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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Email: corporate.services@fingal.ie

County Hall
Swords
Co Dublin

Wednesday 8th November 2023

To Each Member of the County Council

Dear Councillor

The Meeting of the **County Council** will be held in the **Council Chamber - County Hall, Swords** at **5.00 pm** on **Monday, 13th November, 2023** to consider the following Agenda.

Yours faithfully

Nikki Halleran
Meetings Administrator
Corporate Services

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A G E N D A

1 Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 9th October 2023

QUESTIONS

2 Councillor J. Hopkins - Homes listed on the Airbnb Web site reviewed against Planning Certs

"To ask the Chief Executive to confirm if the responsibility for ensuring homes listed on the Airbnb website is reviewed against Planning Certs and that this responsibility has been allocated to a team or member of staff in this Council?"

3 Councillor B. Ryan - Social Housing Acquisitions - Value for Money

"To ask the Chief Executive to outline the current direction from Government in relation to Social Housing Acquisitions and whether there is any local discretion where good value for money is available?"

4 Councillor B. Manton - Casual Trading Site - Coffee Cart Business

"To ask the Chief Executive to outline what is the position on having a container on a casual trading site to sustain a coffee cart business through the winter?"

5 Councillor A. Donnelly - Christmas Tree Disposal Sites

"To ask the Chief Executive for a list of proposed Christmas tree recycling locations in Fingal for Christmas 2023?"

6 Councillor C. Boland - Tender Processing Requirements

"To ask the Chief Executive if there is a requirement within the tender process, as issued by this Local Authority, that the contractor complies with all regulations both national and local?"

7 Councillor J. Burtchaell - Residential Planning Permissions Granted but not Commenced

"To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the number of dormant sites where 1. Planning permission has been granted for five dwellings or more, but where no work has begun and 2. the total number of dwellings not built on these sites, presented in tabular format, for each of the 7 Local Electoral Areas?"

8 Councillor D. Healy - Restrictions on grants for Fingal-based organisations which cross county boundaries

"To ask the Chief Executive what conditions are imposed on clubs, societies or other bodies seeking grants from Fingal County Council in relation to the proportion of members, participants, service users or similar, being resident in Fingal, and what examination has been carried out on whether this results in some clubs based in Fingal not being able to avail fully of grants from this Council?"

9 Councillor A. Tormey - National Transport Authority (NTA) - Active Travel

"To ask the Chief Executive how many Fingal County Council staff salaries and expenses are paid by the National Transport Authority (NTA) and how much overall the financial contribution is from the NTA for Active Travel infrastructure and traffic-free initiatives?"

10 Councillor JK - Onwumereh - Available Services this Christmas Season

"To ask the Chief Executive to advise, if the Housing, Water, Operations and Corporate Services Departments will be available this Christmas Season between 25th of December 2023 and 2nd of January 2024, in the event of an emergency what alternative contact numbers will Councillors and members of the public ring?"

11 Councillor J. Newman - Bike Share Initiative

"To ask the Chief Executive to produce a review of the Bike Share Scheme across Fingal, to include the lack of economic incentives for commuters to make a modal shift when travelling on a daily basis into Dublin, and whether much improved rates of success would be achieved by a unified bike share scheme across the four Dublin Authorities under the control of Codema?"

12 Councillor P. Mulville - The need to increase the number of Homeless Family Hubs

"To ask the Chief Executive, given the fact that, as of 31st May 2023, there were 168 families, comprising 255 adults and 402 children, who have their main housing application with this Council, staying in hotel and B&B Emergency Homeless Accommodation, and, as of September 2023, we only have 6 Homeless Family Hubs in this administrative area, to outline whether it is intended to rapidly scale up the number of Homeless Family Hubs in this Council area, given the urgent need

for same, and given the entirely unsuitable conditions facing many homeless families and children who have no choice but to stay in hotel and B&B rooms?"

13 Councillor H. Mahony - Security Arrangements - Libraries and Public Offices

"To ask the Chief Executive to outline the security arrangements that are put in place to protect the public and staff members in Fingal Libraries and public offices, following the recent series of incidents in our public spaces?"

14 Councillor H. Mahony - Brief given to Security Personnel - Libraries and Public Offices

"To ask the Chief Executive what brief is given to security personnel when dealing with violent or disruptive people in our libraries and public offices?"

15 Councillor J. Humphreys - Re-introduction of Chatbot on Council's Web site

"To ask the Chief Executive if there are plans to reintroduce the Chatbot, operating on the Council's website during Covid19, and what AI Resident Interaction programmes are considered to be introduced?"

16 Report of Committees

a Report of Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on Monday 23rd October 2023

b Report of Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on Tuesday 24th October 2023

c Report of Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/Castleknock-Ongar Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Thursday 2nd November 2023

d Report of Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on Monday 6th November 2023

e Report of Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Thursday 9th November 2023

17 Financial Matters

a Report on Overdraft Accommodation 2024

18 Proposed Disposal of Properties

a Proposed Grant of Wayleave at Balheary, Swords, Co. Dublin to Mainscourt Solar DAC

b Proposed disposal of land and grant of a permanent wayleave at 169a Clonsilla Road, Clonsilla, Dublin 15

c Proposed disposal of land at Tyrellstown Road, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15 to NABCO now known as Co-Operative Housing Ireland (CHI)

d Proposed disposal of land at Tyrellstown Road, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15 to Housing Association for Integrated Living (HAIL)

e Proposed disposal of Fee Simple Interest of Dwellings

19 Declaration of Roads

a Cois Srutháin, Ballyboughal, Co Dublin

20 LADP/008/23 - Proposed Development of 57 no. Apartments & Associated Site Works at Holywell, Swords, Co. Dublin

21 Fingal Tourism Strategy

22 Fingal Food and Drink Policy

23 Chief Executive's Report

24 Conference Report

a AILG Elected Member Training Day Programme Module 6 (In-Person) 16th November 2023 Tower Hotel

b AILG Elected Member Training Day Programme Module 6 (In-Person) 18th November 2023 Clayton Hotel

c AILG Annual Training Conference 2024 - 14th and 15th February, 2024 - Arklow Bay Hotel

25 Mayor's Business - Councillor A. Henchy

a Councillor A. Henchy - Housing for All - Local Campaigns to assist buyers and those building their own homes

"That the Chief Executive strongly supports the various schemes which are available to assist buyers in owning their own home through the roll out of strong local campaigns across the County in tandem with an extensive advertising campaign across all media platforms and also include the extension of the First Home Scheme to self-build homes, which will assist those in Fingal who are building their own homes."

26 Departmental/Ministerial Correspondence

a Letter from the Local Government Management Agency dated 12th October 2023 Re - Emergency Motion - Support for Formal Job Evaluation Process - 11th September 2023

b Letter from Department of Social Protection dated 22nd February 2023 received 25th October 2023 Re - Item 35 - Cllr. R. O'Donoghue - Introduction of Pilot Scheme for Artists with Disabilities - 13 February 2023

c Letter of acknowledgement from Office of the Taoiseach dated 25th October 2023 Re Item 33 - Cllr Graves - Moore Street 14 November 2022

d Email of acknowledgement received from Minister E. Ryan's office, Department of Transport, dated 25th October 2023 re Item 38 - Cllr JK Onwumereh - Additional NCT Centres 13th February 2023

e Email of acknowledgement from the Office of the Minister of Housing dated 26th October 2023 - Re - Housing for All, Special Meeting, Tuesday 11th April 2023

f Email of acknowledgement received from Minister D. O'Brien's office dated 26th October 2023 re Item 35 - Cllr. B. McDonagh - An Bord Pleanála - 14th November 2022

27 Correspondence

a Letter from Mayo County Council dated 5th September 2023 - Re - Build Time for Croí Cónaithe Scheme

b Letter from Clare County Council dated 12th September 2023 - Re National Car Testing Company (NCT)

c Letter from Leitrim County Council dated 12th September 2023 - Ash Tree Conservation Project

d Letter from Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council dated 26th September 2023 Re - Fossil Fuel-Non-Proliferation Treaty

e Letter from Limerick City and County Council dated 27th September 2023 re National Treatment Purchase Scheme

f Letter from Limerick City and County Council dated 27th September 2023 re Cuan Mhuire Association

g Letter from Clare County Council dated 12th October 2023 - Resolution - Planning Condition to all New Housing Developments - Traffic Calming Measures

STATUTORY MOTIONS

29 Councillor B. Hanaphy - Toilet Facilities in Parks

"That the Chief Executive reports on the issue of the lack of toilet facilities for clubs using our parks, and to note that this is an especially urgent issue given the exponential growth of girls and women's football and GAA and develops a strategy to ensure that there are toilet facilities in every park where sports is played within the five-year timeframe and works with the FAI and GAA to develop a joint strategy."

30 Councillor J. Newman - Funding for Community-Based Initiative

"That the Chief Executive will provide funding in the upcoming Budget to support a community-based initiative, this is having a very positive tangible impact on the lives of the elderly and people suffering from chronic illness in the Fingal area."

32 Councillor C. Boland - Enforcement at daa

"That the Chief Executive present a report on Enforcement procedures in respect of Planning Permission breaches at Dublin Airport."

33 Councillor A. Donnelly - Environmentally Safe Weed Removal

"That the Chief Executive implements a weed killing programme, ensuring funds are available, from the 1st of June 2024, allowing for "no mow" May, using environmentally friendly solutions, similar to those used by Dublin City Council."

34 Councillor P. Rane - Textile Banks in all Fingal Areas

"That this Council carrys out a synopsis of all areas that require a Textile Bank in this Local Authority."

36 Councillor T. Leddy - Development of the Liffey Valley Green Space

"That the Chief Executive establishes at the earliest opportunity, as envisaged in the County Development Plan, "a committee to facilitate and support the development of the Liffey Valley as an interconnected green space and park" inclusive of neighbouring councils, the OPW and other State agencies, existing landowners, community groups and sectoral and commercial interests in accordance with the Ministerial Order for the Liffey Valley Special Amenity Areas Order (SAAO)."

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Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Minutes of the County Council Meeting held on Monday, 9th October, 2023 in the Council Chamber - County Hall, Swords, at 5.00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors:

Boland, Cathal
Burtchaell, John
Butler, Darragh
Carey, Ian
Conroy, Pamela
Dennehy, Brian
Dennison, Kieran
Donnelly, Angela
Doyle, Tania
Graves, Ann
Guerin, Jimmy
Hanaphy, Breda
Healy, David
Henchy, Adrian
Hopkins, Joan
Humphreys, James
Kitt, Tom
Lavin, Anthony
Leddy, Ted
Maguire, Grainne

Councillors:

Mahony, Howard
Manton, Brigid
McCamley, Mary
McDonagh, Brian
Mulville, Paul
Murphy, Tony
Newman, Joe
O'Brien, Eoghan
O'Donoghue, Robert
Onwumereh, JK
Power, Karen
Rane, Punam
Ryan, Brendan
Tormey, Aoibhinn
Treacy, Natalie
Walsh, John

Apologies for inability to attend were received for Councillors Dean Mulligan and Siobhan Shovlin.

The Mayor Councillor Adrian Henchy, presided.

OFFICIALS PRESENT

AnnMarie Farrelly (Chief Executive); Mary Egan (Director of Services/People, Corporate & Digital); John Quinlivan (Director of Services/Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Cultural Development); David Storey (Director of

Services/Environment, Climate Action & Active Travel); Mary T Daly (Director of Services/Operations); Paul Carroll (Director of Housing Services and Community Development); Matthew McAleese (Director of Services Planning and Strategic Infrastructure); Fionnuala May (County Architect); Nikki Halleran (A/Senior Executive Officer); Pat Boyle (Senior Architect); Marian Bowers (Executive Accountant); Gerard Reardon (Principal Sports Officer)

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Mayor, Councillor. A. Henchy, at the start of the meeting reminded Members that Standing Orders would apply to all aspects of the meeting.

F/358/23 (Agenda Item No 1)

Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 11th September 2023

Minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 11th September 2023 which had been circulated were considered.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor K. Dennison, seconded by Councillor R. O'Donoghue and **RESOLVED –**

"That the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 11th September 2023 be **ADOPTED."**

F/359/23 (Agenda Item No 2)

Nominations

a **Nominations to the Liffey Valley Special Amenity Area Order (SAAO) Management Committee**

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was **CONSIDERED.**

It was proposed by Councillor K. Dennison and seconded by Councillor J. Walsh and **AGREED:**

"That the number of Councillor representatives from Fingal for this Committee be 6 and that those Members comprise of the Castleknock Ward."

b Appointment of one Member to the Audit Committee

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was **CONSIDERED**.

It was proposed by Councillor R. O'Donoghue, seconded by Councillor C. Boland and **AGREED**:

"That Councillor Mary McCamley be appointed to the Audit Committee."

F/360/23 (Agenda Item No)

QUESTIONS

It was proposed by Councillor J. Humphreys, seconded by Councillor P. Mulville and **RESOLVED**:

"That in accordance with Standing Order No. 53, Questions numbered 3 to 18, be **ADOPTED**."

F/361/23 (Agenda Item No 3)
Councillor J. Hopkins - Fire Safety Certificates for Apartment Complexes in Fingal

F/362/23 (Agenda Item No 4)
Councillor P. Mulville - A Map of current Fingal County Council Housing areas

F/363/23 (Agenda Item No 5)
Councillor P. Mulville - Queries from Homeless Support Workers on behalf of clients

F/364/23 (Agenda Item No 6)
Councillor B. Ryan - Level of Noxious Weeds

F/365/23 (Agenda Item No 7)
Councillor A. Donnelly - Tenant in-situ Information

F/366/23 (Agenda Item No 8)
Councillor B. Manton - Waste Management Sustainability and the Circular Economy

F/367/23 (Agenda Item No 9)

Councillor D. Mulligan - HAP Tenancies - Landlord - LRC RE-1

F/368/23 (Agenda Item No 10)
Councillor D. Mulligan - HAP Tenancies - Vulture Funds across Fingal

F/369/23 (Agenda Item No 11)
Councillor J. Humphreys - Number of homeless people who made contact with this Local Authority - Emergency Accommodation

F/370/23 (Agenda Item No 12)
Councillor K. Power - Timeline for the roll out of Communication Boards to other playgrounds across the County

F/371/23 (Agenda Item No 13)
Councillor S. Shovlin - Christmas Markets 2023

F/372/23 (Agenda Item No 14)
Councillor B. Dennehy - Planning Enforcement issues being pursued by this Council in relation to Dublin Airport

F/373/23 (Agenda Item No 15)
Councillor B. Dennehy - Provision of access for pedestrians to bus stops throughout Fingal

F/374/23 (Agenda Item No 16)
Councillor R. O'Donoghue - Applications for the Croí Cónaithe Scheme to this Local Authority

F/375/23 (Agenda Item No 17)
Councillor C. Boland - Planning Enforcement - Unauthorised Developments - "A Guide to Planning Enforcement in Ireland"

F/376/23 (Agenda Item No 18)
Councillor A. Henchy - Funding Applications - Town and Village Renewal Scheme

F/377/23 (Agenda Item No 19)
Report of Committees

a Quarterly Chairpersons' Reports of Strategic Policy Committees

The report by the SPC Chairpersons, which had been circulated, was CONSIDERED and NOTED.

b Report of Organisation, Procedure and Finance Committee Meeting held on Monday 11th September 2023

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was **CONSIDERED** and **AGREED**.

c Report of Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Area Committee Services B Meeting held on Thursday 14th September 2023

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was **CONSIDERED**. It was proposed by Councillor K. Power, seconded by Councillor P. Mulville and **RESOLVED:**

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Services (B) Meeting held on Thursday 14th September 2023, are hereby **ADOPTED.**"

d Report of Corporate Policy Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd October 2023

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was **CONSIDERED**. It was proposed by Councillor E. O'Brien, seconded by Councillor K. Power and **RESOLVED:**

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on Tuesday, 3rd October 2023, are hereby **ADOPTED.**"

e Report of Howth/Malahide Area Committee Services B Meeting held on Wednesday 4th October 2023

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was **CONSIDERED**. It was proposed by Councillor A. Lavin, seconded by Councillor J. Guerin and **RESOLVED:**

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Howth Malahide Services (B) meeting held on 4th October 2023, are hereby **ADOPTED.**"

f Report of Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/Castleknock-Ongar Area Committee Services B Meeting held on Thursday 5th October 2023

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was **CONSIDERED**. It was proposed by Councillor T. Kitt, seconded by Councillor P. Rane, and **RESOLVED:**

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Services B meeting held on 5th October 2023, are hereby **ADOPTED.**"

F/378/23 (Agenda Item No 20)

Financial Matters

a Capital Programme 2023 Outturn and Capital Programme 2024 - 2026

A presentation was given by Marian Bowers, Executive Accountant, and the Executive Management Team.

The Mayor, Councillor. A. Henchy, advised the Members that two emergency motions had been received and were ruled out of order.

Following discussions, the Capital Programme was **NOTED.**

b Audit Committee Charter

The attached report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was **CONSIDERED.** It was then proposed by Councillor H. Mahony, seconded by Councillor K. Dennison and **RESOLVED:**

"That the recommendations contained in the attached report be **ADOPTED.**"

F/379/23 (Agenda Item No 21)

Proposed Disposal of Properties

a Proposed disposal of lands at Church Fields Mulhuddart Dublin 15 County Dublin to GEM Construction Limited

The attached report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was **CONSIDERED.** It was proposed by Councillor H. Mahony and seconded by Councillor P. Rane and **RESOLVED:**

"That lands at Church Fields, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15, County Dublin, as referred to in the Notice under S183 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended and

dated 26 September 2023, be disposed of to GEM Construction Limited in accordance with the terms specified therein."

b Proposed disposal of land at Cappogue Industrial Estate, Ballycoolin Road, Dublin 15 to the National Transport Authority

The attached report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was **CONSIDERED.** It was proposed by Councillor K. Dennison and seconded by Councillor K. Power and **RESOLVED**:

"That lands at Cappogue Industrial Estate, Ballycoolin Road, Dublin 15, as referred to in the Notice under S183 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended and dated 20 September 2023, be disposed of to the National Transport Authority in accordance with the terms specified therein."

c Proposed disposal of land for the rectification of boundary at Rhencullen, Main Street, Lusk, Co. Dublin to Mrs. Brenda Finnegan

The attached report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was **CONSIDERED.** It was proposed by Councillor B. Dennehy and seconded by Councillor R. O'Donoghue and **RESOLVED**:

"That lands at Rhencullen, Main Street, Lusk, Co. Dublin, as referred to in the Notice under S183 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended and dated 20 September 2023, be disposed of to Mrs. Brenda Finnegan in accordance with the terms specified therein."

d Proposed lease of land at St. Catherine's Estate to Rush Athletic Football Club

The attached report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was **CONSIDERED.** It was proposed by Councillor R. O'Donoghue and seconded by Councillor B. Dennehy and **RESOLVED**:

"That lands at St. Catherine's Estate, as referred to in the Notice under S183 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended and dated 20 September 2023, be leased to Rush Athletic Football Club in accordance with the terms specified therein."

F/380/23 (Agenda Item No 22)

Declaration of Roads

a Cnoc Dubh, Ballyboughal Phase 2

The report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was **CONSIDERED**. It was proposed by Councillor C. Boland, seconded by Councillor J. Newman, and **RESOLVED**:

"That the roads referred to in the attached report be, and are hereby declared to be, public roads."

b Miller's Glen Swords, Co. Dublin Phase 2

The report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was **CONSIDERED**. It was proposed by Councillor J. Humphreys, seconded by Councillor J. Newman, and **RESOLVED**:

"That the roads referred to in the attached report be, and are hereby declared to be, public roads."

F/381/23 (Agenda Item No 23)

Report pursuant to Part XI of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part VIII of the Local Government Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) for proposed development at Dublin Street, Balbriggan, comprising refurbishment and change of use to workspaces of No 2 Dublin Street (protected structure RPS no. 0058), and demolition and construction works at No 4 Dublin Street for use as a creative hub and workspaces, including external courtyard and upgrade of exiting laneway from Georges Square

The attached report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was **CONSIDERED**. It was proposed by Councillor G. Maguire, seconded by Councillor T. Murphy, and **RESOLVED**:

"That Fingal County Council hereby resolves, pursuant to Part XI of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part VIII of the Local Government Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) for proposed development at Dublin Street, Balbriggan, comprising refurbishment and change of use to workspaces of No 2 Dublin Street (protected structure RPS no. 0058), and demolition and construction works at No 4 Dublin Street for use as a

creative hub and workspaces, including external courtyard and upgrade of exiting laneway from Georges Square be proceeded with as set out in the foregoing report."

F/382/23 (Agenda Item No 24)

Proposed Amendments to the Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits) (County of Fingal) Bye-Laws 2020 - Chapel Road, Kinsealy

Mary T Daly, Director of Operations outlined for the record that the item was headed incorrectly as it is not proposed to amend the Fingal County Council Special Speed Limits Bye-Laws 2021. What is being recommended to Council is as follows:- Proposed Special Speed Limit Bye-Law 2023 – Chapel Road, Kinsealy (Roads Traffic Act 1994 as amended).

The attached report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was **CONSIDERED**. It was proposed by Councillor A. Lavin, seconded by Councillor E. O'Brien, and **RESOLVED:**

"That Fingal County Council to make a Special Speed Limit Bye-Law in respect of Chapel Road, Kinsealy in accordance with the Road Traffic Act 1994 as amended."

F/383/23 (Agenda Item No 25)

Draft Burial Ground Bye-Laws

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was **CONSIDERED**. A presentation was given to the Members by Mary T. Daly, Director of Services.

It was proposed by Councillor. A. Henchy, seconded by Councillor. G. Maguire and **RESOLVED** that –

"In accordance with Section 199(1) of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended), that the following Bye-Laws in relation to the regulation of burial grounds provided by or under the control or management of Fingal County Council are hereby approved and made by the Council."

F/384/23 (Agenda Item No 26)

Fingal Sports and Physical Activity Plan 2024 - 2029

The report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was CONSIDERED. A presentation was provided to the Members by Eamonn Seydak, S3 Solutions, and Gerard Reardon, Principal Sports Officer, Community and Sports Development.

It was proposed by Councillor A. Henchy, seconded by Councillor G. Maguire and RESOLVED:

"That the Fingal Sports and Physical Activity Plan 2024 – 2029 is hereby ADOPTED."

F/385/23 (Agenda Item No)

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

It was AGREED to extend the meeting by 15 minutes to conclude consideration of Item 26 and to consider Item 27.

F/386/23 (Agenda Item No 27)

Halloween Projects 2023 Funding Applications

The report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was CONSIDERED. It was proposed by Councillor A. Henchy, seconded by Councillor G. Maguire and RESOLVED:

"That the Safer Halloween Project Funding 2023 as set out in the foregoing report is hereby APPROVED."

F/387/23 (Agenda Item No)

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

It was AGREED to extend the meeting to consider Item 28.

F/388/23 (Agenda Item No 28)

Chief Executive's Report

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was CONSIDERED.

The Mayor, Councillor. A. Henchy, advised the Members that an emergency motion had been received and was ruled out of order.

Following discussion, the Chief Executive's report was **NOTED.**

F/390/23 (Agenda Item No 30)
Mayor's Business - Councillor A. Henchy

F/391/23 (Agenda Item No 30a)
Councillor A. Henchy - Civic Reception Irish Special Olympics Team

The motion, in the name of Councillor A. Henchy was proposed by Councillor A. Henchy and seconded by Councillor G. Maguire.

The motion was **AGREED.**

F/392/23 (Agenda Item No 30b)
Councillor A. Henchy - Civic Reception Dublin GAA Mens' and Ladies GAA Teams

The motion, in the name of Councillor A. Henchy was proposed by Councillor A. Henchy and seconded by Councillor A. Graves.

The motion was **AGREED.**

F/402/23 (Agenda Item No 36)
Councillor P. Rane - Construction of New Schools across Fingal

The report on the motion in the name of Councillor P. Rane was **ACCEPTED.**

F/403/23 (Agenda Item No 37)
Councillor JK Onwumereh - Strategy for keeping our environment clean - Responsibility on the part of Pet Owners

The report on the motion in the name of Councillor JK. Onwumereh was **ACCEPTED.**

F/408/23 (Agenda Item No 42)

Councillor J. Humphreys - Allocation of funding in the Capital Programme - Swimming Pools in the County

The report on the motion in the name of Councillor J. Humphreys was ACCEPTED.

F/410/23 (Agenda Item No 44)

Councillor K. Dennison - Water Framework Directive - Targets

The report on the motion in the name of Councillor K. Dennison was ACCEPTED.

F/414/23 (Agenda Item No 48)

Councillor N. Treacy - Support for the Retained Fire and Rescue Service

The report on the motion in the name of Councillor N. Treacy was ACCEPTED.

The Meeting concluded at 8.15pm

MAYOR _____ DATE _____

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 02

HOMES LISTED ON THE AIRBNB WEB SITE REVIEWED AGAINST PLANNING CERTS

Question: Councillor J. Hopkins

"To ask the Chief Executive to confirm if the responsibility for ensuring homes listed on the Airbnb website is reviewed against Planning Certs and that this responsibility has been allocated to a team or member of staff in this Council?"

Reply:

In accordance with the guidelines set out in Residential Tenancies (Amendment) Act 2019 and supplementary regulations made by the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government entitled the Planning and Development Act 2000 (Exempted Development) (No. 2) Regulations 2019), planning permission for short term lettings in rent pressure zones is required where the letting period exceeds the 90 day per year threshold. Any short-term letting, which is deemed by a planning authority to be a material change in use, to be decided on a case-by-case basis, will require planning permission.

The Planning Enforcement section carry out investigations into complaints received relating to short term lettings and are currently carrying out a review of properties listed on the Airbnb website in the Fingal administrative area.

On December 7th, 2022, Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media and the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage and CEO, Fáilte Ireland announced a Short-Term Tourist Letting Register to be established through new legislation.

The European Commission has imposed a standstill period on the enactment of the proposed Short Term Tourist Letting Bill until the 22nd December 2023.

The Department of Tourism Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media working with Fáilte Ireland are examining the communication from the European Commission and engaging with stakeholders on next steps.

The Short-Term Tourist Letting Register will be launched on enactment of the legislation.

When launched, this national online registration system will require all property owners who offer Short Term Tourist Lettings to register their property/ properties annually. Once registered each property will be provided with a Short-Term Tourist Letting registration number for use on all booking platforms (including property websites) and advertisements.

Source of Reply:

Matthew McAleese, Director of Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 03

SOCIAL HOUSING ACQUISITIONS - VALUE FOR MONEY

Question: Councillor B. Ryan

"To ask the Chief Executive to outline the current direction from Government in relation to Social Housing Acquisitions and whether there is any local discretion where good value for money is available?"

Reply:

The Government's *Housing for All* policy includes targets to deliver some 47,600 newly built social homes. It clearly sets out Government policy to deliver social homes through new-build programmes rather than by acquisition. In this regard, it aims to "*provide more than 10,000 social homes each year, with an average 9,500 new-build Social Housing Homes."*

The primary reason for the focus on new-build social housing rather than acquisitions is to avoid undue impact on the private housing market, including avoiding competition with first-time buyers or acquisitions by other private individuals/families.

However, there are situations where acquisitions may arise, in which case the policy stipulates that they should be focused on specific house types to meet a particular need such as:

One-bedroom units to deliver on Housing First and meet the short supply in this category;
Other properties that allow persons/families to exit homelessness; and
Specific housing required for/suitable for individuals with a disability or other priority needs.

Acquisitions through the Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS) may also be approved, subject to the available budget for specific vulnerable cohorts, such as housing for older people, accommodation for individuals and families who are homeless and for people with a disability.

The Tenant in Situ scheme is also being progressed by Fingal County Council and the use of this procedure is based on the assessed housing need, for example the tenant's vulnerability to homelessness. Accordingly, whilst Fingal County Council is occasionally offered individual private homes for social housing use, the acquisition of these properties may not be in line with housing policy.

Source of Reply:

Paul Carroll, Director of Housing and Community Development

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 04

CASUAL TRADING SITE - COFFEE CART BUSINESS

Question: Councillor B. Manton

"To ask the Chief Executive to outline what is the position on having a container on a casual trading site to sustain a coffee cart business through the winter?"

Reply:

Casual Trading Licences are managed by the Operations Department in accordance with the adopted Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2021. They permit an approved trader to operate "*any wheeled or moveable stall, or box, barrow, cart, caravan, trailer or other vehicle or both or other stand or conveyance used for Casual Trading*".

Conditions of licence require the trader to remove their stall, vehicle, trailer or other structure at the end of each day's trading. The Council has no plans to permit or provide fixed set-down structures on public land for the purposes of Casual Trading.

Source of Reply:

Mary T. Daly, Director of Operations

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 05

CHRISTMAS TREE DISPOSAL SITES

Question: Councillor A. Donnelly

"To ask the Chief Executive for a list of proposed Christmas tree recycling locations in Fingal for Christmas 2023?"

Reply:

Below is the list of the proposed Christmas tree recycling locations in Fingal for Christmas 2023:

Balbriggan/Skerries/Rush/Lusk

- Bath Road Car Park, Balbriggan
- Red Island Carpark, Skerries
- Barnageeragh Carpark, Balbriggan Road
- Hayestown Open Space, Rush
- Orlynn Park Entrance, Access from Dublin Road, Lusk

Swords/Donabate/Portrane

- Estuary Recycling Centre (normal opening hours only)
- Rathingle Playing Fields Car Park
- Swords Manor pitches
- Donabate Community Centre Car Park (Formerly The Square ,Donabate)
- The Brook, Portrane
- Santry Demesne Car Park

Malahide/Portmarnock/Baldoyle/Howth

- Public Car Park, Back Road, Malahide Demesne
- Public Car Park, Strand Road, Portmarnock
- Kinsealy Court, Kinsealy
- The Banks Car Park, Malahide
- Seagrange Park, Baldoyle
- Sutton Park, Sutton
- Harbour Car Park, Howth

Blanchardstown/Castleknock

- Millennium Park Car Park, Snugborough Road Extension, Coolmine – park opening hours only
- Hartstown Park Car Park
- St. Catherine's Park Car Park

The list of locations will be finalised in the coming weeks. Please note that only Christmas trees will be accepted at the above locations, other green waste, Christmas tree stands, etc. will not be accepted.

Source of Reply:

Mary T. Daly, Director of Operations

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 06

TENDER PROCESSING REQUIREMENTS

Question: Councillor C. Boland

"To ask the Chief Executive if there is a requirement within the tender process, as issued by this Local Authority, that the contractor complies with all regulations both national and local?"

Reply:

Fingal County Council in its tender processes seeks that economic operators demonstrate their compliance with all relevant Health and Safety legislation within their sector, taxation obligations and their bona fides in relation to exclusion grounds as set out in Article 57 of the Public Sector Directive 2014/24/EU.

Standard agreements typically contain clauses which requires contractors to provide services in accordance with the Council's specification, tender documentation and the directions of the local authority; local security and health and safety arrangements as notified to it by the Council.

The agreements also require contractors to act with due care, skill and diligence in the provision of the services and generally in the carrying out of its agreed obligations. Further provisions require agents and subcontractors similarly to exercise due care, skill and diligence in the provision of the services.

The agreements also require contractors to provide the services in accordance with good industry practice and to comply with all applicable laws including but not limited to all obligations in the field of environmental, social and labour laws.

Source of Reply:

Oliver Hunt, Head of Finance

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 07

RESIDENTIAL PLANNING PERMISSIONS GRANTED BUT NOT COMMENCED

Question: Councillor J. Burtchaell

"To ask the Chief Executive to provide a report on the number of dormant sites where 1. Planning permission has been granted for five dwellings or more, but where no work has begun and 2. the total number of dwellings not built on these sites, presented in tabular format, for each of the 7 Local Electoral Areas?"

Reply:

The Information provided below is extracted from the Tier 1 Residential Taskforce Data which records live Planning Permissions for Applications of 10 or more units and the House count Surveys Database which monitors smaller Applications, as of September 2023.

1. There are 67 In- Active Sites of five or more dwellings in the County that have a total of 13,727 units not commenced.

2.

Local Electoral Area	No. of In-Active Sites	Total No. of Dwellings
Balbriggan	9	1,995
Rush / Lusk	11	2,703
Swords	10	2,396
Howth / Malahide	18	2,524
Blanchardstown / Mulhuddart	6	881
Castleknock	7	1,576
Ongar	6	1,652
Total	**67**	**13,727**

Source of Reply;

Matthew McAleese, Director of Planning and Strategic Infrastructure

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 08

RESTRICTIONS ON GRANTS FOR FINGAL-BASED ORGANISATIONS WHICH CROSS COUNTY BOUNDARIES

Question: Councillor D. Healy

"To ask the Chief Executive what conditions are imposed on clubs, societies or other bodies seeking grants from Fingal County Council in relation to the proportion of members, participants, service users or similar, being resident in Fingal, and what examination has been carried out on whether this results in some clubs based in Fingal not being able to avail fully of grants from this Council?"

Reply:

Community groups and voluntary organisations applying for the Council's community activities funding must be a registered member of the FPPN/County database and must self-declare that 80% of their members, participants, service users or similar are resident in Fingal. Where a group may not be fully compliant with funding criteria the community department will work closely with them to provide support in becoming eligible for funding through predevelopment and programming funding. Where a group is located on the border of Fingal County Council the community department will liaise with our colleagues in Dublin City Council to clarify if duplicate funding applies to the project. The following provides a breakdown of applications for 2023:

Number of groups funded through Community and Sports Activity Grants (including Summer & Halloween & Sports)	110
No of applications rejected	1
No of applications withdrawn	1
Total amount of Funding Drawdown to Groups Jan – Oct 2023	€ 134,051.83

Schools, sports clubs and community groups can apply for small grants from the Environmental Awareness Office. Groups which are based in Fingal are eligible.

Number of Groups funded	39
Number of Environmental Projects funded	24
Number of Anti-Litter Anti-Graffiti Groups funded	15
Total amount of Funding to Groups Jan – Oct 2023	€38,235

The Events and Arts Offices also grant funding for events and projects within the county boundaries.

Total Number of Projects Funded	290
Number of Arts Projects Funded	191
Number of Events Projects Funded	99
Total Project Funding Jan – Oct 2023	€979,158.50

Source of Replies:

Paul Carroll, Director of Housing and Community Development

David Storey, Director of Environment, Climate Action and Active Travel

John Quinlivan, Director of Economic, Enterprise, Tourism & Cultural Development

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 09

NATIONAL TRANSPORT AUTHORITY (NTA) - ACTIVE TRAVEL

Question: Councillor A. Tormey

"To ask the Chief Executive how many Fingal County Council staff salaries and expenses are paid by the National Transport Authority (NTA) and how much overall the financial contribution is from the NTA for Active Travel infrastructure and traffic-free initiatives?"

Reply:

The following Fingal County Council staff salaries and expenses are paid by the NTA:

1 Senior Engineer

1 Senior Executive Architect

2 Senior Executive Engineers

1 Administrative Officer

1 Senior Staff Officer

2 Executive Engineers

1 Assistant Engineer

1 Communications Officer

There are also a number of vacancies that will be filled in the coming months.

The Active Travel Allocation from the NTA for 2023 is €17,110,110.

Source of Reply:

David Storey, Director of Environment, Climate Action and Active Travel

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 10

AVAILABLE SERVICES THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON

Question: Councillor JK Onwumereh

"To ask the Chief Executive to advise, if the Housing, Water, Operations and Corporate Services Departments will be available this Christmas Season between 25th of December 2023 and 2nd of January 2024, in the event of an emergency what alternative contact numbers will Councillors and members of the public ring?"

Reply:

The main Council offices will be closed throughout the Christmas period from the close of business on Friday 22nd December 2023 and will reopen on Tuesday 2nd January 2024, the staff involved are required to take annual leave on days that are not public holidays.

To contact Fingal County Council in the event of an Emergency or outside Office Hours telephone (01) 8905000.

An emergency is classified as a risk to life, of fire or of flood.

The Council Operation Depots will open as normal from Wednesday 27th to Friday 29th of December. On call crews will be available to respond to emergencies on the 25th and 26th December and as normal over the weekend of the 30th and 31st December and 1st January. The on call crews are available right throughout the Christmas period and the Council's emergency number will be in use throughout the period from the 22nd of December to the 2nd of January.

For Council tenants, the Tenant Handbook includes a list of situations which classify as an emergency, including a leak from an attic water tank and smoke coming from a fuse board. These emergencies will be attended to.

Tenants may consult their handbook to assist in determining if an issue is deemed as being an emergency and, if so, should contact the Out of Hours service.

The link to the handbook can be found at: https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2019-04/Tenants%20Hand%20Book%202016.pdf

All tenants have been provided with a copy of the tenant's handbook.

The Out of Hours service have been provided with a list of contacts including staff and inspectors who they will contact in an event of an emergency.

Throughout the Christmas period, the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive (DRHE) will continue to provide emergency accommodation and support services to anyone requiring their services. The DRHE are contactable at 1800 707 707.

In addition, Outreach will also be operating during the Christmas period and may be contacted at (01) 8720185.

Source of Replies:

Mary Egan, Director of People, Corporate and Digital Services

Mary T. Daly, Director of Operations

Paul Carroll, Director of Housing and Community Development

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 11

BIKE SHARE INITIATIVE

Question: Councillor J. Newman

"To ask the Chief Executive to produce a review of the Bike Share Scheme across Fingal, to include the lack of economic incentives for commuters to make a modal shift when travelling on a daily basis into Dublin, and whether much improved rates of success would be achieved by a unified bike share scheme across the four Dublin Authorities under the control of Codema?"

Reply:

The Active Travel Unit have recently requested reports from both Bike Share providers currently operating in Fingal on their respective schemes to date. These reports will include area by area analysis, barriers to success and ideas to help bike share reach its potential in Fingal. Both Bike Share providers will present these findings at the upcoming Transport SPC.

Bike Share users are price sensitive, cost can be a barrier, especially on the more expensive eBike Scheme. In response to this, we are seeking to increase our provision towards bike share in 2024, this will help lower the cost to the end user and make bike share a more economical form of transport for Commuters.

The NTA have committed to investigating the rollout of a regional bike share scheme that would cover the four Dublin local authorities, The Active Travel Unit in Fingal would be in favour of this and feel a unified approach to Bike Share across Dublin is key to making it a viable form of public transport.

Source of Reply:

David Storey, Director of Environment, Climate Action and Active Travel

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

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ITEM NO. 12

THE NEED TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF HOMELESS FAMILY HUBS

Question: Councillor P. Mulville

"To ask the Chief Executive, given the fact that, as of 31st May 2023, there were 168 families, comprising 255 adults and 402 children, who have their main housing application with this Council, staying in hotel and B&B Emergency Homeless Accommodation, and given the fact that, as of September 2023, we only have 6 Homeless Family Hubs in this administrative area, to outline whether it is intended to rapidly scale up the number of Homeless Family Hubs in this Council area, given the urgent need for same, and given the entirely unsuitable conditions facing many homeless families and children who have no choice but to stay in hotel and B&B rooms?"

Reply:

The Council has 7 hubs (6 for families and 1 for singles/couples) located in the Fingal administrative area. These hubs are managed on our behalf by Approved Housing Bodies (AHB's)

In addition to the above The Peter McVerry Trust also provide Supported Temporary Accommodation at Ravenswood, Finglas (8 x 1 beds), Havana House, Balbriggan (24 x 1 beds) and Aldborough House, Santry (40 x 1 beds).

There are also 60 x 1 beds provided through Private Emergency Accommodation at Ardeevin in Swords.

There are also currently 48 transitional tenancies with NOVAS and the Mc Verry Trust have 35 Transitional Tenancies across the county.

The Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) is responsible for sourcing Emergency Accommodation (EA) on behalf of the 4 Dublin Local Authorities and the Council is in regular contact with the DRHE with regard to the possibility of sourcing additional capacity for supported accommodation in the county.

The primary focus for the Council is exiting families from Emergency Accommodation and the current strong pipeline of Social Housing delivery is being utilised in this regard, as is the implementation of Homeless prevention measures such as the Tenant in Situ Scheme and the provision of HAP and HHAP

Source of Reply:

Paul Carrol, Director of Housing & Community Development

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

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ITEM NO. 13

SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS – LIBRARIES AND PUBLIC OFFICES

Question: Councillor H. Mahony

"To ask the Chief Executive to outline the security arrangements that are in place to protect the public and staff members in Fingal Libraries and public offices, following the recent series of incidents in our public spaces?"

Reply:

The Council's Health and Safety Unit has developed a Standard Operating Procedure which outlines steps to be taken in order to protect the public and staff members should an incident occur in a library or public office.

Library management are in regular contact with colleagues in other library authorities and also monitor social media for information on potential protests. An Garda Síochána is notified, and security put in place in advance of a planned protest. Panic buttons are currently being installed in all branch libraries in the County.

Security arrangements for all offices and libraries are continuously monitored and additional security officers are put in place as required.

Source of Joint Reply:

John Quinlivan Director of Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Development

Mary Egan, Director of People, Corporate and Digital Services

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 14

BRIEF GIVEN TO SECURITY PERSONNEL - LIBRARIES AND PUBLIC OFFICES

Question: Councillor H. Mahony

"To ask the Chief Executive what the brief is given to security personnel when dealing with violent or disruptive people in our libraries and public offices?"

Reply:

The Council's Health and Safety Unit has developed a Standard Operating Procedure which outlines steps to be taken in order to protect the public and staff members should an incident occur in a library or public office.

Library management are in regular contact with colleagues in other library authorities and also monitor social media for information on potential protests. An Garda Síochána is notified, and security put in place in advance of a planned protest. Panic buttons are currently being installed in all branch libraries in the County.

Security arrangements for all offices and libraries are continuously monitored and additional security officers are put in place as required.

Source of Joint Reply:

John Quinlivan Director of Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Development

Mary Egan, Director of People, Corporate and Digital Services

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 15

RE-INTRODUCTION OF CHATBOT ON COUNCIL'S WEB SITE

Question: Councillor J. Humphreys

"To ask the Chief Executive if there are plans to re-introduce the chatbot, operating on the Council's website during Covid19, and what AI Resident Interaction programmes are considered to be introduced?"

Reply:

The Digital Services Department are currently researching new developments in AI, more specifically, Generative AI, Large Language Models, Machine Learning and Autonomation. Recent advances in AI have introduced new opportunities for better assistive technologies including customer service chatbots. The Council will commence the market soundings process for a chatbot/AI solution shortly.

Source of Reply:

Mary Egan, Director of People, Corporate & Digital Services

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 16

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM 16a

ECONOMIC ENTERPRISE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT SPC

Council Members	Chairperson Councillor Darragh Butler; Councillor Anthony Lavin; Councillor Ted Leddy; Councillor Howard Mahony; Councillor Tony Murphy;	
Non-Council Members	Mr Anthony Cooney, Fingal Chamber; Ms Yetunde Joyce, PPN.	
Meeting Date 2023	Theme/Policy issue	Update
23rd October 2023	Fingal Tourism Strategy	Declan Power, Senior Executive Officer gave a presentation on the Fingal Tourism Strategy. It was agreed with the SPC members present that it would be brought to the Corporate Policy Group (CPG) on 6th November and to full Council on 13th November 2023. The Fingal Tourism Strategy was recommended for Adoption by SPC members present.
23rd October 2023	Fingal Food & Drink Policy	Declan Power, Senior Executive Officer gave a presentation on the Fingal Food & Drink Policy. It was agreed with the SPC members present that it would be brought to the Corporate Policy Group (CPG) on 6th November and to full Council on 13th November. The Fingal Food & Drink Policy was recommended for Adoption by SPC members present.
23rd October 2023	Local Economic &	Presentation by Andrew Webb &

	Community Plan (LECP)	Lorcan Blake from Grant Thornton Consultants. The draft LECP Framework will be presented at the LCDC meeting on the 25th October 2023. It was agreed that the draft Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) would be submitted to the Eastern Midlands Regional Assembly (EMRA) for consideration at their December meeting. The SEA/AA Screening and LECP Implementation Plan is in preparation for circulation and discussion at sub-committee level in November. Subject to EMRA's commentary it is proposed that the Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) will be brought to the Council's Area Committee Meetings and the next meetings of the SPC & LCDC before being brought forward to the CPG and then to full Council meeting in December 2023/January 2024 for adoption. The draft LECP document will be circulated to the SPC members following the meeting for further comments.

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 16b

REPORT OF CORPORATE POLICY GROUP MEETING HELD
TUESDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2023

REVENUE BUDGET 2024

Mr. Oliver Hunt, Head of Finance, gave a slide presentation to the CPG members on the Revenue Budget for 2024.

Following discussion, it was **AGREED** to hold the following meetings in advance of the Budget Meeting due to take place on Tuesday, 7th November 2023:

Wednesday 1st November	Briefing to all members at 6:15pm
Monday 6th November	Discussion at CPG Meeting

Signed: Councillor Adrian Henchy
Mayor

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 16c

REPORT OF BLANCHARDSTOWN/MULHUDDART/CASTLEKNOCK-ONGAR SERVICES B AREA COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2023

The following reports, by the Chief Executive, which has been circulated was CONSIDERED:

Applications for funding under the Council's Community Funding Scheme have been received from the organisations listed below. It is proposed to make funding available to these organisations, in accordance with the conditions of the scheme up to the amount set out hereunder: -

ACTIVITY FUNDING GRANTS APPLICATIONS

Name of Applicant Group	Total Funding Amount Applied for in Respect of this Application.	Summary of What Funding is Required For – Breakdown of Items	Has this Group Applied for Funding Previously? Y/N	Total Amount of Funding Group has Received to Date and Broken Down by Year	Total Amount of Funding Proposed by the Fingal Executive and rationale for Approval
Parslickstown House Community Garden GA 002847	€ 3,000.00	Polytunnel & Fitting, Garden Shed & Delivery, Water Butt X 3, Garden	NO	N/A	€ 3,000.00

		Bench X 2, Compost bins, Enriched Soil, Plant pots & Plants, Slabs for Wheelchair Access, Plants, Seeds & Blubs, wheelbarrow			
Practical Language Service GA 002822	€ 3,000.00	Mulhuddart Phase 1 Room Hire, Mulhuddart Phase 2 Room Hire, Mulhuddart Phase 3 Room Hire, Tyrellstown Phase 1 Room Hire, Tyrellstown Phase 2 Room Hire, Tyrellstown Phase 3 Room hire, Insurance, Stationary	YES	2022- € 3,000.00	€ 3,000.00
Jesuit Refugee Service Ireland GA 002840	€ 2,958.00	Interpretation for four languages, Garden Items (shovels, seeds, water cans Horticulture workshop facilitator 10weeks, 2 sewing machines, Art supplies, Print fee for information day advertising, 12 weeks of kid's	YES	2022- € 2,339.00	€ 2,958.00

		yoga class			
Blakestown & Mountview Youth Initiative GA 002851	€ 3,000.00	Drama/dance choreographer, Marquee, stage, seating and heaters, projector screen, pop up Santa grotto	YES	2022- € 2,743.00	€ 3,000.00
Parslickstown House GA 002857	€ 3,000.00	Camera & SD Card, Photo Printer & Print Paper Santa & Window Display, Christmas Trees X 3, Fireplace Backdrop, Fake Snow, 15 - 20 individual Decorations & Lights	YES	2022 - € 1,881.69	€ 3,000.00
Lambourne RA GA 002813	€ 2,127.90	Footballs, Portable All in One Sound System, Extension Lead - 30m, Megaphone, Santa Visit, Slimline Folding Table x 1, Slimline Folding x 2, Picnic Bench x 2, Public Liability Insurance, Annual Newsletters	YES	2021 € 1,837.56	€ 2,128.00
92.5 Phoenix FM GA 002844	€ 2,880.00	Lenovo T490s, QuadCore Intel	NO	N/A	€ 2,880.00

		Laptop, Lenovo T490s, QuadCore Intel Laptop, Lenovo T490s, QuadCore Intel Laptop, Lenovo T490s, QuadCore Intel Laptop, Lenovo Legion T5 28IMB05 - tower			
Corduff Resource Centre GA 002849	€ 2,999.60	Printer, Santa Hire, Paper Cups, Photographer, Photobooth Cut Out Frame Stationary, Desktop PCs x2, Whiteboards x 3	YES	2021 -€ 2,967.00	€ 2,999.60
Woodpark RA GA 002845	€ 2,027.00	Tree lights for 40 trees, Marquee, Room hire for annual dinner	YES	2023-€ 360.00	€ 2,027.00

The Application for Funding, which was received, was AGREED
That this Committee recommends that the County Council APPROVE of the funding in the foregoing report.

Signed:

_____

Councillor T. Kitt
Area Chairperson

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 16d

REPORT OF CORPORATE POLICY GROUP MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2023

2024 BUDGET

Mr. Oliver Hunt, Head of Finance, gave a verbal update to the Corporate Policy Group Members and advised that he was requesting a formal recommendation from CPG to full Council to adopt the 2024 Budget.

Following discussion, the CPG Members recommended that Budget 2024 be brought to the Annual Budget Meeting on 7th November to be adopted.

UPDATE ON REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS

Ms. Mary Egan, Director, People, Corporate & Digital Services, gave the Members an update of the submissions received from Councillors and the recommended actions.

Following discussion and some amendments, it was AGREED to bring Draft Standing Orders to O,P&F Meeting on Monday, 13th November.

PROTOCOLS GUIDELINES AND EVENTS CHECKLIST FOR THE MAYOR OF FINGAL

Ms. Mary Egan, Director, People, Corporate & Digital Services advised the Corporate Policy Group Members that it would be timely to carry out a review of the protocol for the Mayor to ensure it continues to be fit for purpose.

Following discussion, it was AGREED that the protocol would be reviewed by Corporate Services and recommendations, if any, would be brought back to the CPG.

FINGAL FOOD POLICY

Mr. John Quinlivan, Director, EETCD, recommended to the Members that, as a briefing on this topic was scheduled for Wednesday, 8th November, this item would be deferred to this time, and he would follow up with each CPG member to get their recommendation to full Council. Following discussion, the Members AGREED.

FINGAL TOURSIM STRATEGY

Mr. John Quinlivan, Director, EETCD, recommended to the Members that, as a briefing on this topic was scheduled for Wednesday, 8th November, this item would be deferred to this time, and he would follow up with each CPG member to get their recommendation to full Council. Following discussion, the Members AGREED.

Signed: _____

Councillor Adrian Henchy
Mayor

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

REPORT OPF BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS AREA COMMITTEE MEETING (Services B – Strategic & General Matters) HELD ON THURSDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 16e

APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING

Applications for funding under the Council's Community Funding Scheme have been received from the organisations listed below. It is proposed to make funding available to these organisations, in accordance with the conditions of the scheme up to the amount set out hereunder: -

ACTIVITY FUNDING GRANTS APPLICATIONS

Name of Applicant Group	**Total Funding Amount Applied for in Respect of this Application.**	**Summary of What Funding is Required For – Breakdown of Items**	**Has this Group Applied for Funding Previously? Y/N**	**Total Amount of Funding Group has Received to Date and Broken Down by Year**	**Total Amount of Funding Proposed by the Fingal Executive and rationale for Approval**
Churchfield Residents Association GA 002701	€ 1,440.00	Tent, weed membrane, pegs and lights, Edging Tools, Plants and Soil	YES	2023- € 501.00 2022- € 880.00 2022- € 2,114.00	€ 1,274.00
Lusk Action Group GA 002853	€ 3,000.00	2 number Gazebo Purchase	YES	2021 - € 1,600.00	€ 3,000.00

Ravenswell Residents Association GA 002859	€ 270.00	Outdoor power pack, Xmas tree lights	NO	N/A	€ 270.00
Santry Community Garden GA 002848	€ 3,000.00	Poly Tunnel Refurbishment, Rotavator, Planks	NO	N/A	€ 3,000.00
Garristown Community Council GA 002842	€ 3,000.00	Annual Insurance Premium for Garristown, leaf blower	YES	2022 - € 681.00 2022 - € 2,300.00 2021 - € 1,776.00	€ 2,829.00
Mourne Estates RA GA 002855	€ 3,000.00	Gardening equipment, computer table and projector, insurance	NO	N/A	€ 2,998.30
Rush Tidy Towns GA 002863	€ 3,000.00	Design and Layout of Book, Print of 250 copies, Echo Tiller Attachment for a strimmer, Edger Blades, Conical scrubber for strimmer	YES	2021- € 1,498.00	€ 3,000.00
Hastings Residents Committee GA 002870	€ 2,394.00	Public liability insurance, 18" Industrial petrol push mower ,18" Industrial petrol push mower, Industrial Weed Trimmers 33cc petrol, Industrial Weed Trimmers 33cc petrol, Petrol Blower (backpack),	NO	N/A	€ 2,394.00

		Compo			
One Voice Singers Swords GA 002861	€ 600.00	Musical Director	NO	N/A	€ 600.00
Newhaven Residents Association GA 002865	€ 3,000.00	Naming Stone, Flowers, Bulbs, Lights	NO	N/A	€ 3,000.00
Thrive Balbriggan GA 002869	€ 2,282.00	Speaker and trainers, Venue rent for the event, Thrive Balbriggan notebooks	NO	N/A	€ 2,282.00
Swords Woodland Association GA 002872	€ 2,752.00	Design, layout and artwork of 32pp A5, Printing 2000 Calendars, Prizes for winning entries	YES	2022- € 820.00	€ 2,451.00
Balbriggan Men Shed CLG GA 002839	€ 1,695.00	Bandsaw for woodworking	NO	N/A	€ 1,695.00
Ballyboughal Tidy Towns GA 002761	€ 2,921.00	Painted mutual of Friesian cows in meadow, Hardcore paving material for square area.	YES	2022 - € 1,000.00 2022 - € 765.00 2021- € 270.00	€ 2,192.00
Balbriggan Meals On Wheels GA 002852	€ 1,202.00	HACCP training 2 x pull-up banners, 2x 6' eyelet banners, 1x Board Sign, 2000 A5 information leaflets	YES	2022 - € 900.00	€ 1,202.00

It was proposed by **Councillor G. Maguire** and seconded by **Councillor K. Power**

SPORTS FUNDING GRANTS APPLICATIONS

Name of Applicant Group	**Total Funding Amount Applied for in Respect of this Application.**	**Summary of What Funding is Required For – Breakdown of Items**	**Has this Group Applied for Funding Previously? Y/N**	**Total Amount of Funding Group has Received to Date and Broken Down by Year**	**Total Amount of Funding Proposed by the Fingal Executive and rationale for Approval**
Swords Thunder GA 002830	€ 2,910.00	Chair Trolley plus 50 chairs, Sub Zero PA System, Sub Zero Beta Dynamic Microphone	NO	N/A	€ 2,910.00

St. Colmcille GFC GA 002711	€ 1,002.00	Storage Trolly x 2, Shelving x 4	YES	2022 - € 2,500.00	€ 1,002.00
St. Maur's GAA Club GA 002737	€ 2,995.00	Flooring 60, Benches 4, 1200 Battle Rope, Anchor 15 Battle Rope (40ft) 80	YES	2021 - € 2,000.00	€ 2,995.00

It was proposed by **Councillor G. Maguire** and seconded by **Councillor K. Power**.

That this Committee recommends that the County Council **APPROVE** of the Community and Arts Funding in the foregoing report.

Signed: Councillor I Carey

Area Chairperson

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 17

FINANCIAL MATTERS

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 17a

REPORT ON OVERDRAFT FACILITY 2024

At its meeting held on the 14th November 2022 the Council approved, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, the securing of an overdraft facility to a limit of €25m for the period 1/1/2023 to 31/12/2023.

While it has not been necessary to avail of this overdraft accommodation to date, it is considered prudent to again seek approval to the securing of an overdraft facility for the period 1/1/2024 to 31/12/2024. Accordingly, I recommend that the Council approve, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, the securing of overdraft accommodation facility to a limit of €25m for the period 1/1/2024 to 31/12/2024.

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 18

PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Property Services Division,
Economic, Enterprise Tourism
& Cultural Development Dept,
County Hall,
Swords,
Fingal,
Co. Dublin.

File Ref: LD 1495

26th October 2023

TO: Each Member of the Council

RE: Proposed grant of wayleave at Balheary, Swords, Co. Dublin to Mainscourt Solar DAC

An application has been received from Mainscourt Solar DAC to acquire a permanent wayleave at Balheary, Swords, Co. Dublin.

It is proposed to grant a permanent wayleave at Balheary, Swords Co. Dublin to Mainscourt Solar DAC in accordance with Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. The purpose of the disposal is the provision of a permanent wayleave that will enable the installation of underground ducting to facilitate the connection of a solar farm to the national grid.

2. That the Council shall grant a permanent wayleave over the land outlined in yellow on Drawing No. LA-457-23, extending to 219 square meters approximately.

3. That the Council shall retain the freehold title to the wayleave area.

4. That the compensation payable shall be in the total amount of €7,000.00 (seven thousand euro) plus VAT (if applicable).

5. That the full costs of the works shall be borne by the Applicant.

6. That the Applicant shall ensure they have the necessary planning permission (if required).

7. That the wayleave agreement shall state that full reinstatement works must be completed by the Applicant to the satisfaction of the Council.

8. That the Council shall reserve the right to create other legal interests in the wayleave area, subject to them not interfering with the apparatus.

9. That the Applicant shall have access to the wayleave area for the purpose of inspecting, repairing and maintaining. The Applicant shall provide fourteen days advance written notice to the Council of any intended works and shall complete reinstatement works to the satisfaction of the Council. All works to be carried out with minimum disruption. In the event of an emergency the above requirements can be waived. All works and work procedures shall comply with Health and Safety regulations.

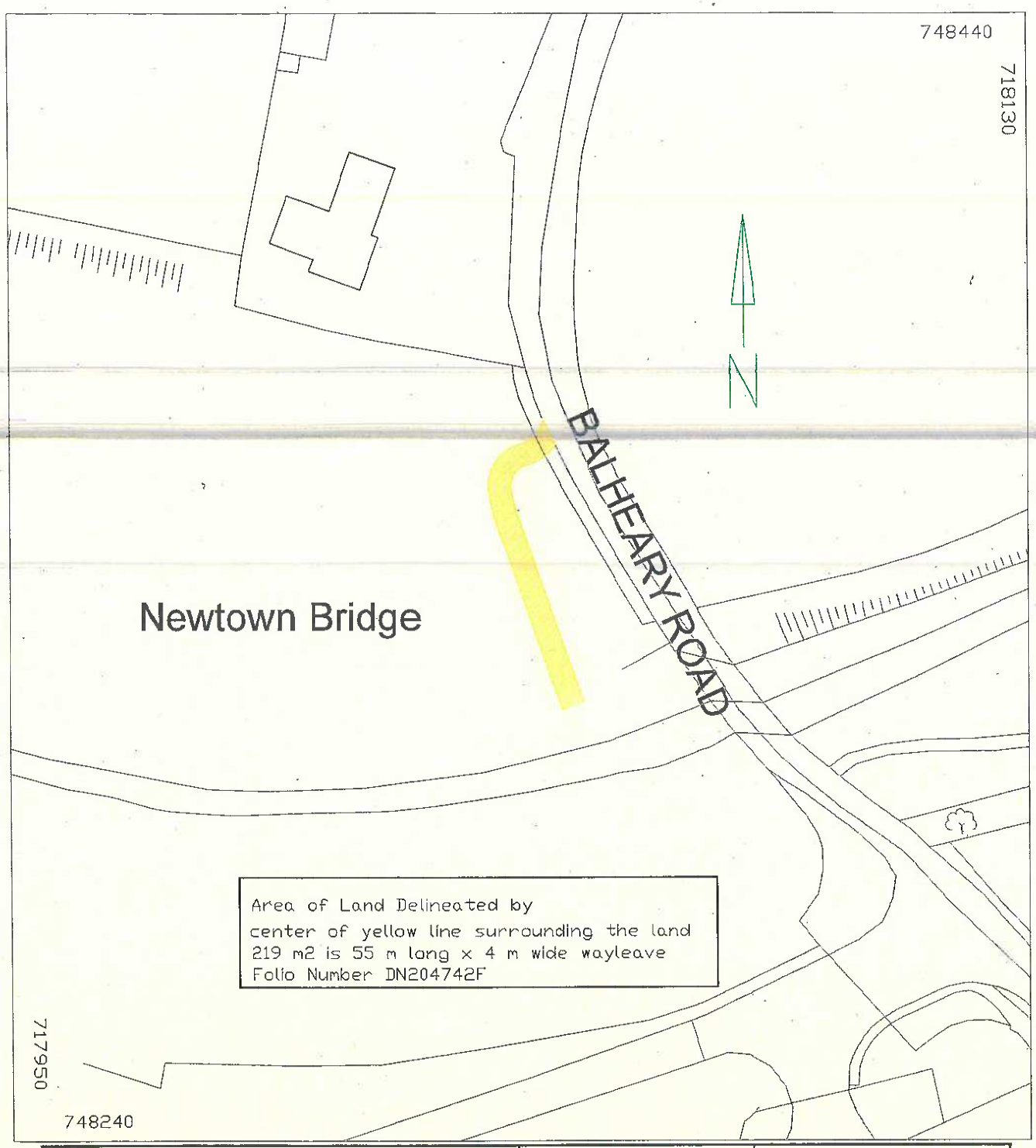
10. That the Applicant shall pay the Council's Valuer's fee of €1,000.00 (one thousand euro) plus VAT and the Council's legal and surveyor fees plus VAT in respect of the wayleave agreement.

11. All other terms and conditions will be set out in the legal documentation.

The land to be disposed of was acquired from the Eastern Health Board in 1974 for Housing Purposes.

A report on this matter will be included on the agenda for the meeting of the Balbriggan/ Swords/Rush-Lusk Area Committee (Services B) scheduled to take place on Thursday 9th November 2023.

Senior Executive Officer,
Economic, Enterprise, Tourism &
Cultural Development Department



Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Dwg No: LA-457-23	O.S.Ref:
Date: 12 May 2023	Drawn By: LJM
Scale: 1/1000	Checked:
Dev. File No: LD1495	Job No. SM/57/23
Gross Area :	
Road Area :	
Nett Area :	

Project:
Land at Balheary Swords

Wayleave to be granted by
Fingal Co Co

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Property Services Division,
Economic, Enterprise Tourism
& Cultural Development Dept,
County Hall,
Swords,
Fingal,
Co. Dublin.

File Ref: LD 1458

26th October 2023

TO: Each Member of the Council

RE: Proposed disposal of land and grant of a permanent wayleave at 169a Clonsilla Road, Clonsilla, Dublin 15

An application has been received from ESB Networks to acquire land and a permanent wayleave at 169a Clonsilla Road, Clonsilla, Dublin 15 to facilitate the construction of an electricity substation.

It is proposed to dispose of land and grant a permanent wayleave at 169a Clonsilla Road, Clonsilla, Dublin 15 to ESB Networks in accordance with Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, on the following terms and conditions:

1. The purpose of the disposal of the land is for use as an electricity sub-station only.

2. The land to be disposed comprises of 8.25 square meters approximately as shown outlined in red on Drawing No. LA-114-22 (copy attached).

3. The Council shall dispose of the subject land for a consideration of €2,100.00 (two thousand one hundred euro) plus VAT and stamp duty (if applicable).

4. That the Council will convey full freehold title of the subject land.

5. The land comprising the wayleave consists of 11.55 square meters approximately as shown coloured yellow on Drawing No. LA-114-22.

6. That the Council shall grant a permanent wayleave on the subject land for a consideration of €500.00 (five hundred euro) plus VAT (if applicable).

7. That the purchaser shall pay the Council's reasonable fees in respect of this agreement.

8. That this disposal is subject to the necessary approvals and consents.

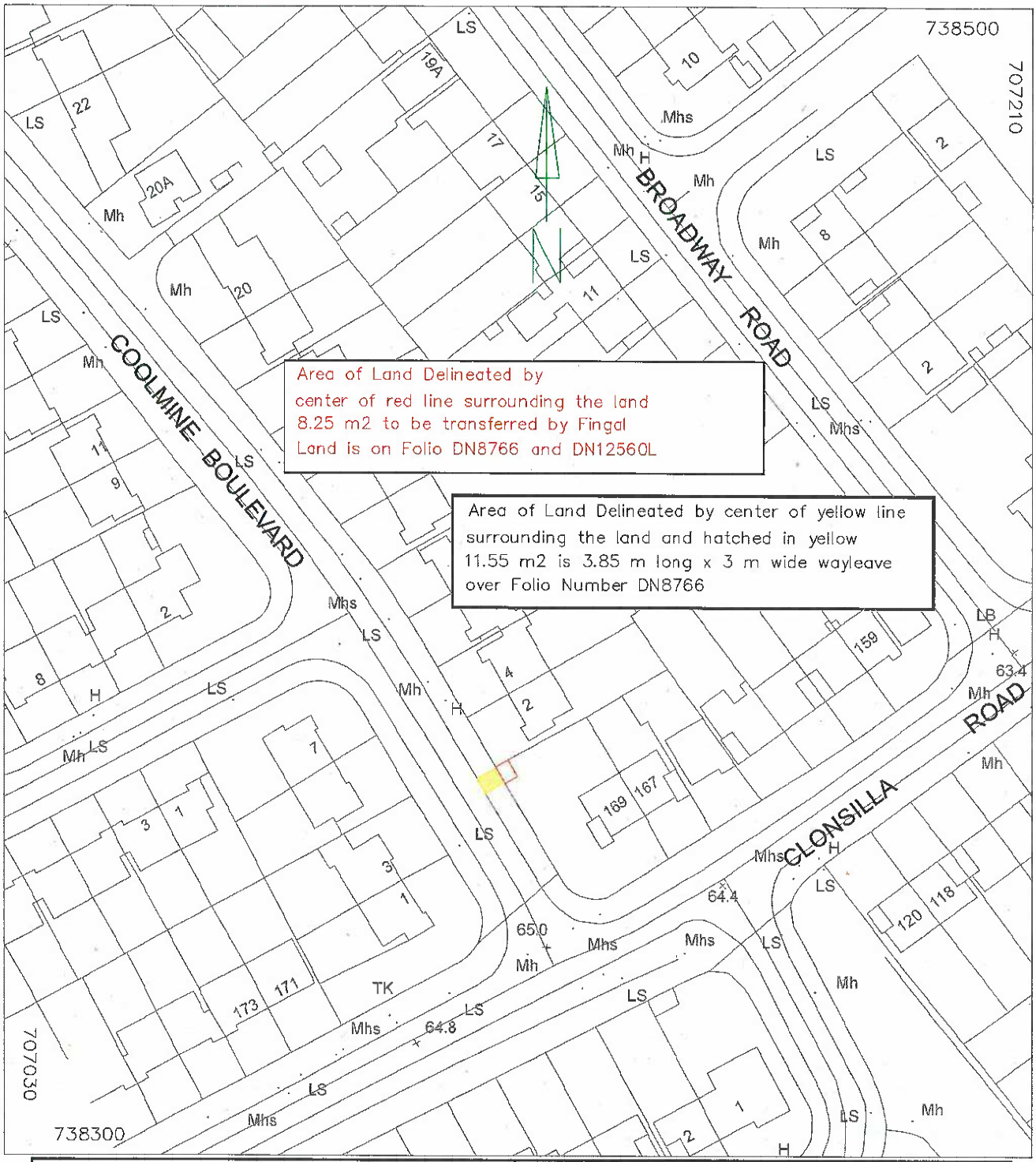
9. All other terms and conditions will be set out in the legal documentation.

The land to be disposed of was acquired was acquired by the Housing Agency in Trust for Fingal County Council from the AIB Hazel Portfolio.

A report on this matter was noted at the meeting of the Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/ Castleknock/Ongar Area Committee (Services B) held on Thursday 7th September 2023.

Aoife Sherridan

Senior Executive Officer,
Economic, Enterprise, Tourism &
Cultural Development Department



Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Dwg No:	LA-114-22	O.S.Ref:	
Date:	10 Nov 2022	Drawn By:	LJM
Scale:	1/1000	Checked:	
Dev. File No:	LD1458	Job No.	SM/114/22
Gross Area :			
Road Area :			
Nett Area :			

Project:
Land at 169A Clonsilla Road D15

Land to be transferred by :
Fingal Co Co

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Property Services Division,
Economic, Enterprise Tourism
& Cultural Development Dept,
County Hall,
Swords,
Fingal,
Co. Dublin.

File Ref: LD 1374

27th October 2023

TO: Each Member of the Council

RE: Proposed disposal of land at Tyrellstown Road, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15 to NABCO now known as Co-Operative Housing Ireland (CHI)

Fingal County Council was approved by the Department of the Environment for the construction of a mixed tenure housing project of 234 no. housing units and 3 no. communal facilities at Avondale, Tyrellstown Road, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15. The approval provided for site acquisition costs of €25,000.00 (twenty-five thousand euro). In 2008, agreement was entered into with 2 Approved Housing Bodies (AHB's) for the construction of the development on an agency basis and to be funded under the Capital Loan and Subsidy Scheme (CLSS), the award of which funding was approved by resolution of the Members of Fingal County Council in 2008. Under the terms of the CLSS the approved site acquisition costs would be apportioned on a pro rata basis to the housing units developed by each AHB respectively and the affordable housing units which were developed for Fingal County Council. The apportionment of the total site value of €25,000.00 (twenty-five thousand euro) was on the basis of a cost per site of €106.84 (one hundred and six euro and eighty-four cent).

In order to regularise the title of the housing units developed by Co-operative Housing Ireland (CHI) it is now proposed to dispose of land at Tyrellstown Road, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15 to Co-operative Housing Ireland (CHI), and that the consideration be apportioned in accordance with the foregoing approved agreement i.e. 141 no. housing sites at a cost per site of €106.84 (one hundred and six euro and eighty-four cent) for a total of €15,064.00 (fifteen thousand and sixty four euro)

Notice is hereby given under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, and in accordance with Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended and subject to the provisions of Section 183, that it is proposed that lands at Tyrellstown Road, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15 as set out in the attached map be disposed of on the following terms and conditions:

1. The purpose of this disposal is for housing purposes, to reflect the construction of and regularise the title to 141 no. housing units and 2 no. communal facilities at the Avondale Development, Tyrellstown Road, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15 which was completed in 2012.

2. That the land to be disposed to NABCO, now known as the Co-Operative Housing Ireland (CHI) is shown outlined in red on Drawing Number LA-050-21, dated 13th October 2021, contained in Folios DN200990F and DN4656F and comprising 141 no. housing sites and 2 no. communal facilities.

3. The consideration payable in respect of the land shall be in the sum of €15,064.00 (fifteen thousand and sixty-four euro) plus VAT and stamp duty if applicable, to be retained by the Housing Department for its purposes. This consideration is an apportionment of the total site value of €25,000.00 on the basis of 141 no. housing sites at a cost of €106.84 per site.

4. That the land is disposed of to the Purchaser with full freehold title.

5. The land will be used solely for the provision of social housing and associated communal facilities. Mortgage Charges under the Capital Loan and Subsidy Scheme (CLSS) will be registered against all individual properties for disposal to Co-operative Housing Ireland.

6. That Co-operative Housing Ireland shall furnish the Council's Law Agent with all documentation on request to ensure a good marketable title for the 76 affordable units to be retained by the Council.

7. All parties will be responsible for their costs in this matter.

8. The Council will have the right to consultation in respect of the letting policies of Co-operative Housing Ireland including the right by the Council to nominate 100% of all tenancies in accordance with the Capital Loan and Subsidy Scheme.

9. The Council will have the right to consultation in respect of the determination of rents by Co-operative Housing Ireland.

10. The buildings, car parking spaces, and curtilages developed on the land are to be properly managed, maintained, and insured by Co-operative Housing Ireland.

11. Should any housing units built on the lands cease to be used for social housing, the units and site will revert to the Council, or the full commercial rent, as determined by the Council, will be charged subject to five yearly rent reviews.

12. Any other terms and conditions will be set out in the legal documentation.

The land to be disposed of formed part of the lands transferred to Fingal County Council by Dublin City Council in accordance with the Local Government (Dublin) Act 1993 under the Transfer Order dated 21st June 1996. Also, land was acquired from Gallagher Group in 1975 for Housing purposes.

A report on this matter was noted at the meeting of the Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Area Committee (Services B) held on Thursday 2nd November 2023.

Aoife Sheridan

Senior Executive Officer,
Economic, Enterprise, Tourism &
Cultural Development Department


Avondale Park
Avondale Court
PARSLICKSTOWN GARDENS
Base Enterprise Centre
Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL
Project:
Land at Avondale Park
Portickstown, County Dublin
Dwg No: LA-050-21
O.S.Ref:
Date: 13 Oct 2021
Drawn By: L.J.M
Scale: 1/1000
Checked:
Dev. File No: L.D. xxx
Job No. SM/50/21
Gross Area:
Road Area:
Nett Area:
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2021/24/CCMA/Fingal County Council.

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Property Services Division,
Economic, Enterprise Tourism
& Cultural Development Dept,
County Hall,
Swords,
Fingal,
Co. Dublin.

File Ref: LD 1375

27th October 2023

TO: Each Member of the Council

RE: Proposed disposal of land at Tyrellstown Road, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15 to Housing Association for Integrated Living (HAIL)

Fingal County Council was approved by the Department of the Environment for the construction of a mixed tenure housing project of 234 no. housing units and 3 no. communal facilities at Avondale, Tyrellstown Road, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15. The approval provided for site acquisition costs of €25,000.00 (twenty-five thousand euro). In 2008, agreement was entered into with 2 Approved Housing Bodies (AHB's) for the construction of the development on an agency basis and to be funded under the Capital Loan and Subsidy Scheme (CLSS), the award of which funding was approved by resolution of the Members of Fingal County Council in 2008. Under the terms of the CLSS the approved site acquisition costs would be apportioned on a pro rata basis to the housing units developed by each AHB respectively and the affordable housing units which were developed for Fingal County Council. The apportionment of the total site value of €25,000.00 (twenty-five thousand euro) was on the basis of a cost per site of €106.84 (one hundred and six euro and eighty-four cent).

In order to regularise the title of the housing units developed by Housing Association for Integrated Living (HAIL) it is now proposed to dispose of land at Tyrellstown Road, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15 to Housing Association for Integrated Living (HAIL), and that the consideration be apportioned in accordance with the foregoing approved agreement i.e. 17 no. housing sites at a cost per site of €106.84 (one hundred and six euro and eighty-four cent) for a total of €1,816.00 (one thousand eight hundred and sixteen euro).

Notice is hereby given under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, and in accordance with Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended and subject to the provisions of Section 183, that it is proposed that lands at Tyrellstown Road, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15 as set out in the attached map be disposed of on the following terms and conditions:

1. The purpose of the disposal is for housing purposes and to reflect the construction of and regularise the title to 17 no. social housing units and a communal facility at the Avondale Development, Tyrellstown Road, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15, which was completed in 2012.

2. That the land to be disposed to Housing Association for Integrated Living comprises of 1,938 square meters as shown outlined in red on Drawing Number LA-049-21, dated 16th August 2021, contained in Folio DN4656F (Plans 2 and 8) and comprising 17 no. Housing plots and 1 no. communal facility.

3. The consideration payable in respect of the land shall be in the sum of €1,816.00 (one thousand, eight hundred and sixteen euro) plus VAT and stamp duty if applicable, to be retained by the Housing Department for its purposes. This consideration is an apportionment of the total site value of €25,000.00 (twenty-five thousand euro) on the basis of 17 no. housing sites at a cost of €106.84 (one hundred and six euro and eighty-four cent) per site.

4. That the land is disposed of to the Purchaser with full freehold title.

5. The land will be used solely for social housing and associated communal facilities. Mortgage Charges under the Capital Loan and Subsidy Scheme (CLSS) will be registered against all property for disposal to Housing Association for Integrated Living.

6. That Housing Association for Integrated Living shall furnish the Council's Law Agent with all documentation on request to ensure good marketable title for the units to be retained by the Council.

7. All parties will be responsible for their own costs in this matter.

8. The Council will have the right to consultation in respect of the letting policies of HAIL, including the right by the Council to nominate 100% of all tenancies in accordance with the Capital Loan and Subsidy Scheme.

9. The Council will have the right to consultation in respect of the determination of rents by the Housing Association for Integrated Living.

10. The buildings, car parking spaces and curtilage developed on the land to be properly managed, maintained and insured by the Housing Association for Integrated Living.

11. Should any housing units built on the land cease to be used for the purpose of social housing, the units and site will revert to the Council or the full commercial rent, as determined by the Council, will be charged subject to five yearly rent reviews.

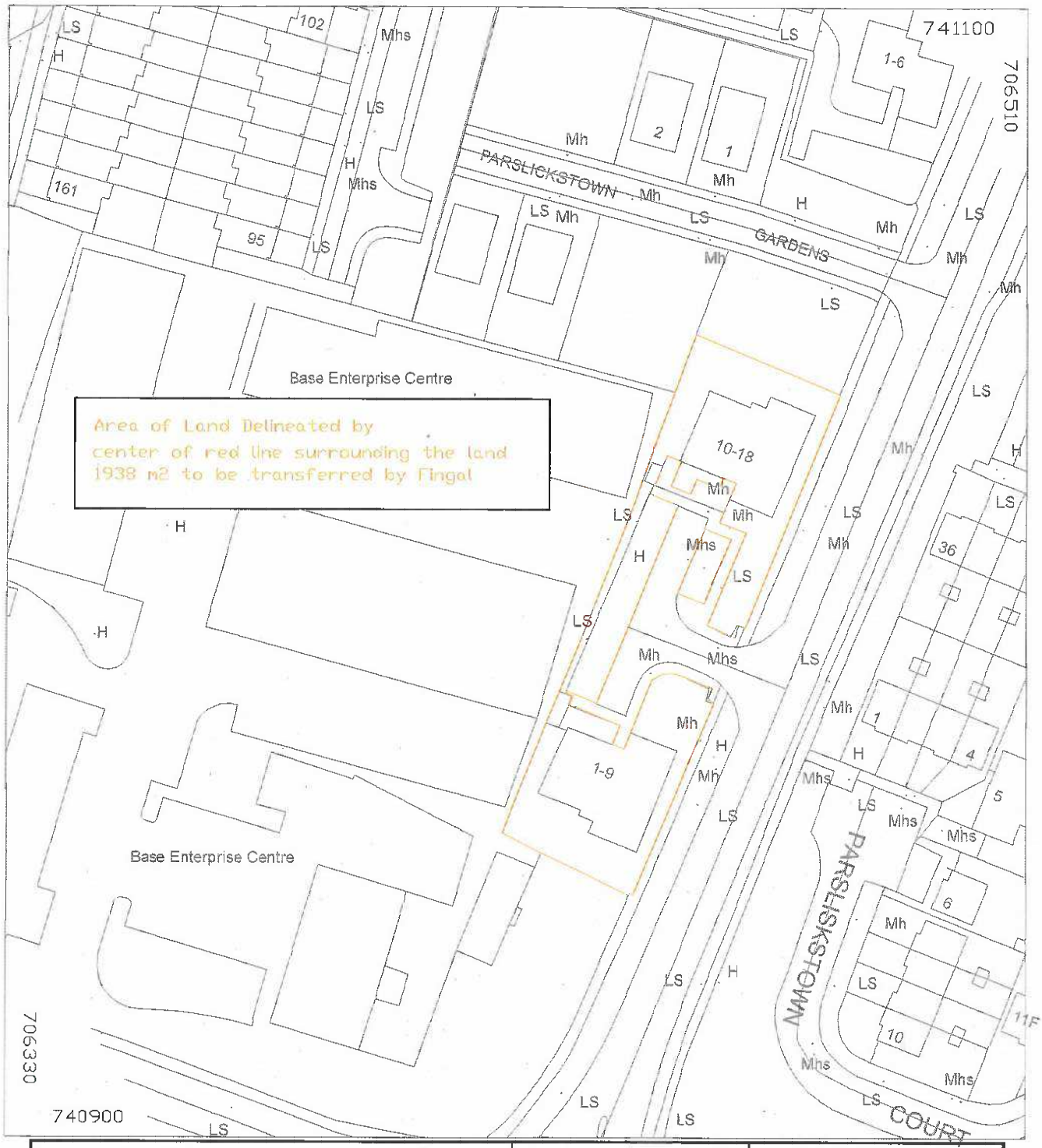
12. Any other terms and conditions will be set out in the legal documentation.

The land to be disposed of formed part of the lands transferred to Fingal County Council by Dublin City Council in accordance with the Local Government (Dublin) Act 1993 under Transfer Order dated 21st June 1996. Also, land acquired from Gallagher Group in 1975 for Housing purposes.

A report on this matter was noted at the meeting of the Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Area Committee (Services B) held on Thursday 2nd November 2023.

Dóife Brendan

Senior Executive Officer,
Economic, Enterprise, Tourism &
Cultural Development Department



Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Dwg No: LA-049-21	O.S.Ref:
Date: 16 Aug 2021	Drawn By: LJM
Scale: 1/1000	Checked:
Dev. File No:	Job No. SM/49/21

Project:
Land at Avondale Court , Parlickstown

Land to be transferred by :
Fingal Co Co

Gross Area :	1938 m2	
Road Area :		
Nett Area :	1938 m2	

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO 18e

PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF FEE SIMPLE INTEREST OF DWELLINGS

In accordance with the provisions of the Landlord and Tenant (Ground Rents) (No. 2) Act, 1978 and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, it is recommended that the disposal of the fee simple interest in the dwellings below to the persons as set out in the schedule, who have applied in accordance with the provisions of the Landlord and Tenant (Ground Rent) (No. 2) Act, 1978 to acquire the fee simple be approved.

ADDRESS	LESSEE	APPLICANT / PURCHASER	DETAILS OF LEASE	ANNUAL GROUND RENT	PURCHASE OF FEE SIMPLE
109 Inbhir Ide Malahide Co.Dublin	[redacted]	[redacted]	150 years from 04/09/1971	£15.00 = €19.04 x 59.17 = €1126.59	€1126.59 +€130.00 = €1256.59
1 St.Maccullins Close, Lusk, Co.Dublin	[redacted]	[redacted]	150 years from 26/07/1975	£0.05 = €0.06 x 59.17 = €3.55	€3.55 +€130.00 = €133.55
36 Grace O'Malley Road Howth Co.Dublin	[redacted]	[redacted]	150 years from 24/01/1977	£0.05 = €0.06 x 59.17 = €3.55	€3.55 +€130.00 = €133.55

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 19

DECLARATION OF ROADS

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 19a

COIS SRUTHÁIN, BALLYBOUGHAL, CO DUBLIN

DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROADS

Statutory Notice has been given in the press of the Council's intention to consider the making of a declaration that the road set out hereunder be public roads. No objections have been received and it is recommended that the road be taken in charge.

Road Schedule

BC Number – 1734
Taking In Charge – Cois Srutháin
DED –Rush-Lusk TL- Ballyboughal

Road Name	Length	Description
Road entering Cois Srutháin Road from Main St Road (R018)	62m	Road from the Main St Road entering to Cois Srutháin Road from west, moving east in the vicinity of House No 19. (62m)
	67m	Cois Srutháin Road beginning from the north, nearby House No. 25 moving south, which is a straight stretch of road, close by House No. 18. (67m)
	40m	Cois Srutháin Road beginning nearby House No. 11, moving south to the end of the Road. (40m)

Road	Total Length =169m	
Total number of Units	25	

Footpath	Length	Description
Footpath close to the Main St Road (R108)	130m	Footpath moving adjacent to the Main Street Road(R108), Nearby from House No. 13 moving north, crossing the entrance to Cois Srutháin. Moving further north, footpath right past the overflow culvert. (130m)
Footpath parallel to Riverside Road (path close to residential area)	193m	Footpath on the west beginning from the 1-6 units, moving southeast connecting to Beverly Hill Road. (193m)
Small stretch of footpath between 1-6 units and detention basin in the northeast direction	7m	Small stretch of footpath in northeast direction that lies between the 1-6 units and detention basin. (7m)
Footpath from House No. 25 up to car park on the opposite direction in the east.	21m	Footpath from House No. 25 moving east passing the disabled car parking, moving further east up unto the other car park, in the vicinity of the connecting bridge. (21m)
Footpath moving along the Barley Hill and Riverside Road (R129)	145m	Footpath from the east, moving north along the Barley Hill Road, further moving northwest direction along Riverside Road(R129) that goes up to 85m and then enters Cois Srutháin residential area connected with a small bridge. (145m)
Footpath from House No. 22 to House No. 18	94m	Footpath moving northwest from House No. 22 up to House No. 19 and further moving south to the end of House No. 18. (94m)

Footpath from House No. 17 to the disabled car parking situated in the west.	56m	Footpath from House No. 18 passing along House No. 17, further moving north up to House No. 14 to the disabled car parking spot situated in the west. (56m)
Footpath from House No. 13 to House No. 12.	33m	Footpath beginning from House No. 13 moving north up to the House No. 12 situated in the west. (33m).
Footpath from House No. 11 to House No. 25 in the east.	77m	Footpath from House No. 11 moving east, passing House No. 23, further moving north, passing House No. 25. (77m)
Footpath	**Total Length = 756m**	

Road Schedule

BC Number – 1734
Taking In Charge – Cois Srutháin
DED –Rush-Lusk TL- Ballyboughal

Road Name	Length	Description
Road entering Cois Srutháin Road from Main St Road (R018)	62m	Road from the Main St Road entering to Cois Srutháin Road from west, moving east in the vicinity of House No 19. (62m)
	67m	Cois Srutháin Road beginning from the north, nearby House No. 25 moving south, which is a straight stretch of road, close by House No. 18. (67m)
	40m	Cois Srutháin Road beginning nearby House No. 11, moving south to the end of the Road. (40m)
Road	Total Length =169m	
Total number of Units	25	

Footpath	Length	Description
Footpath close to the Main St Road (R108)	130m	Footpath moving adjacent to the Main Street Road(R108), Nearby from House No. 13 moving north, crossing the entrance to Cois Srutháin. Moving further north, footpath right past the overflow culvert. (130m)
Footpath parallel to Riverside Road (path close to residential area)	193m	Footpath on the west beginning from the 1-6 units, moving southeast connecting to Beverly Hill Road. (193m)

Small stretch of footpath between 1-6 units and detention basin in the northeast direction Footpath from House No. 25 up to car park on the opposite direction in the east.	7m 21m	Small stretch of footpath in northeast direction that lies between the 1-6 units and detention basin. (7m) Footpath from House No. 25 moving east passing the disabled car parking, moving further east up unto the other car park, in the vicinity of the connecting bridge. (21m)
Footpath moving along the Barley Hill and Riverside Road (R129)	145m	Footpath from the east, moving north along the Barley Hill Road, further moving northwest direction along Riverside Road(R129) that goes up to 85m and then enters Cois Srutháin residential area connected with a small bridge. (145m)
Footpath from House No. 22 to House No. 18	94m	Footpath moving northwest from House No. 22 up to House No. 19 and further moving south to the end of House No. 18. (94m)
Footpath from House No. 17 to the disabled car parking situated in the west.	56m	Footpath from House No. 18 passing along House No. 17, further moving north up to House No. 14 to the disabled car parking spot situated in the west. (56m)
Footpath from House No. 13 to House No. 12.	33m	Footpath beginning from House No. 13 moving north up to the House No. 12 situated in the west. (33m).
Footpath from House No. 11 to House No. 25 in the east.	77m	Footpath from House No. 11 moving east, passing House No. 23, further moving north, passing House No. 25. (77m)
Footpath	**Total Length = 756m**	



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Foul Water Manhole Schedule

Manhole #	Cover Level	BD Invert Level	Invert Level	Diameter Ou
FA	29.40		27.72	225
FB	29.50		27.64	225
FC	29.50		27.60	225
FD	29.70		27.53	225
FE	29.75		27.37	225
FF	28.14		27.27	225
FH1	28.90		27.60	225
F5	28.65		27.49	225
F6	29.64		28.33	150
F9	29.60	28.16	27.61	150
F10	29.29		27.61	150
F11	28.50		27.35	225
F12	29.77		28.56	150
F12A	29.35		27.78	225
F13	29.73		28.25	150
F13A	29.20		27.82	150
F14	29.52	28.15	27.17	225
F14A	28.86		27.12	225
F101	29.07		27.08	225

Surface Water Manhole Schedule

Manhole #	Cover Level	Invert Level	Diameter Out
SB	28.81	27.91	225
SC	28.66	27.82	225
SC1	28.81	27.98	225
SC2	29.09	28.12	225
SD	28.50	27.58	300
SD1	29.61	28.18	225
SD2	29.61	28.25	225
SE	29.62	28.17	225
SF	29.10	28.06	150
SG	29.02	27.50	225
SH	28.61	27.40	225
SI	28.80	27.45	225
S14	29.08	27.26	450
S15	29.37	27.19	450
S15A	29.49	27.16	450
S15B	29.52	27.09	450

SENIOR ENGINEER: COLIN GALLAGHER

DATE: September 2023	SURVEYED BY: Y.Cao		ALL FOUL AND SURFACE WATER SEWERS ARE 225mm DIA UNLESS STATED.
CHECKED BY: D.Gormley	DRAWN BY: F. MCNeary		SCALED DIMENSIONS T TO BE USED.
APPROVED BY: C. Gallagher	BC: 1734		LENGTH OF ROADS ARE AS ON THE ATTACHED ROAD SCHEDULE.
DRAWING NUMBER: 1000	REV.	SCALE: 1:1000 @ A1	WATER MAINS 100mm DIA. UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.
		OS Ref. 2991	

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Inspectorate Division

TAKING IN CHARGE

Cois Sruthán
Rush-Lusk Ballyboughal

Areas proposed to be taken in charge

Foul Water System proposed to be taken in charge.

Surface Water System proposed to be taken in charge.

Watermains proposed to be taken in charge.

Hydrant

Sluice Valve

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 20

LADP/008/23 - PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF 57 NO. APARTMENTS & ASSOCIATED SITE WORKS AT HOLYWELL, SWORDS, CO. DUBLIN

Presentation on the night, if requested.

Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council

Fingal Tourism Strategy 2023-2029



Front cover: Malahide Beach
This page: Howth Cliff Walk



Foreword

Fingal
Tourism Strategy
2023-2029



Fingal has always held a unique place in the hearts of those who call it home, blessed as it is with a rich heritage, a coastline that boasts amazing beaches, a vibrant and welcoming network of communities from urban to rural right across the county.

With our region having so much to offer, and as someone fortunate enough to be born and bred in Fingal, I am always delighted to extend a warm invitation to all those seeking an extraordinary escape into a world of natural wonders, charming villages, and an authentic Irish experience. to come and experience Fingal for themselves.

The new strategy builds upon our existing strengths and propels us toward a future where tourism not only enriches our local economy but also enhances the quality of life for all residents. By fostering strategic partnerships and innovative initiatives between businesses, residents, and government entities, we aim to solidify Fingal's reputation as a destination that not only mesmerizes with its landscapes but also embraces with its warmth and authenticity.

In developing this strategy, we also recognise that sustainable tourism is one of the key themes to helping us preserve what makes Fingal special for generations to come. As such, this strategy emphasizes responsible practices that prioritize the conservation of our environment, the celebration of our cultural identity, and the empowerment of our local communities, to grow the sector throughout the County in a sustainable manner that protects our abundant resources.

Cllr Adrian Henchy,
Mayor of Fingal



Tourism brings opportunities for investment and growth which in turn helps us to further enhance those places which make us an attractive place to live and visit. This strategy will help us to harness Fingal's inherent charm and boundless potential, allowing domestic and international visitors alike to connect with our heritage, culture, and natural wonders.

Fingal County Council has always consistently invested considerable resources in supporting tourism. It works closely with Fáilte Ireland and Tourism Ireland in the development and promotion of Ireland, Dublin and Fingal as tourism destinations, directly manages and develops a number of significant visitor attractions, festivals and events; and directly funds and supports Fingal promotion, marketing and tourist information services.

This strategy continues that commitment, it is a vision to strengthen Fingal's status as a special tourism destination offering an array of options for natural amenities and heritage, local arts and culture, recreation and leisure, with an emphasis on culinary delights, coastal relaxation, and outdoor adventure. It's also a shared endeavour to help nurture the very essence of what makes our region special. I invite you all to be a part of this journey that will define the future of Fingal's tourism sector.

AnnMarie Farrelly,
Chief Executive, Fingal County Council

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Flavours of Fingal



Fingal Tourism Strategy 2023-2029

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Swords Castle

Fingal
Tourism Strategy
2023-2029

Introduction

Context

Fingal is hugely diverse in population and geography, and tourism is no different. The Fingal motto 'Flúirse Talaimh is Mara' (rich in land and sea) is reflected in the equally rich variety of natural amenities including Special Amenity Areas such as Howth and the Liffey Valley, heritage, arts, culture, recreation and leisure within it's borders.

A stunning landscape includes 88km of coastline from Balbriggan to Howth, urban centres such as the County seats of Swords and Blanchardstown, and picturesque towns and villages in idyllic rural settings with the breathing room of the countryside, stretching all the way from the Naul across to the magnificent Liffey Valley and Phoenix Park.

With long sandy beaches, rugged coastline, stunning heritage properties, ancient castles, majestic gardens, a wide range of arts and cultural venues offering a year long programme of events, indoor and outdoor sport and leisure activities, combined with a thriving hospitality sector encompassing diverse culinary traditions, and local producers, there is truly something for everyone in Fingal.

Rationale

Tourism is one of Fingal's most important economic drivers. The sector plays a key role in the Fingal's rural and urban local economies and accounts for a significant amount of employment characterised by large numbers of SMEs, with 800 businesses providing accommodation and catering services. Guest accommodation supports an estimated 3,000 full time job equivalents and the catering sector provides a further 2,000 jobs (Source: Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029). Through Dublin Airport, Fingal also provides the primary national link between Ireland and international tourists.

This Tourism Strategy 2023-2029 builds on the Fingal Tourism Strategy 2015-2018, Statement of Tourism Strategy 2017-2022, Fingal Corporate Plan 2019-2024 and the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029, and related policies and plans.

It outlines a roadmap for Fingal to realise its tourism potential in order to gain maximum sustainable, economic and social benefit in the coming years.

Based on a strategic review including extensive stakeholder consultation, product and experience audit and development; it presents a compelling strategic vision, objectives and goals, growth targets, and high level implementation roadmap from which detailed action plans will be developed over its lifetime.

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Paddle Tour at sunset in Skerries

Fingal
Tourism Strategy
2023-2029

Executive Summary

"A dynamic and inclusive strategy including a refreshed and clearly articulated vision that will enable Fingal to drive sustainable, innovative, resilient and inclusive tourism growth."

This strategy outlines a roadmap for Fingal to realise its tourism potential in order to gain maximum sustainable, economic and social benefit in the coming years. In this regard, the strategy aims to:

- **Support, enable and drive** destination development in the county whilst working to unlock the potential of clustered product and experiences across the county
- **Evaluate options and opportunities** for the development of the county's unique product and experience offerings enabling tourism across the county to make a meaningful impact to the local economy
- **Consider the strength** of overall visitor experience and areas in need of development that will allow Fingal, as a destination, to adapt to ever-changing consumer needs and expectations, as well as the identification of gaps and proposed solutions in the resulting implementation plan
- **Optimise and amplify** the marketing and promotion of the county, aligned with the key tourism bodies development plans for Ireland and the Dublin region, and the Council's development and corporate plans

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Overview

	Asset Driven	Dispersed Growth	Maturity Model	Resource Focus	Value Led
Natural Amenities & Heritage	North	Pioneering	Marketing & Promotion	Smart
Arts & Culture	South East	Progressing	Collaboration	Sustainable
Recreation & Leisure	South West	Enhancing	Infrastructure	Accessible

Hospitality, Food & Drink, Festivals and Events

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Vision

Consolidate Fingal's position as a tourism destination with a choice of local, cultural, culinary, coastal and outdoor experiences across the county that showcase the strengths, assets and opportunities of the area and lead to sustainable and inclusive tourism sector growth.



Mission

Provide a sustainable and collaborative road-map which supports all tourism stakeholders in working together to deliver a tourism proposition which will deliver maximum sustainable, economic and social benefit for Fingal.



Approach

Lead with mature, well known products and experiences, clustered with those less well known, to create a destination-based approach where gaps in one area are compensated for by other strengths and added to by future developments as they mature.



Objectives

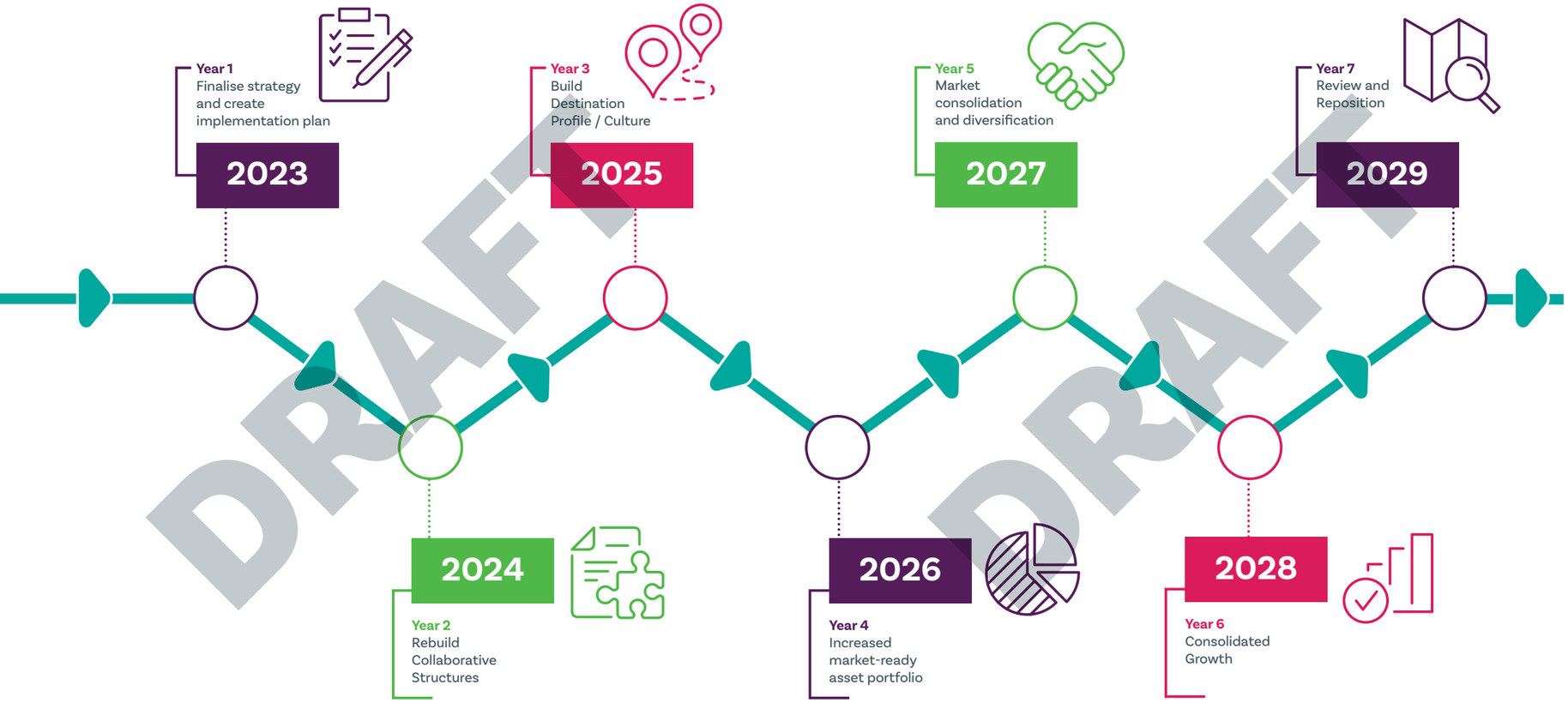
1. ***Dispersed Growth***
2. ***Product & Experience Development***
3. ***Branding, Marketing & Promotion***
4. ***Collaboration***



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Roadmap

Fingal
Tourism Strategy
2023-2029



Dispersed

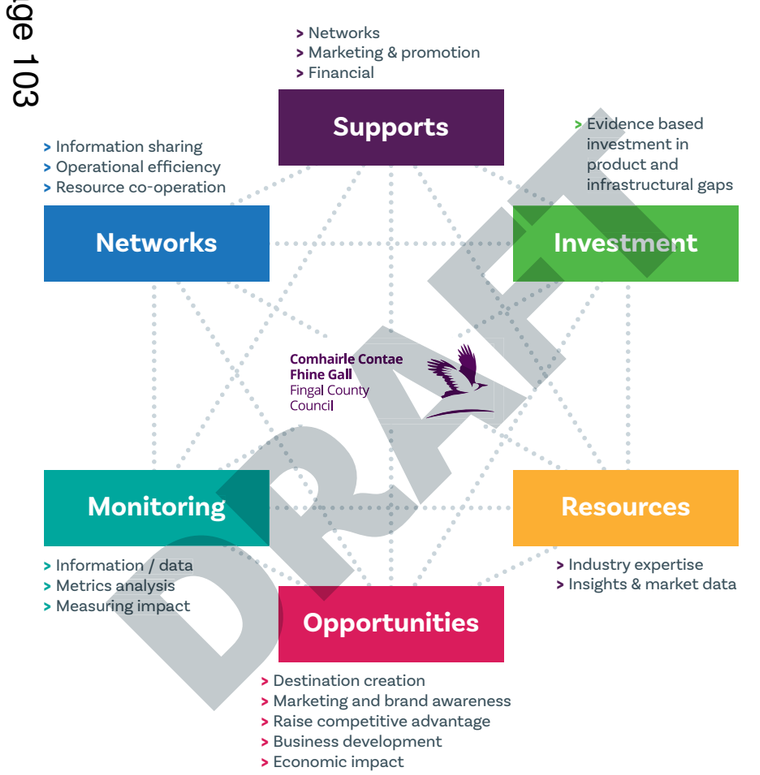
Product & Experience

Branding, Marketing

Collaboration

Fingal County Council Role

The collaborative model below shows the way in which key tourism stakeholders will be led by the Council to work together to achieve growth that is of benefit to all.



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Malahide Castle

Fingal
Tourism Strategy
2023-2029

Findings

Research & Consultation
To inform this strategy and identify growth opportunities for a sustainable, innovative, resilient and inclusive tourism sector in Fingal, a broad and representative range of stakeholders were consulted via in person interviews, focus groups, workshops, and surveys to capture their views, experiences and insights.

Interviews
A series of 1:1 interviews were conducted with representatives of the following organisations:

- Fingal County Council
- Fingal Tourism
- Fáilte Ireland
- Tourism Ireland
- Fingal PPN
- Waterways Ireland
- Heritage Council
- Fingal Chamber
- Dublin City Council
- South Dublin City Council

Focus groups
Six focus groups were held in total. Two of the focus groups were internal (within Fingal County Council) and four were external. External focus groups consisted of key tourism stakeholders from towns and villages in Fingal.

Survey
A survey was distributed by an online survey tool to the project partners. Each participant on received a "personal link" or access code" to complete and submit the survey. An open survey link was also sent to the Public Participation Network (PPN), Waterways Ireland, Heritage Council and the Fingal Chamber to distribute. The aim of the survey was to gather feedback, to gain insights and views into motives for visitors, strengths, challenges, opportunities, threats, ambitions and strategic objectives for the tourism strategy.

Key tourism stakeholder Product Audit & Experience Workshop
A Product Audit and Experience Workshop was held with key tourism stakeholders, including representatives from:

- Fingal County Council
- Fingal Tourism
- Agencies (Fáilte Ireland , DAA, NTA, Sport Ireland, UNESCO Biosphere)
- Fingal tourism industry

The workshop focused on market ready tourism products and experiences under the following themes:

- Natural Amenities
- Heritage & Culture
- Leisure & Recreation
- Food & Drink
- Festivals & Events
- Accommodation
- Infrastructure

Under each of the themes, the towns and villages of Fingal were divided up into three areas North, South East and South West.


Balbriggan Lighthouse

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Key Insights

Unique Offering

> Fingal has broad range of natural outdoor amenities and good green infrastructure e.g. 88km of coastline with blue flag beaches, Liffey valley, forests, harbours, parks, canals etc., in close proximity to city centre
> Opportunity to dial up the outdoors, slow tourism and the urban to rural accessibility of nature on the city's doorstep
> Focus on sustainable tourism e.g. UNESCO Dublin Bay biosphere, Dublin Coastal Trail, Fingal Greenway, waterways activities. Champion clean and green credentials, balancing developing the county but maintaining the beauty of natural environment

Food & Drink

> Food offerings in the county considered strong e.g. restaurants, producers, retail, food festivals
> Suggested need to develop scalable food experiences which are bookable and create dwell time e.g. restaurant visit, meet a food producer, go out fishing
> Food provenance is an undersold story e.g. spotlight farm to fork authentic food offerings and the history of organic growing and indigenous companies such as Keelings, Kehoes Crisps and Fyffes

Competitive Edge

> Close proximity to Dublin and Dublin airport, though potential competitive edge has not delivered to date, there could be opportunities to capitalise on 15-20% capacity increase through the airport with strong return of UK, US, French and German markets
> The county is a one-stop-shop with everything on the visitor's doorstep in a small e.g. coast, heritage (castles and great houses), culture, towns and villages, nature and shopping within 40 minutes
> Strength of the coastal locations and beaches
> Well known domestically for events and festivals, particularly in North and West of the county and villages e.g. Flavours of Fingal, Howth Maritime and Seafood Festival

Identity & Awareness

> Lack of knowledge or awareness about what Fingal is, where it is situated, what villages and towns form Fingal County, what to do, visit or stay i.e. questions around whether visitors intentionally or accidently visit Fingal
> Lack of definition around the brand / identity and questions around whether Fingal is known outside of the county
> Perceived gaps/uneven spread of current marketing activities across the various channels
> Visitor experience
> Not seen as a visitor destination i.e. due to less awareness, considered more as a day trip location

Key Challenges

> Collaboration with other Dublin locations and attractions e.g. in city centre and other Dublin areas
> Requirement to develop offerings inland, promote choice across the county, particularly the towns and villages who can feel ignored by tourism authorities
> There is a need to develop a coherent proposition, trails, naming conventions and signage to support visitor flow
> Communication of packages / routes and sharing knowledge locally and nationally is a big challenge in terms of awareness, identity, clear marketing messaging and joint promotion
> Insufficient hotel stock in some areas in the county which limits potential bed nights

Transport Infrastructure

> Transport needs further development to have connectivity and links across the county (excellent access to Fingal through airport, the M50 and extension of the DART line north to Drogheda)
> Access issues for FIT (Free Independent Traveller) whilst transport links from South to North Dublin are excellent but connecting to areas outside of this rail lane accessibility to get to places is non-existent. Significant as 67% of international visitors do not use a car
> Traffic calming issues in the popular towns and villages such as Howth and Malahide. Provides opportunities to develop cycle tourism e.g. cycle infrastructure being developed by Active Travel Department

Data& Metrics

> Use data capture and monitoring to assess economic contributors and set targets to help stakeholders do more and work together to improve tourism
> Need for key metrics to measure baseline targets and success rates and ROI. These should include tracking visitor numbers, visitor spend, social media spend and cost per acquisition etc. and be reviewed on quarterly and annual basis

Reporting & Collaboration

> Reporting structures to support implementation, communication, and adaption of strategy
> Collaboration structures and reporting required

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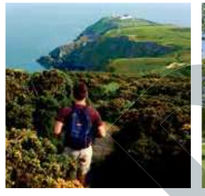
Branding

Fingal tourism branding is currently aligned with the Fáilte Ireland Dublin brand. The Dublin brand position, “Dublin living thrives side by side with the natural outdoors so you can constantly jump between completely unique, different and often unexpected experiences.” (Fáilte Ireland, 2023). This approach should continue given the level of investment in the brand and related reach and awareness, supported by Fingal specific signature destination and clustered visitor experiences.

Branded Visitor Experience

Dublin
Surprising by Nature

Signature Destination Experiences






Clustered Visitor Experiences

SCOT Analysis

Utilising the key insights, a SCOT analysis was performed to:

- Identify economic opportunities and strategic tourism initiatives.
- Identify natural, recreational and cultural signature experiences that can be developed across Fingal.
- Consider the maritime / green potential of Fingal.
- Consider the role of key areas of Fingal in developing tourism specific products and initiatives such as attractions, festivals and events.
- Propose thematic experiences and opportunities based on location profile, assets and visitor product (with the aims of increasing bed nights, encouraging visitor spend and increasing the duration of stay, and encouraging visitor dispersal where relevant).

Strengths
- Coastline and Beaches
- Natural Amenities
- Heritage and Culture
- Golf Courses
- Easily Accessible / Proximity to Airport
- Home to Malahide Castle and Howth/Other Villages
- Range of Sports Facilities

Challenges
- Fingal not seen as a Destination
- Clarify Identity
- Infrastructure Pressures
- Lack of Accommodation
- Lack of Cross-county Access
- Information on Events
- Balance Development and Sustainability

Opportunities
- Increase Awareness of Destination / Identity
- Blueways / Greenways
- Promotion of Dublin Trail
- Improved Infrastructure and Visitor Flow
- Collaboration and connectivity (in county and to city)
- Development of Food Strategy
- Align with National and Tourism Brand Strategies

Threats
- Draw of City Centre
- Prolonged Post-pandemic Recovery
- Economic Slow-down
- Potential Recession
- VAT Rate
- Decrease in International Visitors
- Natural Disasters (pollution, flooding etc.)

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Product Audit and Product Experience Development

Product Overview

Fingal has a wide variety of tourism products available to domestic and international tourists. The tourism products include:

Natural Amenities & Heritage

Fingal possess an abundance of natural landscapes including 88km of coastline, blue-flag beaches, cliff walks and rivers.

Arts & Culture

There are approximately 1,300 heritage sites in Fingal on both public and private land. Sites including castles, tombs and mills.

Recreation & Leisure

Outdoor and indoor activities from golf courses, greenways, blueways, gardens, water activities, museums, and shopping centres.

Food & Drink

Fingal has a strong food producing, food, and drink offering. with establishments including cafes, restaurants, bars, pubs and cookery schools..

Festivals & Events

Fingal festivals include Flavour of Fingal, The Irish Maritime Festival and recently Tradfest. There are events/ concerts also held in Malahide Castle.

Accommodation

There is currently one 5*Hotel, thirteen 4* Hotels and two 3* Hotels in Fingal. There is alternative accommodation available in Fingal including B&Bs, guesthouses, holiday parks and caravan parks.

Current Tourism Offering Workshop Overview

The Product & Experience Audit Graph clearly highlights the concentration of products and equally the current gaps in particular areas. The graph depicts the current presence and absence of product and experiences under these themes:

- Natural Amenities & Heritage
- Arts & Culture
- Recreation & Leisure
- Food & Drink
- Festivals & Events

Under each of the themes, the towns and villages of Fingal were divided up into three areas, North, South East and South West.

The table below displays the town and villages under each of these areas.

North	South East	South West
Balbriggan	Baldoyle	Blanchardstown
Balrothery	Balgriffin	Castleknock
Ballyboughal	Dublin Airport	Clonsilla
Barnageara	Howth	Mulhuddart
Donabate	Malahide	Ongar
Garristown	Portmarnock	
Lusk	Santry	
Oldtown	Sutton	
Portrane	Swords	
Skerries		

The stakeholder workshop session reviewed the audit of current tourism assets in the county and discussed:

- Potential opportunities to optimise or expand existing product and experiences.
- Gaps in offering and potential proposed solutions.
- Opportunities for improvement and product/experience development.
- Key success factors in terms optimal product/experience development (use and future growth).
- Existing and potential partnerships.

These discussions are reflected in the strategic actions identified for each of the objectives contained in the strategy.

Tourism assets are colour coded based on the research and survey findings as follows:

- Green includes "hero" or "lead" products / experiences that were ranked in the top three in the survey as being the main visitor attraction or the greatest strengths of Fingal as a tourism destination or were mentioned most often in the focus groups and interviews as being the best known / biggest draw to the county for visitors.
- Yellow includes products / experiences that were ranked in the top ten in the survey for main visitor attractions and were mentioned in some interviews as being the best known / biggest draw to the county for visitors but less frequently.
- Grey includes products / experiences that did not rank in the top ten for main visitor attraction but could present opportunities to attract visitors in a cluster with "hero" or "lead" tourism assets.
- White space represents where there are gaps in a specific area.

"Hero" or "Lead" Well-known Products / Experiences that draw visitors

Top Ten Main Visitor Attractions but not in top three

Could / should cluster with the above

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Current tourism offering - Product & Experience audit table

The presented product audit table at the workshop.

North	South East	South West
Natural Amenities & Heritage		**Natural Amenities & Heritage**
3 x Blue Flag Beaches (Rush, Donabate and Balcarrick Bay)	2 x Blue Flag Beaches (Portmarnock and Velvet Strand)	
Lambay Island	Howth Cliffs	
	Looped Walks (Black Linn, Bog of Frogs, Cliff Path and Tramline)	
	Ben of Howth	
Arts & Culture		**Arts & Culture**
2 x Castle & House Ardgillan Castle and Demense; Newbridge House and Farm	3 x Castles Malahide; Swords; Howth	
Skerries Mills	Howth Portal Tomb	
Music (Irish Institute of Music and Song, Seamus Ennis Arts Centre)	Music (Irish Institute of Music and Song, Seamus Ennis Arts Centre)	
Recreation & Leisure		**Recreation & Leisure**
Balbriggan & The Island Golf Courses	Portmarnock and Roganstown	Luttrellstown
7 x Links and Parkland Golf Courses (Rush, Beaverstown, Skerries, Hollywood Lakes, Corballis, Donabate, Balcarrick	Ferry Trips (Ireland's Eye, Dublin Bay Cruises, Malahide Charter Boat)	3 x Walking Activities Phoenix Park; Royal Canal Greenway; National Famine Way
Outdoor Activities (Kayaking trips around Skerries Islands)	Outdoor Activities (Cairns Howth Head, The Summit, Howth Lighthouse, Bailey Lighthouse, Kayaking Trips)	Sports Centre (Sports Campus Ireland, National Aquatic Centre
Sea Sauna	3 x Museums (Casino Model Railway, National Transport Museum, Swords Cultural Quarter)	Blanchardstown Shopping Centre
The Herb School		Parkland Gold Course (Elmgreen)
Flynn Adventure Park	Swords Pavillions Shopping Centre	Fort Lucan
		Shackleton Gardens
Food & Drink		**Food & Drink**
Food Producers; Food; Drink	Food; Drink	Drink
Festivals & Events		**Festivals & Events**
Flavours of Fingal	Irish Maritime Festival	South West
Accommodation		**Accommodation**
		5* Luttrellstown Castle Resort
3 x 4* (Bracken Court House, Kettles House Hotel, Roganstown Hotel & Country Club)	6 x 4* (Maldron Hotel Dublin Airport, Clayton Hotel Dublin Airport, Hilton Dublin Airport, Grand Hotel, White Sands Hotel, Portmarnock Hotel and Links)	4x 4* (Carlton Hotel Blanchardstown, Crown Plaza Dublin, Castleknock Hotel, Clayton Hotel Liffey Valley)
Glamping - Planning Approved		National Sports Campus Hotel

M50 M1

M50 M1

M50

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Developing tourism offering - Product & Experience audit table

The presented product audit table at the workshop.

North	South East	South West
Natural Amenities & Heritage		**Natural Amenities & Heritage**
Promote and develop tourism offerings that take advantage of local climate conditions utilising solar gain and daylight		
Arts & Culture		**Arts & Culture**
Fingal Heritage Plan 2018 - 2023 and support the preparation and implementation of the Fingal Heritage Plan 2023 - 2029		
Proctect and conserve the special character of the historic core of Lusk including the area or archaeological notification in the centre of town		
Bremore Castle is being considered for further development		
Recreation & Leisure		**Recreation & Leisure**
Fingal Coastal Way from north of Balbriggan to Kilbarrack	Swords Castle Cultural Quarter	Protect and enhance the built and natural heritage of the Royal Canal and ensure that development along it or in its vicinity does not have a detrimental effect on the character of the canal
Bremore Regional Park in Balbriggan	Dublin Coastal Trail (collaborating with Fáilte Ireland)	
Secure the development of the Greenway, ensure biodiversity net gain, and promote as a new active method of travel. Baldoyle Portmarnock Greenway is part of the longer-term plan. Sutton to Malahide Greenway, ultimately linking to the permitted Broadmeadow Greenway and the Sutton to Sandycove Cycleway is and will continue to bring significant active travel and recreational opportunities to these areas.		Shackleton Mills and Gardens
Promote and facilitate the development and growth of Balbriggan and Skerries as primary service, social, cultural and local tourist centres in North Fingal		
Continue to implement, promote and support the “Our Balbriggan” Rejuvenation Plan		
Food & Drink		**Food & Drink**
Fingal Food Policy		
Red Barn planning approved in Skerries Mills	Howth Castle addition of restaurant / wedding venue	Sport Ireland plan for food facilities (restaurants and cookery school)
Festivals & Events		**Festivals & Events**
The 2023 Cricket World Cup and capitalise on American Football game with Notre Dame vs Navy in the Aviva Stadium on the 26th August 2023		
Red Barn planning approved in Skerries Mills	Howth Castle addition of restaurant / wedding venue	Sport Ireland plan for food facilities (restaurants and cookery school)
Tradfest		
Flavours of Fingal	Irish Maritime Festival	Malahide Castle Concerts / Events
Accommodation		**Accommodation**
Glamping site in Holm Patrick		Sport Ireland Athlete Accommodation
Infrastructure		**Infrastructure**
National Transport Authority (NTA) are implementing two strategies in 2023 called “Connecting Ireland” and “Bus Connects”		
Develop a strategic network of regional level bus and rail based Park and Ride facilities in the Greater Dublin Area at appropriate locations		
Implementation of Demand Management measures on the M50 motorway to ensure that it retains sufficient capacity to fulfil its strategic functions, including freight movement. Facilitate the implementation of the M50 Demand Management Study.		
Metropolitan cycle network set out in the Greater Dublin Area Cycle, Network Plan inclusive of key commuter routes and urban greenways on canal, river and coastal corridors.		
Extension of LUAS to Finglas (St. Margarets Road)	Metrolink to Swords and serving Dublin Airport	Feasibility study of agricultural and recreational amenity lands.

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Rafting on the River Liffey at Shackleton Mills

Vision



Fingal is a destination with a vibrant tourism identity. It is rich in heritage and culture, natural amenities, coastal offerings and food culture all within accessible reach of Dublin's city centre, Ireland's main airport and excellent road connectivity. Within this context a future focused, innovative and deliverable vision is central to supporting Fingal County Council's growth ambitions for the sector, supporting jobs, the local economy and the sustainable impact on the wider community across Fingal.

Developing a vision for tourism in Fingal

The vision statement below lays out an inclusive and future focused vision for tourism in Fingal, one which positions the county to, over time and in line with product, experience and infrastructure developments, increase its share of Dublin's growing tourism economy, domestically and internationally.

The process of formulating this vision took account of stakeholder feedback gathered through consultation with tourism and hospitality businesses, statutory bodies, partner agencies, representative community groups and other local authorities.

The vision should provide direction and clarify where tourism in Fingal is going.

Clarity allows individuals across the county to have a shared sense of what is important and what is not.

The vision should articulate what kind of future the tourism stakeholders want to create.

A vision is a goal that should challenge, stretch and set a high standard for the county.

An effective vision should ensure that all efforts are focused on achieving a common end result and creating a shared ideal future.

The vision should engage and inspire all stakeholders to commit to a cause and achieve the ambition.

Vision

"Consolidate Fingal's position as a tourism destination with a choice of local, cultural, culinary, coastal and outdoor experiences across the county that showcase the strengths, assets and opportunities of the area and lead to sustainable and inclusive tourism sector growth."

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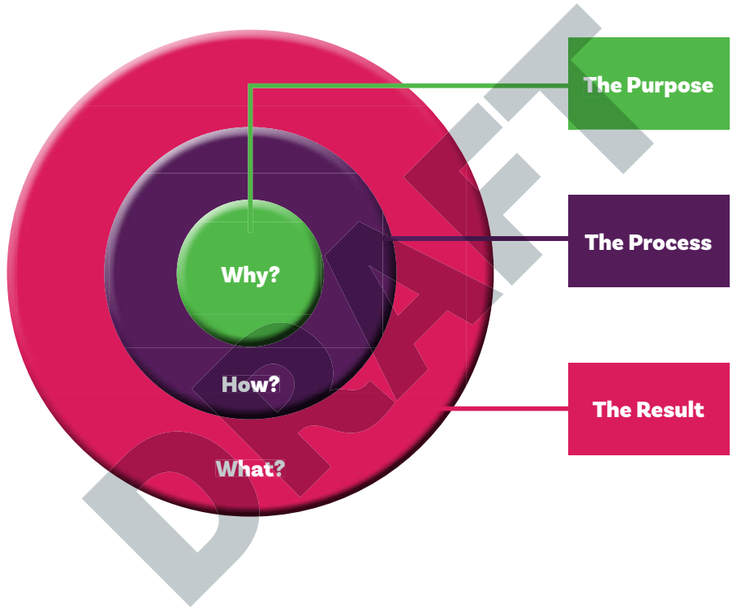
Mission



Casino Model Railway Museum in Malahide

In support of Fingal County Council's strategic vision to establish Fingal as a tourism destination, the mission articulates why the strategy is required, how it will be achieved and what will be involved.

As with the vision, the stated mission is informed by consultations and the survey in relation to questions on how to avail of opportunities, overcome challenges and what would make the strategy successful.



Mission
"Provide a sustainable and collaborative road-map which supports all tourism stakeholders in working together to deliver a tourism proposition which will deliver maximum sustainable, economic and social benefit for Fingal."

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Archery at Luttrellstown Castle

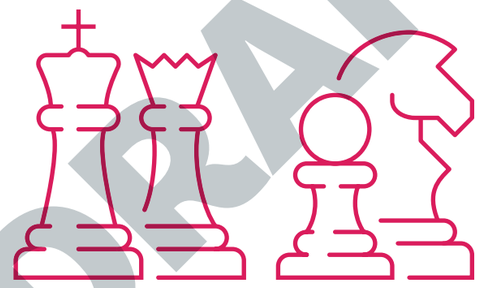
Approach



The vision and mission are built on the idea that to raise awareness, compete effectively, and convince visitors to choose Fingal, it's essential to start with what's already known and likely to attract visitors. This principle emerged frequently during consultations. This central principle guides this strategy and the actions and decisions that will need to be made during implementation.

The strategic approach is driven by the need to acknowledge that while there is a diverse range of tourism assets in the county, there is an equally diverse mix of stages of development, with some tourism assets unlikely to be fully developed and available for the lifetime of the strategy. Equally, tourism assets are at different stages of development in terms of ability to scale and a large amount of what is available is best scaled in collaboration i.e. through clusters with itineraries based on visitor needs and interests.

All of this will take time and this is why a phased approach is recommended and has influenced the objectives, goals and actions and should also influence implementation and risk management.



Approach

Lead with mature, well known products and experiences, clustered with those less well known, to create a destination-based approach where gaps in one area are compensated for by other strengths and added to by future developments as they mature.

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Howth Lighthouse

Objectives

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Objectives

The Strategic Objectives come from the findings and analysis of research and consultation phase and will influence the shape and content of the Implementation Plan. The Strategic Objectives centre on developing a supportive and collaborative framework that will provide a solid foundation for the Implementation Plan.

1 Dispersed Growth

Grow Fingal Tourism by consolidating past performance and creating growth opportunities across the county in targeted market segments.

2 Product & Experience Development

Develop and enhance the range, quality and availability of tourism products and visitor experiences through ongoing product and experience development to ensure an authentic visitor experience.

3 Branding, Marketing & Promotion

Create a targeted marketing and promotional plan which clarifies the Fingal proposition and brand(s) and showcases what distinguishes Fingal as a unique tourism destination, with a view to directing future marketing activities towards clearly defined and achievable key performance indicators.

4 Collaboration & Partnerships

Build collaborative, integrated industry structures and coordinate strategic networks across the county capable of enabling the successful delivery of Fingal's tourism strategy.

1 Dispersed Growth

Grow Fingal Tourism by consolidating past performance and creating growth opportunities across the county in targeted market segments.

Dispersed Growth - Context

Attracting domestic and international visitors to Fingal is important for the Council, the tourism industry and wider tourism in Dublin and is a significant component in sustaining the local economy. Ambitions to achieve growth will require all tourism stakeholders working together to help attract and disperse visitor spend throughout the county.

To build and accelerate visitor numbers and capture new segments in an increasing competitive environment, a more collaborative, distributed and inclusive growth model is required. This aligns with the Council's ambitions, and also those of Fáilte Ireland and Tourism Ireland. This supports a focus on sustainable and balanced growth. It is vital that tourism businesses play their part, especially in working together and with the Council and relevant agencies.

Arising from the Product and Experience Audit, the best known, most market ready tourism assets should be a hook for any clusters/campaigns. They should be marketed in tandem with less well known assets within the context of these cluster/campaigns. As new products, experiences and infrastructure developments come to market, that best meet visitor need and provide reasons to stay longer and more often, these should be added to the overall package and promoted as part of the overall Fingal destination experience.



Swords Castle Summer Concerts



Skerries Mills

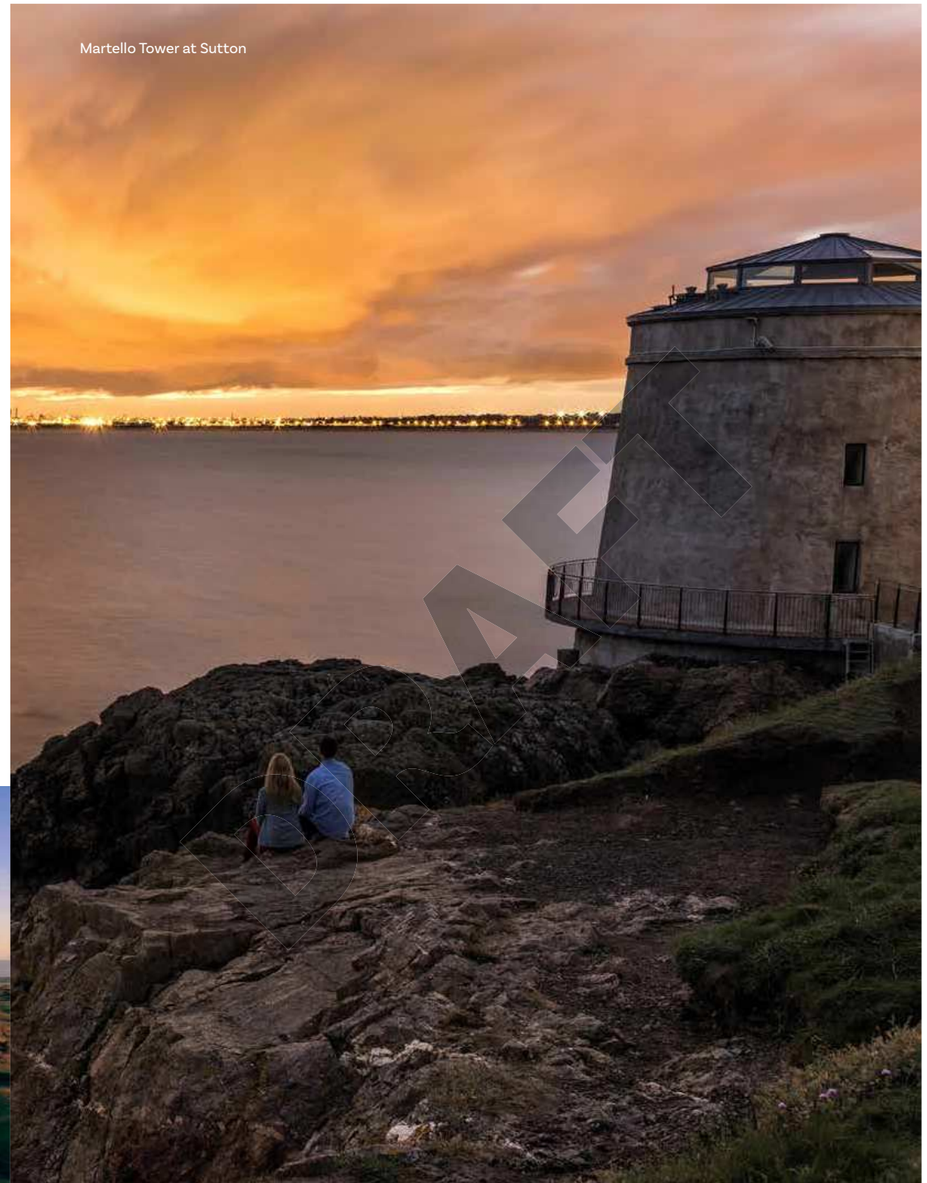
Dispersed Growth Strategic Actions

- Identify all development and expansion plans (Council and tourism industry) and ensure these are included in ongoing targets and projections to understand combined growth potential.
- In conjunction with the industry, define the county-wide growth objectives based on the most relevant product / experience theme in each area and set targets based on stages of market development, identified market potential and growth gaps.
- Support the development of appropriate alternative accommodation options with the required facilities where necessary in line with the County Development plan.
- Work with Fáilte Ireland to identify solutions to building / meeting demand for MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Events) business in the county and address gaps e.g. gala dinner space, concentration of hotels in a small number of areas, scale of meeting space.
- Advocate for digital infrastructure in the county sufficient to meet the needs of large and hybrid events.
- Consider the Council support resources that can be allocated to support the implementation of the strategy.
- Explore data capture option in conjunction with industry stakeholders.
- Define the required stakeholder and governance structure(s).
- Define the optimal system / structure to report on and monitor growth in tourism across the counties (this will be dependent on data sharing agreements with tourism businesses).
- Carry out regular market analysis to identify insights, trends and resulting opportunities to focus targeted efforts towards balanced growth and adapt the competitive growth strategy and targeted marketing and promotions accordingly.

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Key Performance Indicators	Measurement Tracking Systems
> Expansion of infrastructure in line with Fingal County and Dublin Metropolitan region planned investments	> Submission of data to Tourism Working Group
> Appropriate accommodation capacity aligned with tourism proposition	> Infrastructure investment updates via Council and Dublin Metropolitan region
> Growth planned and achieved across 3 county areas	> Monitoring and reporting planning applications granted
> Achievement of Product and Experience Development targets	> Monitoring and reporting zoning/rezoning applications granted
> Required supports being provided / used by tourism industry	> Each county area to get growth targets and report into Fingal Tourism Working Group
	> Fingal Tourism Working Group standing item on agenda
	> Ongoing needs analysis and tracking resources/supports requested/provided across 3 county areas


Portmarnock Golf and Country Club


Martello Tower at Sutton

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2 Product & Experience Development

Develop and enhance the range, quality and availability of tourism products and visitor experiences through ongoing product and experience development to ensure an authentic visitor experience.



Product & Experience Development - Context

Promoting Fingal on a county wide basis should initially focus on established product and experiences, supported by the required infrastructure and services and the optimal channels mix to reach target markets at the awareness and booking stage of their path to purchase.

To grow Fingal's position as a destination, a targeted approach is needed based on:

1. Segments and geographies where the established product is currently most known.
2. Others where awareness building and persuasion is required.
3. Positioning Fingal as a destination with a range of products and experiences to choose from when the time is right (i.e. when a sufficient level of development has happened and clusters and itineraries are created / market-ready).

A coordinated omni-channel activation plan is needed, which increases awareness, is based on reasons to stay developed around clustered scalable experiences (trails, food culture and heritage, blueway and greenway activities, festivals and events) and emphasises sustainable / slow tourism, particularly in Special Amenity Areas such as Howth and the Liffey Valley.

Product and Experience Development will focus on developing and maximising return by clustering the appropriate mix of tourism products and experiences aligned primarily to three strategic themes, based on the primary assets available within Fingal.

1. Natural Amenities & Heritage
2. Arts & Culture
3. Recreation & Leisure

These will be augmented by related products and experiences aligned to the supporting asset themes of Hospitality, Food & Drink, Festivals and Events.

Due to the need for comprehensive food-related economic growth strategy and food tourism development in Fingal, the Department of Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Cultural Development has commissioned a separate dedicated review of the Agri-Food Strategy.

Product & Experience Development Actions

- Create a destination approach by working through a tourism working group representing all three locations and combining existing assets in product and experience clusters at each location based on the theme that best matches the best known, most mature tourism assets.
- Update the product and experience audits (current and future developments) on a regular basis to continually assess the tourism offering, plan for continuous product improvement and keep track of investments that position Fingal as a competitive tourism destination in all areas of the product and experience portfolio (accommodation, business tourism, outdoor activities, culture and heritage, leisure and recreation).
- Develop themed signature experiences for each cluster location, designed to appeal to key target markets. Experiences should combine different attractions, activities, transport, food/beverage and accommodation and should build sustainable tourism credentials. Plans should include goal setting and go to market timelines. Cluster itineraries should be linked to ongoing capital and infrastructure investment (by the Council, agencies and industry).
- Create a conducive environment for increasing accommodation capacity, business tourism and experience development e.g. accessibility, active travel, developing events/festivals, food/beverage experiences and slow tourism.
- Share data on approved plans for tourism developments.
- Define metrics to measure visitor experience and agree a system for data collection, sharing and monitoring.
- Set targets for:
  - 1 additional showcase event per year with the potential to attract a loyal audience who will travel.
  - Addition of 1 gala dinner space and increased meeting room capacity at all hotels (for association business).
  - Addition of 1 showcase new product e.g. Liffey Valley Trail in collaboration with South Dublin County Council.
  - Addition of 1 trail (cycling), hiking/walking trail (greenway) and 1 blueway activity.
- Create scalable, bookable food experiences that incorporate all that is on offer across the county from restaurants and cafés, to food and beverage producers, to food trails, cookery schools, farmers markets, agritourism to foodbased activities e.g. fishing, foraging etc.

Key Performance Indicators	Measurement Tracking Systems
Achievement of new product and experience development targets	Ongoing addition of new product and experiences and related serviced infrastructure
Achievement of booking targets	Agreed tracking mechanism e.g. code, passport etc.
Referral of business within the county	Providers to inform each other of referrals and record resulting business
Visitor satisfaction	Visitor satisfaction surveys

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3 Branding, Marketing & Promotion

Create a targeted marketing and promotional plan which clarifies the Fingal proposition and brand(s) and showcases what distinguishes Fingal as a unique tourism destination, with a view to directing future marketing activities towards clearly defined and achievable key performance indicators.

Branding, Marketing & Promotion - Context

To define and clarify Fingal's proposition as a Dublin destination, is a required starting point. The approach of aligning with Fáilte Ireland Dublin branding should continue given the level of investment in the brand and related reach and awareness.

Where the importance of using "Fingal" in branding was mentioned in the consultation, it was mostly related to the domestic brand and even more so to the brand within the county (for residents). The majority agreed that branding was best adapted in line with the Dublin brand, while clarifying what differentiates Fingal as a Dublin destination.

Clarifying Fingal's positioning and related awareness building, through a tailored and coordinated omnichannel activation plan should include: B2B and B2C segmentation, digital first strategies and channel activation specific to attracting identified segments and growing visitor numbers to established and emerging assets across the county.



Portrane Donabate Cliff Walk

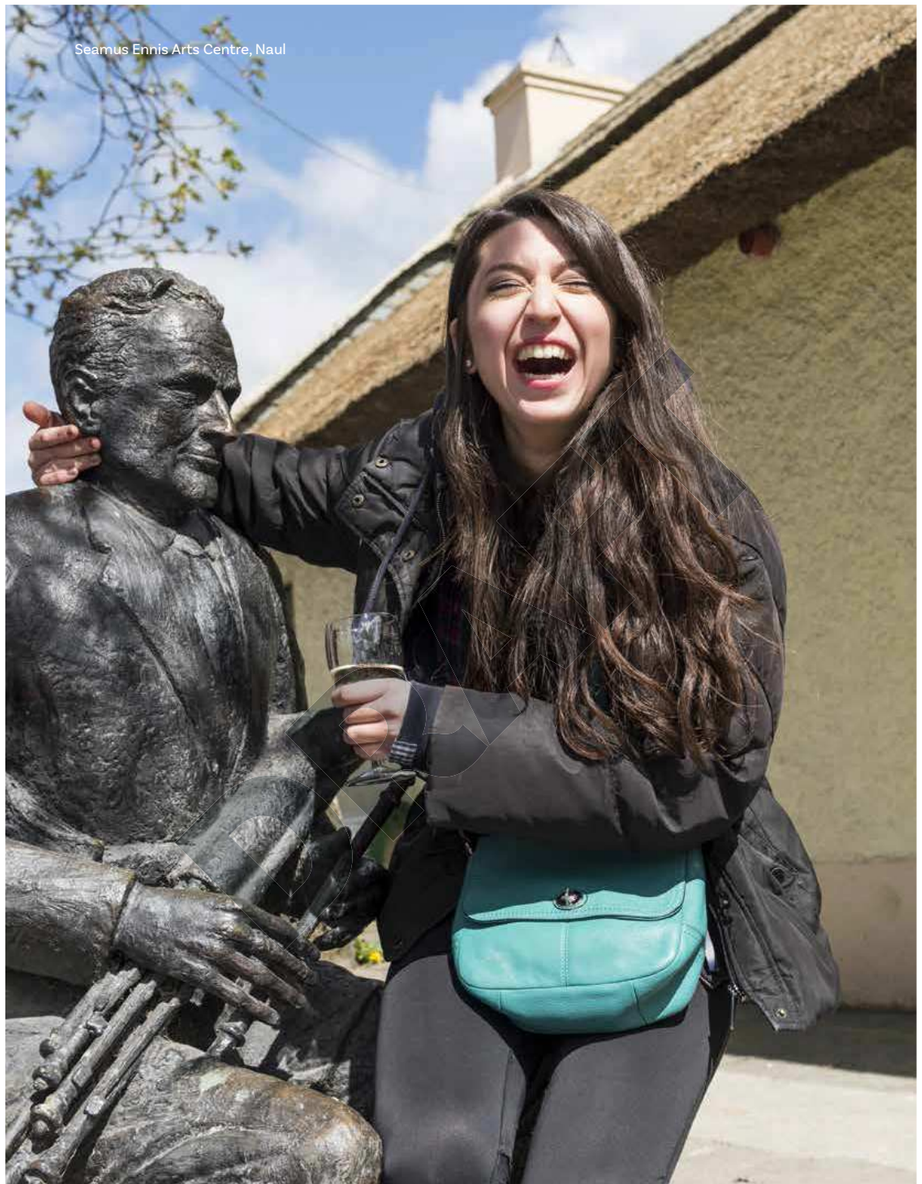
Branding, Marketing & Promotion Actions

- Define and clarify Fingal's brand and a brand hierarchy which shows the relationship and alignment of the brands under the Dublin brand.
- Circulate the Dublin brand toolkit with clarification as to how to customise to the Dublin brand when used in Fingal.
- Work with Fáilte Ireland on a branding survey to review of levels of awareness and understanding, level of use and consistency.
- Devise a coordinated marketing and communications plan based on the county as a destination through the Council and tourism businesses marketing and promotions.
- Develop an integrated promotion programme for the county incorporating online and offline content which targets local (Dublin and bordering counties), domestic, NI and international visitors. The campaign should include:
  - Marketing goals, objectives and targets e.g. engagement, information, activation.
  - Definition and profile of domestic, international and NI target markets and communication channels to target these markets.
  - Schedule of activities.
  - Agreed messaging.
  - Estimation of resources required to effectively and efficiently implement the promotion programme.
  - Definition of implementation monitoring to measure effectiveness'.
- Promote Fingal as an outdoor destination with activities like hiking, walking, greenways, blueways, bird watching, natural habitats, organic food producers etc, accessible via active travel with a developed and developing cycling infrastructure and accessible (in parts) by public transport.
- Integrate the Fáilte Ireland domestic consumer motivation framework (launched in February 2023) into future marketing and promotions.
- Ensure close collaboration between the Council and Ireland's national tourism bodies, Fáilte Ireland and Tourism Ireland, regarding marketing activities to ensure co-ordinated messaging is agreed as part of the marketing plan and the county is given optimal campaign coverage.
- Map out existing and planned trails in Fingal indicating "instagrammable" vantage points and stop-off points along each trail (to increase dwell time).
- Explore potential supports, including financial supports, available from the council and tourism and other agencies for joint marketing campaigns.
- Define metrics to measure brand sentiment and marketing/promotion impact and agree a system for data collection, sharing and monitoring.
- Explore the potential to extend the audience appeal of existing festivals / events beyond local audiences.
- Share knowledge on opportunities and provide updates on product and experience developments on an ongoing basis and promote developments in the planning phase (to create awareness) and once brought to market (to create interest/bookings) e.g. clusters, outdoor activities (cycling, hiking, walking, on and off water activities, redeveloped heritage assets etc.
- Support Fáilte Ireland in a digital 'Marketing Support Hub' for use by relevant tourism and hospitality businesses, events organisations and community groups with marketing materials and collateral.
- Align marketing with the food policy and support an increase in locally sourced food at venues, festivals and events across the county.
- Ensure that all Fingal tourism products and experiences are all listed on the appropriate national and international channels such as **www.discoverireland.ie** and **www.visitdublin.ie**

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Key Performance Indicators	Measurement Tracking Systems
> Attendance at brand activation workshop	> Numbers attending and subsequent alignment with the brand proposition
> Tourism industry engagement with brand proposition across the county	> Survey findings from tourism providers annually on their use of the brand
> Integrated brand proposition into all marketing messaging and campaigns	> Consistent and clear use of brand proposition and marketing messaging
> Use of key messages in media	> Fingal Tourism monitor social and press coverage
> Alignment with Dublin brand in marketing campaigns	> Fingal Tourism and Fáilte Ireland to both monitor brand alignment
> Shared campaign(s) with tourism industry for presence on individual websites and social media platforms	> Fingal Tourism and individual tourism businesses to track impact of campaign and feed into Fingal Tourism measurements
> Engagement with content across the website and 3rd party sites	> Google AdWords: video traffic > PPC reports > SEO reports
> Engagement across social media platforms	> Social media followers, likes, comments, competition entries and shares > Facebook Insights: ad campaigns and sponsored posts > Twitter Analytics: sponsored Tweets > Instagram Analytics

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Seamus Ennis Arts Centre, Naul

4 Collaboration & Partnerships

Build collaborative, integrated industry structures and coordinate strategic networks across the county capable of enabling the successful delivery of Fingal's tourism strategy.

Collaboration & Partnerships - Context

The ambition to position Fingal as a tourism destination requires a coordinated and collaborative effort with cross-county industry structures and strategic partnerships with key agencies.

A concerted and coordinated effort is needed which will only succeed if long-term commitment is made to effective collaborative with all stakeholders taking responsibility for their role in the success or failure of working together effectively. No single or small number of tourism business, Council or agency personnel can create a sufficiently integrated implementation structure separately.

Fingal's strategy will only succeed if the oversight, implementation, management and review structures are (re)created and maintained to ensure the strategy is adequately managed and the ongoing focus, time and collective resource is provided to progress required actions.

Coordinated effort and maintaining momentum via proactive and committed collaboration is vital, as is the understanding that the success of the strategy will be realised on a phased basis (in line with product and experience development).



Howth Castle Cookery School

Collaboration & Partnerships Strategic Actions

- Create a Tourism Advisory Group focused on policy, strategy, access etc. made up of key agencies and representatives of tourism businesses. Advisory Group to define and address any product or infrastructure gaps working with local government, key tourism agencies, national transport authorities and the private sector to advocate for the product and infrastructure development necessary to further develop Fingal as a tourism destination.
- Create a Fingal Tourism Working Group which includes representatives from sub-sectors / themed product and experiences in the county. Group representatives to liaise with tourism colleagues in their sub-sector / area to communicate plans and encourage cluster development, collaborative marketing and promotion, cross-selling etc.
- Work with tourism partners such as Fáilte Ireland to identify strategic proposed solutions to building / meeting demand for MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Events) business in the county.
- Council to liaise with internal departments and relevant outside agencies such as the Fáilte Ireland, Tourism Ireland, National Transport Authority (NTA), Sport Ireland, Waterways Ireland, Irish Lights regarding:
  - Industry supports.
  - Joint domestic and overseas marketing and product, experience and event promotion opportunities.
  - Sufficient and appropriate signage and wayfinding.
  - Explore options to create transport options around and across the country that link various places, experiences and trails.
  - Parking, traffic calming and active travel initiatives.
  - Coordinate and promote commitments to sustainable practices.
- Coordinate county wide networking events and cross-county visits to ensure tourism stakeholders are aware of new developments and to facilitate information sharing and cluster development.
- Work with food producers and farmers to explore the potential of agritourism experiences.
- Include the Fingal Food Network as key stakeholders in working groups and promote their activities and brand(s).
- Co-ordinated marketing messages, aligned with Fáilte Ireland and Tourism Ireland messaging should be agreed as part of the marketing plan, with the Fingal Tourism Working Group to reflect national messaging and campaigns e.g. "Keep Discovering", "Winter in Dublin" and local messaging specific to Fingal e.g. #LoveFingalDublin'.

Key Performance Indicators	Measurement Tracking Systems
> Creation of signature experiences	> Number of providers involved in signature experiences across the county
> Referral of business within the city and county	> Providers to inform each other of referrals and record resulting business
> Infrastructural collaboration within Council and with other agencies	> Number of fully serviced infrastructural developments a. planned and b. completed
> Number of collaborative projects within the county	> Number of new products and experiences brought to market
	> Number of active and completed

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Ardgillan Castle and Demense

Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council

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FINGAL

FOOD AND DRINK POLICY 2023-2029




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Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

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Foreword



As Mayor of Fingal, I would like to congratulate everyone involved in developing the Fingal Food and Drink Policy. It is a valuable document which will help steer our growth over the next six years.

This is an important and positive first step for Fingal in reaching our economic and food tourism potential. Food and drink are significant sectors within the County, and it is vital to have a co-ordinated and proactive approach to their development with businesses and the community.

It is increasingly evident that we must change the way we produce, consume, and think about food and drink. You will see at the core of our strategy lies the imperative to support sustainable techniques that not only protect the integrity of our ecosystems but also cultivate and promote our food tourism sector.

By adopting an innovative piece of work like this, Fingal will continue be a national forerunner in the agri-food sector and also how it supports sustainable businesses. Together, let us embrace a sustainable culinary future, transforming our industry, our communities, and our County - one bite and sip at a time.

Cllr Adrian Henchy, Mayor of Fingal

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Fingal's food and drink sector has played a significant role in the local economy for many years. Recently it has weathered the combined storms of Brexit and the COVID19 pandemic and shown resilience and grit throughout. Now the County is well placed to develop the sector in a strategic manner making this policy both timely and essential.

Fingal's historical assets remain significant factors - a prime location with ready access to markets and rich soils and seas for exceptional horticulture and fishing industries. Excellent connectivity, well-developed food production and a surge in food tourism all add to Fingal's strengths. The challenge is to foster and encourage development along strategic pathways and this is why a collaborative Food and Drink Policy is of key importance.

In recognition of these factors, this Policy has become a reality and will form the basis for sustainable growth and development, boosting tourism, generating employment, and securing the future of the sector.

AnnMarie Farrelly, Chief Executive, Fingal County Council

In response to the need for comprehensive food-related economic growth strategy and food tourism development in Fingal, the Department of Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Cultural Development commissioned a review of the Agri Food Strategy 2019-2021 and the development of a new Food and Drink Policy for Fingal.

Introduction

The Fingal region of County Dublin is renowned for vibrant communities, villages, rich history and picturesque landscapes. With a significant 88km coastline and incomparably fertile soil, Fingal boasts a thriving food and drink sector encompassing diverse culinary traditions, local producers and a flourishing hospitality sector. Recognising the importance of fostering a longer term, sustainable and thriving food sector, Fingal County Council has introduced a Fingal Food and Drink Policy to replace the Agri Food Strategy 2019-2021.

The aim of the Policy

This comprehensive Policy has been developed with the aim of promoting and enhancing various aspects of the food and drink sector in Fingal. It includes supporting businesses and economic growth, developing food tourism experiences, engaging the community on the benefits of their local food provenance, and celebrating their horticultural history.

The Policy seeks to create a supportive framework that nurtures local businesses, celebrate culinary excellence and diversity, support sustainable agriculture and create a vibrant food tourism industry. Through this Policy, we envision a future where Fingal becomes renowned not only for its natural beauty but showcases its vibrant food scene and food provenance. By embracing the Policy, we can lay the foundation for a sustainable, inclusive and prosperous food and drink sector that benefits businesses, residents and visitors alike, thereby creating a future where food and drink are not only nourishment but also a source of pride, economic growth and cultural celebration.

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2. Strategic Context

National and EU food policies play a crucial role in shaping the growth and future of the Irish food and beverage industry and food tourism in Ireland. Agriculture, horticulture and tourism are significant contributors to the economy and employment.

The Fingal Food and Drink Policy has been informed by and aligns with a number of policies and strategies developed by the EU, Government and relevant agencies* including:

- Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 and new Economic Development Strategy
- Food Vision 2030
- EU Farm to Fork Strategy
- EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030
- Bord Bia's 2022, ten year and three-year Strategy
- Teagasc Climate Action Strategy 2022-2030
- Fáilte Ireland's Food and Drink Strategy 2018-2023 and Dublin Regional Tourism Development Strategy

Fingal is a thriving region showing a population increase of 11% in the 2022 census, almost the highest in the country. The importance of agriculture cannot be underestimated with around 600 farmers producing 47% of field vegetables, 14.5% of potatoes and 37% of covered fruit, vegetables and nursery plants. The horticultural sector contributes more than €320m to the economy. [1]

Economic Development

Economic development is central to building a flourishing food and drink sector in Fingal and Fingal County Council has commissioned an Economic Development Strategy aligning with the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 in which food plays a significant part. It advocates strategies promoting sustainability, economic growth and community engagement. These include initiatives to reduce food waste, encourage usage of digesters for organic waste management, support farm diversification, enhance rural tourism, stimulate employment opportunities in the agri-food sector, endorse the Flavours of Fingal initiative, establish a new food industry park, encourage agri-food clusters, safeguard the agricultural identity in North Fingal and promote organic and regenerative farming practices.

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Food Tourism Development

As yet, relatively undeveloped in Fingal, food tourism has substantial potential for growth. According to Fáilte Ireland's Food and Drink Strategy 2018-2023, food and beverage consumption is an intrinsic part of the tourist experience. It can play a strong role in affecting destination choice, it's an important channel for tourists to experience the local culture and spending on food comprises of one-third of tourists' total expenditure. In Ireland, food and beverage expenditure accounts for 35% of overall visitor spend, equating to €2 billion. (2017) [2]

Food Vision commits to developing linkages between local food and tourism offerings, including support for business development and marketing initiatives to support and promote food and drink visitor attractions. EUREGA (European Regions of Gastronomy) identifies gastronomy and local and regional food heritage as both cultural and economic assets, while UNWTO Global Food Tourism emphasises the importance of food tourism for rural communities.

By leveraging both Irish and EU policies and strategies, Fingal can grow its Food and Drink Sector, both in terms of sustainable economic development and tourism growth.

* Itemised in the Consultation Phase.


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3. Executive Summary

Fingal County Council, in response to the need for a comprehensive stimulus for economic growth in the food and drink sector and to advance food tourism in the County, has commissioned an extensive process of consultation and research. This has resulted in the formulation of a new six-year Food and Drink Policy that is aligned with the Fingal County Development Plan, the Economic Development Strategy and Fingal Food Strategy. The primary objective of this Policy is to bolster the existing robust agri and hospitality sectors while safeguarding food heritage, facilitating the growth of food businesses and establishing a premier food tourism experience to attract visitors to the region. Sustainability emerged as a key focus, with stakeholders* emphasising the importance of sustainable practices, profitability, staff retention and environmental responsibility. The evidence-based research and stakeholder input shaped the core theme of sustainability within the Policy, addressing sustainable business growth, carbon footprint and climate change concerns.

*See page 26 for list of stakeholders.

Three Policy Strands

The Policy has been developed under three strands.



Economic Growth



Food Tourism Development



Community Engagement

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Opportunities

1. Economic Growth: The Policy aims to drive economic growth by leveraging Fingal's agri producers, providing support to businesses throughout each phase of their development and fostering a vibrant food system. Fingal's food and drink sector possesses untapped economic growth potential in farmers markets, innovation and product development, and in potential cross-sector engagement with the expanding local population as well as visitors to the region. Promoting Fingal's role as a significant national producer through a comprehensive marketing campaign is crucial to raising awareness of the region as Ireland's breadbasket. This will showcase innovation and sustainability from producers such as Flynn's and Morning Fresh. Synergy and expansion of Enterprise Centres, food hubs and food parks, along with support from the Local Enterprise Office, will advance strategic growth. The Policy will continue to encourage linkage with Enterprise Ireland and Bord Bia for business growth. Inclusion of the food and drink sector in the Fingal Skills Strategy working group enhances collaboration and skills development.

2. Food Tourism Development: To enhance food tourism in Fingal, initiatives include developing Fingal Food Network, promoting existing coastal food destinations, creating new food experiences with a wider geographical spread and enhancing networking between tourism-related businesses. The development of Fingal Food Network into a leading food network can attract year-round visitors, facilitate collaborative projects, promote networking, maximise marketing and food provenance opportunities and encourage the establishment of a new food series. Council owned Heritage properties, for example Ardgillan Castle, can embrace opportunities to incorporate new food offerings and immersive experiences in keeping with their food heritage and history. Development of food tourism training resources can support economic growth at a grassroots level. Communicating Fingal's food story and maximising the opportunities with Fingal Tourism, Visit Dublin, Fáilte Ireland, the Dublin Coastal Trail, Greenway and Fingal Coastal Way are key for raising brand awareness.

3. Community Engagement: Community engagement promotes economic growth and encourages food provenance and sustainable practices. Capturing the knowledge and expertise of food leaders and growers is essential in safeguarding the food heritage. Encouraging community gardens, allotments, farm shops, markets and supporting kitchen gardens through the Fingal Food Network strengthens the local food system, provides access to local produce and opportunities to meet the maker. The Sustainable Fingal initiative can be utilised to promote sustainable food production, waste reduction and environmentally-friendly practices across community events. Engaging the business and social community promotes local food provenance and economic growth by encouraging food tourism, shopping seasonally and a shop local practice.

Challenges

Naturally, challenges also exist and adhering to this Policy will assist in overcoming them. Currently there is an absence of dedicated resourcing or a central point of contact for food in the County, such as a food development coordinator or a centralised mechanism for showcasing all the food experiences on offer.

Several gaps exist in marketing and promotion. A brand awareness campaign would position Fingal as the premier agri producer in the country. The absence of consistent and coherent food tourism marketing strategies was also noted.

In terms of supporting business growth, the roadmap is unclear and there are insufficient step-up facilities for business growth, support and expansion in the food sector. Increased legislation related to farming practices and a decline in the price of agricultural produce pose a challenge, as does the impact of climate change. Many agricultural businesses in Fingal are family enterprises and there is a danger of loss of knowledge and reduced succession opportunities for farm families and local producers.

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Fingal does not have a coordinated food provenance programme or a comprehensive producer's directory and there are notable gaps in farmers and destination markets. For the tourist, the County has a very limited choice of farm tours and an uneven distribution of existing saleable experience, with the majority concentrated in Howth.

Threats

Lack of sufficient resourcing of the Policy and projects without a clear implementation plan, budget and timeframes were seen as a key threat to the success of the Policy. Another potential threat for businesses was providing their time and resources to the policy and seeing minimum return due to lack of progress on the Agri Food Strategy. The need to mitigate external issues such as inflation, COVID19 and Brexit was also highlighted by businesses in the focus groups. Additional threats identified mirror national issues such as staff shortages, rising energy prices and rural transport connectivity.

Guiding Principles

This Policy defines six guiding principles which take into consideration the urgent need to address sustainability and climate change as well as business growth and tourism development. It highlights key opportunities that centre around encouraging greater collaboration among food businesses, the council and agencies, proactively seeking and maximising sustainable opportunities, embracing innovation and diversity and providing businesses with the necessary support for sustainable growth.

The Policy sets out a clear strategy and action plan for the effective implementation of the proposed actions in the first year. Fingal County Council has committed to providing both governance and resources as well as committing to developing the necessary plans to ensure its successful execution.

4. The Policy

4.1 Vision for Fingal Food and Drink Industry

To create a sustainable and vibrant food community that celebrates local food provenance, supports the growth of food and drink businesses and positions Fingal as a premier food tourism destination.

4.2 Mission Statement

To develop and implement a comprehensive framework that fosters engagement amongst businesses and agencies, promotes sustainable agriculture and food production practices, enhances the competitiveness of the food sector, supports food tourism initiatives, ensures quality food product and educates and empowers the community to make healthy and sustainable food choices while embracing their rich food heritage. Through strategic partnerships, innovative programmes and effective communication, the Policy aims to create a thriving and resilient food community that contributes to the economic, social and cultural well-being of Fingal.

4.3 Policy Format

This Policy has been developed under three strands.



Economic Growth



Food Tourism Development



Community Engagement

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Each individual aspect necessitates its own approach, along with a comprehensive plan and budget for implementation. The strands intersect and contribute to the overarching food and drink policy and strategy for the Fingal region.

Please view section 7, for the year one action plan.

4.3.1 Economic Growth

The Policy aims to drive economic growth by leveraging the region's rich culinary heritage, supporting food and drink businesses and developing a vibrant food system. This Policy recognises the potential of the food and drink sector as a significant contributor to the local economy, for creating employment opportunities, for attracting visitors and to promote innovating and stimulating entrepreneurship. By providing a strategic framework and targeted initiatives - through the Department of Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Cultural Development in conjunction with Local Enterprise Office, Enterprise Centres, Fingal Tourism and Fingal Food Network and relevant agencies - the Policy seeks to unlock the economic potential of the region's food industry, thereby positioning Fingal as a thriving hub for culinary excellence and sustainable economic growth.

4.3.2 Food Tourism Development

Food tourism development involves the strategic promotion and enhancement of Fingal's culinary offerings and food-related experiences to attract visitors. The goal is to showcase the destination as a unique food destination, highlighting local food culture, artisan produce, signature dishes and food experiences.

Initiatives and experiences include festivals – Flavours of Fingal, Howth Maritime and Seafood Festival, food themed events and days like Spud Fest, markets, tours and trails, craft beer and whiskey tasting, catch and cook, cookery school, foraging workshops, farm tours, farms shops, chefs and a range of farm-to-table experiences. The focus is on growing immersive, authentic events and food experiences, highlighting food heritage, local seafood and highlighting local ingredients. There is potential for farms, farm shops and kitchen gardens to expand into food tourism experiences with an authentic farm-to-fork experience onsite. Farm shops should be encouraged where it can be clearly demonstrated that the majority of products sold are grown on the farm holding, there is no displacement of nearby existing retail offerings and the shop is operated by the owner of farm to support farm diversification and increase sustainability of the farm. The farm shop is an ideal accompaniment to farm tour and can offer tasting opportunities.

Fingal can embrace its proximity to Dublin City and population, visitor numbers through Dublin Airport and location on the Belfast-Dublin economic corridor. Fingal hosts impressive and significant heritage attractions both council and privately owned, which include Malahide Castle & Gardens, Ardgillan Castle, Newbridge House and Farm, and Howth Castle. Food is of paramount important in these locations, as it may be the visitors only taste of Fingal. Marketing efforts emphasise the distinct flavours and ingredients of the destination, leveraging digital platforms, social media and partnerships with local businesses to promote and attract food-focused travellers.

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Engaging local businesses, from cafes, restaurants and hoteliers to the community, local farmers, Fingal Tourism, Visit Dublin and Failte Ireland, grows a sustainable food tourism community. By nurturing its food assets, the tourism product in the region will be enhanced. This will support local businesses and showcase Fingal's unique food culture to visitors.

4.3.3 Community Engagement

This Policy places a strong emphasis on community engagement, both from the business community and the local community perspective. Recognising that participation and working together are vital for success, it actively involves local businesses, producers and residents in shaping and implementing initiatives. Strong partnerships provide platforms for knowledge sharing and supporting community-led initiatives like allotments, community supported agriculture, community gardens and events, which encourages seasonality and reduce food miles. This mindset begins on a personal level, ultimately shaping the Chef's menu creation and the dining experience. The Policy aims to empower the local community to actively contribute to the development of the sector. From nourishing entrepreneurship and supporting local businesses to promoting food-related events and initiatives that bring the community together, the Policy aims to create a sense of ownership, pride and shared benefit among all interested parties, driving social cohesion and community development.







4. The Policy

4.4 Six Policy Principles

This Policy is based on six key principles:



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The Policy acknowledges the interconnectedness and mutual reliance of each of these six principles and strives to ensure equal priority is given to each. This framework will serve as a focal point for sustainable endeavours within each of the three strands: Economic Growth, Food Tourism Development and Community Engagement.

The overarching principle is one of sustainability, from job retention and supporting business and tourism development to embracing sustainable best practices initiatives for enhancing our environmental and climate change impact.

Principle	In terms of Fingal Food and Drink Policy	Mechanisms
1. Stakeholder* Collaborations	Ensure stakeholders are linked together and collaborating towards the shared objectives and actions of this Policy. This includes the Fingal County Council, Fingal Food Network, elected representatives, community groups, businesses, agencies and Enterprise Centres.	The establishing of a formal working group led by the Council with industry partners, community and agency representation. The working group facilitates the sharing of resources, expertise and overseeing the implementation of the Policy.
2. Developing Thriving Food Businesses	Ensure food and drink businesses in Fingal not only survive but thrive economically, that they have the capacity to endure, to re-invest, embrace opportunities, flourish and to provide quality, consistent employment.	Seek to move businesses from survival mode to investing in key business supports such as business management, planning, product and service innovation, competitor analysis, messaging, positioning and marketing.

* See page 26 for list of stakeholders.

Principle	In terms of Fingal Food and Drink Policy	Mechanisms
3. Collective Climate Action	Ensure Climate Action Targets for the Fingal food and drink sector are in line with national targets. All stakeholders in the sector should work together to achieve a 50% reduction in emissions by 2030 and to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. The Policy will further align with Fingal Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024 and Bord Bia actions for implementing the EU Farm to Fork Strategy.	Ensure mechanisms are in place nationally or locally to track carbon emissions, train businesses on carbon footprints, reduce food waste and conserve resources, promote local sourcing, minimise packaging, engage in corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives, support organic farming and sustainable food production methods.
4. Engaging Food Communities	Ensure food serves as a unifying force within the community, strengthening connections and facilitating collaboration among businesses and the wider food and drink community.	Define the Fingal food and drink experience and its USPs. The Fingal food story is a key component in the region's communication plan. Facilitating the connection of local community through avenues such as farmers markets, farm shops, community supported agriculture, food innovation hubs, hospitality, as well as the growth of allotments, community gardens, kitchen gardens and community kitchens.
5. Food and Drink Innovation	Fingal must embrace its culinary and horticultural heritage as a catalyst for innovation. By harnessing this rich legacy, the region actively seeks innovative approaches to rejuvenate and invigorate its surroundings, benefiting present and future businesses, residents, and visitors.	Cultivate food and drink innovation. Key approaches include working with stakeholders, promoting food provenance, farm diversification, supporting research and development initiatives, establishing dedicated incubation spaces and clustering, reducing food poverty, promoting entrepreneurship and education, showcasing successful examples, engaging stakeholders, and embracing sustainability principles.
6. Inclusive and Diverse Society	Fostering an inclusive and diverse society entails promoting equality, embracing diversity, and ensuring equal access to opportunities for all ages. This involves creating inclusive policies, createing a welcoming environment, encouraging diversity and promoting social integration. By prioritising inclusivity and diversity, Fingal can build a thriving community that celebrates different food cultures.	Facilitate education and awareness-raising initiatives to create inclusive and diverse events. Instigate projects to promote diversity in leadership and decision-making roles, creating platforms for working together and event creation among diverse communities. Expand awareness-raising initiatives to include youth groups, older and elderly people, the business community and diverse groups. Engage with HSE health promotion team.

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5. Food and Drink Strategy

It is imperative to develop a comprehensive strategy document to ensure the effective implementation of this Policy. The strategy will centre around the three strands: Economic Development, Food Tourism Development and Community Engagement, guided by the six policy principles.

The strategy will be implemented by the Department of Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Cultural Development within Fingal County Council in conjunction with the working group.

Key areas in the new Strategy to be developed should include:

1. Vision and goals
2. Priorities and focus areas
3. Strategic actions with key performance indicators and timeframes
4. Collaboration and partnerships
5. Monitoring and evaluation
6. Resources and implementation
7. Policy review and adaptation

The following areas will guide the strategy implementation:

a) Current Landscape
b) Potential for Growth
c) Challenges to Growth
d) Recommendations

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6. Timeframe

The Fingal Food and Drink Policy will be effective from 2023 to 2029, structured into two distinct implementation phases. The initial phase, spanning the years 2023 to 2025, will be followed by a comprehensive review that considers advancements within the action plan, shifts in the business landscape, evolving government policies related to food and funding opportunities. The subsequent phase will commence in 2026 and continue until the conclusion of the Policy in 2029.



7. High Level Year One Action Plan

The following table presents a comprehensive list of actions that should be commenced and/or completed during the initial year, following the establishment of a dedicated working group and resourcing to oversee the project.

The outlined actions are categorised under the three strands: Economic Development, Food Tourism Development and Community Engagement beneath the overarching theme of sustainability. Each strand encompasses specific actions aimed at nourishing growth and development within the respective areas.

7.1 Overall Policy Actions

Policy Actions	
Area of Focus	**Action**
Fingal County Council/ Working Group	Establish a policy implementation working group and resourcing to oversee and manage the execution of the Policy.
Department of Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Cultural Development/ Communication Plan	Create an integrated communications plan that seeks to define and shape the identity of food and drink in Fingal including both the business and wider community. Include areas such as innovation, food heritage, local food provenance and farming families' stories.
Department of Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Cultural Development/ Signposting	Develop pathways and signposting to encourage business growth. These mechanisms should provide guidance and resources to support entrepreneurs at different stages of development. Responding to changes in the workplace post COVID19, businesses should be able to easily navigate supports outside of business hours, utilising technology to effectively seize opportunities.
Department of Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Cultural Development/ Food Provenance Programme	Convene pertinent stakeholders to develop a Food Provenance Programme tailored to the Fingal region including Fingal County Council Tourism Department, Fingal Tourism, the LEO, Enterprise Centres, Fingal Food Network, Fingal Farmers, Fingal LEADER Partnership, representation from Farmers Markets and relevant agencies to meet the requirements of the programme.

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Howth Cookery School

7.2 Sustainability

To implement climate change initiatives in the food and drink sector, the following actions should be taken. The actions will overlap across the three strands of Economic Growth, Food Tourism Development and Community Engagement. By their implementation, Fingal can actively address climate change in the food and drink sector and promote sustainable practices throughout the value chain during the life of the Policy and beyond.

Sustainability Actions For the Department of Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Cultural Development.	
a)	Create a charter to build a common base of good practice within the County which could be evolved into a mark of quality for businesses. This can become a clear articulation of what Fingal stands for in terms of sustainable food and drink.
b)	Encourage businesses to obtain sustainability credentials to enhance their competitiveness in the marketplace and ensure compliance with climate change regulations. Clearly identify the pathways to certifications (Origin Green, Green Hospitality) or validations that build credibility.
c)	Engage large scale producers to highlight their innovation, sustainability programmes and best practice.
d)	Design an Awareness Programme around sustainable food and drink innovation in Fingal.
e)	Create Fingal Sustainability Awards to showcase best practice.
f)	Promote a mechanism to calculate and track carbon footprints and engage businesses in the process of tracking their emissions. Provide training to support food and drink businesses in determining their primary and secondary carbon footprints.
g)	Encourage collaboration between the Council, businesses and communities to identify innovative strategies for reducing food waste, conserving energy and conserving water. Seek to minimise costs through training, mentoring and financial supports.
h)	Ensure sustainability initiatives - for example packaging reduction, elimination of plastics and carbon footprint reduction - are applicable to all businesses in the value chain. Establish a strong County-wide focus on minimising food waste and packaging. Encourage intentional and tangible actions to minimise the carbon footprint at festivals and events, including the reduction of single-use plastics.
i)	Promote local sourcing to minimise food miles.
j)	Provide support and incentives to help businesses participate in the circular economy and reduce food waste through Sustainable Fingal initiative.
k)	Leverage the corporate social responsibility (CSR) targets of local large-scale producers and companies to support sustainability initiatives.
l)	Encourage and support initiatives for a holistic approach to sustainable methods of food production, consumption and sustainability such as community supported agriculture and organic farming.
m)	Run a series of community and business focus groups and events on sustainability. Brainstorm new ideas and showcase best practice at the events.
n)	Support businesses in each stage of their development and mitigate challenges where possible. Encourage planned succession in businesses, especially in family farms, to safeguard Fingal's agricultural and horticultural heritage with supports, training and where possible funding.

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7. High Level Year One Action Plan

7.3 Strand: Economic Growth	
Responsible Body	**Action**
Economic Development Department/ Food Innovation Hub	a) Liaise with the Enterprise Centres on their strategy plan for the clustering of food businesses, development of community kitchens and step-up facilities for business growth and decide on the feasibility of a new dedicated food innovation hub.
Local Enterprise Office	b) Set up a dedicated mechanism for engaging food and drink businesses on an ongoing basis within the Enterprise Centres at BASE Enterprise Centre, Balbriggan Enterprise and Training Centre (BEaT) and Drinan Enterprise Centre*. *Drinan Enterprise Centre currently has no food businesses leasing units.
Local Enterprise Office	c) Fingal Food Network will provide the LEO with details of training requirements, who in turn will provide solutions where possible. The Food Network and Dublin Food Chain will engage with the Fingal Skills Strategy where relevant.
Local Enterprise Office	d) LEO has run highly effective peer to peer learning and mentoring specific to the food sector. The LEO will continue to look at future initiatives in this area primarily within the context of Dublin Food Chain training and networking events.
Economic Development Department/ Fingal Skills Strategy	e) Expand Fingal Skills Strategy to include food and beverages businesses and agencies representatives.
Economic Development Department/ Local Enterprise Office	f) Achieve healthy collaboration and include the LEO at Fingal Food Network events to promote Dublin Food Chain events, management development programmes, networking events and enterprise promotion activities.
Economic Development Department/ Tourism Development Department/ Food Markets	g) Conduct a comprehensive analysis of the existing gaps in farmers markets within the Fingal region, exploring the feasibility of establishing or facilitating a new food destination market or markets. Devise a tiered support system specifically designed to enhance the functionality and viability of markets. Liaise with the Tourism Development Team on the creation of new immersive food experiences at markets and greater promotion of farm shops.
Economic Development Department/ Healthy Fingal	h) Support Healthy Fingal initiatives to tackle health inequalities and the promotion of healthy eating and active living.

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7.4 Strand: Food Tourism Development		
Responsible Body	**Action**	
Tourism Development Department/ Co-ordinator	a)	Appoint a Food Development Co-ordinator or Consultant to implement the Fingal Food and Drink Policy.
Tourism Development Department/ Fingal Food Network	b)	Seek funding for the Fingal Food Network
Tourism Development Department/ Fingal Food Network	c)	Support industry in building the Fingal Food Network and aligning with the broader Fingal Tourism Strategy.
Tourism Development Department/ Fingal Food Network	d)	Evaluate the current brand – Dublin's Coast and Fields - and create a marketing toolkit.
Tourism Development Department/ Communication Plan	e)	Develop Fingal Food Story. Tell the story of Fingal, its producers and the passionate chefs and entrepreneurs who are showcasing Fingal. Bring their story to the forefront of all marketing campaigns from product launches to new experiences and innovative practices.
Tourism Development Department/ Fingal Food Network	f)	Create a marketing and PR strategy and an updated implementation food network action plan i.e. website redevelopment, social media strategy, content creation plan, PR plan, media visit, familiarisation visits, advertising, and experience development.
Tourism Development Department/ Saleable Experiences	g)	Support the growth of existing saleable experiences. Develop new immersive saleable experiences and encourage a greater regional spread across Fingal for the traget audience. Encourage businesses to engage with Fáilte Ireland programmes on the development of saleable experiences from the Business of Tourism programme to the UltraLuxe programme.
Tourism Development Department/ Food Markets	h)	Liaise with the Economic Development Department on the creation of a new destination food market and supports for markets.
Tourism Development Department/ Heritage Properties	i)	Embrace food heritage. Develop a best-in-class food offering at Council owned heritage properties i.e. Ardgillan Castle, an immersive food and drink experience an increased food provenance while enhancing the properties unique food opportunities and history. Engage with heritage and tourism attractions in Fingal such as Howth Castle.
Tourism Development Department/ Economic Development Department/ Training	j)	Engage LEO, Dublin Food Chain and Fingal Skills Strategy and Fingal Food Network to collaborate on the developing of skills in the food and drink sector based on a needs analysis.
Tourism Development Department/ Fingal Food Network	k)	Continue to invest in food and drink themed festivals and expand to an annual calendar of events in collaboration with Fingal Food Network. Run fringe food events at existing festivals i.e. foraging walks, pop-up restaurants and encourage local provenance at Fingal events and conferences. Bring personalities to the fore with meet the maker events, workshops and demonstrations.

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7. High Level Year One Action Plan

7.5 Strand: Community Engagement		
Responsible Body	**Action**	
Community Engagement/ Heritage Officer	a)	Develop an oral history project to capture generational knowledge and stories from producers on the history of Fingal horticultural and agricultural heritage.
Community Engagement/ Business Community	b)	Host informative meetings inviting the business community, food networks, Chambers of Commerce and community tourism groups to collaborate and advance the initiatives outlined in the Policy.
Community Engagement/ Economic Development Department	c)	Create a directory of community gardens and allotments in Fingal. Include the locations in an awareness campaign to support the development and growth of community initiatives.
Community Engagement/ Fingal Food Network	d)	Create case study and best practice on kitchen gardens in Ireland and internationally. Through the Fingal Food Network support businesses who wish to create kitchen gardens.
Community Engagement/ Sustainable Fingal	e)	Engage and work with Sustainable Fingal to educate both the community and business community on sustainable food and drink practices.
Community Engagement/ Sustainable Fingal	f)	Develop culinary competitions aimed at highlighting the skills of local Chefs and fostering connections within the ethnic food community.
Community Engagement/ Economic Development Department	g)	Develop a range of initiatives to actively involve the broader community in Fingal's food and drink narrative, encompassing activities such as the Student Enterprise Awards and the Age-Friendly Packaging initiative. Capitalise on the rich cultural diversity within the region by showcasing it at markets, festivals and events i.e. Africa Day. Support educational initiatives in schools by Bord Bia and Agri Aware programmes.
Fingal Libaries	h)	The libaries can further expand their food focused, healthy eating and recipe based collection of books and multimedia materials.

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Newbridge House and Farm

8. Governance, Funding, Implementation and Monitoring

8.1 Governance

Governance of the Policy will involve the implementation of effective and transparent processes to ensure the Policy's development, implementation and evaluation are conducted in a fair, inclusive and accountable manner. Under the following principles of participation and inclusivity, transparency, evidence-based decision making, accountability and responsibility, coherence and integration, flexibility and adaptability, working together and partnerships.

By incorporating these principles of good governance, the Policy can ensure that it is inclusive, transparent, evidence-based, accountable, coherent, adaptable and collaborative. This can lead to more effective and sustainable outcomes for the Fingal County Council, businesses and the wider community.

8.2 Funding

Fingal County Council will develop a strategy and action plan to implement the Policy over its lifecycle and resource in partnership with local stakeholders and national and international food and drink agencies such as Bord Bia, Fáilte Ireland, and Teagasc.

8.3 Implementation

The creation of a working group made up of Fingal County Council employees, industry and community representatives will oversee the implementation of the policy, guided by the six principles. The working group provides for the sharing of resources and expertise, fostering a collective approach to problem solving and promoting growth and success. The mechanism for businesses working together is through collaboration and partnership. The working group will engage consultants and professional expertise as required.

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The working group will ensure alignment with national and EU food and drink polices by Bord Bia, Fáilte Ireland, Teagasc and relevant agencies.

Structure of the Working Group

1. Industry Chair (Annual Rotation)
2. Members are made up of businesses, agencies, community groups and Fingal County Council.
3. Secretarial and support services provided by Fingal County Council
4. Subgroup per strand (Chair of subgroup, sits on main group)

Meetings for the main group will be held on a quarterly basis, while the subgroup will convene as needed, depending on the ongoing projects and their requirements.

8.4 Monitoring

A robust, consistent monitoring system is essential to ensure the success of the Policy and timely completion of the action plan.

Monitoring includes regular reporting to the working group and subgroups as required, key performance indicators, data collection and evaluation methodologies to assess the effectiveness of the Policy in achieving its objectives.


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Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council

Consultation Phase

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1. Introduction

The Food and Drink Policy for Fingal is a collaborative effort, considering the voices and expertise of stakeholders from across the food and beverage sector, including farmers, food producers, restaurateurs, retailers, food tourism experts, agencies and council departments. By understanding the unique needs and aspirations of the Fingal community, the policy can create a clear pathway for the future.

2. Rationale Behind the Policy

The reasoning behind developing a food and drink policy for Fingal is to consolidate the sector, poising it for strategic growth and development. It will be beneficial in many different ways:

1. Supporting local businesses: A food and drink policy promotes the use of locally sourced ingredients, which in turn supports local farmers and businesses. This helps boost the local economy, create food hubs/clustering of businesses and create jobs in the food and beverage industry. A policy provides a roadmap for businesses to grow from ideation to establishment, generating employment and accelerated growth.

2. Improving sustainability: A policy raises awareness of sustainability and makes it part of general business practice. It addresses the issue of food waste by encouraging the use of sustainable practices in food preparation and disposal. This includes composting and recycling, as well as reducing the use of single-use plastics and packaging. It encourages the use of environmentally friendly practices in the food and beverage industry, such as reducing food miles, promoting energy-efficient equipment and use of sustainable packaging at festivals. The policy promotes sustainable agricultural practices such as organic farming and regenerative agriculture, that can improve soil health, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase biodiversity. This supports local food businesses and contributes to the overall sustainability of the region's food system.

3. Promoting Food Tourism: A policy to promote food tourism involves developing unique culinary experiences, organising a year-round calendar of events and immersive experiences, collaborating with local producers, implementing targeted marketing campaigns and investing in infrastructure that supports food tourism activities. The policy includes a roadmap for the development of local food and drink network.

4. Celebrating local food culture: Fingal has a unique food culture shaped by its history, geography and diverse communities. A food and drink policy celebrates this culture by promoting local food festivals, food markets, culinary events and food-related activities that showcase the region's food heritage and traditions.

5. The collaborative approach involves engaging various sectors, including government agencies, businesses, farmers and community organisations. Through partnerships and collective decision-making, this approach aims to address food-related challenges, promote sustainable practices, support local food systems and maximise opportunities available in food tourism. The policy will foster cooperation, knowledge exchange and shared responsibility in shaping and implementing an effective policy and initiatives that positively impact Fingal.

In summary, a food and drink policy can facilitate the advancement of local enterprises as well as enhance sustainability initiatives and visitor experiences, thereby generating a net benefit for all involved.

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3. Food and Drink Policies and Agencies

During the research phase we consulted widely with relevant agencies and organisations to ensure the policy was comprehensively informed. We considered existing policies and strategies to ensure a broad knowledge base.

[1] Lessons in Resilience and Success: A snapshot of multigenerational family business in Fingal, Dublin (2016)
[2] Fáilte Ireland's Food and Drink Strategy 2018-2023

This Policy is cognisant of Food Vision 2030, the strategic plan aiming to establish a sustainable and equitable food system tailored to Ireland's unique context. By 2030 it seeks to ensure a resilient and thriving food system that benefits the people, environment and economy of Ireland. Key pillars include promoting sustainable agriculture and food production through the adoption of regenerative farming practices, the development of local food systems to enhance food security and the support of sustainable food tourism and local economies. It prioritises reducing food waste, embracing circular economy principles and promoting sustainable food consumption patterns for environmental and health benefits. Furthermore, it recognises the importance of supporting livelihoods and fostering economic prosperity within the food sector. A particular focus is placed on the horticulture sector, with efforts underway to develop a National Horticulture Strategy. Through the implementation of the Food Vision 2030 strategies, Ireland can ensure food security, protect natural resources, support local economies and improve overall well-being. The draft National Horticulture Strategy has recently undergone public consultation, indicating a commitment to furthering the goals of the vision.

In May 2020 the EU Commission released the Farm to Fork Strategy and the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 which share some targets and are at the heart of the Green Deal. The EU Farm to Fork is a strategy for a fair, healthy and environmentally friendly food system. The strategy addresses priorities and challenges relating to every step in the food chain. It concludes that the transition to sustainable food systems requires a collective approach involving a broad range of stakeholders. Each Member State, including Ireland, is required to implement specific actions. Bord Bia, the Irish Food Board, is well-positioned to align with these actions through its pioneering Origin Green programme, which encourages sustainable agriculture production through sustainable assurance schemes and equips food businesses to meet evolving sustainability needs. As a marketing agency, Bord Bia already successfully promotes sustainable agricultural production. Bord Bia's three-year strategy aligns closely with both the EU Farm to Fork and Food Vision 2030. Teagasc have embraced the food systems approach and are embedding it in all their major initiatives including their new Climate Action Strategy.

Fáilte Ireland identifies a trend of global growth in culinary tourism and food experiences in their draft regional development strategy documents and notes that 'the provenance and offering is steeped in the same tradition as its music, crafts and culture'. Food tourism provides the visitor with more reasons to stay, increasing the economic impact of tourism. Fáilte Ireland intend to provide strategy support and cluster platforms for the development of food tourism networks and trails across the region. The potential of food tourism is widely recognised and is included in Fáilte Ireland Regional Development Strategies.

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Reference Material



- Fingal County Development Plan 2023-29
- Food Vision 2030
- Draft National Horticulture Strategy
- EU Farm to Fork Strategy
- EU Biodiversity Strategy
- The Green Deal (EU)
- Origin Green
- Teagasc Climate Action Strategy
- Fáilte Ireland's Food and Drink Strategy 2018-2023
- EUREGA (European Regions of Gastronomy)
- UNWTO Global Food Tourism
- Fingal Economic Development Strategy (in progress)

Referenced in the Executive Summary:

- Fingal population projection is taken from Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy.

4. Approach, Scope, and Methodology

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The consultation phase of this project involved extensive discovery, research, and engagement by consultants Brouder Marketing. This comprised an audit of existing programmes and experiences, one-to-one meetings, site and research visits, focus groups, a sustainability workshop, and a survey. Additionally, in-depth desk research on the current food landscape, strategies, and policies at both the local and national level was undertaken. The process involved site visits and consultations during the discovery and research phase. The evidence-based research informed the development of the new Fingal Food and Drink Policy.

The scope of the policy was broad, encompassing economic development and supports from agri producers to hospitality and food tourism providers. Areas of research included the Enterprise Centres, Local Enterprise Office, Food Markets and initiatives within the Council on sustainability, training, healthy eating, food poverty and climate action. In the food tourism sector, areas researched included the Fingal Food Network, heritage properties, saleable experience development, food festivals and events, training and resourcing. This research led to the investigation and addition of the third strand of Community Engagement.

Throughout the research, a significant common theme emerged: sustainability. The businesses stressed the significance of keeping their businesses open, adopting sustainable practices for profitable growth and staff retention, and developing environmentally friendly products or services that consider their carbon footprint and minimize their impact on climate change. As a result, sustainability has become a core theme within our policy.

Stakeholder Engagement

36 meetings were conducted with: Fingal Food Network, Crowe Tourism Consultants, Fingal Local Enterprise Office, James Burke Consultants, TASCQ CLG, Empower and Fingal Farmers.

In addition to agency meeting and desk research covering:

- Fingal Tourism
- Fáilte Ireland

- Fingal Skills Strategy
- Bord Bia
- Teagasc
- Dublin Regional Skills Forum
- Fingal LEADER Partnership
- UNESCO Dublin Bay Biosphere
- Bord Iascaigh Mhara

Additionally, we held online meetings with large scale producers Keelings, Country Crest, Oceanpath and Total Produce.

Research visits

We visited heritage properties, food tourism businesses, enterprise centres and markets.

- We made visits to the following heritage properties: Malahide Castle & Gardens, Ardgillan Castle, Newbridge House, Skerries Mills, the Seamus Ennis Arts Centre, Bremore Castle and Howth Castle. We conducted desk research on the Casino Model Railway Museum.
- We made two food tourism research visits to McNally's Organic Farm and Doran's School of Fish in Howth. In both cases we examined the existing food tourism offering and potential opportunities.
- At the three enterprise centres (Base Enterprise Centre, BEaT Enterprise Centre and Drinan Enterprise) we met the managers to ensure alignment with their strategic development plan. We also meet food businesses: Take the Cake, Butter Cream Dream, Java The Hut, Feisty Ferments onsite and conducted an online meeting with Le Patissier.

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Markets and Potential New Markets

We reviewed existing markets and visited Skerries Mills Farmers Market and Howth Market. We visited the existing Country Crest Farm Shop and Beechpark Farm Shop beside Shackleton Gardens and Coolmine Industrial Estate (organic growth of food trucks). We also visited the Sport Ireland Campus to consider opportunities of a food court with local provenance and walled garden. We conducted desk research of existing markets and considered their potential for development. We also considered potential new destination market locations.

Focus Groups: We conducted two facilitated tourism focus groups for food and drink businesses. The findings and feedback are included in the Food Tourism research.

Sustainability Workshop: We ran a sustainability workshop with a specialist sustainability consultant.

Survey

Findings from the Food Tourism Focus Group and survey revealed mixed sentiments regarding establishing Fingal as a best-in-class food and drink destination. Among food and beverage businesses, 40% of those surveyed expressed a negative or uncertain outlook, limited vision for a positive future and would require a shift in mindset towards collaboration. There was eagerness to learn from other destinations through research visits. Businesses were not used to thinking as a network with shared vision. The Fingal Food Network was launched in November 2022 and not all members of the focus group were members.

The survey elicited a limited response of twenty businesses but indicated a belief among respondents that Fingal offers a high-quality food and drink experience, while also recognising areas for improvement such as sustainability, provenance, food markets and events. 20% of respondents are regular visitors to farmers markets. 50% expressed uncertainty about the available supports in the area and signposting for experience development and creating new products. For example, if creating a new farm tour, farmers mentioned they were uncertain where to start, for example where to start researching farm tours, examine the viability, where to access training, insurance, how to enagge tour operator and if they will receive grant support from LEO, Teagasc or LEADER.

These findings highlight the need for strategic planning, collaboration and support to enhance Fingal's food and drink offerings and establish its reputation as a top destination in this regard.

Recommendations

- Significant tourism and food tourism database management is required. This will increase engagement at focus groups, events and surveys.
- Run networking events to promote collaboration and working together.
- Support the Fingal Food Network development.
- Plan familiarisation visits to other destinations with an established food network i.e., Burren Food Trail, Boyne Valley Flavours and Food the Waterford Way.

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5. SOAR Analysis

Fingal was evaluated using the SOAR analysis method. Its uses Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations and Results. Aspirations centre on Fingal's objectives, target audience, and operational scope, while the Results section enables monitoring and adherence to the plan for attaining goals. The advantage of a SOAR analysis is that it is action oriented and suitable for a destination that are developing their food identity and brand.

Strengths

- 88k of coastline with beautiful, picturesque villages and a wide variety of cafés, restaurants and hotels.
- Strong food festivals such as Flavours of Fingal and the Howth Maritime and Seafood Festival.
- Fertile soil which has given rise to Ireland's largest vegetable growing region, a large number of food producers and processors, food leaders and innovators.
- Location: access to the motorway network, partial access to DART service, InterCity service and proximity to Belfast and the Northern Ireland market. Access to the greater Dublin consumer area. Proximity to Dublin airport, Dublin Port, international tourists and global markets. Ability to service the national retail and foodservice providers, which has created Ireland's largest Food Distribution Centres.
- Multi-million-euro enterprises among the larger food producers who work with Enterprise Ireland and have focused strategic growth plans, sustainability programmes and marketing intelligence.
- Mix of quality agricultural and sea opportunities with ports for business and tourism. This is further strengthened by the unique mix of rural, suburban, urban and village settings.
- A diverse range of outdoor recreational sea and land-based activities and attractions.
- A strong track record of business growth, development and innovation and a range of supports from the Local Enterprise Office.
- Michelin Star restaurants, Mamó in Howth, Bon Appetit in Malahide and Potager in Skerries.
- Town teams and tourism focused groups, in Howth for example.
- Proximity of Teagasc Ashtown Food Research Centre, easily accessible for Fingal local businesses.
- Excellent heritage attractions and properties both Council and privately owned.
- High quality, though limited, number of saleable experiences.

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Opportunities

- Develop a strategic plan for clustering of food businesses in the Enterprise Centres and potential to develop a dedicated food hub.
- Establish an online presence for start-ups to showcase new products and reach a wide audience through a collaborative approach by Enterprise Centres, LEO and Fingal Food Network.
- Develop and support farmers markets and a new destination market.
- Encourage producers to participate in farmers markets and organise pop-up events to showcase and sell products directly to consumers, fostering community engagement and promoting local food businesses.
- Create a series of sustainability programmes around food and beverage best practices.
- Engage different cultures and age demographic in campaigns and programmes.
- Develop the Fingal Food Network and consumer brand for food tourism development and growth.
- Create a cross sector food provenance programme building on existing strengths. This would also assist in capturing knowledge and highlighting food heritage.
- Excellent opportunities for the development of local food provenance and food experiences through the development of the Fingal Food Network members and Heritage properties.
- The Council can continue to support and expand on the food festivals and events calendar, introducing local provenance into existing festivals, encouraging fringe experiences, therefore gaining exposure and attracting visitors interested in local cuisine and beverages.

Opportunities for Fingal Food Networks and its members:

- Collaborate with local farmers and producers to create farm-to-table dining experiences, highlighting the freshness and quality of locally sourced ingredients.
- Increase food tours and culinary experiences by developing and offering guided food tours showcasing local culinary traditions, food production processes and unique dining experiences. Development of a food trail focused on a destination (like Galway Food Tour) or a geographical area (such as Slane Food Circle, Food the Waterford Way or Sligo Food Trail).
- Partner with hotels and accommodation providers to offer exclusive menus featuring locally sourced ingredients, creating a distinctive culinary experience for guests.
- Develop and promote specialty food products unique to Fingal, such as craft beers, whiskey or organic produce, capitalising on the growing demand for local and sustainable food.
- Partner with local tourism organisations Fingal Tourism and Visit Dublin to promote Fingal as a food destination, collaborate on marketing initiatives and participate in promotional campaigns.
- Offer culinary workshops, cooking classes and tastings to educate and engage both locals and tourists, providing immersive experiences and showcasing local flavours.
- Businesses can collaborate with tourist attractions, such as heritage sites, gardens, or museums, to offer food and beverage services, enhancing the visitor experiences and creating additional revenue streams.

Aspirations

- To maintain an accurate food and drink business directory.
- To gather annual statistics from businesses as a foundation for evidence-based decision making.
- To have a local food provenance programme in place
- Extend the calendar for conference visitors to the region to embrace local food experiences.
- To have clear pathways for business development from maker space and community kitchens, markets to enterprise centres and step-up units.
- To reduce businesses carbon footprint and promotion of sustainability practices.
- To be a best-in-class food destination.
- To have a wide variety of quality saleable experiences in a greater geographical spread.
- To have a year-round calendar of food themed events and festivals.
- To have food courts with a focus on local provenance at non-food related festivals.
- To have themed weekends with food and adventure providers and structures for collaboration in place.
- To have significant engagement with Failte Ireland Local Expert Programme and a referral programme in place between businesses.
- To have collaborations between food tourism businesses across Fingal and a referral scheme in place.
- To have an established food trail and food tours.

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Results

- Establishment of an active working group to oversee the policy implementation.
- Resourcing and funding in place.
- Quarterly working group meetings.
- Dedicated programmes in place for sustainability, innovation food hub for food business growth, local food provenance programme and food tourism development.
- Sustainability quality mark for Fingal food and drink businesses.
- Increased local food provenance and food experiences in Fingal Council owned heritage properties.
- Local provenance in all hotels, with at least three suppliers named on the menu. Expansion of their conference package to incorporate food and heritage experiences.
- Increase in farmers markets and an established destination market.
- Establishment of a food innovation hub and step-up facilities to enable business to grow and keep jobs in Fingal.

6. Research & Discovery: Detailed Findings and Recommendations

The project brief outlined two areas of focus: economic development and food tourism development. A third area of focus, community engagement, evolved during the research. In addition, an overarching theme of sustainability came through.

The research explored linkage and collaboration opportunities within the Council for the benefit of food and drink development:

- Economic Development
- Tourism Development
- Fingal Skills Strategy
- Sustainable Fingal
- Festivals and Events Team
- Heritage Properties
- Climate Action Team

Collaboration opportunities with Fingal Tourism, Fingal Food Network and Dublin's Coast and Fields brand were identified.

6.1 Review of the Agri Food Strategy

The Fingal Agri-Food Strategy for 2019-2021 focused on enhancing and growing the food sector within the region. It identified strengths such as a prominent vegetable growing region, proximity to a large consumer base and a thriving food community. The strategy highlighted weaknesses including limited collaboration, lack of centralised food information and insufficient marketing. Opportunities included promoting collaboration, showcasing the region's food story and establishing an agri-food hub. Threats included Brexit, rising business costs and lack of support for strategy implementation. The strategy aimed to foster collaboration, innovation and business management, support talent attraction, develop food and drink tourism and explore the establishment of an agri-food hub.

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Due to insufficient resourcing, COVID19 and external factors, several actions were not undertaken. After evaluation and discussions, the following areas were deemed still relevant and included in the new policy:

- Dedicated co-ordinator.
- Creation of a Fingal Food Producers Directory (linkage with business food and drink directory).
- Promotion of sustainability and the circular economy.
- Engagement: promotion of peer-to-peer learning, networking and clustering.
- Marketing of Fingal as a great place (to live) and work.
- Creating a Fingal food and drink tourism destination
- Expand on saleable experiences/ host additional food themed events.
- Explore feasibility of a food hub

The feedback received on the strategy indicated that it had a limited scope and did not adequately address the needs of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). It was deemed to be more of an aspirational document rather than offering concrete support and guidance for SMEs in the agri-food sector. The suggestions put forth emphasised the necessity of broadening the scope and creating a policy document as the first step, ensuring it encompasses a comprehensive range of measures and resources to assist SMEs across the business spectrum from agriculture to tourism. It was recommended that significant resourcing for the implementation of a future policy and strategy under the oversight of a dedicated working group

should be included.

Furthermore, it was agreed that tangible support mechanisms tailored to the specific needs and challenges faced by SMEs should be included in further plans, thereby enhancing their ability to thrive and contribute to the overall growth and development of the food industry.

6.2 COVID19 Effect on the Industry

The COVID19 pandemic hit food and beverage businesses in Ireland suddenly and without warning. The effect was catastrophic for many – customers couldn't travel, supply chains were interrupted or cut entirely and the future was instantly and alarmingly uncertain. Bord Bia's early assertion that "the COVID19 global crisis presents unprecedented challenges to the Irish food and drinks industry, both in the immediate and longer term" was accurate.

The response had to be rapid and the food sector displayed a remarkable ability to pivot, changing their business models inventively to suit the new circumstances. Those with less digital technology in place scrambled to implement it as cash was instantly replaced with card transactions and online purchases surged. By the end of Q2 2020 one third of internet users made purchases of ready-made food which was delivered (CSO). This increased to 50% over the next year and the trend has continued post COVID.

The reaction from Government and agencies was equally swift. The Government immediately introduced the Pandemic Unemployment Payment followed by the Wage Subsidy Scheme to help maintain employer-employee relationships. Other stimuli included a revamped Enterprise Support Grant and the Stay and Spend Scheme. The Credit Guarantee Scheme was the largest state-backed loan guarantee for businesses in the history of the country. Local Enterprise Offices also offered significant supports and moved all training and mentoring online. Fáilte Ireland introduced the Keep Discovering campaigns to activate the domestic market. Recognising that Irish tourism sector websites compared poorly to European competitors in functionality, usability and design, they introduced the Digital that Delivers scheme to help businesses capitalise on the digital revolution sparked by the pandemic.

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There were positives from the pandemic, including a dramatic focus on shopping local and an unprecedented awareness of food provenance and quality. This has remained post-COVID and has created opportunities to engage new customers and develop attractive food experiences. Fingal is well positioned to benefit from the new normal, given the proximity to a large urban population and to the main airport which offers the opportunity to capture international business as visitors return.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic has jeopardised food security globally, with heightened threats for the most vulnerable including smaller farmers. Added to the challenges of BREXIT this has put greater pressure on Irish producers and hospitality businesses.

6.3 Current Landscape

Ireland's most important indigenous agricultural industry, horticulture, is based in Fingal and playing a vital role in Ireland's economy. Food is produced in Fingal by farmers, fishers and agri-food companies. While Fingal food experiences are currently not strong compared to some other regions in Ireland, it still offers excellent dining experiences that showcase local produce and traditional Irish cuisine. Here are a few notable aspects of the food scene in Fingal:

1. Fingal boosts large-scale producers of vegetables and fruit, supplying major Irish retailers and implementing innovative food practices.

2. It is home to the largest food park in Ireland and offers a range of supports for business growth from the Council, Enterprise Centres and LEO.
3. Fingal's agricultural heritage is reflected in the farm-to-table movement embraced by several restaurants and Chefs in the region who prioritise local produce. The restaurants are concentrated in pockets in Howth, Malahide and Skerries. Fingal also boosts three Michelin star restaurants. Notwithstanding this, there is still significant room for increased engagement of local food provenance across the region.
4. Coastal restaurants and eateries often feature a range of seafood options, including fish, shellfish and crustaceans.
5. Fingal hosts two food themed festivals - Flavours of Fingal and the Howth Maritime and Seafood Festival. There are a limited number of farmers' markets and farm shops, where visitors can sample local artisan products. These festivals and events offer a chance to meet the makers, try regional specialties and experience the vibrant food culture of the area.
6. Fingal is home to one craft brewery and distillery, producing a range of beers and spirits. Visitors can enjoy tours and tastings, learning about the brewing and distilling processes on their visit. The tasting experiences range from cookery classes to foraging and tasting experiences. The experiences are primarily focused in Howth and there are excellent opportunities for expansion into farm tours, food tours and wider range of immersive experiences.

6.4 Community Perspective

Current Landscape

Community engagement in Fingal encompasses various elements aiming to strengthen the connection between the community, business sector and the wider region. One prominent aspect is the presence of community gardens, both Council owned and private, which not only promote a sense of pride but also offer opportunities for residents to engage with local growers.

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Findings

- Businesses, such as Aqua Restaurant in Howth previously had a kitchen garden supplying their restaurant.
- Fingal is rich in horticultural history and stories.
- There are four Fingal owned and managed allotment sites: Powerstown, Turvey, Skerries and Balbriggan and at least two private sites: Malahide, Belmayne and beside Shackleton Gardens.
- Currently Fingal has only one community garden: Broadmeadow Community Garden.

Recommendations

Supporting initiatives such as allotments, farm shops, farmers markets and family farmed products, encourages the reduction of food miles and fosters closer ties between producers and consumers.

- Include Community Engagement as a key strand in the policy.
- Celebrating and embracing Fingal's rich food heritage involves capturing stories and preserving knowledge but also establishing connections with the business community. Recognising farm families and sustainability through awards and championing initiatives not only showcases their contributions but also promotes collaboration and pride among local businesses.
- Celebrate the pride in local produce with events.
- Capture the rich horticultural heritage and the stories and the characters through a joint project with the Heritage Officer. It could be the Fields of Fingal - Oral History Project with video and image gallery.

- Promotes the reduction of Food Miles by supporting allotments, farm shops, farmers markets and family farmed products.
- Embrace kitchen gardens as a source of ingredients for restaurants or collaborations between restaurants. Through Fingal Food Network encourage kitchen gardens.
- Connect youth to experienced growers through an initiative like Community Roots, with a shared garden, shared experience approach.
- Celebrate farm families and sustainability with awards and champions.
- Engage the business community and highlight new products which are created from raw ingredients from Fingal.
- Encourage and grow Community Gardens.
    - Engage with Broadmeadow Community Garden and Sustainable Skerries
    - Visit community gardens like Knocknaheeny's in Cork, a NICHE HSE Community Health Initiative who grow vegetables, herbs and flowers and fruit and UCC who has a community garden since 2007 and engages students.
- Connect this policy with the Heritage Officer and the new heritage plan to investigate bringing education, heritage properties and the community together.
- Engage the business community and foster greater linkage between producers, consumers and the wider region, Fingal's community engagement efforts in food and horticulture create a stronger sense of community, support local businesses and enhance the overall sustainability and cultural identity of the area.
- Engage with Airfield Estate on their education programme for school children and investigate the possibility of cross collaboration.
- Liaise with Teagasc's Food Dudes Programme and Incredible Edibles from Agri Aware to reach youth growers.
- Consider case studies for growing the number of community gardens in Fingal region. Nationally: review Community Gardens Ireland, which operates on a voluntary basis and is currently a free resource for community gardeners. Internationally: review Neighborhood Farms USA™, which is a national non-profit organisation promoting the benefits of establishing and maintaining community gardens that provide access to fresh, nutrient-rich produce and educating through practical community-building programmes, newsletters and on-line workshops.

Community Roots

Connects garden owners with garden-less, budding growers living nearby and looking for a patch to grow their own food. Advantages include creating a bond over a shared experience while nurturing community connection. Learn how to grow food, sharing any previous knowledge and experience. Enjoy mini harvests together. Visit the website.



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6.5 Economic Growth and Development

In our research and discovery this area covered sustainability, SME supports, large scale producers, local enterprise office supports and programmes, farmers markets, supports in the Enterprise Centres, agency programmes and supports, opportunities for growth and new resources required. The objective was to evaluate the current supports, linkages and collaborations in the Council departments, programmes and stakeholders.* We reviewed opportunities for new programmes, linkage and initiatives to promote business growth and sustainability in the sector.

* See page 26 for list of stakeholders.

One aspect researched was the Belfast-Dublin economic corridor, which refers to the economic region and connectivity between the cities of Belfast and Dublin. It represents the collaborative efforts to promote economic development, trade, investment and infrastructure along this corridor, recognising the potential for growth and cooperation between the two cities and the surrounding regions. Fingal has an opportunity, on both an economic and tourism level, to maximise trade, logistical links and capture visitors on this route.

The Role of Agri Food Producers in the Food and Drink Policy Landscape

The agri sector in Fingal is an extremely important employer and supplier of raw ingredients (strawberries, potatoes, lettuce, tomatoes, carrots etc), which is important for the development of farmers markets, farm shops, events and to provide an authentic culinary and food tourism experience. The raw ingredients are used in food processing and manufacturing to create added value products such as sauces and ready meals for example.

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6.5.1 Large Scale Producers

The agricultural community in Fingal consists of large-scale producers like Keelings, Country Crest, Total Produce, Oceanpath, Donnelly's Fresh Food and Keogh's who have become very well-established brand, significant employers in the region and suppliers to national retailers. Keelings and Country Crest also operate farm shops. These businesses have outgrown the support provided by the Council for their day-to-day operations, although they engage on matters such as planning, waste management, water resources, energy and lobbying. Many of these businesses started as family ventures and have a strong desire to support regeneration initiatives, small family farms and greater food provenance in markets, restaurants and heritage properties. These innovative industry leaders are committed to sustainability programmes and tackling the issue of food waste. There is disappointment regarding the lack of implementation of the Agri Food Strategy. During the course of the research, we also spoke to Fingal Farmers about the challenges they face and opportunities for greater engagement.

These agricultural enterprises actively participate in events such as Flavours of Fingal, showcasing their products and engaging with the community. Keogh's, for example, has demonstrated its capacity to create festivals and pop-up events, such as Spud Fest.

Challenges

Challenges exist for seafood producers related to local food provenance and supply. Food fraud is not a significant problem in Ireland but is increasing in the EU. Therefore, it is worth being aware of this issue over the course of the policy.

Labour and skills shortages are prevalent within the agricultural industry. In response to these challenges, businesses have implemented corporate social responsibility policies and funding to support various

projects.
There is a growing worry among farmers about the direction of the industry, as food prices are often too low and customer over purchase, resulting in significant food waste. Farmers and producers emphasised the need for support and incentives to protect rural vegetable growers, citing the example of vegetables being sold for as little as 49 cents in supermarkets.
They feel it is crucial to safeguard the heritage of Fingal and prevent farmers, especially the younger generation, from exiting the business.

Opportunities

Education and training requirements are seen as essential components for treating agriculture as a business. Both SME and largescale producers should be represented on the new policy implementation plan. To streamline support and guidance, the agricultural community seeks a single point of contact for accessing various resources and assistance.

Recommendations

- Create a central point of contact for support and guidance.
- Encourage peer-to-peer learning, utilise their expertise to grow the SME farm sector.
- Champion largescale producers' sector and showcase their innovation and success.
- Promote food provenance programme and include heritage properties.
- Encourage the creation of new events and engagement with Fingal Food Network.
- Engage on sustainability programmes and initiatives.
- Understand the challenges faced and engage with relevant agencies and work with the sector.
- Safeguard the future of farm families with supports, training and funding.

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6.5.2 Fingal Skills Strategy

The Fingal Skills Strategy is a framework developed by Fingal County Council to align workforce skills with industry needs, promoting economic growth and employability through targeted initiatives and collaboration with educational institutions and employers.

Currently the skills strategy is not focused on the food and beverage sector. The Council's aim is to foster



further development through engagement in the sector between producers and the hospitality sector on their requirements and engagement through Fingal Food Network and Dublin Food Chain.

There is potential to create a new subgroup under the working group and new sub-categories on food and beverages, specifically focusing on the agri and hospitality sectors. However, the formation of these sub-categories will depend on businesses voluntarily engaging and clustering based on their areas of expertise and interests.

Fingal Skills Strategy is an example of best practice in structure and framework. This framework can replicate effectively to implement this policy and drive collaboration and skill development within the food and drink sector.

Recommendations

- Invite food and beverage businesses and agencies to join the Fingal Skills Strategy working group.
- Promote findings on skills shortages to Fingal Skills Strategy working group.
- Our research highlighted opportunities in cheese and chocolate making, which merits investigation.

6.5.3 Sustainability

Stemming from the feedback from one-to-one discovery meetings with the Counci, businesses and agencies, the sustainability workshop, focus groups and desk research, sustainability was a key focus for all parties. Therefore, sustainability runs through the three strands in the policy in addition to having its own dedicated list of actions.

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The sustainability workshop led to the development of climate change actions and overall theme of sustainability in the policy.

Findings

- Sustainability means something different to a business depending on their resources and current stage of development.

Additional findings have been outlined under the following headings: Climate Action Plan, Sustainability Fingal, food waste, food production and consumption.

Recommendations

- Develop guiding principles on climate change and a set of actions focused on sustainability in the food and drink sector in Fingal.
- Continue to support job creation and growth in the sector by enhancing supports and opportunities in clustering in the Enterprise Centres.
- Create a common base of good practices in Fingal, evolving it into a mark of quality or charter for businesses.
- Encourage businesses to obtain sustainability credentials and comply with climate change regulations for enhanced competitiveness.
- Raise awareness about sustainable food and drink innovation.
- Establish the Fingal Sustainability Awards to showcase and recognise best practices.
- Promote tracking of businesses carbon footprints.
- Empower the working group to identify innovative strategies for reducing food waste, packaging,

conserving energy, conserving water and reducing their carbon footprint.
- Promote the circular economy and engage with Sustainable Fingal initiatives.
- Encourage organic farming, holistic methods of farm production and work with Bord Bia on the implementation of the EU Farm to Fork Strategy.
- Promote campaigns and projects to minimise food miles and support the local economy.
- Work with businesses to support their sustainability initiatives like marketing campaigns, case studies, training and funding.
- Support programmes to encourage the continuation of farm family businesses and succession planning with support for farm diversification where desired.

6.5.4 Climate Action Plan 2019-2024

The Fingal Climate Action Plan includes a section on food resilience as part of five key areas of focus.

Fingal is actively working towards supporting sustainable farming practices through engagement with the agrifood sector. The collaboration aims to understand and enhance support for sustainable farming methods. In partnership with local farmers, it has developed climate change initiatives to address the impact of climate change on agriculture. Strategic agricultural land is being mapped and protected to ensure national food security. Additionally, the Council supports the use of allotments as a means for communities to grow their own food, thereby reducing food miles and minimising food waste. These ongoing efforts demonstrate the Councils commitment to agriculture, conservation and community engagement through the Climate Change Action Plan.

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Recommendations

- Engage with the agrifood sector to gain an understanding of how the Council might better support more sustainable farming practices.
- Develop climate change initiatives in partnership with local farmers.
- Support the use of allotments as a way communities can grow their own food and lower food miles and food waste.

6.5.5 Sustainable Fingal Initiative

Encourage Sustainable Waste Reduction and Promotion of Circular Economy through Sustainable Fingal Initiative

Sustainability: Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Buy to Last, Recycle.

Waste prevention involves rethinking how we do things to avoid producing waste.

Findings

- Businesses see food waste as a cost to their business.
- There is little understanding of the circular economy. Nice idea but unsure how their business could get involved.
- Businesses mentioned engaging with #KeepHowthGreen
- Audience is more environmentally aware, conscious of buying habits.
- Create Sustainability Champions – showcase best practice, benefits to the business, consumer and the environment.
- There is a demand for Food Waste Calculators

Recommendations

- Create case studies and promotion of food waste initiatives.
- Organise awards for sustainability.
- Provide additional marketing for Food Waste Prevention Week.
- Support group Biodigestor programmes such as Howth.
- Review Guardians of Grub in UK. Originally developed by WRAP - Courtauld Commitment 2030 for the 'Your Business is Food; don't throw it away' campaign. Excellent resources and case studies. Reproduced content from Love Food Hate Waste New South Wales and FoodSave London.

6.5.6 Food Waste

Further areas to mention in relation to reducing food waste include:

- The Food Waste Charter is a public commitment by companies and organisations in Ireland to fundamentally change how they think and respond to food waste. The Food Waste Charter is a partnership between Environmental Protection Agency and Government of Ireland.The signatories are pledging to take positive actions – through measuring, reducing and reporting their food waste. For the first three years, the charter is asking all companies to commit to the monitoring and tracking of their food waste and report on progress and achievements.
- Stop Food Waste Initiative in 2021: Mayor of Fingal Eoghan O'Brien awarded certificates to 30 Master Composter course participants at Skerries Mills on Saturday November 2nd. This initiative was funded by Fingal County Council as part of the Stop Food Waste and Waste Prevention initiatives.
- FoodCloud is a social enterprise with a mission to transform surplus food into opportunities to make the world a kinder place. FoodCloud works with a network of more than 600 Irish Charities and Community Groups. They received Charity of the Year 2022. They work with large retailers and community organisations. Opportunity exists for partnerships with councils to meet the objective of reducing food waste with practical solutions. In 2022 they launched their FoodCloud Kitchen Trailor, which is suitable for events and festivals.
- Programme: A Climate Friendly Kitchen with the Sustainable Life School. A four-week programme engaging the community on reducing food waste, run by Blanchardstown library.

Recommendations

- Fingal County Council should engage with the Food Waste Charter.
- The Council should ensure internal communication on programmes run by different sectors in relation to food and beverage industry to avoid duplication, including Community Food Initiative, Healthy Fingal and Food Poverty Programme.
- Linkage and partnership opportunities with FoodCloud, should be investigated by the Council.

6.5.7 Food Production & Consumption

Fingal County Council wishes to inspire a holistic approach to food production, consumption and sustainability. The Council will work with Bord Bia on aligning and implementing the EU Farm to Fork Strategy.

Bord Bia report in September 2022, "Supporting the Development of Irish Family Farm Producers" is an excellent source of information on the current position of farm family in Ireland. This report was the centre of a webinar "Supports for Local, Small and Micro Food Businesses/Producers" for Department Agriculture,

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Food and the Marina Webinar.
Takeaways from the Bord Bia report on “Supporting the Development of Irish Family Farm Producers”.

- Single entry point to support Family Farm Producers
- Ideation to scale up i.e., requirement for maker space/ community kitchen space in the Enterprise Centres.
- New website to assists farmers on their journey, also available for consumers (nationwide)
- Encourage farm diversification.
- Series of events with marketing celebrating producers/farmers markets underpinned by the local community.
- Learn from Farmers Markets in France, US & UK, set up and operational processes.
- Support farm diversification supports to farmers and showcase and give priority to family farm producers at events and markets.

The agri food sector in Fingal can engage with the Policy in the following ways:

- Engage with the sustainability programmes to reduction food waste and food miles.
- Become a member of Fingal Food Network
- Investigate farm diversification for added value products and services eg farm tours
- Embrace and education their business on the advantages of the circular economy
- Supply farmers markets
- Join Dublin Food Chain
- Engage and support the festivals and events calendar.

Fingal agri food sector are leaders and innovators in the industry. Business such as Flynn’s in Swords and Morning Fresh are changing the agri sector in sustainability and innovation best practice for productivity.

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Flynns - “Red tomatoes go green with biomethane”

- Tomato grower MF Nurseries or Flynn’s Irish Tomatoes has switched to the renewable gas biomethane in a new trial project with Gas Networks Ireland. In 2020, they completed a significant investment in automation of their business.

Recommendations

- Showcase businesses such as Flynns and Morning Fresh. Create a catalogue of innovation in Fingal.
- Create sustainability awards and utilise peer to peer learning.
- Lack of added value dairy businesses, for example, there are no cheese producers in Dublin. Introduce training courses for cheese making.



6.5.8 Local Enterprise Office

Offers a wide range of supports and programmes for food businesses.

- Trading online voucher for eligible businesses.
- Business Feasibility, Priming & Expansion Grants for eligible businesses. Mentorship & Advice Clinics.
- Start Your Own Business Programme is used as a recruitment workshop for emerging talent.

Current Food Programmes

1. Dublin Food Chain (online and in person events) www.dublinfoodchain.ie
2. Digital School of Food (online programme) www.digitalschooloffood.ie
3. Food Starter Programme (moved to online due to COVID19)
4. Food Academy
5. Management Development Programmes (Green for Micro / Lean/ Enterprise Promotion)

Green for Micro is a FREE programme that helps small businesses take the first step towards becoming more sustainable, giving them access to a green consultant who will highlight the small changes that can have a big impact on a company. The programme commenced in 2021. 24% of business who took part in 2021-2022 were Food businesses. Two businesses engaged in the Lean for Micro programme in 2021.
Online Trading Voucher 2019-2021

- Approx. 40 Trading Online Voucher (TOV) were successfully granted in the food sector: 10 in food production, 4 butchers/fishmongers and 26 across Cafe/Restaurants/Takeaways.

Grant Funding/ Management Supports

- Feasibility, priming or business expansion grants: 25 Fingal food businesses took part, 2019 to 2022.

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Digital School of Food

The Digital School of Food is an initiative of the Local Enterprise Offices led by Local Enterprise Office Fingal. Partner agencies include Bord Bia, Enterprise Ireland and DIT. It involves an online eLearning platform containing 20 courses targeted at producers from start up to growth stages. As well as delivering key learnings, the eLearning platform contains video of real producers giving advice on each topic and downloadable resources and templates.

- 112* Fingal food and drink businesses completed the programme since its launch.

*Feedback from consultant: In the case of a small number of producers who self-select Fingal as their region, this is not supported by their address. This data may be inaccurate.

Food Starter Programme

Promoted by each LEO nationwide with different contractors in each location. It is targeted at pre-start up producers within the first 24 months of trading. LEO in Dublin rotate management, with the host LEO tending to have more participants.
It is a prerequisite for anyone undertaking the Food Academy Programme. There are four intakes per year with a total of 60 businesses per annum. The Food Starter programme is an online 4 x 1/2-day programme designed to help those with a food idea, or those at a very early stage of a food business. A business would ideally complete the LEO Start your Own Business Programme, the Digital School of Food and progress to the Food Starter Programme.

- There was an average of 1-2 business on each programme from Fingal, with a spike in Jan 2021 and April 2022 of 4 participants from Fingal region out of an average of 15 from the whole county.
- Reviewed annually. The review takes places in Q4 each year when date specific changes are made. Major content review and updates take every two years, with the last review in 2022.

Food Academy Advance Programme

Food Academy is a business development programme supported by Bord Bia, SuperValu and Local Enterprise Offices. The aim of Food Academy is to help small businesses through the journey from their early start-up phase to getting their products on Supervalu shelves. Programme participants receive training through workshops and mentoring in topics such as food safety, market research, branding, marketing, finance, sustainability and business development. The programme is for high potential producers and has one annual intake in April. It was last reviewed in 2022.

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- There are currently over 270 Food Academy producers in Supervalu stores with eight businesses have taking part over the last three years.
- This programme is reviewed annually after that year's programme is complete. Immediate updates or changes based on participant feedback are made annually.
- Major content review and updates take every two years to reflect changes in the FMCG (Fast Moving Consumer Goods) sector.

Dublin Food Chain Initiative

Established in 2010, Dublin Food Chain is a marketing and B2B networking forum which represents producers, retailers, foodservice operators and distributors based throughout Dublin.
The initiative is jointly supported by the four Local Enterprise Offices in the Dublin region (Dublin City, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown, Fingal, and South Dublin). Bord Bia and Teagasc play an active role in the Dublin Food Chain.

- Local Enterprise Office Fingal lead two Dublin Food Chain events per year (35%).
- In addition, LEO Fingal supports an on-line producer directory (self-administered) and digital platforms targeted at the food community. Due to the self-administration, several profiles in the directory are incomplete, and some businesses are out of date. Currently 218 businesses are registered (26 are not fully registered, with just a name inputted). There is no way of knowing if businesses are still trading.

Pilot Farm Business Options Programme

Teagasc ran a pilot programme with Roscommon LEO in 2022

- It ran over six consecutive weeks for three hours per week. The training is a modified version of the Start Your Own Business course and the purpose was to provide individuals with a good understanding of how to turn an idea into a viable business. The programme provided a mentor to each individual and assisted in the completion of a business plan and to introduce individuals to other agencies/parties who may be able to offer tangible assistance. The programme consisted of a series of workshops and farmers who have successfully diversified were invited as guest speakers. Participants also had the opportunity to network.
- Roscommon LEO funded 50% of the costs. There were eight participants and a follow up two-day in-service training was provided to all Farm Business Options coordinators. This training template will be rolled out within the Teagasc regions during 2023.

Recommendations

- Liaise on the training calendar with Fingal Food Network to prevent duplication.
- Increase collaboration with enterprise centres and a central point for food innovation, networking and marketing upskilling or supports.
- Farmers: liaise with Teagasc on supports such as the Pilot Farm Business Options Programme
- Directory of food and drink business in the region to include business and tourism businesses and statistics on employment. There is potential for the Dublin Producers Directory and the Fingal Food Network Producers Directory to co-ordinate on the directory and training calendar.
- Create a procedure for following a business through the training and support funnel.
- Extend a mentoring programme similar to Green Micro for festivals funded by the Council.

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6.5.9 Review of Farmers Markets

Upon review of the farmers markets in Fingal we found there are a limited number of farmers markets and local artisan experiences for residents. There is one tourist focused food market in Howth. Fingal County Council are involved in markets by way of parking, traffic management, signage, waste disposal, permits and licences. The Council currently doesn't operate any markets except for Christmas markets.

The following markets are active:

1. Skerries Mills Farmers Market: On Saturdays year-round, this usually features three non-food stalls, generally one of those is music/records, and two are local handmade crafts/toys/jewellery.
2. Donabate Dexter Farmers Market is a collection point at Donabate Dexter Farm, Turvey Ave. It runs on Saturday afternoons.
3. The Seamus Ennis Arts Centre hosts two food fairs in May and Autumn each year. They also offer a year-round covered outside space which is ideal for markets or events.
4. Mixed markets include: Bremore Castle Food & Craft Market every Sat 11-4 pm, Howth Market and annual Christmas Markets, which have taken place in various locations including Swords and Blanchardstown.
5. Only one market is mentioned in Google Search - Howth Market appears under the "Best Food Markets in Dublin" by Visit Dublin for visitors.

Findings

- There is a desire to shop local.
- Producers use markets for testing their products.
- Few or no market experiences are on offer (demonstrations, workshops, talks etc).
- A lack of enthusiasm for growth or development was noted. Markets rely heavily on volunteers for marketing and operational requirements.
- We found a lack of understanding about business models from stall holders who don't take insurance, staffing etc. into consideration
- Lack of linkage with business supports to grow business.
- No destination or tourism focused market with the exception of Howth Market.
- No central online database of stall holders
- Sporadic posting on social media with unsecure or non-existent websites. Balbriggan Fish and Farmers' Market hasn't posted online since 2012 on Facebook but is live on Discover Ireland and Visit Dublin sites.

Locations investigated

- Shackleton Gardens, Skerries Mills, Seamus Ennis Arts Centre, Coolmine Industrial Estate.
- Opportunities for engagement with the National Sports Campus

Nationwide Established Markets to Review

- Milk Market in Limerick: Developed from Saturday market to expand to three day market from Friday to Sunday. During COVID the market survived and thrived by embracing Neighbourfood.
- Strandhill People's Market, Sligo is a well-established commercial market, based in an airport hangar. It runs every Sunday from March to December. It combines a local food and craft market with a destination market for tourists.
- The English Market in Cork has been trading since 1788. Traders sell organic and locally produced food in a beautiful 18th-century covered market. One of the oldest and best covered market in Europe, it tells the story of the businesses, front and centre in its marketing.

Types of Markets

The operational structure is key to longevity and success of the market. Advice from TASCQ CLG who oversee markets in Dublin and internationally is the market must be innovative, unique to place, and the right location is vital.

1. Council-owned, with the day-to-day running of the market outsourced to a management company. Predominantly in city urban markets, e.g. the English Market in Cork.
2. Run by a private business/owner e.g. Strandhill Peoples Market
3. Committee run (volunteer led) or co-op.

Bord Bia Research Documents

Bord Bia has excellent reports on farmers markets, in addition to creating and managing a market.

- Economic Feasibility: Markets typically take at least three years to become established and so need continual investment during this time, whether from the local authorities who provide facilities for them or the companies who run them. Goal at the very least is self-sustaining, if not profitable, for

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those who run them.
- The Bord Bia website has excellent resources and a template on creating a farmers market and also a nationwide location map.

Location analysis and footfall research is vital to success

- The 2014 Guide to Food Markets in Ireland is still relevant.
- Recent report in November 2022 has some key findings and recommendations by looking to best practice in France, UK, & US market with a focus on family farm produce.

Recommendations

- The markets should be encouraged to join the Fingal Food Network.
- Engage with the LEO regarding social media training requirements, assistance on visuals and upgrading their digital presence.
- Upskilling of members attending the markets is needed to promote both the market and their produce.
- Develop ties between the market holders and LEO, Enterprises Centres for product testing.
- Balbriggan in North County Dublin has a plan-led, comprehensive regeneration strategy 'Our Balbriggan Rejuvenation Plan 2019 – 2025'. There is an opportunity to grow the market at Bremore Castle and also the potential to create a new market space. Tying in the market to the Balbriggan Heritage Trail to create a food-themed experience is recommended.
- Review the potential of supporting Beechpark Farm Shop and allotments and the opportunity in nearby Shackleton Gardens. With a glasshouse and walled garden it is an ideal event space and ideal for small intimate long table farm to table experiences or tours.
- Explore the growth of food trucks and multicultural food businesses in Coolmine Industrial Estate.
  - Create a directory of businesses.
  - Trial a pop-up event in this location using greenfield site or explore vacant Fingal County Council owned buildings with a view to creating an outdoor local market space embracing established food culture in the area.
- Utilise Irish Village Markets for pop up events.
- Develop a farmers/food market plan based on regional maturity or regeneration plans with the aims of creating a new destination market, grow existing markets and incorporate food markets into existing festivals.

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English Market in Cork

- South East: Howth / Portmarnock/ Swords
- North East: Donabate, Balbriggan, Lusk, Rush, Skerries
- South West: D15

Recommendations on supports: tiered level of supports, similar to festivals.

1. Design, Build, Operative (DBO)
2. Funding Scheme
3. Advice and Guidance

Markets should be a member of Fingal Food Network and avail of marketing and training supports.

Farm Shops

There are six farm shops in Fingal with remaining have online options. The farm shops are an excellent source of encouraging local provenance, offering an array of local artisan produce in addition to their own product.

- McNally's Farm Shop, Naul
- Country Crest Farm Shop, Lusk
- Beechpark Eco Farm, Clonsilla
- Shackleton's Garden, Farm Shop on Sat 10-2p.m. Sun 11-1.30p.m. / with allottments
- Donabate Dexter Farm Shop
- Keelings Farm Shop, FoodCentral, Ireland's National Food Park

Several businesses moved to online shops including Clonanny Farm Shop and Keogh's Farm Shop with Skerries Organic Farm operating an Honesty Box.

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Recommendations

- The farm shops should be encouraged to join the Fingal Food Network and engage with the Food Provence Programme and Dublin Food Chain.





McNally's Farm

6.5.10 Enterprise Centre and Food Clustering

Fingal County Council supports three Enterprise Centres in the County:

1. BASE Enterprise Centre in Mulhuddart
2. Drinan Enterprise Centre in Swords
3. BEaT Enterprise Centre in Balbriggan

- Offer space for start-up and developing businesses with employment growth potential. The centres are a mix of light industrial and food units and training companies who require training rooms to run courses.
- Incubator units, office units, shared office space, food units, training facilities, light manufacturing, warehousing and distribution space.

Overall Findings

- Aspiration for a dedicated Food Innovation Hub with the potential for a purpose-built space in Stephentown Industrial Estate.
- The three enterprise centres are managed and run independently with their own management structure and board.
  - New structure: there is a new governance plan in progress to create one board with one general manager overseeing the three sites. The intention is to create standard operating procedures across the sites, automated cloud-based systems and management.
- Unit are an excellent opportunity for businesses in startup or early growth stage to minimise the cost of a production unit.
- Business leases a unit for 4 years and 9 months at business rate with no incremental increases. The unit is fitted out by the client specific to their needs, which requires significant investment by the business.
- Business owners are inward focused with little or no interaction between food businesses.
- Current proposals for Community Kitchens in two centres BEaT & BASE.

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Drinan Enterprise Centre, Swords

Three food businesses with a total space of 1,710 sq. ft.
- Bakery: 570 sq. ft.
- Food Prep, Markets & Catering: 570 sq. ft.
- Food Prep, corporate events, parties, wedding, communions and confirmations: 570 sq. ft.
- Employment: Ten fulltime and two part-time staff.
- No plan to introduce community kitchen.

BEaT, Beat Enterprise Centre, Balbriggan

Two food businesses with a total space of 1,500 sq. ft.
- Fermented beverages: small production kitchen 300 sq. ft. (converted office unit)
- Coffee Roasting: Light industrial Unit: 1,200 sq. ft.
- Employing: 5 Whole Time Equivalent

Plan for Vacant Unit 4: 1,300 sq. ft

Board of Directors have approved the following: subject to change.

- Two x 387 sq. ft. production kitchens & one shared kitchen 500 sq. ft. complete with full kit-out.
- Timeframe: design and planning stage in Q2-Q3 2023 with funding options available from Q4 2023.
- This process will be an 18 month to 3-year project.

BASE Enterprise Centre, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15

Nine food businesses with a total space of 11,482.71 sq. ft. The enterprise centres have organically grown a food cluster.

- 1,016.44 sq. ft. Food Production
- 461.13 sq. ft. Irish import and export of agricultural products and trading services
- 402.57 sq. ft. Food Production
- 600.2 sq. ft. Food Production
- 759 sq. ft. (two units) Vegan Bakery
- 1,569.38 sq. ft. Food Production/Meal Delivery
- 4,708.14 sq. ft. (three units) Bakery/Patisserie
- 1,577.52 sq. ft. Food Delivery
- 383.63 (two units) Bakery (Breads)

Current Landscape and Potential for Growth

- Block C1 4,734.29 sq. ft currently used for storage. Opportunity for maker space, test and develop new product, shared community kitchen and food units.
- Feedback from businesses on security issues and limited bus routes preventing staff retention.

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Sustainability

- BASE Enterprise Centre: Go Vans on site and solar panels on office block, discussion around Solar Farm for the whole site.

Challenges to Growth

- No opportunity to trial new products without signing a long lease. No facilities for product testing or development for existing businesses i.e., community kitchen and/or maker space.
- Businesses leasing a second or third unit for storage and refrigeration. This limits the number of businesses on site.
- No step-up rental space for business expansion. No opportunity to retain employment for business wishing to expand further and scale.
- After lease period ceases, there is a significant jump to commercial rates.
- Limited structured engagement with support agencies by food businesses.
- Existing businesses: issue on labour shortage, costs of energy, storage of packaging and refrigeration.
- Greater signposting (pathways) for businesses to scale up.
- Route to market, potential for retail space or trial products.

Key Considerations for Incubator Kitchens

Target Users

- Start-up micro food and drink enterprises. The needs of start-up food entrepreneurs, who may not have the initial seed capital to invest in a start-up production facility of their own, can be served through a food incubator space which is low commitment and risk.
- The farming community who wishes to add value to their production.
- Training agencies who wish to provide food, hospitality and relevant tourism related training.

To consider, community kitchens/shared space, require significant cleaning between operators and associated storage.



Example of Innovative Food Hubs and Incubations Space

- Bia Innovator Campus, a campus of scale with three buildings (production, innovation/knowledge and food tourism) specifically resourced to support over 40+ on site food related businesses and hundreds of others through acceleration and collaboration supports. Bia Innovator Campus is due to open later in 2023.
- The Food Hub, Drumshanbo, Leitrim which is more than a hub, it is an investment zone. Leitrim is the first county in Ireland to propose a Food Enterprise Zone, building on the success of The Food Hub. It has had 100% occupancy since 2016. Leitrim County Council and Drumshanbo Community Council commissioned a feasibility study into the potential to develop Ireland's first Food Enterprise Zone (FEZ) in Drumshanbo. A Food Enterprise Zone is a cluster of sites and buildings designated for fast-track relocation of food manufacturing and innovation. A second building will open in 2023.

It is worth reviewing UK-based Food Works noteworthy for their excellent branding and supports in place for businesses. In Canada, the Coho Commissary is a good example of business structure and pathways.

Example of Own Door Units

- SPADE (Dublin 7) offers kitchen spaces with 15 own door kitchen units ranging in size from 380sq

foot to 1500 sq foot with ability to grow. Rates are from €700+ plus VAT monthly, depending on requirements. A shared kitchen is planned. This new space is being supported by Enterprise Ireland. SPADE is due to open summer 2023.

- The Boyne Valley Food Hub is a retro fit of Navan Enterprise Centre into nine individual food units. It will be launched in April 2023 the Boyne Valley Food Hub will deliver nine food grade units in 2023 - Meath Enterprise and a fulltime Food Innovation and Training Specialist (funding via EI REDF). It also includes a state-of-the-art digital lab where SMEs can work on their branding, promotional videos, packaging, food styling, social media and podcasting.
    - University- industry collaborations are also emerging e.g. Meath Enterprise and Maynooth University on a new project called Sandbox Sensory Testing Project.
- In Cork, Ballyhoura Development operates Mitchelstown Food Centre – Taste Ballyhoura (3,000 Sq. Ft. purpose built food production unit) and the Hospital Food Centre – Taste Ballyhoura in Co. Limerick (1,050 Sq. Ft. & 800 Sq. Ft. purpose built Food Production units)
- Kerry Food Hub has 10 units and has trialled a trade platform, Online Portal to Connect Producers, Route to Market. The Kerry Food Hub Trade Platform allows farmers to independently list their products on a web platform to connect them with professional buyers. It was launched for a short period.

Key Considerations for Business Models for Enterprise Centre/ Food Hub

- Appropriately equipped kitchens.
- Access to a Food Innovation Specialist/Food Technologist which could be accessed by all companies in Fingal.
    - In Bia Innovator Campus these positions are funded by Teagasc.
    - In Boyne Valley Food Hub, this position is funded under REDF.
- Cork County Council appointed The Food Safety Company as operators. They operate food units dispersed in County Cork Enterprise Units, Cork County Council (corkcoco.ie) and food units via Ballyhoura Development, which maximises the potential for business growth. Pricing is also important for incubation price. Cork Incubator Kitchens struggled as it was too expensive and a reduction in price solved the vacancy issues.

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The requirements for a new food hub are set out under the following three main areas: scoping and feasibility study, business case/economic appraisal and site selection assessment, design specification and costings.

Recommendations

- The community shared kitchens proposed should form part of an overall strategic plan for the clustering of food businesses or new food hub, with a satellite structure, similar to county Cork.
- The requirements for a new food hub are set out under the following three main areas: scoping and feasibility study, business case/economic appraisal and site selection assessment, design specification and costings.
- Step up facility to promote economic growth.
- Collaboration with third level universities.
- Consider shared food technologist between the sites.
- Clustered approach to business growth from community kitchen, growth phase to business of scale.
- Fully fitted food grade facilities, which enables shorter leases and businesses to scale faster.
- Business engagement zone, collaboration space, retail, showcase area, with full AV suite for marketing and promotion.
- Route to market, all members of centre to join Dublin Food Chain and be provided with the opportunity of retail space in heritage properties.

- Structured collaboration with Fingal Food Network.
- Engaging EI Innovation Vouchers.
- Innovative and centralised storage and refrigeration.
- Review of the terms of the lease, length and investment for food businesses.
- Greater communicate links with Local Enterprise Office.

Increase signposting (pathways) for development and support and a central point of contact for food and beverage businesses within the county including a business directory. The current business directory on the website is out of date. Therefore, a business within the enterprise centre systems would also be invited to networking, training and relevant food tourism opportunities for their business.

6.5.11 Support Structures & Funding Agencies

Teagasc

Teagasc – the Agriculture and Food Development Authority – is the national body providing integrated research, advisory and training services to the agriculture and food industry and rural communities.

Ashtown Food Research Centre, Teagasc

The Ashtown Food Research Centre is a facility operated by Teagasc. It conducts research and innovation in the field of food, focusing on areas such as food processing, quality, safety, and sustainability. The centre plays a vital role in advancing Ireland's agricultural and food industry.

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Findings

- Educate businesses on where research fits in their business development phase.
- Teagasc engages with LEO and Dublin Food Chain by taking a stand at events.

Recommendations

- Increase linkage with centre and Fingal Food Network, LEO and Department of Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Cultural Development..
- Increase communication and engagement with SMEs.

Fingal LEADER Programme

Fingal LEADER Partnership is an organisation that works in collaboration with local communities and businesses in the Fingal region of Ireland. It aims to promote rural development through funding and support for various projects in areas such as agriculture, tourism, heritage, and enterprise. The partnership plays a vital role in driving sustainable growth and improving the quality of life in Fingal. The programme cannot fund project, which may displace existing businesses.

Findings

- New programme of funding to launch in 2023.
- Local development strategy in progress.

Recommendations

- Farm diversification (added value, experiences, tourism)
- Investigate feasibility studies and projects for marketing, sustainability during the strategic planning of the Policy.

Food Park: FoodCentral, National Food Park

FoodCentral is a National Food Park located in St. Margaret's, Co. Dublin. It serves as a hub for the food industry, providing a range of services and facilities to support food businesses. The park offers infrastructure, resources, and networking opportunities, fostering collaboration and innovation in food production, distribution, and research. It plays a significant role in promoting the growth and development of Ireland's food sector. Keelings Retail, Select and Market (Farm Shop) and Donnelly's are based in the food park. The development of a Food Park is mentioned in the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029.

6.5.12 Development of new resources and programmes in response to business requirement

During the research, we found a need for business development assistance in several different areas.

Recommendations

1. Provide resources to create and maintain a Food and Beverage Business Directory.

This would:

- Streamline all communications from the council to the business community.
- Accessible by LEO for marketing training and supports.
- Benefit the Fingal Skills Strategy, Fingal Tourism, Sustainable Fingal, Fingal Food Network, Festivals and Events Team and all departments wishing to contact or increase the flow of communications in this sector.
- Be a mechanism for encouraging businesses to engage with Enterprise Ireland and Bord Bia support and programme on product development and retailing.

2. Provide a central point of contact or co-ordinator of food related projects in Fingal.

3. Create a new portal with clear pathways and signposting, for business accessible 24/7. An expansion of FAQ section on the website.

- Clear pathways for business development from start up to trading internationally. With opportunities for business to diversify into food tourism or product development.
- Utilise AI technology, interactive and responsive.
- Enable cross promotion and engagement from various departments.
- Useful for all businesses for example food producers navigating LEO food programmes to creating saleable visitor experiences.

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6.6 Findings on Tourism Research and Discovery

Introduction

Located north of vibrant Dublin city, Fingal is a well-established and popular tourist area. Stunning beaches and lively fishing ports on the 88km coast combine with a rich heritage and rural history to create an engaging destination dotted with ancient castles and an attractive network of villages.

The food and beverage sector in Fingal is currently represented by Dublin's Coast and Fields brand. This is the consumer-facing brand of Fingal Food Network and is a collaborative forum for producers, cafés, restaurants, accommodation providers, heritage properties and tour guides who showcase the food heritage of the County of Fingal.

The Fingal Food Network is a new and growing network of businesses who have come together collectively with the support of Fingal County Council, Fingal Tourism and Fáilte Ireland to promote the unique experiences and hospitality of the area. The findings from the 1-1 meetings, focus groups and site visits has been incorporated into the following relevant areas.

6.6.1 Digital Audit on Food and Drink Experience

Findings

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- In keeping with our findings under Economic Development, it is clear that Fingal's position as the 'breadbasket of Ireland' is not widely recognised.
- The overall branding of Fingal Tourism requires significant investment in branding, marketing, PR and digital presence to enhance Fingal as a tourism destination and therefore support the food and drink experience.
- The launch date of Dublin's Coast and Fields in March 2020 was unfortunate as it was immediately followed by COVID19 and the website has received little resourcing since the launch. Consequently, the content is out of date and the site requires extensive work to align it with the objectives of the new Fingal Food Network. There are additional food and drink listings under Fingal.ie website.
- Dublin's Coast and Fields social media should be incorporated into an over marketing plan.
- Very little online information is available on markets suitable for visitors, except for Howth Market.
- A dedicated and up to date website for Flavours of Fingal is needed. Social media accounts are needed for the renamed Howth Maritime and Seafood Festival which was previously Dublin Bay Prawn Festival.
- Search Engine Optimisation (SEO):
    - A search for 'Fingal Food and Drink' returns the previous Agri Food Strategy on the Council's website and CRO listings for a range of businesses.
    - A search for 'Fingal Food and Drink' experiences returns a directory of businesses on Council's website which requires updating and has a Christmas focus. It also returns a link to Dublin's Coast and Fields website.
    - A search for 'food tourism in Fingal' returns a link to the Dublin's Coast and Fields website.
    - Using the search term Fingal is problematic as it is a relatively unknown brand in tourism terms both domestically and internationally. Visitors will search for Dublin or specific villages such as Howth and Malahide or an experience they have heard about. Significant investment will be required to compete successfully online. Further brand research is required on the consumer facing brand Dublin's Coast and Fields including the word Dublin in terms of reducing confusion and optimisation. This finding was backed up by feedback received in the one-to-one meetings and from focus group.

Recommendations to combat some of the issues raised in the digital audit are listed under the appropriate heading.



Skerries Mills

6.6.2 Fingal Tourism Strategy

Fingal County Council in conjunction with Fingal Tourism have commissioned a Fingal Tourism Strategy. The Food and Drink Policy will align with the new Tourism Strategy.

Findings from Tourism Strategy Research

- Research showed food was not a key pillar but was a focus.
- Certain areas are strong for restaurants and have a very good reputation for quality such as Malahide and Howth. Skerries and Swords were mentioned in the research.
- Strong visitor attractions in Malahide and Howth Castle
- Improvement required in saleable experiences. This is in line with our audit.

Growth of the Fingal Food Network with Dublin's Coast & Fields

Dublin's Coast and Fields launched in March 2020 with a new brand and logo, website, producer directory, social media platforms and marketing collateral. Unfortunately, due to COVID19, the set up of the Fingal Food Network was delayed until November 2022. Dublin's Coast and Fields is the consumer brand for the network. There are currently 30 network members ranging from producers to cafés, restaurants and those offering saleable experiences. The network has an action plan, membership pack, criteria and governance in place developed under support provided by Fáilte Ireland. The network hosted its first internal familiarisation visit in April 2023 and is hosting food demonstration and member showcases at the Flavours of Fingal festival in July 2023. This will be followed by an autumn series of events and a media visit from Food on the Edge in October.

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Fingal Food Network Mission

The mission is to safeguard the rich food heritage of the county and to grow the sustainable messaging, local food provenance, food tourism experience and hospitality in Fingal, creating a best-in-class food destination.

Findings

- Proud of their region (produce, landscape, heritage villages and coast).
- Great potential for local food and drink provenance with a wide variety of produce.
- No mention of opportunities around Dublin Airport or Dublin/Belfast economic corridor re: saleable experience in the tourism focus group, the feedback was mainly concentrated on the hospitality offering.
- Fingal Food Network: Action plan created in 2021, that requires updating. There is no marketing and PR strategy in place. A marketing agency currently look after posting on social media accounts. There is a committee in place supported by Fingal Council County, Fingal Tourism and Fáilte Ireland and food tourism mentoring in place.
- Dublin's Coast and Fields website is not fit for purpose. The information is out of date and not accurate. Experiences are missing from the site.
    - Dublin's Coast and Fields social media platforms will cause alienation of businesses as one business is chosen over another. Social should be linked to the Fingal Food Network members as their consumer-facing marketing brand.
- The network is supported by Fingal County Council and membership fees have been waived for 2023 and 2024.
- Membership pack, criteria, benefits of joining and application process can be accessed through their website.

- Businesses wish to create sustainable practices in their business and gain Origin Green and Green Hospitality certification. As an example, Doran's on the Pier hired consultants to successfully reduce their energy and waste costs.

Note: Areas of concern in relation to Dublin's Coast and Fields website and social media platforms (February 2023) are noted and currently in progress to rectify in Q2.

Recommendations

- Find the food networks unique selling points and promote them in all campaigns and marketing.
- Create marketing campaign(s) and continue to tell the story of producers and local food provenance to raise the profile of Fingal as Ireland's breadbasket.
- Embrace food trail, tours and food destination marketing.
- Engage further with Fáilte Ireland on the creation of saleable experiences and the network's vision and also with Visit Dublin.
- Review the original Fáilte Ireland workbook and guide on how to run a food network.
- Develop a strategy and detailed action plan.
- Explore the potential for new festivals and events and create a year-round calendar of events.
- Take up opportunities to celebrate food at all festivals in the region such as Malahide Castle events.
- Fingal Food Network should have a presence at key national events like Bloom and the National Ploughing Championships.
- Celebrate success stories like McNally Farm Shop and Café, Howth Cookery School.
- Engage with Dublin Bay Biosphere and encourage members of the network to sign up to the charter.
- Update the action plan which was created in 2021. In addition, a marketing and PR strategy should be developed and a training plan implemented in conjunction with LEO and agencies. The committee plan to meet in September 2023 and divide the actions into short, medium and long term.
- Tie in with the creation of sustainability awards, champions and case studies under Economic Development. As an example, Dorans's on the Pier would be ideal as a case study on embracing sustainability practices to reduce costs.

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6.6.3 Networking and Training

Training Requirements

To meet the training requirements within the food and drink industry several initiatives are needed.

Findings

- A series of touch points with visitors require optimisation in terms of content, for example website, merchandising, social media content, liaising with the media and visual content.
- Businesses have engaged with LEO courses through their own business and the Dublin Food Chain network.
- Fingal Food Network hosted one internal familiarisation visit in April 2023. Additional visits are planned for the autumn.
- LEO through Dublin Food Chain organises international market familiarisation visits i.e., Anugal/SIAL/SFFF.

Recommendations

- Create a list of autumn training requirements based on feedback from members.

- Discuss Fingal Food Network training requirements with LEO.
- Promote collaboration and linkage between the LEO, Dublin Food Chain and Fingal Food Network to maximise the benefit of the various management development, business networking initiatives and enterprise promotion opportunities provided by LEO Fingal.
- Run a series of networking events (Fingal Food Network members only and open to the public).
- Encourage peer-to-peer learning.
- Invest in running a series of events and hire speakers to energise the Fingal Food Network in collaboration with the LEO and Dublin Food Chain programme.
- Host brainstorming networking events, where the objectives are to engage participants to create 1-3-5-day visitor packages combining various saleable food experiences, attractions and accommodation providers to help them see the bigger picture in relation to food tourism and tourism in the region. These packages can include culinary tours, immersive food experiences, opportunities to engage with local producers, amenities and activity providers.
- Link chefs with local producers through networking events, directories, and programmes centred around food provenance is essential for fostering collaboration and strengthening the local food ecosystem. It is also important to tie in with the offerings from the Local Enterprise Office to provide comprehensive support for businesses.
- Discuss with the LEO the training opportunities and requirements in areas such as food photography, social media marketing, branding, storytelling, and public relations to enhance businesses' visibility and marketing capabilities. Furthermore, training programmes should focus on equipping individuals with the skills to effectively run media visits, allowing them to showcase the region's gastronomic offerings to a wider audience. Additionally, training staff to engage effectively with customers and providing support to chefs and business owners in pursuing larger catering contracts, particularly at heritage sites, can further drive growth and success within the industry.
- Collaboration and planning between agencies and bodies responsible for training in the sector targeting food and drink businesses in Fingal.
- It is recommended to run a series of familiarisation visits (both internal and external) for the Fingal Food Network members. The familiarisation visits should include domestic and international locations for best practice. LEO can lead out internationally trading/research activities and expand this further for Fingal food producers, as it aligns with their strategic objectives.
    - Focus on networking and building the relationships between the businesses.
    - Encourage people to get to know each other and their product by way of internal familiarisation visits to each other's businesses.
        - Organise site visits which play a crucial role in facilitating internal and external knowledge sharing among industry peers. These visits allow professionals to learn from each other's experiences and gain insights into best practices. This in turn allows engagement with businesses and assists them in becoming local experts in Fingal and referring businesses. Brainstorming combined with site visits, could create an initiative such as the 'Tastes of Fingal,' to showcase the diverse and exceptional local food and drink offerings to those in business in Fingal. Excellent examples of local business referrals working in practice are in Westport and Killarney, where businesses collectively work together. Additionally, a coordinated familiarisation visit to an established food tourism or business network such as Boyne Valley Flavours or Kinsale Good Food Circle would provide practical example of knowledge sharing and working together.
        - Plan research visits for saleable experience development.

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6.6.4 Food Experiences in Fingal

Sample of Sales Experiences in Fingal

Activity	Company	Activity	Company
Producer/ Tour Guide	The Herb Garden	Tours	Howth School of Fish
Craft Brewery	Hope Beer	Tours	Howth Foraging
Whiskey Distiller	Lambay Whiskey	Activity, Craft Beer & Seafood Trail	Hidden Howth
Cookery School	Howth Cookery School	Activity and Food Tour	Shane's Howth Adventures
Restaurant	Wrights Findlater Howth		

Findings

- The existing experiences are well established and of a high quality but limited in number.
- Unequal regional distribution with the majority focused in the Howth region (6 of the 9 businesses).
- No agri farm tour or food trail is available.
- Limited tourist experiences at farmers markets or markets such as Howth market.
- Lack of central database or point of contact for visitors to book an experience.
- Limited number of experiences i.e., tours and tastings, difficult to find online. See digital audit findings.
- Some confusion over the similarly of names Dublin Coastal Trail and Dublin's Coast and Fields, which has led to businesses in Fingal querying if Dublin's Coast and Fields covers all the county.
- A new Fingal Coastal Way is being developed. This 32km amenity will offer a route for relaxation, exercise and commuting and will connect the communities of Donabate, Rush, Loughshinny, Skerries and Balbriggan, showcasing the beauty of the Fingal coastline to visitors and local people.

Recommendations

- Engage with Fáilte Ireland on building scalable and saleable food experiences.
- Brainstorm with network members on the opportunities open to them.
- Plan familiarisation visits to an established network for learnings and inspiration.
- Engage with a wide local food provenance programme, encompassing not only food tourism but wider aspects under economic development to truly support producers from the ground up.
- Using a holistic and collaborative approach taking all touchpoints with the consumer (retailing, menus, tourist offices promotion) and visitor in consideration will assist SEO, brand recognition and leads to a true authentic experience for visitors.
- Brainstorm around businesses opportunities from the Dublin Coastal Trail. It aims to entice visitors beyond the city centre, unveiling the wonders of nearby coastal towns. Boasting beaches, golf links, adventure sports, castles, culture, heritage, and local cuisine, the trail offers unexpected experiences at Dublin's doorstep. Starting in Skerries and stretching to Killiney, with plans for expansion, each location features informative signage, welcoming and guiding visitors to explore various attractions by rail, foot, or bicycle.
- Maximise the proximity to tourists arriving at Dublin Airport and train transport links.
- Create new experiences at heritage properties like a tea rooms at Ardgillan Castle.
- Cross promote and create new packages with adventure tourism providers.
- Embrace the Fingal Coastal Way, cease opportunities for food and drink businesses and to be ready to engage along the route.
    - Incorporate the opportunities available for businesses along the Fingal Coastal Route in a Fingal Food Network workshop. By brainstorming ideas and viewing best practice nationally and internationally for maximising return, the businesses can be ready to engage. Examples are the Gourmet Greenway in Westport, Food the Waterford Way.

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Opportunities for Collaboration

- Christmas Hampers: two examples are Taste Wexford Hampers and Sligo Food Trail who successfully sold hampers online for Christmas and as corporate gifts.
- Internationally, look to greenways for exciting projects such as Bicycle Basket on the Dutch Waterline, which includes offering visitors a basket for their bike, picnic blanket and vouchers for visitors to use along the waterway.
- Establishing a Food Series i.e., Boyne Valley Flavours are celebrating their 10th Food Series in 2023. The Boyne Food Series is a culinary event showcasing the rich and diverse flavours of the Boyne Valley region through a series of curated dining experiences and local food collaborations.
- Specific events for campaigns like Boxty Without Borders which ran as a Taste the Island event in 2019. The event highlighted that food has no boundaries and the benefits of cross border tourism and food tourism collaborations.

Opportunities for Farm Diversification

- Farm and fishing businesses can incorporate food tourism into their offering in various ways such as farm tours, seafood experiences or fishing catch and cook experiences. This can lead to wider collaboration, with farming joining together into a trail i.e., Slane Food Circle.
  - Support required for farm diversification as famers need to consider farm insurance and restructure of farmyards for public access (safety), in addition to research on their target audience and marketing.
  - Added Value Produce examples include Cheese, Yogurt, Chocolate, Flavoured Milk (eg McGrane's Milk Barn)
- Holiday lets or glamping with local farm shop or farm tours.
- Diversification supports from Teagasc are available such as the Opt In Programme
- Educational programmes can also assist in farm diversification such as The Tipperary Food Tour.

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6.6.5 Fingal Food Provenance

The findings are from one-to-one meetings, tourism focus groups and relevant agencies in addition to site visits.

Findings

- Several Chefs are very engaged and promote local producers, for example Potager travels to McNally's Farm to collect produce.
- Linking of producers and Chefs is sporadic and naming producers on the menus in restaurants is not widespread across the region.
- It is currently difficult to contact every café, restaurant and producer as the database requires maintenance.
- It is more difficult for smaller producers to supply volume and manage delivery.

Recommendations

- Invite all relevant Fingal County Council departments, activity providers and tourism agencies to engage.
- Provide consultation on the best method for engagement, find out what the barriers are and offer solutions to increase local food provenance.
- Investigate a co-op for small producers to engage as a unit with restaurants and hotels.

- Publish a Producers Directory and keep it updated (liaise with Dublin Food Chain).
- Educate residents and businesses on local food provenance including youth groups, school children, diverse groups, older people and businesses.
- Build in sustainability practices into the programme.
- Linking with Community Engagement Programme and Capturing Heritage

6.6.6 Investment in Food and Drink Festivals and Events

Festivals and Events Team

Findings
Three methods of support:

1. Design, Build, Operative (DBO), the festival works with a concession manager.
2. Funding Scheme: includes 1-day events, conferences and the completion of feasibility studies. Currently there are approximately 100 events funded by the Council.
3. Advice and Guidance
    - The team would like to see greater engagement from businesses and a focus on provenance. Businesses need to be festival ready and understand the parameters of selling food at a large festival.
    - Events are asked to follow the Green Festival Guide
    - Fingal Food Network to have a presence at Flavours of Fingal
    - It is difficult for businesses at festivals as the parameters change with different Environmental Health Officers.

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Wrights of Howth

- Two high quality food themed festivals: Flavours of Fingal and Howth Maritime and Seafood Festival.
- Cross promotion at Flavours of Fingal - producers with Fingal Farmers.
- Opportunity to expand food-themed calendar of events in partnership with the food network.
- Society is more diverse and this needs to be reflected.
- Busy business owners are wary of the time commitment needed to get involved.

Obstacles to running events/markets/festivals

- Timing of festivals is often a deterrent to business involvement particularly in the summer months.

Recommendations

- Opportunity to offer a green mentor/consultant to festivals.
- Investigate the possibility of additional events and festivals across the region, including food themed events in Dublin 15.
- Ensure more local food provenance at festivals organised by the Council.
  - Increase in understanding required by both and businesses organisers (both directions) in relation to their needs.
  - Offer first refusal to network members or work with them to engage with festivals.
- Promote new events in the shoulder seasons.
- Use any opportunities for the network to highlight or get involved in members festivals/events such as Spud Fest (Country Crest)
- Create fringe food events for existing festivals.

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6.6.7 Food and Drink Experience in Heritage Properties

Embracing Heritage and Existing Attractions

The heritage properties and castles in Fingal have significant potential for developing food tourism but they require specific supports in relation to expertise, resourcing and funding. The research has focused on a select number of Council owned properties however we also see opportunities for engagement with privately owned properties such as Howth Castle.

Heritage Plan 2018-2023

Heritage and Conservation

The Heritage Plan outlines policies and objectives in relation to the built, natural and cultural heritage. Fingal has a rich heritage dating back thousands of years, visible in the landscape from the passage tombs of Bremore to medieval church settlements such as Swords and Lusk and castles like Malahide and Ardgillan. The county also has a unique natural heritage of coastline, waterways, landscape and wildlife, and a cultural heritage of local history, music and folklore. The Heritage Plan 2018–2023 sets out a range of objectives to protect, manage and promote Fingal's Heritage.

- Four key heritage properties (Malahide Castle, Ardgillan Castle, Newbridge House and Skerries Mills) attract approximately 200,000 paying visitors annually with an estimated economic value of €10.5 million per annum to the wider Fingal economy. However, the combined visitor numbers to Fingal's beaches, parks and heritage properties and to other popular destinations such as Howth Head far exceeds this number.New plan in draft

A new plan in currently in draft form.

- The county has strong traditions of horticulture, agriculture and fishing. Fingal's industrial and agricultural heritage is evident in a range of sites associated with transport, manufacturing and food production, such as the windmill at Skerries and Shackleton's Mill in the Liffey Valley.

2011-2017

- Collaborative initiatives to communicate the value of heritage have been undertaken, such as the project "All Bread is made of Wood" with Fingal Arts Office, which used environmental evidence retrieved from the excavations at Swords Castle combined with methods of baking and food production from North County Dublin's past to explore contemporary and ancient local food culture.

Fingal County Council operates five heritage properties under its ownership as community and tourism attractions. In each case the food and drink offering is run by catering companies.

1. Malahide Castle and Gardens
2. Newbridge House and Farm
3. Skerries Mill
4. Ardgillan Castle
5. Seamus Ennis Arts Centre

Note: There is currently no food offering at Swords Castle and a regular market is held outside Bremore Castle (see markets).

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Overall Findings

At Council owned heritage properties:

- The food offering is based on etenders procurement.
  - Feedback from businesses: this excludes smaller café or startups from applying.
- Very little use of local food or provenance highlighted on the menus.
- Malahide Castle partners with Avoca Café for their retail and café offering.
- Similar offerings across the sites due to the contract catering process.
- No food offering in the Seamus Ennis Arts Centre which has an excellent outdoor space for market or small-scale food related events but no parking facilities.
- Skerries Mill are currently expanding their food/tour offering with the Red Barn project. They have a small retail space for local producers. There are opportunities to expand their food experiences with additional events and collaboration with businesses.

Opportunity

- Training for businesses on how to utilise e-tenders.
- Collaborate with heritage office on food oral history project.
- Proposed changes to the catering contract:
  - Use local food and highlight provenance by naming producers on the menu.
  - Provide retail space/route to market for Fingal Food Network producers and Dublin Food Chain members.
  - Encourage the successfully contracted company to collaborate with food businesses to run experiences, talks and workshops.

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Case Study: Ardgillan Castle

Despite being commonly known as a castle, the domicile located at Ardgillan is, in fact, a sizable house designed in a country style and featuring ornamental battlements. Its original designation was “Prospect House,” and its core structure, erected in 1738 by Robert Taylor, was subsequently expanded with the addition of the west and east wings during the latter part of the 1800s.





The castle offers the following services to visitors:
Tearooms and kiosk for coffee and snacks near the playground which is operated under contract; Castle tours (which are mainly self-guided, although a guided tour may be organised for groups of more than ten)
A craft shop and an art gallery.

The grounds include a Gardener's Cottage overlooking the rose garden, which was previously used as a café and also a herb garden.

Recommendations

- Connect the food offering to the heritage property. Link to the castle kitchen on the tour through recipes or stories.
- Connect the kitchen tour with the tea rooms (artefacts).
- Bring the story of the house to life in the tea rooms (the grandeur and lifestyle of the Taylor family)
- Investigate if family recipes could be introduced.
- Lower Courtyard: has potential for a pop up or permanent restaurant. Pilot an evening pop up restaurant, for example Davidson's, Allta pop up restaurant which has run in several different locations.
- Educational Opportunities: to attract students (school trips, active retirements groups, tour operators) utilise the herb garden, café, talks and tie into the heritage plan. The book trail would also be attractive to schools.
- Menu planning: prepare and use as much food as possible from the gardens.

The Garden's Cottage

- The Café is currently closed. It offers excellent potential as a destination café with new proposed car parking nearby.
- Showcase and use artisan producers
- Use as an evening event space
- Use produce from the (herb) gardens and estate.
- Opportunity to market one of the outside spaces and/or inside rooms as dog friendly.
- Excellent outdoor space with views of the gardens

National Heritage Week, 12th - 20th August 2023

- Run pop up events during Heritage Week to test the Gardener's Cottage and pop-up restaurant space. Use local produce and tie back to the history of the property.
- Connect the heritage property to the food offering
- Afternoon tea: with priority given to the food, are local jams used?
- Opportunity to join Fingal Food Network and create saleable experiences
- Embrace the tearoom experience at Ardgillan Castle
- Artwork is nice in the tea rooms

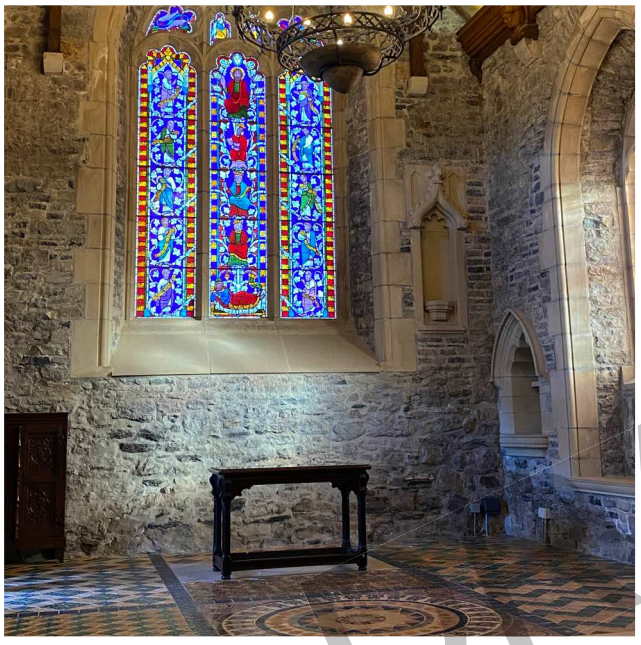
Possibility of becoming a destination café:

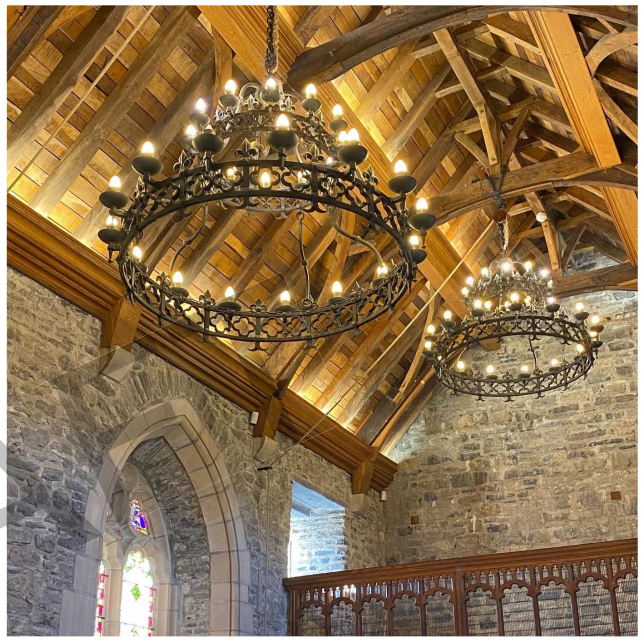
- What is the customer experience? Currently there is a canteen feel which needs changing.
- Consider tearoom style floral wall paper, vintage tea service, fresh flowers
- Words which come to mind when describing tea rooms at a castle: stylishness, pretty, floral, vintage, afternoon tea experience, homemade.

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Swords Castle

Situated in the heart of the historic town, Swords Castle stands as a testament to more than 800 years of captivating history. Recent remarkable findings, such as burial sites beneath the gatehouse, further emphasise its significance. Constructed by Archbishop John Comyn of Dublin circa 1200, the castle served as both a dwelling and administrative hub. The expansive compound takes the shape of a rough pentagon and is encompassed by a 260 metre perimeter wall. As a National Monument, it stands as the finest surviving example of an Archbishop's Palace in Ireland. This intricate architectural ensemble showcases various stages of adaptation and transformation, mirroring its extensive past and fluctuating fortunes. www.swordscastle.events





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Findings

- Used for festivals, events and seasonal craft and food markets.
- No food allowed in Great Hall but open to non-food related events such as civil wedding ceremonies.

Recommendations

- Relaunch the Great Hall with food themed events on the grounds or in the hall itself.
- Add a dedicated food and drink section for saleable experiences and Dublin's Coast and Fields in the tourist office.

Seamus Ennis Arts Centre

The Séamus Ennis Arts Centre (TSEAC) is a renowned establishment based in The Naul, dedicated to the performing arts. It provides a platform for a rich array of cultural encounters, encompassing live music, cinema, comedy, and cultural events. Additionally, TSEAC actively fosters artistic growth by offering workshops and a flourishing music school to nurture the talents of aspiring artists. The centre is a charity organisation owned and funded by Fingal County Council with additional supports from the Arts Council of Ireland as well as donations. The centre enriches people's lives through art, culture, education and creativity whilst commemorating the work and life of the late Séamus Ennis.

Findings

- Traditional music and arts focused centre, suitable for festivals, events, markets and workshops.
- Outdoor covered space with stretch tent and bandstand.
  - The outdoor space can hold approximately 600 for a market and 450 people seated/480 people standing for a music/performance event.
- Indoor theatre can hold 90 people seated.
- Offers 45 seated Café and possibility of evening restaurant. There is currently no operator in place and they are actively looking to engage a contractor for summer 2023.
- There is no assigned parking but there is on street parking, or they link in with the local GAA club for larger events. This issue is being investigated for suitable alternative options.

Recommendations

- Improve available parking.
- Engage an operator for the café, and food operations. Encourage the contractor to join the Fingal Food Network to engage their marketing support and resourcing.
- Explore new experiences, traditional Irish cuisine or baking workshops for tourists for examples visit Irish Soda Bread Way.
- Engage tour operator market for quieter days of the week and shoulder season. The extension, with counter space and seating, lends itself to small cookery classes/demonstrations, foraging tours or food talks for tour operators.
- Excellent opportunities available with the covered outside space for regular markets or a pop-up summer restaurant or food themed evenings.
- Once a contractor for the café is in place, offer to host a Fingal Food Network networking event or meeting.
- Engage with the local producers and sell their products in a small retail space in the café.

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Newbridge House and Farm

Newbridge House and Farm: This is an 18th-century Georgian mansion set in extensive parkland. Visitors can take a tour of the house, explore the walled garden, and visit the working farm, where they can meet various animals. They are currently investigating a partnership with Fingal Food Network and members on a series of food themed events.





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Recommendations

- Opportunity for menus to use local food and highlight provenance or create a connected mural on the back wall behind the counter.
- Utilise the retail space near the counter for local producers from the Fingal Food Network.
- Offer milkshakes or produce in keeping with a farm such as ice cream from a local producer.

Case Study: Foxford Woollen Mills

Foxford Woollen Mills is a historic Irish textile mill located in Foxford, County Mayo. Established in 1892, it specialises in producing high-quality woven wool products, including blankets, scarves, and throws. Beyond its textile production and tours, the mill boasts a delightful destination cafe that offers a selection of delicious refreshments, including their own artisan produce for sale. Visitors can indulge in homemade treats while appreciating the cosy ambiance. Additionally, the mill features a well-curated shop where visitors can find a range of artisanal products, including locally sourced food items and unique crafts, providing an opportunity to experience and bring home the distinct offerings of Foxford Woollen Mills. The Mills is privately owned and employs a Chef directly to oversee the Café and production kitchen for their range of produce and artisan food hampers. Their product range was introduced to promote year-round employment and the café was redeveloped to be sustainable and not depend on tour group visitors.

Current Offering

Established Foxford Food Collection, individual products and food hampers, with destination Café for local and visitors. The café brings visitors for the tour, shop and event space. A second production kitchen opened in 2022 and this creates year-round employment for staff.

7. Implementation of the Policy

For the successful implementation of the policy and to avoid previous pitfalls as outlined in the threats to the policy, we reviewed options for implementation.

Food Policy Council

The Food Policy Council brings together professionals from diverse food-related sectors to examine how the food system is operating and to develop recommendations on how to improve it.

Food Policy Councils are predominately a grassroots effort which have been successful at educating officials and the public, shaping public policy, improving coordination between existing programmes, and starting new programmes. Examples include mapping and publicising local food resources; creating new transit routes to connect underserved areas with full-service grocery stores; persuading government agencies to purchase from local farmers; and organising community gardens and farmers' markets.

Further reference material, Resource Centres on Urban Agriculture and Food Security produced a document on Food Policy Council in 2019

Based on the original motion, a review of Food Councils in Ghent, Toronto and Bristol was completed.

1. Ghent Food Council, Belgium
2. Toronto Food Council, Canada
3. Bristol Food Council, UK

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Ghent Food Council, Belgium

The food and drink policy implemented by the City of Ghent, known as "Gent en Garde," aims to create a sustainable food system. The policy is guided by five strategic goals, including promoting shorter food chains, sustainable production and consumption, social value creation, food waste reduction, and optimal reuse of food waste. The policy is supported by a Food Council consisting of representatives from various sectors, providing advice, acting as a sounding board, and allocating a budget for innovative projects. The flexible approach and continuous evaluation have contributed to the success of the policy. Ghent's food policy serves as a model for other cities, emphasising participative governance and collaboration among different interested parties. The city's food policy council meets regularly, chaired by the deputy mayor responsible for climate, environment, housing, and international cooperation. The establishment of the policy was necessary to address food-related challenges comprehensively and foster cooperation, avoiding duplication of efforts and maximising results through collaboration.

Toronto Food Council, Canada

The Toronto Food Council is no longer active or resourced.

The Toronto Food Policy Council (TFPC) was established in 1991 as a subcommittee of the Board of Health to provide advice on food policy matters to the City of Toronto. The TFPC operates independently and connects individuals from diverse sectors, including food, farming, and the community, to develop innovative policies and projects that promote a health-focused food system. It plays a crucial role in advising Toronto Public Health, advocating for food policy programmes, engaging in dialogue with various city officials, and serving as a reference group for the Toronto Food Strategy. The council have made significant contributions to a wide range of food policy initiatives over the years and successfully

advocated for the inclusion of food in city strategies. Its membership consists of 30 individuals appointed by the Toronto Board of Health, including citizens, City Councillors, representatives from farm and rural communities, and members of the Toronto Youth Food Policy Council. The TFPC holds formal decision-making meetings every two months, supplemented by less formal discussion meetings in alternate months, all of which are open to the public. Toronto Public Health provides staff support, and the council prepares an annual report for the Board of Health. The TFPC's work is guided by the goal of developing a health-focused food system through collaborative efforts and innovative policies.

Bristol Food Council, UK

The Bristol Good Food Alliance aims to bring together various organisations in Bristol that promote "good food." Currently, the Bristol Food Policy Council, Bristol Food Network, and Bristol Food Producers are part of the alliance, and any organisation sharing the same values and principles can join. The Bristol Good Food Movement and Bristol Gold Food City are also related initiatives. The Bristol Food Policy Council (FPC) was established in 2011 as the first Food Policy Council in the UK. It works towards a vision of a sustainable food city where everyone has access to fresh, local, and affordable food. The FPC has written reports and plans, including the Good Food Plan for Bristol and the Good Food Action Plan. It collaborates closely with Bristol City Council and has achieved notable successes, such as obtaining Silver Sustainable Food City status in 2016 and eventually attaining Gold Sustainable Food City status. The FPC's unique position is an independent body. The council consists of 10 members with expertise in various sectors of the food system. The FPC's work is guided by key strategies, including the Bristol City Council's Food Charter and Climate Change and Energy Security Framework. The new project structure replacing some organisations is Bristol Good Food 2030, which aims to make positive changes across the local food system through the Bristol Good Food Partnership and its six thematic areas.

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Conclusion

On review, the two active food councils are city based, with the Bristol Food Council undergoing significant change in 2023 to come under the new entity of Bristol Good Food 2030. The main concern with the creation of a food council for Fingal is resourcing and funding with an organisation needing to be responsible for the implementing and funding of the policy for the duration.

The governance of the policy was based on participation and inclusivity, transparency, evidence-based decision making, accountability and responsibility, coherence and integration, flexibility and adaptability, collaboration and partnerships.

The Fingal Skills Strategy working group has been successful in its governance and implementation and this is the model chosen to implement this policy.

Acknowledgements
Fingal County Council and Brouder Marketing wishes to express its gratitude to the growers, producers, foodservice operators, tourism and hospitality businesses, Council departments, Government agencies, and all other stakeholders who participated in the consultation process for this Policy. The invaluable contributions from this collective have made the development of the Policy feasible.

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Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council

Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil
Local Enterprise Office
Fine Gall Fingal

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Chief Executive's Management Report

13th November 2023
Item 23

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Chief Executive's Foreword

Just two weeks ago the night skies across Fingal were ablaze with incredible fireworks much to the delight of the thousands of spectators who witnessed the Festival of Fire at Balbriggan, Blanchardstown, Malahide and Swords on Halloween night. The fun was not only limited to spectacular fireworks displays as Community Centres, Library branches and local Resident's Associations ensured an enjoyable celebration was had by all by staging pumpkin hunts, Halloween themed arts and crafts events, spooky discos and scary storytime sessions as part of a jam-packed programme designed to thrill and engage children of all ages. Halloween is a much anticipated time of year but can put undue pressure on local authorities and the emergency services who have to deal with reports of illegal bonfires burning. Not only are these bonfires a hazard to public safety, but they also cause considerable damage to open spaces and public property which necessitates an annual clean-up cost of approximately €150,000. Each year, Fingal County Council's Operations Department assists the Fire Service, An Garda Síochána and other agencies by removing stockpiled bonfire material such as pallets, tyres and furniture as well as offering an annual Halloween amnesty where combustible materials can be disposed free of charge in the run up to Halloween. I am very appreciative of the diligent work undertaken by Fingal staff across all areas in planning for and overseeing safe and memorable events for communities to enjoy at this time of year.

I am very pleased that the Elected Members have adopted an increased budget of €361.9 million budget that will be invested in delivering over 900 different services in Fingal over the year. Adoption of the 2024 Budget sees an additional €28.1 million available from that received in the budget for 2023. Some of the highlights of the approved budget include;

- €16m increase for the housing department to help with the likes of provision of social housing, preventative maintenance works, homeless services and housing adaptation grants.
- An increase of €5.5m towards roads maintenance, parks, pitches, opens spaces and burial grounds.
- Around €3m to help develop and maintain libraries, tourism, arts, events and town centres.
- An additional €1.9m allocated to help invest in new and current community infrastructure and facilities.
- €1.7m towards planning and strategic infrastructure, including increased funding for biodiversity projects and initiatives.

I would like to express my appreciation to everyone involved in the preparation of a progressive and robust budget which will enable us to expand upon the work we carry out and which will enhance services, infrastructure and resources across Fingal.

With the festive season fast approaching, Christmas Markets in Fingal will provide the perfect setting to find unique and affordable gifts and to enjoy artisan food and drink whilst browsing through the ideally situated stalls. This year, there will be Markets at Swords Town Park, Bremore Castle Balbriggan and Shackleton Gardens Clonsilla with a wonderfully Christmassy atmosphere in each location guaranteed. The Markets will welcome festive shoppers from later on this month and you can plan your visit by checking out the opening hours on our website; https://www.fingal.ie/events/christmas-markets or via our social media channels. I hope you enjoy find the time to indulge in some retail therapy and to enjoy the experience!

Finally, on behalf of the Elected Members and the Executive Management Team, I would like to congratulate Senior Parks and Landscape Officer, Kevin Halpenny, who has received the prestigious World Urban Parks Distinguished Individual Award for his exceptional contribution to the urban parks, open space, and recreation sector. This award recognises Kevin's many years of dedication to, and ambition for, the development of public green infrastructure and highlights the extraordinary vision, knowledge and experience which Kevin embodies through his work in Fingal County Council. We are very fortunate to have seen the fruition of the work of Kevin and his team in recent projects such as the Ward River Valley Recreational Hub, the rejuvenation of the Shackleton Gardens in Clonsilla and the commencement of construction of the Ballymastone Recreational Hub in Donabate. I am delighted that Kevin has been honoured with this well-deserved accolade and have no doubt that he will continue to deliver exceptional biodiverse, sustainable and healthy place projects for the benefit of the people of Fingal for many years to come.
Best wishes,

AnnMarie Farrelly
Chief Executive

PEOPLE, CORPORATE AND DIGITAL SERVICES

Contents

People Services
Health & Safety Unit
Customer Services
CRM
Digital Services
Communications



People Services - Recruitment

Recruitment Programme 2023 YTD	
Total Recruitment Campaigns	83
Campaigns Completed	60
Current Active Campaigns	23
Interviews Held to date	1750
New Starters	185
Number of Current Job Offers	56

Applications for the Family Friendly schemes are now open.
Blended Working applications will be opening when all Work Sharing applications have been approved.

Learning and Development

The Learning & Development team continues to implement and deliver the staff training programme for 2023.

October Completed Courses	
Number of courses	43
Number of Attendees	423
Number of Training Days	478

New Courses

October saw the introduction of the new Basic IT Skills Course aimed at outdoor staff. to benefit personal development and introduce new skills. The course takes place in the newly equipped IT training room in Ballycoolin Regional Training Centre. With great support from both the Ballycoolin Team and the IT section.

Staff Briefings

The Learning and Development team where on hand at the Staff Briefings giving information to staff about training courses and the scheme of assistance.
Wellbeing information was also provided to staff in attendance.



Climate Action Raising Awareness Training

In November we will run our second round of climate action training for outdoor staff. This training is a National KPI for Local Authorities and we are happy to have had a good uptake on this training from all depots.

November Learning and Development courses being delivered.

Business and Interpersonal Skills
Competency Based Interview Skills.
Interviewer Skills Training
Pre-Retirement Training
Team Building Training
Makodata Explorer
Grievance and Disciplinary
Personal Effectiveness grade 3 and 4
Time Management

Dignity and Equality
Supervisory Management Training Outdoor
Staff Induction, Council Meeting
Grade 5 IPA Management Training
A-Z of Local Government
Diversity & Interculturalism
Getting the most from PMDS
Ignite Programme 8
Succeeding at Oral Hearings

Health and Safety
Managing Safely in Construction
Wastewater Treatment Plant Operative
Sustainable Drainage
Safepass
Polesaw
Site Dumper
PDSP
Fire Warden
Woodchipper training
Location of Underground Services
Road Opening and Reinstatement
Manual Handling
Chainsaw

Wellbeing
Mental Health First Aid

IT
Basic IT Skills
Mako Data Explorer

Wellbeing Update
Another round of Mental Health First Aid Training will take place in November. The uptake for these courses has been great and the feedback is very positive. More courses will be made available in the new year.

We now have a full 12 months of reporting for our Employee Assistance Service which will be delivered to the wellbeing champions and committee in November.

mental health first aid IRELAND

Fingal County Council Wellbeing Programme

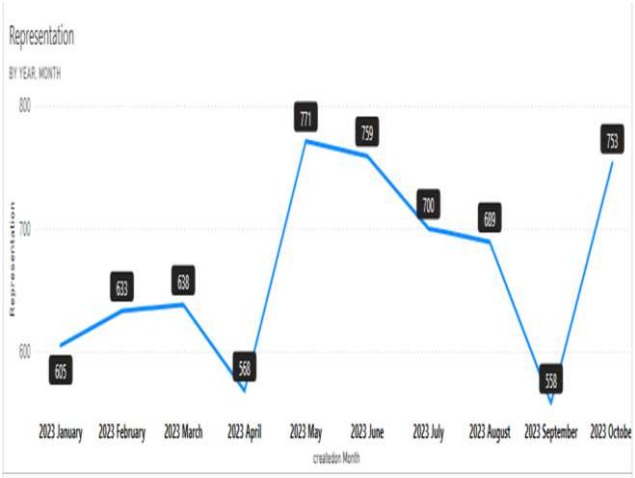
HSU – Health & Safety Unit

The HSU conducted and completed 28 site safety inspections and audits for the month of October, 8 VDU assessments for office and remote based staff along with carrying out incident investigations, formal engagement with the HSA following site inspections, and ongoing engagement with Uisce Eireann's HSQE staff and Fingal staff working for Uisce Eireann. Fingal County Council achieved a Higher Distinction Award along with an Exceptional High Achiever Award at the recent National Irish Safety Organisation & Northern Ireland Safety Group awards ceremony. This all-Ireland annual safety award ceremony has been in existence for 32 years. The award was on foot of the HSU's submission to NISO on the behalf of Fingal County Council earlier in the year. In addition the HSU ran a programme of work for European health and safety week 2023 [theme: safe & healthy work in the digital age] which included a H&S conference for safety reps and fire wardens, a staff quiz draw and a safety campaign ran through staff messages.

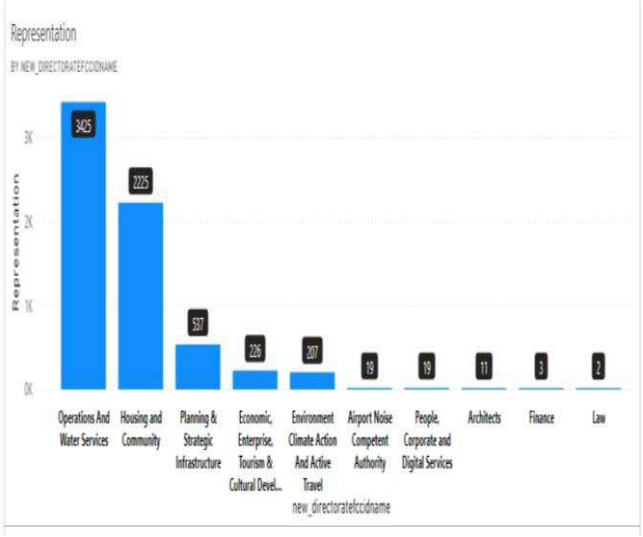
Customer Services

Month	Total No. of Calls	Total No. of Emails	Presenting in Person
October	16,515	545	2,324

CRM
Staff continue to work on the Customer Relationship Management System (CRM) and issue responses to representations from Elected Members (Councillors, TDs and Senators) and complaints submitted by the public. The total number of Elected Members' representations were as follows for October - 753



The table below shows the total number of Elected Members' representations assigned to each Department to date in 2023.

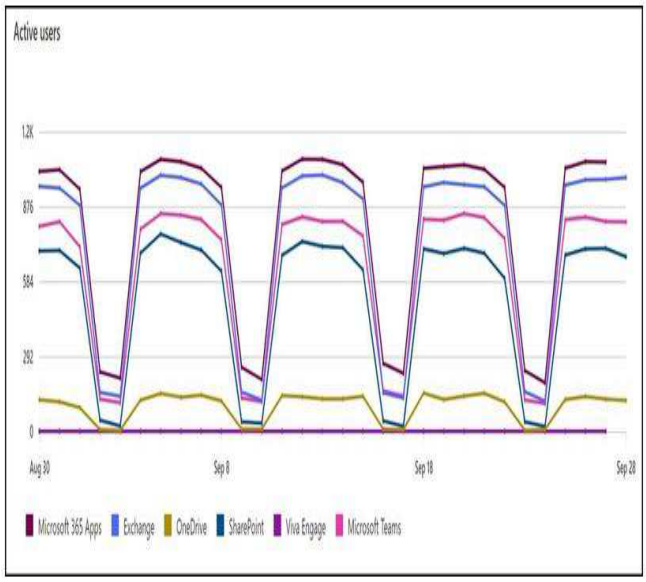


Digital Services

Digital Working

In September, staff took part in 9,203 Teams meetings. 29,377 Teams calls were made, and 1,089,343 emails were received or sent by the Council.

1,126 support calls were logged by Council staff with the Digital Services Service Desk in the past month and 24 calls were logged by Councillors with Sord. 100% server availability and 100% network availability was achieved in the month of September.



Communications

Website

There were 127,559 visitors to the fingal.ie website during October and 290,860 page views. The average time spent on the site was one minute and 55 seconds. This was a increase of more than 5,000 visitors from September and the rise can be attributed to the information page for the Fingal Festival of Fire which attracted 9,000 visitors. Other popular pages were during the month were Planning Applications, Recycling Centres and Jobs.

Media

The Communications Unit issued 13 press releases during October and the topics included the €1.35 billion Capital Programme, Halloween Safety, the TY Skills Expo and the Climate Friendly Celebration in Balbriggan.

The month also saw the release of episode 24 of the Inside Fingal podcast which featured an interview with the new Arts Officer Sarah O'Neill. The Inside Fingal podcast has attracted 12,312 listeners up to the end of October.

Fourteen videos were published on the Council's You Tube account during September and these included videos about the draft Climate Action Plan and the Digital Trails App.

Social Media

The number of followers on Facebook crossed the 32,000 mark during October and stood at 32,077 at the end of the month. The LinkedIn channel has 8,036 followers while Instagram has 8,.056. X, the channel previously known as Twitter, now has 23,028 followers while there are 1,159 subscribers to our You Tube channel. The five corporate social media channels have a total following of 72,356 which is a 35% increase in the 22 months from January 1, 2022.



Events

The Communications Unit assisted several departments during the month. Among these was the Economic Enterprise Tourism and Cultural Department and their Xplore Your Future TY Skills Expo in The Helix at DCU on October 3 and the People Services Department who had a stand at the Jobs Expo in Croke Park on October 14.

The involvement in Job Expo led to a spike in traffic to the jobs page on the fingal.ie website where there was a 274% increase in the number of visitors compared to the previous weekend as 591 people logged on compared to 158 a week previously.

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Current Judicial Review Cases - October 2023

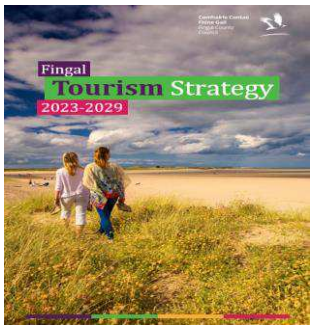
Ciaran O'Kelly and Dorone Paris v An Board Pleanala and Jacko Investments Limited and Fingal County Council High court Record Number 2023/581 JR
Fiacre Ó Cairbre -v- An Bord Pleanála, Garlandbrook Limited, Alcove Ireland Four Limited, and Uisce Éireann High Court No 2023/570 JR
Portmarnock Real Estate Developments Limited and St. Marnocks 11 DAC -v- An Bord Pleanala and FIngal County Council High Court Record No. 2023/901 JR
MKN Properties Limited and another -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023/373JR
daa plc -v- Fingal County Council The High Court Record No 2023/383 JR
Joan Reynolds and Edel McDonough -v- Fingal County Council The High Court Record No 2023/372 JR
Christian Morris v. An Bord Pleanála, Fingal County Council and Trafalgar Capital Limited High Court Record No. 2022 1074 JR
Graymount House Action Group, Darragh Richardson, and Aoife Grimes v An Bord Pleanála, Fingal County Council, the Minister for Housing, Ireland, and the AG High Court Record Number 2022/1107 JR
Mayeston Hall Management Company CLG -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record Number 2023.625 JR
Sabrina Joyce-Kemper v. An Bord Pleanala, Ireland and the Attorney General, Fingal County Council and Quintain Developments Ireland Limited High Court Record Number: 2022/556JR
Kimpton Vale Limited V An Bord Pleanala and Fingal County Council Record no 2022/390JR
DAA v Fingal County Council and the Irish Aviation Authority High Court record Number 2023 / 916 JR
FRIENDS OF THE IRISH ENVIRONMENT COMPANY LIMITED & ANOR -V- MINISTER FOR HOUSING LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HERITAGE High Court Record Number 2023/1047 JR
Barford Holdings Limited v Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2020/616 JR
Jimmy Guerin -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2022/116 JR
Erigo Limited and Joseph Flood -v- Fingal County Council and others Intended Judicial Review
Timothy Fitzgerald and James Fitzgerald -v- FIngal County Council

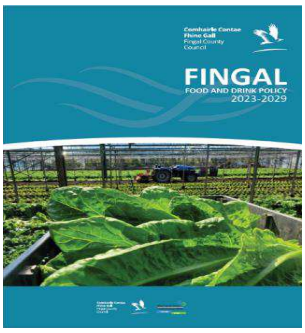
ECONOMIC, ENTERPRISE, TOURISM & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

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Tourism Development
Events
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Cultural Development
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LEADER Programme
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Balbriggan Socio-Economic Strategy
T&V Scheme
Local Enterprise Office

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT
TOURISM AND FOOD STRATEGIES





The Enterprise, Economic and Tourism Development SPC noted the Tourism Strategy and the Food Policy at a meeting held on the 20th October. The final documents will be presented for adoption at the November Council meeting and both will be launched before the end of the year.

Fingal Food & Drink Network





On Thursday 19th October, Fingal County Council hosted a delegation of some 25 international chefs, food innovators and influential food writers and educators from the Food on the Edge Symposium.

With a view to showcasing Fingal as a serious food destination the group visited Howth School of Fish, enjoyed a boat tour around the Dublin Bay Biosphere and even tried their hand at Irish dancing in Swords Castle. The group also enjoyed a tour of the kitchens and gardens in Newbridge House & Farm and attended a networking event with members of the Fingal Food Network. With presentations from Christine Baker on Fingal's Food Heritage, Declan Power on the Fingal Food Policy, Breda Leonard chair of the network, Country Crest, McNally Family Farm, and the Herb School the group were impressed by Fingal's pedigree as a food producing area. The delegates were also treated to tastings from Hope Beer, Feisty Ferments and Hella's Kitchen.
Fingal County Council hopes to work with Food on the Edge on future events.



The Fingal Food and Drink Network also attended a "Fingal with Taste" event, a celebration of our vibrant local food scene and the incredible producers that make it all possible. Hosts for the evening were Sarah Ryan and Chef Cathal Leonard from Potager, with guest speaker Aisling Kelly Hunter, Sligo Oyster Experience, Sligo Food Tail. The event was also attended by Failte Ireland.

Winter in Dublin Campaign

Winter in Dublin is a collaborative programme between Fáilte Ireland, local authorities, public bodies, representative organisations, and industry partners. Winter in Dublin is the perfect opportunity to showcase the great activities happening over the coming months and Fingal County Council is working with industry partners to ensure cultural events, live music, Fingal's fantastic food and shopping are featured in this major Dublin campaign.

IAAT Conference in November

IRELAND'S ASSOCIATION FOR ADVENTURE TOURISM

Ireland's Association for Adventure Tourism (IAAT) will hold its Annual Two-Day Conference at the Castleknock Hotel on 21st & 22nd November. The 2023 Adventure Tourism Conference is proudly supported by Fingal County Council as the main event sponsor, Tourism Northern Ireland and Fáilte Ireland. The IAAT conference will include a day of adventure activities followed by talks, guest speakers and discussion panels with industry leaders. The Mayor will be giving the Opening Address.

As part of the Conference, IAAT will host a Fingal Tourism Showcase & Networking event. This event will showcase the best of tourism offerings in Fingal, and is a great opportunity to meet tour operators, activity providers, agents and other stakeholders from all over Ireland to discuss potential collaborations.

Malahide Castle – Visitor Attraction of the Year 2024



Congratulations to Malahide Castle and Gardens as it has won the Visitor Attraction of the Year prize for 2024 from the Public Sector Magazine having demonstrated excellence in the visitor attractions category. The accolade was achieved by the joint efforts of Heritage Properties, Operations, and Aramark the onsite operator.

EVENTS

Christmas Markets 2023

The Christmas Markets will take place in Swords Town Park, Bremore Castle and Shackleton Gardens Clonsilla. Swords & Clonsilla will take place the last weekend in November and the first weekend in December. Balbriggan will take place on Sun 26th Nov, Sun 10th Dec & Sun 17th Dec.
The Enchanted Lights at Shackleton Gardens will start on Friday 24th of November and run until Sunday 3rd of December in conjunction with the two market weekends. The Swords Town Park Christmas Traders Application Processed has been digitalised and is online for the first time this year. Further information on all and how to apply as a trader can be found on www.fingal.ie/christmas



Festival & Event Funding 2024



The 2024 Festival & Event Funding Scheme was launched on the 29th of September. With over 100 funding awards given out this year covering an impressive array of events and festivals the scheme will be open until the end of January 2024. So far only 7 groups have submitted applications, we would encourage groups to apply early.

St. Brigid's Day 2024



We are pleased to confirm that we have organised exciting daytime activities in Mountview Community Centre on a similar scale to last year. Additionally, we are diligently working on an evening concert featuring talented female artists. Due to the unpredictable weather in February these events will be indoors in local community facilities. We will communicate all the event details once they are confirmed.

HERITAGE PROPERTIES

Malahide Castle – Launch of Nugent's Hall







The basement space in Malahide Castle has undergone a complete cosmetic overhaul, which included a new floor, rewiring, plasterwork, painting, and the walls decorated with amazing armoury displays. The space has been named Nugent's Hall in homage to Edward Nugent who was the last serving Butler at Malahide Castle, where this space was his sitting room cum office for 34 years.

Nugent's Hall was officially launched to guests, travel trade and the local community, which included members of the Nugent family, by the Mayor Adrian Henchy on the 26th October. This unique event and catering space at Malahide Castle and Gardens can be used for a wide variety of occasions. For more information, please contact events@malahidecastleandgardens.ie

Ardgillan Castle – Roof and Window Conservation Works







The roof and window conservation works at Ardgillan Castle are now complete following an intensive nine-month programme. We are immensely proud to display our newly restored roof at Ardgillan Castle, which will help safeguard our rich heritage at this site for generations to come.

The works also included the development of an outdoor terrace area which will give visitors ample opportunity to take in the views of the gardens, while enjoying the food and drink offerings from the onsite café. The project was funded through our Capital Programme at a total cost of almost €3.5m.

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
ARTS
Youth and Education

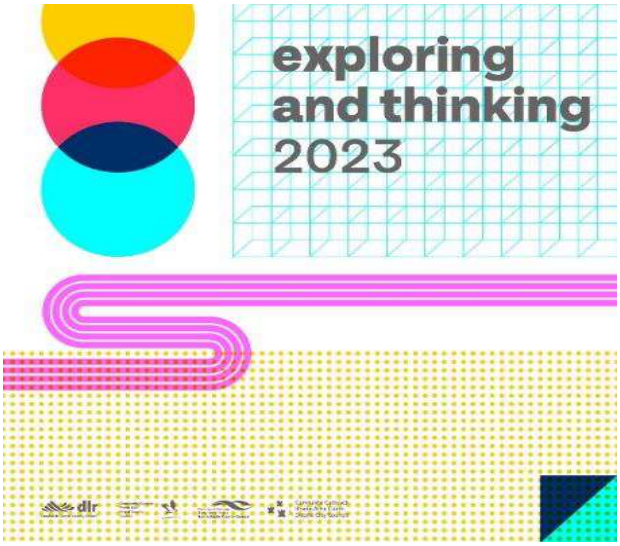
Exploring & Thinking Dublin Local Authority Partnership

The Exploring & Thinking Early Childhood Arts Bursary 2023 was announced this month and is open for submissions until 23rd November.

Early Childhood Arts includes a wide range of different arts practices and creative experiences with/for children aged 0-5 years in different contexts. The Bursary Award will support individual professional artists to develop their artistic practice working with and/or producing work for early childhood arts. It is open to individual professional artists who wish to develop their practice in early childhood arts, artists practicing in all artforms, artists resident in Ireland. For application criteria and guidelines visit www.fingal.ie www.fingalarts.ie

The partnership is also working towards a Practice Sharing Day, which will be held at Malahide Castle on November 16th.

We will welcome guest speaker Suzanne Zeedyk (UK). Suzanne is a developmental psychologist and research scientist interested in the importance of connection in our early years. We will welcome artists, educators, policy makers, arts managers and anyone with an interest in early childhood arts. Registration is now open: *https://www.fingal.ie/events/exploring-thinking-practice-sharing-event*



Moving Words, Fingal School Tour

This month Fingal Arts offered primary schools in the county an opportunity to host artists Selma Daniel and Mirela Romano and their beautiful performance Moving Words. Moving Words is an interactive performance that combines the art of contemporary dance with reading and storytelling. Created for children aged 4 – 10 years, this work encourages children to explore dance, reading, speech and self-expression.





Public Art

Echo's Bones – Book Launch & Film Screening at Swords Castle. Cllr Adrian Henchy, Mayor of Fingal officially launched Echo's Bones – *A Paralell Play.* The publication is the culmination of a two year countywide public art project by artist Sarah Browne and developed with Autistic Young People from Fingal. The event, which took place at Swords Castle included the book launch, the screening of Echo's Bones the original film which was launched in the Lighthouse Cinema, Dublin in 2022 and a panel discussion featuring the young people, artist, drama facilitator Sarah Fitzgibbon and Beckett Interpreter Sarah Jane Scaife.

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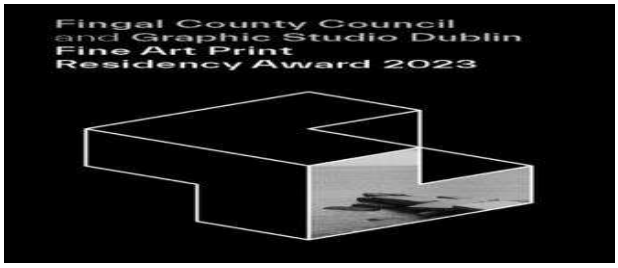
Echo's Bones takes its name from a previously unpublished Beckett Text written as a Sequel to his famous story "Fingal". The Artist and young people took inspiration from this text and presented it as a way neurodivergent people navigate the world. The Film has already toured across Ireland and has become part of the conversation around representation to Middletown, Centre for Autism's Annual international conference, The Aberdeen Art Gallery, Scotland, the University of Galway's Centre for Disbability and Law which focus on young people's rights and is currently featured in the annual Tulca exhibition programme. The Project was funded through The National Per Cent for Art Scheme under Fingal County Council's Public Art Programme – Infrastructure.





Fingal Arts Office Awards

Fingal County Council and Graphic Studio Fine Art Print Residency Award



The Fingal County Council Fine Art Print Residency at Graphic Studio Dublin was awarded to Derval Carroll and Aoife Ward. These residencies offer an emerging or established artist the opportunity to make a fine art print with a master printer at Graphic Studio Dublin and a professional printing team to produce a series of limited-edition prints and the artists proofs will enter the Fingal County Council Municipal Art Collection. The two-week long residency will provide an ideal environment for the development of a creative project in printmaking and an opportunity to network with other artists.

Fingal County Council Municipal Art Collection

Acquisitions





As part of an ongoing commitment to professional artists working and living in Fingal, the Arts Office recently purchased artworks from two Fingal artists. The artists are Harold O' Donovan, from Portmarnock and Thomas Brezing from Balbriggan.

Harold O'Donovan, whose work is not currently represented in the County Arts Collection, is a painter and a recent graduate of TU Dublin.

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Thomas Brezing is an established mid-career, multi-disciplinary artist and poet who has exhibited his work nationally and internationally.

Draíocht

Draíocht launched 2 brand new choral projects in October - one for Dublin 15 adults taking place in 3 community centres weekly for 8 weeks; and one for Dublin 15 Primary schools, weekly in 4 local schools for 6 weeks.

Project 1 is Draíocht's **D15 Community Choir Project**, a partnership with the Fingal Community Development Office and three community centres; Huntstown, Parslicktown and Castleknock. The project is led by renowned Choir Leader Debra Salem. Choir members enjoy a fun and social environment, meeting for a cup of tea or coffee prior to each session, followed by a full 8 weeks of learning a variety of songs, all building to a performance at the end of the project in Draíocht in December. The project was supported by visits from special guests who sang along with gusto in the early weeks, including Paul Donnelly TD, Cllr Angela Donnelly, Cllr John Walsh, Cllr Siohhan Shovlin, Cllr Tom Kitt & Cllr JK Onwumereh.

Project 2 is running in tandem with the Community Choir Project, a collaboration between Draíocht & The Mobile Music School, for Dublin 15 Primary School pupils, and is called '**A Song Project**'. Designed especially for 3rd & 4th class pupils, this 6 week project is taking place in St. Brigid's NS, Castleknock; Scoil Bhríde Cailíní, Blanchardstown; St. Patrick's SNS, Corduff and St. Ciaran's NS, Hartstown. The project is led by renowned Choir Master Dave McGauran.

This project culminates in an inter-school group performance accompanied by Draíocht's 29 piece PlayGround Orchestra in late November in Draíocht's Main Auditorium.



The Séamus Ennis Arts Centre

Music

We welcomed Donal Lunny, Zoe Conway and poet Anne Haverty to the centre with their mixed media/arts performance of "Reflected Light – Grief Songs", in addition to Ronan Browne with his latest instalment in our live streamed/live "More than Music" performance. This time Ronan's guest was acclaimed musician Jimmy O'Brien Moran.

Family

Anna Newell productions brought her show for under 12 month babies, I Am Baba, to TSEAC on 2nd October.

Workshops

Stained Glass Workshop for adults sold out.

Community

Tales Under the Thatch, a Creative Ireland and Fingal County Council funded project, took place over 4 weeks in October. Older adults worked with a traditional storyteller and a drama facilitator to develop and present their stories. Image below.

Cinema

Hello Bookstore and Beasts were both screened in October, with many attendees opting for the "dinner and show" deal we have developed in league with the café.

Theatre

Nursey, written and performed by Aoife Martyn, took place on October 25th.

Media

We participated in the Tradfest launch at Ardgillan Castle, with three children from TSEAC's music school appearing on the cover of the Irish Times, see below.





LIBRARIES

Fingal Festival of History 2023

Fingal Libraries' seventh annual Festival of History was held over a two-week period running from Monday 2nd to Thursday 12th October throughout the library branch network. Life in Ireland and Fingal in the early 1920s was the main theme of the Festival, as we now approach the end of the Decade of Centenaries Commemorations.

The highlight of the Festival was the History at the Castle Day on Saturday 7th October which featured some household names such as Dr David McCullagh who spoke about Éamon de Valera; and Flór MacCarthy whose talk was based on her book "The Presidents' letters: Visitors' Books at Áras an Uachtaráin". Other speakers on the day included Dr Declan Brady discussing political life in Fingal in the aftermath of the Civil War; and retired Garda Detective Chief Superintendent John O'Brien who gave an insight into how the Troubles in Northern Ireland, especially during the 1970s and 1980s, impinged on life in the South and on that of An Garda Síochána.

Talks held at library branches included the role newspapers and the printed word played in the fight for Irish freedom; life in Fingal in 1923 and beyond; British military deserters in the Irish Free State; the Markievicz Family; the Spanish Flu of 1918 and the fight against infection; the effect of the revolutionary period on the lives of children; and the Anglo-Irish way of life.

As part of the Festival this year, Fingal Libraries collaborated with the Clonsilla & Porterstown Heritage Society in offering a ninety-minute guided walk of the natural and built heritage of Clonsilla and the Royal Canal on Sunday 8th October.

Blanchardstown Library launches Little Library at Bedtime



On Friday 6th October at Blanchardstown Library, Roderic O' Gorman, Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth and Heather Humphreys, Minister for Rural and Community Development announced the Little Book at Bedtime initiative. Little Book at Bedtime is a collaboration with public libraries and the Local Government Management Agency, that invites parents and their children to visit their local library to pick up their free bedtime story book. The bedtime story books are available in English and Irish. This popular initiative aims to encourage families to join their local library, and parents to read stories with their children at bedtime.

Celebrate Halloween and Fingal Inclusion Week at your local Fingal Library



The Autumn/Winter events programme for Fingal Libraries is well underway and includes an exciting range of tailored events. Library staff across our network of 10 branches have organised spooky Halloween arts and crafts and story time to keep children entertained during the Halloween break.

For Fingal Inclusion Week (13th – 19th November) and linked to the new EU Strategy on Mental Health, psychotherapist Amber Roche will release a number of mental health podcasts which will be aimed at people with autism, parents of children with autism, adults with ADHD, and migrants/refugees. The podcasts will be released in November so watch the Fingal Libraries' social media pages for more details.

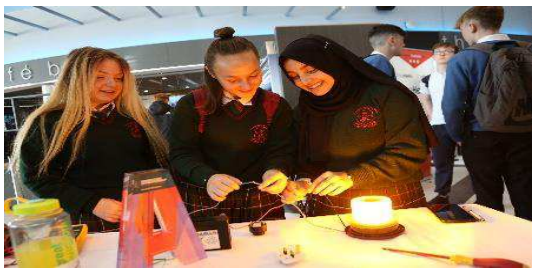
During Fingal Inclusion Week, the Immigrant Council of Ireland will facilitate interactive workshops in Balbriggan, Baldoyle and Blanchardstown Libraries on respect for human and cultural diversity. Classes from local schools will be invited to their local library to attend the workshops. Look out for our brochure which is available across our branches and at https://www.fingal.ie/fingal-libraries-autumn-winter-brochure-2023

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Fingal Skills Strategy

The next Skills Strategy Implementation Group meeting is scheduled for 1st November.





The Explore Your Future Expo is an educational showcase initiative by Fingal County Council, as part of the Fingal Skills Strategy, which took place in The Helix on the 3rd October 2023 and was a great success with more than 1,700 TY students in attendance from 16 schools across the county.







The Expo was supported by DCU, Interreg Europe, Dublin Regional Skills Forum, City of Dublin Educational Training Board, Dun Laoghaire Education and Training Board, Solas and a number of public and private employers including the Air Corps, An Garda Siochana, daa, Irish Rail, Ballymaguire Foods, Keoghs etc. The event featured live and virtual reality demonstrations with practical hands-on learning experiences for TY students by a variety of exhibitors to showcase the educational and training possibilities and potential career paths available for students.



The SKYLA Project "Smart Specialisation Skills Ecosystems for the Twin Transition" is a 4-year project which focuses on enhancing the role of VET in smart specialisation sectors. Projects partners include Italy, Poland, Sweden, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Greece and Belgium. Work has commenced on a communication strategy and stakeholder engagement plan. The agenda for the visit of the SKYLA Project partners to Fingal on the 7th & 8th November has been finalised with a day of project work and a day of site visits planned to key educational facilities to showcase training and education development in smart specialisation.

Economic Development Strategy

Grant Thornton Consultants continue work to develop an Economic Development Strategy for Fingal. A presentation was made to the September meeting of the Economic, Enterprise, Tourism & Cultural Development SPC on the approach and timelines for delivery of the Strategy. It is anticipated that the draft Strategy will be presented to the SPC, CPG and Elected Members for consideration in Q4 2023.

Fingal County Council is leading the URBACT EcoCore Project which comprises a network of 9 small cities/towns in Europe focussing on challenges and opportunities for green growth and sustainable economic development along transport corridors.

Balbriggan is the lead town and the other partners committed to the network are Albu Iulia, Romania; Dubrovnik, Croatia; Kekava, Latvia; Ormoz, Slovenia; Parnu, Estonia; Santo Tirso, Portugal; Tuusula, Finland; Villena, Spain.

Fingal County Council as Lead Partner and the Lead Expert have commenced city visits to prepare baseline studies of all partner cities with the cities of Balbriggan, Villena, Ormoz, Dubrovnik, Tuusula, Parnu, Kekava, Albu Iulia and Santo Tirso completed.







Albu Iulia City Visit

Santo Tirso City Visit

The first transnational city visit to Balbriggan is scheduled for the 20th – 22nd November and will involve discuss of the Roadmap for the next 2 years of the project, workshops on gender, digital innovation, active travel, DBEC and regional collaboration, the Fingal Skills Strategy, site visits and peer review and feedback sessions.

Citizen, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (Cerv)

CERV is an EU Funding Programme for citizens' engagement and the implementation of EU rights and values. Fingal County Council has been awarded CERV funding to participate in 2 separate projects, which commenced in January 2023 and will continue for 18 months.

European Commission | Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values programme

Green It Your Work

The fourth Green IT Your Work meeting will take place in the Larnaca, Cyprus in December 2023. Representatives will be present from Romania, Spain Greece, Cyprus, Slovenia, Croatia, Italy and Ireland.

GREEN IT YOUR WORK

Work is continuing on the objectives of 'Green IT Your Work' which are:

• Youth Debates about European Digital Age project highlighting the role of young people in the green transition.

• Promote green jobs with the aim of contributing to greener European cities

InclusEU

The InclusEU project aims to encourage volunteer action as a social response for an inclusive Europe. Fingal hosted the event in Balbriggan from September 28th to October 1st 2023. This event highlighted the work being done by Fingal, Foroige, sports clubs and schools to encourage more young people to get involved in community volunteering. This collaborative project has seen 20 young people from local clubs and youth groups take part in leadership and sports education training during July with practical sessions tied into local Fingal-led projects.

The Mayor, Cllr Adrian Henchy, Deputy Mayor, Cllr Grainne Maguire, Minister Joe O'Brien, local councillors, Benny Cullen, Sport Ireland and numerous community reps attended the 3-day event. The delegates from Italy, Poland, Hungary, Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands and Romania got an opportunity to meet, discuss, debate and learn about the issues facing Balbriggan, the Council's objectives for the area and how young people are contributing to the town. The visit included a visit to O'Dwyer's GAA club, Bremore Castle, the Seamus Ennis Centre and a walk around Balbriggan town as part of the Place Standard Workshop, hosted by Healthy Ireland and Healthy Fingal, which seeks to improve peoples' wellbeing by improving the place they live.





Woodlands for Health

Healthy Fingal have partnered with Mental Health Ireland and the Sports Office again to organise the 2nd set of Woodlands for Health walks. The programme will see the HSE mental health services in Swords & Balbriggan avail of the opportunity to introduce service users to walking in Newbridge Demesne while availing of mental health expertise in the calming and quiet atmosphere of the walking paths around the demesne. The walks are taking place every Friday and run until 24th November.

Sustainable Fingal

The Council has collaborated with DCU and DAA to submit two funding applications on sustainable projects:

1. DIFFER is a proposal for a Feasibility Study of District Heating in Fingal & an investigation of the feasibility of district heating from data centres in Fingal to supply Dublin Airport which has been submitted to the SEAI. The application was not successful and work has commenced to re-orient the project into another funding stream.
2. ATLAS is a proposal to consider AI real-time connect on-demand mobility as a service which has been submitted to SFI for the Sustainable Communities Challenge. The application was not successful and work has commenced to re-orient the project into another funding stream.

The Mayor signed the Circular Cities Declaration for Fingal County Council, which was approved by the Council at its meeting in January. Work is in progress to develop an action plan to advance the objectives of Circular Cities in Fingal. Fingal's profile has been published on the Circular Cities website and the first annual report on Fingal's transition to the circular economy under the Circular Cities Declaration was submitted in October 2023.

CC Declaration | Fingal County (circularcitiesdeclaration.eu)

Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor

Fingal County Council has been awarded €150,000 by the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage under the Shared Island Local Authority Development Funding Scheme for a Feasibility Study for the development of regional innovation/enterprise hubs along the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor. The Council is leading on the project with the support of the eight local authorities and two universities of the DBEC partnership. KPMG are finalising the feasibility study in November.

DBEC's ambition is to use innovation hubs to encourage the development of new and existing high-growth businesses to stimulate sustainable and climate-conscious growth along the Corridor.

LOCAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Fingal Local Community Development Committee

The Fingal LCDC continues to oversee and administer the key areas of LEADER and SICAP and the various Local Development and Community Development funding programmes under its remit. The LCDC also manages the Healthy Ireland Initiative and the Social Enterprise Grants Scheme. The LCDC met on the 25th October 2023 to consider progress on the LECP and other matters.

Fingal Local Economic Community Plan 2023 – 2028

Consultants Grant Thornton have prepared the socio-economic profile of the county for the new LECP, reviewed the last LECP, drafted high-level objectives and facilitated the consultation process with the public and key stakeholders and incorporated feedback on the draft LECP. Work is underway on the 2-year Implementation Plan of the LECP (2023-2028).

A series of stakeholder sessions on the Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) 2023-2028 were held during September for the Council's Elected Members and a presentation on the LECP delivered to the Economic, Enterprise, Tourism & Cultural Development SPC. The draft LECP will be submitted to the Eastern Midlands Regional Assembly (EMRA) by the end of October for their input, and it is anticipated that the LECP will be brought to the December Council meeting.

Community Support Fund

The Community Support Fund (CSF) was launched in January 2023 and is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development. Fingal was allocated €341,875 in funding for groups across the county. More than 270 applications were received from community and voluntary groups in Fingal for the current and capital funding streams by the submission deadline of 10th February 2023. The evaluation of the applications is completed, and payments of the grants to community groups/organisations is ongoing.

Community Recognition Fund

The Community Recognition Fund (CRF) was launched in January 2023 and is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development. Fingal submitted project proposals to DRCD for approval on the 15th March 2023.
Fingal County Council has received an allocation of €1,748,912 under the Community Recognition Fund for 26 projects across Fingal.
There is an allocation of €850,512 for eight projects in Swords and €435,000 has been provided for four projects in Dublin 15.

Three projects in the Howth Malahide Local Electoral Area have received a total of €92,000 while €96,600 will be spent on four projects in Skerries, Rush and Lusk. Three projects in Balbriggan will be funded by grants amounting to €44,000 while two projects in Balseskin will receive a total of €30,200 and one in Santry will receive €20,000.

All projects are required to be complete by 18th October 2024 and work is progressing on the implementation of project with the Council submitting an initial drawdown on October 26th of €178,000 in respect of works completed during 2023.

SICAP

The resources and staff of the Fingal SICAP Programme continue to be leveraged to assist with the Ukrainian Refugee Crisis response. The SICAP Programme continues to help in the response to this crisis and is a central resource to the work of the Ukrainian Refugee Community Response Forum. Additional funding has been received from the DRCD to help with the delivery of services to Ukrainian Refugees in Fingal and additional staffing resources from the Ukrainian community have been employed on the ground to assist with this. The Fingal SICAP Programme has been allocated €304,369 in 2023 specifically for Fingal's Ukrainian Refugee Response with an additional allocation of €65,000 recently granted.

Procurement for SICAP programme period 2024-2028 has commenced and the tender evaluation is in progress.

Leader Programme

In December 2022, the Dublin Rural LEADER Local Action Group (LAG) approved in full the allocated LEADER 2021-22 Transition Programme for eligible projects in the administrative areas of Fingal, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and South Dublin.

Fingal LCDC was successful in Stage 1 to run the next LEADER Programme 2023 – 2027 for the Dublin Rural LEADER LAG and submitted the new Leader Development Strategy for evaluation in Stage 2. In October 2023 the Council was advised that the Dublin Rural LAG and the implementing partner Fingal LEADER Partnership CLG have been approved to deliver the new Programme.

ENTERPRISE CENTRES

Fingal's Enterprise Centres continue to participate in ConnectedHubs.ie.

ConnectedHubs.ie is a one-stop-shop for remote working hubs throughout Ireland.





All three Enterprise Centres have space available to start-up businesses and businesses/ individuals who wish to avail of remote working options and facilities. Bespoke options or generic office fitouts can be considered.

Occupancy rates at the Council's three enterprise centres are all over 90%. The three Enterprise Centres currently support 65 businesses and over 320 direct jobs.

Demand for the new Remote Working Hubs in BASE and Beat remain strong following the Connected Free Voucher Scheme run in 2022.

Fingal County Council was approved for €50,000 in new funding to promote Remote Working Hubs in the County under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme Marketing Measure. A cross-departmental team within the Council is implementing initiatives to promote Fingal as a Remote Working Hub base for remote workers.

Drinan Enterprise Centre is promoting the availability of a bespoke media studio facility available for immediate booking to all individuals, groups and business interests.



TOWN REGENERATION

Our Balbriggan 2019 – 2025 Rejuvenation Plan – A Socio-Economic Strategy



The Our Balbriggan Programme Office continues to support the Leadership Group and its five pillars, who meet regularly, to progress work across a range of economic and social measures including: Growing the Local Economy, Public Realm & Infrastructure, Education, Skills & Employment, Community Integration, Health & Well Being and Community Safety. The Balbriggan Leadership Group, which is chaired by Professor Brian MacCraith, met on October 18th to officially begin the process of mid-term review of the Our Balbriggan Programme, its delivery timelines, governance and the realignment of the programme to the national URDF funding timeframe 2024 – 2030.

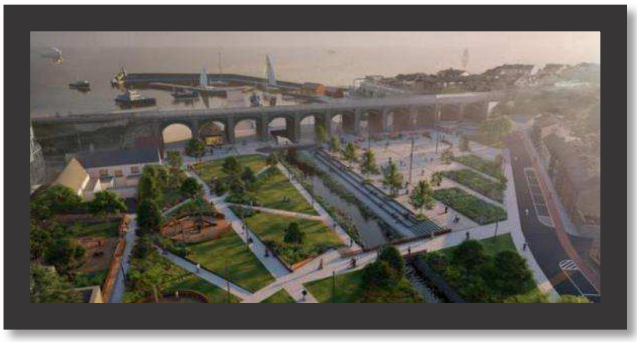


As part of the review of the programme, a combined workshop of the Community and Integration Pillar and the Safety Pillar was held on the 19th October.



The Quay Street, Harbour & Environs scheme is anticipated to be on site to commence end of Q1. 2024 and be completed on a phased basis in 2025. Tender request to source a suitable contractor to deliver the project were issued on e-tenders on October 9th with tender submissions due by 20th November.

Irish Water are currently on site in the Quay Street Car Park to complete upgrade works on the pumping station located there, with alternative car parking currently available at Bath Road/Balbriggan FC & Bremore Castle. Communications to this effect have been issued on social media and other local channels in Balbriggan.



Part 8 Planning Permission for 2-4 Dublin Street was granted approval at full Council in October and the project will now progress to detailed design phase. 2-4 Dublin Street is to be transformed into a new Creative Hub with 8 workspaces at 2 Dublin Street and an ancillary connected space at 4 Dublin Street which will support STEAM education, training and enterprise activities supported by SMART Balbriggan and the Fingal Arts Office.



Demolition works on 14 Bridge Street (house known locally as Keelings) have been completed. Work on the installation of a temporary Pocket Park has commenced at the site. Landscaping, street furniture and fencing are due to be completed in early December. Annexes at the rear of DeBruns buildings are in the process of being demolished.

An Integrated Design Team will be appointed shortly to assist in determining the options for the long-term use and design of the site in line with site constraints. The evaluation of tenders received for this IDT is almost complete.

Donnelly Civil Engineering Ltd and MWP Engineering have delivered a package of improvement works at Balbriggan Harbour. The main Harbour upgrade works and shoreside services are almost complete, with some lighting improvements awaiting final completion further to new electricity connections.

The programme office working with the architect's department have initiated the Boathouse & Bathhouse Conservation & Sustainable Re-Use Project as part of the wider URDF Coastal and Promenade project.

Work will commence shortly on enabling Works, followed by procurement of topographical and measured buildings survey, a full ecological study and then preparation of developed design and pre–Part XI Planning proposal.



A comprehensive Balbriggan Public Realm Strategy - Masterplan & Design Guide and a Balbriggan Active Travel & Transportation plan are complete with both expected to be published shortly.

The Our Balbriggan Office continues to generate regular and unique content across all social media channels, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn with over 5.1k followers on Facebook.



Lár Bailte ar dTús
Town Centre First

Town Centre First – Lusk

The structure, membership and Terms of Reference for the new Lusk Town Team has been agreed. Together with the Town Team there are three Pillar Groups representing the Community, Business and Economy and Public Realm / Climate Action & Sustainability (to include Vacant & Derelict Buildings). The fourth meeting of the Town Team was held in October in Lusk Cultural Centre. A community briefing was held in early July to establish the Community Pillar which will support the Town Team in delivering a new Town Plan for Lusk with input from the local community. A local business briefing was held in July to establish the Business and Local Economy Pillar which will support the Town Team in delivering a new Town Plan for Lusk with input from the local business community.

The consultants to support the preparation of a new Town Plan have been appointed and are working with the Community, Businesses and Public Realm Pillars in Lusk to get their views for inclusion in the new town plan. Work on this progressing well, with a draft of the new Town Centre First Plan for Lusk currently being reviewed.



Town & Village Renewal Schemes

The 2023 Town and Village Renewal Scheme was launched during the Summer and the Town Regeneration Office is currently reviewing expressions of interest for the scheme, under its many project measures, in preparation for the submission of 5 applications to the Department of Rural and Community Development in early November. Details of successful project are expected to be announced in Q1 2024.



The Regeneration Office has completed the implementation of the Rush Streetscape Scheme. The Council had been approved for €100,000 in funding from the Department of Rural and Community Development for the Rush Streetscape Scheme and 30 properties in the centre of Rush have been supported with funding.

The Donabate Streetscape Scheme was launched in May and applications for this scheme were sought from properties in Donabate Town Centre. €36,000 in funding has also been approved from the Department of Rural and Community Development for this Scheme under the last Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2022.

The Town Regeneration Office was successful in securing €7 million for a new revolving fund that will acquire vacant or derelict properties to renovate, bring back into use and sell back into the market for housing purposes. An initial 19 properties under this fund have been approved for purchase by the URDF Call 3 Fund / Department of Housing Heritage and Local Government.

The Derelict Sites Section which manages the Derelict Sites Register was moved to the Town Regeneration Office in August further broadening the capacity of the office to deal with town centre vacancy and dereliction. Reports for derelict sites can be made to derelictsites@fingal.ie .

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE

Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil
Local Enterprise Office

LEO Fingal provides a broad suite of support services to stimulate enterprise and enable small businesses to succeed. Some of the LEO highlights for October 2023 are as follows:

Evaluations and Approvals Committee

The Evaluation and Approvals Committee (EVAC) meeting met on 18th October and approved €123,700 in funding across Business Feasibility, Priming and Expansion Grants. Year to date €681,900 has been approved across thirty-seven applications from Fingal businesses. A further 2 Agile Innovation grants to the value of €101,000 have also been approved in 2023. The next EVAC meeting is Wednesday 13th December.

Management Development Programme



The second Leadership for Growth programme is continuing and feedback to date has been excellent. The participants are half-way through the programme and are due to complete in December with graduation early in the New Year. As part of the programme, the owner manager participants will each produce Work Based Assessments which document their businesses strategic plan and acts as a living document as well as a point in time reference for where their business is now and the actions they need to take to grow.

Fingal Business Network





The Autumn Fingal Business Network event took place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Santry, on 29th September 2023.

It focussed on the three "Es" which have been hot topics throughout 2023 – Employment, E-commerce, and Expansion. Hosting the event was Noel Davidson from the Entrepreneurs Academy, who oversaw an engaging and dynamic panel discussion. Panellists included Michelle O'Keeffe from Platform55, David Butler from QBM, Sandra Hickey from Milkbath, and James Stewart from Celtic Candles. Each panel member then proceeded to share their business journey, delving into the background of their business, the challenges they encountered, their strategies for overcoming obstacles, and the driving forces that continue to inspire their perseverance. Upon conclusion, the room buzzed with animated conversations as attendees continued to network with one another where the networking continued over lunch. Fingal Business Network look forward to hosting another exciting networking event on 1st December in Roganstown Hotel.

National Women's Enterprise Day





Fingal businesswomen came together to celebrate National Women's Enterprise Day (NWED) at the Dublin regional NWED networking event on Thursday October 19th in collaboration with the four LEOs in the Dublin Region. This regional event is part of the wider national initiative, "Empower Business Together", which saw thousands of businesswomen participate in a host of women's events taking place throughout the country.

Speakers were joined by ambassadors, or "Leading Lights," from the various regions, including: Fingal's Giselle Makinde of Cream of the Crop, a pioneering food tech company dedicated to combating food waste. Giselle spoke about her experience in setting up her business, the support she got from Fingal LEO and ultimately the huge success she went on to enjoy and works hard to maintain today.

Fingal Business Briefing

The next monthly Fingal Business Briefing will run on November 14th for small businesses and entrepreneurs in the Fingal area. The briefings outline the supports and services available to small businesses and individuals seeking to start their own business, through the LEO and other state agencies. Year to date, 194 individuals have attended a business briefing in 2023.

Food Producer Showcase









Fingal hosted this year's showcase event for Dublin food producers, at the Crowne Plaza Blanchardstown on Thursday 26th October. 37 Food Producers from across the Dublin region showcased their products to over 30 key buyers from the large multiples, food service and restaurants.

The buyers were very impressed with the quality of the offerings with many engaging for follow up with orders and deals.

Energy Efficiency Grant Scheme



The first approval under the new Energy Efficiency Grant Scheme was granted in September 2023. The scheme, which is being rolled out throughout the 31 Local Enterprise Offices, will enable small businesses to invest in technologies and equipment to make their businesses more energy efficient. The grant will cover up to 50% of the costs to a maximum amount of €5,000. The goal is to reduce the impact of small businesses on the environment and help them to reduce costs to enable them to become more competitive. As part of the process, applicants complete the Green for Business Programme, a customised initiative whereby the business develops a strategy to become sustainable.

Trading Online Voucher Scheme



An initiative under the Government's National Digital Strategy, the Trading Online Voucher (TOV) scheme supports small businesses by allowing them to enhance their online offering by providing a grant of up to €2,500 for ecommerce and digital marketing activities, as well as giving businesses a better understanding of how they can exploit E-Commerce opportunities for their business. So far in 2023, a total of 73 applications have been approved in the amount of € €158,925. The next Trading Online Voucher seminar will be held online on Friday 10th November 2023

New Campaign Encourages Small Businesses to Engage with Local Enterprise Offices



The new "All in a Day's Work" campaign encourages small businesses to engage with their Local Enterprise Office (LEO) to learn about the supports available that can help them save time, money, and energy. The campaign focuses on three key areas: Lean, Green, and Digital. Attending the launch with Minister Neale Richmond was Heather Gilroy of Prints of Ireland, a client of Local Enterprise Office Fingal and Head of Enterprise Oisin Geoghegan.

Business Advice Clinics and Mentoring



LEO Fingal provides one to one business support services through Business Advice Clinics and a Mentoring programme, online and in person. The Fingal mentor panel consists of a variety of skilled and experienced mentors from a range of business backgrounds. In 2023 to date the clinics have offered one-to-one advice and guidance to 832 clients in Fingal. The Mentoring Programme continues with a total of 225 clients receiving mentoring year to date.

Microfinance Ireland Loans

LEO Fingal provides a loan scheme through its partnership with Microfinance Ireland, with loans of up to €25,000 per approved applicant. LEO Fingal is actively promoting the availability of loans from businesses that have difficulty raising finance from their bank.
Applications are processed and assessed by LEO Fingal and submitted to MFI (Microfinance Ireland). Applications submitted through LEO Fingal are eligible for a reduced interest rate. LEO Fingal has processed and submitted 12 MFI loan applications YTD.

Training and Events

In October, there was sustained enthusiasm for LEO Fingal's training programmes, with nearly 200 individuals signing up for various programmes and seminars. The "Start Your Own Business" Courses continue to fill up quickly, and there is also a strong demand for the Social Media and Digital Marketing course, along with other finance, marketing, and sales related workshops included in the comprehensive training portfolio. In the run up to Christmas, LEO Fingal is running a special workshop dedicated to “How to Sell Food and Craft Products at Markets & Pop-Ups" which has booked out fully.

118 participants have embarked on one of 10 SYOB programmes year to date. There were a further 84 participants in the SYOB Bootcamp in Local Enterprise Week and 113 at the U-Start programme for Ukrainian nationals earlier in the year.

Internationalisation and Export Development

LEO Fingal is providing a further opportunity to small businesses that wish to develop export opportunities through its latest Export Development Programme which will commence in Q4 2023. In addition, the Exporter grant enables small businesses to explore and develop new market opportunities by providing up to €2,500 to businesses investigating and researching export markets. Export Grants have been approved for nine Fingal businesses year to date.

Showcase Ireland 2024





Showcase Ireland 2024 will take place from 21st – 23rd January 2024 at the RDS, Dublin. Showcase is presented by Design & Crafts Council Ireland, Enterprise Ireland and Local Enterprise Offices and supported by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment. This four-day trade show is recognised as one Ireland's largest international trade shows and offers manufacturers, designers and craft makers the opportunity to exhibit their new collections. LEO Fingal have been allocated 8 stands for this event. Following a selection process, the 8 successful applicants have been chosen to represent LEO Fingal: Stories by Ola (Skerries), Moss of the Isles (Swords), Nicola Weldon (Balbriggan), Clémence Prosen Art & Design (Balbriggan), Rob Stears Illustrations (Castleknock), Waylon & Flo (Skerries), Luxie Kids (Trading as BabyDub, Donabate). These craft & design businesses are also provided with training by LEO Fingal specifically on sales techniques for craft products who are displaying & selling their work at exhibitions.

Student Enterprise Programme

There was plenty of interest among aspiring young entrepreneurs at the LEO stand during the recent Xplore Exhibition hosted by FCC as part of the Fingal Skills Strategy. The Student Enterprise Programme featured with a theme of "Be Your Own Boss", attracting students interested in a career in entrepreneurship. The interactive LEO stand caught the eye of hundreds of transition year students and teachers who engaged in competitions and found out about what is involved in running your own business.

OPERATIONS

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Works Programmes
Car Parking Services
Burial Grounds Services
Traffic Operations County-wide
Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit
Street Lighting LED Programme
Recycling Centre Update
Licenses
Surface Water

Works Programme

Balbriggan Area Parks



Newly installed Wheelchair Accessible Swing and Carousel Roundabout at Ardgillan Demesne Playground



Newly installed Constructed Tree Pits and central median walkway to improve pedestrian accessibility from Skerries Mills car park into Skerries Mill



Newly constructed pedestrian pathway between Westbrook and Moylaragh Estates Balbriggan



Newly widened pedestrian pathway at Bremore Castle Park adjacent to the All-Weather Pitch. New path heavily used for all sports groups and particularly Balbriggan Junior Park Run



Newly installed paths across the open space at Tara Court Balbriggan.



Cutting grass on railway embankment at Balbriggan Beach

Swords Area Parks



Newly Planted Pollinator Planting Scheme at St Cronan's, Brackenstown, Swords in collaboration with recent Active Travel Scheme.



Recently planted Pollinator Planting scheme at Pinnock Hill Swords





Before After

Invasive species vegetation removal along riverbank in Swords





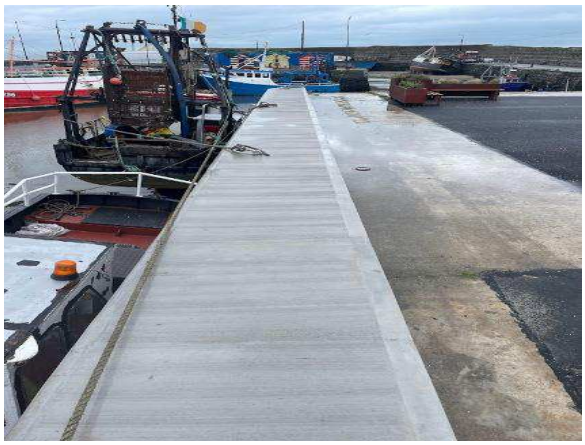
Before After

Reinstatement of grass verges at the location of recently removed street trees in Pinegrove Swords



Meadow cutting and removal of arisings at Wildflower Meadows in Newbridge Demesne

Balbriggan Harbour



Concrete Plinth with Mooring Bollards East Pier



New Steel Access Ladders East Pier

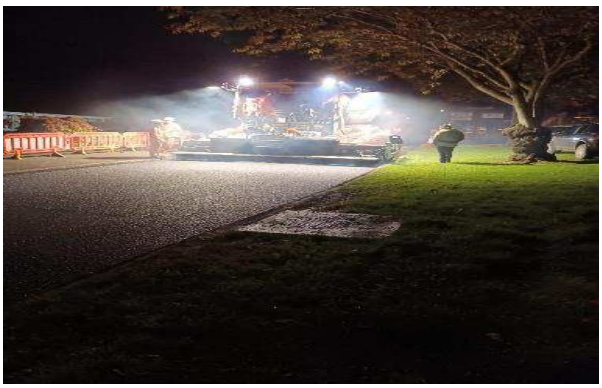


New Service Pedestals along West Pier, Balbriggan Harbour



Martello Balbriggan wreck removed by the Operations Department

Lusk





Road resurfacing of Chapel Green, Lusk as part of 2023 Programme of Works

Swords









Resurfacing night- works carried out on Dublin Road, Swords







Surfaces dressing works resourced by a combined effort of the Fancourt and Watery Lane/Balswoop crews and technical staff which is part of Programme of Works.



Works are still progressing to stabilise and support the section of Brackenstown Rd which was at danger of collapse into the Ward River Valley below. The photograph above shows the completed Level 2 of the gabion support wall.

Storm Babet

Operations crews from the Balbriggan/ Rush-Lusk/Swords area dealt with flooding at a number of locations during the evening and overnight of 20th October, with clean-up works continuing the following day.



Barnageera Bridge flooded.


Baskin Lane flooded. Manhole opened by crew to prevent flooding of dwelling.


Millers Lane Skerries flooded due to tidal conditions.


Brook Lane, Rush.



Car stranded in floodwaters at Balheary


Bus route to Rivermeade/ Toberbur cleared of fallen tree.


Fallen tree at Shady Lane Skerries cleared by Operations Crews

Howth Malahide Area
Programme of Works

Work is coming to a close on the 2023 Programme of Works in the Howth Malahide area. Many items of work have been completed with the remainder being worked on. Road Inlay works have been ongoing at several locations including Millview Lawns. Footpath works are also ongoing with some of the works pictured below

Roads Works

Works are progressing in closing out the 2023 Roads programme of works. Below is an update for the following;

- Millview Lawns road resurfacing inlay works
- Willie Nolan Road footpath works.
- Back Road – Footpath and tactile paving works.



Millview Lawns, Malahide – Road Inlay Works



Willie Nolan Road – Footpath Upgrade works



Footpath upgrade and tactile paving works on Back Road/Malahide Demesne entrance.





Capital Works Wall Balgriffin Cemetery





2023 POW Greenfield Road Inlay

Malahide Demesne



Remedial drainage works down at the dog run in the castle to alleviate pooling water.



Before and after photos of the avenue to Malahide Castle. Improvement works were carried out by the Operations Department in October 2023.

Talbot Botanic Gardens

Training day in Old Cemetery Malahide Demesne



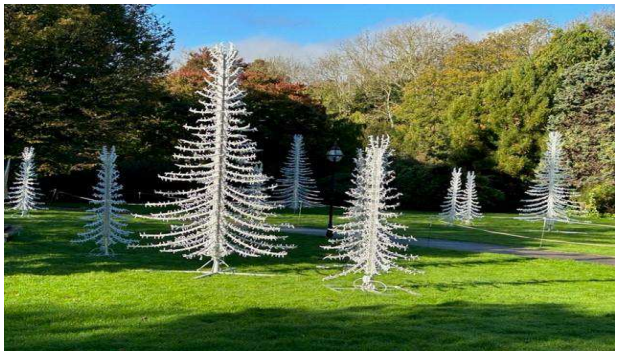
Brian O Connor, Architects Department, giving a talk to Operations staff at on the use of Lime in Traditional Buildings. It was an interesting session and other talks and demonstrations were given by a Conservation Engineer & Traditional Stonemasons. The training was carried out on location at the old Cemetery Malahide Demesne.



Lime rendering training with Operations staff on exterior walls of Old Cemetery Malahide Demesne.

➢ Wonderlights

Wonderlights returns to the Talbot Botanic Gardens Malahide Demesne this year. The build has already commenced for this year as can be seen in the following photographs. Opening date is scheduled for Thursday 9th November.



Build for Wonderlights in Walled Garden Malahide Demesne



Work ongoing installing light features in Australian garden, Walled Garden Malahide Demesne



New light feature under construction, West Lawn, Talbot Botanical Gardens.



New Salvia beds continue to flower in Walled Gardens, Talbot Botanical Gardens



Winter bedding plants have arrived for Howth/Malahide Area in Malahide Demesne Depot

Parks & Open Spaces



Newly carved sculpture from the remains of a felled Monterey cypress tree installed in Portmarnock Beach Carpark





Before and after photos of a newly erected fence at the Parkvale entrance to Seagrange Park.



Refurbishment works to park railings at Seagrange Drive.

Burial Ground Works

Balgriffin Cemetery:
Works are continuing on the upgrading of the boundary wall at Balgriffin cemetery as seen below.



Laying of boundary wall foundations at Balgriffin cemetery

Beaches, Cleansing and Storm Support Works



Removal of graffiti at Tramline, Howth



Flood Preparation works: Installation of the sea defence barriers at Sutton Strand



Crews attending flooding at in Howth Malahide due to Storm Babet.



High Rock, Coast Road: During the rough seas and winds of Storm Babet, the ladder broke off. The location was secured by the crew preventing access to swimmers. New Ladder currently being fabricated and galvanised. Ladder to be installed very shortly.



Tree removal after Storm Babet in Howth Malahide Area



Staff from the Howth Malahide area attended training with the Irish Coast Guard. The courses on Marine Pollution Preparedness and Response are held regularly. These staff were attending the Operational Level: First responders, Supervisors and On-Scene Commanders Course.

Castleknock/Mulhuddart Area

BMX TRACK, ST, CATHERINE'S PARK



The BMX track has been re-surfaced in St. Catherine's Park.
Lucan BMX club who uses the track have currently 149 members from the ages of 4yrs to 50+yrs.

They are open six days a week with training/coaching provided four days a week and sessions open to the public every weekend.
Bikes, safety equipment and coaching to non-members coming to try BMX are provided.

REMOVAL OF DEAD TREES





Eight dead Ash trees have been removed which were diseased and four dead Elm trees close to the Clonsilla road and footpath.



Trees have also been removed behind Coolmine Depot on the Clonsilla Road.

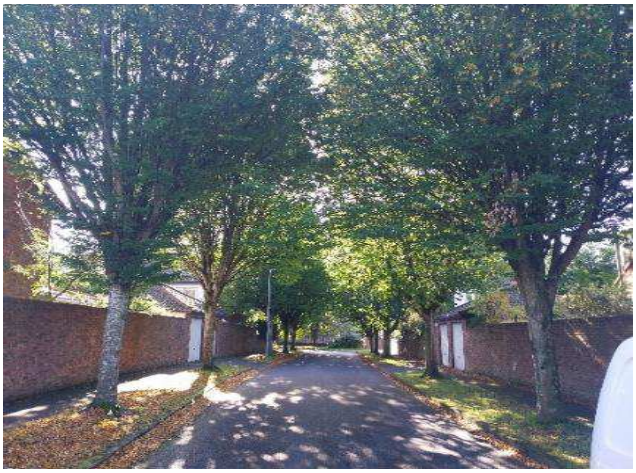
MILLENNIUM PARK



An Inclusive swing has recently been installed in Millennium Park playground.

CHESTERFIELD ESTATE





Tree pruning - Before and after photos.

JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE





Joint Policing Committee Meetings continued in October with good attendances by the public at both Malahide/Howth and Balbriggan meetings.
This concludes the series of Public Meetings for 2023.

HAZELBURY PARK



New Callisthenics equipment has been installed in Hazelbury Park.

BEECH PARK



Beechpark playground has received a new piece of play equipment which promotes teamwork and inclusivity amongst children.
With 14 nets that can be climbed on the inside or outside and two multi-person seating areas, Global Motion provides thrills for many kids at once.

DUBLIN CITY MARATHON – 29TH OCTOBER



Dublin 15 litter crews clearing up along the Dublin City Marathon route through Castleknock, College Road and Tower Road.



COOLMINE REHAB CENTRE





New Benches and Perennial Plants were delivered to Coolmine Rehab Centre.

CLONSILLA ROUNDABOUT



A Perennial Pollinator Flower bed has been planted at Clonsilla roundabout.

MOUNT SYMON



A new Perennial border at Mount Symon, Clonsilla has also been planted.

Car Parking Services
September 2023

There was a total of 1274 parking tickets issued during September 2023.
Breakdown of Parking Offences

Top 10 Offences

Offence	Main Ticketing Offences - September 2023
9A - A VEHICLE COMMITING AN OFFENCE CONTRARY TO PAY AND DISPLY/PERMIT PARKING	592
08A - PARKING A VEHICLE ON A FOOTPATH	156
04G - PARKING A PRIVATE VEHICLE IN A LOADING BAY	123
9A - A VEHICLE OUT OF TIME TICKET	95
9D - PARKING A VEHICLE ON A DOUBLE YELLOW LINE	88
08B - PARKING A VEHICLE ON A GRASS MARGIN	69
07A - OBSTRUCTION TO OTHER ROAD USERS/PEDESTRIANS	31
04B - Vehicle Parking Opposite a Continuous White Line	25
9F - PARKING/STOPPING A VEHICLE IN A DISABLED PERSONS PARKING BAY	18
03A - BUS STOP MARKED	18

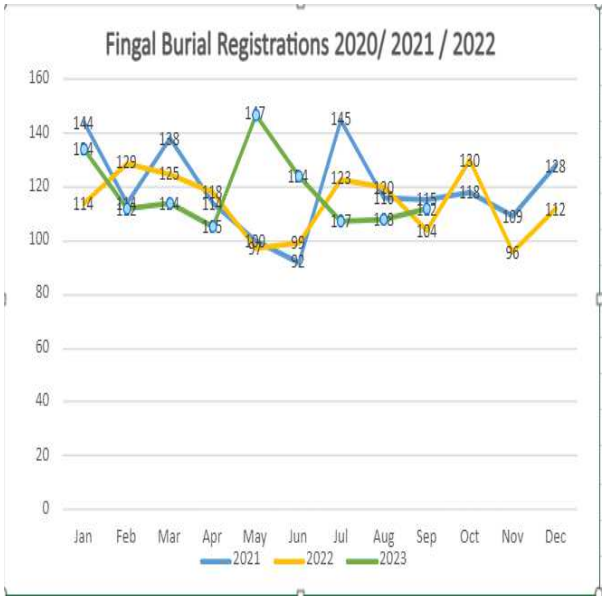
Main Ticketing Locations:

Top 10 Locations

Location	Main Ticket Locations September 2023
North Street - Swords	126
Main Street - Swords	86
South Strand Skerries	65
Bridgefield Car Park - Malahide	57
Drogheda Street - Balbriggan	55
Coast Road - Malahide	52
Church Road - Malahide	51
The Green - Malahide	47
Harbour Road - Skerries	42
Strand Road Portmarnock	42

Burial Ground Services

At the Council meeting on 9th October 2023 the Burial Ground Bye-Laws 2023 were made by resolution of the Council. These Bye-Laws will come into force on 8th November 2023.
The Operations Department are continuing to administer and monitor delivery to ensure business continuity for Fingal's Burial Ground Service. There were 112 Interments in September 2023.



Traffic Operations County-Wide

The 2023 Program of Works has been progressing well in each Administrative Area.

Castleknock/Mulhuddart 2023 POW

Works on the new Traffic Signals in Dublin 11 & 15 are progressing well. Works are underway on Church Road in Mulhuddart with the installation of a new signalised crossing. Civil works are completed at the roundabout on Carpenterstown Avenue and Laurel Lodge Road, with the addition of a raised zebra crossing one each arm.



New four-arm raised zebra crossings on Carpenterstown Avenue/Laurel Lodge Road



A new pedestrian crossing was added on Lohunda Road to existing traffic lights

Road Markings – Lining



The River Road (R102) has had all the SLOW markings refreshed in October.

Balbriggan/Swords Area Traffic



Bridge Street, Swords – New Toucan Crossing – awaiting ESB connection.



Brackenstown Road, Swords – New Toucan Crossing – collaboration between Active Travel and Traffic Operations.



Kilcoskan National School - The Ward, Co. Dublin – New Traffic Calming Speed Ramps



Swords area - Crossroads at Brackenstown Road and R108 – Emphasised SLOW road markings on approaches.



Dublin Road, Lusk - New signalized pedestrian crossing in progress.



Loughshinny- New signalized pedestrian crossing in progress.



Loughshinny- New pathway connecting new signalized pedestrian crossing to the village.

Howth/Malahide Area - Traffic

Two New Driver Feed Back Signs installed as part of the Programme of Works 2023 as below



New Feedback Sign for Chapel Road, Kinsealy Eastbound



New Feedback sign on Thormanby Road - Howth Direction

New Lining in October 2023



Old Yellow Walls Road for St Sylvester School





Claremont Road-Howth Road Junction - New STOP sign and STOP Markings and refreshing existing road markings by Railway bridge-Strand Road below





New Speed Roundel for Binn Eadair and Yield Markings/signage in Abbey Park-Baldoyle

Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit

96 hires were put in place from 01/10/2023 to 31/10/2023, engaging 26 suppliers.

Street Lighting LED Programme

The Public Lighting Section will continue with the LED Programme in 2023 with 99.3% of all lights switched to LEDS.

100% of new Decorative LED fittings have been installed in towns and villages across the county wide.





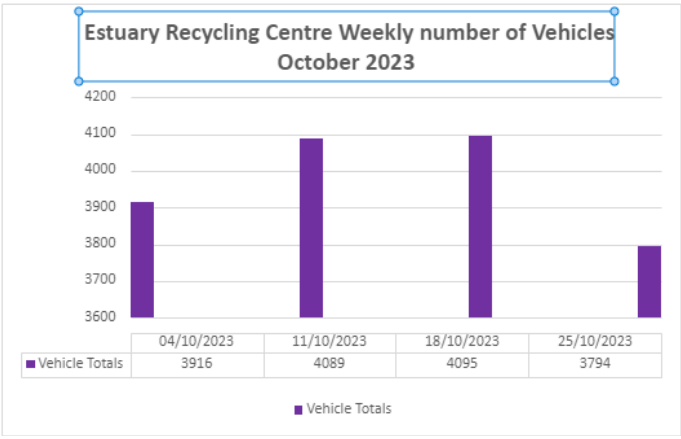
The Public Lighting Area Works Programme is well under way across the county with several jobs complete. (Mourneview Estate - Skerries,) (Red Arches – Car park, Baldoyle) (Manorfields Pedway, Ongar).

Millbank Tower Rush (POW)

The Millbank has been lit using feature lighting as part of the 2023 Programme of Works (POW)



Recycling Centres Update

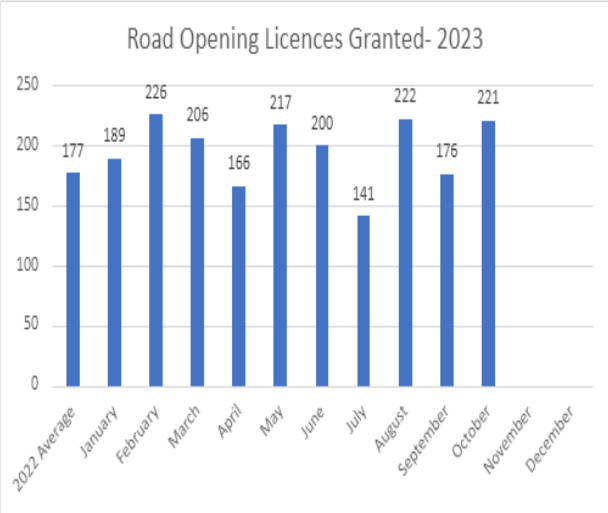


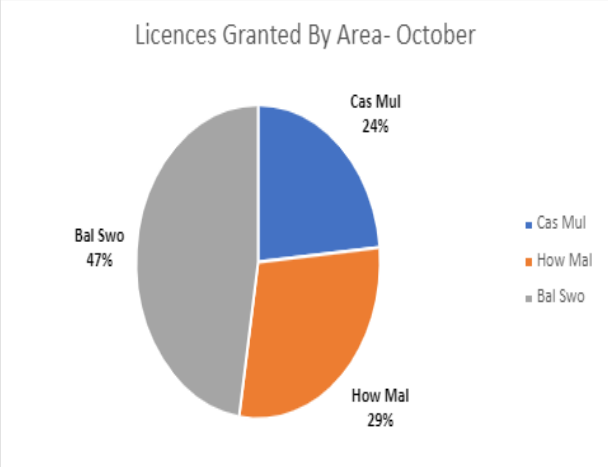
Licenses

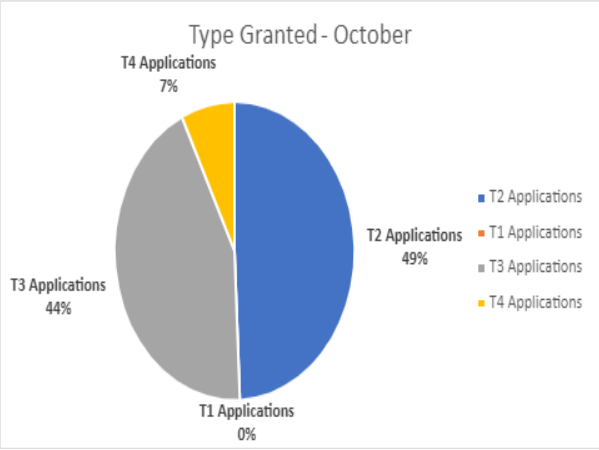
- **Road Opening License's**

The Licensing unit continues to process and manage the licensing system for the County. Applications are allocated by area for examination and conditioning which includes reviews of the existing carriageway, footpaths, cycleways, and grass verges. Applicants submit temporary traffic management plans for review to ensure all works are carried out safely within the public domain. Road Opening Licences are a cross functional process for the department and are essential for the asset management of Fingal County Council Road network.

221 Licences were granted in the month of **October**, **51%** of which were granted by way of automation. Clerk of Works in each area continue to carry out regular inspections following road opening works by Utilities.







- **Casual Trading License**

Fingal County Council currently have 30 Casual Trading Pitches occupied throughout the Administrative Area.
Covering Hot Food/Tea & Coffee/Ice Cream and Flowers.
Fingal County Council is currently in communication with several interested parties who are interested in taking up additional pitches throughout the county, site inspections have been arranged.
The Castleknock/Mulhuddart Operations Department is in regular communication with our traders and area inspectors to assist in delivery of quality service and ensure compliance.

Street Furniture Licences





Fingal County Council currently have 34 valid Street Furniture Licence's throughout the county: 1 in Castleknock/Mulhuddart, 6 in Balbriggan/Swords and 27 in Howth/Malahide, this is a significant increase on previous years.
We are currently in communication with several applicants regarding the issuing of new SFL licences, pending site inspections in the coming weeks.
Castleknock/Mulhuddart Operations department have now fully completed refunds in accordance with S.I. 256 dated 22 of May 2023 for all Street Furniture Licence Holders in the area following engagement with the businesses.

Storm Water

- **Stormwater Capital Programme 2023-2025**

Fingal County Council are continuing to progress projects adopted in the 2023-2025 Stormwater Capital Program. The 3-year program includes 14 projects initially valued at approximately €3.63 Million, although this is being kept under review. Below is a brief update in relation to the current status of some of the projects that have commenced and planned upcoming projects.

- **Howth Stormwater Culvert**

Topographical and Manhole Surveys are complete and satisfactory. Awaiting clarification and details from flow and CCTV surveys. Optioneering and Investigation Report is in progress. Preliminary design reports being updated with received survey information and updates of associated drawings.

- **Bath Avenue Storm Water Pipe**

This project involves the laying of a new Stormwater pipeline along Bath Ave in Malahide to alleviate localised flooding and allow for future capacity. Construction works started on 25/09/2023. A 10-week window has been allocated for the works which requires a full road closure. To date 135m of pipe has been laid, the existing network on Grove Road has been connected to the new network, 6 new gullies have been installed and 4 new manholes have been constructed.





- **Ongar Development Stormwater Remedial Works**

Remediation works on the drainage network in Ongar following its Taking in charge are substantially complete. Additional works were identified flowing inspection by the Drainage section. The works are being undertaken by Formac Contractors with design and supervision by OCSC Consulting Engineers with an initial duration of five months starting in April 2023. The additional works should be complete by Mid-November.

- **Storm Water Maintenance**

To support the Storm Water Preventative maintenance, a contractor has been procured with a Jet Vac Recycler truck and CCTV camera van. Survey works are ongoing in the in the Blanchardstown & Castleknock areas.

The Stormwater manhole cover and frame replacement programme for replacing assets at the end of life is ongoing. Assets have been replaced in Sutton, Howth Main St, The Naul and Balbriggan.

Following discussion with the Biodiversity section and Environment Department, safety concerns led to the partial removal in October of the **Portrane SW Outfall** which had suffered damage from recent storms. Care was taken to reinforce with rock armour a key upper section of intact pipe which serves to prevent sand drift.





Additional CCTV surveys are being carried out in **Rusheeney and Manorfields** estates to determine the Storm Water network condition ahead of works planned in November. These works will include of trenchless techniques and robotic cutting.





A contractor is being procured to undertake various remedial works including part-liner repairs on damaged sections of the storm water network along **Carpenterstown Rd** in Castleknock.

Following recent reports of road flooding along **Treen Hill & Minister's Road**. CCTV surveys were carried out and restrictions in the network around Kilhedge Lane have been identified. The results of these surveys are now being analysed to determine what steps are required to resolve the issue.





Jetting and CCTV surveying are ongoing in the **Ballykea and Loughshinny** areas to determine the cause of flooding following recent heavy rainfall.

Page 44

Separation of a section of misconnected Storm water line from the storm water network in **Flemington Park, Balbriggan** was completed in October. This involved its diversion via a new manhole and the redirection of several road gullies to reduce the risk of odours. This work effectively removed a significant source of foul contamination from the catchment thus eliminating one of the risks to coastal and local bathing areas.





- **Biodiversity**

Ongoing assistance is being given by the Storm Water Unit to *Baldoyle Tidy Towns* who have secured funding for a Biodiversity project on the **Seagrange Park** stream, Baldoyle.



Storm Water Connections:
To date 13 new connection applications have been processed in 2023.

PLANNING AND STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE (PSI)

Contents

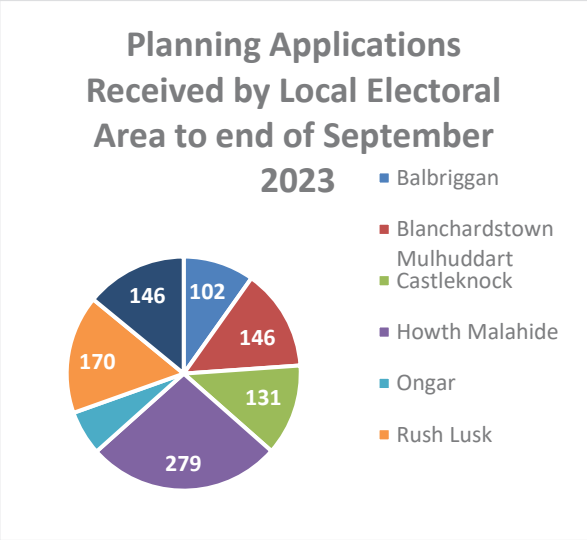
Planning Applications
Planning Decisions
Building Control Admin
Built Environment Division
Transportation Planning
Parks and Green Infrastructure Division

Planning Applications

There have been 1038 planning applications received from 1st January 2023 to 30th September 2023, of these 137 applications were invalid leaving a total of 901 valid applications. The volume of applications received by Local Electoral Area (LEA) is detailed in the table below.

From 1st January 2023 to 30th September, nine Large-scale Residential Development (LRD) full applications have been made to the Local Authority. From 1st January 2023 to 30th September 2023 eleven decisions have been made on Large Scale Residential Developments. Of these eleven decisions made, ten have been to grant Permission (3,211 Units) and one decision has been made to request further information.

An Bord Pleanála have issued 17 decisions (4 Refusals & 13 Grants -5709 units) on SHD applications in the period from 1st January 2023 to 30th September. There are five SHD's (4,577 units) remaining with An Bord Pleanála for decision.



Planning Decisions

A total of 913 planning decisions have been issued to 30th of September 2023. There have been 752 decisions to grant permission (83%) and 161 refusals of permission (17%). Included in the 752 grants there have been 60 grants of permissions in respect of single house construction, 417 grants of permission for domestic extensions/works, 65 commercial/retail grants of permission and 38 grants of permission in respect of housing developments of which 20 relate to development of 2 – 20 units, 6 relates to 20 – 50 units, 7 relate to 50 -100 units and 7 which relate to development of 100+ Units.

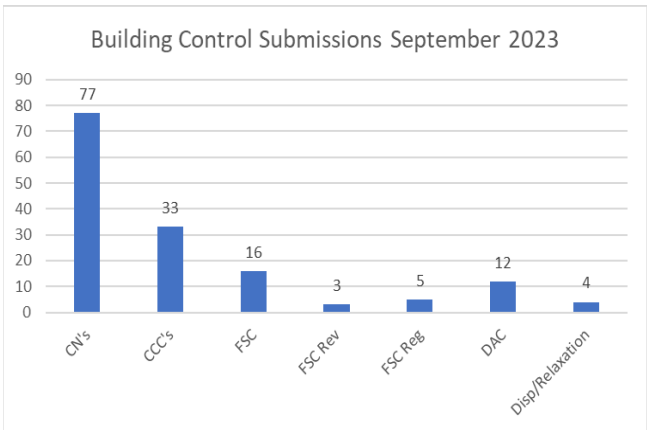
Building Control Admin

In September 2023, there were 150 building control submissions made via BCMS.

This was made up of 77 Commencement notices, 33 Compliance of Completion Certificates, 24 Fire Safety related Certificates and 16 Disability Access related Certificates.

Commencement notices and Compliance on Completion Certificates are submitted through the Projects module on BCMS. Fire Safety, Disability Access, Regularisation and Dispensation/Relaxation Certificate applications can be submitted online via the Applications module on BCMS and the Council accepts hard copy applications directly into the office. Most applications are now being submitted via the online system.

The Building Control Admin team processed 116 decisions in September 2023 relating to Fire Safety and Disability Access Certificates. This was made up of 35 decisions to grant and 81 extensions of time.



Strategic Policy Unit

Local Area Plans, Masterplans and Framework Plans

In July, the first round of Plans falling out of the development plan was agreed. This comprises Swords and Flemington LAP's, the Dunsink Plan, Kilbarrack and the Old School House Masterplans and the Stephenstown, Folkstown and Clonsilla Framework Plans.

Consultants have been appointed and work will begin on Flemington LAP immediately. This will be the first LAP. Consultants are due to be appointed in the next two weeks and work will start on the Clonsilla framework plan.

The Draft Donabate Framework Plan is almost complete and will be published this month, subject to the outcomes of the environmental assessment consultation which is ongoing.

Residential Zoned Land Tax

The Government's 'Housing For All – A New Housing Plan for Ireland ' proposed a new tax to activate vacant land for residential purposes as a part of the Pathway to Increasing New Housing Supply.

Draft Map Submissions:

- Number of submissions received on Draft map – **121 submissions - 142 land parcels in total**
- Number of rezoning requests – **3**
- Number of sites removed from the Draft map – **26 removed, 3 part removed**
- Number of sites retained on the Draft map – **97 retained, 9 part retained**
- Number of sites whereby there was 'no action' (residential property for example) – **7**
- **(no action) 6 (part no action)**
- Number of appeals lodged to ABP – **83**
- Number of appeals decided (31st October 2023) – **82,** of which 71 confirmed the determination of Fingal.

The final map is due to be published on 1st December and this will identify all of the land considered to be in scope for FCC and will provide for the overall area in hectares. The RZLT was due to be due in 2024 but this has been deferred for a year. The draft for next year has to go on display on 1st February next year.

Built Environment Division

Building Control/Taking in Charge Section – 31/10/2023

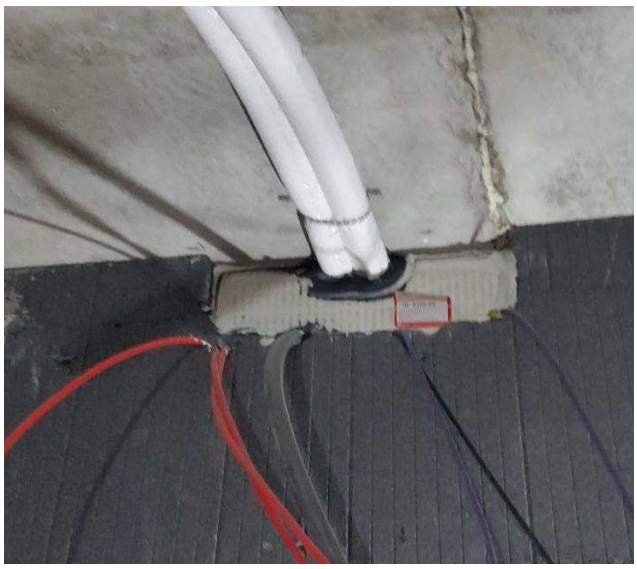


- There were 16 building Control Inspections in October 2023 with 30 buildings inspected.
- There were 8 section 11 requests for further information following building control inspections, issued in October and there have been no enforcement notices issued.
- There were 2 roads taken in charge in the council meeting of the 9th October 2023 (Cnoc Dubh Phase 2 and Millers Glen Phase 2).
- There is 1 development up for taking in charge in the November Meeting (Cois Sruthain).
- The Ongar Remediation works contract is still ongoing and Formac Construction are currently carrying out works in Ongar Village. O'Connor Sutton Cronin are managing these works on behalf of Fingal County Council. The completion works have been further pushed out until the end of November to address Irish water works. We have also engaged Formac and O'Connor Sutton Cronin to carry out the remediation works in Mount Eustace and Cruise Park to bring these estates to a taking in charge standard. These works will follow on from the Ongar remediation works and will take approximately 2 months.
- Works are ongoing in the Gallops housing estate by a contractor carrying out "Taking in Charge" works for Fingal County Council.

Dangerous Structures

There was 1 dangerous structure notified in September 2023 and 2 dangerous structures notified in October 2023. There are a total of 87 dangerous structures active in our database.

Pictures

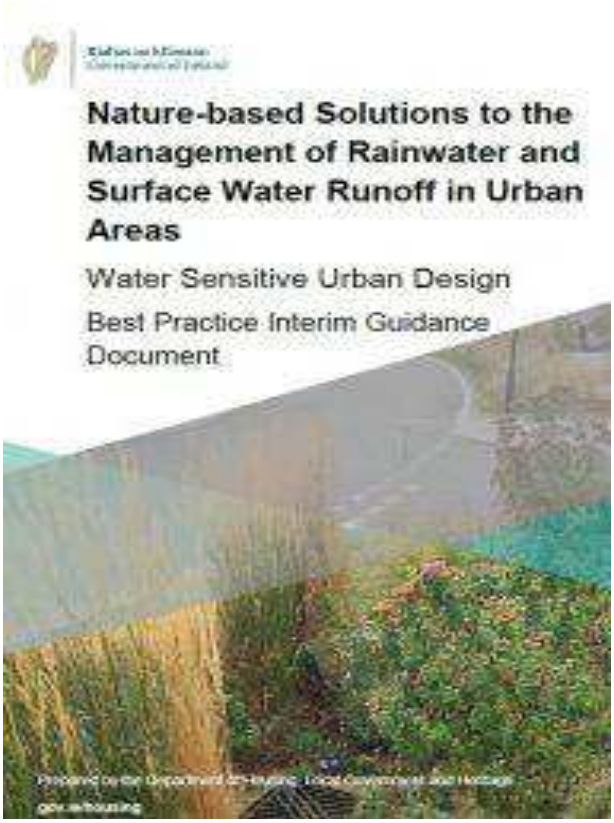


Checking fire seals in an apartment block in Clonsilla.

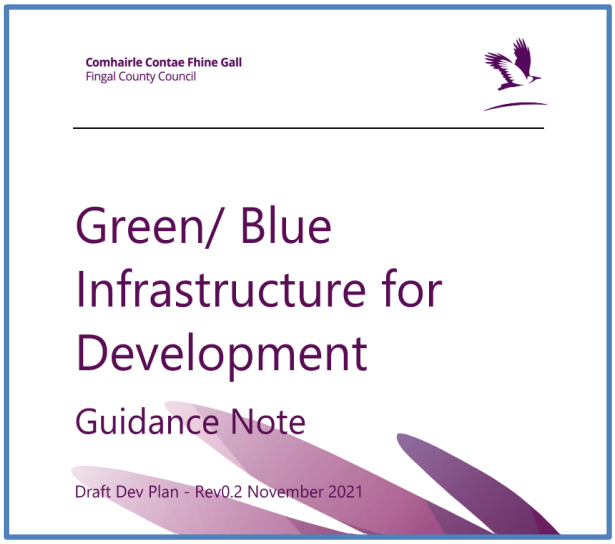


Checking Drainage in houses in Clonsilla.

Development Management/Forward Planning (Water Services) Section



- Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) – The Fingal SuDS guidance document (Green/Blue Infrastructure for Development) has been reviewed to include changes in technical standards. This document along with the SFRA documents have been incorporated into the new development plan.



Incorporating Sustainable Drainage Systems in Residential Developments



The GDSDS has outlined SuDS as a sustainable way to manage surface water as we prepare to meet the challenges of climate change. This example of Millers Glen in Swords, shows an example of surface water being held onsite, providing treatment via appropriate planting, and then discharging at greenfield runoff rate. This is a move away from the traditional method of collecting all surface water via piped systems which can often no longer manage the intense rainfall`s being experienced.

Transportation



Staff from the P&SI - Transport Planning recently visited two Active Travel projects in Dublin City Council, the Royal Canal Greenway (Phase 3) & Clontarf to City Centre which are both currently onsite at Construction Stage.
The site visit allowed staff to gather learnings from the projects and knowledge sharing with colleagues in Dublin City Council.

Snugborough Interchange upgrade

The Snugborough Interchange is currently programmed to be completed during Q1 2024, as we have included additional elements in the scheme such as repairs to the access to Waterville Park and a new artwork in the underpass. Some traffic management will be required over the coming weeks to allow for resurfacing works. Resurfacing of the N3 off ramp will be carried out overnight at the end of November. A site visit for local councillors was arranged for the 24th of October. Updates will be posted on the scheme web site www.snugboroughinterchange.ie



Ongar Barnhill Link Road

Bam Civil Ltd. have commenced setting up a site compound and have carried out preliminary works in advance of the main works. Updates for the scheme will be posted on www.fingal.ie/ongar-barnhill

PSI-039 R132 Connectivity Project

Consultation with the National Transport Authority and with Transport Infrastructure Ireland regarding the connection with Metro Link is ongoing with Monthly meetings. The findings from the ground investigation works carried out in June and July was compiled and now will assist in the decision-making process for the detailed design stage. Meetings with a developer on a new access onto the R132 has also taken place. Modelling the impact of this junction is currently being undertaken. Detailed design stage is underway and progressing as programmed.

PSI-005 Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route

Construction works is progressing on the Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route for this key infrastructure project for Balbriggan. The work is ongoing at three locations on the project on Hamilton Road, Harry Reynolds Road just south of the R122 and at Moylaragh Road. Works is progressing with a new bus stop and a new shared area already installed on Hamilton Road. Another meeting has been arranged for December in relation to progressing the art installation piece has also taken place recently with Fingal's Art Officer, Local Councillors, Tidy Town Committee members and Our Balbriggan to progress the process of developing a theme and guidance's on commissioning of the art installation. Additional meeting with the ESB in Oct onsite with agreement reached on new connect point at 12 Controlled crossing points along the project. Also, relocation of existing ESB cables has been agreed on Harry Reynolds Road.

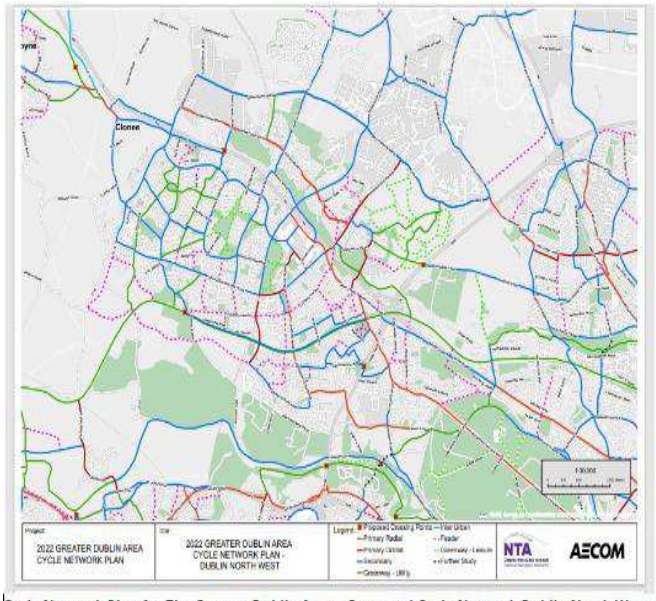


To assist with communication to the community a dedicated project website has been setup which will be updated throughout the project, highlighting the projects progression and key milestone stages; [Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian & Cycle Route | Fingal County Council]



Consultancy Framework for Dublin 15 Walking and Cycling Projects

The Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Dept has commenced the procurement process for a Single Party Framework for Engineering Consultancy Services for Pedestrian and Cycling Route Projects in the Dublin 15 Area, with a closing date in late October 2023. The evaluation of submissions received as part of the stage one process will then be assessed in November to determine which firms will proceed to the stage 2 procurement process in Q1 2024. Proposed projects will include the Clonsilla-Damastown Cycle Route and Pedestrian & Cycling Bridge at Granard Bridge Castleknock.



Cycle Network Plan for The Greater Dublin Area - Proposed Cycle Network Dublin North West - Sheet N8

PSI 063 Granard Bridge

A tender brief is currently being prepared for a Pedestrian and Cycling bridge over the Maynooth Rail line and Royal Canal at Granard Bridge on the Castleknock Road and will form an integral part of the walking and cycling route for Blanchardstown to Phoenix Park which is a proposed route in the NTA's Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan. The tendering for this project will form part of the initial project for the Engineering Consultancy Services Framework for Dublin 15 Pedestrian and Cycling Route Projects which is currently at stage 1 of the procurement process.



Figure 1 - View from Rail Bridge towards Granard Bridge and Blanchardstown

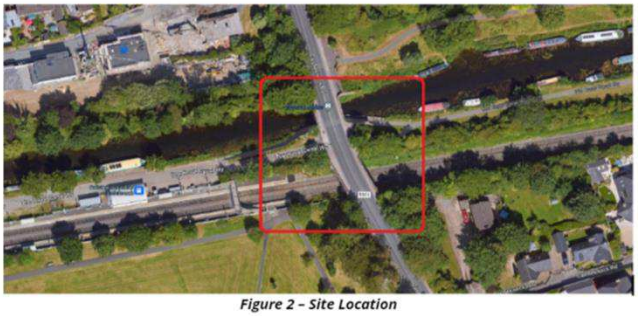


Figure 2 – Site Location

PSI – 004 Royal Canal Urban Greenway

Dialogue continues to be held with landowners and with key stakeholders the National Transport Authority and Waterways Ireland along the route of the greenway to ensure a coordinated, high quality final design is achieved at interfaces between existing facilities and the proposed scheme. Landowner searches and land referencing are ongoing also. Following this process, the required documents including the Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be prepared for a planning application to An Bord Pleanála in mid 2024.

S2M Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme

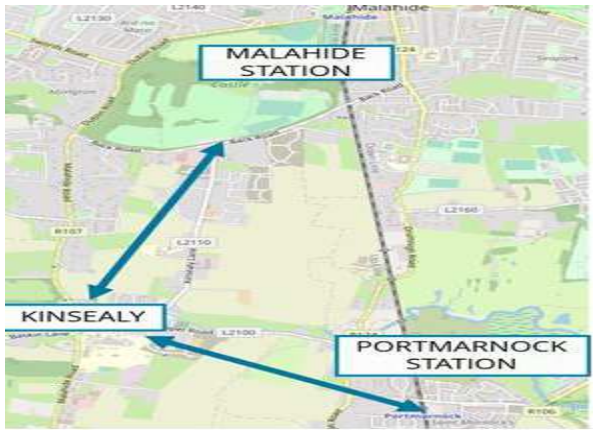
The preliminary design drawings are being finalised. The recently published Cycle Design Manual has led to some improvements being incorporated into the overall scheme design. The new manual draws on the experience of delivering cycling infrastructure across Ireland over the last decade, as well as learning from international best practice, and has been guided by the need to deliver safe cycle facilities for people of all ages and abilities. A surveyor has recently completed topographical surveys of public and private lands within the proposed scheme. Ground Investigation Works will be required along the route at all locations where new structures are being proposed.

A tree surveyor will be procured in the coming months and a survey of all trees along the proposed route will be carried out. Following this process, the preliminary design can be finalised and documents will be prepared for a planning application to An Bord Pleanála. Engagement with potentially impacted property owners, businesses and stakeholders is ongoing.



Kinsealy Walking and Cycling Routes

The consultancy framework for various Swords & Kinsealy projects with the initial project being the Kinsealy Walking and Cycling Routes was recently awarded to Barry transportation. The appointed consultants are currently progressing the Kinsealy Walking and Cycling Routes Projects. The Options Selection phase is progressing on two routes, Kinsealy Lane and Chapel Road/Station Road to determine the draft preferred routes. A survey has been procured to carry out traffic surveys. In addition, a surveyor has been procured to carry out topographical surveys. Briefings will be undertaken with the local members at the next milestone stage. Non-statutory stakeholder consultation which will include road users will be targeted for 2024 whilst targeted stakeholder consultation, for example with potentially affected landowners, will be undertaken as needed.



Fingal Coastal Way

Liaison with landowners and residents' groups along the route of the Fingal Coastal Way is ongoing. Appointment of a contractor for the topographical survey of public lands should be completed in the coming weeks. This survey will allow design in the town and village centres to be progressed. Affected landowners with farming and horticultural businesses will be informed in the coming weeks with regard to the appointment of the scheme agronomist, at which point further liaison meetings will be held along the route. Searches continue for potentially affected landowners who have not been identified yet.

Broadmeadow Way Greenway

High level design options for the northern causeway are being developed using recently acquired ground investigation data from the ground investigation (GI) contract conducted over the summer months. These options will then be workshopped with Irish Rail to seek approval to proceed with single preferred design option that meets the project objectives and ensure the safety and integrity of the railway causeway.

A tender competition for the 12-span 180m long precast bridge deck units has gone out to market, the long lead in time is required to align with the approved May-September construction window in 2024 following the overwintering bird season. Stage 1 (SAQ) construction tender documents for a Works Contractor for the Donabate landward works are being finalised and will go to the market in November, this work package will include two additional bridge structures spanning across the Pill River and greenway works through Kilcrea farmland and the Kilcrea junction at Newbridge.

The Underwater Archaeology Unit in the Department of Local Government and Heritage have requested that Fingal County Council undertake an underwater archaeology desktop assessment as part of planning and foreshore commitments, the tender pack for this piece of work has been developed and will be issued to market in November.

In late September, the Planning and Strategic Infrastructure project team arranged a site visit for local councillors to the southern causeway and bridge site. This was facilitated by Irish Rail.



Church Fields Link Road

Works are continuing on phase 2 of the Church Fields Link Road and Cycle Network project, including the upgrade and reconfiguration of the existing Wellview Avenue and the installation of 670m of high quality pedestrian and cycling facilities through the eastern parklands linking up with existing networks and future proposed facilities in the vicinity.





PSI-026 Turvey Avenue & Portrane Road

Fingal County Council has lodged an application to An Bord Pleanála for a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) for the Portrane Road Enhancement Project and two landowner objections have been lodged with ABP in this regard. The project involves works to widen the existing narrow footpath on the northern side of Portrane Road in order to provide a suitably wide and safe footpath for pedestrians to use in the vicinity of two national schools (St. Patrick's Boys National School and Scoil Phádraic Cailíní). The project also involves works to provide safe pedestrian crossings and appropriate traffic calming facilities. Subject to approval from An Bord Pleanála, the CPO will allow Fingal County Council to purchase privately-owned land that is required to widen the path and deliver the project. A decision from An Bord Pleanála on the CPO application is expected later this year.

Separately, Fingal County Council has undertaken a tender competition to procure a works contractor to build a Footpath Enhancement project on nearby Turvey Avenue, in Donabate. The project will see the construction of a new section of footpath to improve pedestrian safety and increase connectivity for people walking between Donabate Village and the residential areas along Turvey Avenue, west of Donabate Train Station. A works contractor is expected to be appointed in November with construction work due to commence in early 2024.

PSI-027 Donabate Pedestrian Bridge

The detailed design for the construction of a new pedestrian and cycle bridge over the Dublin to Belfast Railway line at Corballis, Donabate has been approved by Iarnród Éireann and the Commission for Railway Regulation. The new bridge will cross over the railway line, facilitating a safe and segregated pedestrian and cycle route and will enhance connections between the development lands at Corballis, Donabate Village, the railway station and Newbridge Demesne. Heads of terms have been agreed and necessary licence agreements are being finalised with the developers of adjacent lands to facilitate access to, and construction of, the bridge. Procurement for a main contractor for the works is ongoing and construction is expected to commence in Q1 2024.

Donabate Transport Projects

Fingal County Council has appointed Roughan and O'Donovan, a leading multi-disciplinary consultancy firm, to provide engineering, planning and environmental services for the Donabate Transport Projects, which comprise a number of major projects with the objective of improving transport and active travel infrastructure and road safety on the Donabate-Portrane peninsula.

The projects include:

- Phase 2 of the Donabate Distributor Road project, to improve access to Donabate and Portrane from the M1-Lissenhall Interchange for all road users, particularly vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and cyclists;
- Blakes Cross Junction Upgrade, to provide a safer junction layout that caters for both motorised traffic and active travel modes of transport such as walking and cycling;
- A study of the M1-Lissenhall Interchange, in collaboration with TII, to assess all technical and operational traffic issues associated with this strategic motorway junction;
- Donabate Active Travel Routes which encompass a number of related local projects which aim to increase local connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists.

Work on the initial data-gathering, concept development and option assessment stages of the Donabate Transport Projects is underway. Further stages of work, relating to environmental assessment, planning consent, etc. will follow on in subsequent years as appropriate.

HOUSING

Contents

Housing Supply
Asset Management
Support
Tenancy Services
Housing Ukraine Response
Vacant Homes

Housing Supply

Affordable Home Purchase Scheme



Fingal County Council are making homes available for sale under affordable dwelling purchase arrangements across the County.

Our pipeline for affordable housing over the coming years is below:

Affordable Housing Pipeline	Units
Dun Emer, Lusk - Completed	39
Hayestown, Rush – In Progress	52
Hampton Gardens Close, Balbriggan – In Progress	18
Ballymastone, Donabate – Coming Soon	286
Church Fields, Mulhuddart – Coming Soon	260

Fingal County Council is also actively engaging with Developers for opportunities to collaborate on Turnkey developments that are suitable for sale under Affordable Purchase arrangements.

Construction Programme

Summary of unit numbers in the pipeline	Units
Under Construction	307
Schemes with Planning Approval and Tender Stage	393
Planning and Design	940
Part V	289
TOTAL	1,929

Progress of Projects on Site

Part V units under construction at Chapel Hill, Garristown. Co. Dublin



Fingal County Council – Restoration of St Ita's Portrane - 14 units

Nine units have been completed and the restoration works commenced on the next 5 units at the beginning of 2024.

Fingal County Council- Affordable Housing Scheme at Hayestown, Rush, Co Dublin
52 Affordable & 10 Social Units

Works are continuing with Phase 1 of the affordable units at Hayestown, Rush which is due for completion in early 2024. Phase 1 consists of a total of 26 units – 24 affordable private homes & 2 social homes.









Tuath Housing – Construction Scheme at Kilhedge Lane, Lusk, Co. Dublin – 31 dwellings

Works are continuing on the 31 units in Lusk being constructed by Tuath Housing. This development is due for completion in early 2024.







Fingal County Council – construction scheme at Bowden Court, Swords – 11 dwellings

Works are progressing at Bowden Court, Swords.



Fingal County Council - construction scheme at Ballough Place, Lusk – 10 dwellings

Works at Ballough Place, Lusk are progressing without significant delays.



Fingal County Council - construction scheme at Monastery Court, Lusk – 5 dwellings

Works are progressing at Monastery Court, Lusk and the scheme is on track for completion in Quarter 2, 2024.



Fingal County Council - infill scheme at Clonsilla Road – 1 unit

Works are nearing completion at the Clonsilla Road project.



Fingal County Council - infill scheme at Sheepmoor Avenue – 1 unit

Works are nearing completion at the Sheepmoor project and handover is anticipated this quarter.

Housing Asset Management Report

Energy Efficiency/Retrofitting Programme

Fingal County Council's Energy Efficiency Retrofit programme is progressing well. Work has been completed on 96 properties to date in Strandmill Estate, Barnewall Estate, Rivermeade, and Glasmore Court. Works on a further 24 properties are currently underway in Strandmill Estate, Rivermeade, Glasmore Park, and Whitestown Gardens.

Investigative works are ongoing in several other housing estates across the county to include them in this program.



Post works – Strandmill Estate, Portmarnock (external wall insulation, new windows and doors)

Returning Dwellings to Productive Use

The number of casual voids within social housing stock which are currently in the re-let process is set out below:-

Voids for Re-letting	27th October 2023
In the letting process	50
Undergoing re-let repairs	31
With County Architect for procurement of pre-let repairs	9
TOTAL	**90**

Planned Maintenance Programmes

Cyclical Maintenance - Scheme Painting

The Scheme Painting Programme provides for external painting and joinery repairs to Council housing stock and currently operates on a 6/7-year cycle. Works are reaching completion in Corduff Avenue, Corduff Gardens, and Corduff Way and are ongoing in the remainder of Corduff i.e Corduff Close, Corduff Cottages, Corduff Crescent, Corduff Green, and Corduff Place. Works have commenced in Domville Woods.

Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)

HAP continues to be the primary source of rent support for those in private rented accommodation. Fingal County Council has set up over 295 new tenancies in 2023 to date with approximately 3884 tenancies set up since HAP began in 2017.

The HAP team is on hand to deal with any queries from applicants and landlords in person at the Housing Department in the Fingal County Council Blanchardstown Office, by phone at 01 8905000 via the CCU or through email at hap@fingal.ie.

Rents

The new rent review process continues, and tenants are required to return their Rent Assessment Form with the relevant documents so that an assessment can be carried out and the correct rent charge applied to the account.

The Rent Arrears team is working methodically through accounts in substantial arrears to encourage tenants to engage with the Council in reducing their arrears. In cases where there is no engagement, despite repeated efforts, proceedings will progress through the legal arena, and to date, the Rents Section has secured two Possession orders with 6 others currently before the courts. Regarding the two possession orders secured, both tenants are engaging with the team to address their areas.

The Rents team encourages any tenant who is having trouble paying their rent to engage with the Council to examine possible solutions. However, there are instances where tenants do not engage or make alternative payment arrangements, and, in those situations, the Council needs to take further action.

Local Authority Home Loan

The Local Authority Home Loan (LAHL) continues to be popular among people who are unable to secure funding from commercial lenders to allow them to purchase a home.

The loan application process has been augmented by updates to our online loan application portal which has been upgraded in recent weeks to allow for easier submission of documentation and clearer information on what is required. Applicants can still submit a loan application and required documentation by post if they wish to do so.

Since the LAHL was introduced on 4th January 2022, 127 Fingal applicants have received Loan Approval in Principle (AIP) with a cumulative AIP of 28.4m.

Further information on the Local Authority Home Loan and the eligibility criteria can be found at www.fingal.ie/localauthorityhomeloan & www.localauthorityhomeloan.ie



Private Rented Inspections

For 2023, following the rollout of annual registration by the RTB and a project to streamline registrations, the target for 2023 is set at 4,576, equating to just over a quarter of 18,000 registered tenancies within Fingal.

The team successfully reached 100.42% of the 2023 target by the end of quarter three. 5451 inspections took place across a total of 4595 dwellings.

The team continues to work with the contractor for the last quarter of the year to focus on improving compliance.

Housing Tenancy Services Report

Housing Sup
port and Housing Position

Housing List positions have been issued to all applicants.

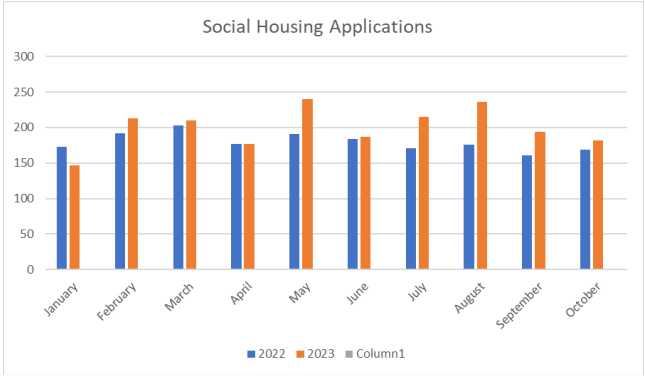
The list position is also available through the CBL portal on Fingal.ie. Applicants who do not have access to this portal should contact Choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie to request their unique username and password.

Changes to Income Eligibility Thresholds

By Circular 48/2022 and changes being implemented via the Social Housing Assessment (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations 2022, the Social Housing Eligibility Bands increased with effect from 1st January 2023.

Housing applications received year to date.

Jan – October 2023	1,973
Jan - October 2022	1,798



Housing Support Appeals

Applicants are reminded, that an appeal must be received within 28 days of a decision being communicated in writing to be eligible for review.

An email address has been established to facilitate the submission of appeals about housing support applications by applicants e.g., closure of social housing applications, transfer of tenancy, income limit queries, medical priority, and transfer applications. Applicants can email – Housing.Appeals@fingal.ie.

Housing Needs Assessment

Following Circular 26/2023 as released on 5th July 2023, the Summary of Social Housing Assessment (SSHA) is due for return to the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage by 29th November 2023. Letters Issued to applicants on 15th September to all applicants required to complete the SSHA. Following the successful launch of the Online HNA System in 2022, applicants have been advised to complete the assessment where possible online. This system went live on Monday 18th September 2023 with initial uptake positive.

Reminder letters were issued to all applicants on 4th October. Applicants were advised in this letter, that if they have completed their assessment online, they don't need to take any further action. All SSHA received are undergoing a process of checking and assessment with requests issued for further documentation where required through the Portal. All facilitates remain available to applicants at the Customer Care Counters and in the Fingal Libraries for those individuals requiring assistance in completing their Housing Needs Assessment.

Choice Based Lettings October Advertised Properties

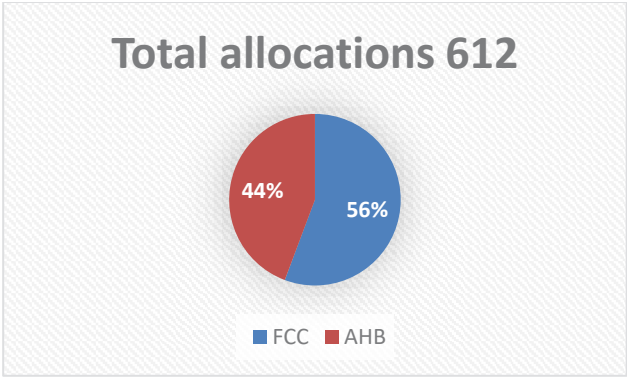
Applicants who do not have access to this portal should contact Choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie to request their unique username and password.

Advertisement Period	Property	Bed	Type	Number of Views	Expressions of interest
4th – 10th October	Lanestown View, Donabate, Co Dublin	3	House	1498	266
4th – 10th October	Barnewall Avenue, Donabate, Co Dublin	3	House	1374	234
11th – 17th October	Drynam Avenue, Kinsealy, Co Dublin	3	Duplex	1007	126
11th – 17th October	Ballygarra Park, Garristown, Co Dublin	3	House	1002	148
11th – 17th October	Castlegrange Avenue, Swords, Co Dublin	3	House	1212	193
18th – 24th October	Pipers Court, Hansfield, Dublin 15	3	Apartment	1402	156
18th – 24th October	Pipers Court, Hansfield, Dublin 15	2	Apartment	1401	262
			Total	8896	1385

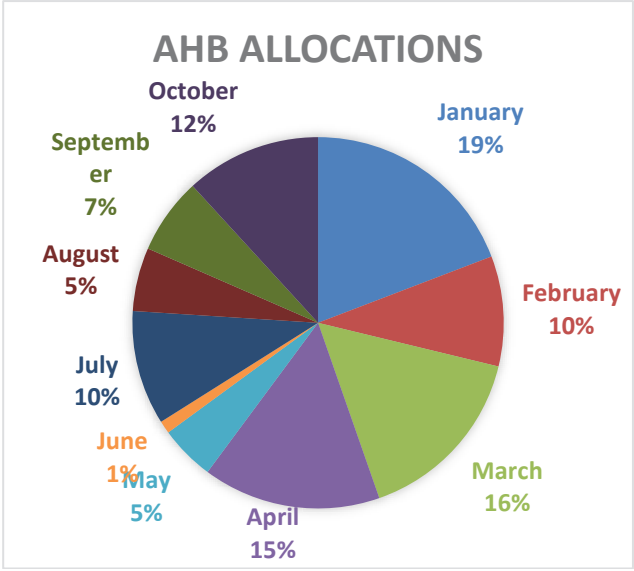


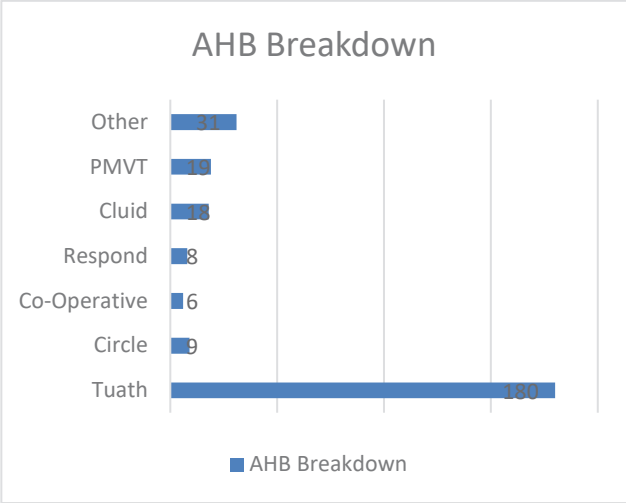
Lettings

The chart below depicts the total number of properties allocated since the beginning of 2023. 271 of these allocations have been in collaboration with several Approved Housing bodies. The other 341 properties were allocated using Fingal County Council's stock.



Of all the 612 allocations made to date, 221 were made via Choice Based Lettings.





This chart portrays a breakdown of the AHB, reflecting the nominations sent to them during 2023 thus far. Tuath received the most nominations from Fingal County Council in 2023. The collaboration between Local Authorities and Approved Housing Bodies is continuing to have a positive impact on the delivery of social housing.

Tuath Approved Housing Body and Fingal County Council's leasing section have taken delivery of 159 properties in Hansfield Dublin 15. A number of these properties were advertised via Choice Based Lettings and the lettings team is actively working on files for allocation.



Circle Approved Housing Body are managing 47 units in Donabate, North County Dublin, comprising 2, 3 and 4-bed properties.



Homeless Services.

Homeless Exits 2023

During October 2023, 21 households exited homeless circumstances into various forms of social housing support - including privately rented tenancies under the Homeless HAP Scheme.

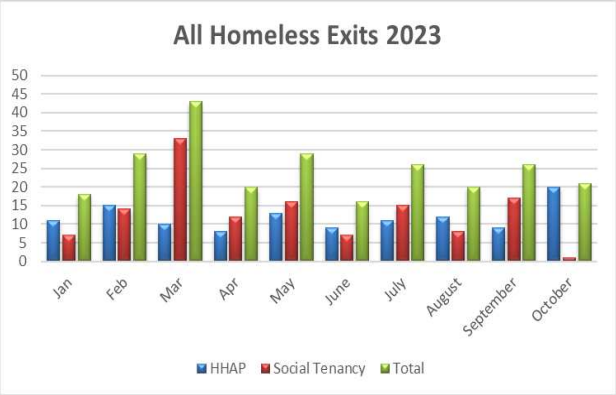
Allocations to social tenancies account for 1 household, comprising 1 who exited emergency accommodation.

Homeless HAP accounts for 20 of these tenancies, comprising 14 homeless preventions and 6 who exited emergency accommodation.

Therefore, there were a total of 14 homeless prevention cases and 7 who exited emergency accommodation.

Please see the table below for a breakdown of the figures:

Type of Exit	HHAP Tenancy	Allocation of Tenancy	Total
EA	6	1	7
Homeless Prevention	14	0	14
Total	20	1	21

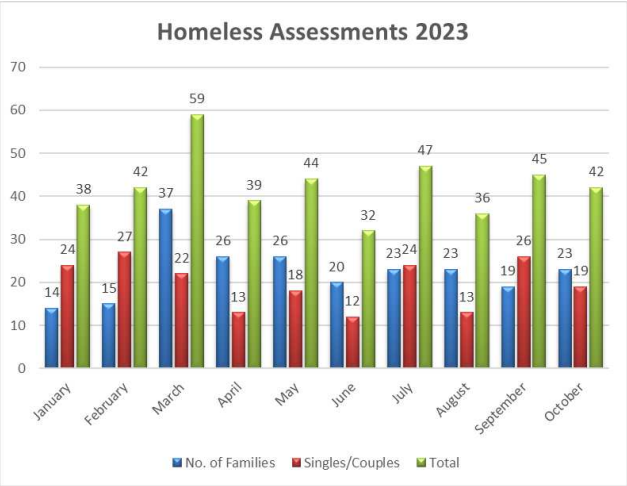


Homeless Presentations

Fingal's Homeless Team continues to engage with those experiencing homelessness to offer advice and support. Homeless Assessments continued to be carried out.

In October 2023, there were a total of 42 full homeless assessments completed – comprising 23 families and 19 singles/couples.

To date in 2023 there have been a total of 424 full homeless assessments completed.



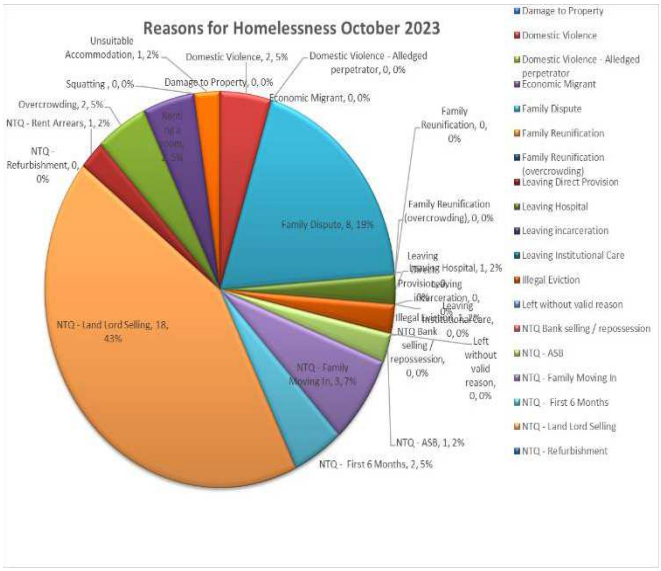
During October 2023, of the 42 Homeless Assessments carried out, 25 cases resulted from a Notice to Quit (NTQ) having been served, equating to 60%.

Renting a room or licensee presenters are not protected by the Residential Tenancies Act and accounted for 5% of assessments during October 2023.

There are also a considerable number of people making contact stating that they are Homeless due to family breakdown (19%).

Most of the other presentations to the Homeless Section are from living in overcrowded conditions (5%) and state that they cannot/will not return to the property.

The remaining 11% comprise various reasons outlined in the chart below.



Emergency Accommodation (including Fingal County Council Family Hubs)

There continues to be a high demand for Emergency Accommodation across the region for both families and individuals.

Rough Sleepers

The Homeless Services Team continues to liaise with the DRHE Outreach Team regarding any reports of rough sleeping, to establish their names and circumstances and to offer support. Regrettably, some rough sleepers are reluctant to engage with service providers and may refuse offers to access emergency accommodation.

Any rough sleeper who is willing to engage with the Outreach Team and/ or the Council or will be assisted.

The Council will carry out homeless assessments and every effort is made to encourage them to avail of homeless services.

A weekly Rough Sleepers Coordination Group monitors the reports of rough sleepers. The reports come from various outlets, including the DRHE Outreach Team, Elected Representatives, the FCC Operations Department, and the general public.

The progress of these cases is monitored until the needs of the reported rough sleepers are met and the cases can be closed.

Cold Weather Strategy 2023/24

In the event of cold weather or any emergency event in Dublin, the Dublin Region Homeless Executive (DRHE) coordinates the response to homelessness on behalf of the four Dublin Local Authorities. To meet the increase in demand for homeless services and have the appropriate contingency plans in place for cold weather conditions, the DRHE is activating the Cold Weather Strategy 2023/24 in the Dublin Region. The Cold Weather Strategy focuses on expanding the current capacity to meet the increasing demand for emergency accommodation whilst also providing a targeted response for people who are long-term rough sleeping.

Increase in emergency accommodation for singles/couples

In partnership with DRHE service providers, capacity for singles and couples has been increased and these beds will be available on a phased basis throughout the winter months. As these beds come on stream, they will be made available as needed, depending on the demand for homeless services on any given night.

Equally, they will provide vital capacity if an extreme weather event occurs. For all households assessed by an LA as requiring access to temporary accommodation, all residential services now operate on a 24-hour basis, with meals provided on-site and/or cooking facilities. The total additional capacity is 330 permanent beds and 40 extreme weather beds. The permanent beds are operated on a 24-hour basis with meals provided onsite.

Enhanced services operational during cold weather conditions

DRHE services operate throughout the year to support people who are sleeping rough. During the cold weather period, services are enhanced to mitigate the health risks that cold weather poses. The cold weather provides opportunities for more assertive engagement with long-term, entrenched rough sleepers and hard-to-reach groups, aimed at placing them in appropriate and long-term accommodation. Enhanced services operating for this cold weather period include:

- Dublin Street Outreach service provided by the Dublin Simon Community. The team provides a service 7 am – 1 am Mon- Fri and 9 am – 1 am Saturday and Sunday.

- The Outreach Mobile Health Clinic, operated by SafetyNet and funded by the HSE, delivers services two nights a week (Tuesday & Thursday) and every second Friday morning with the Dublin Outreach teams, to support rough sleepers with complex medical needs. This Outreach clinic offers a comprehensive primary health care service targeted at people who are experiencing homelessness in Dublin.

- The DRHE, Dublin Simon Outreach Team, Housing First, the HSE and An Garda Síochána will continue to work closely together during the winter period with the same goal of improving outcomes for people who may be sleeping rough.

- The DRHE has 40+ emergency beds that can be activated during extreme weather conditions or adverse events.

Dublin Street Outreach Service Tel: 01 872 0185 from 7 am to 1 am

The DRHE in partnership with Dublin Simon Outreach and the PMVT Intake team are assertively working on the streets offering accommodation to all rough sleepers. The teams are very familiar with the locations of people sleeping rough across the Dublin Region and persistently work with individuals to support them into emergency accommodation. This process can take time and multiple contacts, as some people do not want to engage but the teams persevere with every person working to achieve a successful outcome.

The service operates 365 days a year, until 1 am. The Outreach Teams also ensure that people sleeping rough are linked with other appropriate health services such as addiction and mental health services to prevent further rough sleeping. PMVT's Housing First Intake team links rough sleepers to permanent accommodation with long-term support.

All emergency accommodation is now 24-hour, with food and shower facilities provided.

Homeless Action Plan 2022- 2024

The DRHE, with the approval of all 4 local authorities in the Dublin region, has finalised the Homeless Action Plan Framework for Dublin 2022-2024. This Plan is the first plan to be put into operation since Ireland signed the Lisbon Declaration on combatting homelessness in June 2021, which aims to end homelessness by 2030.

It will follow on from the previous Homeless Action Plan for 2019- 2021 and continue with the three key themes of **Prevention, Protection and Progression.**

The Plan was developed based on a detailed consultative process including submissions from various Stakeholders, interested organisations, Service Providers, Members of SPCs of the four Local Authorities, the Dublin Joint Homelessness Consultative Forum, and the Statutory Management Group. `

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Preventing Homelessness, Notices to Quit and Tenant In-situ Acquisitions

Fingal County Council is aware that households in the Fingal area who may have received a notice to quit, which is also referred to as a notice of termination, from their landlord may be worried or unsure of what to do.

Fingal County Council and the Dublin Regional Homeless Executive (DRHE) would like to advise anyone affected of the services that are available to them in these circumstances.

We strongly encourage tenants residing in the Fingal area, who have been issued with a notice of termination, to contact Fingal County Council as soon as they receive a notice from their landlord. The contact details for Fingal County Council are provided at the bottom of this page.

When the tenants contact Fingal County Council, staff in the Housing Department will take note of the termination date.

The Council advises the tenant to refer the notice to Threshold, a service funded by the DRHE to provide a Tenancy Protection Service for private renters in the Dublin Region, including Fingal. Threshold can also be contacted directly on Freephone 1800 454 454 or via their website www.threshold.ie which contains more information and advice on the validity of your notice.

The Council's first response will be to try to prevent homelessness. This includes assessing the person's position on the social housing list, providing advice on applying for Choice Based Lettings, advising the person on the level of Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) they may be eligible to receive, and, in some cases, assessing if the Council can acquire the dwelling where the tenants reside if it is being offered for sale.

Placement in emergency accommodation will be a last resort if no other alternative can be identified.

The Council has been engaging with tenants who have been issued with a notice of termination, as well as their landlords, and following assessment, 29 tenant in-situ properties are at the sale closed stage. A total of 104 properties are at the sale agreed stage with a further 63 cases in the negotiation process. In addition, the Council is assessing a further 304 queries concerning notices of termination and tenant-in-situ acquisition.

The Council will continue to deal with notice of termination queries and cases as expeditiously as possible and progress tenant in-situ acquisitions while taking account of circulars and guidance issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Fingal County Council continues to liaise with other Dublin and neighbouring local authorities to deal with tenancy issues that may require an inter-authority approach. In particular, we are working closely with our colleagues in the other Dublin Local Authorities on the implementation of the Government policy and guidance, with a focus on the needs of tenants.

Whilst the Council will, in the context of current circumstances, adopt flexibility in dealing with potential acquisitions of properties with tenants in situ, any acquisition is subject to appropriate due diligence and checks before any commitment is made to acquire, including, for example, determining that a valid notice of termination is in place, the tenant has a social housing need, and the condition and valuation of the property.

The Government has put forward options to allow tenants who are not eligible for social housing to remain in their homes, including schemes to support the purchase of homes and a Cost Rental in-situ Scheme. The Cost Rental Tenant-in-Situ Scheme is available for tenants who are not eligible for social housing and are at risk of homelessness. The DHLGH has advised that local authorities are to be the first point of contact for this scheme, but it is managed by the Housing Agency. Under the scheme, the Housing Agency can purchase a property and rent it to the tenant.

Fingal County Council will undertake an initial assessment of the tenant's circumstances and refer details to the Housing Agency for consideration, where the tenant is at risk of homelessness and the Cost Rental Tenant-in-Situ scheme applies. The Housing Agency will then contact the landlord about the purchase of the property.

Where a tenant wishes to purchase their home from the landlord, local authorities can provide advice about the Local Authority Home Loan scheme. The Government is examining implementing a 'right of first refusal' for tenants to purchase their homes, as well as expanding the First Home shared equity scheme. The Council will be able to provide more information on these when available.

Works around preventing homelessness, assessing notices of termination, and responding to tenant and landlord in-situ queries are being led on by the Council's Homelessness section, taking a tenant-centred approach, supported by staff dedicated to dealing with tenant in-situ housing acquisitions. The contact details below, including a dedicated email address NTQEnquiries@fingal.ie, should be used by tenants who may have received a notice of termination or a landlord who has issued a notice of termination to their tenants and who may wish to sell their property to the Council.

The key contact details are:
Fingal County Council Housing Department
Monday to Friday, 9 am to 4.30 pm: Tel. **01 890 5090 or homeless@fingal.ie**
Email: **NTQEnquiries@fingal.ie**
Dublin Region Homeless Executive, Central Placement Services:
Freephone 1800 707 707

The key contact details are:
Fingal County Council Housing Department
Monday to Thursday, 9 am to 5.00 pm, Friday 9 am to 4.30 pm: Tel. **01 890 5000 or homeless@fingal.ie**
Email: **NTQEnquiries@fingal.ie**
Dublin Region Homeless Executive, Central Placement Services:
Freephone 1800 707 707

TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION PROGRAMME

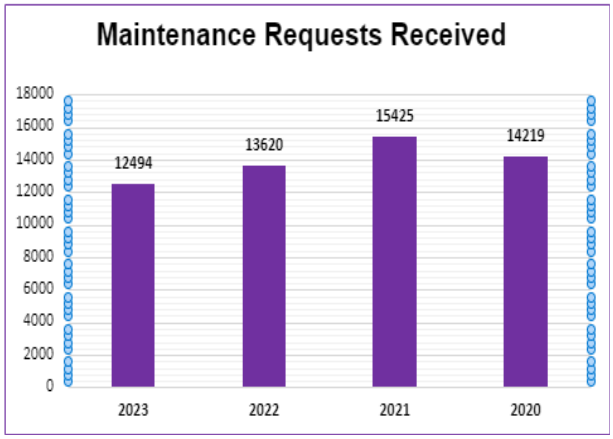
Traveller Accommodation

Refurbishment works to the 5 Bay Halting Site at St Brigid's Lawns, Porterstown, Dublin 15 is ongoing. Works include replacing the existing welfare units with new modern units and upgrades to the on-site utilities.

Regular site visits by Housing Inspectors continue all Fingal County Council Traveller specific sites while checking on vulnerable residents and advising on the continued support available.

Council officials continue to liaise and engage with the Traveller Community, Traveller Advocacy Groups, Welfare Services, Child Services, Mental Health Services and other services and agencies to resolve issues when and where possible.

Housing Maintenance







Kitchen/Bathroom refurbishments in Dublin 15

Boiler Servicing Programme

The 2023 Programme of work continues, with Contractors working across the County in areas such as Dromheath, Dunsoghly, Hollywoodrath, Mayeston, Dun Saithne, Kelly's Park, Saint Catherines and Balgriffin.

Anti-Social Behaviour/Inspectorate Unit

The most recent meeting of the Housing Forum for the Dublin 15 area took place on 8th September 2023.

The Housing Forum affords collaborative working between Council Officials, Elected Representatives, Statutory Agencies, and Community Representatives about good estate management.

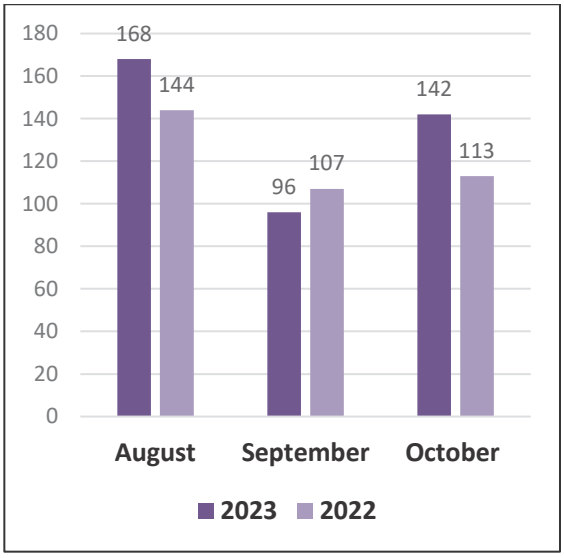
ASB Caseload Management

October 2023	Total Complaints Received	Active Investigation	Active Monitoring	Closed
Balbriggan	**16**	**14**	**1**	**1**
Rush / Lusk	**10**	**7**	**1**	**2**
Swords	**12**	**7**	**3**	**2**
Howth / Malahide	**35**	**32**	**2**	**1**
Blanchardstown / Mulhuddart	**56**	**34**	**11**	**11**
Ongar	**10**	**9**	**1**	**0**
Castleknock	**3**	0	3	**0**
Total	**142**	**103**	**22**	**17**

All complaints are received in confidence by the ASB Unit

Surrenders on Estate Management Grounds 2023 – 2 (Jan), 3 (Feb), 2 (March), 2 (April), 1 (May), 1 (June), 2 (July), 4 (August), 3 (September), 0 (October)

Monthly Breakdown of ASB Complaints Received 2022-23



Anti-Social Behaviour Interventions

Interviews Held 2023	73
Interviews Held 2022	101
Tenancy Alerts 2023	21
Tenancy Alerts 2022	39
Tenancy Warnings 2023	4
Tenancy Warnings 2022	6

Inspectorate

Traveller Specific Site Inspections 2023	**1400**
Traveller Specific Site Inspections 2022	1673
Estate Inspections 2023	**1197**
Estate Inspections 2022	1086
Estate Management Inspections 2023	**1497**
Estate Management Inspections 2022	2109

Tenant Induction Courses 2023

Fingal County Council are currently delivering induction courses in the Mulhuddart Community Centre. This partnership has been hugely successful due to its central location and the great facilities the centre has to offer. Fingal County Council are keen to continue this partnership to support and promote this fantastic community facility.

7 Tenant Induction Courses were completed to date for the developments below and two further courses are due to be held before year-end.

- Kilhedge
- Wellview
- Liscappagh
- Churchfields

Housing Ukraine Response

Those Fleeing the Conflict in Ukraine

The Government is committed to delivering a humanitarian response to welcome people fleeing the conflict in Ukraine and seeking protection in Ireland.

Web resources with useful information on support and accommodation for Ukrainian refugees and the wider Fingal community are shown below:
www.gov.ie/ukraine
Ukraine україни Украина | Fingal County Council

The Council's Fingal Ukraine Response Forum chaired by the Mayor continues to meet regularly to coordinate the response of the various statutory agencies and voluntary groups in the county to assist the Ukraine community. The next meeting is on the 23rd November 2023.

Liam Rodgers Rest Centre

The centre is presently operating at full capacity utilised for new arrivals to the country with various statutory agencies linked with the centre to provide support to the new arrivals. Supported by the Council and the Peter McVerry Trust (PMVT), **319 persons** have moved from the rest centre to OfferAhome\pledge accommodation across the county and country since 2nd November 2022 with arrangements finalising concerning further moves to OfferAhome\pledge accommodation.

OfferAhome\Pledge Accommodation

In the Fingal area, all suitable properties offered are occupied. The monthly recognition payment is **€800** per month for vacant properties and **€800** to host a Ukraine person in your home. To pledge accommodation, please visit the national portal at https://offerahome.ie or for enquiries, e-mail offerahome@fingal.ie.

Note **Helping Irish Hosts** can offer support and advice to both hosts and guests in pledge accommodation. See website https://www.helpingirishhosts.com for further information.

Vacant Homes

Three dwellings are currently advancing through the CPO process, one of which has a large associated site. An Bord Pleanala has confirmed that the CPO is to be operative concerning 2 of these properties.

A further two vacant properties have recently gone sale agreed upon under the Buy and Renew scheme.

The Croí Cónaithe Refurbishment Grant Scheme is also in utilisation to address vacancy and assist citizens in getting a home with increasing enquiries, applications, and grant approvals.

Croí Cónaithe Vacant Homes Refurbishment Grant

On the 1st May 2023, the scheme was further extended with the eligibility criteria now allowing for properties built pre-2008 to qualify and grants increasing to €50k (vacant) and €70k (vacant and derelict).



The scheme now also allows for a grant for approved properties to be rented on the private market when refurbishment is complete. Before the recent change, the grant-approved property had to be the principal private residence of the grant-approved owner.

To date, **78 applications** have been received under the scheme, **37 of** which have been approved with other applications moving to the approval stage. In addition, staff are engaging with numerous other expressions of interest which have the potential to lead to further applications.



Promotion of the scheme is ongoing by the Vacant Homes Team who have been present at various Housing Information Events most recently the event held in the Carnegie Court Hotel, Swords on the 25th of September 2023.

For enquiries on the scheme and on vacant properties generally, please contact the Council's Vacant Homes Office via e-mail at vacant.homes@fingal.ie

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Contents

Community Development Office
Facilities
Interagency
Integration
Ukrainian Supports
Age Friendly Fingal
Funding
Sports Office

Community Development Office

Community Development

Community development is a process where community members come together to take collective action and generate solutions to common problems. Community wellbeing, economic, social, environmental and cultural challenges are often solved through collective action being taken at a grassroots level. Community development ranges from small initiatives within a local group to large initiatives that involve the broader community.

Building community capacity, strengthening community participation, and involving people in decisions that affect their lives is a complex process and can only be achieved by working with local communities and agencies who have responsibility to the people in those communities.

In October/November the Community Development Office worked in partnership with a number of community groups and partners to support many projects/Initiatives including;

Introduction to Local Government: Training for People with Disabilities

Ahead of the Local Elections 2024, the Community Development Office are working with the Disability Federation of Ireland to deliver a free online workshop as part of Fingal Inclusion Week on ***An Introduction to Local Government***.

Taking place on 16th November, this workshop will inform people about Local Government and Local Elections, explore how their vote can lead to change in their own lives, provide information on how to register to vote and to check if they are already registered and to present an opportunity to tell us what key issues impact their lives in Fingal.

It is anticipated that this workshop will inform some further localised events which will take place in early 2024. People with disabilities and those supporting those with disabilities are encouraged to register.



Blakestown October Fest Youth Planting Project

The Community Office has worked in partnership with Fingal Operations, the Blakestown Community Development Steering committee, Blakestown Community centre and Foroige to deliver the Blakestown October Fest Youth Planting Project.

This area enhancement planting project will see the young people of Foroige Blakestown working with the steering committee and taking a positive approach to improving their area by planting along the Blakestown road.



Thrive Balbriggan Mental Health Month

On the 11th October Thrive Balbriggan marked World Mental Health Month through Connect Cafe round table discussions and the launch of the new Thrive Balbriggan information leaflet. Deputy Mayor Cllr. Grainne Maguire launched the new information leaflet at an event to mark World Mental Health Day. Thrive Balbriggan is a community-led movement, supported by the FCC Community Office, which promotes positive mental health.

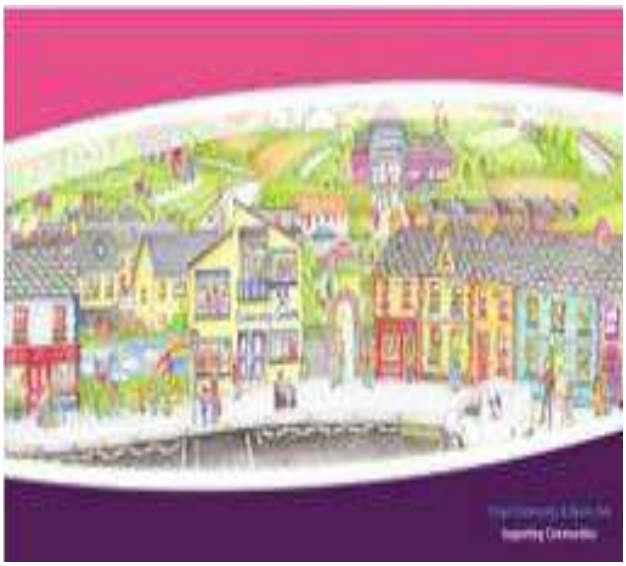


Flemington Hub Primary Healthcare Outreach Clinic

The Flemington Hub Primary Healthcare Outreach Clinic has completed its first phase in Flemington Community Centre, Balbriggan. This pilot aims to integrate marginalised groups into the social and community life of Balbriggan, to develop links between services, agencies and the wider community and to provide a safe space for marginalised groups to meet and develop.

Balbriggan Womens Development Group, Cairde Balbriggan, Balbriggan Primary Health Care and the FCC Community Development Office provided Health and Fitness supports, information and presentations as part of phase one of this pilot project.

This collaborative initiative seeks to bring about further positive relationships and is a recommendation from the Flemington Liveability report, commissioned by the Flemington Development group and launched in 2019.



Halloween in the North County

Community groups around the north county are well underway in preparation for Safer Halloween events, funded by the FCC Community Office. Groups in Garristown, the Naul, Oldtown, Rush, Skerries and Donabate are busy putting the final touches to Halloween events which will have an interactive safety message and activity at the top of the agenda while providing creative fun for Halloween fans of all ages.

Donabate Portrane CC, Rush Community Centre, Flemington Centre in Balbriggan and Oldtown Parish Hall will all stage Halloween discos, while community groups in the Naul (St. Mary's Baton Twirlers, pictured) and Ballyboughal are planning inventive Halloween-themed pageants, which will be family friendly and safety-proofed... and very, very scary!



Lusk Ladies Shed

Lusk Ladies Shed are a newly- formed group who meet twice weekly at the Lusk Community Cultural Centre and welcomes adult women of all ages from Lusk to take part in arts, crafts, trips and learning. Working with the local community officer since their beginning, the group have started a 6-week tutored Introduction to Ukelele course for 10 of their members. This project has been funded by the Community Office's Pathway to Participation programme fund, to enable members to develop a new skill, learning, practicing and socialising together, which they can carry on developing and share with their community at future opportunities and events. The group will also be hosting their group meeting to welcome newcomers during Fingal Inclusion Week in November.



Let's Sing Donabate

A new project in the Donabate Peninsula which aims to create a community choir has begun, with support from the Community Office first steps funding programme. The idea for the choir came from the Donabate Active Age Group, in partnership with Donabate Portrane Community Centre and the Failte Isteach conversational English volunteer group. Taster sessions took place as part of Positive Aging Week and the singing sessions, which are open to the whole community, are taking place on Wednesday evenings in DPCC. It is hoped that the new choir will be able to deliver a festive event locally around Christmastime.



Crime Prevention Presentation – Swords Mens Shed



A presentation from Sergeant Stephen Kenny, Crime Prevention Officer to Swords Men's Shed, facilitated by the Community Department, took place on Wednesday 18th October. Sgt Kenny gave a very informative presentation to 30 members of the men's shed, covering internet and phone safety, home protection and personal safety.
Practical solutions for home security and burglary prevention were discussed, in an effort to, reduce the risk and impact of crimes to people and their property.

Family Nature Walk – Broadmeadow Park



As part of Swords Circular Economy Initiative, a nature walk for adults and children took place in Broadmeadow Park, Swords on Saturday 14th October 2023. The walk which was led by OWLS Nature Charity, welcomed 30 families. Starting at Broadmeadow Community Garden participants enjoyed the local flora, fauna, and wildlife around the beautiful park. The walk continued along the Ward River up to the pond at Millers Glen estate where a pond dip highlighted the abundance of insects and fauna which lives in the area.

Halloween Costume Swap: Holywell & Applewood Community Centres



Swords Circular Economy Initiative continues to grow with Holywell and Applewood Community Centres holding a Halloween Costume Swap Shop in October.

The "Boo-tiques" were set up in the centres and the local community donated their old costumes and Halloween items which they swapped for new ones. Over forty costumes found new homes and great fun was had by the children who could become witches, senoritas, or aliens for the afternoon. As part of the event Fingal's Safer Halloween Video was played and discussed among the children and their parents, followed by a Safer Halloween Colouring Competition

Community Garden Networking Event



Fingal Community Department facilitated a network of local community gardens on Saturday 21st September 2023. Santry Community Garden invited members from Baldoyle Racecourse and Broadmeadow Community Gardens on a tour of Santry Community Walled Garden with the aim of sharing their experiences and ideas. The Chair of Santry Community Garden, Vincent Kavanagh gave a talk to the group on the great house and walled garden. The gardeners have been successful in restoring and growing 60 plus varieties of Native Irish apples trees, which were almost lost. Discussions on various plants and propagators methods, along with useful advice on the running of a community garden group took place. Santry Community Garden will host a Composition Workshop in November.

Residents of St Sampson Residents Association, Balgriffin enjoy their first Community Event



The Community Department are delighted to support St. Samsons Community Group, Balgriffin in bringing together the community for their first Halloween Event. St. Sampsons is a relatively new group and already have a scheduled monthly clean-up of the estate and plans for a Christmas event to engage local residents. Their first event for 2023 was a Pumpkin Carving event. To register for a pumpkin, families were required to submit a completed questionnaire on Fingal's Halloween Safety Film. Pumpkins were collected from the pumpkin patch and carved by the children under parental supervision. An online competition for the best pumpkin will take place on Halloween with photographs of the carved pumpkins displayed on the groups Facebook Page for residents to vote.

Fingal Safer Halloween



Attending the Fingal Safer Halloween launch in Swords Fire Station were representatives of the 36 groups that participated in the programme alongside Fingal County Council staff from the Community Development Office and Swords Estuary Recycling centre and members of the Dublin Fire Service. An extensive promotion of the safety message, leaflets and video took place on the lead up to Halloween with information shared through social media, www.fingal.ie local schools, public representatives, the library services, the fire service and gardai. In addition, the Fingal Safer Halloween Scarecrow competition resulted in over 1500 online votes to select the preferred Scarecrows, further contributed to growing a awareness of the programme.



Facilities

Video showcase of workshops in our welcome rooms

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vcj98icOw4Y

A series of art workshops, delivered by Draoicht in collaboration with the Community Development Office, took place at Parslickstown House and Corduff Resource Centre welcome rooms.

Fingal Safer Halloween Scarecrow Competition

Fingal Community Centres are always central in leading the way in community spirit and as communities prepare themselves for Halloween festivities, an open invitation was extended to communities to attend one of the many *Festival of Fire* events taking place across the County.

Mulhuddart Community Centre has gone all out this year with their entry to the scarecrow competition organised by the community development office by building not 1 but 3 scarecrows for their creative display showstopper. Best of luck to all the entrants taking part in this years competition.



Fingal Community Facilities Network – Workshop on writing a winning funding application.



A core aim of the *Fingal Community Facility Network* (FCFN) is to secure opportunities for shared learning amongst community centre managers, board of directors and staff.

Enabling Fingal community centres to improve capacity and provide innovate ways to develop services not only secures meaningful engagement locally, but facilities the future sustainability of our community centres. The FCFN Steering group, identified the need to promote resources such as *Pobal Maps* amongst network members and to give them the opportunity to explore how funding criteria is determined and what information helps a funding application to shine.

On the 19th October 2023, Dr Ken Germaine CEO at Funding Master's Project was invited to deliver a presentation on *Writing a Winning Funding Application* his knowledge, supported by an informative and practical exploration of Pobal Maps delivered by FCC CDO David Mitchell, provided an engaging and interactive learning event for all who attended.

Interagency

The Community Development office actively seek to work in collaboration with agencies to maximise service delivery and resources to communities.

In October the CDO supported the delivery of the following:

Fingal Comhairle Na nÓg



Fingal Comhairle na nÓg held their Annual Youth Conference in Crowne Plaza Blanchardstown on 17th October 2023. Councillor JK Onwumerah, deputising for the Mayor of Fingal, welcomed almost 100 young people, representing their communities and schools across Fingal, to the event.

There was lively discussion among the groups on possible topics for exploration in 2024, with the issue of Lack of Space and Facilities for young people chosen ahead of Vaping and Mental Health as the chosen topic. The event closed with a talk from local Fingal artist Adam Gibney as the group look forward to another productive year in 2024.

Fingal Public Participation Network

Fingal PPN is currently reviewing new and re-registrations from community and voluntary groups wishing to become members of the county database. The number of groups registered is currently 714 which consists of 560 community groups, 120 social inclusion groups and 154 environmental groups.
Planning is currently underway for the Annual PPN Plenary which will take place in the Raddison Blu Hotel Dublin Airport on Tuesday 21st November 2023, 6pm – 9.30pm. Notice of this event has been distributed to the members of the PPN.

Integration

Introduction to Politics

Fingal Integration team in collaboration with SHE (See Her Elected) hosted an introductory workshop on politics in Ireland in Cairde Balbriggan on Monday 16th October targeting the hard to reach in our community. The workshop provided an overview of the functioning of politics in Ireland and an explanation of how PRSTV operates. It was a very informative session attended by a broad range of individuals, community groups and organisations.





Understanding the Local Government in Fingal

Fingal Integration team in collaboration with See Her Elected (SHE) hosted two workshops explaining in detail Fingal County Council's local government for both Staff and Community Groups. The workshop provided attendees with the most recent insights into the council's local governance. The sessions covered various topics, such as the framework and operations of Fingal, the roles of council members and facilitated discussions, outlined resources available to potential nominees and the process involved.

The workshops were attended by a high number of our new communities interested in public representation.





"Women's Place in the Home" from the Women's Council & Voter's registration Workshop in Cairde Balbriggan

The Fingal Integration team in collaboration with our Balbriggan Community Office hosted a talk on the upcoming Referendum on women's place in the home and a Voter Registration workshop for the hard-to-reach in Cairde, Balbriggan.





Ukrainian Supports

Invitation to Festivals of Fire

A warm welcome was extended to our entire Ukrainian community in rest centres, serviced accommodations and pledge/donor homes to attend the county wide Festivals of Fire on Halloween night.

Transportation was arranged by individual serviced accommodations to ensure our Ukrainian guests were part of the Fingal fun and festivities on Halloween night for the celebration of Samhain.



Age Friendly

Age Friendly Fingal is committed, to driving a collaborative, multi-sectoral approach which supports interventions that will significantly help to improve the quality of life of the current population of older people in Fingal and future generations.

Fingal Celebrates Positive Ageing Week 2023



A series of events to celebrate Positive Ageing Week and challenge ageism took place throughout Fingal during positive aging week 2023.

The Events and activities catered to the different interests and needs of older people and included Yoga & Relaxation; Mindfulness & Creativity; Singing Group; Salsa Dancing; Storytelling and intergenerational activities.

All of the activities not only challenged ageism but promoted physical and mental wellness and fostered creativity and social interaction.

A session on "Ageing with Confidence" with John Lonergan provided valuable insights and advice on how to embrace ageing with confidence and positivity.

The highlight of the week was the Fingal OPC's Harvest Social which took place in the Shoreline Hotel, Donabate. Representing over 25 groups, 130 older people from across the county were transported to the seaside town of Donabate for an afternoon of food, fun and entertainment.

The dance floor was filled with dancers from the first song to the last the sense of fun was palpable with attendees dancing for the first time in years, to music of the 60s, 70s and 80s while reminiscing about their dancing days in halls across the country.



The presence of the Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Adrian Henchy added a special touch to the event. His engagement with the attendees, chatting and taking photographs, made the event even more memorable.

Cross Border Intergenerational Initiative: Sharing Experiences



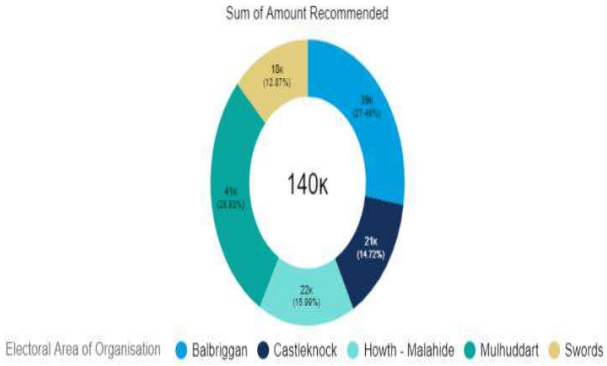
The work on the cross border intergenerational initiatives in Balbriggan and Mayobridge, Newry continues. The project commenced with a workshop for both groups on Saturday 9th September 2023 in Balbriggan. The groups met separately several times during September to develop their individual projects based on issues they have identified in their communities.

BIPs (Balbriggan Intergenerational Project) travelled to Mayobridge on Saturday 14th October for a workshop to fine tune and share project ideas.

The positive impact of the intergenerational interactions is evident as younger and older participants become more relaxed in each other's company with the sharing of stories and interests.

Funding

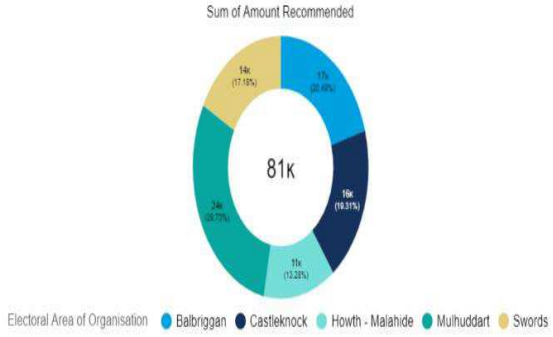
Activities Funding (Up to 27th October 2023)



Communities Activities Funding has been awarded to 67 projects to the amount of €140,475 in 2023.

Howth Malahide – €22,462K – 11 projects
Swords - €18,074- 9 projects
Castleknock/ Mulhuddart- €61,325 –30 projects
Balbriggan - €38,614 - 14 projects

Sport Equipment Funding (up to 27th October 2023)



Sport Equipment Funding has been awarded to 31 projects to the amount of €81,369 in 2023

Howth Malahide – €10,802 –4 projects
Swords - €13,983 - 6 projects
Castleknock/Mulhuddart- €39,908 –15 projects
Balbriggan €16,676 –6 projects

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Community Facilities Remedial Works Scheme



Remedial Funding has been awarded to 2 projects to the amount of €8,139.00

Castleknock/ Mulhuddart - €4,994 –1 project
Balbriggan - €3,145 –1 project

Sports Office

The Sports Office supports and delivers programmes aimed at increasing participation in sport, targeting specific groups such as children, youth at risk, disadvantaged groups, teenage girls, women in sport, older adults and people with disabilities

Marathonkids ambassador, David Gillick, visits schools in Dublin 15

On Wednesday 18th October, we had the pleasure of having Marathonkids Ireland ambassador and former Irish Olympian, David Gillick, visit Hansfield ETNS and St Francis Xavier SNS. David gave a wonderful insight into his career as a professional athlete and the importance of physical activity. He spoke about the physical, mental and social benefits of the Marathonkids programme
This year, there are 3,600 students from 33 primary schools across Fingal participating in the ever-growing Marathonkids programme. The 8-week programme for 5th & 6th class students includes daily runs, physical & mental health education, nutrition and exercise. Each student will record daily updates in their physical or digital workbooks. The topics tie in to the Social, Personal & Health Education (SPHE) module of the student's curriculum.





Primary Schools Multi-Sports Initiatives

October saw the re-start of Fingal Sports Primary school initiatives. These activities included Sports Conditioning, Try Track and Field and GAA Handball targeting D15 and North County Schools. Over 1200 children are taking part in the programmes across 16 schools. Teacher training is a key element of the programme. Teachers have been upskilled to continue elements of each programme and get children of a non-sporting background to engage in our two Saturday Multi-Sport Hubs in D15 and Balbriggan.



Children's Sport Hubs

Fingal's Children's Sport Hubs commenced in October in Flemington CC Balbriggan and Corduff Sports Centre D15. This is a follow-on programme for our primary schools' initiatives and attracts children from a non-sporting background to engage in sport and physical activity. The drop-in nature and multitude of activities every Saturday morning has attracted good attendance of children from diverse social communities every week.





Fingal's Parent and Toddler Programme

Balbriggan's Parent and Toddler programme dressed up for Halloween for this week's class. The programme has 20 – 25 toddlers and parents/grandparents each week participating in fundamental movements (run, jump, throw etc) with a yoga element for the parents to enjoy. The programme has been very successful and Fingal Sports Office hope to run a pilot programme in Swords shortly.







Woodlands for Health

Fingal's Sports Office in conjunction with Mental Health Ireland, Coillte, HSE and Healthy Fingal has been running a Woodlands for Health Programme in Newbridge Demesne over the last number of weeks. This programme sees people from Swords and Balbriggan attend the park for a guided walk and some mindfulness followed by a cup of tea on a weekly basis.





Football for All Blitz

During October Fingal Sports Office work collaboratively with FAI and Dublin City Council to run a large indoor Football for All Blitz with adults with intellectual disabilities from all over Dublin City and Fingal taking part.
Participants trained with their local service in preparation for the blitz and a successful day was hosted in Alsaa for all involved over the past few months.





Exercise Energise

The Fingal Sports Office launched the Exercise Energise Programme for 2023/24. The programme is aimed at girls aged 12 – 15 years who are not currently involved in sport or physical activity. The objective is to help combat the drop off from sport among this age group.

17 schools were successful in receiving funding to provide activities at lunch time or after school, in addition to the usual PE class. The girls will be involved in selecting the activity, which has proven to drive the success of the programme.



Launch of BoxUp

Fingal County Council has officially launched a pilot project with two BoxUP units, at Skerries Community Centre and Rush South Beach. Both stations are already proving to be popular with people of all ages and have had regular use since their installation this summer.

BoxUP is an outdoor locker system that allows members of the public to access and use sports and leisure equipment for up to three hours, through a dedicated app. The service is free of charge.

To access the equipment, users can simply download the BoxUp app and register their account and all that is required is a form of identification.

Councillor Adrian Henchy, Mayor of Fingal County Council commented, *"These innovative units will provide a valuable addition to our local recreational spaces that will enable residents, workers, and visitors to fully enjoy the outstanding amenities offered in our communities, fostering a healthy and vibrant outdoor lifestyle."*



ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE ACTION & ACTIVE TRAVEL

Contents

Active Travel
Climate Action
Landfill Aftercare
Environmental Awareness
Bring Centres
Litter Management
Water Quality Protection
Waste Enforcement

Active Travel

NTA Funding allocations for 2023 – see Appendix 1.

Protected Cycle Lanes:
BLRS Areas:

St. Cronan's Ave and Brackenstown Road Protected Cycle Lanes

This project is now moving towards substantial completion with most of the works, landscaping, street furniture, new crossing points and junction upgrades complete. The new planting is starting to settle in nicely and establish itself within the community. Active Travel's Walking and Cycling Officers are continuing their work with supportingSt. Cronan's School to encourage as many school children and parents to travel to school on foot or by bike and leave the car at home.



New Trees and Perch seats at St. Cronan's School

R132 Ministers Rd to Blakes Cross + Kilhedge Lane

The contractor was busy during October installing essential drainage upgrades at junctions and known surface water ponding locations. Construction of new road islands is underway that will provide a physical barrier between motorists and the new shared surface space for pedestrians and cyclists. New bus stops along the route are currently under construction and will provide better connection to public transport. Ongoing engagement is continuing with Corduff National School, local farmers and residents in relation to the works.



Segregation concrete islands to separate vehicles from cyclists/pedestrians & junction upgrade

Seatown Road Swords:

Engineering Consultants are finalising the Non-Statutory Public Consultation Summary Report which will be published on the Consultation Portal. Works are ongoing to finalise the Tender documents with the aim to go to the market in the coming weeks for a Contractor to complete the works proposed on the ground and progressing to Construction stage in early 2024.

Donabate Portrane R126 cycle paths:

An Engineering consultant is appointed to the project and several surveys have been completed to inform the design process. The Engineering consultant is currently working with the project team in developing concept designs and options report to assist with stakeholder engagement. The project will extend from the end of the distributor road in Donabate along the R126 right through to the coast at Portrane. The Project aims to provide walking and cycling infrastructure from Donabate to the coast at Portrane which will provide connectivity to the Fingal Coast Route.

Coney Hill Balbriggan R132 cycle paths:
An Engineering consultant is appointed to the project and several surveys have been completed to inform the design process. The Engineering consultant is currently working with the project team in developing concept designs and options report to assist with stakeholder engagement.

Pathfinder Pinnock Hill to Airport cycle paths:
An Engineering consultant has been appointed to the project and is currently working with the project team to finalise documents with the aim to go to the market in the coming weeks for necessary surveys to inform the design process. Further updates will be provided over the coming months.

Howth-Malahide Area:

Baldoyle-Howth Protected Cycle Lane Scheme Phase 1
Phase 1 of the scheme is substantially completed.

Baldoyle-Howth Protected Cycle Lane Scheme Phase 2
The Active Travel Unit are currently reviewing requests for funding for the 2024-2025 programme, for a review of the existing road network in Baldoyle, which will include Willie Nolan Road, Brookstone Road and Main Street. This will comprise an advancement of a previous study for the improvement of pedestrian and cycle facilities on the existing road network.

A brief will be developed for consultants in the coming months, in line with the Fingal County Development Plan, the Climate Action Plan and an Active Travel Strategy for Fingal. Once a further study and preferred option has emerged from the process, it is envisaged that the scheme will progress, subject to funding from the National Transport Authority (NTA).

Paddy's Hill to Broomfield via Naomh Mearnog GAA
Design brief is being finalised for the connectivity project. Internal consultation with other FCC departments has taken place. It is intended to run a tender competition to appoint a design consultant for the Feasibility/Options Selection stage. Enabling works to provide connectivity from Paddy's Hill Car Park to St. Helen's Junior School and Limetree Avenue, including footpath works, tree surgeon works, new access points into the school and the provision of ramps are underway.

Seamount Heights to Old Gold Course Link Park
A meeting took place with Resident's Association on 11th October, 2023 to discuss the revised proposal, following comments from residents, the Active Travel Unit, and internal FCC stakeholders. Following this meeting, tender documents are currently being prepared to progress the project to the next stages (preliminary and detailed design) as soon as possible.

Station Road Portmarnock Footpaths and Cycleway
Works have been substantially completed.

Feltrim Road Cycle Infrastructure
Design brief has been drafted and is being finalised. These works are expected to go to tender for a design consultant in Q4 2023.

Scoil an Duinninigh to Waterside Footpath and Cycleway
Planning permission has been granted for the school and Department of Education is to engage with Fingal County Council on planning conditions related to pedestrian access.

BMCO Area:
Snugborough Road – NAC to Ongar
The options report for the project has been completed after internal reviews by the Active Travel team and a workshop with the NTA. A Gateway 2 Report has been issued to the NTA for approval to proceed to the preliminary design phase of the project. A project appraisal report was prepared as part of this phase.

Clonee to Blanchardstown Shopping Centre

All data collection has been collated and has informed the initial development of the options report. The initial draft options report and drawings have been reviewed internally by the Active Travel team and has been issued back to the design consultant for consideration. Stakeholder meetings with Meath County Council and the TII have taken place.

Castleknock to Dunsink Lane

This project is split into 3 separate sections, namely: (a) Auburn Avenue linking into the Royal Canal at the 12th Lock, (b) Dunsinea Lane and (c) Dunsink Lane. The Options Report and relevant drawings for Auburn Avenue and Dunsinea Lane have been submitted to the NTA in compliance to the Gateway 2 – 5 Hold Point requirements. A draft options report has been submitted by the design consultant for Dunsink Lane and is currently being reviewed internally by the Active Travel team.

Hartstown/Huntstown/Mountview Road

It is proposed to use a newly formed SPF to progress design from earlier work carried out by the CDO. FCC will progress on finalising the detailed design for roundabout and junction upgrades. This is subject to revision of design standards.

Castleknock to Blanchardstown via Farmleigh

Stage 2 of the tender competition for a design consultant and assessment has been completed. Contract documents to be signed when standstill finished.

Towns & Villages

Works are continuing in the development of an Active Travel Plan for a number of our Towns & Villages. Details are outlined below.

New Street

An application was made to An Board Pleanála by members of the public in relation to the proposed public realm improvements, requesting EIA and AA Screening Determinations.

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As a result, the Statutory Process is on hold until after An Bord Pleanála has made its decision which was originally to be by the 11th of September 2023. However, no decision has been provided to date.

Balrothery Active Travel Plan

The tender competition has closed, and tender assessment has been completed. FCC are currently in the process of appointing a consultant and expect to hold a pre-contract meeting as soon as possible. It is expected that work will commence on an Active Travel plan for Balrothery, as soon as this process is finalised.

Skerries Active Travel Plan

Stage One of the tender competition for the appointment of an integrated Design Team is now completed with the tender assessment process completed and letter to successful and unsuccessful tenders to be issued. This will allow for stage 2 of the process to commence which will take 7-8 weeks to complete. The Project Team are also in the process of publishing the Consultation Report for the project together with the ESRI report that was carried out on Active Travel best practice Nationally and Internationally. This report will inform the overall design process when the integrated design team is appointed in Q4 of this year.

Skerries Harbour Road:

The Project Team together with the Integrated design team have been working rigorously over the summer in developing concept drawings and options report to assist with stakeholder engagement. Internal workshops to discuss through the proposals occurred during the last few months and this feedback from these meetings have been taken on board. The project team and the Integrated design team are developing photo montages and video footage of the proposal to assist in the consultation phase of the project.

Connectivity/Permeability

We are continuing to receive various requests for Permeability and Connectivity improvements from various stakeholders across the county. These

requests are being recorded in detail for evaluation through a multi criteria analysis. The projects are then reviewed across the departments to identify if an appropriate means of delivery can be established on the ground. A number of projects identified through this process are being developed through the design phases for execution later this year.
Where other projects are being progressed in the area at either design or construction stage we endeavour to include these Connectivity and Permeability improvements within those projects.
Greenway connectivity support teams have been convened to review, design, and deliver active travel infrastructure that will enhance accessibility between the proposed strategic greenways and residential, educational, amenity and commercial zones. These support projects have been set up for Fingal Coastal Way, Broadmeadow Way/Sutton to Malahide Greenway and Royal Canal Greenway. This will help to optimise the use of the proposed greenway by both leisure and commuter users.

Newtown Bridge, Balheary Road:

Engineering Consultants are finalising the Non-Statutory Public Consultation Summary Report which will be published on the Consultation Portal. Works are ongoing to finalise the Tender documents with the aim to go to the market in the coming weeks for a Contractor to complete the works proposed on the ground and progressing to Construction stage during Q4 2023.

Rush South Beach:

Engineering consultant currently preparing concept design and options report for new universal access path. Discussions with landowners have taken place during the summer, and we are working collaboratively with the property owners to find an optimal solution that caters for everyone's needs.

Access Constraints

Following on from circular (NGS Circular 4/22) and guidance from the NTA (Access Control of Active Travel Facilities) the Active Travel Unit has mapped the access constraints (in particular kissing gates) within Fingal.

We have put together a list of access constraints to be considered for removal and works proposed to improve for pedestrians, cyclists and disabled persons. This list is currently being reviewed by the various departments to ensure that the removal of these constraints provide a positive impact in these areas. On completion of the review Fingal County Council Active Travel in conjunction with Operations will be coordinating the removal of these access constraints across the county.

Secure Bicycle Parking Infrastructure

Contractor is currently on site at various locations across the county and is progressing works to install a number of bike parking facilities across the county. Further works are planned in Swords, Skerries and Dublin 15 in the coming weeks. Locations are currently being agreed for expansion of virtual e-bike parking in public areas. The contractor has completed the installation of 5 bicycle stands at Seagrange Basketball Court, Seagrange Park, Baldoyle and 5 bicycle stands at the Playground, Racecourse Park, Baldoyle. This provides 20 additional bicycle parking spaces in the Baldoyle area.



Recently installed Bicycle Stands at Seagrange Basketball Court, Baldoyle, Co. Dublin



Recently installed Bicycle Stands at Racecourse Park Playground, Baldoyle, Co. Dublin

The contractor has completed the installation of 5 bicycle stands at Carrickbrack Road Car Park, Carrickbrack Road, Howth, Co. Dublin. This provides 10 additional bicycle parking spaces in the Howth area.



Recently installed Bicycle Stands at Carrickbrack Road Car Park, Howth, Co. Dublin

Road Safety

Safe Routes to School
Round 1 – Tranche 1

The works contractor for the Safe Routes to School Tranche 1 contract is making great progress at each of the three school sites. Works to date have progressed well, with little or no disruption to the schools or traffic in each of the three areas. A brief update is provided below for each school site and associated construction works completed to date since the appointment of the works contractor.

Rush and Lusk Educate Together

Works are now completed on this SRTS Project. The contractor has recently carried out some snagging and maintenance work to the Rain Gardens and addressed issues that were identified through the independent Road Safety Audit.

Castaheany ETNS / St.Benedict's NS

Works are now completed at the school site, The contractor is due to carry out minor snagging and maintenance on rain gardens. Stage 3 RSA has been completed by independent auditor.



Bayside Junior & Senior School

Works are now completed at the school site, The contractor is due to carry out minor snagging and maintenance on rain gardens. Stage 3 RSA has been completed by independent auditor.





Scoil Choilm CNS

Installation of flexible bollards on Porterstown Rd. outside the school entrance is complete. These initial works took place before the new school year starts to alleviate poor parking near the school gates. The main works are due to start during Q1 2024.



Round 1 – Tranche 2

Detailed Design is nearing completion for the Tranche 2 schools (4 no.) with a view to progressing to construction in Q1 2024. Contract documents are being finalised to engage a contractor for the works.

Round 2

In mid-December An Taisce announced Round 2 of the Safer Routes to School programme, with the following Fingal schools selected:

- Holy Family Junior National School, Forest Fields, Swords
- Scoil Bhríde Buachaillí, Church Avenue, Blanchardstown
- Scoil Bhríde Cailíní, Church Avenue, Blanchardstown
- St Helen's SNS, Limetree Avenue, Portmarnock
- St. Colmcille's Girls' National School, Chapel Lane, Swords

The Active Travel team are working closely with An Taisce in relation to data collection and engagement with the schools to develop briefs to enable the tender process for designers and contractors to carry out the works. An Taisce are due to provide delivery plans for each of the schools that will inform the design process. FCC are in the final stages of procurement of a consultants' team that will be working on the designs for these schools.

Mobility & Behaviour Change

Learn 2 Cycle with a Disability

Courses are continuing across the County with the latest two taking place in Applewood Community Centre & St Fintan's NS Sutton. These 6 week courses provide children with additional needs and their families with the opportunity to experience the joy of independent cycling.

Staff eBike Trials

Over 60 People have signed up to the Staff eBike Trials. The 1 month trial gives staff the chance to experience what it is like to 'own' and eBike. The feedback from the trial has been very positive so far, with the demand being so high that we have purchased two additional folding eBikes which will be delivered to Fingal on the 1st November.

Walking & Cycling Buses

Following on from our information nights we have began meeting with Parents Associations interested in setting up their own Walking and Cycling Buses. The Hansfield ETNS Walking Bus is currently being taken over by interested parents, with plans for a second walking bus on the opposite side of the estate in planning.
They held a fancy dress walk on the last one before the midterm break.



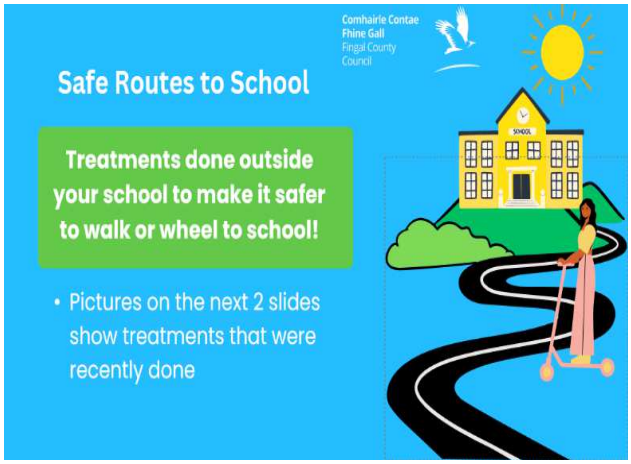
Staff Cycling Lessons

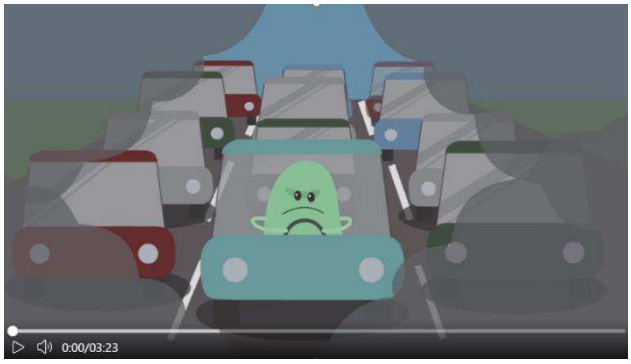
Throughout October we held a series of Staff Cycling Lessons in the Swords Office, these lessons gave staff the opportunity to get back in the saddle and rebuild their confidence on two wheels. The group were very successful and it is something that we hope to build on for 2024.



SRTS – Presentations

As part of our Safer Routes to School Programme we have designed a school's presentation to explain to the students, teachers and parents the reasoning behind the infrastructure. We are planning to roll out the presentation across all SRTS Participants, starting with Rush & Lusk ETNS





Climate Action at Flavours of Fingal

As part of Climate Action Week 2023, we teamed up with colleagues from Sustainable Fingal and Climate Action to host a Car Free Event on Railway Street in Balbriggan. The event was held on Saturday 21st October and saw us close the street to traffic from 7am to 6pm with a street party taking place from 10am to 5pm.

The theme for the event was to celebrate the works of LS Lowry, who famously painted a mural of Railway Street in the 1970s, the mural showed a street alive with people and activities.

We teamed up with the Scéal Arts Collective to organise an art exhibition, showcasing works from Local Artists, with their modern take on the LS Lowry Mural, we also had 9 local artists playing original and cover songs throughout the day as well as Recreate Ireland who were provided fun for the entire family with their street games made from sustainable materials. We took the opportunity to engage with the public on the draft Climate Action Plan, where we saw over 50 people express opinions on the plans to tackle Climate Change in the County.

The day was a massive success and showcased what is possible for the street in the future.









Study Tours

Over the course of October staff from Fingal visited Utrecht in Netherlands and London in the United Kingdom. These study tours provided staff and councillors with a valuable insight into what other similar local authorities are doing when it comes to Active Travel.









Cycling Without Age – Pop Up Event

On Friday 27th October we held a pop up Cycling Without Age event with Avista on the Navan Road, this allowed a large number of service users with limited mobility access to the Trishaw. The Pop up event was held on Avista's grounds which made it more accessible to people with profound disabilities.

The Cycling Without Age Season is drawing to a close, we are currently planning a roadshow that would see us bring Trishaws to various Disability Providers, Nursing Home and SEN Schools in Spring 2024, this will help us to promote the service to a wider audience.

ESB – Smarter Travel Site Visit

On Tuesday 24th Oct members of Active Travel and Building Facilities visited the new ESB Offices on Fitzwilliam Street. The facilities are a best in class solution for encouraging staff to use sustainable travel methods of commuting to work.









Learn 2 Cycle Track – Millennium Park

Construction work has started on the new Learn 2 Cycle Track in Millennium Park. This dual use location is a partnership between Parks and Active Travel and will also see it used as the location of the Dublin 15 Ice Rink for the Winter Months. The Facility once completed will offer young children a perfect location to move from Balance Bikes to pedal bikes while learning the rules of the road. The design of the track includes a Cycle Friendly Roundabout. Teaching Children how new infrastructure like this operates is vital for encouraging safe cycling.



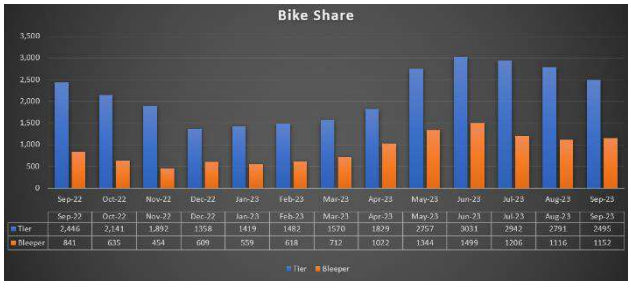


Community Car

The Community Car in Skerries had 128 requested trips in September, we are currently going through a recruitment drive for new volunteers with Local Link, this will be vital for reducing the missed demand on the Community Car. We are always in need of additional volunteers for the Community Car, if you are interested in learning more, please contact active.travel@fingal.ie

Month	Total Bookings	Total Trip No	Appointment Cancelled by Hospital	Missed Demand (no volunteer available)
Feb 23	106	90	12	4
Mar 23	108	58	34	16
Apr 23	114	80	16	18
May 23	65	34	11	14
Jun 23	50	26	8	16
Jul 23	50	33	7	10
Aug 23	130	52	28	50
Sep 23	128	66	30	32





Bleeper Bike September 2023; Other Key Statistics – Bike Share Countywide:

You can pick up a Bleeper bike easily. Just download the Bleeper app, scan the code on the bike to unlock it and you're on your way!

1152 bike journeys started within Fingal operating zone in September
1159 bike journeys ended within existing Fingal operating zone in September
Highest usage recorded on Saturdays (20.6%) & Fridays (16.1%)
Howth, Blanchardstown and Coolmine were the most popular starting points
Estimated emissions avoided in Sept – 581.6kg of CO2

At the end of September 2023, we were at just under 30,000 Bike Share trips across Fingal between TIER and Bleeper Bike.

Community eCargo Share Bike

The public share eCargo Bike is available from Mountview Community Centre in Dublin 15 and is operated by Bleeper Bike. The Bike has seen a small amount of use since being introduced in June, but it is starting to climb now. Users can get their first 120mins free by using the code 'fingalcargo' in the Bleeper App. For more information on the eCargo check out https://www.fingal.ie/ecargo



TIER eBike Update

You can pick up a TIER e-bike easily. Just download the TIER app, scan the code on the e-bike to unlock it and you're on your way! The e-bikes are suitable for anyone over the age of 16 and note that a credit or debit card is required to sign up for the service.

TIER Mobility Sept 2023; Other Key Statistics

Metric	June
Trips	2,495
No of Customers	996
Trips / Customer	2.5
Distance Covered (KM)	8070 km
Average Trip Duration	15 min
Average Trip length (KM)	3.2 km

Blanchardstown was the most popular location for eBike Share

Climate Action

Fingal's Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 - Public Consultation phase.

An extensive public consultation process for Fingal's Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 (CAP) began in mid-September and since then the Council's Climate Action Section have been busy hosting a series of public information events to actively engage with and inform the public and other stakeholders of the Draft Plan.

Public information events were held at County Hall - Swords, Civic Offices - Blanchardstown and the Marine Hotel - Sutton and Fingal staff working in the themed areas of the Plan including: Energy and Buildings, Transport, Flood Resilience, Nature-Based Solutions, Circular Economy and Resource Management and Community Engagement were on hand to demonstrates Fingal's continued commitment to climate action by highlighting the proposed actions which the Council intends to take.

In addition, Fingal attended the main public information event at the Mansion House on 17th October which was hosted by Dublin City Council on behalf of the four Dublin Local Authorities. An opening speech was delivered by the four Mayors / Deputy Mayors and Minister Ossian Smyth – Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. Each Dublin Local Authority hosted a stand showcasing the Draft CAP for their area and also in attendance were Dublin's Climate Action Regional Office CARO, Codema Dublin's Energy Agency, and Smart Dublin. Entertainment was provided from artists and performers under the theme of climate action. The event was very well received.

Public information sessions were also held at Balbriggan and Rush Libraries.





Chief Executive Annmarie Farrelly and Deputy Mayor Grainne Maguire in attendance at the Draft CAP public consultation event at the Mansion House

Climate Action and Active Travel Event

Staff from the Climate Action team attended the recent LS Lowry event on Railway Street, Balbriggan on 21st October to promote the Fingal Draft Climate Action Plan which is currently on public display. The event coincided with the Green Schools Climate Action Week 2023 and celebrated sustainability within our community. There were activities for all ages including music, art and lots of street games for children all made from sustainable materials. We took this opportunity to meet with locals on our Draft Climate Action Plan encouraging our citizens and visitors to make a submission on the Draft CAP before the closing date of 3rd November. We had great engagement on the day with lots of positive feedback on the Plan.



ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Awareness

The leaf mould initiative is being run again this year with thirty community and resident's groups across the County having received training and leaf mould cages this month. Leaves are collected locally and will decompose into a valuable compost for local use.

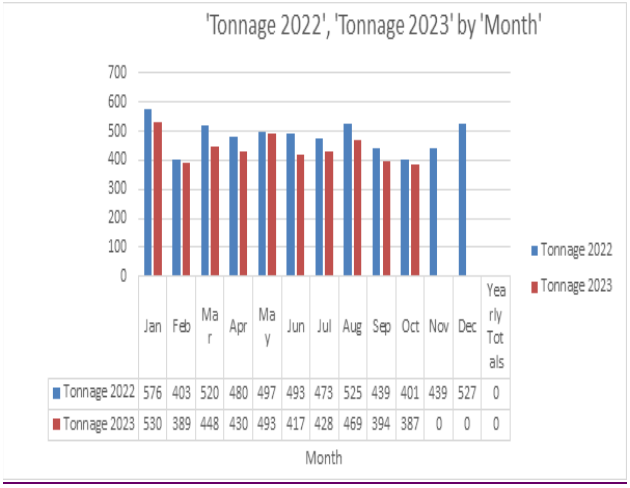
Global Action Plan Climate and Environmental workshops are ongoing in schools. In addition, swap shops have been funded for ten Fingal schools, and several secondary schools have signed up for the ReLove Fashion Competition in partnership with the Rediscovery Centre.

Litter picking supplies were also given to several schools and community centres as an ongoing initiative to tackle litter in Fingal.

Residents in the migrant reception centre were happy to receive 16 kids bikes and 2 adult's bikes. These bikes were sourced at the recycling centre and repaired & assessed by the Rediscovery Centre for reuse.

Bring Centres

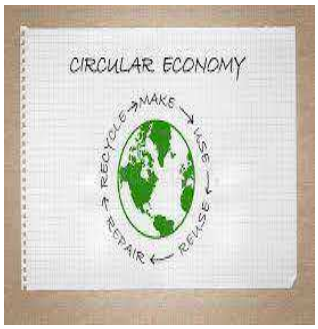
Bottle Banks



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Yearly Totals
Tonnage 2022	576	403	520	480	497	493	473	525	439	401	439	527	0
Tonnage 2023	530	389	448	430	493	417	428	469	394	387	0	0	0

Textile Banks



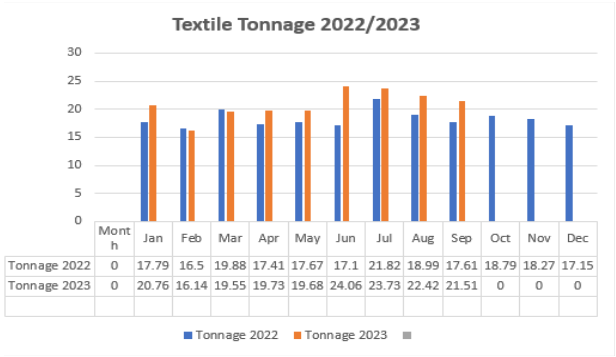


Textile Bank at the Seatown Carpark collected 72Kgs of textiles over the month of September 2023. Please continue to recycle at this location.



Textile Banks in Howth Harbour with a total collection of 870kg for the month of September 2023.

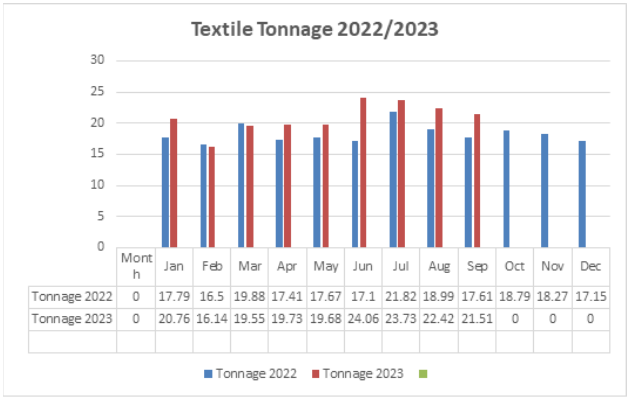
The Textile Tonnage Report for 2023 compared to 2022 is shown below. The amount of textiles collected for September 2023 was 21.51 tonnes compared to 17.61 tonnes collected in September 2022.



Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Tonnage 2022	0	17.79	16.5	19.88	17.41	17.67	17.1	21.82	18.99	17.61	18.79	18.27	17.15
Tonnage 2023	0	20.76	16.14	19.55	19.73	19.68	24.06	23.73	22.42	21.51	0	0	0

The volumes of Glass collected in October 2023 was **387 Tonnes**. This compares with a total volume of Glass collected in October 2022 of **401 Tonnes**.

A new contract for the Collection and Recycling of Glass and Aluminium for the four Dublin Authorities will commence on the 1st of November 2023.



Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Tonnage 2022	0	17.79	16.5	19.88	17.41	17.67	17.1	21.82	18.99	17.61	18.79	18.27	17.15
Tonnage 2023	0	20.76	16.14	19.55	19.73	19.68	24.06	23.73	22.42	21.51	0	0	0

The total volume of Textiles collected in September 2023 was **21.51 Tonnes**. This compares with a total volume of **17.61 Tonnes** collected in September 2022.

Litter Management

In October as part of their role to increase the public interest in keeping their areas clean and free of the litter, the Litter Wardens continued with their daily patrols, and inspected all known litter black spots. A total of 276 planned inspections were carried out on litter black spot all over the Fingal County Council area.



The Litter Warden also attended tenant induction courses to outline to new Council tenants their role in keeping their estates clean and free of litter.

The Litter Management Section receiving numerous complaints regarding the removal of pallets and bonfire materials for Halloween. The Litter Wardens called to the businesses in Fingal to remind them of their responsibility to secure any pallets and materials.
They also dealt with reports of dumping of pallets, tyres, mattresses, sofas, and other bonfire materials, checked for evidence, and arrange to have it removed.





The Litter wardens continued to raise awareness of the issue of dog fouling on beaches and the potential impact to water quality. They engaged with dog owners and dispensing dog poo bags, making people aware of their responsibilities to clean up after their dogs. They also erecting anti dog fouling signage in areas where complaints were received.

They carried out walking patrols, engaging with businesses regarding their responsibilities to keep outside their premises clean and free of litter. The Litter Wardens also checked to see if any issues had arisen for the Operations crews, they carried out inspections and followed up with fines/warning notice if evidence was found.

All the bring banks in the Fingal area were inspected daily to ensure that there was no dumping. Any evidence found was dealt with under the Litter Pollution Act. The Litter Warden also carried out investigation on reports of abandoned cars, taking photographs and updating the CRM system.



There were 2 cases before the district court in October, which were successful prosecuted, and costs awarded.

Fines/notices issued in 2023

Month	Fines	Warning Notices
October	47	19

The following cases were assigned to the Litter Warden under the CRM system.

CRMs October 2023	Amount
Env - Dog Fouling	1
Env - Fly tipping 1-20 bags equivalent	89
Env - General Litter Issue	29
Env - Miscellaneous	2
Env – Bonfire Material	2
Env – Littering at Bottle Banks	16
Env- (crisp bags, cig butts etc)	1
Env litter incident with witness	1
Env – Unauthorised Signage	3
Env - Pollution - Dog Fouling Signage	1
Env – Abandoned cars	13

Abandoned Vehicles

There have been 320 reports of alleged Abandoned Vehicles received between 1st January 2023 – 24th October 2023. Burnt-out vehicles are also reported to the Environment Department.

The Litter Wardens carry out an initial inspection of all reported abandoned and burnt-out vehicles. To report a suspected abandoned vehicle the following information is required and should be emailed to environment@fingal.ie

- Vehicle Registration
- Colour / Make / Model
- Exact Location
- Period of time that vehicle has not been moved*
- Name and Contact Number of person reporting the vehicle

Information on Abandoned Vehicles can be found on the Fingal County Council website: https://www.fingal.ie/council/service/abandoned-vehicles

2023	Abandoned Vehicles Removed as of 24th October 2023	Burnt out Vehicles Removed as of 24th September 2023
January	0	1
February	1	0
March	1	1
April	0	0
May	0	0
June	0	5
July	1	0
August	0	3
September	3	0
October	0	0
TOTAL	**6**	**10**

Dog Warden Service

The dog wardens continue to carry out enforcement in relation to breaches of the Control of Dogs Act 1986, Control of Dog Regulations 1998, Parks and Open Spaces byelaws and Beach and Foreshore byelaws. They also educate dog owners on the responsibilities of keeping a dog and remind owners to pick up after their pets when in public places. The dog wardens also increase their patrols of the beaches during the summer months to optimise bathing water quality and retain the status of Fingal's Blue Flag beaches.

The dog wardens are also continuing with door-to-door licence checks. Dog owners should ensure that they hold a valid licence for their dog and if issued with a 10-day notice by the dog wardens, should present their licence to controlofdogs@fingal.ie within the 10 days provided on the notice. Failure to do so may result in a fine being issued for failing to produce a dog licence when requested to do so by a dog warden and keeping a dog without a valid licence. The fine per offence is €100. 241 x 10 Day Notices were issued by the dog wardens during October 2023. 40 fines were issued during October 2023.

Month	10 Day Notices		Fines Issued		Fines Paid	
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
March	**48**	**97**	**5**	**29**	**€300**	**€2,000**
April	**26**	**152**	**26**	**42**	**€0**	**€1,500**
May	**418**	**232**	**11**	**98**	**€500**	**€2,556**
June	**256**	**135**	**40**	**53**	**€200**	**€1,500**
July	**407**	**109**	**20**	**35**	**€500**	**€2,644**
August	**446**	**140**	**24**	**21**	**€1200**	**€1,400**
September	**385**	**125**	**24**	**40**	**€1,300**	**€2,849**
October	**511**	**241**	**108**	**40**	**€1400**	**€1500**

The Animal Welfare Section received 53 complaints in relation to dogs in October 2023.

Dog Licences and Fines

The below table shows the number of annual and lifetime licences purchased from March to October 2023 in comparison with the same months in 2022. An annual dog licence fee is €20 and a lifetime dog licence fee is €140. We will continue to promote the requirement for a dog licence on social media platforms. It is a legal requirement to hold a valid licence for any dog you own or are responsible for under the Control of Dogs Act 1986. Failing to hold a valid licence for a dog that you are own or are responsible for can incur a €100 fine.

Month	Annual Licences Purchased		Lifetime Licences Purchased		Income from Licences	
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
March	458	561	47	55	€15,740	€18,900
April	529	451	54	41	€18,140	€14,760
May	1217	918	132	64	€42,820	€27,320
June	647	516	77	41	€23,720	€16,060
July	1075	766	88	47	€33,820	€21,900
August	1025	838	61	51	€29,040	€23,900
September	850	759	88	48	€29,320	€21,900
October	873	670	78	30	€28,380	€17,600

FINE PAYMENTS

Year	Fine Payments Received
1 January 2023 to date	€28,749
2022	€15,400
2021	€1,200

We will continue to advertise the requirement for dog owners to hold a licence for their dogs on social media platforms.



Dog Breeding Establishments

During the month of October, the dog wardens conducted investigations on dog breeding establishments in the Fingal area and 17 dogs have been seized.

Dog Shelter Service

Dublin County Dog Shelter holds "Meet and Greet" visits for anyone looking to rehome a dog. Visits can be arranged by calling the shelter and arranging an appointment. These visits can be arranged from Monday – Friday from 11am to 1pm and from 2pm to 3.30pm. The shelter is also open on Saturday from 11am – 1pm. The shelter is closed to the public on Sundays. The dog shelter holds stray dogs picked up by the dog warden and dogs who have been surrendered by their owners either to the dog wardens or directly to the shelter. At the beginning of October there were 30 dogs in the shelter. During October 2023, 20 dogs were brought to the shelter by the dog wardens as stray or surrenders and no dogs were surrendered by a member of the public. Of these 50 dogs, 6 have been reclaimed by their owners, 17 dogs have been rehomed to rescue, 3 has been rehomed to members of the public and 1 was PTS. At the end of October there are 23 dogs remaining in the shelter. The shelter has a **Facebook page Dublin County Dog Shelter** and **Instagram Account @dublincountydogshelter** which they actively update with strays and dogs wishing to be rehomed.

Dogs in Shelter at the start of October 2022	11	Dogs in Shelter at start of October 2023	30
Stray/Seized dogs brought to Shelter	16	Stray/Seized dogs brought to Shelter	20
Surrendered by owners	5	Surrendered by owners	0
Reclaimed	7	Reclaimed	6
Rehomed to Rescue	8	Rehomed to Rescue	17
Rehomed to Public	5	Rehomed to Public	3
PTS	0	PTS	1
Dogs in Shelter at the end of September 2022	12	Dogs in shelter at the end of September 2023	23

Members of the Animal Welfare team made a visit to the Dublin County Dog Shelter on Thursday the 19th of October and met with the head dog warden and the Shelter Manager. We had a tour of the full facility and while it is full the dogs were well cared for and are looked after by a very caring group of staff.

Below of some of the pictures taken on the day of two dogs a mother and daughter that came in as strays and have not been claimed.





Bonita and Casey the smaller dog





Contact the shelter on 0873914008, WhatsApp or Facebook to make an appointment to see the dogs available for rehoming

The total number of dogs entered through the shelter from aller dog 1st January 2023 to date is **238,** which is already up on the total number of 222 entered to the shelter for the full year 2022.

Halloween and Dogs

Animal Welfare have shared on social media and Staff Messages the posters below in relation to the care of dogs at Halloween even though it is an exciting time for families it can be a very strange time for dogs so this information may help.





Horses

Weekly inspections continue to take place on Dunsink Landfill to monitor the numbers and welfare of the horses onsite. There are 10 hay feeders being filled by the Operations Department on a weekly basis to ensure adequate forage for the horses on the landfill. In October there was 1 seriously welfare compromised horse taken from the landfill and 1 horse seized from the public realm.

Environment staff attended the DAFM Urban Horse Project seminar on Thursday 26th October.



Water Quality

EU Water Framework Directive - River Bracken Investigations

Fingal County Council has continued investigative river sampling of the River Bracken and is currently searching for potential pollution sources in the upper reaches of the catchment and whether there are any significant pollution sources in the Upper Catchment that could be having a detrimental impact on Balbriggan Bathing Area.

Initial results indicates that there are a small number of potential pollution hotspots in the Upper Catchment which will be subjected to closer investigation and inspection over the coming weeks.





EU Water Framework Directive – Agricultural Inspections

The Water Quality team has recently carried out a number of farm inspections in the River Delvin, Matt, Gaybrook and Balcunin Catchments. Fingal County Council found a number of minor non compliances at some locations and 1 significant non-compliance at 1 farm. All non-compliance farms are being addressed with appropriate enforcement action



Historical Landfills

St. Doolagh's and Burrow Road Historical Landfills

Tier 1 Risk Assessments for St. Doolagh's and Burrow Road Historical Landfills have recently been completed. The Tier 1 assessment for St. Doolagh's found that this historical landfill requires further assessment. Fingal County Council has commenced the process of appointing contractors to carry out the Tier 2 assessment for this historical landfill.

The Tier 1 assessment for Burrow Road found that the landfill poses no threat of pollution to the environment and that the file for this location can be closed out.

Waste Enforcement & Regulation

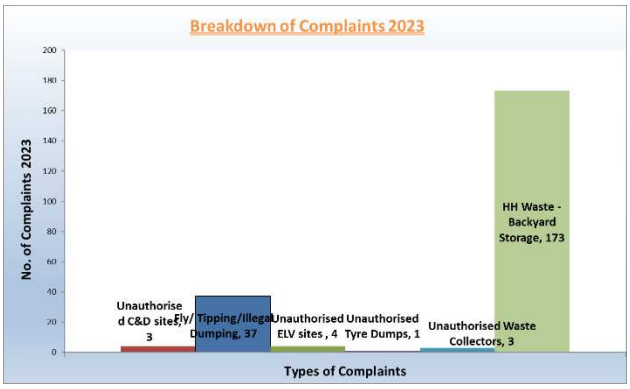
Waste Complaints

A total of 25 waste complaints were recorded for the month of October. Waste complaints investigated primarily related to the illegal dumping of waste, backyard storage of waste and the backyard burning of waste. Other waste complaints investigated related to unauthorised C&D sites, unauthorised ELV sites and non-routine inspections.

Awareness and education around the management of domestic waste in a sustainable and environmentally safe manner is crucial to ensure all households participate in a waste collection service as per the waste presentation bye-laws and use three bins (black, green and brown) to manage their waste. Any information in relation to unauthorised sites/collectors can be forwarded to environment@fingal.ie.





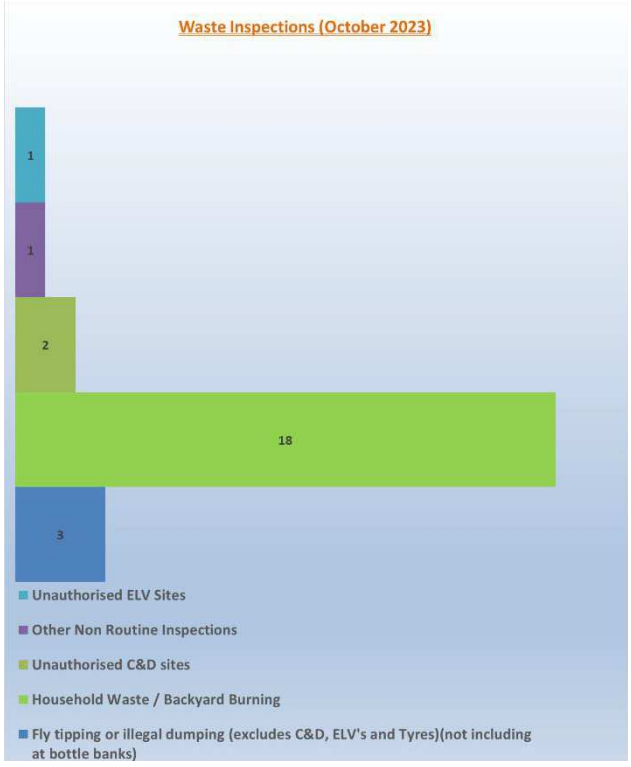




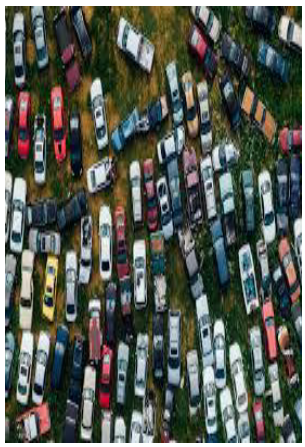
End of Life Vehicle (ELV Project)

In October 2023 Fingal County Council Waste Environment and Regulation Section successfully prosecuted an illegal ELV site in the Dublin District Court. The unauthorised site was operating in the Lusk area for several years. The site operator was prosecuted under Section 39 and Section 55 of the Waste Management Act 1996 for illegally dismantling ELV's on site without an appropriate waste facility permit. The site has now been cleared and all illegal ELV activities have ceased.

A total of 87 illegal ELV sites (low and high–risk) were identified as part of the End of Life (ELV) Project. All sites have now been dealt with and closed resulting in over 1,700 ELV's brought to Authorised Treatment Facilities (ATF's) for recovery and disposal.







The Waste Enforcement Section are working in close co-operation with and the Planning Department to ensure that sites previously cleared remain closed and that all illegal car breaking activities cease on a permanent basis.





For further information on how to scrap your old car for free at an authorised treatment facility see https://www.elves.ie/en

Waste Presentation Bye Law Project 2023 - 2025

Waste Bye-Laws (Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste) were introduced back in January 2020. The key objectives of the Waste Bye-Laws are:

- To encourage households and businesses to manage their waste in an environmentally responsible manner.
- To promote better segregation of household and commercial waste.
- To ensure only authorised waste collectors are used to dispose of waste.
- To reduce illegal dumping and backyard burning of waste



The Waste Enforcement Section have initiated a project to assess compliance with the Waste Bye-Laws. Phase 1 comprises the establishment of a register of households who currently have a waste collection service in place to facilitate a reverse register to be developed identifying households who don't have a bin collection service in place using Eircodes.

Information was requested (addresses, bins provided, last lift date) from each of the 8 waste collectors operating within Fingal to establish the register in accordance with Section 34 of the Waste Management Act, 1996. Information in relation to 88,810 customers was received in response to the Section 18 notices issued.

Dataconversion Direct Ltd were engaged to cleanse the address information to facilitate Eircodes to be appended to each address. A number of different automated and manual techniques were employed to achieve a **98.5%** match rate such as high-quality batch encoding to analyse and transform the specific data set (addresses) to create matching rules based on unique properties.

EIRCODE DIRECTADDRESS

A reverse register including GIS mapping are currently being developed to identify households who currently don't have a waste collection service. Phase 2 of the project will commence in 2024 whereby information will be sought from householders listed on the reverse register to confirm how they're managing their waste. Where householders do not engage in the process, directions and fixed payment notices will be issued to encourage householders to comply with the Waste Bye-Laws and to help improve waste segregation and recycling rates including food waste. For further information on the Waste Presentation Bye Law Project see https://www.fingal.ie/waste-bye-laws-project-2023-2025

Anti-Dumping Initiative 2023

€50,000 in funding was secured by the Waste Enforcement Section under the ADI 2023 to develop an awareness campaign in relation to the Waste Presentation Bye-Law Project. A video ad was created to encourage compliance with the Waste Bye-Laws and to explain the important of the Waste Bye-Law Project 2023 – 2025 for use in a cinema awareness campaign.





The video highlights the importance of the Waste Bye-Laws in terms of managing and segregating your waste to help increase recycling rates and reduce illegal dumping. It focuses on the requirement to participate in a waste collection service, to bin share or to bring your waste to an authorised facility that accepts it. As part of the project householders identified as not currently availing of a waste collection service will be asked to confirm how they are managing their waste. Breaching the Bye-Laws can result in a €75 on the spot fine or a €2,500 fine and a criminal conviction if found guilty in court.

The video ad is available to view on FCC's website and social media sites, within FCC buildings and as part of a cinema awareness campaign across 5 different cinemas (Movies @ Swords, Omniplex Balbriggan, Odeon Charlestown, Odeon Blanchardstown and IMC Santry). The video ad will be shown over a 6 month period (October 2023 – March 2024) with 500,000 guaranteed viewings.





For further information on the video check out the following links:
https://www.fingal.ie/waste-bye-laws-project-2023-2025 and
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-LX2Wd5UYYY&t=5s

ARCHITECTS DEPARTMENT

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Open House Dublin Festival
Conservation Grants
Age Friendly Award Nominations

Open House Dublin Festival

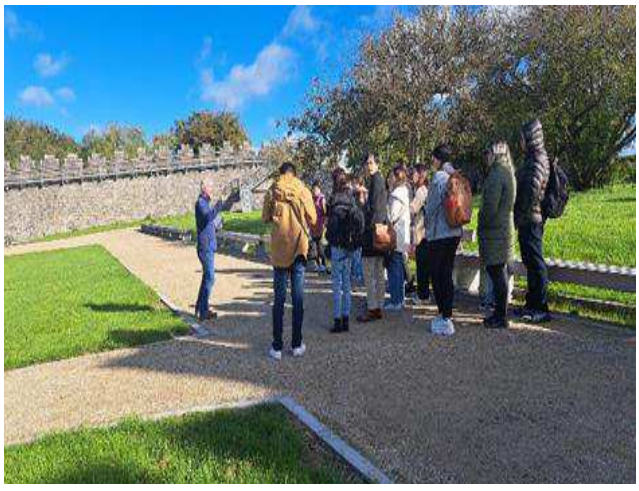
Open House is a free festival of Architecture that takes place each October with guided building tours and many other events. Open House is a festival promoted by the Irish Architecture Foundation. It celebrates great architecture and urban design along with the people that created it. Once again, Fingal participated in and sponsored the annual festival with 7 locations available for guided tours.

Open House – Guided Tours

Open House Dublin took place across Dublin city and county for an expanded nine days this year, from October 7th-15th. Fingal had guided tours of:

Swords Cultural Quarter

A tour that included Swords Castle, showing work undertaken over the past six years, related to consolidation works on the masonry, improved public access and landscape improvements to enhance the setting and provide interpretation of the site.



Open House Group at Swords Castle

The Carnegie Library, North Street, Swords

The library is under refurbishment for use as a new arts space for the Swords Cultural Quarter.



Open House- Carnegie Library Swords Refurbishment

Malahide Castle

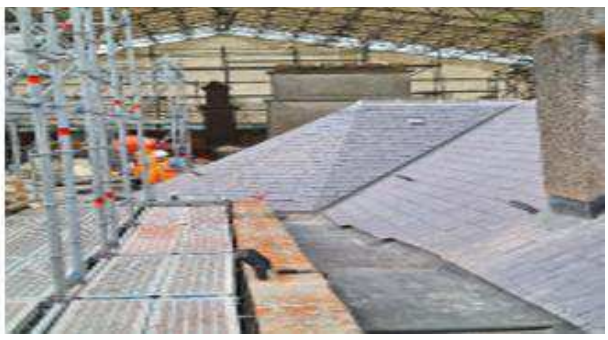
Tours focused on conservation works undertaken last year in the Great Hall- the finest state room in the historic castle building. This work involved complex conservation works of reroofing, stone and joinery repair, interior redecoration, and improved internal environmental systems to facilitate improved conditions and the display of the important collection of artworks on loan from the National Gallery of Ireland.

Ardgillan Castle

There were tours conducted at Ardgillan Castle that featured the restored Glasshouses.

Newbridge House

In Donabate, the Newbridge House tours highlighted current conservation works, showcasing façade repair works nearing completion, along with completed reroofing of the house and the joinery conservation. The tour included the house's interior, visiting some of the principal rooms.



Conservation- Reroofing Works at Newbridge House

Public Housing–Rolestown & Mulhuddart

This year for the first time, we had Public Housing Tours that included two recently completed schemes.

Church Fields, Mulhuddart

Tours of New Public Housing at Church Fields, Mulhuddart presented the completed Phase 2A of the wider housing Land Management Plan for the Church Fields development. Phase 2A includes 67 dwellings in a mix of one-, two-, three, and four-bed dwellings in three urban blocks.

The proposal includes two- and three-storey units integrating with the existing Avondale Park, to include single storey houses to the west of the site, overlooking the Pinkeen River.



Open House – Church Fields

Rolestown

The new public housing at Rolestown tours highlighted the special age-friendly features of this initiative.

Conservation Grants

The Conservation Office based in the Architects Department has been overseeing the completion of heritage works in connection with the various Grant schemes operated by Fingal namely:

- Built Heritage Investment Scheme
- Historic Structures Fund
- Architectural Heritage Fund
- Stitch In Time Grant scheme
- Stewardship Grant Project

On completion of all works and payment of the grants, a full report will be brought to Council in January 2024.

Age Friendly Award Nomination

Fingal County Council's social housing scheme at Rolestown has been shortlisted for the 'National Age Friendly Recognition and Achievement Awards 2023'. The scheme of 26 houses was designed by the Architects Department, and construction was completed in 2020.

Approximately half of these houses were allocated to housing waiting list tenants with medical priority, including some older people. It was designed to be fully accessible and lifetime adaptable.

The development also includes a large open space area and new civic square across the road from the Rolestown church which benefits the larger community.

The architects made a presentation to the judges earlier in October with a winner to be announced at an awards ceremony in Wexford on the 30th November.



Age Friendly Award Nominated – Rolestown Social Housing Scheme

FINANCE

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Rates

Overall Commercial Rates collection to the end of October 2023 is running at 90%.

Rates Collection	
Rates collected €M	141.0
Rates Collection %	90%

Development Levy Income

Development levy income collected to the end of September is €23.9m this is c.91% of the collection to the same period in 2022.

Development Levy Income	
Levies Receipted €M	23.9
Levies collected as % of 2022	91%

Payroll

Overall payroll spend to the end of September is €64.1m which is c. 97% of budget year to date.

Payroll	
Salaries & Wages €M	64.1
Percentage of budget YTD	97%

Procurement

Outlined below is a summary of the overall procurement activity at end of October

Procurement Activity		**Note**
No. of contracts awarded (details below) for year to date	226	
Value €m	78.6	
Procurements ongoing at end of October		
No. of procurements awaiting tender responses	15	(i)
Value €m	43.3	
No. of procurements under evaluation	43	(ii)
Value €m	105.3	
No. of procurements at approved	13	(iii)
Value €m	121.1	

Notes:

(i) Procurements awaiting tender responses – tender responses awaited at end of October.

(ii) Procurements under evaluation – tender responses submitted and being evaluated at end of the October.

(iii) Procurements at approved – Tender responses have been evaluated and approved. Pre- contract award processes ongoing at end of October.

Appendix 1 (a)

REVENUE ACCOUNT INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 31 OCT 2023

	EXPENDITURE			INCOME			NET
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	€
Housing & Building	75,244,760	90,151,700	83%	77,505,363	94,681,700	82%	-2,260,603
Road Transport & Safety	26,572,246	32,392,400	82%	8,405,262	8,698,800	97%	18,166,984
Water Services	15,372,233	14,994,900	103%	14,676,588	18,028,400	81%	695,645
Development Management	16,528,088	19,874,200	83%	4,762,445	5,480,800	87%	11,765,643
Environmental Services	38,282,481	48,361,500	79%	9,122,005	10,542,200	87%	29,160,476
Recreation & Amenity	41,279,840	49,953,500	83%	2,188,583	2,386,500	92%	39,091,258
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,300,246	1,380,600	94%	324,942	340,100	96%	975,303
Miscellaneous Services	19,353,575	22,836,300	85%	21,645,405	24,576,200	88%	-2,291,830
Central Management Charge	39,004,396	53,803,600	72%	2,944,222	3,904,000	75%	36,060,174
Local Property Tax / GPG				8,149,417	9,779,300	83%	-8,149,417
Rates				129,442,250	155,330,700	83%	-129,442,250
	272,937,865	**333,748,700**	**82%**	**279,166,482**	**333,748,700**	**84%**	**-6,228,617**

CAPITAL ACCOUNT
INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION TO 31/10/2023

		Balance at 01/01/2023 €	Expenditure YTD €	Income YTD €	Balance at 31/10/2023 €
A	Housing & Building	-45,026,626	177,893,032	-122,807,191	10,059,215
B	Road Transport & Safety	12,033,473	23,170,409	-16,811,303	18,392,579
C	Water Services	-10,811,421	772,615	-1,008,164	-11,046,970
D	Development Management	-134,303,923	24,144,933	-49,495,721	-159,654,711
E	Environmental Services	-21,303,306	3,858,121	-1,533,515	-18,978,700
F	Recreation & Amenity	-14,103,073	25,205,949	-16,283,041	-5,180,165
H	Miscellaneous Services	-52,242,890	15,955,359	-15,125,075	-51,412,606
	Total	**-265,757,766**	**271,000,418**	**-223,064,010**	**-217,821,358**

Appendix 1 (c)

SUMMARY OF CORPORATE DEBTORS TO 31/10/2023				
	Balance at 01/01/2023 €	Balance at 31/10/2023 €	Current debt €	> 1 Year €
RATES*	€3,146,921	€15,506,129	€13,906,556	€1,599,574
LOANS	€2,030,260	€2,083,974	€252,955	€1,831,019
RENTS	€9,426,987	€9,547,441	€4,446,601	€5,100,840

* value of debit at 31/12/2022 was 5.1m with a credit of 1.97m which has substantially been offset against demands 2023 leaving an aged debt greater than the opening balance

Figures for rents and loans are unadjusted by credits/prepayments

Appendix 2
Number of Contracts Awarded for year to date

Dept	Description of Procurement	Supplier Name	Current Value of Contract (excl. VAT)	Contract Start Date (actual)	Contract End Date (actual)	Actual Duration (months)	Contract Award Date
Operations	Mechanical Planting of Bulbs and Wildflowers Coutrywide	Flower your Place	€ 240,185	02/10/2023	03/11/2023	2	26/10/2023
Operations	Devegetation of 16 Fingal Bridges	Triur Construction	€ 39,720	01/10/2023	30/11/2023	2	23/10/2023
EETCD	Clearing Hazardous/Dangerous Rubbish and Site Clearance at Rathoath Road, Dunsink Finglas	G & K Kearns Developments Ltd	€ 127,096	11/10/2023	10/11/2023	1	20/10/2023
Corporate Affairs	Mobile Voice & Data Communications and Associated Products & Services	Vodafone	€ 90,000	01/10/2023	30/11/2023	2	19/10/2023
Corporate Affairs	Provision of Services for Roof Maintenance and Callouts at 17 Fingal Locations	Geoffrey T Kelly Roofing and Cladding	€ 26,200	05/09/2023	04/09/2024	12	16/10/2023
Operations	Purchase of requirement for 4 Ford Transit Vans	Henry Ford & Son Ltd.	€ 86,976	10/10/2023	09/10/2024	12	11/10/2023
Corporate Affairs	Provision of Fire Alarm and Emergency Lighting Maintenance Services	G4S	€ 32,445	09/09/2023	08/03/2024	6	11/10/2023
Operations	Resurfacing of one lane of Greenfield Road in Howth	Pavement & Road Surfacing Ltd	€ 62,522	16/10/2023	10/11/2023	1	09/10/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Supply & Install New Boundary Fencing at Hampton Lands, Ardgillan Demesne, Balbriggan	Irish Fencing Services	€ 151,467	01/09/2023	01/04/2025	18	26/09/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Installation of SeeBees at the Burrow, Portrane, Co. Dublin	Larry Kiernan Plant Hire Ltd	€ 75,987	01/10/2023	30/11/2023	2	25/09/2023
Operations	Road Salt for the 2023/2024 Winter Season	Salt Sales Company	€ 161,795	01/10/2023	31/12/2023	3	25/09/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Ward River Regional Park Historic Structures - Brick Arch and Walled Garden Sheds	Francis Haughey Building & Civil Engineering Contractors	€ 295,808	10/09/2023	09/02/2024	5	21/09/2023
Operations	Concrete Footpath Construction in a series of batches from 2 - 10 sq meters at Roselawn Road, Walk & Court, D 15	Formac Construction	€ 39,125	01/10/2023	01/11/2023	1	19/09/2023
Operations	Footpath Works, Paddys Hill, Portmarnock	Jim Hayes Civil Engineering	€ 71,370.00	18/09/2023	13/10/2023	1	18/09/2023

Operations	Resurfacing of Drynam, Seatown & Lissenhall Footbridges	Donnelly Civil Engineering Ltd	€ 228,756	31/08/2023	30/01/2024	5	14/09/2023
Operations	Solar Power Signage	PWS Signs Ltd	€ 31,185	11/09/2023	31/12/2023	4	14/09/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works, Dublin Road, Swords	D.M. Morris Limited	€ 163,656	25/09/2023	25/12/2023	3	13/09/2023
Operations	Loughshinny Harbour Refurbishment Works	Donnelly Civil Engineering Ltd	€ 158,498	01/10/2023	22/12/2023	3	13/09/2023
EETCD	Upgrade of fire alarm system at Malahide Castle	Pioneer Fire & Security for Upgrade	€ 70,871	01/10/2023	14/10/2023	2 weeks	11/09/2023
Digital Services	NEC Application Programs for which the RDBA Service is being provided : NEC Housing	NEC Software Solutions	€ 66,000	01/09/2023	31/08/2025	24	07/09/2023
Operations	Football Pitch Extension at Porterstown, Dublin 15	KT Civil Engineering	€ 45,000	01/09/2023	01/10/2023	1	06/09/2023
Operations	Path Network, Tolka Valley	KT Civil Engineering	€ 28,000	15/09/2023	15/10/2023	1	06/09/2023
Operations	Path Extension, Delwood Park, D 15	KT Civil Engineering	€ 33,000	01/09/2023	01/11/2023	2	06/09/2023
EETCD	Project Management Consultancy Services for the Fingal Local Economic & Community Plan	Grant Thornton Finance Ltd	€ 48,900	08/05/2023	07/02/2024	9	06/09/2023
EETCD	Provision of Multi Disciplinary Consultancy Services for Industrial Zones, Infrastructure & Public Realm Projects in respect of the Economic Zone & Industrial Landbank at Stephenstown, Balbriggan	Clifton Scannell Emerson Associates	€ 317,182	01/08/2023	31/07/2025	24	**06/09/2023**
ANCA	Legal Services for Aircraft Noise Competent Authority	A & L Goodbody LLP	€ 1,000,000	01/09/2023	31/08/2025	24	05/09/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Construction of a Pocket Park at Bridge Street, Balbriggan	Peter O'Brien & Sons Landscaping	€ 41,535	28/08/2023	23/09/2024	13	05/09/2023
Active Travel	Requirement for Engineering Consultancy Services for Active Travel Pathfinder Swords to Airport Quick Build	Tobin Consulting Engineers	€ 225,775	21/08/2023	20/08/2026	36	05/09/2023
Operations	Engineering Consultancy Services for Dredging of Balbriggan Harbour	Byrne Looby & Partners Ltd	€ 287,130	18/09/2023	17/09/2026	36	04/09/2023
Operations	Demolition and Remediation Works of a bridge Structure at Grallagh	Triur Construction	€ 44,265	01/09/2023	30/09/2023	1	04/09/2023

Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works R109, Lower Lucan Road	D.M. Morris Limited	€ 658,619	01/10/2023	01/12/2023	2	01/09/2023
Community	8 Week running programme for 5th and 6th class students in Primary Schools	Marathon Kids	€ 26,900	01/09/2023	31/12/2023	4	01/09/2023
Operations	Concrete Footpath & Bituminous Cycle Track Installation at Northwood Avenue, Santry, Dublin 9	John Browne Construction Ltd	€ 44,250	25/09/2023	25/10/2023	1	31/08/2023
Operations	Concrete Footpath Construction in a series of batches Deerpark Road, Drive & Avenue, D 15	Citius Ltd	€ 34,990	15/09/2023	15/10/2023	1	31/08/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works Northwood Avenue, D 9	Lagan Asphalt Ltd	€ 130,351	11/09/2023	11/10/2023	1	31/08/2023
Operations	Caretakers agreement to manage and operate the concession Malahide Recreational Facility, located in the Pavillion Building, Malahide Demesne	Aramark Northern Europe	€ 126,465	01/09/2023	31/12/2023	4	31/08/2023
Libraries	Supply & Installation of 3 Tovertafel Unit to include 2 year licence, warranty, service and staff training	Homecare Medical	€ 28,510	01/07/2023	01/07/2025	24	30/08/2023
Operations	Design & Build Public Conveniences and Associated Works at Burrow Beach, Portrane	Lidan Innovations Ltd	€ 202,343	17/07/2023	17/07/2024	12	29/08/2023
Operations	Design & Build Public Conveniences and Associated Works at Malahide, Muldowney	Lidan Innovations Ltd	€ 329,129	17/07/2023	16/07/2024	12	29/08/2023
Operations	Design & Build Public Conveniences and Associated Works at Howth East Pier, Co. Dublin	Lidan Innovations Ltd	€ 447,089	17/07/2023	16/07/2024	12	29/08/2023
EETCD	Provision of Services for the Co Ordinator and Delivery of the Student Enterprise Programme for Fingal Local Enterprise Office	Real Events Management T/A Real Nation	€ 40,600	21/08/2023	21/06/2024	10	28/08/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Supply & Execution of ESB approved Civil Works to enable the undergrounding of existing 10/20kv overhead at Ballymastone Recreational Hub	Larry Kieran Plant Hire Ltd	€ 78,997	01/09/2023	01/10/2024	13	24/08/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Sutton to Malahide Pedestrian & Cycle Scheme Topographic Survey	Apex Surveys	€ 32,910	01/08/2023	07/10/2023	5 weeks	23/08/2023
Environment, Climate Action	Supply Anti Littering Devices at Locations in Fingal	RiteView Solutions	€ 25,120	01/03/2023	28/02/2024	12	18/08/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Installation of Traffic Signals in respect of the Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian & Cycle Route	Traffic Solutions Ltd	€ 165,281	21/08/2023	21/02/2025	18	16/08/2023

Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Main Works Contract of the Ongar to Barnhill Road Scheme	BAM Civil Limited	€ 16,823,243	14/08/2023	18/04/2025	20	15/08/2023
EETCD	Provision of Consultancy Services to develop Town Centre Plans for Fingal County Council with an initial contract to develop a Town Centre Plan for Lusk, Co. Dublin	AP + E	€ 63,680	08/08/2023	31/10/2023	3	14/08/2023
Active Travel	Work on the R132 Cycle Lane Scheme (Blakes Cross to Quickpenny Lane)	McAvoy Contracts Ltd	€ 2,202,117	31/07/2023	31/12/2024	19	11/08/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Conservation Repairs to Malahide Church and Graveyard, Malahide Demesne	James Francis Haughey Building Contractors	€ 128,974	08/08/2023	31/10/2024	15	08/08/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Provision of Road Removal Works St. Itas, Portrane, Co. Dublin	Larry Kieran Plant Hire Ltd	€ 38,975	14/08/2023	08/09/2023	1	03/08/2023
Operations	Installation of Traffic Signals within the Admin Area of Fingal Co Co Council	Traffic Solutions Ltd	€ 1,423,645	24/07/2023	31/12/2023	5	02/08/2023
Corporate Affairs	Catering Services for Fingal County Council Offices in Swords & Blanchardstown	Compass Catering Services Ireland Ltd	€ 750,000	25/07/2023	24/07/2025	24	02/08/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works R125, Clonsilla Road Junctions at Coolmine and Blanchardstown, D 15	Lagan Asphalt Ltd	€ 170,971	25/08/2023	25/11/2023	3	01/08/2023
Digital Services	Backup & Disaster Recovery services for Office 365 & SharePoint Online	Sureskills Ltd	€ 49,470	01/08/2023	31/07/2026	24	01/08/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works, Castleknock Road, Auburn Ave Junction.	Lagan Asphalt Ltd	€ 76,234	23/08/2023	23/08/2023	12	01/08/2023
Operations	Resurfacing of Sections of the R106, Swords Road, Malahide & Ancillary Works	D.M. Morris Limited	€ 280,087	21/08/2023	21/09/2023	1	28/07/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Site Surveys and Snagging Drawings and Taking in Charge Drawings of 13 Estates due to be taken in charge	Thorntons Chartered Surveyors	€ 37,620	12/07/2023	12/04/2024	9	28/07/2023
Operations	Concrete Footpath Construction in a series of batches from 3 - 7 sq meters at Melrose Park and Drinan Hall	John Browne Construction Ltd	€ 27,895	14/08/2023	08/09/2023	1	27/07/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works Millview Lawns, Malahide	Pavement & Road Surfacing Ltd	€ 89,400	04/09/2023	29/09/2023	1	27/07/2023
Corporate Affairs	Supply of Fixed Voice Services	Eir Ltd	€ 87,500	01/09/2023	29/02/2024	6	26/07/2023
Operations	Maintenance, Servicing, Repair and Ticket replenishment of Pay & Display Parking Machines	Actavo (Sierra Support Services Group)	€ 50,000	01/07/2023	30/11/2023	5	24/07/2023
Operations	Provision of Enforcement and Legal Services to FCC for Parking Services	Parkrite	€ 182,184	01/07/2023	30/11/2023	5	24/07/2023

Housing	24 Hour Security Service at Liscappagh Estate, Dublin 11	ABM	€ 44,511	15/06/2023	11/08/2023	2	24/07/2023
Operations	Construction of a Parkour Facility at Millennium Park, Dublin15	Outfit Outdoor Fitness Equipment Ltd	€ 98,120	01/09/2023	30/09/2023	1	21/07/2023
Operations	Concrete footpath construction in a series of batches from 3 - 8 meters at Willie Nolan Road and Mainstreet, Baldoyle, Co. Dublin	Joe Duke & Co. Ltd	€ 41,131	14/08/2023	08/09/2023	1	19/07/2023
Operations	Supply and Installation of specified calisthenics and outdoor fitness equipment to Hazelbury Park, D 15	Outfit Outdoor Fitness Equipment Ltd	€ 60,625	01/08/2023	31/08/2023	1	19/07/2023
Environment, Climate Action	Dublin Airport Noise Plan 2024 - 2029 Appointment of Acoustic Consultants	Logika Noise Air Quality Consultants	€ 60,000	01/07/2023	01/07/2025	24	18/07/2023
Operations	Temporary Car Park Surfacing and Associated Works at Ballymastone	DM Morris Ltd	€ 169,089	02/09/2023	01/10/2024	13	17/07/2023
Corporate Affairs	Catering Services for County Hall and Grove Road	Compass Catering Irl Ltd	€ 94,248	01/04/2023	24/07/2023	4	17/07/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works R125, Murrough Road to Watery Lane, Swords	D.M. Morris Limited	€ 292,977	17/07/2023	17/10/2023	3	13/07/2023
Operations	Supply & Installation of Full Size MUGA at Mick Walsh Park, Dublin 15	Outfit Outdoor Fitness Equipment Ltd	€ 66,225	03/07/2023	31/07/2023	1	12/07/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Multi Disciplinary Engineering Consultancy Services, Kinsealy Walking & Cycling Routes	Barry Transportation	€ 396,356	15/06/2023	14/06/2025	24	12/07/2023
Operations	Requirement for Road Lining Contract for the Fingal Swords, Balbriggan Areas Including PSCS	MacLochlainn (Roadmarkings) Limited	€ 46,718	24/07/2023	31/12/2023	5	11/07/2023
Operations	Road Lining Contract for Castleknock Mulhuddart, Blanchardstown including PSCS and Traffic Management	MacLochlainn (Roadmarkings) Limited	€ 59,965	10/07/2023	31/12/2023	6	10/07/2023
Environment, Climate Action	Provision of Eircode/Postcode Address Encoding Services	Dataconversion Direct Ltd	€ 45,000	10/07/2023	10/10/2023	3	10/07/2023
Housing	Actuarial Services for the replacement of Fingal County Councils Housing Loans System	Mazars	€ 43,750	03/07/2023	03/12/2023	6	10/07/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Supply & Install temporary Traffic Management Equipment for 2 Car Parks in Balbriggan	McAvoy Contracts Ltd	€ 39,120	06/07/2023	06/07/2024	12	07/07/2023

Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Traffic Management Equipment for 2 Public Car Parks in Balbriggan	McAvoy Contracts Ltd	€ 39,120	26/07/2023	25/08/2023	1	07/07/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works, Parkvale, Baldoyle	John McQuillan Contracts Ltd	€ 58,101	24/07/2023	04/08/2023	1	07/07/2023
Housing	24 Hour Security Services for 67 Newly Constructed Units to be delivered on a phased basis during July & August 2023 at Churchfields Estate	ABM	€ 100,183	24/07/2023	15/09/2023	2	06/07/2023
Operations	Supply & Delivery of Washed Surface Dressing Chips	Tullyraine Quarries Limited	€ 30,075	14/07/2023	14/12/2023	5	06/07/2023
Operations	Installation of Traffic Calming Ramps, Ramp Components, ramp replacement and repairs	MCM Surfacing Ltd	€ 148,335	17/07/2023	19/01/2024	6	04/07/2023
Operations	Replacement of Artificial Grass Surfaces to Two MUGAS in Whitestown, D.15	Sole Sports and Leisure Ltd	€ 47,811	07/07/2023	06/08/2023	1	04/07/2023
Operations	Purchase of New Compact Tractors	Dublin Grass Machinery	€ 68,000	25/06/2023	24/06/2024	12	04/07/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Multi-disciplinary Engineering Consultancy Services for Donabate Transport Projects Active Travel Routes Design Services	Roughan & O'Donovan Ltd	€ 690,814	19/06/2023	19/06/2025	24	**04/07/2023**
Digital Services	Renewal of the subscription to the Technical Index	Allium UK Holding	€ 31,269	01/07/2023	30/06/2024	12	30/06/2023
EETCD	Supply, Installation, derig and transportation of 3 x 3m gazebos, picket fencing and truck stage for the Flavours of Fingal County Show 2023	Castle Stage Hire	€ 55,925	28/06/2023	03/07/2023	1 week	28/06/2023
Operations	Concrete Footpath Construction in a series of batches from 3 - 8 sq meters at Moyclare, Baldoyle	Clar Con Construction Ltd	€ 30,960	03/07/2023	28/08/2023	7 weeks	27/06/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Wetland Restoration and Greenway Project - St. Itas Donabate	Larry Kieran Plant Hire Ltd	€ 39,987	26/06/2023	07/07/2023	2 weeks	23/06/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Services Works, Church Street & St. Patricks Park, Blanchardstown, D15	D.M. Morris Limited	€ 72,995	01/07/2023	01/10/2023	3	22/06/2023
EETCD	Provision of Stewarding Services for Flavours of Fingal 2023	Invictus Event Management Ltd	€ 52,806	21/06/2023	04/07/2023	2 weeks	21/06/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works, Glasmore Park, - Windmill Lands, Swords, Co. Dublin	John McQuillan Contracts Ltd	€ 55,739	30/06/2023	30/11/2023	5	20/06/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	The Design and Execution of Works in connection with the Installation of Play Spaces for Fingal County Council - four distinct projects - ITT (Repeat of FCC/173/20	Creative Play Solutions	€ 1,697,921	15/05/2023	15/09/2025	28	20/06/2023

Operations	Supply & Installation of Specified Calisthenics and Outdoor Fitness Hub at Damastown Park and Porterstown Park, D. 15.	Outfit Outdoor Fitness Equipment Ltd	€ 92,795	30/06/2023	30/07/2023	1	20/06/2023
Operations	Concrete Footpath Construction in a series of batches from 3 - 7 sq meters at Stapolin Lawns and Grange Park, Baldoyle	John Browne Construction Ltd	€ 39,323	26/06/2023	25/07/2023	1	19/06/2023
Operations	Supply of Bitumen Emulsion Fingal Area 2023	Colas Teoranta	€ 16,662	01/07/2023	01/12/2023	5	16/06/2023
Operations	Supply of Bitumen Emulsion Fingal Area 2023	Lagan Asphalt Ltd.	€ 32,075	01/07/2023	01/12/2023	5	16/06/2023
Operations	Supply of Bitumen Emulsion Fingal Area 2023	Irish Tar and Bitumen Suppliers Limited	€ 116,462	01/07/2023	01/12/2023	5	16/06/2023
Planning and Strategic	Re Surfacing of Existing Car Park at Bremore Castle, Balbriggan	Larry Kieran Plant Hire Ltd	€ 27,250	15/05/2023	15/06/2023	1	16/06/2023
EETCD	Supply of Buses/Coaches/Minibuses including wheelchair accessible vehicles, event staff as bus stops and management of online booking form	Marathon Training & Events	€ 127,250	01/07/2023	02/07/2023	1 day	15/06/2023
Operations	Consultancy Services for a Bridge Inventory Survey of Fingals Road Network	Atkins Ireland (WS Atkins Ireland Ltd)	€ 29,060	10/04/2023	09/06/2023	3	15/06/2023
Digital Services	Provision of Services on the online portal for Affordable Housing Schemes	Interform Limited	€ 35,250	09/06/2023	09/06/2024	12	12/06/2023
Corporate Affairs	Replacement of Critical LV Electrical Infrastructure (ACBs) in Blanchardstown Library & Draiocht and Malahide Library	Vincent Doherty Ltd	€ 66,605	01/06/2023	31/08/2023	3	12/06/2023
EETCD	Traffic management for Flavours of Fingal 2023	Freeflow Traffic Management	€ 54,315	09/06/2023	02/07/2023	1	09/06/2023
Housing	24 Hour Security Service at Wellview Estate, Dublin 15	DTC Security Ltd	€ 92,860	04/07/2023	05/09/2023	3	07/06/2023
Operations	Resurfacing of Dublin Road, R106 in Malahide	D.M. Morris Limited	€ 82,160	01/07/2023	30/07/2023	1	06/06/2023
Community	Provision of an Audit of Community, Sports & Recreation Facilities in the Administrative area of Fingal County Council and a radius of 10km around its borders	KPMG Ireland	€ 58,475	22/05/2023	16/01/2024	8	06/06/2023
Community	Modification & Upgrade Works at Hartstown Community Centre, D 15	FLN Consulting Engineers	€ 26,900	01/06/2023	31/07/2026	37	01/06/2023
EETCD	Bridge Stret Demolitions & Enabling Works Phase 1 as Part of the Balbriggan Rejuvenation Plan 2019 - 2025	Hegarty Demolition Ltd.	€ 183,884	01/06/2023	14/07/2024	13	01/06/2023
Operations	Road Markings at various locations within the Fingal Area	Nuzum Road Services Ltd	€ 57,248	14/06/2023	14/06/2024	12	01/06/2023

Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works, R125 Murrogh Road to Watery Lane, Swords	John McQuillan Contracts Ltd	€ 267,406	01/06/2023	24/09/2023	4	01/06/2023
Environment, Climate Action	Environmental Awareness Campaign Cinemas	Pearl & Dean Ireland Ltd	€ 86,000	01/06/2023	31/05/2024	12	01/06/2023
Operations	Cleaning & Maintenance Services for all public conveniences within Fingal County Councils Administrative Area	Healthmatic Ltd	€ 1,822,007	28/04/2023	27/04/2025	24	01/06/2023
Operations	Footpath Construction Millview Lawns, Millview Court, Millview Road, Yellow Walls Road and Sea Road, Malahide	John Browne Construction Ltd	€ 40,152	06/06/2023	23/06/2023	1	29/05/2023
Operations	Rd Inlay & Ancillary Works, Wellview Ave, Mulhuddart	Lagan Asphalt Ltd	€ 69,163	01/06/2023	01/09/2023	3	23/05/2023
Operations	Concrete Footpath Repair 2 - 10 sq mts Phoenix Residential Estate, Castleknock, Dublin 15	John Browne Construction Ltd	€ 65,000	01/06/2023	01/09/2023	3	23/05/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Specialist Ecology/Biodiversity Advice, support, management and coordination of surveys - Broadmeadow Way	Brady, Shipman Martin	€ 215,000	01/05/2023	31/05/2031	96	23/05/2023
EETCD	Malahide Castle & Visitor Centre Emergency Lighting Works	Norton Electrical Ltd	€ 186,995	01/06/2023	01/09/2024	15	**23/05/2023**
Housing	Refurbishment of 6 Houses, Portrane Avenue, Portrane	CTS Projects Ltd	€ 999,775	01/05/2023	30/11/2023	7	18/05/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Disposal of Waste from Site to the rear of Seamus Ennis Arts Centre	Larry Kiernan Plant Hire Ltd	€ 45,929	06/06/2023	06/07/2023	1	16/05/2023
Operations	Purchase of 3 Ford Ranger Crew Cab Jeeps with Automatic Transmission & Hard Top Canopy	Henry Ford & Son Ltd.	€ 77,040	10/05/2023	09/05/2024	12	12/05/2023
Operations	Consultancy Services for Fingal Harbours and Associated Services - Initial Contract for the Rehabilitation of Skerries Harbour	Byrne Looby & Partners Ltd	€ 104,615	06/03/2023	06/09/2024	18	12/05/2023
Operations	Supply only of Ready Mix Concrete for Fingal Castleknock/Mulhuddart	Keegan Quarries Ltd	€ 50,600	18/05/2023	31/12/2023	7	11/05/2023
Operations	Supply & delivery of All-Inclusive Carousel in Santry Demesne Playground	Spraoi Linn Ltd	€ 26,350	03/05/2023	03/08/2023	3	05/05/2023
Operations	Purchase of 1 x 7.5 Tonne Tipper Truck	FUSO Ireland, MMC Commercials	€ 127,722	05/05/2023	04/05/2024	12	05/05/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works, Edgewood Lawn, Corduff, Dublin 15	Lagan Asphalt Ltd	€ 109,787	15/05/2023	15/08/2023	3	04/05/2023
Corporate Affairs	Removal of Asbestos from a house on Parnell Square East Dublin 1	Grove Environmental Solutions Ltd.	€ 35,900	01/04/2023	01/06/2023	2	04/05/2023

Libraries	Design, Supply, Installation and Maintenance of Library Building Automation solution (My Open Library) for Skerries Library	Spectrum Communications Ltd	€ 41,005	01/05/2023	30/04/2024	12	04/05/2023
Operations	Road resurfacing & Ancillary Works, on the R122 Fieldstown Bridge 1 to Surgalstown Cross	Roadstone Ltd	€ 852,077	01/06/2023	01/09/2023	3	03/05/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works on the R125 County Boundary to Lispopple Cross	D.M. Morris Limited	€ 473,469	01/06/2023	01/09/2023	3	03/05/2023
EETCD	Economic Consultancy Services for the Development of an Economic Development Strategy for Fingal	Grant Thornton Finance Ltd	€ 157,500	09/05/2023	08/11/2023	6	03/05/2023
Operations	Installation of new timber knee rail fencing in Swords	Fingal Farm Home and Garden	€ 45,687	08/05/2023	08/07/2023	2	02/05/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Topographical Survey for the design stage of the N3 M50 to Clonee Road Scheme	IO Geomatics Ltd	€ 164,950	16/01/2023	15/07/2023	6	28/04/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Re-Instatement of Car Park Surface & Footpaths, ducting and 5 x light sockets and assoc. works at Bath Road Car Park, Balbriggan	Postmount Buildings Limited T/A Hayes Civil Engineering	€ 43,850	24/04/2023	24/11/2023	7	26/04/2023
Operations	Hire of Generators, Tower Lights and Electricians and Teleporter for Flavours of Fingal County Show 2023	GH Energy Rentals Ltd	€ 90,000	28/06/2023	07/07/2023	8 days	25/04/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Construction of Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian & Cycle Route	John Civil Engineering Co. Ltd	€ 7,715,430	15/05/2023	15/06/2024	13	24/04/2023
Housing	Employers Representative Led Integrated Consultant Design team for proposed residential developments at Holywell & Seatown Road, Swords, Co. Dublin	Henchion Reuter Architects	€ 2,449,510	01/04/2023	29/02/2028	58	19/04/2023
Operations	Installation of 2. No.Half MUGAS to Wellview and Parslickstown Residential Estates	Outfit Outdoor Fitness Equipment Ltd.	€ 75,450	01/05/2023	31/05/2023	1	19/04/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Supply of specially cut limestone blocks for the completion of the parapet on Bremore Castle Gate House	McKeown Stone	€ 33,628	26/06/2023	31/07/2023	5weeks	18/04/2023
Operations	Supply & Installation of Permanent Road Traffic Signs and Ancillary Works	PWS Signs Ltd	€ 33,430	02/05/2023	22/12/2023	8	18/04/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works, Turvey Avenue, Donabate	D.M. Morris Limited	€ 89,939	08/05/2023	08/09/2023	5	18/04/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works, Hazelwood Green & Avenue	D.M. Morris Limited	€ 80,130	30/04/2023	30/07/2023	3	18/04/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Work, Balscadden Road, Howth	John McQuillan Contracts Ltd	€ 100,705	05/05/2023	01/06/2023	1	17/04/2023
Operations	Supply & Installation of Landscapes Structure We-Go Swing Unit at Malahide Demesne	Sole Sports and Leisure Ltd	€ 52,000	22/08/2023	12/09/2023	3 weeks	17/04/2023

Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works, Chapel Green, Lusk	Lagan Asphalt Ltd	€ 84,460	01/06/2023	21/06/2023	3 weeks	14/04/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works, Curran Park, Balbriggan	Roadstone Ltd	€ 61,729	01/06/2023	21/06/2023	3 weeks	14/04/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works Balgriffin Cemetary	John McQuillan Contracts Ltd	€ 30,092	25/04/2023	23/05/2023	1	14/04/2023
Operations	Supply and Installation of an Outdoor Fitness Hub at Littlepace Park, Dublin 15	Outfit Outdoor Fitness Equipment Ltd	€ 113,725	01/04/2023	30/05/2023	2	13/04/2023
Operations	Installation of Concrete Footpath Works - Traffic Section	Clar Con Construction Ltd	€ 36,486	25/04/2023	04/08/2023	5	12/04/2023
Operations	Concrete Footpath Construction at Pinewood & Ashfield Green Residential Estates, Huntstown, D 15	John Browne Construction Ltd	€ 37,815	30/04/2023	30/05/2023	1	12/04/2023
Housing	Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Works	Bayview Contracts Ltd	€ 2,000,000	01/03/2023	31/03/2025	24	12/04/2023
Operations	Conservation, Architectural & Engineering Consultancy Services for Talbot Botanic Garden Glass House Refurbishment, Malahide, Co. Dublin	Bluett & O'Donoghue (Prodomo Ltd)	€ 79,930	11/04/2023	23/01/2024	10	12/04/2023
Operations	Bituminous Footpath Works at Balscadden Road, Howth	D.M. Morris Limited	€ 53,295	24/04/2023	23/05/2023	1	09/04/2023
Operations	Hire of 1 x 85 HP Plus 4 wheel Drive Tractor/with driver/operative 1 x Backhoe Excavator, 1 teleporter, 1 x John Deer Gater with cab	Larry Kieran Plant Hire Ltd	€ 62,883	10/04/2023	30/09/2023	5	06/04/2023
Libraries	Creator - Makers In Residence Programme & Development of Maker Spaces	Make Create Innovate Limited	€ 117,500	01/03/2023	01/03/2025	24	06/04/2023
Operations	Overlay at Back Corballis Road, Donabate	Roadstone Ltd	€ 50,981	17/04/2023	17/07/2023	4	05/04/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works, Estuary Road, Swords	John McQuillan Contracts Ltd	€ 136,350	08/05/2023	08/09/2023	5	05/04/2023
EETCD	Conservation & Enabling Works - Swords Castle	Oldstone Conservation Ltd	€ 621,115	17/04/2023	11/07/2024	15	04/04/2023
EETCD	Enabling Works - initial contract for SCQ Enabling Works (€5m/€750k)	Hegarty Demolition Ltd.	€ 834,932	05/04/2023	25/07/2024	16	04/04/2023
People Services	Corporate Employer Branding Project	Barlo	€ 81,000	20/02/2023	19/02/2025	24	03/04/2023
Corporate Affairs	Provision of a Water Hygiene Programme	Healthy Buildings (Ireland) Ltd. T/A HBE	€ 71,892	01/04/2023	31/03/2025	24	01/04/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary works at Bun a Knock, Naul	Siac Bituminous Products Ltd	€ 38,025	24/04/2023	28/04/2023	1 week	31/03/2023

Digital Services	Vmware vSan Expansion - Provision of Vmware Software and Licencing	Triangle Computer Services	€ 93,231	01/05/2023	30/04/2024	12	31/03/2023
Community	Provide Outdoor Equipment lockers with app access	BoxUp SA	€ 34,443	01/03/2023	01/03/2027	48	31/03/2023
EETCD	Development of the Castleknock and Balbriggan App Trails and the inclusion of same in the Dublin Discovery Trails AR App	Peel Entertainment Group Ltd t/a Peel Interactive	€ 50,000	27/03/2023	31/07/2023	4	31/03/2023
Operations	Concrete Footpath Construction in a series of batches from 6 - 12 Sq Mts at Mainstreet, Howth, Co. Dublin	Formac Construction	€ 80,826	24/04/2023	24/05/2023	1	30/03/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works at Townparks Distributor Road, Skerries	Roadstone Ltd	€ 77,592	24/04/2023	05/05/2023	2 weeks	30/03/2023
Operations	Road Inlay & Ancillary Works at Healys Lane, Rush	Roadstone Ltd	€ 39,209	08/05/2023	19/05/2023	2 weeks	30/03/2023
Corporate Affairs	Supply of Fixed Voice Services	Eir Ltd	€ 110,000	01/01/2023	31/08/2023	8	29/03/2023
Digital Services	Property Interest Register Annual Maintenance Services	Irish Mapping & GIS Solution Ltd.,	€ 27,110	01/01/2023	31/12/2025	36	28/03/2023
EETCD	Classical Production for Shackleton Proms Event	Arun Rao	€ 41,000	12/05/2023	14/05/2023	2 days	28/03/2023
Operations	Footpath Landscaping & Drainage Works, Paddys Hill	Jim Hayes Civil Engineering	€ 39,000	15/04/2023	14/05/2023	1	27/03/2023
Operations	Donabate Cemetary Upgrade Works	Lakelands Civil Engineering Ltd	€ 47,425	27/03/2023	26/06/2023	3	27/03/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Ongar Development Remedial Works	Formac Construction	€ 919,532	01/05/2023	30/09/2023	5	24/03/2023
Digital Services	12 month Autodesk Software Subscription (2023)	Diatec Group	€ 56,063	01/03/2023	29/02/2024	12	22/03/2023
Corporate Affairs	County Hall Courtyard Upgrade Works	McKeon Construction Ltd T/A Hereworks	€ 989,616	20/03/2023	31/07/2023	4	22/03/2023
Operations	Road Inlay and Ancillary Works, Sycamore View, Castleknock, Dublin 15	Lagan Asphalt Ltd	€ 30,957	01/05/2023	31/05/2023	1	20/03/2023
Operations	Supply of Macadam for various locations in Fingal County Council for Road Repairs	Roadstone Ltd,	€ 95,770	17/01/2023	31/12/2023	11.5	15/03/2023
Operations	Road Marking for Howth/Malahide Area	Nuzum Road Services Ltd	€ 27,504	02/04/2023	01/07/2023	3	13/03/2023

Operations	Hire of Rubber Wheeled Excavator (Wacker Neuson EW65 or Equivalent)	Thomas Brennan & Sons Ltd	€ 72,000	13/03/2023	12/03/2026	36	13/03/2023
Operations	Brackenstown Road Subsidence and Reinstatement	Larry Kiernan Plant Hire Ltd	€ 301,441	06/03/2023	24/11/2023	8	13/03/2023
Operations	Hire of 2 Mobile Welfare Pods	G & J Kearns Ltd	€ 50,000	13/03/2023	12/03/2026	36	09/03/2023
EETCD	Provision of Economic Consultancy Services for a feasibility Study for the Development Regional Innovation Hubs in the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor Region	KPMG Ireland	€ 112,995	07/03/2023	06/09/2024	18	07/03/2023
EETCD	Catering Services at Ardgillen Castle, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin	Brambles Deli Café Ltd	€ 51,500	04/03/2023	03/03/2024	12	04/03/2023
EETCD	Production & Promotion of Unison Festival	TASCQ	€ 70,000	01/03/2023	28/02/2024	12	01/03/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Broadmeadow Way Greenway - GI Enabling Works, Access Track	Glas Civil Engineering Ltd	€ 232,319	13/03/2023	12/05/2023	2	01/03/2023
Digital Services	Revamp of Council Chamber Technology	SKS Communications Ltd	€ 275,504	03/01/2023	02/01/2028	60	28/02/2023
Operations	Kerbing & bituminous Footpath Works on a section of New Road, Donabate, Co. Dublin	D.M. Morris Limited	€ 165,072	07/03/2023	07/06/2023	3	28/02/2023
Housing	Single Storey Extension to Dwelling at Whitestown Drive, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15	Arthurstown Construction Limited	€ 123,797	27/02/2023	10/06/2023	4	27/02/2023
Corporate Affairs	Supply and Installation of Etrel Chargers and Back Office	Easy Go	€ 32,659	24/02/2023	23/02/2024	12	24/02/2023
Corporate Affairs	Supply & Install of Roof Guardrail Protection - Civic Office Grove Road	Barton Industrial Services Ltd	€ 27,080	01/02/2023	30/04/2023	3	23/02/2023
Housing	Refurbishment works a Dwelling in Corduff Green, Dublin 15	Arthurstown Construction Limited	€ 124,563	01/02/2023	31/12/2023	11	22/02/2023
Housing	Renovation of 3 Dwellings, St. Philomenas Court, Ballycoolin, Dublin 15	Arthurstown Construction Limited	€ 191,625	06/03/2023	31/08/2024	18	21/02/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Design and Site Supervision Services for Ongar-Barnhill Road Construction Stage	Clifton Scannell Emerson Associates	€ 965,610	01/03/2023	01/09/2026	42	21/02/2023

Digital Services	Implement and deploy Dynamics 365 for Field Services as both an asset management solution and scheduling solution	Ergoservices Ltd t/a Ergo	€ 198,000	01/04/2023	31/03/2026	36	21/02/2023
Community	Community Care Construction Works Meakestown Sports and Community Centre	Vision Contracting Ltd	€ 6,153,131	20/02/2023	14/10/2025	32	20/02/2023
Environment, Climate Action	Horse Seizure Services	County Council Security Support Services Ltd	€ 104,500	16/02/2023	15/02/2024	12	16/02/2023
Operations	Urgent Drainage Works in Malahide Demesne	Aquaturf Solutions Ltd	€ 27,987	27/02/2023	10/03/2023	0	16/02/2023
Digital Services	Requirement for departmental access to lawlink	Rochford Brady Legal Services Ltd	€ 43,458	01/01/2023	31/12/2023	12	16/02/2023
Digital Services	Supply of 200 Microsoft 365 E5 Licences	MicroMail Ltd	€ 49,992	01/02/2023	31/05/2023	4	16/02/2023
Digital Services	Maintenance and Support of the Cygnus Housing Loans Software System	Gemini Consultants Ltd	€ 56,839	01/04/2023	31/03/2024	12	16/02/2023
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Asbestos Removal Turvey Depot	Grove Environmental Solutions Ltd.	€ 89,500	14/02/2023	15/05/2023	2.5 months	14/02/2023
Housing	10 Unit Housing Development with Studio/Gallery Space at Ballough Place, Barrack Lane, Lusk and proposed 5 Unit Passive House Development at Monastery Court, Church Road, Lusk	AXIS Construction	€ 4,623,548	13/02/2023	14/02/2025	24	13/02/2023
Housing	Environmental Risk Assessment Site at Sillogue, Ballymun	RPS Consulting Engineers Ltd	€ 35,463	01/02/2023	31/12/2024	23	10/02/2023
EETCD	Catering Services at Newbridge House Visitors Centre, Donabate	Brambles Deli Café Ltd	€ 60,000	27/02/2023	26/02/2024	12	10/02/2023
Operations	Resurfacing Works on the existing all weather pitch in Skerries Town Park	Sole Sports and Leisure Ltd	€ 475,935	11/07/2022	31/08/2023	13	09/02/2023
Operations	Balbriggan Harbour Redevelopment Minor Works	Donnelly Civil Engineering Ltd	€ 448,435	23/01/2023	21/07/2023	6	07/02/2023
EETCD	Training Services for Local Enterprise Offices - LEAN Business Programme Dublin	Jigsaw VATVAE t/a Jigsaw Better Business	€ 355,500	01/01/2023	31/12/2024	24	06/02/2023
EETCD	Food Tourism Marketing Consultant for Fingal Food & Drink Policy	Marie Brouder	€ 31,750	01/02/2023	30/06/2023	5	31/01/2023
Operations	Design and Installation of 25 Linear meters of ARMCO Crash Barrier along R122 Outside St. Margarets National School	Motorway Care	€ 29,670	03/01/2023	28/02/2023	2	23/01/2023

Operations	Removal of Dangerous Dead Trees overhanging the Turvey Avenue and the R126 at Cobbes Lane	Redwood Tree Services Ltd	€ 26,000	23/01/2023	23/02/2023	1	20/01/2023
Operations	Maintenance, Servicing, Repair and Ticket replenishment of Pay & Display Parking Machines	Actavo (Sierra Support Services Group)	€ 50,000	01/02/2023	30/06/2023	5	18/01/2023
EETCD	Requirement to provide specialist lighting consultancy services for Quay Street & Environs Public Realm Project, Balbriggan	Arup	€ 29,000	23/01/2023	23/06/2023	6	17/01/2023
Operations	Provision of Enforcement and Legal Services to Fingal County Council for Parking Services	Parkrite	€ 182,184	01/02/2023	30/06/2023	5	16/01/2023
Operations	Planting & Maintenance of Council Owned Summer/Winter Floral Display Baskets/Planters for various locations within Fingal Administrative Area and the Supply of a limited number of units	Redlough Landscapes Ltd	€ 173,182	10/01/2023	10/12/2024	24	12/01/2023
Operations	Road Resurfacing R132, Balrothery to Balbriggan	D.M. Morris Limited	€ 575,190	01/03/2023	01/05/2023	3	12/01/2023
Operations	Purchase of 2 to 5 New 80 kw 4 wheel drive tractors	Midlouth Garage	€ 285,000	12/12/2022	12/12/2023	12	09/01/2023
Operations	Purchase of 2 to 4 New Electric Dumpers with 1500kg Payload Capacity	Maher Tractor Sales Ltd	€ 78,000	05/12/2022	04/12/2023	12	09/01/2023
Environment, Climate Action	Environmental Monitoring & Reporting Services	McQuillan Environmental John McQuillan Contracts Ltd	€ 101,028	09/01/2023	08/01/2024	12	09/01/2023
Corporate Affairs	Postal Collection Services for 2023	Print Post Ltd.	€ 145,000	01/01/2023	31/12/2023	12	05/01/2023
Community	Implementation of a series of Pilot Playful Streets throughout Fingal	A Playful City	€ 100,000	26/05/2023	24/05/2024	12	01/01/2023
EETCD	Production, Promotion and Distribution of Tradfest: The Fingal Sessions (six half hour TV Shows for Domestic (RTE) and global distribution	TASCQ	€ 130,000	01/01/2023	31/12/2023	12	01/01/2023
Housing	Weekly Bin Collections and Ad hoc Skip Collections from the Halting Sites in the Fingal Area	Starrus Holdings Ltd	€ 64,000	01/01/2023	30/09/2023	9	01/01/2023
Housing	Parnell Estate D15 Management Service - Unsold Affordable	Paula Barrett Properties Ltd	€ 240,000	01/01/2023	31/12/2023	12	01/01/2023
Operations	Hire of Excavator & Operator at the Former Dunsink Landfill & Environs	Anthony Patton Plant Hire Ltd	€ 78,000	16/01/2023	15/01/2024	12	01/01/2023
Digital Services	Citrix Licences and Support Services Ltd	Arkphire Security Ltd	€ 25,540	01/01/2023	31/12/2023	12	01/01/2023
Digital Services	Upgrade of Broadband Bandwidth for Public Internet Access in Fingal Libraries	Virgin Media	€ 36,000	01/01/2023	31/12/2025	36	01/01/2023

Appendix 3

Active Travel Investment Grants 2023 Allocations

Active Travel Investment Grants: 2023 Allocations		
Project Code	**Project Name & Funding Allocation 2023**	**Comments**
FCC/19/0005	Schools Streets non SRTS €100,000	Small improvements at schools (not in SRTS programme) which can be delivered through numerous departments.
FCC/20/0004	Bicycle Parking (Covid) €150,000	Contractor is gearing up to complete bike parking stands in various locations across the county. Further work packages are being developed by the team for Swords and Dublin 15 areas. Ongoing liaison with Operations and Parks to agree suitable locations for bike parking.
FCC/21/0001	Snugborough Road – NAC to Ongar €220,000	Gateway 2 Report has been issued to the NTA to gain approval to proceed to preliminary design phase of the project.
FCC/21/0002	Baldoyle to Howth €300,000	Phase One of the project has reached substantial completion.
FCC/21/0006	Clonee to Blanchardstown Shopping Centre €235,000	Data collection for the options stage of the project has been completed i.e. topographical, traffic surveys, tree surveys. This data will feed into development of the options report for the project. A second Draft options report has been submitted by consultant and been reviewed by Active Travel.
FCC/22/0001	Castleknock to Dunsink Lane €185,000	The options report and relevant drawings for Auburn Ave and Dunsinea Lane have been submitted to the NTA in compliance to the Gateway 2-5 Hold Point requirements. A Draft options report has been submitted by consultant for Dunsink Lane and currently been reviewed by Active Travel.

FCC/22/0004	Hartstown/Huntstown/Mountview Rd D1 €100,000	The phase 2b junction designs have been completed by the cycle design office (CDO). These designs are being reviewed by FCC before tendering for construction.
FCC/22/0005	St. Cronan's Ave & Brackenstown Rd €1,387,711	Contractor currently on site laying red SMA. Work has also commenced on line marking, signage and bollard installation.
FCC/22/0006	Rathingle/Rivervalley Rd. Swords €176,000	Design works for phase 2b the modification of the existing roundabout is currently being discussed with the NTA.
FCC/22/0007	Balbriggan Road Mill Street and Drogheda Street €100,000	Active Travel have been working closely with the Our Balbriggan Project Team. On completion of the concept design piece relating to the overall Our Balbriggan Active Travel Strategy we are developing a brief for appointment of multi-disciplinary engineering consultant to develop options report and detailed design for this element of the project. This work is ongoing.
FCC/22/0009	Permeability Links North County €465,000	Several projects are still being identified and assessed via multi criteria analysis. We are also in ongoing discussions with Operations to incorporate other works in order to get best value for money when we go to delivery of these works. Active Travel are preparing a tranche of works which includes removal of barriers that are currently impeding permeability and connectivity issues. A number of crossing points are also being considered and provided as part of these works.
FCC/22/0010	R132 Ministers Rd to Blakes Cross + Kilhedge Lane €300,000	Tenderers have been evaluated and it is expected to appoint a contractor during July.
FCC/22/0011	Skerries – Harbour Road (footpath build outs) €905,000	Engineering consultants are finalising concept designs and options report. The project team will then engage with the public and stakeholders to gather feedback on draft designs.

FCC/22/0012	Seatown Roundabout to Estuary Rd (Swords to Malahide) €140,000	Engineering consulting are finalising the Non-Statutory Public Consultation Summary Report which is due to be issued to Active Travel for review.
FCC/22/0014	Balbriggan – Coney Hill from Devlin Bridge to Bremore Cottages €140,000	Consultant is finalising concept drawings and options report which is expected to be submitted to the project team.
FCC/22/0015	Rush South Beach (Bawn Rd across carpark and out to South Shore. €500,000	We are continuing engagement with Property Section with regard to acquisition of lands in this area. Works are also ongoing to look at options in this area that will serve not only this project but that will benefit the Fingal Coastal way route options.
FCC/22/0016	New Street Public Realm Project €583,899	An application was made to An Board Pleanála by members of the public in relation to the proposed public realm improvements, requesting EIA and AA Screening Determinations. As a result the statutory Process is on hold until after An Bord Pleanála has made its decision which was originally to be by the 11th of September 2023. However, no decision has been provided to date.
FCC/22/0018	Data collection for Active Travel Projects €60,000	Traffic, air, noise etc
FCC/22/0019	Skerries Active Travel Plan €655,000	Tender competition is ongoing for Stage 1 of the process.
FCC/22/0020	Balrothery Active Travel Review €282,500	Tender is complete and kick off meeting is due to take place with the consultant during November.
FCC/22/0021	Seamount Heights to Old Golf Links Park €300,000	Tender documents are being prepared following further discussions and agreements with local representative groups.

FCC/22/0022	Broomfield to Paddy's Hill via Naomh Mearnog GAA €350,000	A specification for the tender of these works is being prepared with a view to going to tender in Q4 2023. Small works have been completed around existing car park through Operations. Enabling works ongoing regarding connection works to school and Limetree Avenue.
FCC/22/0026	Fingal County Council Active Travel Office – Staff Costs €1,100,000	
FCC/22/0028	FCC Castleknock to Blanchardstown via Farmleigh €90,000	Stage 2 of the tendering process complete and tender assessment has taken place. Contract documents to be signed in coming weeks.
FCC/22/0030	Station Road Portmarnock Footpaths and Cycleway €150,000	Works have reached substantial completion.
FCC/ 23/XXX	Scoil an Duinninigh to Waterside footpath and cycleway €220,000	Planning permission has been granted for the school and Department of Education is to engage with Fingal County Council on planning conditions related to pedestrian access. .
FCC/ 23/XXX	Feltrim Road cycle infrastructure €120,000	These works are expected to go to tender for a design consultant in Q4 2023.
FCC/ 23/XXX	Active Travel Pathfinder – Swords to Airport quick build €200,000	Project team are liaising with Dublin Airport Authority and the National Transport Authority in relation to agreeing the scope of the project. Tender was uploaded to eTenders in June and it is planned to assess any submitted tenders during July.

FCC/23/XXX	Donabate to Portrane (R126) - Distributor Road to Portrane Avenue €40,000	Consultant is finalising concept drawings and options report which is expected to be submitted to the project team for review.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Scoil Mhuire & Iosef, Sinsear – Bayside Senior National School €200,000	Works have been substantially completed by contractor. Minor snag works ongoing.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Scoil Ghrainne CNS €200,000	Detailed design nearing completion to enable procurement of works contractor. Contract documents are being finalised to engage a contractor for the works.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Bayside Junior School €200,000	Works have been substantially completed by contractor. Minor snag works ongoing.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Scoil Choilm CNS €200,000	Installation of flexible bollards on Porterstown Rd. outside the school entrance is complete. Detailed design nearing completion to enable procurement of works contractor. Contract documents are being finalised to engage a contractor for the works.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Rush & Lusk ETNS €200,000	Construction work is now complete and final snagging works and inspections are proposed for early June.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Pope John Paul II NS, Malahide €200,000	Detailed design has commenced to enable procurement of works contractor.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Castaheany ETNS €200,000	Works have been substantially completed by contractor. Minor snag works ongoing.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – St. Benedict's NS €200,000	Works have been substantially completed by contractor. Minor snag works ongoing.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Ladyswell National School €200,000	Detailed design nearing completion to enable procurement of works contractor. Contract documents are being finalised to engage a contractor for the works.

Appendix 4

Housing Delivery Construction Programme

Schemes on Site

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On Site Date	Handover (estimated)
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Bowden Court (Outlands), Swords 53°27'52.7"N 6°14'04.1"W - Google Maps	**11** 4x1Bed 4x2Bed 3x3Bed	On Site	Q4 2022	Q3 2024
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/ Castleknock/Ongar	FCC	Social	Infill Sites in Dublin 15 https://goo.gl/maps/UqNat8GX7BBo8cEh8 (169a Clonsilla Road) https://goo.gl/maps/Q2Mvqau7RceRHDXy5 (Sheepmoor shop site)	**2** 1x2Bed 1x3Bed	On Site	Q1 2023	Q4 2023
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	Tuath Housing	Social - Elderly	Kilhedge Lane, Lusk 53°31'24.4"N 6°10'30.3"W - Google Maps	**31** 13x1Bed 18x2Bed	On Site	Q1 2023	Q1 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Ballough Place (Former Leonards Garage), Lusk https://goo.gl/maps/8u6BiRWzuLSTtmjk8	**10** 9x2Bed 1x1Bed	On Site	Q1 2023	Q3 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Monastery Court (Katies Hunts), Church Road, Lusk https://goo.gl/maps/vqRAVUw8ZqhM75w66	**5** 5x2Bed	On Site	Q1 2023	Q1 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Hayestown, Rush 53°31'24.1"N 6°06'42.1"W - Google Maps	**62** 17x2Bed 45x3Bed	On Site	Q2 2023	Q3 2024
Balbriggan/Rush - Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	St. Ita's, Portrane Portrane Ave - Google Maps	**14** Restoration of existing cottages	On Site	Q4 2022	Q4 2023
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	Glenveagh Living Ltd	Mixed Tenure	Ballymastone Donabate 53°29'21.2"N 6°07'58.1"W	**172** 432 units, of which 20% social and 20% affordable	Mixed Tenure	Q3 2023	Q2 2025

Appendix 4- continued

Schemes with Part 8 Planning Approval and at Tender stage

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On Site Date	Handover (estimated)
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart/Castleknock/ Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Church Fields 3A 53°24'44.7"N 6°23'39.0"W - Google	**300** 27x1Bed 118x2Bed 136x3Bed 19x4Bed	Tender evaluation complete. Contractors have been appointed for enabling works.	Q4 2023	Q3 2025
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/ Castleknock/ Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Mayeston, Dublin 11 53°24'28.4"N 6°17'02.1"W - Google Maps	**121** 37x1Bed 72x2Bed 12x3Bed	Subject to Judicial Review.	Q4 2025	Q4 2027
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social - Elderly	North Street, Swords 53°27'38.6"N 6°13'06.7"W - Google Maps	**13** 6x1Bed 7x2Bed	Enabling works package ready. Design team tender to be evaluated.	Q2 2024	Q3 2025
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk /Swords	FCC	Social -	Seatown Swords 53.459821, -6.217958 Google Maps	36 36x2Bed	Design ongoing, Tender package to be completed in Q4 2023.	Q1 2024	Q3 2025
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	North and East Housing Association	Social – Elderly	Garristown 53°34'03.7"N 6°22'42.1"W - Google Maps	**6**	Planning granted.	Q4 2023	Q4 2024

Appendix 4- continued

Schemes at Pre-Planning Stage

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On Site Date	Handover (estimated)
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/ Castleknock/ Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Church Fields 3B 53°24'44.7"N 6°23'39.0"W - Google Maps	**217**	Pre-Planning and design stage. Part 10 planning application for 217 units was lodged to ABP in June. Awaiting decision from ABP.	Q1 2025	Q2 2026
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Holywell, Swords 53°26'48.1"N 6°12'42.8"W	**57**	Pre-Planning and design stage. Conveyancing complete.	Q2 2024	Q4 2025

*The above estimated timelines are indicative and subject to a successful planning and procurement process.

Appendix 4- continued

Long Term Leasing

Area Committee	Lessor	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	Handover (estimated)
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar	Glenveagh Homes	Enhanced Leasing	Balroy House	**82**	On site	Q1 2024
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar	Alanna Homes	Long Term Leasing	Hansfield	**159**	On site	Q4 2023

Appendix 5

External Funding – Community and Sports Development

Funding Source	Grant Scheme	Name of Group	Stats	Amount Awarded	Date of Award
Pobal	Community Services Program	Parslickstown House	Concept documents approved gone to application stage		
Pobal	Community Services Program	Blakestown Community Resource Centre	Concept documents approved gone to application stage		
DDTAS	Sports Capital 2023	Mountview Youth and Community Centre – All weather pitch upgrade & LED lighting	Application submitted		
DDTAS	Sports Capital 2023	Hartstown Community Centre All weather pitch upgrade	Application submitted		
DDTAS	Sports Capital 2023	Flemington Community Centre – Accessible Gym	Application submitted		

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 24

CONFERENCE REPORT

AILG
Association of Irish Local Government
Aontas Rialtas Áitiúil na hÉireann

AILG Elected Member Training Programme Module 6 November 2023

"Road Safety: New Speed Limit Policy and Safeguarding Road Users"



AILG Elected Member Training Programme Module 6 (In-Person) November 2023

16th November 2023 | **Southern Region** | **Tower Hotel, Co. Waterford**

"Road Safety: New Speed Limit Policy and Safeguarding Road Users"

09.30am – 10.00am	***Registration and Tea/Coffee***
10.00am – 10.15am	***Opening, Introduction and Welcome***
Session 1 **10.15am-11.00am**	**Speaker:** *Mr. John McCarthy, Senior Road Engineer Advisor with the Dept. of Transport* Mr John McCarthy, Senior Road Engineer Advisor with the Dept. of Transport will give an outline of the new speed limit guidelines which have been recently published by the Dept. of Transport against the background of an alarming increase in road fatalities. The new guidelines will set default speeds for urban and rural roads with scope for Councils to vary according to local circumstances.
11.00am-11.20am	**Tea/Coffee Break**
Session 2 **11.20-12.00**	**Speaker:** *Mr. Michael Murphy, Active Travel Unit, Waterford City & County Council* Active Travel prioritises the needs of vulnerable road users and works to provide safe corridors for pedestrians and cyclists. Mr. Murphy will provide Elected Members with an overview of measures which support safety for those who walk or cycle to their destinations.
12.00pm – 12.30pm	***Questions and answers followed by lunch.***

AILG
Association of Irish Local Government
Aontas Rialtas Áitiúil na hÉireann

AILG Elected Member Training Programme Module 6 November 2023

"Road Safety: New Speed Limit Policy and Safeguarding Road Users"



AILG Elected Member Training Programme Module 6 (In-Person) November 2023

18th November 2023 **Eastern & Midlands/Northern & Western Region** **Clayton Hotel, Galway**

"Road Safety: New Speed Limit Policy and Safeguarding Road Users"

09.30am – 10.00am	***Registration and Tea/Coffee***
10.00am – 10.15am	***Opening, Introduction and Welcome*** - **Cllr. Gail Dunne, President AILG**
Session 1 **10.15am-11.00am**	**Speaker:** *Mr. John McCarthy, Senior Road Engineer Advisor with the Dept. of Transport* Mr John McCarthy, Senior Road Engineer Advisor with the Dept. of Transport will give an outline of the new speed limit guidelines which have been recently published by the Dept. of Transport against the background of an alarming increase in road fatalities. The new guidelines will set default speeds for urban and rural roads with scope for Councils to vary according to local circumstances.
11.00am-11.15am	**Tea/Coffee Break**
Session 2 **11.15 -12.00pm**	**Speaker:** *TBC* Active Travel prioritises the needs of vulnerable road users and works to provide safe corridors for pedestrians and cyclists. Mr. Murphy will provide Elected Members with an overview of measures which support safety for those who walk or cycle to their destinations.
12.00pm – 12.30pm	***Questions and Answers followed by Close and lunch***

AILG
Association of Irish Local Government
Aontas Rialtas Áitiúil na hÉireann

Annual Training Conference **2024**

14th & 15th February

Date for your Diary

Arklow Bay Hotel
Sea Rd, Ferrybank, Arklow, Co. Wicklow

arklowbay.com | reservations@arklowbay.com

Seminar will commence with registration at 5.00pm & official opening at 7.30pm on Wednesday 14th February 2024.

Conference Dinner will take place at 7.30pm on Thursday 15th February 2024.

Bookings must be made via Eventbrite

CONTACT:
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Maynooth, Co. Kildare

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ACCOMMODATION DETAILS

Arklow Bay Hotel, Sea Rd, Arklow, Co. Wicklow Y14 DX02 *Delegate Rates Available (limited availability):* €120 Single Occupancy / €140 Per Room (Double/Twin)	(0)402 26200

Woodenbridge Hotel & Lodge	reservations@woodenbridgehotel.com	(0402) 35146
Arklow Bridge Hotel	bridgearklow@gmail.com	(0402) 31666
The Old Coach House	enquiries@oldcoachhouse.info	(0402) 35408

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 25

MAYOR'S BUSINESS - COUNCILLOR A. HENCHY

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 25a

HOUSING FOR ALL - LOCAL CAMPAIGNS TO ASSIST BUYERS AND THOSE BUILDING THEIR OWN HOMES

Motion: Councillor A. Henchy

"That the Chief Executive strongly supports the various schemes which are available to assist buyers in owning their own home through the roll out of strong local campaigns across the County in tandem with an extensive advertising campaign across all media platforms and also include the extension of the First Home Scheme to self-build homes, which will assist those in Fingal who are building their own homes".

Report

In addition to the statutory obligations of the Affordable Purchase Schemes, Fingal County Council held several events across the County to meet potential homeowners and explain the assorted options available to them. We have included the option for one-on-one sessions to discuss individual circumstances. External agencies, including the First Home Scheme, have contributed, where available, to these events. It is intended to both continue these events and to host specific events for property specialists as well as accepting invitations to speak at relevant events and conferences.

An extensive advertising campaign is also being developed.

Source of Report:

Paul Carroll, Director of Housing & Community Development

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 26

DEPARTMENTAL/MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE

LGMA
An Ghníomhaireacht Bainistíochta Rialtais Áitiúil
Local Government Management Agency

12th October 2023

Nikki Halleran,
A/Senior Executive Officer,
Corporate Services
Fingal County Council
County Hall,
Main Street
Swords,
Co. Dublin
K68 X8Y2

Dear Nikki,

Thank you for your letter of 18th September 2023 in relation to the meeting of Fingal County Council held on 11th September 2023 at which a resolution was adopted calling on the return to negotiations with Fórsa on job evaluation.

The matter was subject to discussion at the Workplace Relations Committee and the parties have now agreed a way forward.

Yours sincerely,

Geraldine Dunne

Geraldine Dunne,

LGMA Board Secretary

www.lgma.ie
E info@lgma.ie
T 01633 2200

Ceanncheathrú
Teach an Rialtais Áitiúil
35-39 Cé Uiséir
Baile Átha Cliath 8

Headquarters
Local Government House
35 – 39 Ussher's Quay
Dublin 8

Airgeadais
Aras on Fhionn Uisce
27 Bothair Ui Chuinneagain
Baile Átha Cliath 8

Finance
Phoenix House
27 Conyngham Road
Dublin 8

An Roinn Coimirce Sóisialaí
Department of Social Protection

Case Number: REPS-2023-35818

Ms Nikki Halleran
A/Senior Executive Officer
County Hall
Main Street
Swords
Co. Dublin K67 X8Y2

Ref: Motion 35

22nd February 2023

Dear Ms Halleran,

I refer to your correspondence to the Minister for Social Protection, Ms. Heather Humphreys T.D, in relation to Artists with Disabilities and the Basic Income for the Arts pilot scheme on behalf of Fingal County Council.

This pilot scheme comes under the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media. It is important to stress that a payment under the pilot is not a social protection or income support payment. Rather it is a payment in recognition of the valuable contribution of the arts community and an incentive to encourage people to remain employed in the arts rather than seeking employment elsewhere.

The Department of Social Protection provides a range of income supports for people unable to work due to illness or disability. The primary social assistance schemes in this space are the Disability Allowance and Blind Pension - these are means tested payments, which are also subject to a medical assessment and habitual residency requirement. As at the end of December 2022 there were over 158,800 persons were in receipt of these payments, this includes nearly 16,000 persons in receipt of these payments while in employment/self-employment.

Social welfare legislation provides that for social assistance schemes, all income and assets belonging to a claimant, and his or her spouse/partner where applicable, are assessable for

means testing purposes. The purpose of the means test is to ensure that resources are directed to those with the greatest need for income supports by the State. However, both the Disability Allowance and Blind Pension have also been structured to support recipients to avail of opportunities to pursue employment, be that self-employment or insurable employment. When an individual commences employment, they can avail of an income disregard of €165 per week. In addition, 50% of earnings between €165 and €375, are also disregarded for the purpose of the means test.

Income from the pilot scheme is treated as income from self-employment, and as a result the disregards above will apply. The department has created a web page on Gov.ie which details the 'Interaction of the Basic Income for the Arts Pilot Scheme with DSP payments'. This page will be updated as required.

Yours sincerely,

Una Groarke
Administrative Officer
Illness, Disability and Carers Policy
Department of Social Protection
Áras Mhic Dhiarmada
Store Street
Dublin 1
D01 WY03

The Minister is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015
(details available on www.lobbying.ie)

Oifig an Taoisigh
Office of the Taoiseach

25 October 2023

Ms Nikki Halleran
A/Senior Executive Officer
County Hall
Main Street
Swords
Co Dublin
K67 X8Y2

Reference Number: DOT-TV-13251-2023

Dear Ms Halleran

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter to the Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, T.D., dated 19th October 2023.

Yours sincerely

Katie Downes

Katie Downes
Assistant Private Secretary to the Taoiseach

Telephone: 01 619 4021
Email: taoiseach@taoiseach.gov.ie

From: Ministers Office <Minister-Transport@corr.cloud.gov.ie>
Sent: 25 October 2023 15:41
To: Customer Care Unit <CustomerCareUnit@fingal.ie>
Subject: Ref: TTAS-MO-04772-2023

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Fingal County Council. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you are satisfied of the email's authenticity.

Our Ref: TTAS-MO-04772-2023

Dear Ms. Halleran,

On behalf of the Minister for Transport, Eamon Ryan, T.D., I wish to

thank you for your email regarding additional NCT centres. A further reply will issue to you as soon as possible.

With best wishes,

Amanda Corley

Private Secretary to Minister Ryan

The Minister is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015 (details available www.lobbying.ie)

An Roinn Iompair
Department of Transport
LÃ¡na Liosain, Baile Ã tha Cliath, D02 TR60
Leeson Lane, Dublin, D02 TR60
www.gov.ie/transport

From: Housing Minister <MINISTER@housing.gov.ie>
Sent: 26 October 2023 15:07
To: Customer Care Unit <CustomerCareUnit@fingal.ie>
Subject: FW: Fingal coco housing for all

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Fingal County Council. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you are satisfied of the email's authenticity.

Dear Ms. Halleran,

Thank you for your letter above to Mr. Darragh O'Brien, TD and Minister of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
I wish to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence, the contents of which have been noted.

Kind regards,
Niamh Redmond
Private Secretary
——
An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

From: Minister O'Brien Office <ministerobrien-housing@corr.cloud.gov.ie>
Sent: 26 October 2023 15:02
To: Customer Care Unit <CustomerCareUnit@fingal.ie>
Subject: HPLG-MOBO-04023-2023 – An Bord Pleanála Item 35 – November 2022

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Fingal County Council. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you are satisfied of the email's authenticity.

26th October 2023

customercareunit@fingal.ie

Ref: HPLG-MOBO-04023-2023

Dear Ms. Halleran,

Thank you for your email to Mr. Darragh O'Brien, T.D., Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, in connection with your query.

Your correspondence is currently receiving attention and a further reply will issue as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Niamh Redmond
Private Secretary

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 27

CORRESPONDENCE

Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council

A: Áras an Chontae, Caisleán an Bharraigh
Chontae Mhaigh Eo, F23 WF90

T: 094 906 4000 F: 094 902 3937

W: www.mayo.ie

5th September 2023

To: All Councils

Re. Build Time for Croí Cónaithe Scheme

Dear Meeting Administrator,

Mayo County Council, at its meeting of 12th June 2023, passed the following resolution:

"Calling on the Department of Housing to increase the build time requirement of the Croí Cónaithe Scheme from 13 months to 24 months. Currently the Scheme requires a derelict property to be brought back into use within 13 months which is, for the most part, unattainable given the works required on these properties."

I would be grateful if you could circulate to your members.

Yours sincerely,

Martina Hughes
Meetings Administrator
Mayo County Council

cc. Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

COMHAIRLE CONTAE AN CHLÁIR | CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL

12th September, 2023.

Our Ref: September23 - 27/AR/AC

Dear Meetings Administrator,

At the September meeting of the Council the members passed the following resolution:

"I am calling on the Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan to address the chaos being caused to members of the public by the incompetent service currently in operation by the National Car Test Company. This arrangement with a company operating on a monopoly basis is not fit for purpose and should be discontinued with a view to opening up a tendering process for accredited garages in Ireland similar to the DOE process that currently provide a quality service to the public for testing commercial vehicles. The carrying out of a car test on private vehicles over 4 years is mandatory and the government have a duty of care to the public to make adequate provision in the delivery of this service. This proposal would also have the potential to provide employment at local level for many people and provide enhanced opportunities for apprenticeships."

Yours sincerely,

Ann Reynolds,
Senior Executive Officer,
Corporate Services Department,
Finance and Support Services Directorate.

An Roinn Seirbhísí Corparáideach
Stiúrthóireacht Airgeadais agus Seirbhísí Tacaíochta
Áras Contae an Chláir, Bóthar Nua, Inis, Co. an Chláir, V95 DXP2

Corporate Services Department
Finance and Support Services Directorate
Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2

☎ 065 6821616 | 065 6828233 | customerservices@clarecoco.ie | www.clarecoco.ie

Comhairle Contae Liatroma
Leitrim County Council

Áras an Chontae
Cora Droma Rúisc
Contae Liatroma
N41 PF67

Áras an Chontae
Carrick on Shannon
Co. Leitrim
N41 PF67

☎ 071 96 20005 | 071 96 21982
www.leitrimcoco.ie
customerservices@leitrimcoco.ie
Follow us on

12th September 2023

To All Local Authorities

A Chara,

I wish to inform you at the September meeting of Leitrim County Council the members passed the following resolution:

"That Leitrim County Council engage in supporting the "Ash Tree Conservation" project initiated recently in County Leitrim. This is an opportunity by all to take action and achieve a very positive outcome. The support needs to be led by Dept. of Environment here in Leitrim and motion circulated so that it is noted by all local authorities."

Yours sincerely,

Kieran Brett

Kieran Brett
Meetings Administrator
Email: kbrett@leitrimcoco.ie

Comhairle Contae Dhún Laoghaire-Ráth an Dúin, Halla an Chontae, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Átha Cliath, Éire
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, County Hall, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland
Tel: 01 205 4700 Fax: 01 280 6969 Web: www.dlrcoco.ie

An Rannóg Gnóthaí Corparáideacha
Corporate Affairs

Stephen Brady, Director
Corporate Affairs
Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council
Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin
Direct Tel: 01 2054826
agendamtgs@dlrcoco.ie

26th September 2023.

To All Local Authorities

Dear Meeting Administrator,

I wish to advise you that Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council at their meeting held on 11th September 2023 adopted the following resolution:

"That Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council formally backs the call for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty and urges the Irish government to support the initiative for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty. If passed, a letter should be sent to all local Councils, An Taoiseach, An Tánaiste and the Minister for the Environment, and further recognises as part of a just transition there must be ongoing measures to address fuel and energy poverty'."

I would appreciate your comments in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Brady

Stephen Brady
Director of Service
Corporate Affairs

Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Luimnigh
Limerick City & County Council

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha,
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh,
Ceanncheathrú Chorparáideach,
Cé na gCeannaithe,
Luimneach

Corporate Services,
Limerick City and County Council,
Corporate Headquarters,
Merchants Quay,
Limerick

EIRCODE V94 EH90

t: +353 (0) 61 557150
f: +353 (0) 61 415 266

27th September, 2023.

To: EACH LOCAL AUTHORITY

A Chara,

I write to inform you that at the September Meeting of Limerick City and County Council, the following resolution was adopted and it was agreed to circulate it to all Local Authorities for support:

> **"That, Limerick City and County Council call on Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly, TD, and Minister of State at the Department of Health, Mary Butler, TD, to provide the necessary funding to the National Treatment Purchase Fund (NTPF) to stop further nursing home closures and bring fees payable in line with the reality of nursing home care costs. It must also bring into effect a Fair Deal pricing mechanism that reflects the reality of residents' care needs."**

Is mise le meas,

Laura Flannery,
Meetings Administrator.

Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Luimnigh
Limerick City & County Council

Seirbhísí Corparáideacha,
Comhairle Cathrach agus Contae Luimnigh,
Ceanncheathrú Chorparáideach,
Cé na gCeannaithe,
Luimneach

Corporate Services,
Limerick City and County Council,
Corporate Headquarters,
Merchants Quay,
Limerick

EIRCODE V94 EH90

t: +353 (0) 61 557150
f: +353 (0) 61 415 266

27th September, 2023.

To: EACH LOCAL AUTHORITY

A Chara,

I write to inform you that at the September Meeting of Limerick City and County Council, the following resolution was adopted and it was agreed to circulate it to all Local Authorities for support:

> **"That, Limerick City and County Council call on Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly, TD, and Minister for Finance, Michael McGrath, TD, to raise the funding support for the Cuan Mhuire Association in Bruree, and also in their Centres throughout the country, from ten euro per bed per night to fifty euro per bed per night."**

Is mise le meas,

Laura Flannery,
Meetings Administrator.

COMHAIRLE CONTAE AN CHLÁIR | CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL

12th October, 2023.

Our Ref: October 23 - 24/AR/AC

Dear Meetings Administrator,

At the October meeting of the Council the members passed the following resolution:

"In future housing developments and as part of the planning process, there should be a planning condition to all new housing applications stating that part of the conditions would be that traffic calming measures would be part of the development, as a matter of safety for all concerned."

It was agreed to circulate this resolution to all local authorities.

Yours sincerely,

Ann Reynolds.

Ann Reynolds,
Senior Executive Officer,
Corporate Services Department,
Finance and Support Services Directorate.

An Roinn Seirbhísí Corparáideach
Stiúrthóireacht Airgeadais agus Seirbhísí Tacaíochta
Áras Contae an Chláir, Bóthar Nua, Inis, Co. an Chláir, V95 DXP2

Corporate Services Department
Finance and Support Services Directorate
Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 29

TOILET FACILITIES IN PARKS

Motion: Councillor B. Hanaphy

"That the Chief Executive reports on the issue of the lack of toilet facilities for clubs using our parks, and to note that this is an especially urgent issue given the exponential growth of girls and women's football and GAA and develops a strategy to ensure that there are toilet facilities in every park where sports is played within the five year timeframe and works with the FAI and GAA to develop a joint strategy."

Report:

Fingal County Council currently has 172 publicly maintained sports pitches located in 50 separate locations countywide. Many of the sports pitches in the larger regional parks do have public toilets close by, however many are located in residential open spaces. In such circumstances it would simply not be possible to commit to providing public toilets within this type of open space. Where public toilets can be provided provision will be made in the capital budget.

Many of the larger and newer open spaces coming into charge will be planned within the Sports Hub model, that will future proofed with both parking and public toilet provision. As areas develop, it may be possible to retrofit public toilet provision into some of the larger public open spaces that accommodate a number of sports disciplines serving a wider number of people. These areas would have to be assessed on a case-by-case basis and would be subject to consent in accordance with Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2021.

Source of Report:

Mary T Daly, Director of Operations

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 30

FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY BASED INITIATIVE

Motion: Councillor J. Newman

"That the Chief Executive will provide funding in the upcoming Budget to support a community-based initiative this is having a very positive tangible impact on the lives of the elderly and people suffering from chronic illness in the Fingal Area."

Report:

Following the adoption of the Revenue budget on 7th November, funding of €45,000 for a community programme has been included in the sports section budget. The exact details of how this funding will be allocated will be addressed in due course in conjunction with relevant stakeholders.

Source of Joint Report:

Paul Carroll, Director of Housing and Community

David Storey, Director of Environment, Climate Action and Active Travel

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 32

ENFORCEMENT AT DAA

Motion: Councillor C. Boland

"That the Chief Executive present a report on Enforcement procedures in respect of Planning Permission breaches at Dublin Airport."

Report:

Since the opening of the North Runway at Dublin Airport, the Planning Authority have received complaints in relation to alleged breaches of conditions of the planning permission (Register Ref. F04A/1755 / ABP Ref: PL 06F.217429 as extended under FCC Reg. Ref: F04A/1755/E1 and amended under FCC Reg. Ref: F19A/0023 / ABP Ref: ABP-305298-19).

On foot of these complaints, five Warning Letters and an Enforcement Notice have been issued and several planning enforcement investigations are ongoing into allegations of non-compliance with the North Runway planning permission. The DAA have made a High Court challenge to the Enforcement Notice issued by the Planning Authority, Fingal County Council has filed and served its opposition papers. This case has now been transferred into the Commercial Planning and Environmental Division of the High Court with a provisional hearing date in Q1 of 2024.

Source of Report:

Matthew McAleese, Director of Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 33

ENVIRONMENTALLY SAFE WEED REMOVAL

Motion: Councillor A. Donnelly

"That the Chief Executive implements a weed killing programme, ensuring funds are available, from the 1st of June 2024, allowing for "no mow" May, using environmentally friendly solutions, similar to those used by Dublin City Council."

Report:

The Fingal Biodiversity Plan calls for reduction and elimination of chemical herbicides for weed control purposes. As part of this process and in relation to the general overall pesticide policy currently being operated by Fingal Council, the Council has used several non-chemical weed control alternatives over the last number of years, including some vinegar-based solutions, hot steam/foam applicators and mechanical brushing techniques. All systems tried have a noticeably short reaction time and will result in increasing the labour input to match the reapplication visits required.

Like other local authorities, during 2021 Fingal County Council piloted a pilot project using Hot Foam Treatment as a non-chemical weed solution in selected trial locations. The method and results of this trial indicate that use of this system will significantly increase the labour input. The trial's objective was to find a suitable alternative with an applicator system that can be used within our current maintenance regime. The clear observations on the trials have already highlighted that there is not one single replacement alternative to chemical herbicides but instead it will require multiple changes in how we design and maintain the public realm. Since 2021, the Council has used the Hot Foam method in several high-profile selected locations. It is an extremely expensive process and not viable in all locations countywide.

Since 2022, there has been a phased reduction and elimination in certain areas in the use of Chemical Herbicides, resulting in chemical herbicides not being used in public open spaces, around playgrounds and residential open spaces.

The most challenging areas that there are still controlled usage of chemical herbicide includes along the kerb lines on the main roads that access routes into towns and villages and within the rural graveyards where weed growth around headstones can become very problematic.

The Operations Department is also trialing a new mechanical steel brush weed removal machine which is being used to remove kerb side weeds in the public realm. Key locations such as main roads and village entrances are prioritised for this trial, however it should be noted that this process of weed removal is more labour intensive than chemical weed control. With the move away from chemical control of weeds in the public realm it is not possible to maintain all roads and estates around the county. It is currently not practical for the Operations Department to implement a weed killing programme in all residential estates within Fingal from both a resource and financial perspective.

In that regard, citizens of Fingal are encouraged to actively contribute to maintaining their residential areas by adopting the public footpath and grass margin in front of their homes as set out in the Fingal Citizen Charter.

Finding alternative suitable solutions is a process that requires careful consideration and planning as it has an enormous knock-on effect on how staff carry out the regular expected maintenance in the public realm. It is planned that Fingal County Council will have a Draft Pesticide Policy ready in April 2024 to be presented for Public Display in May 2024 where new proposals for controlled use of herbicides and alternative weed control methods will be outlined.

The Council is also liaising with the other local authorities as part of a National Scientific Assessment of Alternatives to Herbicide Use in the Maintenance of Amenity Public Open Spaces.

Source of Report:

Mary T Daly, Director of Operations

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 34

TEXTILE BANKS IN ALL FINGAL AREAS

Motion: Councillor P. Rane

"That this Council carrys out a synopsis of all areas that require a Textile Bank in this Local Authority."

Report:

The Environment Department will undertake a review of current locations of textile banks within the county and assess newer locations (i.e., built up areas) for suitability for installation of a textile bank. Shopping centre, existing bring banks and other providers such as charities operating in an area will be considered.

Source of Report:

David Storey, Director of Environment, Climate Action and Active Travel

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 2023

ITEM NO. 36

DEVELOPMENT OF THE LIFFEY VALLEY GREEN SPACE

Motion: Councillor T. Leddy

"That the Chief Executive establishes at the earliest opportunity, as envisaged in the County Development Plan, "a committee to facilitate and support the development of the Liffey Valley as an interconnected green space and park" inclusive of neighbouring councils, the OPW and other State agencies, existing landowners, community groups and sectoral and commercial interests in accordance with the Ministerial Order for the Liffey Valley Special Amenity Areas Order (SAAO)."

Report:

The Nominations of Fingal Councillors to the Liffey Valley Special Amenity Area Order Management Committee was agreed at an in-camera meeting of the Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/Castleknock-Ongar Area Committee which took place on the 20th September 2023. The recommendation was brought to the Corporate Policy Group and subsequently nominations were ratified by the Members of the full Council on the 9th October 2023 whereby it was AGREED that the number of Councillor representatives from Fingal for the Committee be 6 and that those Members comprise of the Castleknock Ward.

South Dublin County Council have been advised of the membership from Fingal and a request for a meeting has been sought for early December.

In addition to the sharing of documentation, a MS Teams meeting of the relevant staff between South Dublin County Council and Fingal County Council took place on the 6th June 2023.

Source of Report:

Matthew McAleese Director of Planning and Strategic Infrastructure