2 bed duplexes and 8 x 2 bed apartments
Oriel Heights	1/1	13	North & East Housing	Funding Approved		31/03/2023	4 x 3 bed units and 9 x 2 bed units

Community and Sports

EU_SHAFE

On the 28th September five members of the Louth EU_SHAFE LAG set off for the Inter-Regional Learning meeting which took place in Aarhus, Denmark. This was the first face to face meeting of the EU_SHAFE partners since September 2019.



Day One consisted of a visit to the Hands on Dokkx Exhibition of Assisted Living Technologies where the participants were allowed to test the many different assisted living technologies on show.

These included “Hug Chairs” which give a sense of comfort and contact to people, avatar exercising programmes, foldable walkers and chairs and virtual reality goggles. This workshop was really interesting and informative and highlighted the many technologies available.



Following on from this the different European project partners presented their nominated Good Practices under the Communication and Information Domain. Having a face to face meeting was invaluable as presenters could field questions from the participants. Louth presented the ALONE Healthy Ireland Information Technology Programme.

The next engagement was in Marselisborgcentret which included a tour of SPARK. The purpose of SPARK is to create a new living urban space in and around the Marselisborg Centre. The outdoor space is used for outdoor rehabilitation for the centre’s users and also fulfils a climate adaptation effort in the area. The park also includes a community garden for the surrounding residents and the centre runs events with a community focus. SPARK’s aim is to create in one overall space a place that connects people and health with nature and the environment. This ended the programme for the first day followed by dinner in a local restaurant with the other partners where more informal conversations around the project took place.



Day Two, the partners attended a presentation of the Aarhus Municipality strategic framework for service delivery which was very interesting. Following this the partners held a workshop on the development and implementation of the Phase II actions plans. This workshop was invaluable as it was very helpful and informative and helped focus what we want to achieve with our action plan. Following the workshop, the partners held a general meeting which highlighted upcoming meetings and reporting and budget matters.



While the partners held their workshop on action plans, the stakeholders were treated to a visit to the House of Generations. The House of Generations is a unique housing project where community is the focal point housing people of all ages and abilities. Children, young people, adults and older people live and share everyday life together in the house. They then visited Skovvang, is a new nursing home for people with dementia consisting of 105 assisted living facilities, 20 facilities for short term stays and a day centre. The stakeholders were impressed with the visits especially that of the House of Generations.

Overall we came away from the visit rejuvenated about the project and the impact that we hope to achieve. Next on the agenda is a visit to Coimbra, Portugal in late November where the intention will be to experience the Good Practices face to face and take the learning from the visit and incorporate this into our action plan.



LEADER

The LCDC/LAG at its meeting in September approved funding support, in the amount of €7,928.16 for two LEADER projects, under the Transitional LEADER Programme, 2021-2022. Recently, Louth County Council paid out funding to beneficiaries under the LEADER 2014-2020 Programme:-

Promoter	Amount
Carlingford Adventure Park – Skypark expansion Ref. 113865 (Phase 2)	€56,875.00
Tallanstown Tidy Towns – Tidy Towns 3 year Development Plan Ref. 111656 (Phase 1)	€4,356.00
Dundalk Youth Centre – Arts Engagement Training Programme Ref. 113482 (Phase 1)	€5,186.00
Drogheda BIDS – Drogheda Town Centre Footfall Counting System Ref. 113355 (1 st & final Phase)	€19,057.50
Dealgan Design Ltd – New Printing Machinery Ref. 114062 (2 nd & final phase)	€1,270.54
Stabannon Tidy Towns – Stabannon Village Enhancement 2020 Ref 112933 (1 st & final phase)	€7,044.09
Clogherhead Dev Group – Clogherhead Tidy Towns 3 year plan Ref 111066 (1 st & final phase)	€5,445.00
Philip Halpenny Ltd – Bulk Storage Facilities Ref 110103 (Phase 4)	€31,163.00
Geo Trenchless Solutions Ltd – Newrath Yard Renovation Ref 108049 (Phase 2)	€22,581.61
Drogheda City FC – Purchase & Installation of lift Ref 113952 (1 st & final Phase)	€16,003.35
Dromiskin Tidy Towns – Construction & Planting of Integrated Constructed Tree Pits & associated footpath paving works Ref 111447 (2 nd & final Phase)	€22,653.96

Hunterstown Rovers GFC – Hunterstown Rovers Footwalk & Running Track Ref 112100 (2 nd & final claim)	€13,900.21
Louth Leader Partnership – Innovating Communities Designing our Future Training Ref 110690 (1 st Phase)	€30,832.54
The Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland – Count us in Year 2 Ref 113142 (1 st & final Phase)	€13,914.00
Cooley Connect Well – Heritage Tree Arboriculture Consultancy Ref 113536 (1 st Phase)	€675.00
Louth Volunteer Centre CLG – Co Louth Volunteering Strategy Ref 109622 (2 nd & final Phase)	€5,601.55
Highlanes Gallery CLG – Replacement Gallery Lighting Ref 110934 (1 st & final Phase)	€17,724.28
7 th Louth Coastal Scout Group – Refurbishment of Old School House Ref 113499 (2 nd & final Phase)	€10,240.48
Caffreys Home Bakery Ltd – Specialised 4 Deck Oven, 12 Trays with steam and a 4 Foot Hotplate Ref 115014 (1 st & final phase)	€15,000.00
Learn Renewables Ltd – Virtual Workshops IT equipment Ref 114276 (1 st & final Phase)	€1,250.54
Total	€300,774.65

Women's Social Soccer Programme



Louth Sports Partnership is launching a new soccer programme for women, a fun social programme which will take place every

Wednesday at DKIT Sports Centre. It is hoped that this will capitalise on the growing number of women locally interested in playing football.

Sister Clubs Basketball Programme

Sister Club is a new weekly social sports programme aimed at teenage girls. It is intended to help reengage girls that have stopped playing basketball and also introduce those that would like to try but in a non competitive setting. The programme is being run in collaboration with the local Dundalk Ravens Basketball Club.



Mindful Movement

The Mindful Movement programme is finally due to recommence this week, after an absence of nearly two years. It is a weekly games and activities programme for adults with intellectual disabilities, with participants being drawn from local Disability Day Services.



Men on the Move

The Louth LSP in association with Kilkerry GFC Club is running a FREE twelve week programme called “Men on the Move”. The Men on the Move Programme encourages men to get more active whilst having fun and improve their fitness levels through twice weekly activity sessions.



Pilates

Weekly classes have recommenced at the Dundalk Sports Centre weekly on Monday and Wednesdays.



Outdoor Bootcamp

Outdoor Bootcamp is scheduled to take place in November at the Dundalk Sports Centre. It will commence on Monday 1st November at 6:30pm for six weeks with a cost of only €20.00. A second session will commence on Wednesday 3rd November at 6:30pm.



Pride of Place 2021



On Tuesday 12th October, Louth County Council hosted a visit from the Pride of Place judges at Dundalk Sports Centre, and welcomed them to the county to judge their nominated entrants.

Louth has nominated two entries to represent the county in this year's Pride of Place competition. Blackrock has been entered into the “Island and Coastal Communities” category, while “The House” which hosts the Cox’s Demesne Youth and Community Group are in the “Community Wellbeing” category. The judging took place in the afternoon with the two nominee groups representing Louth, presenting on their areas of interest, followed by a question and answer session by the judges.

Results of the competition will be announced on the 12th February 2022, at an awards ceremony in Killarney. We wish both nominees the very best of Luck.

Louth in Bloom 2021

#LOUTH IN BLOOM 2021

On Wednesday 20th October Louth County Council hosted a Virtual Awards ceremony to announce the winners of **LOUTH IN BLOOM 2021**. Click on [Link to Louth in Bloom Awards 2021](#) ceremony.

The format of this competition was different this year, given the restrictions of the pandemic. However, it was important that we acknowledge and recognise the marvellous work and dedication, which is undertaken by individuals, community/voluntary groups and the business sectors within our communities. Their contributions make a significant difference to our county.

Prizes were given out in many categories including housing estates, best gardens, hospitality and business premises, best biodiversity award and a lifetime achievement award.

The Award ceremony began with County Executive Joan Martin, warmly praising all those who took part in Louth in Bloom Competition, followed by each Cathaoirleach announcing the winners from their respective Municipal Districts. The overall County winners and the Special lifetime contribution award were announced by the Cathaoirleach of Louth County Council. Congratulations to each of the winners in each category in this year competition.



Mayor James Byrne with Anne Humphries, Termonfeckin, winner of Best Garden Category in Drogheda

Borough District of Drogheda – Louth In Bloom Winning Entries
Best Estate Category A- Less than 50 Houses
3 rd The Paddocks, Termonfeckin
2 nd Beaulieu View, Drogheda
1 st Harmony Heights, Drogheda
Best Estate Category B -51 to 125 Houses
3 rd Bryanstown Manor, Drogheda
2 nd Five Oaks Village, Drogheda
1 st Forest Grange, Drogheda
Best Estate Category C- Over 125 Houses
3 rd St Finian’s Park, Drogheda
2 nd Oriel Cove, Clogherhead
1 st Wheaton Hall, Drogheda
Best Garden
3 rd Cartons Cottage, Drogheda
2 nd Josephine Moran, 23 Georgian Close, Drogheda
1 st Anne Humphries, Old Farm House Termonfeckin
Best Biodiversity Project
Monasterboice Tourism Group - Ferney Biodiversity Park
Best Presented Hospitality Premises
The Morning Star, Tullyallen
Best Presented Business Premises
Clarkes Bar, Drogheda



Cathaoirleach Maria Doyle with John Conachy, Dundalk & overall county winner of Best Garden Category

Dundalk Municipal District– Louth In Bloom Winning Entries
Best Estate Category A - Less than 50 Houses
3 rd Rathban, Dromiskin
2 nd Church View, Dromiskin
1 st Carroll Mead, Dundalk
Best Estate Category B - 51 to 125 Houses
3 rd Pearse Park, Dundalk
2 nd Old Muirhevna Dundalk
1 st Willowgrove, Dundalk
Best Estate Category C - Over 125 Houses
3 rd Seafeld Lawns, Dundalk
2 nd Manydown Close, Dundalk
1 st Ard Easmuinn, Dundalk
Best Garden
3 rd Ann O'Connor, Grange, Carlingford
2 nd Eugene O'Shaughnessy, St Alphonsus Villas
1 st John Conachy, 306 Greenacres, Dundalk
Best Biodiversity Project
St Francis School Biodiversity Garden, Blackrock
Best Presented Business
Quinn's Funeral Home, Dundalk
Best Presented Hospitality
Rosemount B & B, Dublin Road, Dundalk



Cathaoirleach Jim Tenanty with Hilda Kilcoyne, Ardee, winner of Best Garden Category

Ardee Municipal District– Louth In Bloom Winning Entries
Best Estate Category A – Less than 50 Houses
3 rd Glyde Road, Tallanstown
2 nd An Rian, Annagassan
1 st Sea View, Ballygassan

Best Estate Category B – 51- 125 Houses
3 rd St Oliver's Park, Kilsaran
2 nd Sliabh Breagh, Ardee
1 st Cappocksgate, Ardee
Best Estate Category C - Over 125 Houses
1 st Ferdia Park, Ardee
Best Garden
3 rd Gerry Leddy, Annagassan
2 nd Bernard & Patricia Kearney, Castlebellingham
1 st Hilda Kilcoyne, 49 De La Salle Crescent, Ardee
Best Biodiversity Project
Maryville Bard Road Biodiversity Garden, Dunleer
Best Presented Business
Moorehall Lodge Nursing Home, Ardee
Best Presented Hospitality
The Glyde Inn, Annagassan



Cathaoirleach Pío Smyth with Gerry Mc Ardle, Tullyallen, whom was awarded the Special Life time Contribution Award

Overall County Winners
Best Estate - Category A - Less than 50 Houses
Harmony Heights, Drogheda
Best Estate - Category B - 51-125 Houses
Willowgrove, Dundalk
Best Estate - Category C - Over 125 Houses
Wheaton Hall, Drogheda
Best Garden
John Conachy, 306 Greenacres, Dundalk

Best Presented Business Premises
Moorehall Lodge Nursing Home, Ardee
Best Presented Hospitality Premises
Rosemount B & B, Dundalk
Best Biodiversity Project
Ferney Park Biodiversity Park Monasterboice
Lifetime Contribution Award
Gerry McArdle, Tullyallen Tidy Towns

Prize giving for all winning entrants is underway and will be completed by the first week in November.

Streetscape Enhancement Measures 2021

The Streetscape Enhancement Measures was introduced as part of “Our Rural Future”, the Government’s five year strategy to revitalise rural Ireland. The funding was introduced to support activity such as painting, signage replacement, shopfront improvements, lighting and canopies.

A revised total of 56 projects is being funded under the scheme and will be carried out by businesses and community groups in Ardee, Blackrock, Carlingford and Dunleer. Please be advised that the date for completion of the works has been extended to the 31st December 2021.

PPN

Louth PPN was delighted to be involved in the “Bereavement As A Result of Suicide” seminar funded by Citizens Information and Healthy Ireland in October in Crowne Plaza Dundalk. It was a very successful event and a wonderful collaboration with multiple agencies.

Our Louth PPN Representatives also launched the 2021 First Aid programme in St. Vincent’s Secondary School, Dundalk which will deliver CPR, Defibrillator and living saving techniques. Louth PPN members were also very excited to return to our “in person” meetings with our Municipal District Meetings being held in Dundalk, Mid-Louth and Drogheda last week. It was also great to have facilitation with our

members to plan for 2022 and to discuss the direction of Louth PPN.



We are excited to be looking forward to a busy November, with elections, our All County Plenary, Louth PPN Community Awards and our planning meetings for 2022 due to take place.

Quality of Life Service

Climate Change Adaption Strategy 2019-2024

Library

A number of the senior Quality of life team are participating in Climate Action Building Capacity training at present. This training forms part of the national climate action training programme for Local Authorities. Participants are also members of the LCC climate action team.

A number of Codema Energy Saver Kits are available to borrow from Dundalk, Drogheda and Ardee Library. These kits contain 5 practical tools to help you save energy in the home.

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, improvements to doors and several windows and low energy lighting to reduce energy use.

Louth Library Service

Following recent government guidance on Covid restrictions, all relevant SOGs continue to apply, along with social distancing and contact tracing guidelines.

Louth Library Service continues to offer study space services, research and newspaper reading facilities all the while complying strictly to public health rules and relevant SOGs.



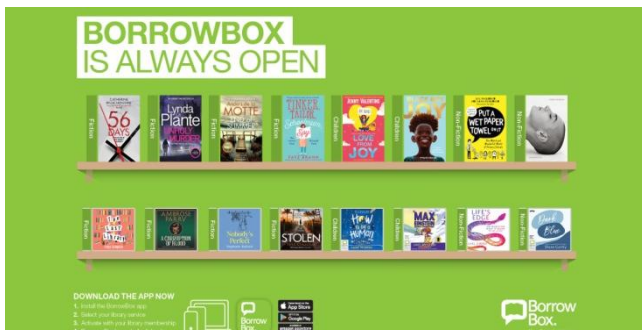
Louth Library Service has partnered with HEAnet to enable Eduroam (education roaming) in Dundalk, Drogheda and Ardee Libraries. Covid 19 has resulted in more remote learning off-campus with not all locations having access to good quality Broadband. This initiative aims to create extended virtual campuses and offer students multiple options to go online and connect to their Further and Higher Education institutions while studying in the library.

Housebound Service

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

Deliveries are being coordinated from all of our branches serving both urban and rural areas in Louth.

eServices



The wide range of eServices available to library members, include free eBooks & eAudiobooks through Borrow Box. To date in 2021 Louth Library users have borrowed over 30,000 eBooks and eAudiobooks.

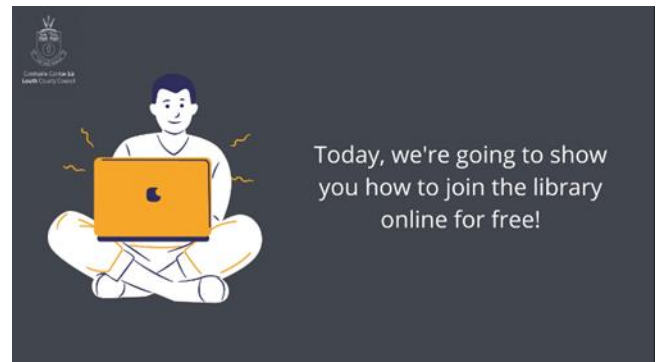


In addition, free newspapers and magazines and Comic Books are available through Press Reader and Libby.

Lastly there is a host of online courses with Universal Class and Transparent Language online. Since October 2020 Louth Library users have accessed 705 sessions from Transparent Language.

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

Online eServices tutorials



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

To date, we have published videos on the following topics, with almost 500 views on Facebook.

- Episode 1: Joining the library online
- Episode 2: Using the Louth Library Service App
- Episode 3: Signing up for our new newsletter
- Episode 4: Accessing the housebound service

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

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

The 6 approved projects under the recent DRCD's Dormant Accounts Funding Initiative are almost completed.

- **Strum4Fun – Ukulele Classes**

The Ukulele Classes in Dundalk Library with Grow Music concluded with participants performing a number of songs including *You Are My Sunshine* and *Somewhere over the Rainbow*. The course was well attended and enjoyed by all.



An attendee at Strum4Fun class in the outdoor garden



Attendees enjoying a Ukulele Lesson

- **3 R's, Right Book, Right Child, Right Time** – Secondary School literacy project.

Louth Library Service is linking in with the JCSP paired reading project in St. Oliver's on Thursday November 4th. Library staff will visit two groups and deliver the focused book clinic. The reading pairs, one first year student and one sixth year student, will make their book selection from the targeted resources.

- **English Language Classes**

The online English course is underway with Dundalk Language School. The course is aimed at marginalised communities where English is not their first language. Participants received a pre course assessment, online tuition and information pack.

- **Community Coding**

We are currently working with Youthreach and a local national school in Drogheda to deliver in-house coding clubs, led by facilitators and teachers. This project will commence with a webinar for facilitators, teachers and library staff involved with the project, and will provide training in how to teach coding. Each facility will then get student licences, which provide ready-made lessons in various aspects of Scratch Coding.

- **Young Entrepreneur Club**



Our Young Entrepreneurs Club with Ardee Youthreach is due to reach its conclusion on November 9th. The entrepreneurs have been working hard towards this final date, which will see them deliver their business pitches, before receiving a certificate of completion for the initiative.

- **The Shona Project**



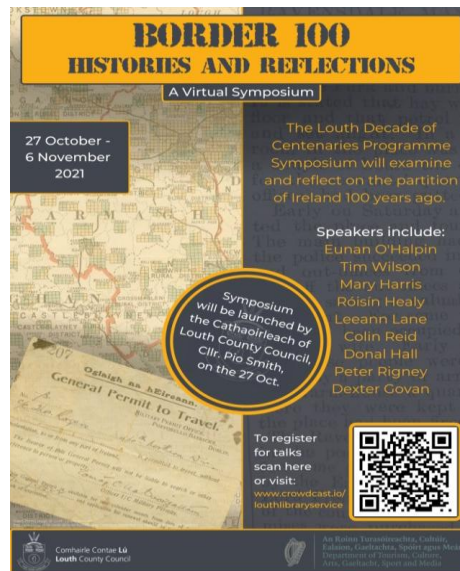
The Shona project was established to address the challenges faced by young women and men in Ireland today. Topics covered include:

- The people who influence us and shape us as people
- How we treat ourselves and each other
- Respecting and encouraging difference and diversity
- Setting goals and identifying how we can achieve them
- Our place in the world and how we would like to be remembered

Louth Library Service is collaborating with all 6 DEIS schools in the county working specifically with Transition Year coordinators to deliver over 10 workshops through October and November, with a target aim of reaching 800+ students.

Decade of Centenaries Programme 2021

Cross Border Symposium ‘Border 100- Histories and Reflections’



Border 100 is one of the final events in the Louth County Council Decade of Centenaries Programme 2021.

This virtual symposium takes place from October 27-November 6, working with partners in Libraries NI and Newry, Mourne and Down Council. The LCC Historian in Residence, Dr. Thomas Tormey has drawn together a significant number of renowned local, national and international historians and academics. Two of the significant events that the Expert Advisory Group on Centenary Commemorations highlighted which will be covered by the symposium include the foundation of Northern Ireland, Partition and the drawing of the Border; and the experience of minorities and border communities in Ireland from 1918-1923.

Individual talks will cover the role of women; the role of the labour movement; the experiences of nationalists and of unionists on both sides of the border; and comparative partitions in Europe, post 1918, to emphasise that Ireland's experience was not unique.

A number of panel discussions will also take place exploring various themes around the Boundary Commission; the Church of Ireland,

Anglicans and Partition; and the North in southern politics.

To register for the talks click on www.crowdcast.io/LouthLibraryService



Launch of Border 100: An Cathaoirleach Cllr. Pío Smith; CE Joan Martin; Senior Executive Librarian Amanda Branigan and HiR Dr Thomas Tormey

“A Star called Henry”, An Evening with Roddy Doyle, November 3rd at 7pm



Author Roddy Doyle

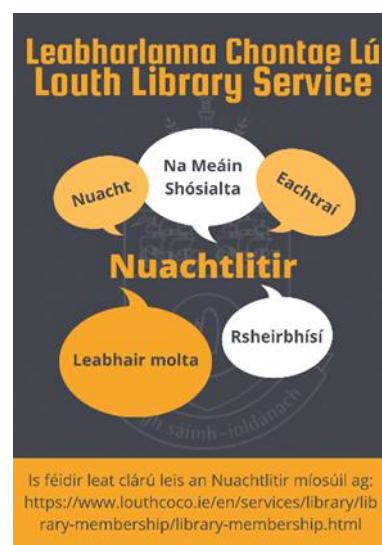
Louth Library Service will host an audience event with award-winning author Roddy Doyle as part of the Louth Decade of Centenaries programme 2021. Louth Library Service in conjunction with Libraries Northern Ireland has facilitated a cross border reading group initiative. Reading groups on both sides of the border have been reading Roddy Doyle’s ‘A Star Called Henry’. The reading initiative focuses on the power of fiction to challenge set narratives and explores themes in the novel, and his portrait of a Dublin

during the period of the Irish Revolution of 1916-1921.

The initiative will culminate with an interactive Q&A online session with Roddy on November 03rd which is free and open to all. The event will be facilitated by Professor Gerardine Meaney a professor of Cultural Theory in the School of English, Drama and Film in UCD.

Audiences can register on the crowdcast platform www.crowdcast.io/e/roddydoyle

Library Newsletter



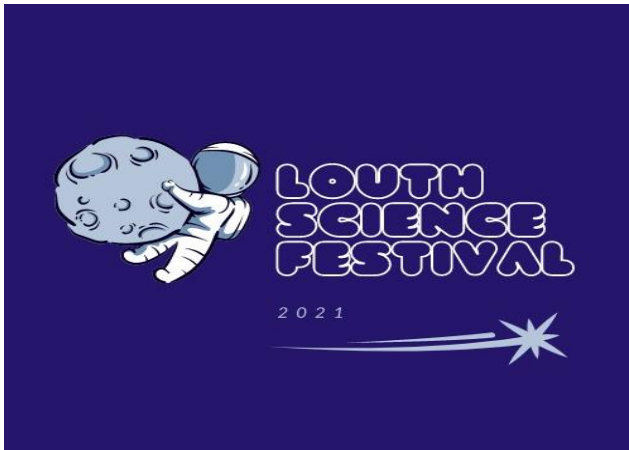
The November edition contains the latest news, events, services, and recommendations from our libraries. In order to increase accessibility and engagement, the newsletter contains hyperlinks to relevant sites and documents, a full list of the month’s events, and píosa beag Gaeilge. Anyone interested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

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

Click here to read this month’s newsletter:

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

Louth Science Festival



An inspiring programme of events will take place from 8th to 20th of November. Funding from Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) has allowed Louth Library Service to programme an exciting festival of events with creative & innovative facilitators from around the country. With our varied programme of events aimed at all ages, we hope to make STEM education accessible and fun to all.

The Louth Science Festival is targeted towards primary & secondary schools, local community and education groups, nursing homes and the general public with the aim of inspiring future generations and including members of the community that are often overlooked in the planning of STEM events.

Events include workshops on

- “*Marine Conservation*” with **Seal Rescue Ireland**
- “*All About the Weather*” with **RTE weather presenter and meteorologist Gerry Murphy**
- “*The Science of Harry Potter*” with **Jon Chase**
- “*Zoo to You*” with **The National Reptile Zoo.**



Children’s Book Festival 2021

This year we had a very enjoyable celebration for Children’s Book Festival throughout October with 137 children attending our online sessions for schools.

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



The Let’s Get Reading initiative continues this month for all of our young readers and their parents. Each month different books, facts and crafts are explored. The Baby Book Club is also part of this initiative. The theme for November is Science fun.

Schools Service

Primary Schools

Our Class Set service is as popular as ever, so we are delighted to have invested in a number of brand new sets for our schools, including the first book in the ‘Skulduggery Pleasant’ series by Derek Landy; ‘A Sea of Stories’ by Sylvia Bishop, ‘Lily at Lissadell’ by Judi Curtin, and ‘Míip’, a beautiful Irish language book by Maire Zepf.

One of our new sets, 'The Twits' by Roald Dahl, will be used in conjunction with the Louth Science Festival, where children will learn how to make and test environmentally-friendly 'Hugtight' glue, just like the famous glue from the book.

All of our primary schools will benefit from the Louth Science Festival, with an exciting range of free events, facilities and videos on offer.

Secondary Schools

Library staff facilitated two virtual visits to Our Lady's College, Greenhills in Drogheda for Transition Year and Fifth Year students. A total of 255 students and 10 teachers attended the presentations which were very well received.

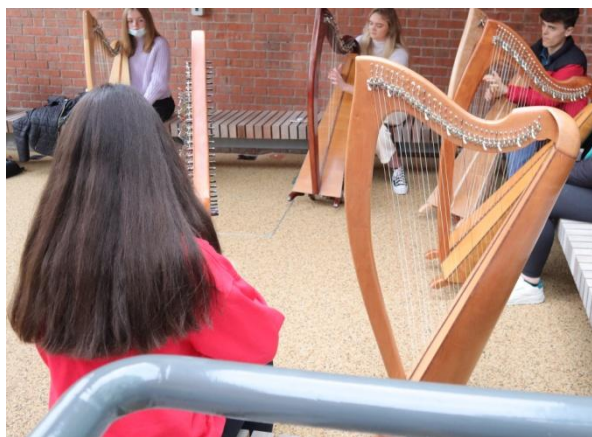
Some feedback from the teachers.

"My colleagues have all been in touch to say what a wonderful experience yesterday was for our fifth years! Indeed, for teachers too, I don't think there is any of us who has not signed up to Libby!"

"Thank you for the wonderful and very thorough presentation yesterday. Feedback was very positive from both students and teachers alike; it was such a valuable experience for our students"

Other News:

World Harp Day



Dundalk Library's outdoor garden was the perfect venue for Musician Educators and Young Harpists from Music Generation Louth's Harp

Ensemble programme on Saturday 16th of October, World Harp Day.

Teen Career Development Coach "Drop In" Service

Anne Mangan, a Teen Career Development Coach will be in Drogheda library on Wednesday November 03rd from 4:30pm - 5:30pm.

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

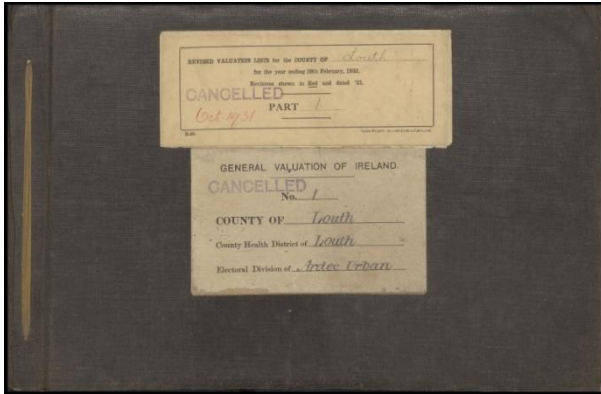
Louth County Archives



National Retention Policy Records Management Working Group

Work is continuing on the draft revisions both for Community and for Library. The revision for Corporate has been approved and issued out.

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



Decade of Centenaries 2021

Two projects are at present receiving the kind assistance of funding from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media. In one project, Valuation Books from the early 1920s period have received conservation treatment prior to being digitised. Quality checking and preparation work for placing online is in progress.

In another project, work is nearing completion on producing a short-film and accompanying booklet on Dundalk Gaol during the Civil War period. This project will produce a definitive account of the events in the gaol and local area at the time and will be made available online.



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

Historic Structures Fund

Conservation repair works to the south gable wall of the Co Archives is underway.

Donating Archives

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

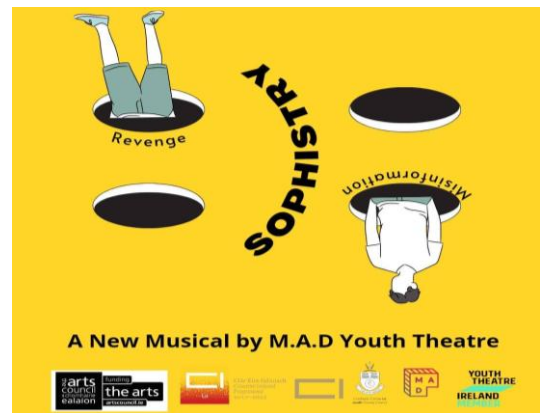
archive@louthcoco.ie or by telephone at 042-9324358.

Louth County Arts Service

Creative Ireland

M.A.D Youth Theatre

M.A.D Youth Theatre are putting the finishing touches to their newly written concept musical ‘Sophistry’ about 6 secondary school friends navigating the fallout of the pandemic and misinformation. All songs and music are original pieces devised especially for this production.



Seek Festival

The final mural was completed for this years hugely successful Seek festival. This time it was the turn of Sardinian artist TELLAN to make his distinctive mark on Francis St in a homage to Thomas Coulter (1793-1843) of Dundalk, who was an Irish Physician, Botanist and explorer and who founded Trinity College Dublins herbarium.



Echoes

Using three disciplines Print, Textile and Ceramics, Echoes have created a series of site specific works to enhance the Cottage Hospital in Drogheda. The aim is to create an area of creativity and a more human environment for everyone. The artists are getting ready to have their installations completed in November.

Highlanes Gallery

Highlanes Gallery marks the 40th anniversary of the death of Irish artist, Nano Reid, with a special exhibition exploring her life, work and legacy.



'Boyne Shapes' by Nano Reid

Born in Drogheda in 1900, Reid is one of the most original artists of her generation, and for this exhibition over fifty works of Reid's have been amassed including major public collections like the National Gallery of Ireland, Crawford Art Gallery and National Museums, NI. The exhibition runs until 22nd January 2022.

Ardee Baroque

Ardee Baroque returns to St Mary's Church of Ireland, Ardee on November 20th with the Irish Baroque Orchestra with Peter Whelan. The concert will also feature Soprano Aisling Kenny & Darren Moore on Trumpet. Tickets will be available at An Táin Arts Centre's website from 1st November.

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

Creative Spark

Creative Spark Artists in Residence exhibition comes to a close on 6th November in the basement gallery in An Táin Arts Centre. The exhibitions theme this year is "Together Again" and features work from artists who have availed of the residency programme which is sponsored by CreateLouth.



untitled by Jenny Slater

The residency program has sponsored 37 artists since it's inception enabling them to grow and develop both as artists and as creative and cultural enterprises.

The 2022 Artist in Residency call out is now live and the deadline for application is 19th November.

<https://creativespark.ie/residencies.html>

Drogheda Classical Music

Sponsored by CreateLouth, Drogheda Classical Music 2021 launched on 21st October with a concert featuring Gemma Ní Bhriain (mezzo), Cahal Masterson (piano) & Yseult Cooper Stockdale (cello). They performed Schubert's Auf der Storm alongside Berlioz's less familiar gem La Captive, and also pieces from Schumann, Boëllmann & Strauss.

The festival continues with its next event on 13th November with the Lir Quartet performing Schubert's String Quintet in C major alongside

Christopher Marwood (cello). They will also perform John Kinsellas 'On hearing Purcell and Shostakovich at Bantry House - June 2008'

All events are in Droichead Arts Centre and tickets are available for purchase at <https://www.droichead.com/whats-on.html>

Droichead Arts Centre

Droichead Arts Centre present Olga Duka as their First Solo recipient in 2022. Sponsored by CreateLouth, the First Solo Award offers support and funding at a key point in the careers of professional visual artists in the North East region who have yet to present a solo show.



Spriong

Olga's exhibition opened on 15th October and can be seen until 20th November at the gallery in Droichead Arts Centre. No booking is required but visitor capacity is limited at any one time.

National Harp Day



National Harp day was celebrated all over the world on Saturday 16th October. CreateLouth

were proud to support the event with Harpists performing in Dundalk Museum, Dundalk Library Garden and Millmount. The Harpists played throughout the morning and early afternoon providing a beautiful melodic background for visitors in all venues.

Collaboration and Connection were two of this year's themes so Music Generation Louths Harp Ensemble performed with Zoe Conway + John Mc Intyre on a video recorded on the Carlingford Lough Ferry, highlighting the fabulous scenery along the border and beautiful views.



County Museum

Monday 25th October is the 29th anniversary of the death of engineer, Peter Rice. It also marks the final week of the current temporary exhibition *When an Engineer Imagines.*, a celebration of his career and achievements.



International Harp Day



Saturday October 16th was National Harp Day. The Museum displayed a magnificent harp once owned by blind harpist Hugh O'Hagan, formerly of Rampart Lane. This 19th Century harp is made from willow and elm.



Over the course of the morning the Museum featured a number of harpists who provided background music as visitors sampled the delights of the Museum.

Recent acquisitions



The Museum recently received a donation of a ring once owned by the family Joseph Mary Plunkett. The ring was subsequently given to local businesswoman and member of Cumann na mBan, Annie Maguire. It is planned the ring will be exhibited as part of the new temporary exhibition 'Faraway Hills'

Heritage Office

The winner of the National Heritage Week award for Louth 2021 was Dromiskin for its latest heritage-themed Information Panels, on 'Dromiskin's Famous Daughter, Traveller & Farming Heritage', located in the Heritage Park. The panels were part-funded by the Heritage Council. See [here](#) for more information.

Volunteers surveyed the shores of Louth for litter and for biodiversity during September and October. This is a part of a long-running Europe-wide survey, the results of which help inform Government action. Members' help in getting surveyors out is much appreciated. The Heritage Officer is the regional coordinator for Louth.

Conservation assessments of Cappocksgate in Ardee, Saint Mary's Abbey (Louth) and Darver graveyard boundary wall are ongoing. So too is the development of a Conservation and Management Plan for the Council's Millmount Complex in Drogheda. These studies are part-funded by a grant from the Heritage Council, with the remainder of the costs being met by LCC's Heritage and Facilities sections.

Also in Drogheda, it is hoped that conservation work on a section of the town wall that runs alongside Featherbed Lane, close to Laurence's Gate, will take place soon. This project has been funded by the Community Monuments Fund (the CMF). The CMF is also funding conservation studies on two privately-owned towerhouses in the county (Taaffe's Castle in Carlingford and Glaspistol, near Clogherhead), following successful applications on behalf of their owners by the Heritage Office.

The Heritage Office also responded to a wide variety of queries, commented on several planning applications and on the proposed flood defence works for Ardee, and Dundalk/Blackrock.