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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Email: corporate.services@fingal.ie

County Hall
Swords
Co Dublin

Tuesday, 5th March 2024

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, 11th March, 2024** 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 12th February 2024

2 Nominations

a Appointment of one Member to The Audit Committee following the resignation of Councillor Punam Rane

b Nomination of one Member to Membership of Beaumont Hospital Board following the resignation of Councillor Punam Rane

QUESTIONS

3 Councillor J. Hopkins - Staffing for Biodiversity Plan

"To ask the Chief Executive to confirm the number of roles yet to be filled in order to fulfil our obligations and actions set out in the Biodiversity Plan?"

4 Councillor E. O'Brien - Breakdown of the funding model used for the construction of the Rivervalley all-weather pitch and flood lights

"To ask the Chief Executive to give a breakdown of the funding model used for the construction of the Rivervalley all-weather pitch and flood lights, to include total cost, this Council's direct spend, any external grants utilised, any funds contributed by clubs/organisations using or managing the pitch and details of the sinking fund in place?"

5 Councillor J. Humphreys - Sports and Recreation Facilities in Fingal

"To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update of the sports and recreation facilities in the Fingal study and when it will be published?"

6 Councillor S. O'Reilly - Grants available for residents living along the flight path of Dublin Airport

"To ask the Chief Executive for a list of available grants for residents residing in Dublin Airport's flight path, along with a map of areas covered by this grant in Fingal?"

7 Councillor T. O'Leary - Swimming Pool Feasibility Study

"To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update and timeline on when the audit of Fingal Sports facilities and projected needs for sports facilities, including swimming pools will be completed, as this

has been ongoing for some considerable time?"

8 Councillor C. Boland - PFAS Chemicals on daa Lands

"To ask the Chief Executive in relation to the two reports and file relating to the daa in respect of PFAS chemicals which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) referred to her, in her role as the competent authority what action she has taken or proposes to take in respect of identification of the potential contamination of the ground water system and the extent of the danger in Fingal?"

9 Councillor H. Mahony - Procedure for the disposal of deceased animals on Fingal Property

"To ask the Chief Executive what is the procedure for the disposal of the remains of deceased animals found on Fingal property?"

10 Councillor P. Mulville - Broadband exclusivity agreements in new build estates

"To ask the Chief Executive the position regarding broadband issues facing many residents across Fingal, where there is estate wide internet connection exclusivity, particularly to Virgin Media, in new build estates, with these agreements curated by the developer, locking the residents into a 3-year contract wherein government led initiatives, such a SIRO, cannot be accessed by these residents, with such arrangements possibly being incompatible with both domestic and EU-wide law?"

11 Councillor B. Dennehy - Criteria used to inform / notify the general public of permission granted to film crews for use of public property

"To ask the Chief Executive to outline the criteria used to inform / notify the general public of permission granted by this Council to film crews for use of public property such as carparks etc., where the usage of the properties is either restricted or prevented?"

12 Councillor B. Dennehy - Fingal's Vacant Site Register

"To ask the Chief Executive to report on the number / acreage of land currently on this Council's Vacant Site register that will be transferred to the new Residential Zone Tax, (RZT) when it is implemented?"

13 Councillor B. Ryan - Identification and Mapping of all drains in the County

"To ask the Chief Executive to give consideration to undertaking a comprehensive identification and mapping of all drains in the County, including in rural areas, with a view to ensuring that all such drains are inspected and cleared regularly as part of a preventive measure to ensure that blocked drains do not contribute to localised flooding which can often be the case?"

14 Report of Committees

a Report of Organisation, Procedures & Finance Committee Meeting held on Monday 12th February 2024

b Report of Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on Monday 4th March 2024

c Report of Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/Castleknock-Ongar Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Thursday 7th March 2024

15 Financial Matters

16 Proposed Disposal of Properties

a Notice of proposed disposal of land at Damastown Industrial Estate, Damastown, Dublin 15 to Glenbeigh Records Management Limited

b Notice of proposed disposal of land adjacent to Oatlands Gate Lodge, Porterstown Road, Dublin 15 to Mr. Peter Cawley

17 Declarations of Roads

18 Audit Committee

a Audit Committee Annual Report 2023

b Audit Committee Charter 2024

c Audit Committee Annual Work Programme 2024

19 (PARTXI/007/23) 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 development of proposed Baldoyle Community Sports Centre and all associated site works on a site of approximately 0.575 ha at the former 'Coast' Estate Marketing Suite, located along the south of Red Arches Road, The Coast, Baldoyle Racecourse Park, Stapolin, Baldoyle, Dublin 13

20 Part 8 of the PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 (as amended). Proposed Development of a Car & Bicycle Parking Facility at Bremore Castle, Balbriggan, Co Dublin

21 Donabate Framework Plan

22 Festival and Events Funding Scheme and What's on in Events Presentation

23 Chief Executive's Report

24 Mayor's Business - Councillor A. Henchy

a Councillor A. Henchy - Fingal Public Relations Campaign on Housing

"That the Chief Executive gives consideration to the rolling out of a Fingal themed information campaign to further support the national information campaign underway by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in relation to the various schemes and supports which are available to assist buyers in owning their own home."

25 Conference Report

a 2024 National Planning Conference will take place on 18th and 19th April in the Theatre Royal and Tower Hotel, Waterford City

b The Suck Valley Way Conference is being held in Hannon's Hotel, Roscommon on 13th and 14th March - theme "The Rise of Loneliness on the Emerald Isle - How community development and planning may be the remedy"

26 Correspondence

a Letter from Sligo County Council dated 6th February 2024 - Resolution - Provision of Additional Bus Services from Dublin Airport to Sligo at night

b Letter from Cork County Council dated 8th February 2024 - Resolution - Hospitality rated be reverted to 9%

c Letter from Cork County Council dated 8th February 2024 - Resolution - VAT rate for pub reduced down from 23% to 17%

d Letter from Louth County Council dated 19th February 2024 - Resolution - Joint Policing Committees - Local Community Safety Partnership

27 Departmental/Ministerial Correspondence

MOTIONS
STATUTORY
FUNCTIONS

28 Councillor C. Boland - Planning Breaches in respect of daa Lands

"That the Chief Executive presents a report in respect of the breaches of planning permissions/regulations in respect of the operations of the daa on any of their holdings in Fingal."

36 Councillor S. O'Reilly - Introducing a litter fine to users who dispose of disposable vapes

"That the Chief Executive considers introducing a litter fine to users who dispose of disposable vapes, helping to highlight the increasing issue of these vapes being littered across the County."

37 Councillor P. Mulville - Childcare/Crèche facilities in the Fingal Administrative Area

"That the Chief Executive provide a report, in tabular format, on the number of childcare / crèche facilities in this Council's administrative area which have been granted planning permission, but not yet either commenced, completed or operational, including the location of same and the relevant planning reference; and outline the steps being taken to address the matter given the very pressing need for these facilities for our communities."

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Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Minutes of the County Council Meeting held on Monday, 12th February, 2024 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
Griffin, Michelle
Graves, Ann
Guerin, Jimmy
Hanaphy, Breda
Henchy, Adrian
Humphreys, James
Kitt, Tom
Lavin, Anthony
Leddy, Ted

Councillors:
Maguire, Grainne
Mahony, Howard
Manton, Brigid
McCamley, Mary
McDonagh, Brian
Mulligan, Dean
Mulville, Paul
Murphy, Tony
Newman, Joe
O'Brien, Eoghan
O'Donoghue, Robert
O'Leary, Tom
Onwumereh, JK
O'Reilly, Steve
Power, Karen
Ryan, Brendan
Shovlin, Siobhan
Tormey, Aoibhinn
Treacy, Natalie
Walsh, John

Apologies for inability to attend were received for Councillor David Healy.

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 & Sports); Mary T Daly (Director of Services/Operations); Oliver Hunt (Head of Finance); Paul Carroll (Director of Housing Services and Community Development); Matthew McAleese (Director of Services Planning and Strategic Infrastructure); Aoife Sheridan (Senior Executive Officer); Nikki Halleran (A/Senior Executive Officer).

F/35/24 (Agenda Item No)

ANNOUNCEMENT

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

The Mayor and Members expressed their condolences on the passing of Shane O'Hanlon, Dublin GAA selector.

The Mayor and Members expressed their deepest condolences to Councillor John Walsh on the recent passing of his mother.

F/36/24 (Agenda Item No 1)

Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16th January 2024

Minutes of the County Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16th January 2024 which had been circulated were considered.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor H. Mahony, seconded by Councillor P. Conroy and RESOLVED –

"That the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16th January 2024 be ADOPTED."

F/37/24 (Agenda Item No 2)

Nominations

a Filling of casual vacancy on Fingal County Council following the resignation of Councillor Punam Rane

The Mayor, Councillor A. Henchy, thanked Councillor P. Rane for her contribution and dedication over the past five years.

The report by the Chief Executive, setting out the required procedures, which had been circulated was READ.

The nomination of Steve O'Reilly to fill the casual vacancy was proposed by Councillor K. Dennison and seconded by Councillor T. Leddy.

In accordance with Section 19 of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended, Steve O'Reilly was co-opted as a Member of Fingal County Council.

b Appointment of one Member to the Planning Strategic Transport & Infrastructure Development Strategic Policy Committee following the resignation of Councillor Punam Rane

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

It was proposed by Councillor K. Dennison, seconded by Councillor. T. Leddy and **AGREED**:

"That Councillor Steve O'Reilly be appointed to the Planning Strategic Transport & Infrastructure Development Strategic Policy Committee."

c Appointment of one Member to Fingal Biodiversity Forum following the resignation of Councillor Punam Rane

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

It was proposed by Councillor K. Dennison, seconded by Councillor. T. Leddy and **AGREED**:

"That Councillor Steve O'Reilly be appointed to the Fingal Biodiversity Forum."

d Appointment of one Member to Hansfield Strategic Development Zone Steering Group following the resignation of Councillor Punam Rane

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

It was proposed by Councillor K. Dennison, seconded by Councillor. T. Leddy and AGREED:

"That Councillor Steve O'Reilly be appointed to the Hansfield Strategic Development Zone Steering Group."

e Appointment of one Member to the Sports Partnership Committee following the resignation of Councillor Punam Rane

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

It was proposed by Councillor K. Dennison, seconded by Councillor. T. Leddy and AGREED:

"That Councillor Steve O'Reilly be appointed to the Sports Partnership Committee."

f Appointment of one Member to Base Enterprise Centre following the resignation of Councillor Punam Rane

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

It was proposed by Councillor K. Dennison, seconded by Councillor. T. Leddy and AGREED:

"That Councillor Steve O'Reilly be appointed to the Base Enterprise Centre."

g Nomination of one Member to Membership of Beaumont Hospital Board following the resignation of Councillor Punam Rane

It was AGREED to defer this item to the March meeting.

F/38/24 (Agenda Item No)

QUESTIONS

It was proposed by Councillor M. McCamley, seconded by Councillor E. O'Brien and RESOLVED:

"That in accordance with Standing Order No. 51, Questions numbered 3 to 16 be ADOPTED."

F/39/24 (Agenda Item No 3)
Councillor H. Mahony - Funding for The Arts

F/40/24 (Agenda Item No 4)
Councillor S. Shovlin - Public Participation Network (PPN) Registration

F/41/24 (Agenda Item No 5)
Councillor J. Hopkins - Notice of Enquiry - Vacant and Derelict Buildings

F/42/24 (Agenda Item No 6)
Councillor D. Healy - Online systems available for reporting issues to this Council

F/43/24 (Agenda Item No 7)
Councillor B. Manton - Audit of Tenancies in Social Housing

F/44/24 (Agenda Item No 8)
Councillor B. Manton - Bridging loans for housing energy retrofit

F/45/24 (Agenda Item No 9)
Councillor T. Murphy - Agreeing specific specification of Speed ramps

F/46/24 (Agenda Item No 10)
Councillor B. Ryan - daa - Complaints - Aircraft Noise

F/47/24 (Agenda Item No 11)
Councillor A. Graves - Planned Housing Provisions by this Council over the next three years

F/48/24 (Agenda Item No 12)
Councillor A. Graves - Schemes being considered to deliver accommodation specifically for older people

F/49/24 (Agenda Item No 13)
Councillor N. Treacy - Report on Process for Residents downsizing from 4 and 3 bed to 2 and 1 bed properties

F/50/24 (Agenda Item No 14)
Councillor P. Mulville - Report of the Inter Departmental Group on National Coastal Change Management Strategy

F/51/24 (Agenda Item No 15)

Councillor A. Henchy - Update on the uptake of Housing Support Schemes from the Department of Housing

F/52/24 (Agenda Item No 16)

Councillor K. Dennison - Postage costs by this Council, Draíocht Arts Centre and Seamus Ennis Centre

F/53/24 (Agenda Item No 17)

Report of Committees

a Report of Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/Castleknock-Ongar Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Thursday 1st February 2024

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

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Services B meeting held on Thursday 1st February 2024, are hereby **ADOPTED.**"

b Report of Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on Tuesday 6th February 2024

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

"That the recommendations contained in the report from Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on the 6th February 2024, be **APPROVED.**"

c Report of Howth Malahide Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 7th February 2024

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

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Howth Malahide Services (B) meeting held on Wednesday 7th February 2024 are hereby ADOPTED."

d Report of Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Thursday 8th February 2024

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was CONSIDERED. It was proposed by Councillor T. Murphy, seconded by Councillor I. Carey and RESOLVED:

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Services (B) Meeting held on Thursday 8th February 2024, are hereby ADOPTED."

F/54/24 (Agenda Item No 18)

Financial Matters

It was noted there was no business on this item.

F/55/24 (Agenda Item No 19)

Proposed Disposal of Properties

a Notice of Proposed disposal of Lands at Stephenstown Industrial Estate to Hannon Pharma Link Warehousing

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

"That lands at Stephenstown Industrial Estate, as referred to in the Notice under S183 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended and dated 31st January 2024, be disposed of to Hannon Pharma Link Warehousing, in accordance with the terms specified therein."

F/56/24 (Agenda Item No 20)

Declarations of Roads

a Barnageeragh Cove, Skerries, Co Dublin

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

b Vauxhall Street, Balbriggan, Co Dublin

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

c Drynam Hall, Kinsealy, Co Dublin

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

F/57/24 (Agenda Item No 21)

LADP/011/23 - Proposed development of 18 no. dwellings and associated site works at Rathmore Road, Lusk, Co. Dublin. Notice of Intention to undertake development by a Local Authority (Fingal County Council) under Section 179A Of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended)

The attached report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was **CONSIDERED** and the report was **NOTED**.

F/58/24 (Agenda Item No 22)

Part 8 of the PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 (as amended). Proposed development of Public Playground at Laurel Lodge Park, Castleknock, Dublin 15

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was **CONSIDERED.** It was proposed by Councillor P. Conroy, seconded by Councillor J. Walsh, and **AGREED.**

F/59/24 (Agenda Item No 23)

Part 8 of the PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 (as amended). Proposed improvements to Corduff Park, Dublin 15

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was **CONSIDERED.** It was proposed by Councillor M. McCamley, seconded by Councillor B. Hanaphy, and **AGREED.**

F/60/24 (Agenda Item No 24)

Proposed Amendments to the Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits) (County of Fingal) Bye-Laws 2020 - Damastown Way, Dublin 15

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

Fingal County Council, in exercise with the powers conferred on it by Section 9 of the Road Traffic Act 2004 (No. 44 of 2004), as amended by Section 6 of the Road Traffic Act 2010 (No. 25 of 2010), and Section 2 of the Road Traffic Act 2016 (No. 21 of 2016) and following consultation with An Garda Síochána, makes the following Special Speed Limit Bye-Law 2024.

Reduction of Speed Limit from 60kmph to 50kmph at Damastown Way, Dublin 15

F/61/24 (Agenda Item No 25)

Draft Climate Action Plan 2024 - 2029

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

The Mayor Councillor A. Henchy advised the Members that two motions were received, it was AGREED to take the motions at this time.

The following motion in the name of Councillor A. Tormey was proposed by Councillor A. Tormey and seconded by Councillor T. O'Leary:

"That Fingal County Council liaises with the Office of Public Works to set up a means to facilitate regular engagement between the OPW, councillors, and council officials about flood risk and defence."

Report:
If this motion is passed it will be forwarded to the OPW. However, it should be noted that the OPW are undertaking a review of their Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment for the state and this process presents an opportunity for the members to engage with the OPW regarding flooding risk in Fingal.

Following discussions, the motion was AGREED.

The following motion in the name of Councillor I. Carey was proposed by Councillor I. Carey and seconded by Councillor P. Conroy:

"To include an action for transport-related emissions as follows:
Action: Publish in annual progress reports of the LACAP, any publicly available figures relating to Dublin Airport emissions, and invite the daa to provide progress updates and plans to meet the national carbon neutrality objective.
Indicator: figures published annually
Action Holder: ECAAT Timeframe: Annually"

Following discussions, the motion was AGREED.

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

"That the Climate Action Plan 2024 – 2029 is hereby ADOPTED."

F/62/24 (Agenda Item No 26)
Presentation on 2023 Architectural Conservation Grants

A presentation was given to the Members by Helena Bergin, Senior Executive Architectural Conservation Officer. Following discussion, the report was NOTED.

F/63/24 (Agenda Item No 27)

Draft Economic Development Strategy

The report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was **CONSIDERED**. A presentation was given to the Members by Mr. Andrew Webb from Grant Thornton.

The Mayor Councillor A. Henchy advised the Members that two motions were received.

The following motion in the name of Councillor I. Carey was proposed by Councillor I. Carey and seconded by Councillor P. Conroy:

"Under Objective 1 – Sustainable Fingal, the draft Economic Development Strategy be amended to include the following Action –

Action 1.1.5
To monitor and identify economic forecasts or trends which may impact the local economy and work proactively with relevant Agencies and Stakeholders in the development of just transition planning within the Fingal economy that minimises the impact of the move towards a carbon-neutral economy on businesses and communities."

Report:
The motion proposes to include an Action that is consistent with the objectives of the draft Economic Development Strategy.
It is in order that the Motion be agreed.

Following discussions, the motion was **AGREED**.

The following motion in the name of Councillor B. McDonagh was proposed by Councillor B. McDonagh and seconded by Councillor D. Mulligan:

"That the Draft Fingal Economic Development Strategy be amended at Objective 5.5 text by inserting "and sustainable " after Balanced and "with due regard to the health and wellbeing of Fingal residents in line with scientific evidence from the WHO in relation to the impact of aircraft noise on human health ".

Resulting in

Objective 5.5 Dublin Airport Support the balanced and sustainable development of Dublin Airport, in line with the National Aviation Policy, County Development Plan, Local Area Plan, and other applicable legislation and permissions.

Changing to
Objective 5.5 Dublin Airport Support the balanced and sustainable development of Dublin Airport, in line with the National Aviation Policy, County Development Plan, Local Area Plan, and other applicable legislation and permissions and with due regard to the health and wellbeing of Fingal residents in line with scientific evidence from the WHO in relation to the impact of aircraft noise on human health."

Report:
The insertion of the word "sustainable" is acceptable however much of what is proposed goes further than the National, Regional and County Development Plan Policy and is therefore beyond the remit of the Strategy.

It is proposed that the following more limited amendment would be in line with these policies, would be acceptable and in order that the following be agreed –

To insert the words "and sustainable" after the word balanced and "and "with due regard to the health and wellbeing of Fingal residents" after the words "applicable legislation and permissions" to read as follows –

"Objective 5.5 Dublin Airport Support the balanced ***and sustainable*** *development of Dublin Airport, in line with the National Aviation Policy, County Development Plan, Local Area Plan, and other applicable legislation and permissions* ***and with due regard to the health and wellbeing of Fingal residents."***

Following discussion, Councillor B. McDonagh ACCEPTED the report.

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

"That the Economic Development Strategy is hereby ADOPTED."

F/64/24 (Agenda Item No 28)
Draft Strategic Policy Committee Annual Policy Programme 2024

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

"That the Strategic Policy Committee Annual Policy Programme 2024 is hereby ADOPTED."

F/65/24 (Agenda Item No 29)

St. Patrick's Day Events

A presentation was given to the Members by Declan Power, Senior Executive Officer. Following discussion, the report was NOTED.

F/66/24 (Agenda Item No 30)

Chief Executive's Report

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

During discussions on this item it was AGREED to extend the meeting to conclude Item 30 and take Items 33 and 34.

Following discussion, the report was NOTED.

F/67/24 (Agenda Item No 32)

Conference Report

It was noted there was no business on this item.

F/68/24 (Agenda Item No 33)

Correspondence

a Letter from Limerick City and Council dated 12th December 2024 - Wind Energy Development

The correspondence, which had been received, was NOTED.

b Letter from Limerick and City Council dated 18th December 2023 - Resolution - Joint Policing Committee - Proposal to disband dedicated Community Policing

The correspondence, which had been received, was **NOTED.**

c Letter from Offaly County Council dated 20th December 2023 Resolution - State Lands - Renewable Energy Projects

The correspondence, which had been received, was **NOTED.**

d Letter from Mayo County Council dated 16th January 2024 - Resolution - Co-ordinate the provision of additional services for the communities hosting refugees and international protection applicants

The correspondence, which had been received, was **NOTED.**

e Letter from Carlow County Council dated 22nd January 2024 - Work done by Sports Clubs in non-clár areas - Car parks

The correspondence, which had been received, was **NOTED.**

f Letter from Sligo County Council dated 30th January 2024 - Introduce effective laws to prosecute those who wilfully break the law on bicycles, electric bicycles and electric scooters

The correspondence, which had been received, was **NOTED.**

g Letter from Wexford County Council dated 24th January 2024 re - The Enactment of the Control of Economic Activity (Occupied Territories) Bill 2018 and the illegal Israeli Settlements Divestment Bill 2023

The correspondence, which had been received, was **NOTED.**

F/69/24 (Agenda Item No 34)
Departmental/Ministerial Correspondence

a Email of acknowledgement from Minister Ryan's Office re Item 47 Cllr B Manton - Hospital Access by Public Transport (December 2023 Council Meeting)

The correspondence, which had been received, was **NOTED.**

b Letter dated 23rd January 2024 from Office of the Taoiseach re Item 33 - Cllr A. Graves - Moore Street Area - November 2022 Council Meeting

The correspondence, which had been received, was **NOTED.**

MOTIONS - STATUTORY FUNCTIONS

F/70/24 (Agenda Item No 41)

Councillor P. Mulville - Age appropriate recreational and hang-out space for teenagers - The Space for Play

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

The report was **ACCEPTED.**

F/71/24 (Agenda Item No 42)

Councillor T. Leddy - Installation of Salt/Grit Bins within Housing Estates

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

The report was **ACCEPTED.**

The Meeting concluded at 8.15pm.

MAYOR _____ DATE _____

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 02

NOMINATIONS

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 02a

APPOINTMENT OF ONE MEMBER BY RESOLUTION TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Following the resignation of Councillor Punam Rane, a vacancy now exists on the Audit Committee.

In line with Section 4(3) of the Local Government (Audit Committee) Regulations 2014, the membership of the Audit Committee comprises of seven members and shall include-

- Not less than four external members
- Not more than three serving or retired Elected Members, and
- Three or more persons having knowledge or experience in finance, audit or accounting.

Articles 4(6) & 4(7) of the Local Government (Audit Committee) Regulations 2014 provide that -

- Nominations for appointment to an Audit Committee shall be made by the Corporate Policy Group to the Local Authority following consultation with the Chief Executive.
- Appointment to an Audit Committee shall be reserved function of the local authority.

At its meeting on Monday 4th March 2024 the Corporate Policy Group considered the vacancy on the Audit Committee created by Councillor Punam Rane's resignation.

The Corporate Policy Group, agreed to recommend that the Council approve the appointment of the nominee as a member of the Council's Audit Committee.

Accordingly, should the Members wish to approve the appointment of the recommended nominee, a resolution is required as follows:

“In accordance with Section 4(3) of the Local Government (Audit Committee) Regulations 2014, it is hereby resolved that Councillor Tom O’Leary be appointed to the Audit Committee”.

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 02b

NOMINATION OF ONE MEMBER TO MEMBERSHIP OF BEAUMONT HOSPITAL BOARD FOLLOWING THE RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR PUNAM RANE

A vacancy exists on the Board of Beaumont Hospital on the resignation of Councillor Punam Rane.

Membership of a Councillor to the Board of Beaumont Hospital rotates between Fingal County Council and Dublin City Council, the term of office for Fingal County Council runs from June 2023 to June 2026, a nomination is now sought for one Member to the Board of Beaumont Hospital.

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 03

STAFFING FOR BIODIVERSITY PLAN

Question: Councillor J. Hopkins

"To ask the Chief Executive to confirm the number of roles yet to be filled in order to fulfil our obligations and actions set out in the Biodiversity Plan?"

Reply:

Interviews for the Assistant and Executive Biodiversity Officers are taking place in mid-March, and it is envisaged that these positions will be filled by May.

Source of Reply

Matthew McAleese, Director of Services, Planning and Strategic Infrastructure

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 04

BREAKDOWN OF THE FUNDING MODEL USED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF RIVERVALLEY ALL-WEATHER PITCH AND FLOODLIGHTS

Question: Councillor E. O'Brien

"To ask the Chief Executive to give a breakdown of the funding model used for the construction of the Rivervalley all-weather pitch and floodlights, to include total cost, this Council's direct spend, any external grants utilised, any funds contributed by clubs/organisations using or managing the pitch and details of the sinking fund in place?"

Reply:

The cost for the development of the Recreational Hub at River Valley in the Ward River Regional Parking Swords amounts to approximately €3.5M. This includes the funding for the GAA Sized (dual code for soccer and GAA) all-weather floodlit pitch, two grass pitches, car parking, toilets, changing rooms and ancillary infrastructure and landscape works. A total of €1M of this cost was funded by the Dublin Airport Authority (daa) in compliance with relevant planning conditions related to the development of the North Runway project.

Since opening for public use last year, the all-weather facility has been managed in line with the Fingal Recreational Hub model. Two local clubs, (St. Finian's GAA Club and River Valley Football Club), jointly expressed interest in managing the facility on behalf of the Council. To this end, they have formed a Specific Purpose Vehicle (SPV) which is a legal entity with the sole purpose of managing the facility and making it available on a not-for-profit basis for clubs to book.

Fingal County Council continues to have oversight of the relevant financial accounts managed by the SPV and the income generated by the bookings of the facility are ringfenced to fund the ongoing maintenance of the all-weather pitch and to provide for a sinking fund which will ultimately be used by the Council to pay for the replacement of the all-weather surface or other relevant improvements for the facility. This is in line with the provisions of the Management Agreement entered into by the SPV and the Council. No financial contributions were received from any sports clubs for the development of these facilities.

Source of Reply

Matthew McAleese, Director of Services, Planning and Strategic Infrastructure

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

ITEM 05

SPORTS AND RECREATION FACILITIES IN FINGAL

Question: Councillor J. Humphreys

"To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update of the sports and recreation facilities in the Fingal study and when it will be published?"

Reply:

The results of the Sports and Recreational facilities audit, which will be completed shortly and will be presented to the area committees in Q2 2024.

This audit is examining sport and physical activity facilities across the county both public and private. It is focusing on current and projected needs across Fingal in relation to a wide range of sports and leisure activities including swimming. The results from this audit will provide evidence-based data which will inform future decision-making on the provision of Sports and Physical Activities Infrastructure thus ensuring available resources are allocated appropriately.

Source of Reply

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

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 06

GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR RESIDENTS LIVING ALONG THE FLIGHT PATH FOR DUBLIN AIRPORT

Question: Councillor S. O'Reilly

"To ask the Chief Executive for a list of available grants for residents residing in Dublin Airport's flight path, along with a map of areas covered by this grant in Fingal?"

Reply:

The grant of planning permission for the North Runway at Dublin Airport included a scheme for the insulation of homes most affected by aircraft noise arising from the development - the Residential Noise Insulation Scheme (RNIS). Eligibility for this scheme is available for homes that are located within a defined 'initial eligibility contour'. The planning permission also made provision for a review of the forecasted initial eligibility contour every two years from the date of opening of the North Runway to ensure that future eligibility would be based on actual noise levels as averaged over a comparable period of the day and year.

The first such review is due to be undertaken in 2024 and additional homes may become eligible through this process. The initial eligibility contour can be viewed in the Maps section of the website of the Aircraft Nose Competent Authority (ANCA) www.fingal.ie/aircraftnoiseca.

A second insulation scheme was introduced by daa for homes impacted by aircraft noise from the South Runway prior to the north runway opening - the Home Sound Insulation Programme (HSIP). The eligibility for this scheme was

based on 2016 noise impacts and is also available for inspection in the Maps section of the ANCA website www.fingal.ie/aircraftnoiseca.

The grant of planning permission also included a voluntary purchase of dwellings scheme. Access to this scheme is also based on homes located within a defined noise contour.

A regulatory decision by ANCA during 2022 made further provision for an additional insulation scheme for homes most affected by night-time aircraft noise from the airport. The decision of the planning authority that includes the regulatory decision is currently under appeal to An Bord Pleanála. The scheme implementation and extent are dependent on a decision by that authority.

The insulation and property purchase schemes are implemented by the airport authority for Dublin Airport (daa) and that Authority will contact all homeowners that are eligible to participate.

Source of Reply

Mary Egan, Director of People, Corporate & Digital Services

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 07

SWIMMING POOL FEASIBILITY STUDY

Question: Councillor T. O'Leary

"To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update and timeline on when the audit of Fingal Sports facilities and projected needs for sports facilities, including swimming pools will be completed, as this has been ongoing for some considerable time?"

Reply:

The results of the Sports and Recreational facilities audit, which will be completed shortly and will be presented to the area committees in Q2 2024.

This audit is examining sport and physical activity facilities across the county both public and private. It is focusing on current and projected needs across Fingal in relation to a wide range of sports and leisure activities including swimming. The results from this audit will provide evidence-based data which will inform future decision-making on the provision of Sports and Physical Activities Infrastructure thus ensuring available resources are allocated appropriately.

This audit is being undertaken against the backdrop of a potential national policy/strategy review by the Department of Sport whereby it is anticipated that further direction will emerge nationally on the provision and funding of swimming pool facilities.

Source of Reply

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

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 08

PFAS CHEMICALS ON DAA LANDS

Question: Councillor C. Boland

"To ask the Chief Executive in relation to the two reports and file relating to the daa in respect of PFAS chemicals which the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) referred to her, in her role as the competent authority what action she has taken or proposes to take in respect of identification of the potential contamination of the ground water system and the extent of the danger in Fingal?"

Reply:

The Council can confirm we have received the two reports from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) relating to the Dublin airport in respect of PFAS chemicals.

A Section 23 Notice under the Local Government Water Pollution Act has been issued to daa requiring all test results for PFAS to be submitted to the Council except for the two reports we received from the EPA.

Two reports commissioned by daa and forwarded to Fingal by the EPA have been subject to AIE (Access to Information on the Environment) requests. These requests have been granted by Fingal but subject to appeal by the daa to the Information Commissioner.

*** PFAS Chemicals (Per and poly alkyl substances) are a group of 4700 organic compounds which are fluorinated.*

Source of Reply
David Storey, Director of Environment, Climate Action, Active Travel and Sports

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 09

PROCEDURE FOR THE DISPOSAL OF DECEASED ANIMALS ON FINGAL PROPERTY

Question: Councillor H. Mahony

"To ask the Chief Executive what is the procedure for the disposal of the remains of deceased animals found on Fingal property?"

Reply:

Animals that are killed on public roads and beaches or instances of dead wildlife in public parks and open spaces are dealt with by the area crews.

When we receive a report of a dead animal in the public domain a crew is assigned to pick up the animal. The animal is then removed to a veterinary practice who scan the animal if it is a dog or cat to try and ascertain if it is chipped to find an owner. If it is not chipped the animal is disposed of by the Vet and if it's chipped, then an attempt is made to contact the owner of the animal to see if they wish to have the animal cremated and take the ashes.

If the Council find dead birds, we follow the protocol from the Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine in terms of care (due to bird flu) and disposal. In the case of dead seals Operations make contact with the Seal Sanctuary to see if they wish to have an autopsy carried out and if not to then dispose of the carcass at an authorised waste facility.

The Environment Department have an arrangement in place with the Department of Agriculture who are responsible for handling complaints relating to dead horses.

Source of Reply

Mary T. Daly, Director of Operations

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 10

BROADBAND EXCLUSIVITY AGREEMENTS IN NEW BUILD ESTATES

Question: Councillor P. Mulville

"To ask the Chief Executive the position regarding broadband issues facing many residents across Fingal, where there is estate wide internet connection exclusivity, particularly to Virgin Media, in new build estates, with these agreements curated by the developer, locking the residents into a 3-year contract wherein government led initiatives, such a SIRO, cannot be accessed by these residents, with such arrangements possibly being incompatible with both domestic and EU-wide law?"

Reply:

Fingal County Council has no role or remit in the commercial operations or agreements between developers and telecommunications companies. The Council endeavours to encourage open access to connectivity infrastructure, as is stated in Policy IUP38 and Objective IU056 of the Fingal County Council Development Plan 2023 - 2029.

Policy IUP38 – Open Access Connectivity Arrangements

Consider provision of open access connectivity arrangements within new developments to enable service provider competition and consumer choice in line with the requirements of the European Electronic Communications Code 2018.

Objective IUO56 – Open Access Connectivity Arrangements

Require all new developments to provide open access connectivity arrangements directly to the individual premises to enable service provider competition and consumer choice.

Broadband Officer

Fingal County Council is committed to and supports the National Broadband Plan and the build-out of all essential telecommunications infrastructure. High speed broadband is a necessity for everyone and is an enabler of any modern functioning economy. Fingal County Council look forward to assisting in the rollout of the national broadband plan to help citizens, schools, communities and businesses in Fingal to access modern connectivity.

The Council has a Broadband Officer whose role is of vital importance as they provide a single point of contact within the County for engagement with telecommunications providers and to assist National Broadband Ireland in the efficient rollout of the National Broadband Plan.

The implementation of Fingal County Council's Digital Strategy also drives awareness of the National Broadband Plan and ensures the County is taking full advantage of the service.

Source of Reply
Mary Egan, Director of People, Corporate & Digital Services

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 11

CRITERIA USED TO INFORM / NOTIFY THE GENERAL PUBLIC TO FILM CREWS FOR USE OF PUBLIC PROPERTY

Question: Councillor B. Dennehy

"To ask the Chief Executive to outline the criteria used to inform / notify the general public of permission granted by this Council to film crews for use of public property such as carparks etc., where the usage of the properties is either restricted or prevented?"

Reply:

The Operations Department are responsible for the granting of filming requests on public lands, including the regional parks and open spaces in the charge of the Council. Permissions are considered and granted on a case-by-case basis to ensure the least inconvenience and disturbance to the public.

Permission was given over a series of month on an intermittent basis to the Production Team for Season 2 of Bad Sisters to use part of the car park at Donabate for production crew vehicles. The front section of the carpark retained for use by the public. Signage was in place and the Council had no complaints from the public.

The Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Cultural Department manage the granting of filming requests within the Council's Heritage Properties.

The application form to apply to film on lands in the Council's charge is available on the Fingal County Council's website. Each application received is assessed

individually by the area team and the effects/implication of the filming request in terms of impact on the public, traffic management and other aspects is reviewed before any permission is granted.

If it is considered necessary, a meeting/site meeting is arranged with the films production team, and the relevant Area's Admin Team, Area Inspector and Traffic Engineer.

If permission is granted a permit is issued detailing conditions the production company must adhere too. If appropriate, the company will be requested to contact local residents and businesses to advise them of the filming schedule and to ensure that signage informing the public is in place.

Any complaints received by the Operations Department are followed up with the film company.

Source of Reply

Mary T. Daly, Director of Operations

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 12

FINGAL'S VACANT SITE REGISTER

Question: Councillor B. Dennehy

"To ask the Chief Executive to report on the number / acreage of land currently on this Council's Vacant Site register that will be transferred to the new Residential Zone Tax, (RZT) when it is implemented?"

Reply:

There are currently 8 sites on the Vacant Sites Register. The total area of land is circa 27.81 hectares.

VSR	SITE AREA (ha)	On RZLT Final Map for 2024	On RZLT Draft Map 2025 (Feb. 2024)
VS/0016	6.21	YES	YES
VS/0017	17.59	YES	YES
VS/0018	1.41	YES	YES
VS/0120	0.11	YES	YES

VS/0123	1.4	YES	YES
VS/0124	0.75	YES	YES
VS/0128	0.22	MAJORITY OF SITE	MAJORITY OF SITE
VS/0130	0.12	YES	YES

Source of Reply

Matthew McAleese, Director of Planning & Strategic Infrastructure

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 13

IDENTIFICATION AND MAPPING OF ALL DRAINS IN THE COUNTY

Question: Councillor B. Ryan

"To ask the Chief Executive to give consideration to undertaking a comprehensive identification and mapping of all drains in the County, including in rural areas, with a view to ensuring that all such drains are inspected and cleared regularly as part of a preventive measure to ensure that blocked drains do not contribute to localized flooding which can often be the case?"

Reply:

Mapping of Drains

Fingal have a vast amount of information on Drainage Infrastructure and networks for which we are responsible across several Fingal Departments, Operations (Roads/Storm Surface Water), Planning (Building Control/P & SI).

The information is in a broad spectrum of formats, digital, hard copy, Taken in Charge documents, Taken into Maintenance documents, GIS maps, As Built drawings from developers, records from schemes delivered internal by Fingal, As Built documents from schemes delivered on regional and national basis etc.

Fingal are preparing to commence a review of drainage infrastructure records, and mapping with the idea to making it a more user friendly and dynamic database.

In doing so it is acknowledged that this will require a comprehensive gap analysis to get an idea of the task in hand. Due to the diversity in format of the records and the different custodians of them we expect that there will be a significant volume of work in catching up on work not uploaded to GIS mapping system,

identifying anomalies that will need editing and correction, resurvey of network where information is missing, erroneous and unchecked.

There is also the matter of capture and record on to GIS mapping system of the increasing proliferation of Nature Based and SuDS infrastructure in recent years so that their interaction with the other drainage infrastructure is understood.

It is hard to put a timeline on the full scale of the task of identifying and updating the full drainage network, but it will be substantial, with continuous uploading, surveying, editing, liaison with other Departments, external bodies etc.

Fingal do not have a standalone Mapping GIS platform but have an arrangement with Uisce Eireann whereby they host Storm/Surface Water infrastructure on the National GIS Mapping system on behalf of Fingal.

Revenue Provision - Inspections and Clearing of Drains

Gully cleaning is carried out on a continuous basis across the 3 areas and in advance of weather warnings. Increased revenue expenditure has been committed to gully cleaning with increased budget assigned in 2023 and 2024. These works attend to infrastructure and drainage network, inspection and clearing on a regular basis.

A breakdown of Gully Cleaning Programme as follows:

Area	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Castleknock/ Mulhuddart	€200,000.00	€200,000.00	€118,500.00	€118,500.00	€118,500.00
Howth/ Malahide	€200,000.00	€195,000.00	€227,000.00	€70.000.00	€40,000.00
Balbriggan/ Swords	€250,000.00	€310,000.00	€120,000.00	€145,000.00	€110,000.00

In Storm/Surface Water Section we are working towards developing a more preventative maintenance philosophy rather than reactive maintenance which would have been the more dominant approach until now. That said the nature of the infrastructure, age, condition etc., there will always be a strong level of reactive maintenance which will, by its nature take precedent over and may have a nominal effect upon planned Programme of Works.

Capital Provision – Storm/Surface Water

In the years 2022 to 2023 €550,000 was spent on Storm/Surface Water capital schemes. The Capital Programme plans to spend approximately €2.5 million with 17 projects in the period 2024 to 2026.

Our Programme of Works includes schemes to repair and upgrade sewers where flooding and general poor level of service has been experienced. Storm/Surface Water sewers will deteriorate over time due to several factors and this has led to a rethink and a greater use of Green Infrastructure or SuDS design in recent years.

Some particular challenges that will test us will be picking up how infrastructure interacts in rural areas. Quite often there are isolated sections of, say, road gullies and/or drainage pipework that are piecemeal in how and where they connect to ditches and in some cases watercourses that connect at rivers under the remit of the OPW, the Flood Arterial Drainage Schemes of which we have some in Fingal.

Source of Reply:

Mary T. Daly, Director of Operations

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 14

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th March 2024

ITEM NO. 14a

REPORT OF ORGANISATION, PROCEDURES AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2024

Matters of Organisation, Procedure and Finance

Draft Fraud & Corruption Policy

Ms. Mary Egan, Director, People, Corporate & Digital Services gave the Members a presentation on the Draft Fraud & Corruption Policy.

Draft Fraud & Corruption Policy

Mary Egan, Director of Services

The policy applies to;

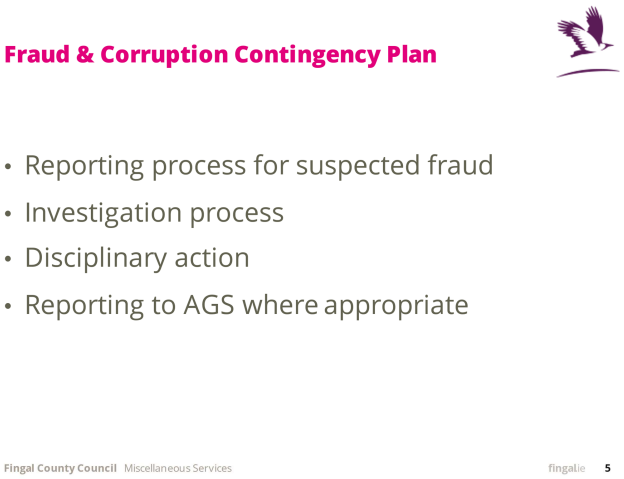
- Elected members
- Employees
- 3rd parties working on behalf of the Council

Fraud & Corruption Policy

- FCC is committed to preserving highest standards of honesty, transparency, probity and accountability
- Policy advises & guides employees and Elected Members onCouncil's approach to fraud & corruption

Fraud & Corruption Policy

- Policy provides a framework to be referred to if fraud or corruption is suspected
- Support & protect employees and others who raise legitimate & reasonable concerns



Following discussion, the presentation was NOTED.

Representation Portal

Mr. Paul Barker, Assistant Head of Information Technology, Digital Services, gave the Members a demonstration of the new Representation Portal, answering questions and addressing queries. Mr. Barker advised the Members that volunteers are required for User Acceptance Testing (UAT) and to contact Corporate Services if interested in participating.

Finance Matters

Mr. Oliver Hunt, Head of Finance, gave a presentation to the Members on the Financial Standing of the Council, including the Standard Monthly Report on both income and expenditure on both Revenue and Capital Account and matters affecting Council finances.

Following discussion, the report was NOTED.

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 14b

REPORT OF CORPORATE POLICY GROUP MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4TH MARCH 2024

Appointment of One Member to the Audit Committee

Ms. Nikki Halleran, Senior Executive Officer, People, Corporate & Digital Services advised the Members of a vacancy on the Audit Committee following the resignation of Cllr. Punam Rane. Following discussion, Cllr. Tom O'Leary expressed his interest in sitting on this Committee. It was proposed by Councillor Eoghan O'Brien, seconded by Councillor Brian McDonagh, and agreed to recommend that the Council approve the appointment of Councillor Tom O'Leary as a member of the Council's Audit Committee.

Membership of Beaumont Hospital Board

Ms. Nikki Halleran, Senior Executive Officer, People, Corporate & Digital Services advised the Members of a vacancy on the Board of Beaumont Hospital following the resignation of Cllr. Punam Rane. She advised that the CEO of Beaumont Hospital submitted a request for Punam Rane to remain on the Committee for a further period of time. The CPG agreed that the position must be filled by a Councillor and this item will be listed on the agenda for the Council Meeting on Monday 11th March.

Flag Protocol

Ms. Nikki Halleran, Senior Executive Officer, People, Corporate & Digital Services advised the Members of the need for a Flag Protocol for Fingal County Council. Corporate Services will undertake to draft a protocol to be brought to the Members for approval.

Following discussion, the Corporate Policy Group **RECOMMENDED** that a Flag Protocol be drafted.

Request to Fly Polish Flag

Ms. Nikki Halleran, Senior Executive Officer, People, Corporate & Digital Services advised the Members that a request had been received from the Polish Ambassador to Ireland to fly the Polish Flag on 3rd May, the National Day of the Polish Constitution.

Following discussion, the Corporate Policy Group agreed to defer consideration of this request to the next meeting of the CPG.

Twinning

Ms. Nikki Halleran, Senior Executive Officer, People, Corporate & Digital Services gave a report to the Members on the current request to twin Howth with Cap d'Ail in France. As part of the report, Ms. Halleran advised the Members that a review of the existing Twinning Policy for Fingal County Council is also required.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Cllr. Eoghan O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. Brian McDonagh and **AGREED** that the proposal to twin Howth to Cap d'Ail is **RECOMMENDED** by the CPG and will be brought to Council for approval.

It was also **AGREED** that Corporate Services will carry out a review of the Twinning Policy and it will be brought to the Corporate Policy Group for consideration and recommendation.

Signed: Councillor Eoghan O'Brien
pp Mayor

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 14c

REPORT OF BLANCHARDSTOWN/MULHUDDART/CASTLEKNOCK SERVICES B AREA COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 7th MARCH 2024

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**
Women's Shed Clonee GA 002963	€ 3,000.00		Sewing machine X6, Fabric, Scissors, Room Rental 18 week, Sewing tutor, 8 week Yoga classes	NO	N/A	€ 3,000.00

Riverwood Biodiversity Group GA 002977	€ 2,280.00		Insurance, Basic website, High Viz jackets, tools, Native species, swatches Butterfly nets, Magnifying glasses, Bug boxes, Signs, Bat detectors	NO	N/A	€ 2,378.00
Mulberry Residents Association GA 002961	€ 1,500.00		EUONYMUS jap. Bravo Half Standard, FASTGROW Chicken Manure Fertiliser, PRUNUS, Angustifolia 175-200cm, WESTLAND Topsoil	YES	2022- € 659.00 2021 -€ 750.00	€ 1,500.00
Le Cheile Senior Social Group GA 002958	€ 2,970.00		4 BUS HIRE TRIPS	YES	2022- € 3,000.00	€ 2,970.00
St. Peregrines SC Network GA 002974	€ 3,077.00		Insurance, Transport to Tyrrellspass, Transport to Our Lady's Island Wexford, Transport to Knock, Music for Tyrrellspass	NO	N/A	€ 3,000.00
Blakestown and Mountview NYP GA 002952	€ 2,500.00		Soft play with toddler castle, ball pit and balls, buzz wire, Obstacle course, 5 in 1 carnival games, bouncy castle, face painting & balloon	YES	2022 -€ 2,000.00 2021- € 2,000.00	€ 2,467.72

			modelling, magician, balloon arch, delivery and set up			

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

Signed: _____

Councillor T. Kitt

Area Chairperson

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 15

FINANCIAL MATTERS

No Report

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 16

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: DAM81

28th February 2024

To: **Each Member of Fingal County Council**

Re: **Notice of proposed disposal of land at Damastown Industrial Estate, Damastown, Dublin 15 to Glenbeigh Records Management Limited**

Glenbeigh Records Management Limited is seeking to acquire 3.05 hectares (7.54 acres) approximately of land zoned 'GE' for General Employment purposes, at Damastown Industrial Estate, Damastown, Dublin 15, for the purpose of developing a storage facility.

It is proposed, subject to the necessary statutory approvals, to dispose of land comprising of 3.05 hectares (7.54 acres) approximately, as outlined in red on Drawing No. 11_050L-CSE-GEN-XX-DR-C-1000 (copy attached) at Damastown Industrial Estate, Damastown, Dublin 15 to Glenbeigh Records Management Limited, 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, on the following terms and conditions:

1. That the purpose of the disposal is for the provision of a storage facility.

2. That the plot of land to be transferred is as shown on the attached Drawing No. 11_050L-CSE-GEN-XX-DR-C-1000, outlined in red and comprising 3.05 hectares (7.54 acres) approximately.

3. That the Council shall dispose of the site subject to a 250-year lease, on the basis of a capital payment of €2,450,000.00 (two million four hundred and fifty thousand euro) plus VAT (if applicable). A deposit of 10% shall be payable on the execution of the contract for sale.

4. That the rent shall be €12.70 per acre, or part thereof, per annum, exclusive of all outgoings and paid annually in advance.

5. That the rent shall be reviewed at the end of every 5th year in line with the change in the Consumer Price Index.

6. That the Lessee shall be responsible for any VAT or stamp duty arising.

7. That wayleaves shall be retained over the areas coloured yellow and blue on the attached map.

8. That the Lessee will be responsible for all costs associated with the planning application process and subsequent development.

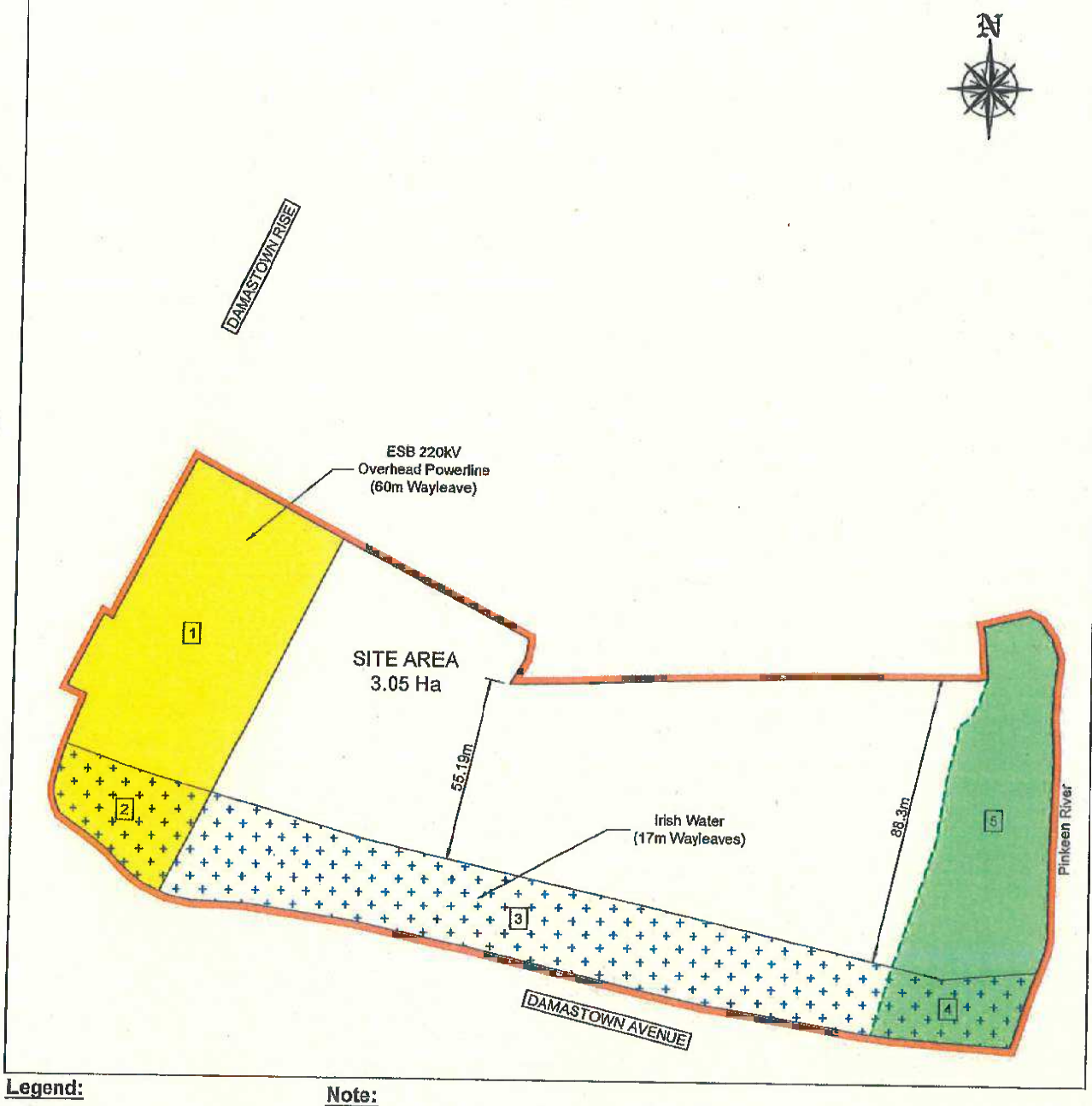
9. All other terms and conditions will be set out in the legal documentation.

The land to be disposed of was transferred to Fingal County Council from Dublin Corporation under the Local Government (Dublin) Act 1993 on the 1st January 1994 for industrial purposes.

Notice is hereby given that a report on the proposed disposal will be included on the Agenda of the Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Area Committee (Services B) meeting scheduled to be held on 7th March 2024 and the proposed disposal will be included on the Agenda for consideration at the meeting of Fingal County Council to be held on Monday 11th March 2024.

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

This drawing is produced using the Irish Transverse Mercator (ITM) / Irish Grid Geographic Coordinate System



Legend:

- Site Boundary
- ESB Wayleave Area: 0.57 Ha
- Irish Water Wayleave Area: 0.74 Ha
- Extent of Riparian Corridor (30m From Pinkeen River) Area: 0.42 Ha

Note:

Total Site Area	3.05 Ha
Site Area Net Of Constraints	1.52 Ha

Constraints

1.	ESB Wayleave Only	0.46 Ha
2.	ESB & Irish Water Wayleave Overlap	0.11 Ha
3.	Irish Water Wayleave Only	0.54Ha
4.	Irish Water & Riparian Corridor Overlap	0.08 Ha
5.	Riparian Corridor Only	0.34 Ha

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A3 - © CSEA 2021 - Rev 00

Revision	Description	Initials	Date

Clifton Scannell Emerson Associates

Project: Potential Site at Damastown Avenue
Dwg. Title: Preliminary Layout
Drawn By: CL | Dwg. Progress: For Discussion | Date: April 2023
Checked by: MC | Dwg. No. 11_050L-CSE-GEN-XX-DR-C-1000 | Scale: 1:1250 @ A3

Clifton Scannell Emerson Associates Limited, Consulting Engineers, 3rd Floor The Highline, Bakers Point, Pottery Road, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland, A96 KW29
T. +353 1 288 5006 F. +353 1 283 [illegible] www.csea.ie

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

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

File Ref: LD 1430

28th February 2024

TO: Each Member of the Council

RE: Notice of proposed disposal of land adjacent to Oatlands Gate Lodge, Porterstown Road, Dublin 15 to Mr. Peter Cawley

---

Peter Crawley is seeking to acquire 438 square meters approximately of land adjacent to Oatlands Gate Lodge, Porterstown Road, Dublin 15 for the purposes of providing extra garden space to Mr. Crawley's property.

It is proposed, subject to the necessary statutory approvals, to dispose of land adjacent to Oatlands Gate Lodge, Porterstown Road, Dublin 15 comprising an area of 438 square meters approximately as shown outlined in red on Map No. LA-266-22 dated 29th July 2022 (copy attached), contained within Folio DN193525F 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, on the following terms and conditions:

1. The purpose of the disposal is to allow for the provision of extra garden space to the property currently owned by Mr. Peter Crawley.

2. That the land comprises 438 square meters approximately, as shown outlined in red on the attached Map No. LA-266-22, dated 29th July 2022.

3. That the Council shall dispose of the subject lands for a consideration of €20,000 (twenty thousand euro) plus VAT if applicable.

4. That the land is disposed of with freehold title.

5. That the land is to be used for garden purposes only and no buildings are to be erected.

6. That the land will not be sold separately to the main property, Oatlands Gate Lodge at any time in the future.

7. That the Purchaser shall be responsible for any VAT or stamp duty arising.

8. That the Purchaser shall be responsible for Councils Valuer's fee of €1,200 plus VAT and the Council's legal fees plus VAT in respect of this agreement.

9. That the above proposal is subject to the necessary approvals and consents being obtained.

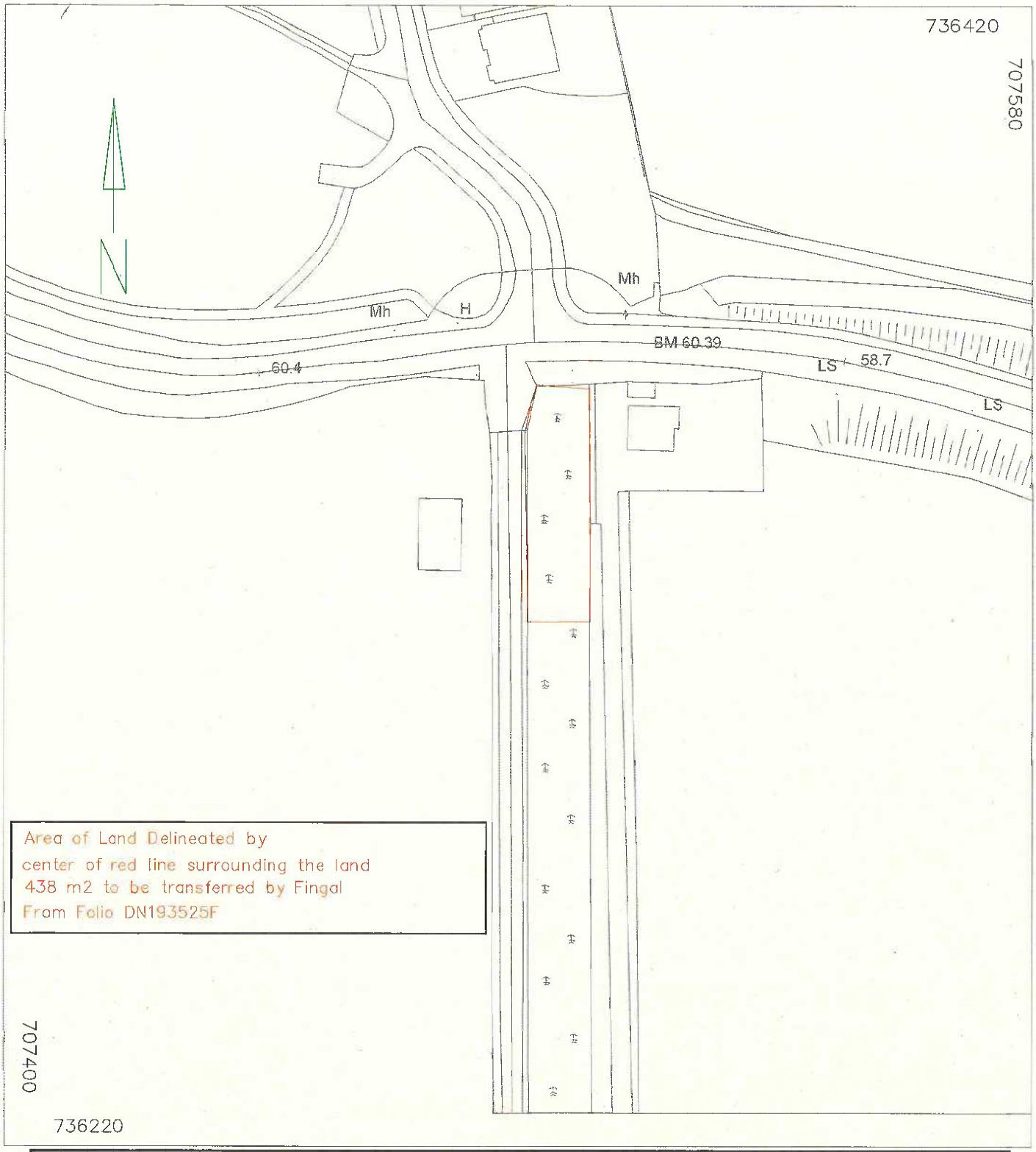
10. All other terms and conditions will be set out in the legal documentation.

The land to be disposed of was transferred to Fingal County Council from the National Toll Roads Plc on 31st May 2006 for the community use purposes.

Notice is hereby given that a report on the proposed disposal will be included on the Agenda of the Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Area Committee (Services B) meeting scheduled for the 7th March 2024 and the proposed disposal will be included on the Agenda for consideration at the meeting of Fingal County Council to be held on Monday 11th March 2024.

Aoife Sheridan

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-266-22	O.S.Ref:
		Date: 29 July 2022	Drawn By: LJM
		Scale: 1/1000	Checked:
		Dev. File No: LD1430	Job No. SM/66/22
Project: Land at Oatlands Gate Lodge		Gross Area :	
Land to be transferred by : Fingal Co Co		Road Area :	
Ordnance Survey Ireland. All rights reserved. Licence number 2017/24/CCMAI/Fingal County Council.		Nett Area :	

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 17

DECLARATION OF ROADS

No Report

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 18

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Annual Report of the

Audit Committee of Fingal County Council

Year ended 31st December 2023

Fingal County Council Audit Committee

Annual Report 2023

Contents

Chairperson's Statement

1. Introduction

2. Role of the Audit Committee

3. Role and Responsibility of the Internal Audit Unit

4. Role of Management

5. Review of 2023 Audit Committee Activities

- Committee Meetings
- Internal Audit Plan
- Internal Audit Reports
- Risk Management
- Local Government Auditor

6. Assurance Arrangements

7. Audit Committee Evaluation

8. Acknowledgements

9. Conclusion

Appendices

Appendix 1 Audit Committee Statutory Functions

Appendix 2 Audit Committee 2023 Work Programme

Appendix 3 Internal Audit reviews undertaken

Chairperson's Statement

As the Independent Chairperson of the Audit Committee (AC) of Fingal County Council (FCC), I am pleased to present our Annual Report for 2023. The AC is an important part of the overall control assurance framework within FCC and this report reviews the work of the AC in 2023 and outlines the manner in which the AC has sought to deliver on its key legislative and governance functions.

The AC has an independent role in the provision of assurance to FCC and this includes oversight responsibilities for:

· The consideration of the adequacy and effectiveness of the internal control systems, control environment and control procedures;

· Financial reporting, by way of review of the Annual Audited Financial Statements;

· Consideration of the Internal audit plan in response to organisational risks identified; and

· Reviewing the effectiveness of the Internal Audit Unit and providing advice and guidance in relation to the development of the Unit.

As Chairperson, I am satisfied with the performance of the AC during 2023, during which we met on five occasions. In addition to the regular agenda items, as laid out per the statutory functions of the AC, the work of the AC continued to bring benefit through enhanced engagement with the Executive in a series of management assurance briefings in relation to risk and other issues of importance across a range of Directorates. These management assurances were further supported by the continued utilisation of the Governance Actions Report in the meeting agenda.

On behalf of the AC, I would like to thank all those who gave of their expertise in preparing documentation for our deliberations. We thank the entire Internal Audit team for their ongoing work and commitment to constant quality improvements in the delivery of the internal audit function for FCC. We would also like to thank Mary Egan, Director of People, Corporate & Digital Services, for her commitment to the work of the AC and responding to the increased demands placed on the function in the betterment of the governance culture in FCC.

During late 2022 Mary McCarthy retired from her position as leader of the Internal Audit Unit. Mary's replacement, Stuart James, was appointed during 2023. I would like to recognise the important work done by Stuart since his appointment. He has demonstrated great professionalism and integrity.

I would like to take this opportunity to formally acknowledge and thank the Chief Executive and Management Team for their operational stewardship of FCC throughout 2023 and their efforts to continue to support and drive a culture of good governance across FCC.

Finally, I would like to thank all of my fellow members of the AC for their time, commitment and considered debate, which adds to the effectiveness of the work programme of the AC. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with so many dedicated external members and elected members of the Audit Committee.

Donagh Waters, Audit Committee Chairperson 2023

1.0 Introduction

Under the provisions of the AC Charter for the Council, and as per the requirements under Regulation 15 of S.I. No. 244 of 2014, the Committee is required to produce an Annual Report.

In accordance with the regulations, the Audit Committee comprises of seven members, not less than four external members (including the Chairperson) and not more than three serving or retired elected Members.

This Annual Report covers the period from 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023.

The table below outlines the membership and attendance records throughout the period covered by this report and reflects seven members made up of three Councillors and four External Members*.

Member:	Meeting Date: 18/04/23	Meeting Date: 29/05/23	Meeting Date: 03/10/23	Meeting Date: 22/11/23	Meeting Date: 04/12/23
Donagh Waters* (Chair)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cllr. Cathal Boland	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Cllr. Mary Mc Camley				Yes	Yes
Cllr. Punam Rane	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
Dearbhla Fitzsimons*	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Chris Harmon*	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Noel O'Connell*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cllr. Brigid Manton	Yes	Yes	Yes		

2.0 Role of the Audit Committee

The role and functions of the AC reflect the provisions of relevant legislation. All regulations and additional obligations are included in the Local Government Reform Act 2014. The functions, as outlined in Section 59 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, are included in Appendix 1.

3.0 Role and Responsibility of the Internal Audit (IA) Unit

Internal auditing is an independent and objective appraisal activity that is guided by a philosophy of adding value to improve the operations of FCC. It helps the organisation accomplish its objectives by bringing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control and governance processes. In line with its statutory duty in relation to the Internal Audit function, the AC continued to work to support the IA Unit in delivering good quality audit reports based on the Internal Audit Plan. The AC, at each meeting, monitored the agreed audit plan for 2023, the work programme and timeframes, and the use of audit resources (both internal and external) to deliver on the plan.

4.0 Role of Management

Management within FCC are responsible for the: o adoption and implementation of good governance arrangements o establishment of an effective control environment o review and maintenance of effective internal controls o compliance with Risk Management Policy including the establishment and maintenance of integrated risk management structures o prevention and detection of fraud, irregularities and resolution of any such situation o support of the work of internal audit including the provision of information o responding in a timely manner to audit queries and implementation of agreed audit recommendations.

5.0 Review of 2023 Audit Committee Activities

5.1 Committee meetings

Each meeting, as outlined in the schedule above, begins with private committee time. This allows the AC to deliberate on matters arising on the agenda, the contents of meeting documentation and provides an opportunity to discuss additional relevant issues. Updates on risk, governance actions and procurement are regular items on the agenda for meetings. Throughout the year, the Chief Executive and other members of the Management Team including the Director of People, Corporate & Digital Services and the Head of Finance were invited to present to the AC.

In line with Good Governance practice and in support of the AC's contribution towards the effective assurance arrangements within FCC, the AC met with the Local Government Auditor following completion of the 2022 audit process. The AC then followed up with a meeting with AnnMarie Farrelly, Chief Executive, which was a very useful and worthwhile collaborative meeting, during which we emphasised the importance of addressing key concerns and recommendations made by the Local Government Auditor in their reports.

5.2 Internal Audit Plan

Progress in implementing the Internal Audit Plan was monitored by the AC with regular progress reports furnished by IA. The strategy adopted included supplementation by qualified external audit resources, and this adds a further level of assurance to delivering on the Internal Audit Plan.

5.3 Internal Audit Reports

The audit reports reviewed / issued during 2023 are set out in Appendix 3. In respect of each report, the Committee reviewed the findings, conclusions, and recommendations as well as management responses to the control issues raised. The implementation of recommendations is further monitored through the Governance Actions Report. The AC continues to work with the IA Unit in developing a robust Internal Audit Plan that reflects the key risk areas in the organisation.

5.4 Risk Management

The role of the AC includes to consider whether processes are in place to manage risks effectively, in accordance with organisational guidelines and Service Delivery Plans. Risk management is a key theme which underpins the work of the Internal Audit Team and is a live issue for the AC in its deliberations.

5.5 Local Government Auditor

Section 121 (3) of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended by Section 60 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, requires the AC to report to the Council on its consideration of the audited Annual Financial Statement and the Statutory Audit Report.

On 22nd November 2023, the AC met with the Local Government Auditor, Mr. Daragh McMahon, and considered and discussed the audited Annual Financial Statement and Statutory Audit Report for Fingal County Council for the year ended 31st December 2022.

The AC discussed the contents of the Statutory Audit Report with Mr. McMahon, who provided explanations and clarifications on his findings and on the Chief Executive's responses to his findings. The Audit Committee

reviewed the findings with a view to prioritisation based on the findings of the Local Government Auditor. As per its legislative requirements, the Audit Committee will be overseeing the implementation of the Local Government Auditor's findings and associated recommendations.

. In relation to Fixed Assets, some time was spent discussing this area. It was noted that the County Council has started the complex and detailed process of reconciling properties from the Property Interest Register (PIR) to the Fixed Assets Register. It is essential the Council continue this work to ensure all Council assets are registered with the PRA and the full reconciliation is completed.

. Other matters discussed included accounting systems for recording receipt of goods and services, matters related to affordable housing, and the process around bank reconciliations.

· The Audit Committee wish to confirm that the Audited Annual Financial Statement, the Statutory Audit Report, and our general discussion with Mr. McMahon, will continue to inform the Audit Committee's work and will be considered during the development of the Internal Audit Plan for 2024.

· The Audit Committee will also monitor the implementation of recommendations made by Mr. McMahon during the coming year through meetings with the Internal Audit Team, and through regular management reports and presentations.

Following the meeting, the AC produced the Report to the Elected Members, in accordance with Section 121 (3) of the Local Government Act 2001, as amended by Section 60 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.

6.0 Assurance arrangements

The AC, IA and the LGA are key elements of the overall control and assurance framework within the Council. The IA and AC are key elements of "the third line of defence" after the first line - individual line management and staff; and the second line - the business risk and control functions within each Division / unit. Providing clarity and ensuring greater understanding and appreciation of the differing assurance roles and control responsibilities within these three lines is an ongoing priority for the Committee.

7.0 Audit Committee Evaluation

The AC continues to focus on the delivery of its functions in accordance with its Charter obligations and continues to hone and develop its own skills.

8.0 Acknowledgements

The Committee would like to thank the Chief Executive, Directors, senior management and other colleagues for their co-operation and assistance during 2023. The Fingal team continued to provide a seamless virtual infrastructure and facilitated the AC in continuing to deliver on its statutory obligations. In particular, the Committee would like to acknowledge the work of all the Internal Audit team and its leader Stuart James in supporting the work of the AC.

9.0 Conclusion

This Annual Audit Committee Report outlines the progress made in 2023 across all areas of the Committee's functions. The Audit Committee looks forward to assisting and supporting Fingal County Council in the forthcoming year by delivering effectively on its mandate through its interactions with senior and line management, internal and external audit.

Appendix 1 - AUDIT COMMITTEE STATUTORY FUNCTIONS

Functions of the Audit Committee (Section 59 Local Government Reform Act 2014)

- To review financial and budgetary reporting practices and procedures within the local authority that has established it.
- To foster the development of best practice in the performance by the local authority of its internal audit function.
- To review any audited financial statement, auditor's report or auditor's special report in relation to the local authority and assess any actions taken within that authority by its chief executive in response to such a statement or report and to report to that authority on its findings.
- To assess and promote efficiency and value for money with respect to the local authority's performance of its functions.
- To review systems that are operated by the local authority for the management of risks. The Audit Committee Work Programme for each year will include activities and initiatives to ensure each of these functions are carried out.

Appendix 2 - AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2023

No.	Topic
1	Select Chairperson for New Audit Committee
2	Preparation of Annual Report for approval by the Council in relation to Audit Committee activity from January 2022 to December 2022 (Regulation 15 Report)
3	Make Annual Declaration and Disclosure of Interests
4	Annual Report 2022 from Internal Auditor
5	Review the Annual Budget of the Council and review budgetary outturns and variance analysis of actual versus budget
6	Review Audit Committee and Internal Audit Charters
7	Meet with the LGA a) within three months following submission of the LGA's report to the Council b) report to the Council on the outcome of the Annual External Audit
8	Review the Annual Financial Statement and the LGA's report on the Annual Financial Statement, statutory audit report, management letter and CE responses and follow up as necessary
9	Review performance and effectiveness of the Audit Committee
10	Develop and review Action Plan for issues raised from Self-Effectiveness Review
11	Meet with the CE of the Council on at least one occasion
12	Meet with the Head of Finance on at least one occasion to: a) review of FM and reporting arrangements as per Charter b) gain an understanding of budgetary practice
13	Review Protected Disclosures Policy, Audit Committee Protocol and Fraud reports
14	Approve the Internal Audit Plan 2024
15	Prepare 2024 Audit Committee Work Programme
16	Review resourcing of Internal Audit
17	Review relevant recommendations and findings made by LGAS and NOAC, including Performance Indicators. Review the CE's responses where relevant and follow up as necessary
18	Meet at least four Department Heads to receive presentations on their departments with regards to challenges faced, principal risks, how risk is mitigated, interaction with internal audit, and value for money initiatives
19	Consider Value for Money with regards to the Council's performance of its functions (e.g. VFM Reports from LGAS, Management presentations, etc.)
20	Review Recurring Items Updates – Audit Committee & Internal Audit Annual Plans, Reports and Outstanding Audit Actions, Procurement Reform, Corporate Risk Management
21	Hold at least four meetings during 2023
22	Meeting training needs of Committee members as identified.

Appendix 3 - Internal Audit Reports for the period January to December 2023

Audit Committee	Division	Audit
Dec 2023	Housing & Community	Private Rented Inspections
Dec 2023	Planning & Strategic	Development Contributions
Dec 2023	EETCD	LEO – Procure to Pay Processes
Oct 2023	Planning & Strategic	Taking in Charge Process
Oct 2023	Finance	Creditors Masterfile
Oct 2023	Council Wide	Public Spending Code Quality Assurance (In-depth checks)
May 2023	Housing & Community	Payment and Availability leasing programme
Apr 2023	Operations & Water	Management and maintenance of outdoor equipment

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER 2024

1. Purpose

The Audit Committee has an independent role in advising Fingal County Council on financial reporting processes, internal control, risk management and audit matters, as part of the governance arrangements that operate within Fingal County Council.

2. Functions

The functions of the Audit Committee are as prescribed by section 59 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, as follows:

a) To review the financial and budgetary reporting practices and procedures within Fingal County Council:

- Adoption of Annual Budget
- Gain an understanding of the budgetary practices used
- Review budgetary outturns and variance analysis of actual versus budget
- Review of financial management and reporting arrangements
- Meet with Head of Finance as necessary

b) To foster the development of best practice in the performance by Fingal County Council of its internal audit function:

- Approval of the annual Internal Audit Plan
- Approval of the Internal Audit Charter
- Review of periodic Internal Audit reports
- Obtain feedback from the External Auditor
- Assessment of the resources available to Internal Audit
- Assessment of the training requirements of Internal Audit

c) To review any financial statement auditor's report or auditor's special report in relation to Fingal County Council and assess any actions taken within the Council by its chief executive in response to such a statement or report and to report to the Council on its findings:

- Meet with the External Auditor within three months following the submission of the auditor's report to the Council

- Review the Annual Financial Statement
- Review of the Management Letter findings by the External Auditor
- Review of assurances given by Management on issues raised by the External Auditor
- Undertake follow-up in relation to any significant issues raised by the external auditor
- Report to the Council on the outcome of the annual external audit

d) To assess and promote efficiency and value for money with respect to Fingal County Council's performance of its functions:

- Review of Internal Audit reports addressing efficiency and value for money within the activities audited
- Review of National Service Indicators and the relevant position of the council in key areas
- Meet with Heads of Services and enquire as to measures taken to promote efficiency and Value for Money
- Review relevant recommendations and findings made by the NOAC and the external auditor on the subject of efficiency and value for money

e) To review systems that are operated by Fingal County Council for the management of risks:

- Review the Risk Register documentation and assess how this links to the Internal Audit Plan
- Assess and understand how the Risk Register was compiled
- Review the Risk Management Policy
- Meet with Heads of Services and gain an understanding of how they manage perceived risks

f) To review the findings and recommendations of the NOAC and the response of the Chief Executive to these and take further action as appropriate:

- Review relevant findings of the NOAC for inclusion in the annual work programme
- Review the Chief Executive's responses to issues raised by the NOAC
- Direct Internal Audit to undertake audits on relevant matters raised by the NOAC

3. Composition and Operation of Audit Committee

Membership

The Audit Committee is established by resolution of the Council upon nomination by the Corporate Policy Group, who will consult with the Chief Executive.

The Committee will consist of seven members, including four external members. The term of the Audit Committee will be approximately five years. Cessation and commencement of membership is in line with the wider Council electoral process and associated legislative timescales.

A Chairperson will be selected by the Audit Committee in accordance with Regulation 4(10) and will be one of the Committee's external members.

The position of Chairperson may be rotated during the five-year term, with the agreement of the Audit Committee members.

Where an Audit Committee vacancy arises, the Chairperson will inform the Chief Executive and the vacancy will be filled in accordance with Regulation 4(13). In considering an appropriate replacement, the CPG and Council, in consultation with the Chairperson, should consider the existing skills mix of the Committee and reflect on how best the vacancy can be filled in order to ensure that the Committee continues to be comprised in such a way that it can effectively discharge its functions.

Training and Induction

It is the duty of the Chairperson to ensure that the training needs of the Audit Committee are reviewed on an annual basis. Where training needs are identified the Chief Executive should be informed and facilitate the provision of training, where practicable.

New members will undertake an induction programme as soon as is practicable after appointment.

Meetings[1]

The Committee will meet at least four times per year, with authority to convene additional meetings as circumstances require. All Committee members are expected to attend each meeting, but no less than 75% of meetings in a single year. A member

[1] By Ministerial Order Signed on 20th October 2020, Council meetings and meetings of local authority committees are permitted to be held remotely through a virtual medium (Section 29 of the Civil Law and Criminal Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020. (S.I. No. 445 of 2020) refers.)

may be disqualified where he or she fails to attend 75% of the meetings of the Committee in any calendar year.

The quorum for each meeting will be four members. In the absence of the Chairperson, the members of the Committee shall elect a member present to act as Chairperson for the meeting.

The Committee will invite members of management, internal and external audit, or others to attend meetings and provide information, as necessary.

The Secretary will be responsible for the preparation and circulation of meeting agendas and minuting all decisions in consultation with the Chairperson. Minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee will be proposed and approved at the meeting immediately following.

Working Procedures and Access

The Committee should adopt its own working procedures.
The Annual Work Programme will be drafted by the Secretary in consultation with the Chairperson and presented to the Committee for review and approval. The Annual Work Programme will be provided to the Council at the start of each year.

The work programme will include:

- The approval of the annual Internal Audit plan
- A review of the Annual Financial Statement
- A review of the external auditor's reports
- The preparation of the Annual Report prepared under Regulation 15
- The review of periodic internal audit reports
- The review of the relevant findings and recommendations of the National Oversight and Audit Commission and the response of the Chief Executive to such findings and recommendations; and take further action as appropriate
- Any other actions necessary to discharge its functions

The Audit Committee will have access to documents or other data and information as it reasonably requires in order to discharge its functions.

The Audit Committee may request the attendance of the Chief Executive, the external auditor, staff of the Internal Audit Unit and other staff of the Council as required. The Audit Committee shall meet separately at least annually with the external auditor, the Internal Audit Unit and the Chief Executive.

Where advice is required in relation to a matter that is being considered by the Audit Committee and is sufficiently material to warrant the services of a specialist consultant, external to Fingal County Council, the Audit Committee may request the Chief Executive to make such expert assistance available.

4. Confidentiality

The agendas, papers, reports, documentation and discussions of the Committee are confidential and will contain sensitive material and information necessary to allow members to carry out their duties. Members and those in attendance, cannot without the approval of the Chairperson, discuss matters arising with third parties or directly or indirectly disclose to these parties information obtained in the course of their duties, either during the term of their membership or at any time afterwards.

5. Independence

The Audit Committee shall be independent in the performance of its functions and responsibilities and shall not be subject to direction or control from any other party. The Audit Committee is accountable to the Council.

6. Media Protocol

Members of the Audit Committee will forward all queries, requests for interviews or comments from the media or outside parties immediately to the Secretary of the Audit Committee.

7. Conflict of Interest Procedures

Audit Committee members should declare any matter in which they have an interest. Each member of the Committee should take personal responsibility for declaring pro-actively at the outset of each meeting any potential conflict of interest relating to business arising on the Committee's agenda or from changes in the member's personal circumstances.

As appropriate, the Chairperson shall decide how this should be addressed and may ask the member to leave the meeting while the particular item of business is taken or, in more extreme cases, the member may be asked to step down from the Committee. Where the conflict of interest is with the Chairperson, the Council will ask another member of the Committee to lead in determining the appropriate course of action. Declarations of interest will be a standing agenda item.

Each year, members of the Audit Committee will make an annual declaration and disclosure of interests, as detailed in the Ethical Framework for the Local Government Service and set out in Part 15 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended).

8. Reporting

In accordance with Section 60 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, the Audit Committee will consider the Audited Financial Statement and auditor's report or special report reports at the next meeting of the Committee following their receipt. The auditor who conducted the audit shall attend the meeting of the Committee where the reports are discussed. The Committee shall report formally to the Council on its findings.

In accordance with Regulation 15, the Audit Committee will prepare and submit a report to the Council on its activities and findings during that year within three months of the end of each year. The report should also include the Committee's assessment of its own effectiveness and performance in so far as it relates to the work programme agreed by the Council. The report should be formally submitted to the Council and the Chief Executive on the agreement of the Committee.

9. Review of Performance and Effectiveness

In accordance with Regulation 13, the Audit Committee shall undertake a review of its own effectiveness annually. This review should assess its performance and achievements against the Audit Committee Charter and the Annual Work Programme. The aim of this assessment is to ensure that the Audit Committee is meeting its objectives efficiently and effectively. The findings of the self-assessment should be included in the Annual Report of the Committee that is presented to the Council.

Where the assessment highlights a need for enhancements of the role, operational processes or membership of the Committee, the Chairperson should take action to ensure that such enhancements are implemented. The Chairperson may need to consult with the Chief Executive to obtain appropriate support to ensure all enhancements are implemented.

10. Protected Disclosures

The Committee will ensure that policies and procedures are in place whereby employees may in confidence raise concerns about possible irregularities in financial reporting or other financial matters. The Committee will be informed of any occurrences of Protected Disclosures.

11. Fraud and Corruption

The Committee will ensure that policies and procedures are in place to prevent and detect fraud and corruption. The Committee will be informed of any occurrences of fraud and corruption.

12. Qualified Privilege

Members of the Audit Committee are entitled to qualified privilege in relation to any statements made by them at any meeting that they attend under the Local Government (Audit Committee) Regulations 2014, or in their capacity as a member of the Audit Committee.

13. Review of the Audit Committee Charter

The Audit Committee Charter will be subject to annual review by the Audit Committee and adoption by the Council.

Signed By: _____ Date: 27/2/24

Chairperson,
Fingal County Council Audit Committee

Signed By: _____ Date: 27/2/24

Chief Executive,
Fingal County Council

B - AUDIT COMMITTEE 2024 ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME

No.	Topic	Timeframe	Responsibility	Status	Comment
1	Select Chairperson for New Audit Committee	Appointed	Audit Committee		
2	Preparation of Annual Report for approval by the Council in relation to Audit Committee activity from January 2023 to December 2023 (Regulation 15 Report)	Q1	Audit Committee Chairperson		
3	Make Annual Declaration and Disclosure of Interests	Q1	Audit Committee		
4	Annual Report 2023 from Internal Auditor	Q1	Internal Audit		
5	Review Protected Disclosures Policy, Audit Committee Protocol and Fraud reports	Q1	Audit Committee		
6	Review the Annual Budget of the Council and review budgetary outturns and variance analysis of actual versus budget	Q1 / Q3	Secretary/ Audit Committee		
7	Review performance and effectiveness of the Audit Committee	Q2	Audit Committee Chairperson		
8	Develop and review Action Plan for issues raised from Self-Effectiveness Review	Q3	Audit Committee Chairperson		
9	Meet with the LGA a) within three months following submission of the LGA's report to the Council b) report to the Council on the outcome of the Annual External Audit	Q3/Q4	Secretary/ Audit Committee		
10	Review the Annual Financial Statement and the LGA's report on the Annual Financial Statement, statutory audit report, management letter and CE responses and follow up as necessary	Q3/Q4	Audit Committee		
11	Review Audit Committee and Internal Audit Charters for 2025	Q4	Audit Committee		
12	Meet with the CE of the Council on at least one occasion	Q4	Secretary/ Audit Committee		
13	Meet with the Head of Finance on at least one occasion to: a) review of FM and reporting arrangements as per Charter b) gain an understanding of budgetary practice	Q4	Secretary/ Audit Committee		
14	Approve the Internal Audit Plan 2025	Q4	Audit Committee		
15	Prepare 2025 Audit Committee Work Programme	Q4	Audit Committee		
16	Review resourcing of Internal Audit	Ongoing	Audit Committee		To be monitored at each meeting
17	Review relevant recommendations and findings made by LGAS and NOAC, including Performance Indicators. Review the CE's responses where relevant and follow up as necessary	Ongoing	Audit Committee		To be monitored at each meeting
18	Meet at least four Department Heads to receive presentations on their departments with regards to challenges faced, principal risks, how risk is mitigated, interaction with internal audit, and value for money initiatives	Ongoing	Secretary/ Audit Committee		Feb - Housing & Community Services
19	Consider Value for Money with regards to the Council's performance of its functions (e.g. VFM Reports from LGAS, Management presentations, etc.)	Ongoing	Audit Committee		To be monitored at each meeting
20	Review Recurring Items Updates – Audit Committee & Internal Audit Annual Plans, Reports and Outstanding Audit Actions, Procurement Reform, Corporate Risk Management	Ongoing	Audit Committee		To be monitored at each meeting
21	Hold at least four meetings during 2024	Ongoing	Secretary/ Audit Committee		5 planned for 2024 - Feb, Apr, Jul, Sep, Dec
22	Meeting training needs of Committee members as identified.	Ongoing	Secretary/ Audit Committee		

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING OF COUNTY COUNCIL

MONDAY 11TH MARCH, 2024

ITEM NO. 19

Report pursuant to Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 - 2015 (as amended) for development of proposed Baldoyle Community Sports Centre and all associated site works on a site of approximately 0.575 ha at the former 'Coast' Estate Marketing Suite, located along the south of Red Arches Road, The Coast, Baldoyle Racecourse Park, Stapolin, Baldoyle, Dublin 13.

(PARTXI/007/23)
Development of Proposed Baldoyle Community Sports Centre and all associated site works on a site of approximately 0.575 ha at the former 'Coast' Estate Marketing Suite, located along the south of Red Arches Road, The Coast, Baldoyle Racecourse Park, Stapolin, Baldoyle, Dublin 13.

CE REPORT

Chief Executive Report pursuant to Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (As amended) and Part VIII of the Local Government Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (As amended)

PUBLIC CONSULTATION:

Public Notice:

In accordance with Part VIII of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Regulations, Public Notice of the Council's intention to carry out development works on a site of approximately 0.575 ha on lands south of Red Arches Road, The Coast, Baldoyle Racecourse Park, Stapolin, Baldoyle, Dublin 13.

The notice was published in the Irish independent on 13th December 2023, and a Site Notice was erected on the same date.

- ***Refer Appendix A1 for wording of Public Notice***

Public Display Period:

Plans and Particulars of the proposed development were made available for inspection during public opening hours from Wednesday 13th December 2023 to Friday, 19th January 2024 at:

- Fingal County Council, Fingal County Hall, Main Street, Swords, Co. Dublin, K67 X8Y2
- Baldoyle Library of Fingal County Council, Strand Road, Dublin 13, D13 Y304

Plans and particulars of the proposed development were also made available on the Fingal County Council website: **http://consult.fingal.ie/en/browse**

Observation Period:

Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development would be situated, were to be made either online through the website: **http://consult.fingal.ie/en/browse** or in writing to: -

- Administrative Officer,
  Community Division, Housing and Community Development Department,
  Fingal County Council, Grove Road, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15, D15 W638

On, or before 5pm on Tuesday 6th February 2024.

The period during which submissions or observations in respect of the proposed development may be made to the Local Authority has expired. This report is being submitted to the Council in accordance with the requirements of Article 179(3) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 which states that a report shall:

DESCRIBE PROPOSAL:

(i) "describe the nature and extent of the proposed development and the principal features thereof and shall include an appropriate plan of the development and appropriate map of the relevant area".

The Site:

The site, shown outlined in red on the Site Location Plan (Appendix B1 – Dwg No. BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR-A-001-Site location) is located within Zoning Objective HA - High Amenity, the stated objective of which is to: **"Protect and enhance high amenity areas"** in the current Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029.

The site, shown outlined in red on the site plan, is located off Red Arches Road, within the Racecourse Park in Baldoyle. The overall site area measures approximately 5,750 m2 / 0.575 ha.

The subject site, considered a 'brown field site' with an existing redundant partially derelict building, originally built as a marketing suite for adjoining residential development, is located in the southern part (south of Red Arches Road) of the overall Racecourse Park Development Scheme located between Baldoyle and Portmarnock, Baldoyle, Dublin 13.

It comprises a corner location with Racecourse Park of approximately 0.575 ha bounded by Red Arches Road to the north, existing carparking to north and east, and the extended existing playing pitches to the east with children's playground and cabin with changing and storage facilities to the south.

Residential estates with 2 and 4 storey blocks addressing the new Community/Sports Centre are located to the west and south, providing excellent passive surveillance at this location. A public open space with gated footpath walk to the playing pitches, separates the Castlerosse View residential estate from the new Community/Sports Centre.

Racecourse Park is located in Baldoyle, Dublin 13. The overall Racecourse Park Development Scheme located between Baldoyle and Portmarnock was the subject to An Bord Pleanála Reg.

Ref. No. JP06F.311315, lodged under the provisions of s.177AE of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). The development of the Racecourse Park was granted planning permission by ABP in September 2022.
The development of this park and its planning documentation anticipated the development of a Community Centre on the site as now proposed.

The Proposal:

The proposed works to be carried out at the above site consist of the demolition and removal of existing single story former 'Coast' Estate Marketing Suite Building and single storey Changing Rooms/Storage Shed with all associated structures (all totalling 410 sq m Gross Floor Space), and the construction of the Community/Sports Centre Building with ancillary infrastructure and associated site development works (all totalling 1,320 sq m Gross Floor Space and ranging in height equivalent from 1 to 2 storeys), consisting of:

• Entrance lobby and reception area, cleaners store and IT/CCTV facility room;

• Central sports hall with associated storage;

• 4 no. externally accessible changing rooms, 2 no. referee rooms, lobbies, toilets facilities and plant room;

• 4 no. community/multipurpose/studio/meeting rooms with associated storage, kitchen and coffee dock facilities with external servery hatch, toilet and changing facilities;

• 23 no. bicycle parking racks (incl. 12 no covered, 5 no. electric bicycle, 2 no. cargo bicycle/scooters) and a Surface car park providing a total of 28 no. car parking spaces (incl. 2 no. accessible/disabled and 2 no. electric vehicle charging points);

• Enhanced boundary treatments, hard and soft landscaping, external site lighting, building signage, 3 no. flagpoles, services (including underground surface water attenuation storage) and all other ancillary and associated site development works above and below ground level;

• Primary vehicular and pedestrian access to the proposed new Community/Sports Centre will be via the existing vehicle and pedestrian/bicycle accesses from the Red Arches Road, with enhanced secondary pedestrian/bicycle permeability provided to surrounding active and passive open space recreational facilities.

Design of Development:

The proposal, as made available for inspection, is described in the following drawings and reports:

Architects:

- BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-001	Site Location Plan	Scale1:1000
- BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-002	Site Plan Existing	Scale 1:200
- BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-003	Site Plan proposed	Scale 1:200
BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-004	Site Plan proposed (landscape)	Scale 1:200
- BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-005	Site Plan proposed (with Park plan)	Scale 1:200
- BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-101	Ground Floor Plan	Scale 1:100
- BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-201	Sections	Scale 1:100
- BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-301	Elevations	Scale 1:100
- BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-302	Demolition drawings	Scale 1:100
- BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-401	3D views	varies

- BCC-HRA-ZZ-RP -A-102-P01	Climate Action Energy Statement
- BCC-HRA-ZZ-XX-RP -A-001 PLR -P02	Architects Planning Report Design Statement

Civil & Structural Engineering:

- BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0001	Existing Site Layout	Scale 1:250
- BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0005	Proposed Site Layout	Scale 1:250
- BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0030	Existing Drainage Layout	Scale 1:250
- BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0031	Proposed Drainage Layout	Scale 1:250
- BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0040	Existing Watermain Layout	Scale 1:250
- BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0041	Proposed Watermain Layout	Scale 1:250
-		
- BCC-ROD-00-XX-RP-C-0001	Engineering Report for Planning	
- BCC-ROD-00-XX-RP-C-0002	Outline Construction Management Plan	
- BCC-ROD-00-XX-RP-C-0003	Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment	

Mechanical & Electrical Engineering:

- BCC-MOM-ZZ-XX-DR-MEP-0001	Site Lighting layout	Scale 1:250

Planning Consultant:

- Planning Statement Baldoyle

Reports:

- AA Screening
- EIA Screening Report

- AA Screening Determination
- EIA Screening Determination

Notices:

- Site Notice
- Newspaper Notice

- ***Refer Appendices B1 to B5 for the full list of Plans and Particulars including drawings, reports and surveys, made available for inspection.***

Design Intent Statement:

The development strategy for the project has been formulated in response to the policy background, local authority input, best practice guidance, and the context and conditions of the site.

In developing the design solution, the following were identified as the key design objectives:

A Neighbourhood Sports and Community Centre:
The objective of the project is to provide a new purpose-built Sports Facility and Community Centre to cater for a wide range of community, recreational, educational and sporting activities in the area. This much needed facility will be in the heart of the immediate neighbourhood and serve the needs of the local people by playing a vital role in bringing people together and encouraging people to take part, thus helping to build inclusive, engaged and safe communities. The sports hall is conceived as a 3-bay sports hall and multipurpose space sized at 24.75m x 17.5m and lit by a continuous strip of roof-lighting above.

Continuity of the Park Landscape:
The potential for the Community Centre to effectively 'cut off' a corner of the park from the main body of the park was identified early in the design process as something that the building design could mitigate. After trying a number of strategies, a building with a circular plan form was identified as best facilitating the spatial flow of the park landscaping around the new building.

Avoidance of Opportunity for Antisocial Activity:
The circular building plan has the advantage of creating no building corners, thereby minimising the opportunity for unsupervised corners which might be prone to antisocial behaviour.

Optimisation of Residential Amenity for the Neighbouring Residents:
The circular building plan has the further advantage of not creating any blank gable conditions to the building. This will minimise the loss of residential amenity for apartments/ houses located to the west of the site that currently have an uninterrupted view of the park. To further mitigate the visual disruption for these neighbours the roof form has been 'softened' with the volume of the sports hall (the tallest volume) subsumed into a contoured roof-scape finished with a mixture of intensive and extensive green roof thereby respecting the character and sensitivity of the existing landscape including its HA -high amenity land-use zoning designation.

Building Form:
To achieve the key design objectives outlined above the building is circular in plan. This form has the least external façade possible for the building area provided, meaning this is an efficient building as regards the amount of building materials required for its construction as well as having the least area of façade that is subject to heat-loss.
The building is single storey throughout. The main sports hall is positioned central to the plan with secondary rooms wrapped around this on all sides. The building therefore has a continuous single storey façade expression on all sides - thereby substantially reducing its volumetric presence within the park. and respecting the character and sensitivity of the existing landscape including its HA -high amenity land-use zoning designation.

Building Facade Materials:
The external form of the building in completed in select brick with a precast concrete parapet. A green roof is draped over the building.

EVALUATE DEVELOPMENT:

(ii) **"evaluate whether or not the proposed development would be consistent with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area to which the development relates, having regard to the provisions of the development plan and giving the reasons and the considerations for the evaluation".**

Internal Planning Consultation:

Internal Consultations were conducted with Fingal County Council, Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department (P&SI).

The P&SI Department prepared a report which took account of:

- Compliance with Zoning Objective/Development Plan objectives,
- Impact on residential amenity an integration with the visual amenity of the area,
- Parks and Green infrastructure in the context of Racecourse Park and proposed developments,
- Ecological considerations,
- Services & Drainage issues,
- Transportation issues,
- Impact on Natura 2000 Sites AA Screening,
- EIA Screening.

The report notes the following Departmental Reports;

Water Services:	No objections subject to recommendations.
Transportation:	No objections subject to recommendations.
Operations:	No objections subject to recommendations.
Parks and Green Infrastructure:	No objections subject to recommendations.

The report concludes that;

The proposed development would be in accordance with the zoning objective applicable to these lands in the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029, HA - High Amenity land use, the stated objective of which is to: "Protect and enhance high amenity areas", and policies as they relate to the provision of community facilities. The development would enhance the amenities of the area through improving the range of community, sporting and leisure facilities. The proposed development is considered to accord with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

The site itself is a brownfield site with an existing redundant single storey Marketing Suite structure which has a number of associated old structures around it in addition to surface level car parking and changing facilities. The development proposed will be an improvement on what is there.

The detailed design and construction stage of the development should also have regard to;

1. Continued liaison with the Transportation Planning Section on detailed design.

2. Sightlines:- the vehicular entrance should be designed to allow for safe crossing of pedestrians walking on the public footpath while still providing the required sightlines. Ramps entrance is suggested for safety. All road markings and signage to be according to the Traffic Sign Manual.

3. Further detail on EV charging to be shown on the drawings and Parking spaces along the north (no.16 to 28) appear to be short at circa 4m long and they should be increased to minimum 5m long.

4. The proposed development has a 'short stay' bike parking demand of circa 34 spaces. The proposed development would provide 23 spaces, and the Transportation Planning Section would recommend that this number is increased to 34 minimum located in the best possible location within the site and designed to be secure, overlooked, visually attractive, covered, well lit, and easily accessible.

5. In relation to Parks and Green Infrastructure

    i. Services to be clearly shown on landscape plan to ensure landscaping proposals do not conflict with above and below ground services.
    ii. No tree planting within 7 metres of proposed public lighting in line with. Fingal's tree strategy- Forest of Fingal -A Tree Strategy for Fingal
    iii. Choice of planting to be suitable for coastal conditions.
    iv. A minimum of a 3-year maintenance period to be included as part of the landscape proposals.
    v. The consultant landscape architect to meet with the Parks and Landscape Officer prior to the submission of final landscaping detail.

6. In relation to Water Service recommendations
    i. No surface water/ rainwater is to discharge into the foul water system under any circumstances.

ii. The surface water drainage must be in compliance with the Greater Dublin Regional Code of Practice for Drainage Works, Version 6.0, FCC, April 2006.

(iia) "include the screening determination on why an environmental impact assessment is not required and specify the features, if any, of the proposed development and the measures, if any, envisaged to avoid or prevent what might have otherwise been significant adverse effects on the environment of the development".

Appropriate Assessment

An Appropriate Assessment (Screening) Report has been prepared by Limosa Environmental Ecological and Environmental Consultants. A screening determination, attached as an appendix to this report, has been carried out and the content of same taken into consideration.

Following an examination, analysis and evaluation of all relevant information, on the basis of objective information and in light of best scientific knowledge and applying the precautionary principle, it can be concluded that the proposed works individually or in combination with another plan or project will not have a significant impact on any European sites, in view of the sites conservation objectives, and that there is no reasonable scientific doubt in relation to same. The assessment was reached without considering or taking into account mitigation measures or measures intended to avoid or reduce any impact on European sites.

The main reasons (in summary) for this conclusion are as follows:

• The nearest European sites are Baldoyle Bay SAC & SPA (430 m north and 500 m east, respectively.

• There is no direct pathway for noise, dust, visual or hydrological impacts to affect any European Sites.

• Foul wastewater will be directed to an existing public foul network and treated therein before discharging via the Ringsend WWTP, which ultimately discharges to the Lower Liffey and is therefore connected hydrologically to South Dublin Bay SAC, South Dublin Bay and River Tolka SPA and North Dublin Bay SAC.

• There are no open surface water bodies on site.

• Run-off or surface water that is generated within the site will be discharged to the existing storm water network. While the surface water network will ultimately discharge to Baldoyle Bay SAC via the Mayne River, the likelihood of significant inputs of silt or contaminants reaching downstream SACs or SPAs during these works is considered low. The surface water connection is to an existing network of pipes located in the road outside the boundary of the construction site. As no in-stream works are required to make this connection and the risk of contaminating the culverted surface water network with volumes of silt, dirty water or hydrocarbons can be

controlled by adhering to best practice measures (e.g. Uisce Eireann Codes of Practice3,4), significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of downstream Designated Sites during construction or operational phase is considered unlikely.
• Any surface water discharged from the site during the operational phase will be collected via SuDS measures implemented to a design standard. It is noted the SuDS measures proposed do not require any in-stream works or additional mitigation measures during their construction for the protection of downstream SACs or SPAs.
• The project is planned to-commence in April 2024 and outdoor works to the building will be largely complete by August 2024. As stated in the AA Screening Report, significant impacts to any wintering birds that are Qualifying Interests of SPAs are unlikely as the majority of works that have the highest potential to cause visual or noise disturbance will be complete by August. This is outside the wintering period October to March, which is the core period that Brent geese occur in large numbers throughout Ireland. It is considered that once the large, visually intrusive and/ or noisy outdoor aspects of the project are complete and the works are largely indoors, that the level of activity on site will be similar to the background noise and activity levels of the area which is a busy residential area, with traffic and a playground.
• It is further considered that once the Community Centre structure is largely built and works have commenced indoors, that the works will be naturally visually screened from the Red Arches pitches by the newly built Community Centre as well as the existing tree planting minimising visual disturbances to waterbirds.
• The development of the Community Centre does not constitute an increase in the use of the playing pitches at Red Arches and the site itself is currently built land and artificial surfaces (BL3), therefore no long-term loss of ex-site feeding grounds will occur as a result of the project.

The conclusions of the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report and determination (dated 28th November 2023 and attached) are considered reasonable and acceptable, and the proposed development does not require a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment.

Environmental Impact Assessment
An EIAR Screening Report has been prepared by The Planning Partnership.

The proposed development has been reviewed and considered under the terms of the requisite EU Directives, the respective transposition into Irish Legislation via the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), and the consequential DHPLG, Guidelines for Planning Authorities on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment (August 2018).

It is presented that the proposed new Community/Sports Centre for Baldoyle development, being located within a site area of approximately 0.575 ha in extent, falls significantly below the

level of 2 hectare or more threshold for EIA as set out in under Class 10 (b) (iv), Part 2, of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

The Screening Exercise undertaken as required under Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), and Article 120 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), regarding Local Authority Own Development considered the relevant scale of development (sub-threshold), in addition to the relevant consideration of, the 1. Characteristics of the Proposed Development, 2. the Location of Proposed Development and 3. the resulting Types and Characteristics of Potential Impacts. The exercise has been informed by the proposals for the proposed new Community Facility for Baldoyle development as supported by a suite of accompanying documentation and includes, inter alia, Architectural and Engineering Drawings, supported by this Planning Statement Report, Architectural Design Report, Engineering Report for Planning, and the Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening Report, and with necessary reference to the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 and available online sources of information regarding specific localised and environmental designations Accordingly, it has been found using the requisite professional judgement, as relying on the available information, that no significant negative effects have been found or identified as to cause the requirement for an Environmental Impact Assessment, and whilst undertaking the requisite Screening exercise.

The report states that the proposed works do not trigger a requirement for a mandatory EIAR under the EIA direction nor the criteria set out under the Planning Development Regulations, as amended. It has been concluded that the development proposed is not likely to have significant effects on the environment due to nature, scale, size, or location of the proposed development relevant to any area of environmental sensitivity. The proposed Community Facility will bring positive impacts in terms of the use of the regional park and promoting improved facilities.

In conclusion a Screening Determination has been submitted , dated the 28th November 2023 stating that having regard to the forgoing, the proposed development of the Community/ Sports Centre at Red Arches in Baldoyle does not trigger a mandatory EIA under the EIA Directive or the 2001 Regulations (as amended}. Furthermore, having reviewed the EIA Screening Report presented by the Planning Partnership and supporting documents (Appropriate Assessment Screening Report and Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan), and in light of best scientific knowledge, the proposed development in not likely to have significant effects of the environment due to the nature, scale or location of the proposed development relevant to areas of environmental sensitivity and the potential for impacts to occur. Fingal County Council therefore accept the conclusions of the EIA Screening Report.

- ***Refer Appendix C1 for the full Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Report***

LIST PERSONS OR BODIES:

(iii) **"List the persons or bodies who made submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development in accordance with the regulations under Sub-Section 2:**

There were 10 Submissions/Observations recorded and 10 validated listed below and can be found in detail at;
https://consult.fingal.ie/en/node/34101/submissions

1. Cathal Melinn
2. Jonathan Kavanagh
3. Anthony McPartlin
4. Andre Baumann
5. Stephen Brogan
6. Christian Wirtz
7. Peter Fay
8. Na Dubh Ghall GAA Club
9. North Star Pickleball Club - Committee Members from Sutton, Baldoyle & Portmarnock
10. Ross Kingswood

The following prescribed bodies were informed of the proposed development but did not make submission or observations

- Uisce Eireann
- Inland Fisheries Ireland
- Fáilte Ireland
- An Taisce
- An Comhairle Ealaionn – Arts Council

SUMMARISE THE ISSUES:

(iv) **"Summarise the issues, with respect to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the proposed development will be situated, raised in any such submissions or observations and give the response of the Manager thereto"**

At public consultation stage there were numerous questions and issues raised.

Several queries were also raised which are not relevant to matters of Planning and Strategic Infrastructure, and so will not be addressed in this forum.

Issues raised are summarised below:

No.	Issue Raised	Managers Response
1.	**SUPPORT FOR A NEW COMMUNITY SPORTS CENTRE** **9 submissions were positively supportive of a Community Sports Centre and 6 expressed general satisfaction for the proposed design within comments.**	
	Positive support expressed welcoming the proposal.	**POSITIVE SUPPORT & WELCOME** The overwhelming majority of submissions expressed a welcome and positive response to the proposal to provide a New Community Sports Centre in Baldoyle with submissions ranging from residents local to the park, public who frequent the park and volunteers actively engaged in community sports within the area. The Council welcomes this support for the project and is committed to delivering the proposal with provision made within its Capital Plan.
2.	**SPORTS FACILITIES CATERED FOR IN THE PROPOSAL** ***(6 submissions refer to issues)***	
	Desire that the building encompass additional sport related accommodation such as; ***Swimming pool, indoors and outdoors football / tennis courts, basketball courts, mini golf, gym, skills wall, showers, sauna, lockers, running***	**Fingal County Council Sports and Physical Activity Plan 2024 – 2029** Fingal Sports and Physical Activity Plan 2024 – 2029 focuses on increasing participation in sport and physical activities across the County for all. The Council provides ongoing support of voluntary community groups, sports clubs and

	track, rock climbing, outdoor skate park, outdoor gym and an outdoor playground; external toilet, outdoor cafe/restaurant seating. ***Including catering for international and emerging sports such as Olympic handball, volleyball, gymnastics and pickleball.*** ***Query over inclusion of changing facilities*** ***Desire that the development support outdoor activities*** ***Desire that the sports facilities are available to all including new local clubs*** ***Desire that changing facilities are dedicated to local club matching existing with associated storage, signage and provision of a skills wall*** ***Query on proposed management of the facility*** ***Query on circular building form and suggestion that more economic form would allow additional sporting facilities***	key stakeholders who work together to promote active, inclusive communities. **Building Accommodation** Central to the building proposal is a 24.75m x 17.5m multi-purpose hall that can cater for a range of sporting activities (see Operation / Management below). In addition to three number community rooms the proposal includes a dance/ yoga studio with sprung floor measuring 80m2 in area. Incorporating a swimming pool and/or sauna into the scale of the proposed development with budgetary constraints considered was not possible. The building brief has been informed by Operator experience and feedback on similar Community buildings. No internal changing facilities directly serving the Sports Hall are provided as Community Department and operator feedback noted very low demand and use of indoor changing rooms in other similar scale centres. **Outdoor Activities** Outdoor sports and activities using the surrounding park are facilitated with two new separate suites of changing facilities (4 team changing and 2 referee changing areas) accessed directly from external space. These are supported by ancillary spaces including toilets. The proposed coffee dock can serve those participating in outdoor activity without the need to access the interior of the building. Separately to this proposed development in September 2022 Fingal County Council obtained planning approval from An Bord Pleanala for the development of Racecourse Parkas a regional park surrounding the community centre site. This separate development includes proposals for playgrounds, outdoor equipment, a skate

		park, outdoor multi-use games area and opportunities for running and cycling amongst many other amenities. Details for this proposal are available at the following location; https://consult.fingal.ie/en/consultation/section-177ae-application-bord-plean%C3%A1la-racecourse-park-development-project **Local Clubs** Outdoor changing facilities will be managed separately to the Community Centre and remain within control of FCC Operations Department. 4 no externally accessible team changing rooms and 2 referee changing rooms are provided and intended to replace the temporary changing cabins existing on the site and used by local clubs. The scale of provision of changing facilities and associated toilets and showers is considered appropriate. External storage for particular outdoor sports equipment will be facilitated by relocation of existing within the surrounding park development closer to playing pitches. **Operation / Management;** The operational model and how the operator is selected is not considered a planning matter. The Community Department have advised that a call out to the community for expressions of interest for use of the facility will be made by a local board of management of the centre and this will help to support any gaps in services identified. Local groups will be able to express their interest in using the facility at an early stage of the centre's allocation of space. The Council Sports Office can support a range of sporting activities by providing equipment to the community centres who wish to add a social element to their centre.

		Circular Building Form; The plan form of this design is particularly efficient with very limited unused spaces. The benefit of the plan form allow the Community Centre sit as a pavilion within the park without any rear side. Detail design and appropriate selection of materials will deliver this form in an attractive and economical manner.
3.	**CAR PARKING** ***(5 submissions refer to issues)***	
	Concern over attraction of additional parking demand to facilities increasing pressure on parking in adjacent residential areas. ***Concern over additional spaces provided (primarily in a separate Racecourse Park granted permission) and the associated conflict with FCC and national sustainability objectives by encouraging vehicular arrivals.*** ***Request that consideration be given to underground or multistorey carparking*** ***Queries on construction stage parking accommodation, particularly related to parking demand for teams using sports pitches.***	**Statement on Policy:** It is the policy of the Council to encourage active travel by encouraging people to walk or cycle to respond to climate change – Climate Action Plan 2024-2029. The implementation of actions has been ongoing across all Council Departments, and the Chief Executive has focused the council's effort with the creation of the Environment Climate Action, Active Travel and Sports Department. The Council has plans to improve active travel options within the area and new bicycle parking has been included to encourage same. The adjoining Racecourse Park development includes active travel improvements including paths and cycle paths. As the business case and operational model for the Community centre is further developed, emphasis will be placed on active travel and agreeing protocol for accessing parking at the carpark. **Parking demand and impact on residential areas.** It is considered that the overall parking provision and active travel measures combined between this development and neighbouring park development should alleviate risk of

		potential nuisance parking associated with use of the park/community centre. **Number of Car Parking Spaces** The proposed development is within 1.5m of the Clongriffin DART Station, which would place it in 'Zone 1' in regard to the car parking standards as per Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029. Based on these standards, the proposed development has a carparking demand of circa 24 spaces, given that the proposal has a provision of 28 no. spaces, the Transportation Planning Section had no objection to this slight overprovision of carparking. Parking provision will include designated 2 universal access spaces, age friendly spaces and dedicated EV charging spaces. The carpark would provide a suitable parking and charging location should the Fingal Community Car initiative be extended to Baldoyle and surrounding areas. **Car Parking within Racecourse Park** Separately to this proposed development in September 2022 Fingal County Council obtained planning approval from An Bord Pleanala for the development of Racecourse Park as a Regional Park. Details for this proposal are available at the following location; https://consult.fingal.ie/en/consultation/section-177ae-application-bord-plean%C3%A1la-racecourse-park-development-project The adjacent park permission previously addressed local concerns in submissions received and noted that it is important to cater for sufficient car parking spaces to avoid cars parking along the Red Arches Road and adjoining housing estates. The Council is keen to promote active travel to the park however walking and cycling infrastructure links to the

		park beyond the immediate surroundings of the park are not in existence yet and likely that many people will continue to use the car to get to the park until a more extensive walking and cycling infrastructure is established. In addition to the parking provided within the site extents of this development, the adjacent Park has permission for 161 number of spaces immediately east of the site and south of Red Arches Road. The development of this carpark is likely to be implemented in parallel with the development of the centre. The overall total number of parking spaces addresses concerns over possible demands on parking placed by users of the playing pitches. The clubs using the sports pitches will be encouraged to notify their members and the opposing team members to use the larger car park. Signage will be considered at detail design stage to assist with wayfinding. **Underground / Multistorey Parking** Underground or multistorey parking was not feasible given the scale of the development proposed and budgetary constraints. **Construction Stage Parking** The Council intend to phase the adjacent works to the Racecourse Park to provide a temporary car park from commencement at construction stage. This measure will allow for numbers of existing car parking spaces within the site to be retained during construction stage and cater particularly for those using the sport pitches and playground. An existing site entrance will be used to facilitate clear separation of construction traffic and public car parking.

4.	**SITE PERMEABILITY AND ACTIVE TRAVEL** ***(3 no, submissions refer to issue)***	
	Queries over bicycle parking numbers. ***Query over park permeability and ensuring that fencing and barriers are limited to maintain and improve access from surrounding areas.***	**Bicycle Parking Numbers** 23 Bicycle stands (46 spaces) are provided within the proposal with more than 50% under cover. The proposed development includes additional cycle parking as recommended by the Transportation Planning Section with ongoing engagement with the department as the design progresses through the detail design. Provision has also been made within the surrounding park for bicycle parking. **Park Permeability & Site Entrances** The design proposal imagines the building as a pavilion within the park without the need for fencing to segregate it from the surrounding Racecourse Park. There are a number of park entrances, walking and cycling routes proposed in the adjacent Racecourse Park permitted planning permission. Drawings and further information on the permitted proposals are available at the following location; https://consult.fingal.ie/en/consultation/section-177ae-application-bord-plean%C3%A1la-racecourse-park-development-project The development of the Community Centre aligns with the Racecourse Park development design which will proceed as a separate construction project. The site is not currently serviced by a bus route on Red Arches Road but permeability is provided at pedestrian park entrances to connect with bus route south of the site on Grange Road (R809).

5.	**FACILITIES DURING CONSTRUCTION** ***(1 no submission refers to issue)***	
	Query over construction stage proposals for existing changing rooms and storage shed and when they will be demolished.	**Phased construction and current facilities** The construction of the project will be phased and will allow for any temporary measures as may be necessary to ensure existing serviced changing rooms and storage will be maintained and available throughout the works until the building is completed and new permanent changing rooms are available. Further engagement with clubs will take place when timelines are confirmed.

RECOMMENDATION:

(v) **"Recommend whether or not the proposed development should be proceeded with as proposed, or as varied or modified as recommended in the report, or should not be proceeded with as the case may be"**

It is recommended that the Council proceeds with the development as proposed and generally as made available for inspection (Refer Appendices B1 to B4).
Prior to commencement on site account will be taken of the 6 separate recommendations within the Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Report.

A presentation dealing with the proposal will be available at the meeting.

LIST OF APPENDICES:

Appendix A - Notice of Development

- **Appendix A1 - Notice of Proposed Development**

Appendix B – Plans and Particulars

- **Appendix B1**

Architects:

-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-001	Site Location Plan	Scale1:1000
-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-002	Site Plan Existing	Scale 1:200
-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-003	Site Plan proposed	Scale 1:200
	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-004	Site Plan proposed (landscape)	Scale 1:200
-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-005	Site Plan proposed (with Park plan)	Scale 1:200
-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-101	Ground Floor Plan	Scale 1:100
-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-201	Sections	Scale 1:100
-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-301	Elevations	Scale 1:100
-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-302	Demolition drawings	Scale 1:100
-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-401	3D views	varies

- **Appendix B2 - Outline Description of Development**

-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-RP -A-102-P01	Climate Action Energy Statement
-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-XX-RP -A-001 PLR -P02	Architects Planning Report Design Statement

- **Appendix B3 - Engineers Drawings & Reports**

Civil & Structural Engineering:

-	BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0001	Existing Site Layout	Scale 1:250
-	BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0005	Proposed Site Layout	Scale 1:250
-	BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0030	Existing Drainage Layout	Scale 1:250
-	BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0031	Proposed Drainage Layout	Scale 1:250
-	BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0040	Existing Watermain Layout	Scale 1:250
-	BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0041	Proposed Watermain Layout	Scale 1:250

-	BCC-ROD-00-XX-RP-C-0001	Engineering Report for Planning
-	BCC-ROD-00-XX-RP-C-0002	Outline Construction Management Plan

- BCC-ROD-00-XX-RP-C-0003 Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment

Mechanical & Electrical Engineering:

- BCC-MOM-ZZ-XX-DR-MEP-0001 Site Lighting layout Scale 1:250

- **Appendix B4 – Planning, Environmental, Ecology**

Planning Consultant:

- Planning Statement Baldoyle

Reports:

- AA Screening
- EIA Screening Report
- AA Screening Determination
- EIA Screening Determination

Appendix C – Planning Report

- **Appendix C1 - Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department Report**

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING OF COUNTY COUNCIL

MONDAY 11TH MARCH, 2024

ITEM NO. 19

Based on very large file size of documents and drawings APPENDICES A & B of CE Report are available for viewing and download at link on Fingal Consultation Portal

https://consult.fingal.ie/en/consultation/notice-proposed-development-planning-development-act-2000-amended-part-xi-planning-and-development-0

Includes the following:

LIST OF APPENDICES:

Appendix A - Notice of Development

- **Appendix A1 - Notice of Proposed Development**

Appendix B – Plans and Particulars

- **Appendix B1 - Architects Drawings – Henchion Reuter Architects**

Drawings:

-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-001	Site Location Plan	Scale1:1000
-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-002	Site Plan Existing	Scale 1:200
-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-003	Site Plan proposed	Scale 1:200
	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-004	Site Plan proposed (landscape)	Scale 1:200
-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-005	Site Plan proposed (with Park plan)	Scale 1:200
-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-101	Ground Floor Plan	Scale 1:100
-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-201	Sections	Scale 1:100
-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-301	Elevations	Scale 1:100
-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-302	Demolition drawings	Scale 1:100
-	BCC-HRA-ZZ-00-DR -A-401	3D views	varies
-			

- **Appendix B2 - Description of Development & Reports**

- BCC-HRA-ZZ-XX-RP -A-001 PLR -P02 Architects Planning Report Design Statement
- BCC-HRA-ZZ-RP -A-102-P01 Climate Action Energy Statement

- **Appendix B3 - Engineers Drawings & Reports**

Civil & Structural Engineering: (Roughan & O'Donovan, Consulting Engineers)

- BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0001 Existing Site Layout Scale 1:250
- BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0005 Proposed Site Layout Scale 1:250
- BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0030 Existing Drainage Layout Scale 1:250
- BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0031 Proposed Drainage Layout Scale 1:250
- BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0040 Existing Watermain Layout Scale 1:250
- BCC-ROD-00-XX- DR- C-0041 Proposed Watermain Layout Scale 1:250
-
- BCC-ROD-00-XX-RP-C-0001 Engineering Report for Planning
- BCC-ROD-00-XX-RP-C-0002 Outline Construction Management Plan
- BCC-ROD-00-XX-RP-C-0003 Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment

Mechanical & Electrical Engineering: (Matt O Mahony & Associates)

- BCC-MOM-ZZ-XX-DR-MEP-0001 Site Lighting layout Scale 1:250

Appendix B4 – Planning, Environmental, Ecology

- Planning Statement Baldoyle (The Planning Partnership)
- AA Screening Report- (Limosa Environmental Ecological and Environmental Consultants)
- EIA Screening Report- (The Planning Partnership)

Appendix C – Planning Report

(Issued as separate attachment)

- **Appendix C1 -Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department Report**

AA Screening Determination
EIA Screening Determination

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

PLANNING & STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT PRELIMINARY PLANNING REPORT

Register Reference:	LADP-007-23
Proposed development:	Community Centre.
Location:	Racecourse Park, Red Arches Road, Baldoyle. Dublin 13
Proposing Department:	Architects Division
Date	30th November 2023

Site location

The subject site is located at the former 'Coast' Estate Marketing Suite building located on the southern side of Red Arches Road at Stapolin, Baldoyle. The existing 'Marketing Suite' is a redundant single storey structure which has a number of associated structures around it in addition to surface level car parking and changing facilities.
The site itself is bounded to the north by Red Arches Road, recreational Open Space to the east, a childrens' playground to the south and car parking to the north and east. Residential housing estates are located to the west and south.

The overall site extends to c. 0.575 hectares.

Proposed development

The proposed works to be carried at the above site consist of the demolition and removal of existing single storey former 'Coast' Estate Marketing Suite Building and single storey Changing Rooms/Storage Shed with all associated structures (all totalling 410 sq m Gross Floor Space), and the construction of the Community/Sports Centre Building with ancillary infrastructure and associated site development works (all totalling 1,320 sq m Gross Floor Space and ranging in height equivalent from 1 to 2 storeys), consisting of:

(i) Entrance lobby and reception area, cleaners store and IT/CCTV facility room;
(ii) Central sports hall with associated storage;
(iii) 4 no. externally accessible changing rooms, 2 no. referee rooms, lobbies, toilets facilities and plant room;
(iv) 4 no. community/multipurpose/studio/meeting rooms with associated storage, kitchen and coffee dock facilities with external servery hatch, toilet and changing facilities;

(v) 46 no. bicycle parking spaces (24 no covered) and a Surface car park providing a total of 28 no. car parking spaces (2 no. accessible/disabled and 26 no. regular);

(vi) Enhanced boundary treatments, hard and soft landscaping, external site lighting, building signage, 3 no. flagpoles, services (including underground surface water attenuation storage) and all other ancillary and associated site development works above and below ground level;

(vii) Primary vehicular and pedestrian access to the proposed new Community/Sports Centre will be via the existing vehicle and pedestrian/bicycle accesses from the Red Arches Road, with enhanced secondary pedestrian/bicycle permeability provided to surrounding active and passive open space recreational facilities.

Fingal County Development Plan 2023 – 2029 considerations

Zoning Objective

The site which is the focus for delivery of the new Community/Sports Centre for Baldoyle, is subject to the HA - High Amenity land use zoning designation in terms of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029, the stated objective of which is to: "Protect and enhance high amenity areas". The character of this area is a mixture of urban and recreation in nature with the overall Racecourse Park providing a key Regional Park Amenity.

The Development Plan states that the vision for lands subject to this land use zoning designation is to:

"Protect these highly sensitive and scenic locations from inappropriate development and reinforce their character, distinctiveness and sense of place. In recognition of the amenity potential of these areas opportunities to increase public access will be explored.'

Objective DMSO77 – Community Facilities: Any application for community facilities such as leisure facilities, sports grounds, playing fields, play areas, community halls, organisational meeting facilities, medical facilities, childcare facilities, new school provision and other community orientated developments, shall have regard to the following:

- Overall need in terms of necessity, deficiency, and opportunity to enhance or develop local or County facilities.
- Practicalities of site in terms of site location relating to uses, impact on local amenities, desirability, and accessibility.
- Conformity with the requirements of appropriate legislative guidelines.
- Conformity with land use zoning objectives.

Where new community facilities are required, they shall have regard to the following:

- Community facilities shall be flexible in their design and promote optimum/ multi-functional usage, for users of all age and abilities.
- Community facilities shall not have a detrimental effect on local amenity by way of traffic, parking, noise or loss of privacy of adjacent resident.
- Community facilities shall be e provided in conjunction with residential/mixed use development.
- Community facilities shall be accessible by a range of travel modes with an emphasis on walking, cycling and public transport use, while providing appropriate car parking facilities to meet anticipated demand of nonlocal visitors to the centre.

Objective CIOSO39: Ensure coherent clustering of active recreational open space facilities into a recreational hub arrangement unless a more practicable solution is demonstrated.

Objective CIOSP4: Ensure provision of accessible, adequate and diverse community facilities and services in new and established residential areas to provide for the well-being of residents.

Objective CIOSO2: Support the provision of new community centres and facilitate the refurbishment and extension of facilities where there is a need for such works. Such facilities shall be accessible by a range of travel modes with an emphasis on walking, cycling and public transport use, while providing appropriate car parking facilities to meet anticipated demand of non-local visitors to the centre.

Objective CIOSO7: Ensure that proposals do not have a detrimental effect on local amenity by way of traffic, parking, noise or loss of privacy of adjacent residents.

Objective CIOSO10: Ensure community facilities are flexible in their design and promote optimum usage, for users of all age and abilities.

Objective CIOSO11: Promote the clustering of community, recreational and open space facilities, with community facilities being located in local centres or combined with school facilities as appropriate

Objective CIOSO13: Promote the development of high-quality and multi-functional recreational facilities throughout Fingal, including Active Recreational Hubs and Multi-Use Games Areas to meet existing and future community needs, in accordance with the National Sports Policy 2018–2027.

Objective DMSO150 - External Lighting and Noise Sensitive Locations: Minimise the environmental impact of external lighting and noise at sensitive locations to achieve a sustainable balance between the needs of an area, the public safety of walking and cycling routes and the protection of sensitive species such as bats.

Objective DMSO155 – Ecological Corridors in Urban Areas: Any redevelopment of existing properties and brownfield sites within 25m from each riverbank along the main channels of following rivers Liffey, Tolka, Pinkeen, Mayne, Sluice, Ward, Broadmeadow, Ballyboghil, Corduff, Matt and Delvin, Bracken River, Daws River, Richardstown River, Turvey River shall provide opportunities for multi-functional green infrastructure, including features which intercept and filter surface water from the site before discharging into the river. These features include, but are not limited to: green roofs, reinforced grass parking bays and water gardens. The use of underground attenuation as part of the redevelopment of existing properties or brownfield sites will not be accepted.

Objective DMSO196 - Public Foul Sewerage Network Connections: Ensure that all new developments in areas served by a public foul sewerage network connect to the public sewerage system, to comply with the requirements of the Uisce Éireann Foul Sewer specification (where applicable).

Objective DMSO197 - Foul and Surface Water Drainage Systems: Require all new development to provide separate foul and surface water drainage systems and to prohibit the connection of surface water outflows to the foul drainage network and vice versa (prohibit foul to surface water) where separation systems are available.

Objective DMSO203 – FCC SuDS Guidance Document: SuDS shall be incorporated into all parts of a
development (open spaces, roads, footpaths, private areas), and have regard to the FCC SuDs Guidance Document – Green/ Blue Infrastructure for Development, as amended (Appendix 11), and shall ensure:

- That the design of SuDS enhances the quality of open spaces and when included as part of any open space provision, it must contribute in a significant and positive way to the design and quality of the open space.

- Open space areas shall not be dominated by SuDS features.

- Underground tanked systems, whether concrete or plastic, are the least favoured means for surface water management and shall only be used when green solutions have proven not feasible.

  Appendix 11 (SuDS Guidance Document) and Chapter 11, Infrastructure and Utilities (Section 11.5.2: Surface Water and Flood Risk Management

Objective DMSO207 - Green Walls and Roofs for New Developments: Promote and encourage the use of green walls and roofs for new developments that demonstrate

benefits in terms of SuDS as part of an integrated approach to green infrastructure provision.

Objective SW2: Require all planning applications to submit details of compliance with the SuDS Strategy which include proposals for the management of surface water within sites, and runoff rates from sites, protecting the water quality and flow regime of the River Mayne and retrofitting best practice SuDS techniques on existing sites where possible.

Objective GI21: Ensure, as far as practical, that the design of SuDS enhances the quality of open spaces and biodiversity.

Planning History

LRD0007/S3
A Large-scale Residential Development (LRD) for lands at Baldoyle (formerly known as The Coast), Dublin 13. The site is bounded to the north by undeveloped lands, to the east by residential development of Red Arches Drive, to the south by residential development of Red Arches Road and to the west by undeveloped land, with the Dublin-Belfast railway line further beyond.

The proposed development will consist of amendments to Block B as permitted under FCC Reg. Ref. F16A/0412 (ABP Reg. Ref. PL06F.248970) and amended under FCC Reg. Ref. F20A/0258, F21A/0046 and F22A/0017.

The proposed amendments will consist of:
• The reconfiguration of permitted units omitting 28 no. apartments as permitted under F16A/0412 (as amended) and the addition of 26 no. houses resulting in the provision of 88 no. apartments (3-5 storey) and 54 no. houses (2-3 storey). This results in an overall total of 142 no. units, an overall reduction of 2 no. units on that permitted;
• The reconfiguration of the internal road layout as permitted under F16A/0412 (as amended);
• The removal of permitted basement below Blocks B1 and B2 and the provision of 170 no. car parking spaces and 262 no. cycle spaces at ground floor and surface; and
• The development of a linear park along Longfield Road.

ABP-311315-21 Park development project at the Racecourse Park Located between Baldoyle and
Portmarnock, Co. Dublin. Application for approval made under Section 177(AE) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (local authority development requiring appropriate assessment).

F08A/0854 Permission for retention of development, for the continued temporary use of permitted changing rooms and associated car parking as a marketing suite for residential

property on the Baldoyle Action Plan Lands, for a period of 5 years Temporary permission was previously granted under Planning Reg. Ref. F05A/0108

F06A/0639
Amendment to granted permission Reg. Ref. F03A/1162 of residential development on site area of c. 25.7ha located in Stapolin and Baldoyle townlands and accessed from Strand Road (R106) and Grange Road. The modification consists of the alterations and extension of the underground carpark within this sector and all associated site works.

F05A/1358
Modifications to the Permitted F03A/1162; PL06F.205156 for the construction of 478 residential units, 1 retail unit, 1 creche

F05A/0108 The construction of changing rooms; associated car parking; landscaping and ancillary works; with vehicular access from the distributor road (Reg. Ref. F03A/1162) serving permitted residential development. Permission is also sought for the temporary use of the changing rooms and associated car parking as a Marketing Suite for residential property, for the duration of the sale of residential units on Baldoyle Action Plan lands

F03A/1529 PL06F.208508 Infrastructural development consisting of internal roads infrastructure and associated piped services infrastructure. The purpose of the infrastructural development is to serve
lands subject of the Baldoyle Area Action Plan prepared by Fingal County Council in 2001.

F03A/1162/E3/E2/E1 and F03A/1162 PL06F.205156
The Construction of 478 residential units, 1 retail unit, 1 creche. basement, semi basement and surface car parking; and ancillary works including storm water storage pond, temporary water supply reservoir, roads and services infrastructure; with vehicular signal controlled junction access from Grange Roundabout access from Strand Road (R106).

Departmental Reports

Water Services:	No objections subject to recommendations.
Transportation:	No objections subject to recommendations.
Operations:	No objection subject to recommendations
Parks and Green Infrastructure:	No objection subject to recommendations

No reports received from Biodiversity, Heritage or Public Lighting:

Assessment
The proposed scheme has been considered in light of the following issues:

- Drawings prepared
- Principle of the development
- Impact on the amenities of the area
- Parks and Green Infrastructure
- Water and Drainage
- Transportation
- EIA
- Appropriate Assessment

Documents and Drawings Prepared

Article 83(1) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, detail the drawings and particulars required to be made available for Part 8/Part 11 projects.

These include a document describing the nature and extent of the proposed development and principal features. A Planning report has been prepared which details the nature and extent of the proposed development.

Article 83(1) (b) requires a location map, drawn to a scale of not less that 1:1000 in built up areas. This has been submitted.

Article 83(1)(c) requires a site plan, drawn to a scale of not less than 1:500, showing the boundary of the site on which it is proposed to carry out the proposed development and the buildings or other structures, and roads or other features, in the vicinity of the site. This has been submitted. The documents and drawings are acceptable.

Principle of development

The site of the new Community/Sports Centre for Baldoyle, is subject to the HA - High Amenity land use zoning designation in terms of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029, the stated objective of which is to: "Protect and enhance high amenity areas". The character of this area is a mixture of urban and recreation in nature, with the overall Racecourse Park providing a key Regional Park Amenity.

The site itself is a brownfield site with an existing redundant single storey Marketing Suite structure which has a number of associated old structures around it in addition to surface level car parking and changing facilities. The development proposed will be an improvement on what is there

The Development Plan states that the vision for lands subject to this land use zoning designation is to: *"Protect these highly sensitive and scenic locations from inappropriate development and reinforce their character, distinctiveness and sense of place. In recognition of the amenity potential of these areas opportunities to increase public access will be explored.'*

The proposed use of the building as a 'community facility' is neither within the use class table that is 'permitted in principle' nor the 'not permitted' table associated with this zoning. The development plan states that 'uses which are neither 'Permitted in Principle' nor 'Not Permitted' will be assessed in terms of their contribution towards the achievement of the Zoning Objective and Vision and their compliance and consistency with the policies and objectives of the Development Plan.
It is considered that the proposed new development for Baldoyle can be described as a Community Facility use class in terms of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 related to Zoning Objectives and could be permitted where it respects the character and sensitivity of the existing landscape and the associated HA - High Amenity land use zoning designation.

The principle of the proposed development is considered acceptable.

Impact on the amenities of the area

The new Community Facility is located and has been designed to be consistent with the stated vision for the HA - High Amenity lands, respecting the character and sensitivity of the existing scenic landscape location by reinforcing the overall Baldoyle Racecourse Park's character, distinctiveness and sense of place, which recognises its amenity potential and presents the opportunity to increase public access.

The proposed development involves the provision of a purpose built Community Facility which comprises also a Sports Facility which will cater for a wide range of community, recreational, educational and sporting activities within the surrounding area.

The building is single storey throughout. The external form of the building is completed in select brick with a precast concrete parapet. A green roof is draped over the building. The main sports hall is positioned central to the plan with secondary rooms wrapped around this on all sides. The building therefore has a continuous single storey façade expression on all sides, thereby reducing its volumetric presence within the park and respecting the character and sensitivity of the area. The building with a circular plan form facilitates the building to nestle appropriately into the proposed park landscaping around the new building. The circular nature of the building has the advantage of creating no building corners, thereby minimising the opportunity for unsupervised corners which might be prone to anti-social behaviour. In addition the design of the building will not create any blank gable elements to the building. This will minimise any perceived loss of residential amenity for the apartments/houses located to the west of the site that currently have an uninterrupted view of the park. To further mitigate the visual disruption for these neighbours the roof has been softened with the volume of the sports element of the building subsumed into a contoured roofscape finished with a mixture of green roof elements thereby respecting the character and sensitivity of the existing landscape.

In terms of sustainability the proposed new Baldoyle Community Facility's layout and building design conform to the highest possible standards of energy efficiency. The

building has been designed to minimise resource consumption, reducing waste, water and energy use. The design optimises natural ventilation and minimise glare and excess solar gain, avoids large areas of glazing, and provides an appropriate balance between solid and void elements.

The proposed development is not considered to give rise to unduly negative impacts on the visual amenities of the area but would rather enhance the amenity value of the park and consequently the amenities of the area and thereby would benefit residents in this community. The development is consistent with Objective DMSO77, Objective CIOSO39, Objective CIOSP4, Objective CIOSO2, Objective CIOSO7, Objective CIOSO10, Objective CIOSO11and Objective CIOSO13 noted above.

The proposed development within the park will provide additional facilities for the use of visitors and nearby residents. The proposed development will enhance the visual amenity of the park and will increase its capacity to be used as an amenity for local residents. The development will form part of the wider community and social infrastructure of the Baldoyle area. There would also be potential for facility sharing between the development and other community facilities in the area. The proposed development will not impact unduly in a negative on the residential amenities of existing residential development through overlooking, overbearance or overshadowing. In amenity terms the proposed development is acceptable.

Parks and Green Infrastructure

The report from the Parks and Green Infrastructure Section states that there are no objections to the proposed development save for a number of minor recommendations noted below.

Water and Drainage

The report received from Water Services states that there are no objections to the proposed development.

Flood risk

In terms of risk of flooding per documentation published on 5th April 2023 as part of the adopted new Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029, the site can be classified as a site within Zone C (low risk >0.1% AEP). The use is a low vulnerable use and is gauged as "low/extremely low risk" in respect of flooding events.

The Rogan & O'Donovan Consulting Engineers' Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment (August 2023) undertaken, and enclosed under separate cover as part of the submitted documentation, confirms that: '*This Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment has considered the local hydrological conditions pertaining to the proposed development and identified flood risk the vicinity of the development lands. All sources indicate that the proposed development is within Flood Zone C. Suitable flood risk management measures have been adopted to mitigate the likely impacts of climate change. Appropriate measures in the form of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) for the purpose for managing surface water in terms of both flow and quality, have been adopted as part of the development*

design in line with Fingal Country Council requirements and the GDSDS. The findings of this SSFRA indicate that flood risk to the scheme can be managed with negligible effect on flood risk elsewhere. The proposed development satisfies the requirements of the sequential approach (as described in the OPW's "The Planning System and Flood Risk Management Guidelines for Planning Authorities") and is therefore deemed appropriate for the associated flood risk.'

The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029 further does not present any indicators of flood risks or watercourses associated with the subject lands. It is considered likely that the base mapping utilised to present Ecological Corridor Mapping associated with the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 presents anomalies in this regard. However, Aerial Photography over the last 15 years as noted and submitted by the applicant, as well as physical site walkovers, details that no surface stream or river channel traverses the subject site associated with the proposed new Community Facility. The water services section raises no issue in respect of this. Their report states that there are no objections to the proposal, subject to surface water recommendations.

Transportation

The applicant is proposing to utilise the existing in-use vehicular entrance, and this is acceptable to the Transportation Planning Section. The Operations section however have a number of recommendations re sightlines and EV charging points noted below.

The proposed development is within 1.5m of the Clongriffin Dart Station, which would place it in 'zone 1 in regard to the car parking standards. The proposed development has a carparking demand of circa 24 spaces, given that the drawing shows a provision of 28 no. spaces the Transportation Planning Section has no objection to this slight overprovision of carparking. With respect to bicycle provision, the proposed development would provide 23 spaces, and the Transportation Planning Section would recommend that this number is increased to 34 minimum.

Appropriate Assessment

An Appropriate Assessment (Screening) Report has been prepared by Limosa Environmental Ecological and Environmental Consultants. A screening determination, attached as an appendix to this report, has been carried out and the content of same taken into consideration.

Following an examination , analysis and evaluation of all relevant information, on the basis of objective information and in light of best scientific knowledge and applying the precautionary principle, it can be concluded that the proposed works individually or in combination with another plan or project will not have a significant impact on any European sites, in view of the sites conservation objectives, and that there is no reasonable scientific doubt in relation to same. The assessment was reached without considering or taking into account mitigation measures or measures intended to avoid or reduce any impact on European sites.

The main reasons (in summary) for this conclusion are as follows:

- The nearest European sites are Baldoyle Bay SAC & SPA (430 m north and 500 m east,respectively.
- There is no direct pathway for noise, dust, visual or hydrological impacts to affect anyEuropean Sites.
- Foul wastewater will be directed to an existing public foul network and treated therein before discharging via the Ringsend WWTP, which ultimately discharges to the Lower Liffey and is therefore connected hydrologically to South Dublin Bay SAC, South Dublin Bay and River Tolka SPA and North Dublin Bay SAC.
- There are no open surface water bodies on site.
- Run-off or surface water that is generated within the site will be discharged to the existing storm water network. While the surface water network will ultimately discharge to Baldoyle Bay SAC via the Mayne River, the likelihood of significant inputs of silt or contaminants reaching downstream SACs or SPAs during these works is considered low. The surface water connection is to an existing network of pipes located in the road outside the boundary of the construction site. As no in-stream works are required to make this connection and the risk of contaminating the culverted surface water network with volumes of silt, dirty water or hydrocarbons can be controlled by adhering to best practice measures (e.g. Uisce Eireann Codes of Practice3,4), significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of downstream Designated Sites during construction or operational phase is considered unlikely.
- Any surface water discharged from the site during the operational phase will be collected via SuDS measures implemented to a design standard. It is noted the SuDS measures proposed do not require any in-stream works or additional mitigation measures during their construction for the protection of downstream SACs or SPAs.
- The project is planned to commence in April 2024 and outdoor works to the building will be largely complete by August 2024. As stated in the AA Screening Report, significant impacts to any wintering birds that are Qualifying Interests of SPAs are unlikely as the majority of works that have the highest potential to cause visual or noise disturbance will be complete by August. This is outside the wintering period October to March, which is the core period that Brent geese occur in large numbers throughout Ireland. It is considered that once the large, visually intrusive and/ or noisy outdoor aspects of the project are complete and the works are largely indoors, that the level of activity on site will be similar to the background noise and activity levels of the area which is a busy residential area, with traffic and a playground.
- It is further considered that once the Community Centre structure is largely built and works have commenced indoors, that the works will be naturally visually screened from the Red Arches pitches by the newly built Community Centre as well as the existing tree planting minimising visual disturbances to waterbirds.
- The development of the Community Centre does not constitute an increase in the use of the playing pitches at Red Arches and the site itself is currently built land and artificial surfaces (BL3), therefore no long-term loss of ex-site feeding grounds will occur as a result of the project.

The conclusions of the Appropriate Assessment Screening Report and determination (dated 28th November 2023 and attached) are considered reasonable and acceptable, and the proposed development does not require a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment.

Environmental Impact Assessment
An EIAR Screening Report has been prepared by The Planning Partnership.

The proposed development has been reviewed and considered under the terms of the requisite EU Directives, the respective transposition into Irish Legislation via the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), and the consequential DHPLG, Guidelines for Planning Authorities on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment (August 2018).

It is presented that the proposed new Community/Sports Centre for Baldoyle development, being located within a site area of approximately 0.575 ha in extent, falls significantly below the level of 2 hectare or more threshold for EIA as set out in under Class 10 (b) (iv), Part 2, of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

The Screening Exercise undertaken as required under Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), and Article 120 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), regarding Local Authority Own Development considered the relevant scale of development (sub-threshold), in addition to the relevant consideration of, the 1. Characteristics of the Proposed Development, 2. the Location of Proposed Development and 3. the resulting Types and Characteristics of Potential Impacts. The exercise has been informed by the proposals for the proposed new Community Facility for Baldoyle development as supported by a suite of accompanying documentation and includes, inter alia, Architectural and Engineering Drawings, supported by this Planning Statement Report, Architectural Design Report, Engineering Report for Planning, and the Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening Report, and with necessary reference to the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 and available online sources of information regarding specific localised and environmental designations
Accordingly, it has been found using the requisite professional judgement, as relying on the available information, that no significant negative effects have been found or identified as to cause the requirement for an Environmental Impact Assessment, and whilst undertaking the requisite Screening exercise.
The report states that the proposed works do not trigger a requirement for a mandatory EIAR under the EIA direction nor the criteria set out under the Planning Development Regulations, as amended. It has been concluded that the development proposed is not likely to have significant effects on the environment due to nature, scale, size, or location of the proposed development relevant to any area of environmental sensitivity. The proposed Community Facility will bring positive impacts in terms of the use of the regional park and promoting improved facilities.
In conclusion a Screening Determination has been submitted , dated the 28th November 2023 stating that having regard to the forgoing, the proposed development of the Community/ Sports Centre at Red Arches in Baldoyle does not trigger a mandatory EIA

under the EIA Directive or the 2001 Regulations (as amended). Furthermore, having reviewed the EIA Screening Report presented by the Planning Partnership and supporting documents (Appropriate Assessment Screening Report and Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan), and in light of best scientific knowledge, the proposed development in not likely to have significant effects of the environment due to the nature, scale or location of the proposed development relevant to areas of environmental sensitivity and the potential for impacts to occur. Fingal County Council therefore accept the conclusions of the EIA Screening Report.

Conclusion

The proposed development would be in accordance with the zoning objective applicable to these lands in the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029, and policies as they relate to the provision of community facilities. The development would enhance the amenities of the area through improving the range of community, sporting and leisure facilities. The proposed development is considered to accord with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

There are a number of technical additions/changes to the documentation that should be made before the scheme goes on display as follows:

1 The Transportation Planning Section generally has no objection to the proposed development, however there are some minor issues to be addressed with the current proposal and further detailed information and continued liaison with the applicant is recommended.

2 Sightlines:- the vehicular entrance should be designed to allow for safe crossing of pedestrians walking on the public footpath while still providing the required sightlines. Ramps entrance is suggested for safety. All road markings and signage to be according to the Traffic Sign Manual.

3 EV charging should be provided and shown on the submitted plans

4 The layout of the circulation areas and carparking is generally acceptable; however, on close inspection of the 'site plan proposed' drawing, the parking spaces along the north (no.16 to 28) appear to be short at circa 4m long and they should be increased to minimum 5m long. In addition the architectural drawing titled 'site plan proposed' should be fully coordinated with the engineers drawing titled 'proposed site layout'.

5 In relation to Parks and Green Infrastructure

(i) Services to be clearly shown on landscape plan to ensure landscaping proposals do not conflict with above and below ground services.

(ii) No tree planting within 7 metres of proposed public lighting in line with Fingal's tree strategy- *Forest of Fingal – A Tree Strategy for Fingal.*

(iii) Choice of planting to be suitable for coastal conditions.

(iv) A minimum of a 3 year maintenance period to be included as part of the landscape proposals.

(v) The consultant landscape architect to meet with the Parks and Landscape Officer prior to the submission of final landscaping detail

6 In relation to Water Service recommendations

(i) No surface water / rainwater is to discharge into the foul water system under any circumstances.

(ii) The surface water drainage must be in compliance with the Greater Dublin Regional Code of Practice for Drainage Works, Version 6.0, FCC, April 2006.

Sean Walsh
Senior Executive Planner

Colm McCoy
Senior Planner
30.11.23

Copies of Reports from Internal Sections of the Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL INTERNAL CONSULTEE

PLANNING REPORT

Report of Parks and Green Infrastructure Division

Register Reference: LADP/007/23

Registration Date:

Development: The proposed development will consist of a new Baldoyle Community/Sports Centre at a site of

approximately 0.575 ha at former 'Coast' Estate Marketing Suite Buildings/Structures and Changing Rooms/Storage Shed/Structures located along the south of Red Arches Road, The Coast, Baldoyle Racecourse Park, Stapolin, Baldoyle, Dublin 13.

The proposed works to be carried at the above site consist of the demolition and removal of existing redundant single storey former 'Coast' Estate Marketing Suite Building and single storey Changing Rooms/Storage Shed with all associated structures (all totalling 410 sq m Gross Floor Space), and the construction of the Community/Sports Centre Building with ancillary infrastructure and associated site

development works (all totalling 1,320 sq m Gross Floor Space and ranging in height equivalent from 1 to 2

storeys), consisting of:

- Entrance lobby and reception area, cleaners store and IT/CCTV facility room;
- Central sports hall with associated storage;
- 4 no. externally accessible changing rooms, 2 no. referee rooms, lobbies, toilets facilities and plant;
- 4 no. community/multipurpose/studio/meeting rooms with associated storage, kitchen and coffee dock
- facilities with external servery hatch, toilet and changing facilities;
- 46 no. bicycle parking spaces (24 no covered) and a Surface car park providing a total of 28 no. car parking

spaces (2 no. accessible/disabled and 26 no. regular);

- Enhanced boundary treatments, hard and soft landscaping, external site lighting, building signage, 3 no. Hve

include the following documentation with this submission:

• flagpoles, services (including underground surface water attenuation storage) and all other ancillary and

associated site development works above and below ground level;

• Primary vehicular and pedestrian access to the proposed new Community/Sports Centre will be via the

existing vehicle and pedestrian/bicycle accesses from the Red Arches Road, with enhanced secondary

pedestrian/bicycle permeability provided to surrounding active and passive open space recreational

Location: Baldoyle Community Sport Centre, Red Arches Road, Racecourse Park, Baldoyle, Co. Dublin

Applicant: Architects Department

Application Type: Permission

Report

The Parks and Green Infrastructure Division has no objections in principle to the above development subject to the following:

Services to be clearly shown on landscape plan to ensure landscaping proposals do not conflict with above and below ground services.

No tree planting within 7 metres of proposed public lighting in line with Fingal's tree strategy- *Forest of Fingal – A Tree Strategy for Fingal.*

Choice of planting to be suitable for coastal conditions.

A minimum of a 3 year maintenance period to be included as part of the landscape proposals.

The consultant landscape architect to meet with the Parks and Landscape Officer prior to the submission of final landscaping details.

Officer: Gemma Carr Endorsed: _____

Date: 24/10/23 Date: _____

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL INTERNAL CONSULTEE

PLANNING REPORT

Report of the Water Services Department

Register Reference: LADP/007/23

Registration Date: «Apn_Date»

Development: Baldoyle Community Centre

Location: Baldoyle

Applicant: FCC

Application Type: LADP – Internal consultation – Stage 1B

Report

Flood risk: No objection

Foul drainage: Irish Water

Surface water drainage: No objection subject to:

(iii) No surface water / rainwater is to discharge into the foul water system under any circumstances.

(iv) The surface water drainage must be in compliance with the Greater Dublin Regional Code of Practice for Drainage Works, Version 6.0, FCC, April 2006.

Water supply: Irish Water

Engineer:	**PG**	Endorsed:	**DD**
Date:	**13.10.23**	Date:	**19/10/2023**

TRANSPORTATION REPORT

Register Reference: LADP/007/23
Development: Baldoyle Community Centre Draft Pre Planning .

Location:
Report Type: LADP Internal Stage 1B
Lodged:

General

The proposed development is located in an area where the speed limit transitions from 30km/hr to a 50km/hr speed limit.

The proposed development is described as; A Neighbourhood Sports and Community Centre: The objective of the project is to provide a new purpose-built Sports Facility and Community Centre to cater for a wide range of community, recreational, educational and sporting activities in the area.

Parking

The proposed development is within 1.5m of the Clongriffin Dart Station, which would place it in 'zone 1 in regard to the car parking standards described in table 14.18 and 14.19 of the Fingal Development plan 2023-2029.

The proposed community centre building has an overall gross floor area of 1320sqm, which includes a 431sqm sports hall.

Below is summary of the carparking demand:

Unit Type	No./GFA	Dev Plan 2023-2029 Standards (zone 1)	Applicants Proposed Rate
Internal Sports Hall including changing rooms etc	555sqm	1 per 40sqm = 14	
Community Use	765sqm	1 per 100sqm = 8	
		Total as per Dev Plan: 24	Total Proposed: 28

The proposed development has a carparking demand of circa 24 spaces.
The proposed development would provide 28 spaces, the Transportation Planning Section has no objection to this slight overprovision of carparking.

The adjacent carpark for the Racecourse Park project, which already has planning approval from An Bord Pleanála recorded under reg. ref. No. JP06F.311315, will cater for approx. 160cars.

Bicycle Parking

Below is a summary of the bicycle parking demand:

Unit Type	No./GFA	Dev Plan 2023-2029 Standards (zone 1)	Applicants Proposed Rate
Internal Sports Hall	555 sqm	1 'short stay' per 30sqm = 19	
Community Use	765 sqm	1 'short stay' per 50sqm =15; 1 'long stay' per 2 staff	
		Total as per Dev Plan: 34 'short stay' and 'long stay' to be determined by staff numbers.	Total Proposed: 23

The proposed development has a 'short stay' bike parking demand of circa 34 spaces.
The proposed development would provide 23 spaces, and the Transportation Planning Section would recommend that this number is increased to 34 minimum.

In regard to the detail, layout and location of the bike parking, the applicant should thoroughly demonstrate in the planning application submission, that the provision is located in the best possible location within the site and designed to be secure, overlooked, visually attractive, covered, well lit, and easily accessible.

Access

The applicant is proposing to utilise the existing in-use vehicular entrance, and this is acceptable to the Transportation Planning Section.

It would appear that the sightlines achievable at the proposed vehicular entrance are in excess of the requirements of DMURS, and this is acceptable to the Transportation Planning Section.

Layout

The layout of the circulation areas and carparking is generally acceptable; however, on close inspection of the 'site plan proposed' drawing, the parking spaces along the north (no.16 to 28) appear to be short at circa 4m long and they should be increased to minimum 5m long.
Also, the architectural drawing titled 'site plan proposed' should be fully coordinated with the engineers drawing titled 'proposed site layout'.

Conclusion

The Transportation Planning Section generally has no objection to the proposed development, however there are some minor issues to be addressed with the current proposal and further detailed information and continued liaison with the Applicant is recommended.

Signed: Shane Comaskey

Date: 20/10/2023

Endorsed: _____

Date: _____

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL INTERNAL CONSULTEE PLANNING REPORT Operations Planning Section
Register Reference: LADP/007/23
Registration Date: 25-Sep-2023 Development: LADP
Location: Baldoyle Community & Sports Centre, Red Arches, Racecourse Park, Co. Dublin
Applicant: Architects Department
Application Type: Permission ----------

DRAFT
Report General:-
From Fingal Traffic HOW/MAL

Parking:- EV charging should be provided

Sightlines:- Vehicular entrance should be designed too allow for safe crossing of pedestrians walking on the public footpath while still providing the required sightlines. Ramps entrance is suggested for safety. All road markings and signage to be according to the Traffic Sign Manual.

Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Determination for proposed Local Authority Development	
Project Name:	Proposed Baldoyle Community Centre, Racecourse Park, Red Arches Road, Baldoyle, Dublin 13
Ref No:	

Description:

Fingal County Council intends to develop a new Community/ Sports Centre on the grounds of the former Marketing Suite of 'The Coast' housing estate located along the south of Red Arches Road, The Coast, Baldoyle Racecourse Park, Baldoyle, Dublin 13.

The development will consist of the removal of the existing single storey buildings on site (Marketing Suite and associated storage sheds and Changing Rooms) to replace with another single storey Community Centre building comprising facilities such as Sports hall, changing rooms, referee rooms, meeting rooms, toilet facilities and associated outdoor infrastructure such as car and bicycle parking and landscaping works.

Legislative Context:

This determination has considered the relevant legislative context and guidance, including;

1) Articles 6 (3) and (4) of European Union (EU) Council Directive 92/43/EEC (Habitats Directive) and transposed into Irish law by the
2) European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations S.I. No 477 of 2011 (as amended)
3) Assessment of plans and projects significantly in relation to Natura 2000 sites: Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC (EU Commission, Brussels (2021)
4) Appropriate Assessment of plans and projects in Ireland: Guidance for planning authorities (DoEHLG, 2009),
5) Appropriate Assessment Screening for Development Management (Office of the Planning Regulator, 2021).

Screening Report:

Fingal County Council requested that an Appropriate Assessment Screening Statement be prepared. The Report, entitled 'Information to inform Appropriate Assessment Screening of a proposed project at Baldoyle, Dublin 13' was prepared by Limosa Environmental and reviewed by Fingal Ecologist, Jessica Clarke, prior to this Screening Determination being prepared.

The AA Screening Report screened out any potential for alone or in combination effects of the proposed project on any SAC or SPA. From the report and reviewed literature, it is apparent that;

- The nearest European sites are Baldoyle Bay SAC & SPA (430 m north and 500 m east, respectively.
- Managed grassland areas in the intervening land between Baldoyle Bay and the development site, such as Red Arches playing pitches, are utilised as ex-situ feeding grounds for species such as Light-bellied Brent Geese who are Qualifying Interests that commute between SPAs such as Baldoyle Bay, North Bull Island, Malahide Estuary and Rogerstown Estuary[1].

[1] Handby, Bearhop and Colhoun (2022) Understanding patterns of urban habitat use in overwintering light-bellied Brent geese in Dublin, Ireland (Unpublished Project Report in collaboration with Irish Brent Goose Research Project)

- There is no direct pathway for noise, dust, visual or hydrological impacts to affect any European Sites.
- Foul wastewater will be directed to an existing public foul network and treated therein before discharging via the Ringsend WWTP, which ultimately discharges to the Lower Liffey and is therefore connected hydrologically to South Dublin Bay SAC, South Dublin Bay and River Tolka SPA and North Dublin Bay SAC. Although the Ringsend WWTP is currently over capacity and due an upgrade in the near future, the primary discharge from the wastewater treatment plant does not have an observable impact on the Water Framework Directive status in the Liffey Estuary Lower, which has achieved 'good' ecological and chemical surface water status since 2010[2]. A pre-connection enquiry made to Irish Water returned an outcome of 'feasible without infrastructure upgrade'.
- There are no open surface water bodies on site. A surface water body did previously traverse the site but this has been culverted and is inoperable due to heavy siltation. No direct impacts to this water body are likely to occur as a result of the proposal.
- Run-off or surface water that is generated within the site will be discharged to the existing storm water network. To facilitate this arrangement, works are required to connect the new on-site surface water collection network to the existing surface water network of pipes by connecting within a manhole located within the Red Arches Road to the north of the site. While the surface water network will ultimately discharge to Baldoyle Bay SAC via the Mayne River, the likelihood of significant inputs of silt or contaminants reaching downstream SACs or SPAs during these works is considered low. The surface water connection is to an existing network of pipes located in the road outside the boundary of the construction site. As no in-stream works are required to make this connection and the risk of contaminating the culverted surface water network with volumes of silt, dirty water or hydrocarbons can be controlled by adhering to best practice measures (e.g. Uisce Eireann Codes of Practice[3],[4]), significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of downstream Designated Sites during construction or operational phase is considered unlikely.
- Any surface water discharged from the site during the operational phase will be collected via SuDS measures implemented to a design standard. It is noted the SuDS measures proposed do not require any in-stream works or additional mitigation measures during their construction for the protection of downstream SACs or SPAs.
- The project is planned to commence in April 2024 and outdoor works to the building will be largely complete by August 2024. As stated in the AA Screening Report, significant impacts to any wintering birds that are Qualifying Interests of SPAs are unlikely as the majority of works that have the highest potential to cause visual or noise disturbance will be complete by August. This is outside the wintering the period October to March, which is the core period that Brent geese occur in large numbers throughout Ireland[5]. Earlier sightings (the end of August) are confined to Strangford Lough where arriving geese initially congregate to refuel[6].
- It is considered that once the large, visually intrusive and/ or noisy outdoor aspects of the project are complete and the works are largely indoors, that the level of activity on site will be similar to the background noise and activity levels of the area which is a busy residential area, with traffic and a playground.
- It is further considered that once the Community Centre structure is largely built and works have commenced indoors, that the works will be naturally visually screened from the Red Arches pitches by the newly built Community Centre as well as the existing tree planting

[2] Data - Catchments.ie - Catchments.ie
[3] Wastewater-Code-of-Practice.pdf
[4] Water-Code-of-Practice.pdf
[5] About Brent Geese - Irish Brent Goose Research Group
[6] Geese and Swans return to Ireland for the winter - BirdWatch Ireland

that exists between the Community Centre and the pitches. The benefits of screening in minimising visual disturbances to waterbirds is recognised in the literature (Hockin, 1992; Borgmann, 2011)[7] [8].

- The development of the Community Centre does not constitute an increase in the use of the playing pitches at Red Arches and the site itself is currently built land and artificial surfaces (BL3), therefore no long-term loss of ex-site feeding grounds will occur as a result of the project.

Further considerations.

While the AA Screening report submitted by Limosa has failed to include an assessment of potential impacts to the North-west Irish Sea SPA, I have included it herein. The North-west Irish Sea SPA is located approximately 1.5 km east of the site and is not directly linked to the development site. It is hydrologically linked to the proposed development site via the Baldoyle Bay SAC and therefore potential impacts to the water quality of the site are unlikely to occur as a result of this proposal for the same reasons that no likely significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of Baldoyle Bay SAC are likely to occur. The North-west Irish Sea SPA is designated largely to protect the feeding grounds of sea birds that feed on open water, these Qualifying Interests are therefore unlikely to come to land to feed on grassland ex-situ feeding grounds in significant numbers. The exception to this is some of the gull species, who will opportunistically feed in towns and cities[9], and are therefore unlikely to be impacted by noise and visual disturbances associated with this development.

Conclusion

The report by Limosa Environmental concludes;

"Following the examination of relevant information, including in particular, the nature and design of the proposed project, this assessment concludes that significant impacts upon the qualifying interest species and the conservation objectives of any of the relevant Natura 2000 sites are highly unlikely (high degree of confidence)."

Screening Determination:

Fingal County Council have examined, analysed and evaluated the content of the proposed Community Centre development at Racecourse Park, Red Arches Road, Baldoyle, Dublin 13, including the information and assessments presented in the screening for appropriate assessment report and the OCEMP and are in agreement with the conclusion of the screening for appropriate assessment report with respect to the potential for the proposed project to have a likely significant effect on any European sites.

Fingal County Council have determined that, in light of best scientific knowledge, including in particular the nature of the predicted impacts that may arise from the project, and in the absence of any measures intended to avoid or reduce any harmful effects on European sites, that the project is not likely to have a significant effect on any European sites, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

Signed: Ivana Clarke

[7] Borgmann, K.L. (2011). A Review of Human Disturbance Impacts on Waterbirds. Audubon California.

[8] Hockin, D., Ounsted, M., Gorman, M., Hill, D., Keller, V. & Barker, M. (1992). Examination of the effects of disturbance on birds with reference to the role of environmental impact assessments. Journal of Environmental Management, 36, 253-286

[9] Gulls allowed? | BTO - British Trust for Ornithology

Role/ Department: Ecologist, Planning and Strategic Infrastructure

Date: 28th November 2023

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Determination for proposed Local Authority Development	
Project Name:	Proposed Baldoyle Community Centre, Racecourse Park, Red Arches Road, Baldoyle, Dublin 13
Ref No:	

Description:

Fingal County Council intends to develop a new Community/ Sports Centre on the grounds of the former Marketing Suite of 'The Coast' housing estate located along the south of Red Arches Road, The Coast, Baldoyle Racecourse Park, Baldoyle, Dublin 13.

The development will consist of the removal of the existing single storey buildings on site (Marketing Suite and associated storage sheds and Changing Rooms) to replace with another single storey Community Centre building comprising facilities such as Sports hall, changing rooms, referee rooms, meeting rooms, toilet facilities and associated outdoor infrastructure such as car and bicycle parking and landscaping works.

Legislative Context:

This determination has considered the relevant legislative context and guidance as set out in the EIA Screening Report, including;

- (Directive 2011/92/EU), as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU
- Schedule 5, Parts 1 and 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)
- Schedule 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)
- Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (EPA, May 2022).
- Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government Guidelines for Planning Authorities and an Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment (2018).
- European Commission (EC) Environmental Impact Assessment of Project: Guidance on Screening (2017).
- European Commission Interpretation of definitions of project categories of Annex I and II of the EIA Directive (2015).
- Office of the Planning Regulator OPR Practice Note PN02 Environmental Impact Assessment Screening (incorporating amendment of September 2022).

Screening Report:

Fingal County Council requested that an Environmental Impact Screening Statement be prepared by The Planning Partnership. The Report, entitled "FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL PROPOSED BALDOYLE COMMUNITY CENTRE: RACECOURSE PARK, RED ARCHES ROAD, BALDOYLE, DUBLIN 13", was reviewed and evaluated by, Fingal Ecologist, Jessica Clarke.

From the report and reviewed literature, it is apparent that;
The development site is a brownfield site of approximately 0.575 ha. The buildings on site were originally the Marketing Suite of 'The Coast' housing estate. The habitats on site consist of Improved Amenity Grassland (GA2), Buildings and Artificial Surfaces (BL3) and Scattered trees and parkland (WD5) and there are no water bodies on site. There are no indications the site is utilised by rare or protected flora or fauna and no invasive plant species were noted on site. There is no indication in the submitted reports that the buildings onsite have been surveyed by an ecologist. With the exception of the limited potential for the existing buildings on site to provide nesting sites for birds (Starlings, House martens etc.) or bats, which should be surveyed for by an ecologist prior to the demolition of the buildings, the site is therefore of low ecological value.

No surface water features are present onsite. Foul and surface water will connect to the existing foul and surface water network via works within the road network outside of the boundary of the construction site. The risk of contaminating the culverted surface water network with volumes of silt, dirty water or hydrocarbons necessary to cause significant effects to the Qualifying Interests of downstream Designated Sites during construction is therefore considered unlikely following adherence to best practice measures (e.g. Uisce Eireann Codes of Practice[10],[11]).

Any surface water discharged from the site during the operational phase will be collected via SuDS measures implemented to a design standard. It is noted the SuDS measures proposed do not require any in-stream works or additional mitigation measures during their construction for the protection of downstream SACs or SPAs.

The nearest designated sites are Baldoyle Bay SAC & SPA, which are located 430 m north and 500 m east of the site. While the development site is not utilised as ex-situ feeding grounds for Qualifying Interest species such as Brent geese, nearby managed grassland sites are. Significant effects to the birds utilising these grasslands are unlikely to occur however as the majority of works that have potential to cause noise or visual disturbance effects will occur outside the winter bird season when the birds are not present. It is considered that the remaining works on the interior of the building will be similar to background noise and visual disturbances in the area which is a busy residential area with associated traffic noise and a playground.

Potential impacts in relation to flood risk, archaeology, social changes, land use, landscapes, soil, water and traffic have been assessed and outline in the submitted EIA Screening report and indicate no significant impacts are likely to occur that will negatively affect the environment or community in the long term.

With regard to Mandatory EIA, the Screening Report states;

Development similar to that as proposed as part of the development, i.e. the new Community/ Sports Centre for Baldoyle, is not listed in Part 1 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) and as such Part 1 is not relevant in this instance.

With reference to Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the PDR 2001, the authors state "The only reference to the provisions of urban development is found under Part 2, Class 10 Infrastructure Projects and where the relevant quantity to be assessed would involve an area greater than 2 hectares in the case of a business district, 10 hectares in the case of other parts of a built-up area and 20 hectares elsewhere. The proposed development of a new Community/ Sports Centre development for Baldoyle, does not fall within the assigned quantum's..."

As the development is below the thresholds set out in Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, EIA Guidelines state that a screening determination, in accordance with Criteria set out in Schedule 7 of the 2001 Regulations (as amended), is required to be undertaken by the competent authority with consideration of 1. Characteristics of the Proposed Development, 2. the Location of Proposed Development and 3. the resulting Types and Characteristics of Potential Impacts.

Following consideration of the proposal in accordance with Schedule 7, the EIA Screening Report states;

[10] Wastewater-Code-of-Practice.pdf
[11] Water-Code-of-Practice.pdf

"It is considered that the nature of the proposed development is not considered to have likely significant effects on the environment (direct or indirect)."

"Accordingly, it has been found using the requisite professional judgement, as relying on the available information, that no significant negative effects have been found or identified as to cause the requirement for an Environmental Impact Assessment, and whilst undertaking the requisite Screening exercise."

Screening Determination:
Having regard to the forgoing, the proposed development of the Community/ Sports Centre at Red Arches in Baldoyle does not trigger a mandatory EIA under the EIA Directive or the 2001 Regulations (as amended). Furthermore, having reviewed the EIA Screening Report presented by the Planning Partnership and supporting documents (Appropriate Assessment Screening Report and Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan), and in light of best scientific knowledge, the proposed development in not likely to have significant effects of the environment due to the nature, scale or location of the proposed development relevant to areas of environmental sensitivity and the potential for impacts to occur. Fingal County Council therefore accept the conclusions of the EIA Screening Report.

Signed: Maeve Clarke

Role/ Department: Ecologist, Planning and Strategic Infrastructure

Date: 28th November 2023

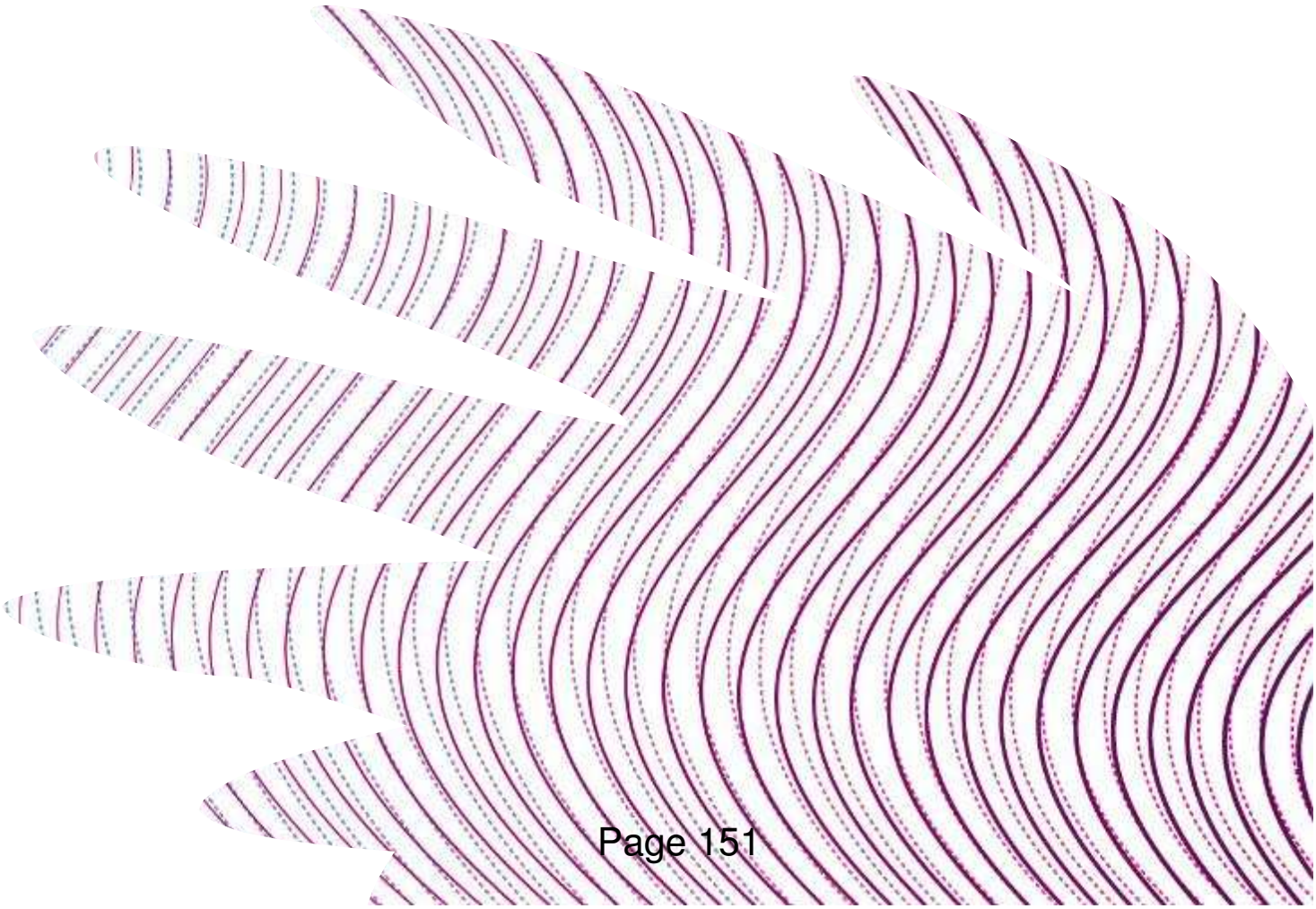
Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

CE Report

Report pursuant to Part XI of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Local Government Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)

PartXI/004/23 Proposed Bremore Castle Car & Bicycle Parking Facility Development



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2.0 Description of the Proposed Development

3.0 Evaluation of the Proposed Development

4.0 List of the Persons & Bodies who made Submissions or Observations

5.0 Summary of the Observations

6.0 Recommendation to Members

Appendix 1. Planning Report

Appendix 2. List of Submissions & Observations

1.0 Introduction

Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) outlines the requirements in respect of certain classes of Local Authority development. These regulations apply to the Proposed Bremore Castle Car & Bicycle Parking Facility Development.

The Council proposes to provide a high-quality public car park including bicycle parking facilities, public lighting & landscaping to serve the adjoining public park and sporting facilities at Bremore, Balbriggan

Documents for the development proposal was placed on public display from 6th December 2023 to 26th January 2024 including the erection of site notices, published newspaper notice, copies at the Balbriggan public library, Civic Offices Blanchardstown and County Hall Swords and available online via the Fingal Consultation Portal.

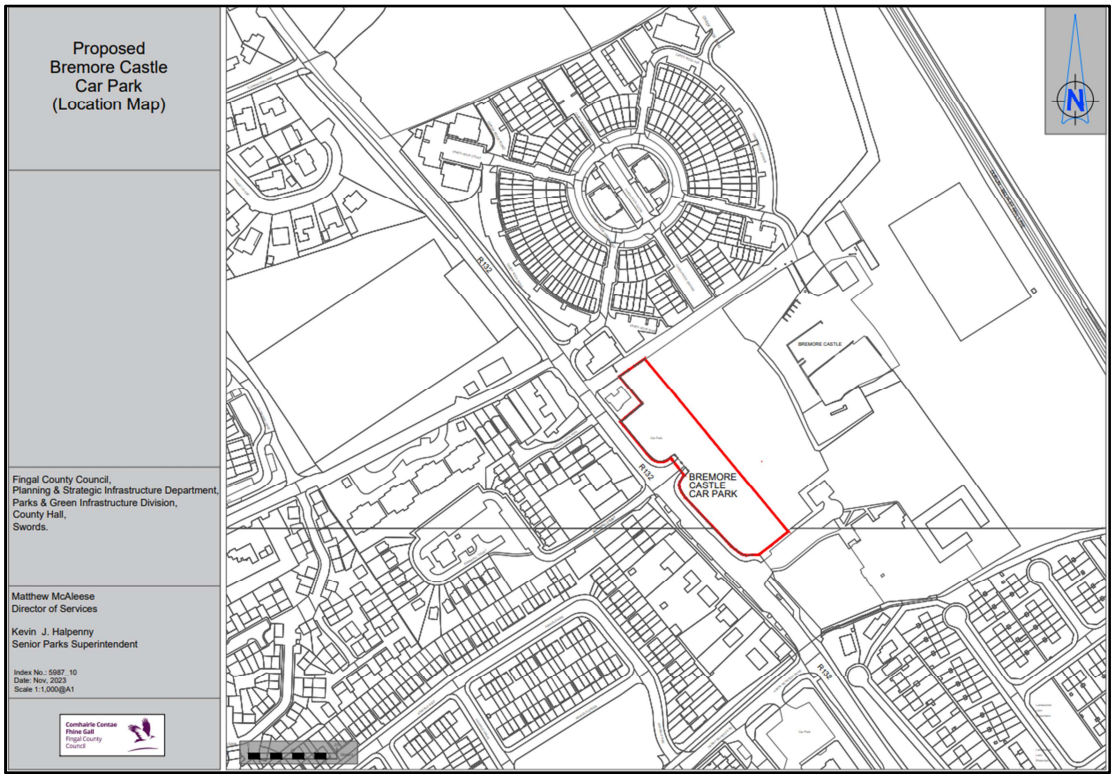
A total of 6no. submissions were received within the consultation period. All submissions have been considered in the preparation of this report.

2.0 Description of the Revised Proposed Development

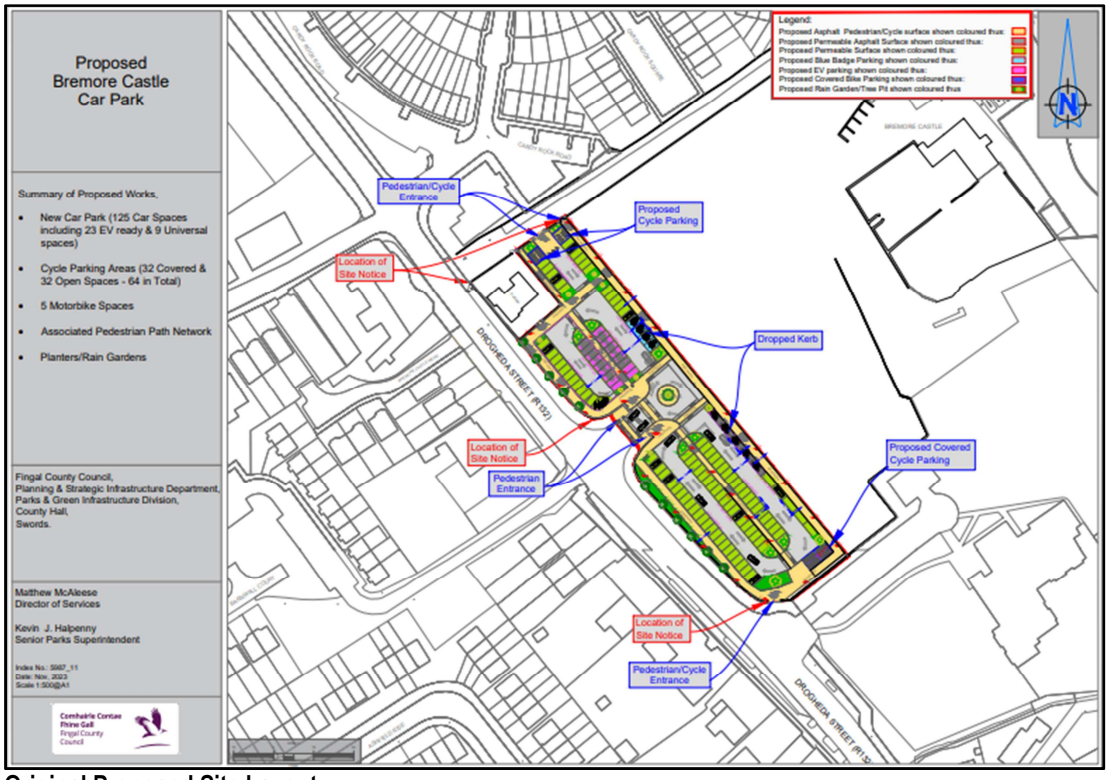
A car park consisting of 2no. coach parking spaces, 103no. car spaces, including 8no. universally accessible parking bays; provision for 18no. EV-ready parking bays (with potential for future expansion) including 5no. motorcycle parking spaces, 1no. covered bicycle parking for 32no. bicycles and 32no. uncovered spaces. Spaces for shared bicycle schemes, adapted bicycles and cargo bicycles will be provided within the bicycle parking. The proposed layout will be subject to auto-track analysis during a detailed design phase. The Car Park will be constructed in compliance with Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems principles such that all car parking bays will be constructed in permeable paving such as Grasscrete ® or similar approved system, circulatory routes will be paved in permeable asphalt, trees will be planted in constructed tree pits and landscaping will include rain gardens. Public lighting, consisting of LED public lighting, will be installed throughout the car park to an approved lighting design. The lighting design will ensure no light spillage onto adjoining lands. Landscaping works including tree planting in constructed tree pits providing a minimum of 16m3 rooting space and pollinator friendly species suitable for raingarden planting will provide seasonal interest. The proposed development

works are within the existing site boundaries with no works proposed to alter site boundaries.

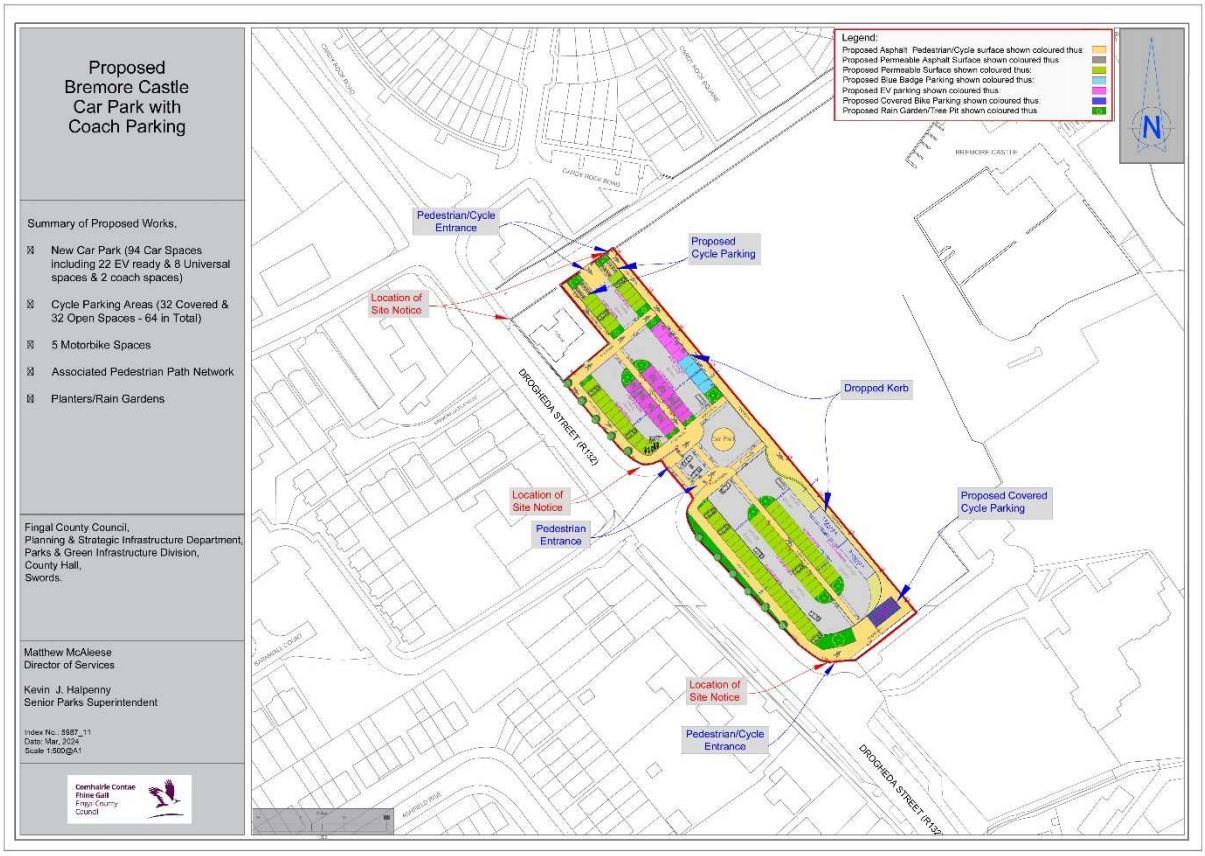
Planning Drawings



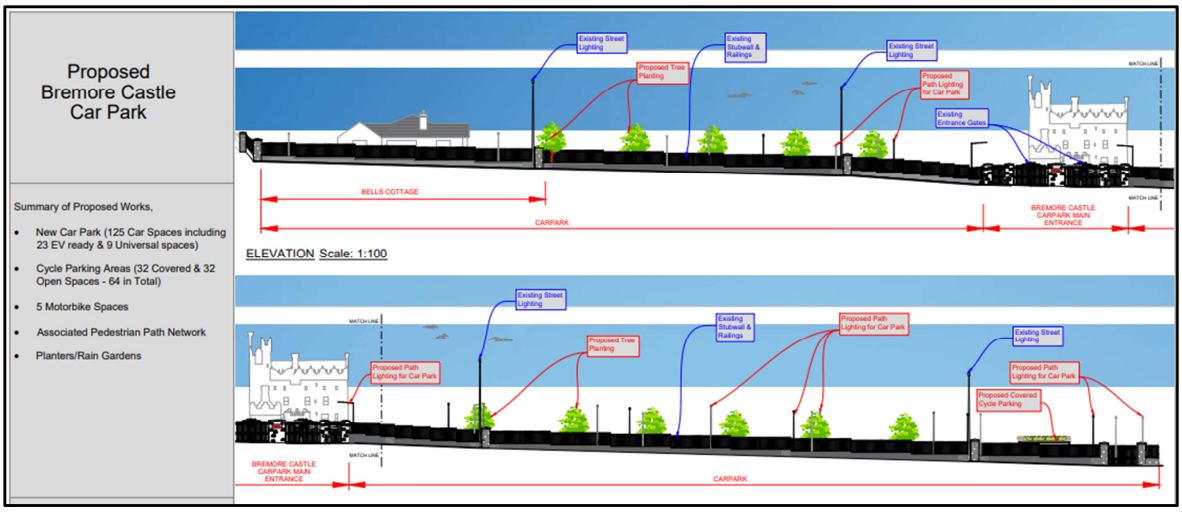
Site Location Map



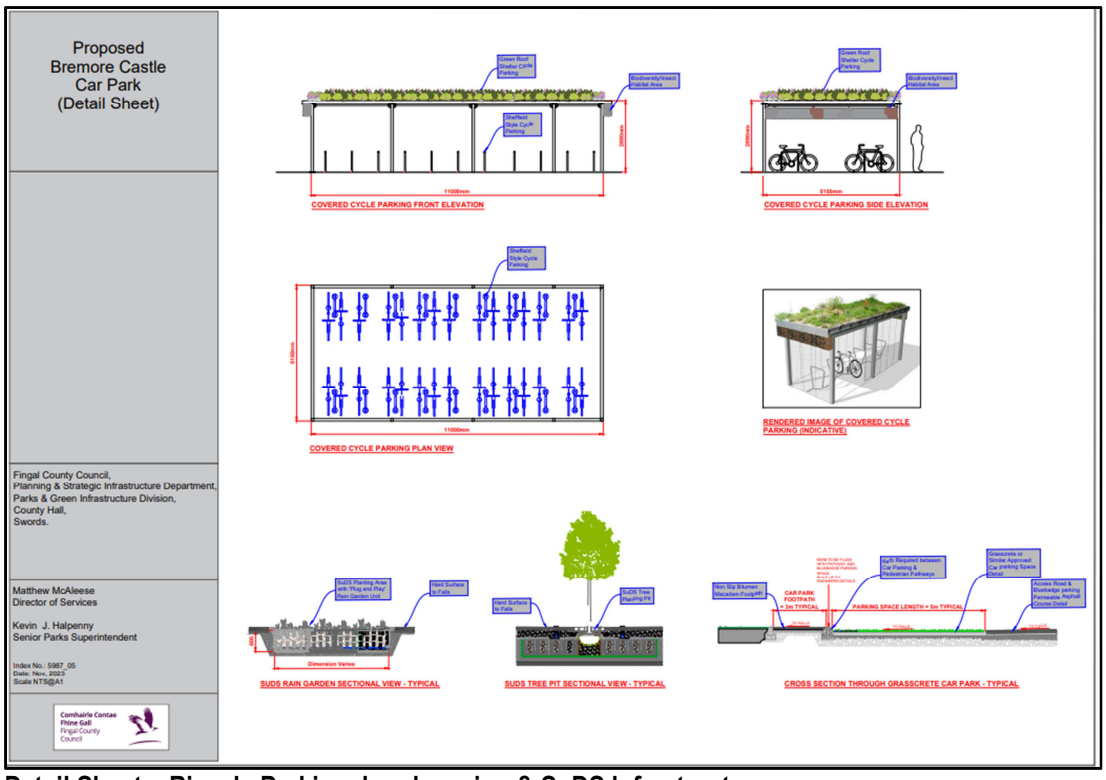
Original Proposed Site Layout



Revised Proposed Layout incl. 2no. coach parking spaces



Sectional Elevation



Detail Sheet – Bicycle Parking, Landscaping & SuDS Infrastructure

Indicative Drawings

Indicative Image 1

Indicative Image 2.

Indicative Image 3.

Indicative Image 4.

Indicative Image 5.

Indicative Image 6.

Indicative Image 7.

3.0 Evaluation of the Proposed Development

It is considered that the proposed car park development project is consistent with the land use zoning objectives pertaining to the lands set out in the Fingal Development Plan, 2023-2029. The proposal is also considered to accord with the relevant and applicable objectives of the Fingal Development Plan, 2023-2029, subject to the recommendations contained in the planning report.

For further detail see Appendix 1. Planning Report

4.0 List of the Persons & Bodies who made Submissions or Observations

See Appendix 2.

5.0 Summary of the Observations

1. Prescribed Bodies

The following prescribed bodies were notified of the proposed development and invited to make a submission:

- Uisce Éireann
- The Heritage Council
- Dept. of Housing, Planning & Local Government

No submissions were received from any external prescribed consultees.

2. Submissions Received from Individuals and Organisations

Following the initial recording of all submissions, each one was read to allocate the issues raised into appropriate themes as listed below:

List of Themes

1. General support for the development
2. Car park management
3. Car park lighting
4. Coach parking & Bus Interchange
5. Bells Cottage
6. Bell's Lane Trees
7. Parent & Child spaces
8. Bins
9. Directional signage
10. Programme of works
11. Provision for car parking in Balbriggan

Theme 1. General support for the Proposed Development (1)

FIN-C646-6

Summary of Observations:

The main support relevant to this theme can be summarised as follows:

- I would like to welcome this development in principle, the car park is long overdue and will add value not only to Bremore Castle but also to Bremore Regional Park.

Response:

- The comments are noted.

Recommendations:

- No changes are recommended.

Theme 2: Car park management (1)

FIN-C646-2

Summary of Observations:

- Will parking be FREE of charge?
- Is the EV charging going to be funded by FCC and if not then who?

Response:

- The issue of parking fees will be referred to the Council's Operations Department. At present there are no plans to charge for parking in this car park.
- The infrastructure provided will facilitate the provision of electric vehicle (EV) chargers. The procurement, installation and management of the relevant EV charging system will be a matter for the Council's Environment, Climate Action and Active Travel Department.

Recommendations:

- No changes are recommended.

Theme 3: Car park lighting (3)

FIN-C646-2, FIN-C646-5, FIN-C646-7

Summary of Observations:

- Will the lighting be motion sensitive or wasteful on all night lighting?
- Will the lighting be timed to go on and off at certain times?
- The lighting should be nature friendly.

Response:

- Subject to the approval of this application, the car park LED public lighting system will be designed and installed in compliance with all relevant standards concerning public lighting installations.
- It will be a requirement of the design of the public lighting system that it will be controlled by a central management system to facilitate appropriate timing and levels of illumination throughout the seasons.

Recommendations:

- No changes are recommended.

Theme 4: Coach parking & Bus Interchange (3)

FIN-C646-3, FIN-C646-6, FIN-C646-7

Summary of Observations:

- Why not put a bus interchange inside the car park so people can get on and off and connect to other busses inside the castle grounds.
- The car park without the facility to accommodate Coach tours and have two or more Coach parking spaces shows a lack of ambition for the true potential of this venue.
- It is necessary to provide coach parking at this location due to the future possibilities that Bremore Castle will provide once finished.

Response:

- Bus services, 101, 101X and other services stop nearby on Drogheda St. a short distance from Bremore Castle car park. It is therefore considered appropriate to optimise the available space to provide parking facilities for a diverse range of other transport options.
- Provision for managed Coach Parking has been made in the revised design of the car park.

Recommendations:

- A revised Proposed Layout drawing shows the provision of coach parking.

Theme 5: Bells Cottage (1)

FIN-C646-4

Summary of Observations:

- Will the derelict gate lodge at the car park be destroyed, or developed?

Response:

- No works to the gate lodge, also known as Bells Cottage, are proposed as part of this application.

Recommendations:

- No changes are recommended.

Theme 6: Bell's Lane Trees (1)

FIN-C646-5

Summary of Observations:

- They are Balbriggan's tallest trees, and more importantly roost sites for bats.
- Please ensure they are protected and not removed.

Response:

- The comments are noted, no works to the trees on Bell's Lane are proposed as part of this application.

Recommendations:

- No changes are recommended.

Theme 7: Parent & Child spaces (1)

FIN-C646-7

Summary of Observations:

- Family /Parent & baby Spaces could be provided.

Response:

- Subject to approval of this application, the design and build stage of the project will provide for a diverse range of parking types, to include Family/Parent and age friendly spaces as appropriate.

Recommendations:

- No changes are recommended.

Theme 8: Bin Installation (1)

FIN-C646-7

Summary of Observations:

- Bins need to be provided.

Response:

- The installation of litter bins is acceptable in principle, with a bin type and location to be agreed with the Operations Dept.

Recommendations:

- The installation of litter bins will be subject to the agreement of the Operations Dept. No changes are recommended.

Theme 9: Directional signage (1)

FIN-C646-7

Summary of Observations:

- Is there directional signage in the car park.

Response:

- Subject to approval of this application, the design and build stage of the project will require the successful contractor to conduct a Road Safety Audit at both design and construction stages. This process will ensure compliance with the relevant standards applicable at the time of construction.

Recommendations:

- No recommendations.

Theme 10: Programme of works (1)

FIN-C646-7

Summary of Observations:

- Timescale for the works

Response:

- The estimated timeline for the design & build of the proposed development is 12-14 weeks.

Recommendations:

- No changes are recommended.

Theme 11: Provision for car parking in Balbriggan (1)

FIN-C646-2

Summary of Observations:

- I'm concerned that removing all parking from the town centre is a really BIG mistake.
- The Quay Street car park is well used.

Response:

- Works to other car parking areas in Balbriggan are not subject to this application.

Recommendations:

- No changes are recommended.

6.0 Recommendation to Members

It is considered that the proposed revised Bremore Castle Car & Bicycle Parking Facility Development is consistent with the land use zoning objectives as set out in the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029. Subject to the recommendations outlined in the Planning Report (Appendix 1) it is recommended that the Council members approve the Bremore Castle Car & Bicycle Parking Facility Development as now proposed.

Appendix 1 – Planner's Report incl. Consultee Reports

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

PLANNING & STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Register Reference:	PARTXI/004/23
Proposed Development:	Development of a carpark at Bremore Castle
Location:	Bremore Castle, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin
Proposing Department:	Parks & Green Infrastructure
Application Type:	Pre-planning Consultation

Site Location:
The site has a stated area of 0.6ha and is located on Drogheda Street, Balbriggan between St. Molaga's Senior National School to the south and Bells Lane serving Bremore Castle to the north. The site is generally flat and is currently in temporary use as an ad hoc public car park finished with a temporary surface of quarry dust.

The lands east of the subject site comprise Bremore Castle a national monument and protected structure and an all-weather pitch which serves St Molaga's National School. There is a derelict structure within the northwest corner of the site. Cardy Rock housing estate is situated to the north and residential dwellings front the site on the opposite side of Drogheda street.

The site is enclosed with a capped low stone wall with a solid bar railing along the public footpath (west) and Bells Lane (northern) boundary. A concrete stub wall and metal rail fence separates the site from the primary school to the south, with a timber rail fence separating Bremore Castle lands to the east.

Proposed Development:
The proposed development comprises a car park consisting of 130no. spaces, including 9.no universally acceptable parking bays; provision of 19 no. EV ready parking bays (with potential for future expansion) and 2no. covered bicycle parking for 40.no bicycles.

All car parking bays will be constructed in permeable paving such as Grass Crete or similar approved.

Lighting consisting of LED public lighting will be provided throughout the car park to an approved lighting design. Landscaping works include tree planting in constructed tree pits and pollinator friendly groundcover as well as seasonal interest plant species are also proposed.
A Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) has been prepared together with an Appropriate Assessment Screening report, Environmental Impact Assessment Screening report and Flood Risk Assessment.

Fingal Development Plan 2023 – 2029
Land use zoning:
The subject site is zoned as 'OS – Open Space', the objective of which is to preserve and provide for open space and recreational amenities.

The site falls within Balbriggan historic core. It is also within a highly sensitive landscape, as indicated on Sheet 14 – Green Infrastructure of the Fingal Development Plan 2023 – 2029.

There are a number of recorded monuments in the immediate vicinity of the site. (RMP Ref. DU002-002001, DU002-002002, DU002-00203 DU002-002005).

Policy context:
Balbriggan is identified as a self-sustaining town within the Fingal Development Plan 2023 – 2029. The following objectives are noted:

- Objective CSO55 – Development and Growth of Balbriggan and Skerries: Promote and facilitate the development and growth of Balbriggan and Skerries as primary service, social, cultural and local tourist centres in north Fingal.
- Objective CSO56 – 'Our Balbriggan': Continue to implement, promote, and support the 'Our Balbriggan' Rejuvenation Plan

Furthermore, within the 'Our Balbriggan' rejuvenation plan, enhancement works to Bremore Castle are listed as a priority project, including works to Bells Lane and adjoining areas as well as improvements to the castle and grounds, including improved accessibility.

Planning history:
No Planning history attached to the subject site. However, the following planning history is relevant/adjacent to the subject site:

Adjacent land:
PARTXI/006/20: Approval GRANTED for the Bremore Regional Park Development Project, including the Balbriggan Sports and Recreational Hub, Central Zone Open Spaces, new Coastal Park, all ancillary infrastructure and park boundaries at Bremore Regional Park.

Departmental reports:
Water Services: Further information required.
Transportation: Further information required
Heritage and Conservation: Further information required.
Arts and Culture: No report received.
Community Archaeology: no objections

Assessment of proposed works:
The comments of the Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department are set out below under the following headings:

- Land use zoning and principle of development
- Layout and design
- Integration with and impact on the amenity of the area
- Conservation and Heritage
- Archaeology
- Transportation issues
- Water and drainage issues
- Impact on Natura 2000 sites
- EIA screening

Zoning of the site and the principle of development
The subject site is zoned as 'OS – Open Space', with an objective to 'preserve and provide for open space and recreational amenities'. Under this zoning category, car parking which is non-ancillary is not permitted. However, the proposed carpark will serve the adjoining public park, sports facilities and Bremore Castle, which are also zoned 'OS' and is therefore considered to fulfil a function which is ancillary to the extant facilities.

Layout and design
The drawings show a pedestrian path network around the perimeter of the site and two footpaths which bisect the car park from east to west. The existing entrance/exit point will be retained. The proposals also include improvements to landscaping and public realm on the site. The layout is considered acceptable and provides for enhancement and improvement to the existing layout. The principle of development is acceptable.

Integration with and impact on the amenity of the area
The proposed development is for a car park to serve the adjoining public park, sports facilities and Bremore Castle. It is not foreseen that the proposal would have a significant impact on the amenity of the area, having regard to the extant use of the site as temporary use as car park.

Conservation and Heritage:
Limited Information is contained within the plans/ drawings/Project Overview report. No elevations or visualisations are provided (i.e. covered bike parking structures, public lighting, planters /rain garden, permeable surface) and limited finishing materials colour, palette etc. are specified. The application would benefit from the provision of further detailed drawings which should form part of the public consultation.

Archaeology:
The Heritage Officer notes that the carpark is existing and no perceivable archaeological impacts are noted.

Transportation:
The Transportation Division notes the presence of a network of footpaths provided through the carpark providing for segregation of pedestrians and vehicular traffic. The Division indicates that it is unclear in some areas if the footpaths are at grade, or grade segregated and, in this regard, further clarity would be welcomed. Anti-slip surfacing is proposed to the footpaths and further justification and clarity as to the rational for deploying such surfacing should be provided.

A ramped pedestrian crossing is proposed inside the entrance gates. It would be preferable if this crossing were set back from the pillared access to allow for adequate pedestrian /vehicular inter-visibility.

Bicycle parking is provided at 2no. locations within the carpark and further details in relation to access for cyclists to the bicycle parking area should be provided. The width of footpaths, carparking spaces, and carpark circulation lanes should be dimensioned on the site layout plans. Existing direct pedestrian entrances are available; however, these are not considered sufficiently wide to cater for cyclists. Direct access of adequate width for cyclists off the Harry Reynold Road and Dublin Road schemes would be preferable.

In terms of access, further discussion is required in relation to the proposed vehicular access to the north of the carpark, connecting to the existing lane. The lane appears to currently serve as a pedestrian route only. Sightlines and pedestrian/vehicular intervisibility require assessment. Decreased radii on the main access off Drogheda Street should be considered, together with a raised ramped pedestrian crossing if feasible. Auto track analysis may be required, subject to the type of vehicles using the carpark.

Age-friendly parking and motorbike parking should be accommodated within the proposed development and further detail in relation to same is required. Furthermore, it should be specified if cargo bike and electric bike parking is to be provided. Details of covered bike parking should be detailed.

An outline construction management plan has been included in the CEMP. A final Construction Management Plan should be submitted by the main contractor once awarded the contract. All details regarding safety issues including appropriate signage and traffic management plans (as required) should form part of the plan including site compounds, hoarding and access arrangements.

All works should meet the Councils standards for taking in charge. The roads, including footpaths, verges, public lighting, open space, sewers, watermains or drains, forming

part of the development, should be constructed and maintained to the Council's standards for taking in charge.

Water Services:
The Water Services Division notes that a commensurate flood risk assessment has been prepared by McCloy's Consulting Engineers which confirms that the site is wholly located within Zone C.

With regard to foul drainage, records indicate what appears to be a 900mm diameter surface water outfall sewer located below/in close proximity to the boundary wall on Dublin/Drogheda Road. The pipe is shallow at c.1.4m deep to invert and runs southwards from the parking area entrance towards the Matt River south of the school. Construction over this sewer is permissible, subject to detailed design and possible engineered mitigation measures.

A 225mm diameter spur is also present on site and appears to be a service connection and of lesser importance, although a thorough investigation should be conducted to ascertain whether there are any connections into the manhole/spur.
All surfaces proposed are stated to be permeable and designed such to infiltrate to ground. As such no surface water connections are required. Full design details should be demonstrated to ensure that this is feasible.

Conclusion:
The Parks and Green Infrastructure Division is advised that the development would in principle, accord with the 'OS' land zoning applicable to the site. In order to ensure a comprehensive suite of documents/report is provided at public consultation stage, the attention of the Division is directed to the matters raised in this report and to the issues summaried below.

Summary
Detailed drawings and elevational drawings should be provided to the clearly illustrate the proposals for public viewing. Drawings should also indicate proposed materials, colour palette and design of structures, surfaces and street furniture within the carpark.

- The description of the development for the public notices must indicate that Bremore Castle is a protected structure.
- Further engagement and consultation with the Transportation Planning Section is advised in relation to the following:

a. clarity on whether footpaths are grade or grade segregated.
b. Provide justification and clarity on the rational for deploying anti slip surfacing on the footpaths.
c. Revise drawings which show the ramped pedestrian crossing set back further from the pillared access to allow for adequate pedestrian/vehicular inter-visibility.
d. Provide further detail on access for cyclists to the bicycle parking.
e. Revised layout plans which show dimensions of footpath widths, carparking spaces and carpark circulation lanes. In addition, the existing pedestrian entrances are not considered wide enough and direct access of adequate width for cyclists off the Harry Reynold Road and Dublin Road schemes is preferable.
f. Further engagement on the proposed vehicular access to the north of the carpark, connecting to the existing lane is required.
g. Age friendly and motorbike parking should be accommodated within the proposed development and further detail in this regard is required.

h. As part of the cycle parking quantum further detail on the provision for cargo bike parking spaces, electric bike parking and covered bike parking should be provided.

Further engagement and consultation with the Water Services Division is advised in relation to the design of surface water drainage.

_____
A/Senior Executive Parks & Landscape Officer

_____
Senior Planner

_____
Director of Services
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department

Copies of Reports from Internal Sections of the Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department

Report of the Conservation Officer Section

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL INTERNAL CONSULTEE
PLANNING REPORT
Report of the Conservation Officer Section

Register Reference:	PARTXI/004/23
Registration Date:	24-Aug-2023
Development:	Proposed development of a public car park at Bremore Castle
Location:	Bremore Castle, Drogheda Street, Balbriggan
Applicant:	Mark Finnegan, Parks dept
Application Type:	Part IX (Dev byState Auth)

Report

The documentation was forwarded to the Conservation Officer for comment. The proposal is for the development of a public car park to serve the Protected Structures or RPS No. 13 St. .Molaga's Church and Graveyard and RPS No. 14 Bremore Castle, Bremore, Balbriggan. These are also Recorded Monuments (RMP Ref. DU002-002001, DU002-00202, DU002-00203).

- The description of the development for the public notices must indicate that Bremore Castle is a protected structure.

The proposed carpark will form the initial entrance area to the Bremore Castle complex of the reconstructed castle, walled garden and ruins of St. Molaga's church and graveyard. The Protected Structure/Recorded Monument of the Bremore Castle comprise the surviving original/historic built fabric of the single-storey ruins of a 15th/16th century fortified house. The existing Bremore Castle is a reconstruction that is an idealised and embellished version of a fortified house that at ground floor contains the consolidated and repaired historic ruins.

Limited information is contained on the plan drawing and in the Project Overview Report on the detail of the proposal. No elevations or visualisations are provided, nor are details included of the materials, colour palette and design of structures, surfaces or street furniture within the carpark i.e. covered bike parking structures, public lighting, planters/rain garden, permeable surface. More detail/information is required in order to properly assess the proposal and the potential impact of this on the setting of the Protected Structure.

Signed: _____

Helena Bergin

Position: **Senior Executive Architectural Conservation Officer**

Date: **13/09/2023**

Archaeological Report

Register Reference: PARTXI/004/23

Proposed Development: Proposed development of a public car park at Bremore Castle

Location: Bremore Castle, Drogheda Street, Balbriggan

Report Type: Part XI (Dev by LAs)

Planning Officer: Helen Conlon

Lodged: 06/09/2023

The carpark site has previously been developed. The submitted proposals have no perceivable archaeological impact. There are no objections to the proposed development on archaeological grounds.

Signed: _____

Christine Baker

Position: **Heritage Officer**

Date: **26/09/2023**

Date: 25th September 2023

Transport Section Report

Register Ref:	PARTXI/004/23-IC stage
Area:	Balbriggan
Development:	Proposed development of a public car park at Bremore Castle
Location:	Balbriggan
Applicant :	Mark Finnegan, Parks dept
Application Type :	Part XI (Dev by LAs)
Planning Officer :	Helen Conlon
Date Received:	INTERNAL CONSULTATION STAGE

General

The proposed development is located in a 50km/hr speed limit. The proposed development is located off Drogheda street (R132 regional road), north of Balbriggan town centre.
The proposal development includes for the upgrading of the existing car park at Bremore Castle.
The existing carpark is used by visitors to the surrounding area, including a market and also as in informal drop off for the adjoining school.

Connectivity and Permeability

There is a good network of footpaths provided through the carpark providing for segregation of pedestrians and vehicular traffic. However it is unclear in some areas if the footpaths are at grade, or grade segregated, further clarity in this regard would be welcomed. Anti slip surfacing is proposed on the footpaths,

further justification and clarity on the rational for deploying anti slip surfacing on the footpaths is required.
There is a ramped pedestrian crossing proposed inside the entrance gates, it would be preferable if this crossing was set back further from the pillared access to allow for adequate pedestrian /vehicular inter-visibility.
Bicycle parking would be provided at 2 locations within the carpark, further detail on access for cyclists to the bicycle parking area is required. The width of footpaths, carparking spaces, and carpark circulation lanes should be dimensioned on the site layout plans.
Existing direct pedestrian entrances are available, however they would be considered not wide enough for cyclists. Direct access of adequate width for cyclists off the Harry Reynold Road and Dublin road schemes would be preferable.

Access

Further discussion is required on the proposed vehicular access to the north of the carpark, connecting to an existing lane. The lane would appear to be currently a pedestrian route only. Sightlines and pedestrian/vehicular intervisibility would need to be assessed for the proposed access.
Decreased radii on the main access off Drogheda Street should be considered together with a raised ramped pedestrian crossing if feasible. Auto track analysis may be required, subject to the type of vehicles that would use the carpark.

Parking

The proposed development includes for the upgrading of the existing car park to provide for enhanced facilities for all users including vulnerable road users, including new footpaths and bicycle parking. This is welcomed by the Transport planning section.
Age friendly parking and Motorbike parking should be accommodated within the proposed development, further detail in this regard is required.

Publicly Accessible Bicycle Parking

High quality short-stay bicycle parking shall be provided within the public realm of our urban areas. Bicycle parking facilities needs to accommodate the increasing diversity of bicycles, such as tricycles, cargo bikes and adapted bikes should also be provided.

Covered bicycle parking for 40 bicycles to include charging points for electric bicycles, sheltered spaces and infrastructure for shared bike schemes, cargo bikes and adapted bikes would be provided as part of the development. It is not clear in the proposals where the cargo bike parking and electric bike parking is to be provided , details on the covered bike parking would also be required

- As part of the cycle parking quantum further detail on the provision for cargo bike parking spaces , electric bike parking and covered bike parking should be provided.

Construction Traffic

The additional traffic generated during construction would not be expected to have any long term or significant impact on the road network. and construction traffic should be managed to minimise the impact during peak hours and nearby schools. Construction traffic would be required to be coordinated with any other construction projects in the vicinity of the site.

Construction Management Plan

An outline construction management plan has been included in the CEMP. A final Construction management Plan should be submitted to the Planning Authority by the main contractor once a contractor has been awarded the contract. All details regarding safety issues including the appropriate signage and traffic management plans (as required) shall form part of the plan including site compounds, hoarding and access arrangements.

Current users of the carpark shall be considered in the final construction management plan. There is an arrangement in place for Pedestrian access to school from the carpark, to use the car park for school drop off in place. This would need to be considered in the CTMP.

Taken in Charge

All works should meet the Councils standards for taking in charge.

The roads, including footpaths, verges, public lighting, open space, sewers, watermains or drains, forming part of the development, shall be constructed and maintained to the Councils standard for taking in charge

Endorsed:

Signed: Linda Lally _____

Date: 25/09/2023

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL INTERNAL CONSULTEE
PLANNING REPORT
Report of the Transportation Planning Section

Register Reference:	PARTXI/004/23
Registration Date:	
Development:	Proposed development of a public car park at Bremore Castle
Location:	Bremore Castle, Drogheda Street, Balbriggan
Applicant:	Parks dept
Application Type:	Part IX (Dev by State Auth)

General

The proposed development is located in a 50km/hr speed limit. The proposed development is located off Drogheda street (R132 regional road), north of Balbriggan town centre.
The proposal development includes for the upgrading of the existing car park at Bremore Castle.
The existing carpark is used by visitors to the surrounding area, including a market and also as in informal drop off for the adjoining school.

Connectivity and Permeability
There is a good network of footpaths provided through the carpark providing for segregation of pedestrians and vehicular traffic. Bicycle parking would be provided at 2 locations within the carpark with good access provided for cyclists in close proximity to the bicycle parking areas.

Access
A raised pedestrian crossing is proposed either side of the existing vehicular access. This ensures pedestrian priority and aids good pedestrian/vehicular intervisibility.

Parking
The proposed development includes for the upgrading of the existing car park to provide for enhanced facilities for all users including vulnerable road users, including new footpaths and bicycle parking. This is welcomed by the Transportation Planning Section.

Nine of the proposed 125 car parking spaces are proposed to accessible parking spaces, equating to 7%. This is in accordance with Section 14.17.8 Accessible Car Parking which requires a min. 5%. The proposed accessible parking spaces however are not in accordance with Technical Guidance Document M 2022 Access and Use. The perpendicular accessible parking spaces shall be amended as per Diagram 8 Access Around Designated

On-Site Perpendicular Parking Bay and the parallel parking spaces as per Diagram 9 Example of a Designated On-Site Parallel Parking Bay of TGD M. Insufficient details of the proposed dropped kerb detail for the accessible parking users has been provided.

Age friendly parking should be accommodated within the proposed development, further detail in this regard is required.

The submitted layout shows motor bike parking with 5 no. motorbikes shown. There is insufficient space for the motorbikes to park as shown. Section 14.17.9 Motorcycle Parking of the Fingal Development Plan requires one motorcycle parking bay per 10 car parking spaces provided. The proposal shall be amended to provide a min. 13 motorcycle parking bays.

The application proposes 25 of the proposed 125 car parking spaces are EV charging spaces with the remainder of spaces to be provided with ducting for potential future upgrade. This is in excess of the requirements of Section 14.17.10 Electric Vehicle Parking of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029.

The central footpath dividing the central perpendicular parking appears too narrow given that this shall accommodate opposing EV charging pedestals on both sides of the path. Consideration should be given to a wider footpath.

Publicly Accessible Bicycle Parking
High quality short-stay bicycle parking shall be provided within the public realm of our urban areas. Bicycle parking facilities needs to accommodate the increasing diversity of bicycles, such as tricycles, cargo bikes and adapted bikes should also be provided.

Covered bicycle parking for 32 bicycles and uncovered bike parking for 32 bicylces is proposed. It is not clear in the proposals where the cargo bike parking and electric bike parking is to be provided, further details on the covered bike parking would also be required with this information. A min. of 5% of bike parking spaces should be allocated to accessible/cargo bike parking in accordance with section 6.3 Universal Access of the Cycle Design Manual.

As part of the cycle parking quantum further detail on the provision for cargo bike parking spaces, electric bike parking and covered bike parking should be provided.

Construction Traffic
The additional traffic generated during construction would not be expected to have any long term or significant impact on the road network and construction traffic should be managed to minimise the impact during peak hours and nearby schools. Construction traffic would be required to be coordinated with any other construction projects in the vicinity of the site.

Construction Management Plan
A final Construction Management Plan should be submitted to the Planning Authority by the main contractor once a contractor has been awarded the contract. All details regarding safety issues including the appropriate signage and traffic management plans (as required) shall form part of the plan including site compounds, hoarding and access arrangements.
Current users of the carpark shall be considered in the final construction management plan. There is an arrangement in place for Pedestrian access to school from the carpark, to use the car park for school drop off in place. This would need to be considered in the CTMP.

Taken in Charge
All works should meet the Councils standards for taking in charge.
The roads, including footpaths, verges, public lighting, open space, sewers, watermains or drains, forming part of the development, shall be constructed and maintained to the Councils standard for taking in charge.

Conclusion
The Transportation Planning Section has no objection to the proposed development subject to the following conditions:

1) The perpendicular accessible parking spaces shall be amended as per Diagram 8 Access Around Designated On-Site Perpendicular Parking Bay of Technical Guidance Document M 2022 Access and Use. The parallel accessible parking spaces shall be amended as per Diagram 9 Example of a Designated On-Site Parallel Parking Bay of Technical Guidance Document M 2022 Access and Use. Insufficient details of the proposed dropped kerb detail for the accessible parking users have been provided. An amended proposal for accessible shall be submitted to the Planning Authority for written agreement prior to commencement of construction.
2) Age friendly parking should be accommodated within the proposed development. An amended proposal for accessible shall be submitted to the Planning Authority for written agreement prior to commencement of construction.
3) The proposal shall be amended to provide motorcycle parking bays in accordance with Section 14.17.9 Motorcycle Parking of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029. An amended proposal for motorcycle shall be submitted to the Planning Authority for written agreement prior to commencement of construction.
4) The central footpath dividing the central perpendicular parking appears too narrow given that this shall accommodate opposing EV charging pedestals on both sides of the path. An amended proposal to provide for a wider footpath shall be submitted to the Planning Authority for written agreement prior to commencement of construction.
5) A detailed proposal for cycle parking including proposals for cargo bike parking spaces, electric bike parking and covered bike parking shall be submitted to the Planning Authority for written agreement prior to commencement of construction.
6) A final Construction Management Plan should be submitted to the Planning Authority by the main contractor once a contractor has been awarded the contract. All details regarding safety issues including the appropriate signage and traffic management plans (as required) shall form part of the plan including site compounds, hoarding and

access arrangements. Current users of the carpark shall be considered in the final construction management plan. There is an arrangement in place for Pedestrian access to school from the carpark, to use the car park for school drop off in place. This would need to be considered in the CTMP.
7) No objects, structures or landscaping shall be placed or installed within the visibility triangle exceeding a height of 900mm; which would interfere or obstruct (or could obstruct over time) the required visibility envelopes.
8) No gate shall open across a public footpath/roadway.
9) All works should meet the Councils standards for taking in charge.
10) The roads, including footpaths, verges, public lighting, open space, sewers, watermains or drains, forming part of the development, shall be constructed and maintained to the Councils standard for taking in charge.
11) All the above works shall be carried out at the Developer's expense according to the Specification and Conditions of Fingal County Council.

Signed: James Johnson Endorsed:
Date: 29th January 2024
Date:

Water Services Department Report

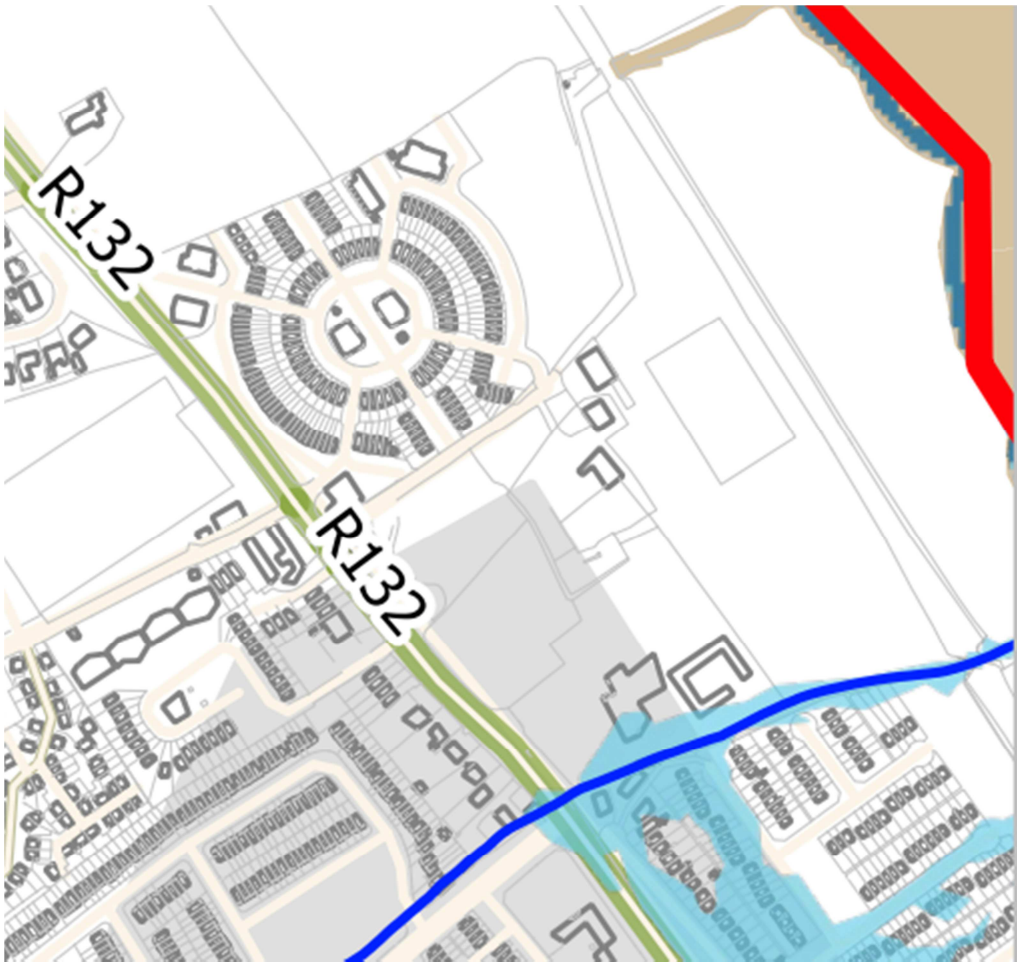
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL INTERNAL CONSULTEE PLANNING REPORT Report of the Water Services Department

Register Reference: PARTXI/004/23
Registration Date:
Development: Proposed development of a public car park at Bremore Castle
Location: Bremore Castle, Drogheda Street, Balbriggan
Applicant: Parks dept
Application Type: Part IX (Dev byState Auth)

Report

Flood risk: No objection

The development site is not located within a known area at risk of flooding:



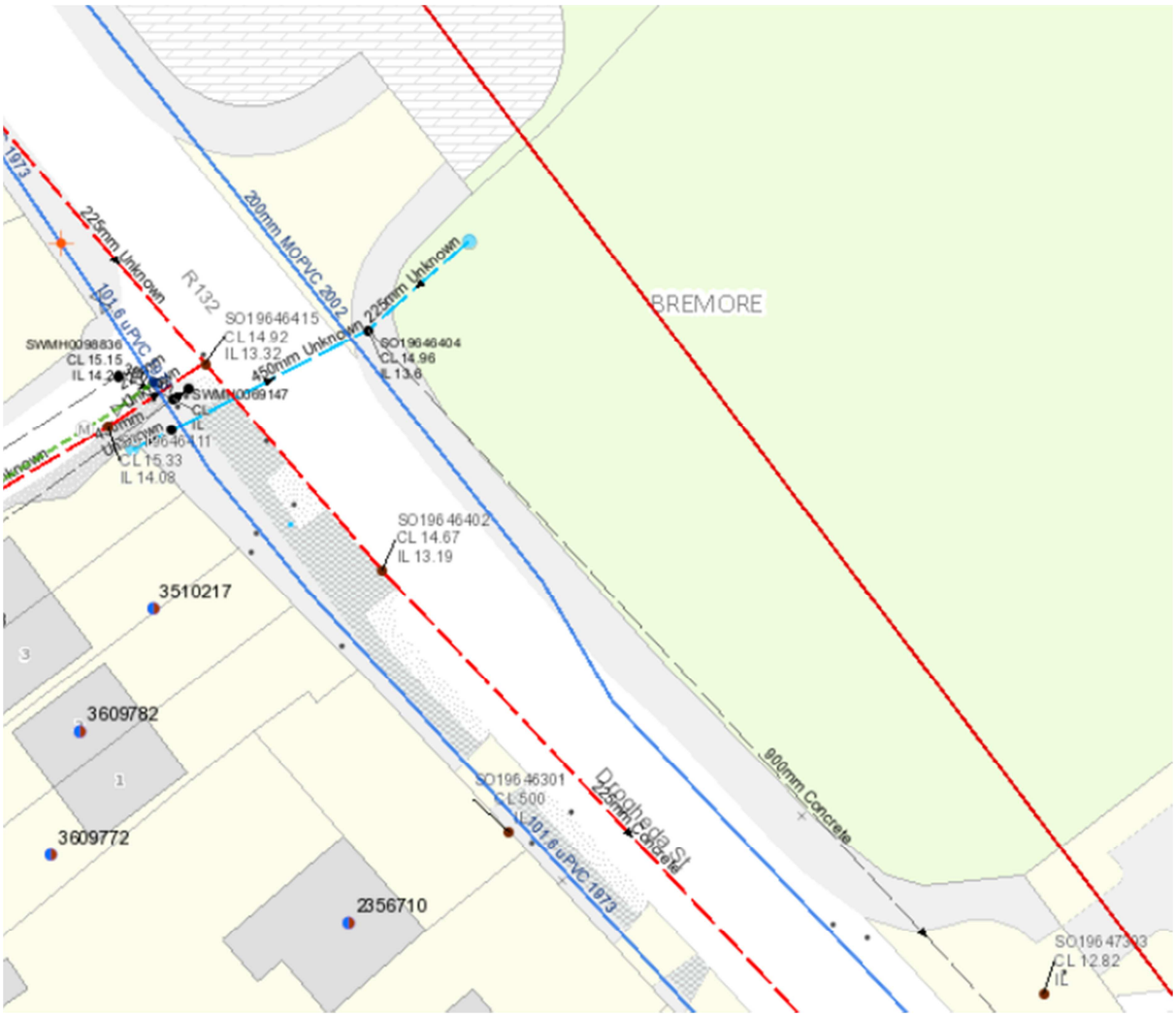
A commensurate flood risk assessment has been prepared by McCloy's Consulting Engineers, confirming that the site is wholly located within zone C.

Foul drainage: No objection

No foul water is generated by the proposed development. As such no foul connection to the IW network is required.

Surface water drainage: No objection subject to:

1. Records indicate what appears to be a 900mm diameter surface water outfall sewer located below / in close proximity to the boundary wall on Dublin/Drogheda Road. The pipe is shallow at c.1.4m deep to invert and runs southwards from the parking area entrance towards the Matt river south of the school.



Construction over this sewer is permissible subject to detailed design and possibly engineered mitigation measures. A 225mm diameter spur is also present on the site, this appears to be a service connection, and of lesser importance, although a thorough investigation should be conducted to ascertain whether there are any connections into the manhole/spur.

2. All surfaces proposed are stated to be permeable and designed such to exfiltrate to ground. As such no surface water connections are required. Full design details should be submitted to demonstrate that this indeed feasible.

Water supply: No objection

No water connection is required.

Engineer: PG Endorsed: DD

Date:	4.9.23	Date:	11/09/2023

Appendix 2 – List of Submissions & Observations

URN	Author	Type

FIN-C646-1	Withdrawn author	
FIN-C646-2	Collette Murphy	Individual
FIN-C646-3	Cathal Melinn	Individual
FIN-C646-4	Alison Stewart	Individual
FIN-C646-5	Jennifer Mahon	Individual
FIN-C646-6	Tony Murphy	Staff member
FIN-C646-7	Cllr Grainne Maguire	Staff member

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 21

DONABATE FRAMEWORK PLAN

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT ON SUBMISSIONS AND OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT DONABATE FRAMEWORK PLAN

11th March 2024

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1. Introduction

1.1 Chief Executive's Report on Draft Donabate Framework Plan Consultation

This Chief Executive's Report has been prepared by the Chief Executive to provide a summary of the submissions received in relation to the Draft Donabate Framework Plan, to respond to the observations raised in the submissions, and to make recommendations on the policies and objectives to be included within the finalised Framework Plan, taking account of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

1.2 Draft Donabate Framework Plan Consultation

The Draft Donabate Framework Plan went on public display from Wednesday 24th January 2024 to Wednesday 21st February 2024 (inclusive of both dates) at the Fingal County Council Offices at County Hall, Main Street, Swords, County Dublin, at Donabate/Portrane Public Library, Community & Leisure Centre, Donabate, Ballalease North, Donabate, County Dublin, and on the County Council's online portal: https://consult.fingal.ie/en/browse.

A total of **65** no. submissions were received in relation to the Draft Donabate Framework Plan during the public display period, including submissions from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications, and numerous submissions from members of the public.

1.3 Structure of this Chief Executive's Report

This Chief Executive's Report is structured as follows:

- **Section 1:** Introduction (this section);
- **Section 2:** A summary of the submissions received by issue raised, the Chief Executive's response, and, where required, proposed recommendations to the elected members for amendments to the Draft Donabate Framework Plan;
- **Section 3:** A summary list of the recommendations to the elected members for amendments to the Draft Donabate Framework Plan (ordered in accordance with the structure of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document).
- **Section 4:** A list of amendments in response to motions at an Area Committee Meeting held on 7th March 2024.
- **Section 5:** A list of the individuals and organisations who made submissions on the Draft Donabate Framework Plan within the public consultation period.

With regard to recommended changes to the text of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan set out in Sections 4 and 5, new text is denoted in green italics e.g. ***new text***, with deleted text denoted by red strikethrough e.g. ~~**deleted text.**~~

Editorial changes and updating of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan will be carried out and minor typographical or graphical errors or discrepancies will be rectified. In addition, all maps will be updated where relevant to reflect any proposed changes if agreed.

1.4 SEA and AA Screening

Finally, it should be noted that all changes as recommended have been subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening and **Appendix A** to this report includes a table detailing the screening of the Chief Executive's recommendations to the Elected Members as well as the recommendations arising from Motions made to the ACM for Appropriate Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment.

2. Summary of Issues raised in Submissions / Observations

2.1 Introduction

A total of **65** no. submissions were received during the public display of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan between 24th January 2024 and 21st February 2024 (inclusive of both dates).

All submissions have been given careful and serious consideration and Fingal County Council wish to thank all those who engaged in the public consultation process. A list of all parties who made a submission is included in Part 4 of this report.

This section of the report will provide a summary of the issues raised by the submissions received on the Draft Donabate Framework Plan during the consultation period.

After addressing the issues raised in submissions received from public bodies, the report will discuss the primary issues raised by members of the public, community organisations and elected members.

Where possible, the issues will be addressed having regard to the most relevant chapter or section of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document.

Issues which specifically relate to locations or matters which are outside the boundary or stated scope of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan will be addressed towards the end of the section.

For each of the issues raised, the Chief Executive will provide a response and will then make recommendations to change the text of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan where appropriate.

2.2 Issues raised by State Bodies

Of the 65 no. submissions, submissions were received from two public bodies, namely the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications.

The submission received from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (FIN-C653-11), provides detailed guidance in relation to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan.

The submission received from the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications was made on behalf of Geological Survey Ireland, who are a division of the Department (FIN-C653-45), and includes detailed guidance on the available datasets relating to geological and hydrogeological features in the Framework Plan area and in Ireland as a whole. It also references the SEA Screening process.

Chief Executive's Response

The Chief Executive welcomes the submissions from the EPA and the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications which includes detailed guidance in relation to the SEA process and in relation to geological and hydrogeological features.

The Chief Executive can confirm that regard was had to this guidance in the preparation of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan, where relevant. Specifically, it should be noted that the SEA and AA process for the Draft Donabate Framework Plan has been carried out having regard to best practice documents, including the EPA's SEA of Local Authority Land Use Plans – EPA Recommendations and Resources' guidance document.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.3 Issues relating to Strategic Goals and Objectives

Chapters 1, 2 and 5 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan addressed a number of overarching principles which formed the basis for the specific projects and public realm improvements set out in later chapters of the Draft Plan.

While many of the submissions received focus on single issues or projects, others identify additional overarching issues which they feel need to be addressed in more detail (such as public transport and pedestrian / cycling infrastructure and permeability). There were also submissions which raise issues (such as facilities for young people and teenagers) which, in their opinion, have not been addressed at all.

2.3.1 Public Transport

With regard to the strategic issue of public transport, submissions received underline the need for improved, sustainable, public transport options to support businesses in the town. Other submissions note pressures on the existing public transport system, the need for additional Government funding, and the need for Donabate to have DART services.

Chief Executive's Response

The importance of high quality, well-funded public transport for the successful development of Donabate is recognised. While the provision of these services are not in the remit Local Authorities in Ireland, the Council will provide whatever support it can to the public bodies including Iarnród Éireann, Transport Infrastructure Ireland and Córas Iompair Éireann / Dublin Bus in providing this infrastructure.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.3.2 Pedestrian / Cycling Infrastructure and Permeability

In summary, the submissions received call for the provision of more pedestrian and cyclist links and infrastructure in the town, enhanced permeability between housing estates and the town centre, and for the Council to engage landowners in the town to facilitate a joined-up permeability strategy.

It is suggested throughout the submissions received that improvements to existing footpaths and the provision of new footpaths and/or cycling infrastructure needs to be prioritised to support sustainable access to the Draft Framework Plan's 'Key Projects',

the recommendations of the Draft Framework Plan's road safety audit, and to reduce overall traffic congestion in the town.

In a number of submissions, requests are made for audits of existing footpath / cycling / road infrastructure, and it is put forward that inadequate pedestrian infrastructure identified by the Draft Framework Plan's road safety audit needs to be remedied as soon as possible.

Submissions also called for an accessibility audit to be undertaken as part of the preparation of the Draft Framework Plan and reference is made to the NTA's "Permeability Best Practise Guide" and the Council's own polices on permeability.

Chief Executive's Response

The need to provide for improvements to pedestrian and cycling infrastructure is a central strategic aim of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan. This aim is expressed in the projects and public realm improvements set out in Chapters 6 to 9 of the Draft Framework Plan. The Draft Plan recognises the importance of creating a safe environment for pedestrians and cyclists in the town, as addressed in Appendix C – Road Safety Audit. Furthermore, it is noted that permeability is a key principle, with the Draft Plan identifying potential new pedestrian routes within the boundary of the Draft Plan which, if established, would greatly increase accessibility in the town.

While the scope and nature of the Draft Framework Plan, which was finalised prior to the adoption of the current Development Plan (as set out briefly in Chapter 1 of the document), does not provide for the level of detailed surveying which a footpath or accessibility audit of the town would require, it is recognised that additional, detailed, transportation appraisal work will be required to progress a number of the projects set out in the Draft Plan. As a result, it is considered appropriate that any transport appraisals for these projects should also include an examination of the issues of roadway and footpath quality as well as accessibility.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

It is recommended that the text "Undertake a Transport Appraisal" in Table 10.6 Schedule of Actions be amended to read as per the recommendation arising from the Chief Executive's consideration of Special Area Committee Meeting motions from 7th March 2024 (Items 23-26). The full wording of the amended text is provided in Section 4 of the report under ACM Recommendation (8) – Items 23, 24, 25, 26: Transport Appraisals. In the interests of clarity, this means that Chief Executive's Recommendation (11) is identical to ACM Recommendation (8).

2.3.3 Pedestrian Crossings and Priority, Speed Limits, Accessibility Audit

Multiple submissions received put forward requests for additional, dedicated, pedestrian crossings, such as zebra crossings, and/or pedestrian priority at various locations in the town including for, *inter alia*; on Main Street, at 'Key Project 3' 'The Hand Pocket Park', at junction of Chapel View and Main Street, at Ballisk Court, Beaverstown

Road, Turvey Avenue and Portrane Road. In general, the submissions received suggest additional crossings would enhance pedestrian safety in the town.

It is suggested by one observer that the use of different street materials as proposed in the Draft Plan, while helpful, does not give full priority to pedestrians, while another observer puts forward that several existing "informal courtesy crossings" in the town should be formalised.

One submission received raises a general concern about speed limits in the town and suggests additional measures, such as tabletops on roads and traffic cameras, should be implemented to discourage speeding in the town centre. The submission also suggests speed limits on Main Street and Portrane Road should be set to 30 km/h. A second submission suggests a special speed limit of 30 km/h for all vehicular areas covered in the Framework Plan area. Several submissions also request a review of existing speed limits on Turvey Avenue due to the narrow nature of the road carriageway.

Chief Executive's Response

The Road Traffic Act 2004 (as amended) (the 'Act') sets default speed limits for different classes or categories of public roads. Under section 9 of the Act, Local Authorities have the power to make byelaws for special speed limits on public roads within their administrative area, in accordance with the range of special speed limits set out in section 9 of the Act.

A county wide review of speed limits in Fingal was undertaken in 2020 and existing speed limits are governed by the Fingal County Council Special Speed Limit Byelaws 2021, which were prepared in accordance with the 2015 *'Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland'*. Periodic review of existing speed limits is undertaken by the Council. In addition, a speed limit appeals procedure was introduced in December 2021 to facilitate legitimate queries by a member of the public or an interested party regarding a particular special speed limit.

It should be noted that Schedule of Action in Section 10.6 of the Draft Framework Plan includes the carrying out of a Transport Assessment in relation to a number of the projects identified in the Draft Framework Plan. In order to provide clarity on the matter, it is recommended that these objectives be amended to add a requirement to reexamine speed limits having regard to the overall aims of the Draft Framework Plan. Please note that this recommended text change was also included in the response to the section 2.3.2 above.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

It is recommended that the text "Undertake a Transport Appraisal" in Table 10.6 Schedule of Actions be amended to read as per the recommendation arising from the Chief Executive's consideration of Special Area Committee Meeting motions from 7th March 2024 (Items 23-26). The full wording of the amended text is provided in Section 4 of the report under ACM Recommendation (8) – Items 23, 24, 25, 26: Transport

Appraisals. In the interests of clarity, this means that Chief Executive's Recommendation (11) is identical to ACM Recommendation (8).

2.3.4 Spaces for Young People

A large number of submissions received raise concerns over the perceived lack of youth services and spaces available for young people (teenagers) in Donabate. It is put forward by several observers that the Draft Framework Plan is a missed opportunity to provide age-appropriate facilities and focuses too much on outdoor meeting spaces and seating.

Several submissions suggest a cultural and youth centre facility, or similar, could be built on the 'Tilbury' site at New Road, while other submissions suggest a similar facility could be provided at the existing Donabate Portrane Community Centre site, the old Educate Together site, or at the train station car park.

While some observers express the need for more covered outdoor areas for teenagers, the lack of identification or provision of an indoor space for young people or a youth centre facility in the Draft Plan is raised by multiple observers.

Concerns are also raised that the Draft Plan does not include for any non-sporting activity areas for teenagers or children, and it is put forward that while sporting facilities are needed in the town this should not be at the expense of non-sporting infrastructure.

In general, it is put forward in the submissions received that the Draft Plan needs to provide appropriate recreational and/or 'hangout' space for teenagers in line with, *inter alia,* the Council's '*Keeping it Green, An Open Space Strategy for Fingal*' and '*The Space for Play – A Play Policy for Fingal*' documents. It is also submitted that a civic / arts / cultural / youth centre should be provided in Donabate.

Chief Executive's Response

The Chief Executive recognises importance of providing suitable facilities for younger people. Fingal County Council "Space for Play – A Play Policy for Fingal" outlines how the Council intends to improve the provision of play facilities, activities and other initiatives for children across Ireland's youngest the county. Specifically, the Play Policy advocates for the provision of age appropriate play spaces stating that:

"It is essential that we provide a range of spaces for children that cater for their changing needs and desires as they develop through childhood. Many of the same activities, such as climbing, balancing and manipulating the environment through play with sand and/or water, are enjoyed throughout childhood and successful play spaces are designed at scales suited to their intended users. However, as children progress into adolescence, they require spaces in which they can simply hang out. Through engagement with this age group at the design stage, we can develop hang out zones in which older children feel welcomed and safe."

Having regard to the above, it is considered appropriate to provide for an Age Appropriate Spaces as part of the Educate Together Recreational Hub Project discussed in Section 6.4 of the Draft Framework Plan document. It is also considered appropriate

to include additional text in Section 5.3.1 Designing Places for People to reflect the overall importance of addressing the recreational needs of people of all ages.

With regard to the other issues raised, it should be noted that all of the key project provide either multigenerational activity areas or landscaped areas which will can be used by people of all ages. With regard to the provision of indoor spaces, it should be noted that the relocation of the existing library from the existing Community Centre to a new library at Ballisk House on the Portrane Road will provide for additional indoor space for people of all ages in the town.

Comments on the 'Tilbury' site at New Road are noted. However, this site falls outside the boundaries of the Framework Plan as agreed following consultation with the Donabate-Portrane Liaison Committee (the members of which included for local volunteers, elected representatives, and members of business, professional and community groups).

As a result, it is recommended that additional text be added to the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document as set out below.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

It is recommended that additional text be added to Section 5.3.1 Designing Places for People on page 17 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document:

5.3.1 Designing Places for People

The strategy proposes uses and designs for key spaces in Donabate that are oriented to the varied needs of the people of the town.

The strategy aims to create a pedestrian priority town centre, and to define places where people ***of all ages*** can meet, and places to enhance their experience of the town.

Existing spaces are redefined, and new spaces are suggested. It is intended that the spaces can play host to a wide range of one-off and regular events, including incidental play spaces for children***, age appropriate spaces for teenagers to enjoy***, places for farmers' markets, garden festivals, cultural festivals, parades and other community gatherings and places that are accessible and inclusive.

It is also recommended that additional text be added to Section 6.4 Educate Together Recreational Hub on page 24 of the Draft Donabate Framework document:

Key Project 4 – Educate Together Site
Create a***n inclusive*** multi-functional recreational space to provide for a meeting point, sheltered space / pavilion for performance, ~~**playing pitches**~~ ***a multi-sport playing surface***, playground, seating.
Ensure the provision of a broad range of age-appropriate play opportunities for older children and teenagers.
Allow for paths to cross the park to match desire lines, and connections from Beaverstown Road, Portrane Road.
Remove existing roundabout and car parking and provide a link road to create pedestrian priority and a continuous pedestrian route to the community centre
Make use of sustainable urban drainage solutions including appropriate planting to address potential surface water issues

2.4 Issues relating to the 'Donabate In Context' Chapter

One submission received suggests the Draft Framework Plan's character area boundaries should be amended. The submission puts forward the northern and eastern parts of Character Area 2 (adjacent to Newbridge Demesne) should be included as part of Character Area 1 (adjacent to the train station). It is also put forward that Character Area 4 (north of Main Street) should be divided into two separate character areas, with the western part forming Character Area 5 (Ballisk).

Chief Executive's Response

The detailed information provided in the submission in question is welcome. The character analysis carried out on Donabate by the project's design team demonstrated the complexity of the town's character. This complexity allows for different interpretations of which parts of the town may be viewed as distinct character areas. Appendix B to the Draft Donabate Framework Plan clearly sets out the rationale for selecting the each of the four-character areas and it is not considered necessary to amend this analysis.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.5 Issues relating to 'Public Consultation'

A number of submissions received suggest key concerns and other issues raised by the community at the public consultations have not been addressed in the Draft Framework Plan with one observer suggesting the Draft Plan does not give adequate recognition that residents are also stakeholders.

Another submission states that in order for the Framework Plan to be a success, responsibility needs to be given to key stakeholders in the town and continuous collaboration/updates are needed. The need for updates at future community events is re-iterated in another submission, which also suggests the public consultations would be improved through use of additional interactive visual aids.

Two observers question if teenagers were consulted in the public consultations, while there are also calls in the submissions for proper consultation and more targeted consultations towards groups such as teenagers.

Chief Executive's Response

Chapter 4 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan sets out in detail, the extensive consultation process which was undertaken in advance of, during and after the preparation of the Draft Plan. This process included workshops, consultation with a local primary school, webinars, as well as opportunities to submit observations at two different stages. As a result, it is considered that the consultation process provided an opportunity for all members of the community to have their say into the making of the Plan.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.6 Issues relating to 'Key Projects'

Submissions were received in relation to each of the key projects outlined in Chapter 6 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan. The following section addresses the key issues raised in relation to each project, starting with 'Key Project 1 – Donabate Village Green'.

2.6.1 Key Project 1 – Donabate Village Green

The Draft Framework Plan's proposals for 'Key Project 1 – Donabate Village Green' generally received positive feedback; however, several submissions raise specific concerns.

One submission welcomes the proposals for the green space, noting they support the policies of the Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan 2022-2030; however, it is put forward that further detailed consultation is needed with residents in the immediate vicinity to strike a balance between enhanced community amenity and the protection of existing residential amenity. On the theme of existing residential amenity, another observer suggests the proposals include for an excessive amount of seating which will lead to anti-social behaviour in the area and cause nuisance to residents by way of noise, litter etc.

Other suggested amendments to the proposals for 'Key Project 1' include for, *inter alia*, the retention of existing mature trees, a partial canopy area over event space, and the repositioning of seating to encourage more social interaction. It is also put forward in one submission that the proposal for an interactive water feature needs a commitment to its maintenance in order for it to be a success.

In multiple submissions it is suggested the Draft Plan does not appropriately address existing parking issues at adjacent food outlets to the south-west of the green space. It is stated that unauthorised parking across footpaths at these adjacent outlets is a regular occurrence and it is put forward that amendments are needed to the existing parking layout to the front of these outlets due to the ongoing risks posed to both pedestrians and motorists as vehicles reverse out onto the road. One submission suggests this existing parking be relocated in a parallel format along the proposed green space, while two further submissions make specific requests for additional pedestrian crossings in the vicinity of the proposed green space.

Chief Executive's Response

The Council welcomes the submissions received in relation to the design and implementation of this important project.

It should be noted that although the Draft Donabate Framework Plan provides the basis for a design brief for each of the identified projects, each project will need to be further developed and will require detailed design expertise as well as stakeholder consultation on a project-by-project basis prior to implementation.

As a result, it would not be appropriate for the Framework Plan to provide detailed design solutions for site specific issues including car parking, or the arrangement of seating. However, the Framework Plan can address high level design principles which can feed into project briefs such as the requirement to retain existing mature trees. It is therefore recommended to include additional wording to this effect in Section 6.1 of the Draft Framework Plan document.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

It is recommended that Section 6.1 Donabate Village Green, on page 20 of the Draft Plan, additional text be added to the Key Project 1 table as follows:

Key Project 1 – Donabate Village Green
Redefine the edges of the green space with new planting / hedging and trees where appropriate ***while retaining the existing mature trees at the park where possible.***
Provide for a wild meadow area to provide for increased biodiversity in accordance with the principles of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.
Provide for a small event space with seating to the front of the park facing onto Main Street.
Incorporate new signage / artwork to signal Donabate and potential signage/ interpretation of the town.
Consider the creation of a raised table crossing Main Street to knit the space with the surrounding area.
Consider incorporating utilities to accommodate a market or events.
Consider an interactive water feature ***if appropriate*** as well as new paths, places to sit and play within the space.

2.6.2 Key Project 2 – St. Patrick's Square

A number of submissions were received in relation to 'Key Project 2 – 'St. Patrick's Square', which again generally received positive feedback. It is noted that a submission was received on behalf of the Parish Priest at St. Patrick's Church, which welcomes the overall publication of the Draft Framework Plan and its proposals but emphasises church services must not be impacted by any proposal and that any future event to be held on Diocese property would require the consent of the property owner.

It is suggested in the submission that further consultation be held between the Council and the parish priest to ensure safety and security of both the church grounds and church services, and to discuss further details of the planned works at this location. The observations of the parish priest are re-iterated in several other submissions and the need for collaboration by all parties emphasised.

The proposals for the church area are welcomed as a focal point for the town in numerous submissions; however, several observers raise concerns about the need to ensure future public access / retention of the green space in the north-west. It is also considered by two observers that the potential for future expansion to the back of the church, should larger parish facilities be required, should not be impacted. Another submission notes the planned improvements the church car park; however, the observer suggests further consideration be given to car parking reduction and re-use of this space as a town square.

While many submissions suggest a plaza at this location is very welcome, several suggested amendments are put forward in the submissions received, including for, *inter alia*, additional screening, such as hedges, between the church grounds and the adjacent apartment block to the north and between the proposed north-western green space and car parking to the east of same, removal or re-siting of screening / trees along the Main Street to maintain views of the church, seating in the northern-western green space, a simpler planting proposal, inclusion of the church's grotto into the green space proposals, and the introduction of bollards at the front of the church to prohibit cars parking on the footpath.

Chief Executive's Response

The Council welcomes the submissions received in relation to the design and implementation of this project which, if implemented, could have a transformative, positive impact on the centre of the town.

It should be noted that although the Draft Donabate Framework Plan provides the basis for a design brief for each of the identified projects, that each project will need to be further developed and will require detailed design expertise as well as stakeholder consultation on a project-by-project basis prior to implementation.

It should also be noted however, that each project has benefitted from the expertise of the project design team which has considerable expertise in the design of public realm projects across Ireland.

While it would not be appropriate for the Framework Plan to provide detailed design solutions for site specific issues, the Framework Plan can address high level design principles which can feed into project briefs, and which can provide certainty to landowners and relevant stakeholders.

It is recognised that in instances where the Council does not own the lands required for the implementation of a project, that considerable additional consultation and agreement will be required with the relevant landowner prior to the commencement of any works.

Having regard to the concerns raised in the submission on behalf of the Parish Priest of St. Patrick's Church it is acknowledged that the current function of St. Patrick's Church as a busy parish church must be maintained and protected. The requirement to protect and provide for these functions will form a key consideration for any potential design proposals for this space.

It is therefore considered appropriate to include additional wording to address these concerns in Section 6.2 of the Draft Framework Plan document. Details of this recommended additional text are provided below.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

It is recommended that additional text is included after the second paragraph in Section 6.2 St. Patrick's Square on page 21 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document.

The requirement to protect and provide for the functioning of St. Patrick's Church as an active parish church will form a key consideration for any potential design proposals for this space. In the interests of clarity, any and all works or uses to be carried out on the grounds of St. Patrick's Church shall be subject to agreement with St. Patrick's Parish to ensure the safety and security of both the church grounds and church services.

2.6.3 Key Project 3 – The Hand Pocket Park

A number of submissions were received in relation to 'Key Project 3 – 'The Hand Pocket Park'. Two submissions welcome the Draft Framework Plan's proposals for this location but question if talks have been held with Irish Water over the proposals and the feasibility of implementing the proposals.

While several submissions welcome enlargement of the park / the proposals in general, the junction is noted in the submissions as being of critical importance to the town but having limited pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure. One submission emphasises the need for upgrades to the junction to be provided in compliance with DMURS standards, while another submission suggests a need for prioritised pedestrian crossings as part of the proposals.

It is also suggested in one submission that Figures 6.10 and 8.10 of the Draft Plan do not accurately reflect current planning applications and that the potential to provide a 2-metre-wide footpath inside the old stone wall (at the junction of Ballisk Lane and

Beavertown Road) should be investigated to enhance pedestrian safety. The need to retain the existing stone wall and provide a footpath to the rear of the wall is also highlighted by another observer.

One detailed submission suggests that the proposed pocket park would be an ideal location for the erection of a monument honouring the connection between Donabate and the 1916 Rising. The observer acknowledges further detailed design, consultation and planning consent would be needed for such a monument but considers the proposal would greatly contribute to the cultural and historic enrichment of Donabate. This proposal is supported by one other observer.

Chief Executive's Response

The Council welcomes the submissions received in relation to the design and implementation of this project. It should be noted that although the Draft Donabate Framework Plan provides the basis for a design brief for each of the identified projects, that each project will need to be further developed and will require detailed design expertise as well as landowner and stakeholder consultation on a project-by-project basis prior to implementation.

It should also be noted however, that each project has benefitted from the expertise of the project design team which has considerable expertise in the design of public realm projects across Ireland.

While it would not be appropriate for the Framework Plan to provide detailed design solutions for site specific issues, the Framework Plan can address high level design principles which can feed into project briefs.

It is recognised that in instances where the Council does not own the lands required for the implementation of a project, that considerable additional consultation and agreement will be required with each relevant landowner (in this case Uisce Éireann) prior to the commencement of any works.

Having regard to the concerns raised in relation to cycling and pedestrian infrastructure and pedestrian crossings in the area, additional information relating to improvements to this infrastructure is provided in Chapter 7 Connecting Spaces, Chapter 8 Streets and Spaces and Chapter 9 Improving Realm of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan.

With regard to the concerns expressed in relation to an active planning application in the vicinity of the Hand, it is not within the scope of a Framework Plan to address specific development management issues which are currently under consideration by Fingal County Council as the Planning Authority.

Finally, in relation to the detailed submission received which proposes a monument to commemorate the connection between Donabate and the 1916 Rising to be erected as part of the improvement works at the Hand, it is considered that the scope exists for the erection of a monument at this location and it is recommended that text to this effect is added to section 6.3 'The Hand Pocket Park'. Following a motion at the Special

Area Committee Meeting on 7th March, it was agreed that the wording of the amendment should match that of the motion. This is reflected in the Chief Executive's recommendation below.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

It is recommended that additional text be added to the table in Section 6.3 on page 23 of the Draft Plan as per the recommendation arising from the Chief Executive's consideration of Special Area Committee Meeting motions from 7th March 2024 (Item 8).

The full wording of the amended text set out below is also provided in Section 4 of the report under ACM Recommendation (4) – Item 10: Monument at the Hand Pocket Park. In the interests of clarity, this means that Chief Executive's Recommendation (5) is identical to ACM Recommendation (4).

Key Project 3 – the Hand Pocket Park
Improve and expand the existing public space at the Hand to allow for greater use by the community
Set back the boundary to the existing Irish Water pump house to create additional space and consider reducing the carriageway width to adjoining roads.
Provide a new boundary treatment with the pumping station to include railing, planting and bench seating.
Provide additional seating within the space that can also provide an incidental space for play and events.
Provide for, within the first 12 months, the erection of a monument at this location to commemorate the role Donabate played in the creation of an Irish State and do this with all relevant stakeholders, including the Fingal Old IRA Commemorative Society and having regard to the requirements for public art set out in the Fingal County Development Plan.
Rationalise or relocate the existing wirescape and lampposts where possible while ensuring the area is well lit at night
Incorporate utilities to accommodate pop up food trucks, or small events.
Consider extending the space to the full width of the adjoining streets, by creating a raised table crossing at Beaverstown Road to Ballisk, Main Street, Portrane Road.

2.6.4 Key Project 4 – Educate Together Recreational Hub

A number of submissions were received in relation to 'Key Project 4 – 'Educate Together Recreational Hub'. A submission of support on behalf of a local sporting organisation welcomes the proposals for multi-use sports pitches at this location and the demand for such facilities.

A second submission supports this position and suggests there is opportunity to provide further space for multi-use games areas (MUGA). Several submissions note a need for confirmation in the finalised Framework Plan that proposed pitches at this location will be for multiple sports and users, and solely hockey use, with one observer emphasising the need for explanatory text.

It is also expressed in one submission that proposed planting locations and pedestrian crossings, as per Figure 6.10 of the Draft Framework Plan, should be carefully considered to ensure appropriate visibility is maintained, particularly for children.

Multiple submissions received suggest this site could be put to better use by providing for an arts/community/cultural/youth or elderly facility or 'right-sized' housing. It is also put forward that this area should be used to provide appropriate space for teenagers.

One submission suggests such uses could be provided on a temporary basis while the "medium-to-long term" project is realised, while another submission requests clarification as to whether a permanent structure at this location can be established having regard to flood risk and if so, requests that a community / cultural facility be built on the site.

Chief Executive's Response

The Council welcomes the submissions received in relation to the design and implementation of this project. It should be noted that although the Draft Donabate Framework Plan provides the basis for a design brief for each of the identified projects, that each project will need to be further developed and will require detailed design expertise as well as landowner and stakeholder consultation on a project-by-project basis prior to implementation.

It should also be noted however, that each project has benefitted from the expertise of the project design team which has considerable expertise in the design of public realm projects across Ireland.

While it would not be appropriate for the Framework Plan to provide detailed design solutions for site specific issues, the Framework Plan can address high level design principles which can feed into project briefs.

Having regard to the concerns raised in relation to the use of the site, it should be emphasised that it is intended to provide a multi-functional recreational space at this site and not to provide a space which is only suitable for use by one sporting club or organisation. In order to provide additional clarity on this point, it is recommended that

additional text is added to Section 6.4 of the Draft Framework Plan as was recommended above in Section 2.3.4 of this Chief Executive's Report.

With regard to the use of the subject site for a community centre structure, it should be noted that part of the site is located on an area which has been assessed as being Flood Zone A. The propensity for flooding in the area makes less sensitive recreational uses more suitable for this site. In addition, it is considered that the transfer of the library from the second floor of the existing community centre to a new bespoke library on the subject site will provide for significant new indoor recreational facilities in the area.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

It is also recommended that additional text be added to Section 6.4 Educate Together Recreational Hub on page 24 of the Draft Donabate Framework document as set out in Section 2.3.4 of this Chief Executive's Report.

2.6.5 Key Project 5 – Donabate Portrane Community Centre Public Space

A number of submissions were received in relation to 'Key Project 5 – 'Donabate Portrane Community Centre Public Space'. One submission requests further consideration be given to the space inside the community centre itself as well as the surrounding area, suggesting potential for additional provision of cultural and/or youth facilities due to the forthcoming relocation of the library to Ballisk House. It is also put forward that there is an opportunity to extend the existing community centre, with one other submission suggesting the existing community centre is at capacity. Other suggestions received for this site include for a swimming pool and a playground.

Concerns are also raised in two submissions that the removal of existing car parking at the community centre and the creation of permeable access to the adjacent Paddocks estate will result in increased traffic flow at The Paddocks. In addition, it is suggested that any future plaza at this location should have access restrictions at night to prevent noise disturbance to residents in the area, and that the existing gate at The Paddocks must be retained. Concerns are also expressed by one observer that the planting of trees as per Figure 6.12 of the Draft Plan should be reconsidered due to its impact on pedestrian flow.

Chief Executive's Response

The Council welcomes the submissions received in relation to the design and implementation of this project. It should be noted that although the Draft Donabate Framework Plan provides the basis for a design brief for each of the identified projects, that each project will need to be further developed and will require detailed design expertise as well as landowner and stakeholder consultation on a project-by-project basis prior to implementation.

It should also be noted however, that each project has benefitted from the expertise of the project design team which has considerable expertise in the design of public realm projects across Ireland.

While it would not be appropriate for the Framework Plan to provide detailed design solutions for site specific issues, the Framework Plan can address high level design principles which can feed into project briefs.

Having regard to the submissions which addressed the potential to provide for additional community and recreational facilities at the Community Centre, it should be noted that the Council's development of a new library on the nearby Educate Together site will allow for the existing library to vacate the community centre, providing additional space on site.

It should also be noted that the proposed improvements to the public realm at the community centre will not prevent any future expansion of the Community Centre. Finally, it is not considered that the provision of a well-designed, well-lit pavilion to the front of a busy community centre on a relatively busy road will be more likely to be subject to anti-social behaviour than is currently the case.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.7 Issues relating to 'Connecting Spaces'

A number of submissions were received which specifically address issues relating to the 'Connecting Spaces' addressed in Chapter 7 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan. It should be noted however, that no submission was received which specifically related to Connecting Space 1 'Semple Wood and Hearse Road'.

2.7.1 Connecting Space 2 – The Square and Hearse Road

One submission received welcomes the public realm proposals at the junction of The Square and Hearse Road but raises concern over the narrow nature of the existing footpath on the approach to the train station. The submission states upgrade works to the footpath need to be prioritised.

Chief Executive's Response

The content of the submission in relation to Connecting Space 2 is noted. Section 7.2 'The Square and Hearse Road' of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan identifies negative aspects of the current public realm in the junction of The Square and Hearse Road and highlights the lack of continuity of the footpath in the area and the poor and inappropriate paving material at this historical location. Having regard to the content of the submission, it is considered appropriate to include additional text in Section 7.2 to ensure that the proposed public realm upgrades should have regard to this issue.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

It is recommended that additional text is included in Section 7.2 The Square and Hearse Road on page 28 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document:

Connecting Space 2 – The Square and Hearse Rd
New paving and reduced carriageway at the junction between Hearse Road and the entrance to The Square.
Removal of existing traffic signage (subject to road safety considerations) and rationalisation of wirescape
Installation of appropriate street furniture including heritage signage and high quality bollards
Provide for appropriate tree and bed planting
Consider the installation of seating and low level lighting
Address the lack of continuity of footpath at this location and the associated poor and inappropriate paving materials

2.7.2 Connecting Space 3 – Smyth's Pub Frontage

Several submissions were received in relation to the area at Smyth's Pub Frontage with some of these submissions also raising issues in relation to the nearby train station lands.

A submission from an adjacent landowner in the area expresses support for the public realm proposals at the area adjacent to Smyth's Pub and the railway bridge and states their commitment to aiding the Council in implementing the proposals should the need arise.

Two submissions received note the vacant post office building / site and request the Council obtain the site and bring it back into appropriate (commercial) use.

One submission suggests a town square could be provided at the Smyth's or Keeling's public house or the train station car parks, which could provide facilities along with outdoor seating areas, with another observer suggests the area around Smyth's pub would be an ideal location for a food/beverage/ retail quarter which could act as a gateway to the town.

Several submissions note the Draft Framework Plan's objective to identify opportunity sites for commercial development and request the Council explore the possibility of providing same at the existing train station car park.

It is put forward in the submissions that the existing train station car park could easily provide for vital public infrastructure, commercial / retail uses, and potentially housing. More than one observer suggests the site could be developed with elements of undercroft car parking to maintain existing parking for train station users.

One submission received requests the Council engage Irish Rail to develop a masterplan for the train station car park to better utilise the "TC" zoned lands and meet the needs of the growing community.

Chief Executive's Response

The contents of the submissions received in relation to Connecting Space 3 are noted and the support for the improvements to the public realm at this location is welcomed. It should be noted that although the Draft Donabate Framework Plan provides the basis for a design brief for each of the identified projects, that each project will need to be further developed and will require detailed design expertise as well as landowner and stakeholder consultation on a project-by-project basis prior to implementation.

It should also be noted however, that each project has benefitted from the expertise of the project design team which has considerable expertise in the design of public realm projects across Ireland.

While it would not be appropriate for the Framework Plan to provide detailed design solutions for site specific issues, the Framework Plan can address high level design principles which can feed into project briefs.

Having regard to the submissions which relate to the adjacent train station lands, it should be noted that these lands, which are under the ownership and management of Córas Iompair Éireann (CIÉ), are currently zoned TC' Town Centre in the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029.

This objective of this land use is to: *'Protect and enhance the special physical and social character of town and district centres and provide and/or improve urban facilities*.' Having regard to the above, this zoning allows for the development of additional commercial uses should the owners of the lands decide to apply for planning permission for such development.

It should also be noted that the Draft Donabate Framework Plan was issued to CIÉ directly and that Fingal County Council would welcome any opportunity to work with the organisation to achieve the redevelopment or reuse of the lands in question. Any such redevelopment will require a cohesive approach to ensure that the site can contribute to improving permeability and connectivity in the area and to fully integrating the train station into the town.

Given the scope and remit of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan as discussed above, it is not considered appropriate to provide detailed guidance in relation to potential commercial or residential uses on non-Council owned lands. Nonetheless, as set out in Section 7.5 'Potential New Connections' of the Draft Plan, the Council is committed to exploring specific measures that can be implements to make this area more permeable and better connected to the rest of the town.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.7.3 Connecting Space 4 – The Bridge

Several submissions were received in relation to the proposed works at the existing railway bridge. In general, these submissions consider that removal of existing railings at the railway bridge would create a danger given the volume of pedestrian entering/exiting the train station.

Concerns are also raised in the submissions about the impact the new "Aldi" supermarket, to be built at Turvey Avenue, will have on traffic at this location and it is put forward that that further community engagement and bridge widening / civil engineering works to the bridge are needed, with one observer stating that proposed public realm works at the railway bridge are cosmetic in nature rather than significant works needed.

The proposals to reduce the existing road carriageway and increase the width of the existing footpaths at the railway bridge are also called into question by several observers. It is stated in one submission that a detailed road safety audit of the railway bridge area is needed, as per the road safety audit contained in Appendix C of the Draft Framework Plan.

More than one submission questions the need for a new pedestrian crossing at the railway bridge, when other crossings are available nearby, and the impact this proposal will have on motorist and pedestrian safety in the area. In contrast, two observers suggest filter traffic lights be included as part of the proposals at this location to allow for safer movement of vehicles exiting the town via Turvey Avenue. The suggestion is also put forward that proposals for the railway bridge should focus on one "useable" footpath rather than two.

Chief Executive's Response

The contents of the submissions received in relation to Connecting Space 4 are noted.

It should be noted that although the Draft Donabate Framework Plan provides the basis for a design brief for each of the identified projects, that each project will need to be further developed and will require detailed design expertise as well as landowner and stakeholder consultation on a project-by-project basis prior to implementation.

It should also be noted however, that each project has benefitted from the expertise of the project design team which has considerable expertise in the design of public realm projects across Ireland.

While it would not be appropriate for the Framework Plan to provide detailed design solutions for site specific issues, the Framework Plan can address high level design principles which can feed into project briefs.

Having regard to the submissions which relate to safety implications of the proposed public realm improvements at the bridge, it is important to note once again that the Draft Framework Plan document provides a conceptual framework for the works. In the

case of the bridge, the overall concept is to prioritise the needs and safety of pedestrians and cyclists over the private motor vehicle at this location.

It is recognised that the removal of existing safety barriers could be concerning to people who regularly use the bridge and the surrounding footpaths. However, it is important that this option, along with other changes to footpath layouts and materials are used in order to redefine the space as one for people and not for cars. Furthermore, it should be noted that any final design proposal will be required to demonstrate how it takes the safety of all road users and pedestrians into account. In order to allay the concerns expressed in the submissions, it is recommended that additional text to this effect be included in Section 7.4 The Bridge.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

It is recommended that additional text be added to the table in Section 7.4 The Bridge on page 30 of the Draft Framework Plan:

Connecting Space 4 – The Bridge
Create a more pedestrian friendly environment on and in the approach to the Bridge
Remove railings on both sides of the road at the Bridge
Resurface the junction from the Bridge to the front of Smyth's pub with high quality road paving materials
Provide for additional pedestrian crossings and provide for reductions the carriageway widths where appropriate
Ensure that all improvements will have full regard to any and all requirements relating to pedestrian and road user safety at this location

2.7.4 Connecting Space 5 – Potential New Connections

The Draft Framework Plan's proposals to create new pedestrian links to the train station are generally welcomed in the submissions; however, it is suggested by some observers that links on the western side of the train station should also be considered (via Wren's Hill, the Gallery, and the Beverton and Turvey estates).

Several observers suggest the old ramp to the train station, running parallel to Turvey Avenue, be reopened to aid pram users / low mobility persons. Other submissions suggest access to the train station is needed from Main Street, potentially through Ballisk Court, due to the busy nature of the railway bridge junction. It is put forward in one submission that Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 objective to provide safer pedestrian links to the train station from the town centre has been overlooked in the Draft Framework Plan.

Multiple submissions make calls for the Council to explore all avenues with Irish Rail to increase permeability to the train station.

Chief Executive's Response

The contents of the submissions received in relation to potential new connections are noted and the support for this element of the Draft Framework Plan is welcomed.

It should be noted that although the Draft Donabate Framework Plan identifies the location of each of the potential connections, that each connection will require in-depth discussions with relevant landowners as well as stakeholder consultation prior to the carrying out of any works.

With regard to the other points raised by observers in relation to this element of the Draft Framework Plan, while the Draft Plan does seek to improve permeability in the town, it is important to note that it is constrained not only in terms of its scope as a Framework Plan, but also in terms of its boundary which is largely confined to the 'spine' of the town from the Portrane Road to the northeast to The Square and Hearse Road at the north-west.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.8 Issues relating to 'Streets and Spaces'

A considerable number of submissions were received which specifically address issues relating to the Chapter 8 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan 'Streets and Spaces'.

2.8.1 Main Street

Several submissions express concern around the practicality of a potential one-way system for private vehicles on Main Street due to an increase in vehicular journeys times and the necessary access needed for residents, businesses, and emergency services. Furthermore, it is suggested that the proposal would require a new road connection from Portrane Road to New Road via The Links estate and the relocation / addition of bus stops at appropriate locations.

Proposals to narrow the carriageway width of Main Street are also raised as a concern in terms of space available for cyclists / the absence of a plan for an adequate cycle lane. It is stated in one submission that the Draft Plan's proposals for Main Street are unclear with regard to cyclists, public transport, and people using scooters. The proposal, while desirable, is suggested as improbable with one submission indicating it may be more efficient to put in put a 30 km/h speed limit on Main Street.

In contrast, some submissions support the proposals for a one-way system on Main Street, suggesting that removing traffic from Main Street may be safer and noting the Donabate Distributor Road has increased traffic capacity in the area and allows opportunity for safer village centre. One observer suggests that dismount policies at certain locations on Main Street for bicycles/scooters should also be considered, while another suggests a traffic management plan be put in place to prioritise pedestrians and cyclists. It is also put forward that the success of the Framework Plan relies on pedestrian priority on Main Street at each of the 'Key Project' locations but suggested

the Draft Plan's strategic aim to create a pedestrian priority town centre is not detailed in a clear manner. Additional crossing points on Main Street are requested in several submissions, as discussed elsewhere in this report.

With further regard to Main Street, concern is also raised in one submission that existing perpendicular parking on Main Street needs to be re-examined. Another submission notes the busy nature of the junction entering the 'Supervalu' car park and suggests it needs improvement and/or that the Council investigate the possibility of linking this car park with the adjacent Keeling's public house car park and put a one-way system in place. One observer calls for all junctions on Main Street to be upgraded, in line with DMURS standards, to give pedestrians priority.

One submission received suggests the route of the Fingal Coastal Way should run through Main Street to support businesses in the town.

Several observers suggest a town square or public amenity could be provided at Keeling's public house car park, which could provide facilities along with outdoor seating areas, while other submissions note the general need for this "eyesore" area to be better utilised for community use. It is requested by several observers that this area be included within the Framework Plan boundary.

Chief Executive's Response

The Council welcomes the significant number of submissions which raised issues of direct relevance to Section 8.1 'Main Street' of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan.

It should be noted that although the Draft Donabate Framework Plan provides the basis for a design brief for each of the identified projects, that each project will need to be further developed and will require detailed design expertise as well as stakeholder consultation on a project-by-project basis prior to implementation.

However, the Framework Plan can address high level design principles which can feed into project briefs and Section 8.1 provides a detailed list of such principles (see page 34 of the Draft Plan) as well as examples of improvements to town centres across Ireland (see page 35 of the Draft Plan). A key element of many of these projects is the shift in the orientation of main streets from private cars to pedestrians and cyclists.

Any such orientation will ultimately entail a change motorised traffic flows in order to reduce the impact of through traffic and to provide additional space for pedestrian and cycling infrastructure. Section 8.1 provides for the Council to *"investigate the possibility of making Main Street a one way street for private vehicular access of making Main Street a one way street for private vehicular access".*

It is clear that any such changes to the traffic flow in the area will have to be carefully considered before being implemented, which is why the Schedule of Action in Section 10.6 of the Draft Framework Plan includes the carrying out of a Transport Assessment in relation to the proposed improvements to Main Street.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.8.2 Approach Streets

While several routes in/out of the town are suggested in the submissions received as being areas in need of improvement, a notable volume of submissions raise specific concerns about pedestrian and cyclist safety on Turvey Avenue. It is put forward that the existing road is unsafe due to its narrow nature, lack of continuous footpaths, absence of a cycle lane, inadequate street lighting and signage, inappropriate speed limit, and the need for additional crossing points which, it is suggested by one than more observer, could be an opportunity to provide better access/permeability to Newbridge House.

The concerns regarding Turvey Avenue also extend to the absence of alternative routes to the train station and town centre for residents living in adjacent housing estates. Several submissions suggest better pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure on Turvey Avenue is needed not only to enhance safety but also to promote active travel from the town centre and surrounding estates to locations such as Newbridge House, Turvey Nature Reverse and Turvey allotments.

Again, while several routes in/out of the town are suggested in the submissions received as being areas in need of improvement, multiple submissions state cycle lanes should be implemented, improved and/or extended at, *inter alia*, Portrane Road, Main Street, Hearse Road, New Road as far as Donabate beach, the Donabate Distributor Road and Beaverstown Road. In general, these concerns extend to footpath infrastructure improvements as well as cycling infrastructure. In addition, two submissions make reference to a need to provide pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure / connections to areas such as Swords, Malahide and Rogerstown estuaries and coastal walks in the area.

One submission received puts forward a suggestion to improve the existing layout of the junction on Portrane Road (L2170) as one enters the Donabate / Portrane Community Centre. The submission contends that the path-to-path distance at the top of the junction, i.e. at Portrane Road (L2170), should be narrowed to increase pedestrian safety as they cross the junction, shorten walking distance, and encourage cars to slow as they turn from Portrane Road (L2170) into the Donabate / Portrane Community Centre. In a similar vein, another submission suggests the section of Portrane Road (L2170) adjacent to the community centre and existing school is too narrow and needs to be widened.

One submission received puts forward that the scope of the Draft Framework Plan should be extended to provide for a pedestrian focused civic area around the Ballalease North village centre and national school, which would better integrate with current proposals for Local Authority works at this location.

24 Chief Executive's Response

The Council welcomes the significant number of submissions which raised issues of direct relevance to Section 8.2 of the Draft Framework Plan which on the town's 'Approach Streets'

It should be noted that although the Draft Donabate Framework Plan provides the basis for a design brief for each of the identified projects, that each project will need to be further developed and will require detailed design expertise as well as stakeholder consultation on a project-by-project basis prior to implementation.

However, the Framework Plan can address high level design principles which can feed into project briefs and Section 8.2 provides a detailed list of such principles for the main approach streets including Beaverstown Road and Portrane Road.

Central elements of the approach advocated by the Draft Framework Plan for these roads is to provide additional pedestrian crossings, to incorporate cycling infrastructure where possible and generally to improve the quality of the streetscape. Section 8.2 of the Draft Framework Plan also prioritises the ongoing Part XI public realm improvement works at Turvey Avenue and at St. Patrick's National School.

As noted elsewhere, the Draft Donabate Framework Plan is naturally constrained by its physical boundary which is largely confined to the 'spine' of the town from the Portrane Road to the northeast to the Square and Hearse Road at the northwest. Nonetheless, it is also considered that the measures proposed for the approach streets are fully compatible with the overall goal of the Council to promote active travel in Donabate and the surrounding area.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.8.3 Historic Spaces

The overall approach to 'historic spaces' set out in Section 8.3 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan was not directly the subject of submissions received by the Council. However, a large number of submissions were received which raised the issue of the existing pedestrian access between the Beverton estate and Ballisk Lane via the Ballisk Walkway (situated between Beverton Drive and Ballisk Lane). At present, there is an existing gate on the Beverton side of the walkway that is closed nightly from 10.30 p.m. to 05.45 a.m.

The submissions received state, amongst other things, that the current closing times of the gate are restrictive, divide the community, and contravene the Council's own policies on permeability. It is also put forward in the submissions that the gates pose a health and safety risk, as young people try to negotiate them, and are not fit for purpose. Several observers put forward that alterative walking routes available for Beverton residents to/from the town centre, amongst other locations, during the gate's closing times are too long and lack adequate, safe, pedestrian infrastructure, particularly at

night-time along Turvey Avenue. It is stated by more than one observer that a community petition for the removal of the existing gate is in place and has received several hundred signatures. Furthermore, it is put forward in one submission that any concern of increased anti-social behaviour resulting from the gate's removal should be a matter for the An Garda Síochána to deal with and not the concern of the planning authority.

In general, the submissions call for removal of the existing gate and/or its opening on a 24-hour basis to provide more convenient, and safer, access between Beverton and the town centre.

Chief Executive's Response

The contents of the submissions received in relation to the existing pedestrian access arrangements between Ballisk Lane and Beverton Drive are noted. It is clear from the submissions received that there is a clear preference amongst those who made submissions that the current arrangements relating to the closure of the gates after dark are not satisfactory and act as a barrier to people who would use the route after hours if it was open.

Given that one of the primary aims of the Donabate Framework Plan, as stated in Section 2.3 of the Draft Plan, is to *"improve accessibility and permeability within the area"* it is considered that the Council should consider the opening of the existing pedestrian access to Ballisk Lane from the Beverton Estate on a 24 hour basis. It is therefore recommended that text to this effect is included in Section 8.3 of the Plan as set out below.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

It is recommended that additional text is added to Section 8.3 Historic Spaces on page 37 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan as follows:

The Square and access to the Square from both Hearse Road and Turvey Avenue retains historic elements that need to be valued, protected and maintained, including the historic boundaries, historic structures defining the edges of the spaces and routes, the Square defined grassed area, and stone kerbs.

As stated above, there is currently an important pedestrian connection from Ballisk Lane to the nearby Beverton Estate which is located to the west of the railway line, outside the boundary of the Draft Framework Plan area. However, at present there is currently a gate which restricts pedestrian access via this connection after 10:30pm. In the interests of permeability in the area, scope exists to consider the opening of this access on a 24 hour basis. Any such opening will be carried out by the Council in consultation with residents local stakeholders as appropriate.

It is also recommended that additional text is added to the table at the end of Section 8.3 Historic Spaces (also on page 37 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan) as follows:

Historic Streets / Spaces – Principles for Improvement
Maintain and restore historic paving and kerbs where they survive.
Retain or reinstate edges, cobbles and grass verges where possible in the Square.
Investigate the repositioning of car parking to the front of St. Patricks Church (COI).
Require the input of a conservation professional with relevant conservation expertise and experience for any works to or in proximity to a protected structure
Consider the opening of the existing pedestrian access to Ballisk Lane from the Beverton Estate on a 24 hour basis

2.9 Issues relating to 'Improving the Public Realm'

A number of submissions were received in relation to a range of issues which can be seen to fall under the overall theme of the public realm as addressed in Section 9 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan 'Improving the Public Realm'. Specifically, these submissions can be seen to relate to Section 9.2 of the Draft Framework Plan, 'Road Surfaces, Footpaths and Paving', Section 9.3 'Street Furniture' and Section 9.4 'Planting'.

Submissions received in relation to Road Surfaces, Footpaths and Paving, included comments on the need to ensure that any proposed cycle lane and/or footpath is capable of accommodating three-wheel bicycles used by older residents and wheelchair users. It is also noted that a number of submissions raise concerns regarding the quantum and quality of street lighting available at various locations in the town and suggest this needs to be considered as part of pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure.

One submission received raises concern that visually impaired members of the community will need retraining of space if the Draft Framework Plan's proposals are implemented and suggests consultation will be needed. The Council is also asked to ensure the needs of wheelchair users and older persons are catered for in the Framework Plan's proposals (in terms of spatial provision, signs, audible lights, road markings etc.) Another observer raises concern about the implementation of shared surfaces and again emphasises the need for consultation with appropriate groups such as Voice of Vision Impairment Ireland. One submission raises concern that Framework Plan's use of subtle colour changes does not make it easy to understand for visually impaired readers.

With regard to street furniture, various submissions received raise concern over a lack of seating in public realm areas. In general, these concerns relate to the town centre; however, it is also suggested more seating is need at areas with high levels of footfall such as Newbridge House and Donabate beach.

Two observers encourage the Draft Framework Plan's seating proposals but suggest seats / benches need to be orientated facing each other to promote social interaction and that such areas need to be accompanied by adjacent bicycle parking.

One submission received states that bicycle parking (Sheffield stands) should be provided at all the main areas in the town, while another submission suggests bicycle parking is needed at all proposed seating areas. Other observers suggest a need for more bicycle lockers and repair stations at the train station and the planned "Aldi" supermarket site.

One submission received notes a general need for more litter bins and dog foul bins in the town. One submission received requests that installation of a community CCTV system, at strategic locations throughout the town, be given serious consideration to minimise risk of anti-social behaviour.

Finally, with regard to landscaping, one observer notes a lack of street trees, landscaping and greenery throughout the town and requests an action in the finalised Framework Plan to incorporate such proposals. One observer raises concerns that an increase in hard landscaped areas in the town could lead to anti-social behaviour problems.

It is also suggested in two submissions received that the Draft Framework Plan needs to "tie" the building fabrics together rather than just focus on upgraded shop fronts, and that the public realm proposals are largely aesthetic and do not provide for any meaningful spaces.

Chief Executive's Response

With regard to the detailed points raised in relation to the implementation of the improvements to the public realm, it should be noted that although the Draft Donabate Framework Plan provides the basis for a design brief for the carrying out of these improvements, that the actual carrying out of work will be contingent on further detailed design work as well as stakeholder consultation where necessary.

It should also be noted that the principles set out in Chapter 9 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan inform and should be read in tandem with the individual projects proposed in the preceding chapters on Streets and Spaces, Connecting Spaces and Key Projects. This is consistent with the strategic objective set out in Chapter 2 of the Draft Plan which is to develop "*a framework for providing a high standard of architecture and urban design which will introduce a dynamic/vibrancy to the character and attractiveness of the area*".

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.9.1 Public Art

Three submissions were received which specifically raised the issue of public art in the town. The submissions note that the Draft Framework Plan makes little to no reference to public art proposals, despite the existence of relevant objectives on public art in the Fingal Development Plan 2023-29. The submissions request that such proposals are included in the finalised Framework Plan.

Chief Executive's Response

The contents of the submissions in relation to public are noted and it is acknowledged that public art is not addressed under a specific chapter or section heading in the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document.

It is also noted that the submissions refer to the provisions relating to public art as set out in the current Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 and in particular in Section 14.19.8 Arts in Chapter 14 of the Development Plan 'Development Management Standards'. As stated in this section:

"Public art can make a positive contribution to the cultural identity and visual appearance of an area and can be utilised to identify historic events and features adding to the quality and engagement of the public realm. The provision of artwork on hoarding will also be supported in accordance with the requirements as set out below. New public artwork should integrate with its immediate location and the context of the surrounding environment. Proposals for public artwork should:

- *Illustrate a comprehensive understanding of site considerations, and the physical, social, historical, topographical and architectural context.*
- *Provide for the highest aesthetic quality in terms of materials and finishes with low maintenance value.*
- *Engage with the local community to enhance social relevance and significance."*

This section also includes the following objectives:

- Objective DMSO194 – Provision of Public Art: Require new residential developments in excess of 100 units and large commercial/retail developments in excess of 2000 sqm to provide for a piece of public art to be agreed with the Council.
- Objective DMSO195 – Women and Minorities: When commissioning commemorative art or monuments that consideration is given to increasing the representation of women and minorities.

It can be seen from the above that the Development Plan acknowledges the positive contribution public art can make to an area. In addition, it should be noted that this positive view of public art is underlined in the Public Art Strategy for the Fingal 2019-2025. However, it is also clear that the Council is not prescriptive in terms of the type and location of public art to be provided, seeking instead to ensure that any additional public art is appropriate to its location.

This is reflected in the Chief Executive's response to a submission calling for the erection of a monument as part of the Hand Pocket Park Project which recognised the scope for the erection of a monument at this location to commemorate the local history of Donabate having regard to the requirements for public art set out in the Fingal Development Plan.

Given the primary aims of the Framework Plan, which are to repair and improve the townscape; provide for new civic and social activities; improve accessibility and permeability within the area, it is not considered appropriate to provide a detailed consideration of the provision of public art in Donabate.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.10 Issues relating to 'Implementation'

2.10.1 Funding Opportunities

Several submissions received question why the Draft Framework Plan refers to a need for private funding / sponsorship for what are, largely, proposals to upgrade the public realm. One observer references that funding is badly needed for improvements to the town.

Chief Executive's Response

The content of the submissions in relation to the references to private funding are noted. Given the nature of the projects identified in the Draft Donabate Framework Plan, the Chief Executive agrees that such references are not necessary, and it is recommended that they be removed.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

It is recommended that text be deleted from Section 10.4 Funding Opportunities on page 44 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document as follows:

10.4 Funding Opportunities

~~**Full implementation will require a combination of pro-active approaches including significant private investment, and/or sponsorship.**~~

2.10.2 Establishing Priorities

Numerous submissions received raise concerns over the proposed timeline(s) for implementing the Framework Plan's proposals. In general, the submissions consider that the Framework Plan needs to be implemented as soon as possible and/or its proposed works accelerated. Concern is expressed by several observers that, with the scale of new residential development in the area, firm dates for commencement of the proposals are needed and that the schedule of actions contained in the Draft Framework Plan need to be more definitive.

Several observers suggest the proposed timeline(s) are too long for the nature of the proposed projects, that the proposals should be marked for the short and/or medium term, and that "quick wins" should be implemented immediately. One submission suggests it is of critical importance that tangible results are seen in the first 6-to-12 months in order to maintain momentum and that the timeframe for the Draft Framework Plan should be unambiguously set to 5-to-10 years. The need for a clearer

methodology for proposed timelines in the Draft Framework Plan is also raised as a concern.

Chief Executive's Response

Having regard to the content of the submissions in relation timelines and priorities are noted, it should be noted that as stated in Section 2.3 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan (which sets out the Strategic Aims and Objectives for the plan), it is a strategic objective of the Plan that it will be "*substantially achievable in a 15 to 20 year time frame*".

According to Section 10.3 of the Draft Framework Plan 'Establishing Priorities' states that *"Implementing the plan in full will require substantial works and investment over the short, medium and long term. This requires the identification of priorities in terms of the potential costs and benefits of each project and their likely timescales, so that delivery (and expectations) can be managed effectively."*

Finally, Section 10.6 of the Draft Plan 'Schedule of Actions' states that "*as many of the actions identified as part of this Framework Plan are likely to be subject to additional detailed design and permitting / environmental assessment the overall timeframe for the completion of all actions could take 5 to 10 years in total*".

It is recognised that the references to different timeframes in the sections referenced above could give rise to a lack of clarity as to the expected timeline for the implementation of the Strategic Framework Plan.

It is important to state therefore it is intended that the Draft Framework Plan will provide a durable framework for improvements to the public realm in Donabate even if this take longer than initially expected. Given the often uncertain nature of such projects it was considered important to emphasise that the Framework Plan would remain in place until the projects were implemented even if that would be a period of 15 to 20 years.

The reference to 5 to 10 years for individual projects relate to the period directly after securing funding to enable to project to commence the initial design phase. As stated the detailed design, consultation and environmental assessment elements of a project can take a number of years to complete before construction can begin.

Having regard to the above, it is recommended that the relevant text in Section 2.3 and of the Draft Plan be amended to reflect the fact that it likely that the plan will be implemented in full within 10 years of adoption.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

It is recommended that the text of Section 2.3 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan be amended to read as follows:

These aims are underpinned by a series of strategic objectives which support the sustainable principles set out as follows:

- encourage the creation of a vibrant core town centre area, attractive for both the new and existing local community and visitors to the area.
- develop a framework for providing a high standard of architecture and urban design which will introduce a dynamic/vibrancy to the character and attractiveness of the area.
- encourage sustainable transport with safe and direct routes for pedestrians and cyclists to and from residential areas to the village core, the train station, schools, community centre, Newbridge Demesne, sports clubs and the beaches.
- maximise the potential of the unique natural, cultural, built and coastal heritage of the area.
- be substantially achievable in a ~~**15 to 20**~~ ***10*** year time frame.

2.11 Issues relating to Matters Outside the Scope of the Draft Framework Plan

2.11.1 Framework Plan Boundaries

Several submissions received suggest the Draft Framework Plan's boundaries should be extended to include New Road, in particular the Council owned "Tilbury" site, to take into account the impact of new residential development in the area and provide for new commercial and community facilities. Several submissions also suggest the potential for development of community and/or social infrastructure on various sites outside the Framework Plan's boundaries and that state this should be considered / referenced to as part of the Framework Plan.

A number of submissions also make reference to the existing Donabate Local Area Plan (LAP), 2016, (as extended) and raise concerns that the Framework Plan, while referring to the LAP on several occasions, is not aligned / not fully integrated with the LAP proposals. Two submissions put forward that the LAPs objectives to provide for an arts/youth/cultural centre should be provided on lands with the Framework Plan area.

Chief Executive's Response

Comments on the Framework Plan boundary are noted. However, the boundaries of the Framework Plan were agreed following extensive consultation with the Donabate-Portrane Liaison Committee (the members of which included for local volunteers, elected representatives, and members of business, professional and community groups). As a result, it is not considered appropriate or necessary to revisit the boundary of the Framework Plan area at this stage of the plan making process.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.11.2 Permeability and Connectivity between Beresford and Beverton Estates

A large number of submissions received raise concerns regarding the lack of pedestrian / cyclist connectivity and permeability between the Beresford and Beverton residential estates.

In general, the submissions detail the long walking distances for Beresford residents to the train station, Donabate town centre, and various other facilities and amenities in the town. It is also put forward by several observers that the alternative route to the town centre from Beresford, via Turvey Avenue, is dangerous due to a lack of adequate infrastructure (disconnected footpaths, poor lighting, absence of a cycle lane etc.). More than one submission states a community petition has been put in place and has received several hundred signatures. It is also stated by one observer that the issue has previously been raised with the Council's active travel team and local Councillors.

It is suggested in the submissions that a pedestrian and/or cycle access route should be constructed from Beresford to Beverton to encourage a reduction in car use, decrease walking and cycling distances for residents, and increase overall pedestrian and cyclist safety in the town. Several observers suggest such a connection should be provided from the south-east corner of Beresford Drive to Beverton Rise, along the boundary of Beavertown Golf Club. It is put forward that such a proposal would support the strategic aims and objectives of the Framework Plan along with other relevant objectives contained in the Donabate Local Area Plan, 2016, (as extended), the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029, the NTA's "Permeability Best Practice Guide" and Fingal's "An Active Travel Strategy for Fingal" document.

A large number of submissions received raise concerns over a lack of connectivity from the Beresford estate to the rest of the town. In general, the submissions put forward that Beresford is disconnected from the rest of the town and request better walking and cycling links from Beresford to the town centre and other amenities and facilities in the area.

The above concerns extend to a lack of pedestrian / cyclist permeability at the adjacent Beverton estate with the submissions received requesting, amongst others, additional pedestrian / cyclist links be provided to Beverton from the train station via The Gallery, from Beresford Woods to Beverton, from Beresford to Turvey Nature Reserve, from Beverton Heights to Beverton Green, between the Beverton and Turvey estates and Newbridge House, and that the walkway from Beverton Woods to Beverton Green be completed. It is suggested by more than one observer that planned / permitted access routes from previous planning applications have not been implemented to date.

In tandem with the foregoing, a number of observers raise concerns about the safety of pedestrians and cyclists using an alternative route along Turvey Avenue. It is suggested by multiple observers that Turvey Avenue needs to be widened and that continuous footpaths and cycling infrastructure needs to be put in place as a priority.

Chief Executive's Response

As stated previously, the boundaries of the Framework Plan were agreed following extensive consultation with the Donabate-Portrane Liaison Committee (the members of which included for local volunteers, elected representatives, and members of business, professional and community groups).

While the Chief Executive recognises the numerous issues associated with existing accessibility and permeability arrangements at the Beverton and Beresford housing estates, these areas are outside the Framework Plan boundary and as a result do not fall within the remit of the Plan.

Nonetheless, it should be noted that one of the primary aims of the Donabate Framework Plan, as stated in Section 2.3 of the Draft Plan, is to "*improve accessibility and permeability within the area*". It is envisaged that if implemented, the Draft Framework Plan will make a considerable contribution to improving connectivity within the town itself and will support future initiatives to address the issue in the wider Donabate/Portrane area.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.11.3 Pedestrian / cyclist connectivity to Turvey Nature Reserve

Several submissions received suggest there is a need for improved pedestrian and cyclist connectivity to Turvey Nature Reserve. It is suggested that access could be provided from the Beresford estate, using an existing opening, or that improved cycling infrastructure is needed along Turvey Avenue. More than one observer laments that visitors to the nature reserve only having the option of a car travel due to inadequate pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure on Turvey Avenue.

Chief Executive's Response:

The submissions are noted.

Although the stated location(s) of the suggested path/walkway fall outside of the Framework Plan boundaries and therefore outside of the scope of the Framework Plan, it should be noted that a recreational route as well as an indicative LAP walking/cycling has been designated along the Turvey Road to the west of the town (as shown on Map 17 of the County Development Plan and the LAP maps).

Chief Executive's Recommendation:

No change.

2.11.4 New Residential Development and Service Deficiencies in the wider Donabate Area

A number of submissions received raise concerns over the impact new residential development, outside of the Framework Plan's boundaries, is / will have on community amenities and infrastructure in the town. Concerns are also raised in this regard in terms traffic, general accessibility and safety.

Several submissions note the Donabate Local Area Plan, 2016, (as extended) makes reference to the need to integrate new housing with supporting social and physical community infrastructure and it is suggested by several observers that this impact has not been considered in the Framework Plan.

It is also suggested by several observers that the Framework Plan's boundaries need to be extended to include New Road, to take into account the impact of new residential development in the area.

One submission received expresses concern the Framework Plan does not place enough emphasis on step down ("right-sized) housing for seniors which, it is suggested, should be placed adjacent to the shops and churches.

A large number of submissions received raise concerns over the general lack of services and facilities available in Donabate. The list of services and facilities suggested in the submissions received is extensive and varied and includes for, *inter alia:* cafes, bars, restaurants, retail space, GPs, medical facilities, Garda stations, childcare facilities, afterschool care facilities, primary and post-primary schools, gym / fitness options, indoor sports halls, swimming pools, a children's playground etc.

In addition to concerns about a lack of youth facilities, covered elsewhere in this report, limited options for older persons and the disabled are raised as a specific issue. Concerns about the limited capacity of the existing community centre in the town are also raised along with requests for more indoor spaces for parents and children.

In general, the submissions received suggest the Framework Plan should, identify or provide additional spaces for businesses, commercial/retail and community facilities etc. and needs to better promote increased variety and availability of services and facilities in the town.

Numerous submissions state the Framework Plan's objective to identify potential opportunity sites for new commercial or community development is not adequately addressed.

Another submission suggests the Framework Plan's should consider more detail in terms of retail provision to create a vibrant and sustainable town core while one observer states the Framework Plan should contain suggestions for new businesses or community activities / infrastructure.

A further submission acknowledges the location / provision of future facilities, such as schools, may be outside the scope of the Framework Plan but states the issue cannot be ignored.

Concerns are also raised by some observers the Framework Plan does not recognise that the public cannot secure private land for development of such facilities and that the Council, as one of the larger landholders in the area, should be developing sites. Several submissions make reference to potential development lands at New Road and at the train station and request that the Council develop these sites for community, commercial/retail provision in order to address their concerns.

Several submissions received make reference to a number of ongoing projects in the Donabate and the surrounding areas and express their desire for the Council to ensure promised projects are delivered to completion as planned.

Chief Executive's Response

While the Chief Executive recognises the numerous issues raised in the submission discussed above, these issues do not fall within the scope and remit plan of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan.

It is important to note however, that development in Donabate is set against the policies and objectives of the Fingal Development Plan 2023 - 2029 and the Donabate Local Area Plan 2016 – 2022 (extended to 2026). Together these documents identify the strategic spatial planning issues and the vision for structured development and balanced growth in Donabate.

The development strategy for Donabate as set out in the Development Plan is to 'promote the creation of a vibrant town core by providing for a high-quality living environment for existing and future populations and provide all necessary community, commercial, cultural and social facilities in tandem, with new residential development'.

The Donabate Local Area Plan 2016 – 2022 (extended to 2026) covers 138 hectares (340 acres), which are divided into four land parcels of Corballis, Ballymastone, Rahillion, and Turvey. The LAP supports the successful integration of the new development areas into the existing settlement and the provision of supporting infrastructure to ensure that Donabate continues to be a successful and attractive place for current and future residents.

It is a key focus of the LAP to ensure that any new development in Donabate is accompanied by the required community, educational, transport, drainage, and recreational infrastructure to ensure the protection and enhancement of local amenities and the continued growth of local services in Donabate.

The Draft Donabate Framework Plan further adds to the overarching approach to Donabate as set out in the Development Plan and the Local Area Plan with its stated aim of guiding future development within the Donabate town centre area to create a vibrant and sustainable town core which will support and encourage economic, social and cultural development and provide an attractive, high-quality environment for existing and future residents.

The Draft Donabate Framework plan therefore represents a vital element of the overall aim of ensuring that the town and its surrounding areas can provide for the residential, recreational and infrastructural needs of the people who live in, and visit Donabate.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.11.5 The Tilbury Site

A number of submissions received make suggestions for the Council owned "Tilbury" site at New Road. In general, these submissions suggest this site should developed for essential community facilities, such as a multi-purpose centre, a community centre, arts and drama centre, cultural and youth centre, a Gaelscoil etc.

Some observers suggest the site should not accommodate any residential development, while others suggest some affordable or 'right-sized' housing could be provided on the site along with the suggested facilities mentioned above.

Chief Executive's Response

Comments on the 'Tilbury' site at New Road are noted. However, this site falls outside the boundaries of the Framework Plan as agreed following consultation with the Donabate-Portrane Liaison Committee (the members of which included for local volunteers, elected representatives, and members of business, professional and community groups).

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.11.6 Coastal Protection

One observer expresses concern that there is a need for additional coastal protection measures for residents of Portrane, while another submission notes a general need for improved flood defences in coastal areas to safeguard communities.

Chief Executive's Response

The area covered by the Donabate Framework Plan is not directly affected by the coastal flooding. As was noted previously, while part of the Educate Together Recreational Hub addressed in Section 6.4 of the Draft Framework Plan is in Flood Zone A, the approach to this site in the Draft Plan is for the provision for appropriate, low-vulnerability recreational uses at this location.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.12 Typographical and Other Minor Errors

One submission received raises concern that the Framework Plan is inaccurate in naming / referring to local businesses in the town.

Another submission suggests section 3.4 of the Framework Plan does not accurately reflect NTA BusConnects proposals for Donabate, that page 9 of the Framework Plan overestimates financial and business services provision, that section 4.2.1. of the Framework Plan does not acknowledge public protests held during the consultation period, and that figure 9.1 of the Framework Plan erroneously refers to Turvey Avenue and not Portrane Road.

Chief Executive's Response

The content of submissions received in relation to minor factual errors as well as typographical errors are noted and welcomed. The necessary changes will be made where appropriate throughout the Draft Framework Plan document.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

It is recommended to make changes where necessary throughout the Draft Framework Plan document to correct any minor factual or typographical errors which may have arisen.

3. List of Chief Executive's Recommendations

This section of the report sets out the recommendations of the Chief Executive to the elected Members in relation to the Draft Framework Plan.

In the interests of clarity, the recommendations are presented in the order they would appear in the Draft Framework Plan document. In addition each recommendation has been identified according to the specific section of the Draft Framework Plan to which it relates. For example, as shown below 'Chief Executive's Recommendation 2.3' refers to a recommended change to Section 2.3 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan.

Chief Executive's Recommendation (1) – 2.3 'Strategic Aims and Objectives of Donabate Framework Plan

It is recommended that the text of Section 2.3 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan be amended to read as follows:

These aims are underpinned by a series of strategic objectives which support the sustainable principles set out as follows:

- encourage the creation of a vibrant core town centre area, attractive for both the new and existing local community and visitors to the area.
- develop a framework for providing a high standard of architecture and urban design which will introduce a dynamic/vibrancy to the character and attractiveness of the area.
- encourage sustainable transport with safe and direct routes for pedestrians and cyclists to and from residential areas to the village core, the train station, schools, community centre, Newbridge Demesne, sports clubs and the beaches.
- maximise the potential of the unique natural, cultural, built and coastal heritage of the area.
- be substantially achievable in a ~~**15 to 20**~~ ***10*** year time frame.

Chief Executive's Recommendation (2) – 5.3.1 'Designing Places for People'

It is recommended that additional text be added to Section 5.3.1 Designing Places for People on page 17 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document:

5.3.1 Designing Places for People

The strategy proposes uses and designs for key spaces in Donabate that are oriented to the varied needs of the people of the town.

The strategy aims to create a pedestrian priority town centre, and to define places where people ***of all ages*** can meet, and places to enhance their experience of the town.

Existing spaces are redefined, and new spaces are suggested. It is intended that the spaces can play host to a wide range of one-off and regular events, including incidental play spaces for children***, age appropriate spaces for teenagers to enjoy***, places for farmers' markets, garden festivals, cultural festivals, parades and other community gatherings and places that are accessible and inclusive.

Chief Executive's Recommendation (3) – 6.1 'Donabate Village Green'

It is recommended that Section 6.1 Donabate Village Green, on page 20 of the Draft Plan, additional text be added to the Key Project 1 table as follows:

Key Project 1 – Donabate Village Green
Redefine the edges of the green space with new planting / hedging and trees where appropriate ***while retaining the existing mature trees at the park where possible.***
Provide for a wild meadow area to provide for increased biodiversity in accordance with the principles of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.
Provide for a small event space with seating to the front of the park facing onto Main Street.
Incorporate new signage / artwork to signal Donabate and potential signage/ interpretation of the town.
Consider the creation of a raised table crossing Main Street to knit the space with the surrounding area.
Consider incorporating utilities to accommodate a market or events.
Consider an interactive water feature ***if appropriate*** as well as new paths, places to sit and play within the space.

Chief Executive's Recommendation (4) – 6.2 'St. Patrick's Square'

It is recommended that additional text is included after the second paragraph in Section 6.2 St. Patrick's Square on page 21 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document.

The requirement to protect and provide for the functioning of St. Patrick's Church as an active parish church will form a key consideration for any potential design proposals for this space. In the interests of clarity, any and all works or uses to be carried out on the grounds of St. Patrick's Church shall be subject to agreement with St. Patrick's Parish to ensure the safety and security of both the church grounds and church services.

Chief Executive's Recommendation (5) – 6.3 'The Hand Pocket Park'

It is recommended that additional text be added to the table in Section 6.3 on page 23 of the Draft Plan as per the recommendation arising from the Chief Executive's consideration of Special Area Committee Meeting motions from 7th March 2024 (Item 8).

The full wording of the amended text set out below is also provided in Section 4 of the report under ACM Recommendation (4) – Item 10: Monument at the Hand Pocket Park. In the interests of clarity, this means that Chief Executive's Recommendation (5) is identical to ACM Recommendation (4).

Key Project 3 – the Hand Pocket Park
Improve and expand the existing public space at the Hand to allow for greater use by the community
Set back the boundary to the existing Irish Water pump house to create additional space and consider reducing the carriageway width to adjoining roads.
Provide a new boundary treatment with the pumping station to include railing, planting and bench seating.
Provide additional seating within the space that can also provide an incidental space for play and events.
Provide for, within the first 12 months, the erection of a monument at this location to commemorate the role Donabate played in the creation of an Irish State and do this with all relevant stakeholders, including the Fingal Old IRA Commemorative Society and having regard to the requirements for public art set out in the Fingal County Development Plan.
Rationalise or relocate the existing wirescape and lampposts where possible while ensuring the area is well lit at night
Incorporate utilities to accommodate pop up food trucks, or small events.
Consider extending the space to the full width of the adjoining streets, by creating a raised table crossing at Beaverstown Road to Ballisk, Main Street, Portrane Road.

Chief Executive's Recommendation (6) – 6.4 'Educate Together Recreational Hub'

It is recommended that additional text be added to Section 6.4 Educate Together Recreational Hub on page 24 of the Draft Donabate Framework document:

Key Project 4 – Educate Together Site
Create a**n inclusive** multi-functional recreational space to provide for a meeting point, sheltered space / pavilion for performance, ***~~playing pitches~~*** **a multi-sport playing surface**, playground, seating.
Ensure the provision of a broad range of age-appropriate play opportunities for older children and teenagers.
Allow for paths to cross the park to match desire lines, and connections from Beaverstown Road, Portrane Road.
Remove existing roundabout and car parking and provide a link road to create pedestrian priority and a continuous pedestrian route to the community centre
Make use of sustainable urban drainage solutions including appropriate planting to address potential surface water issues

Chief Executive's Recommendation (7) – 7.2 'The Square and Hearse Road'

It is recommended that additional text is included in Section 7.2 The Square and Hearse Road on page 28 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document:

Connecting Space 2 – The Square and Hearse Rd
New paving and reduced carriageway at the junction between Hearse Road and the entrance to The Square.
Removal of existing traffic signage (subject to road safety considerations) and rationalisation of wirescape
Installation of appropriate street furniture including heritage signage and high quality bollards
Provide for appropriate tree and bed planting
Consider the installation of seating and low level lighting
Address the lack of continuity of footpaths at this location and the associated poor and inappropriate paving materials

Chief Executive's Recommendation (8) – 7.4 'The Bridge'

It is recommended that additional text be added to the table in Section 7.4 The Bridge on page 30 of the Draft Framework Plan:

Connecting Space 4 – The Bridge
Create a more pedestrian friendly environment on and in the approach to the Bridge
Remove railings on both sides of the road at the Bridge
Resurface the junction from the Bridge to the front of Smyth's pub with high quality road paving materials
Provide for additional pedestrian crossings and provide for reductions the carriageway widths where appropriate
Ensure that all improvements will have full regard to any and all requirements relating to pedestrian and road user safety at this location

Chief Executive's Recommendation (9) – 8.3 'Historic Spaces'

It is recommended that additional text is added to Section 8.3 Historic Spaces on page 37 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan as follows:

The Square and access to the Square from both Hearse Road and Turvey Avenue retains historic elements that need to be valued, protected and maintained, including the historic boundaries, historic structures defining the edges of the spaces and routes, the Square defined grassed area, and stone kerbs.

As stated above, there is currently an important pedestrian connection from Ballisk Lane to the nearby Beverton Estate which is located to the west of the railway line, outside the boundary of the Draft Framework Plan area. However, at present there is currently a gate which restricts pedestrian access via this connection after 10:30pm. In the interests of permeability in the area, scope exists to consider the opening of this access on a 24 hour basis. Any such opening will be carried out by the Council in consultation with residents local stakeholders as appropriate.

It is also recommended that additional text is added to the table at the end of Section 8.3 Historic Spaces (also on page 37 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan) as follows:

Historic Streets / Spaces – Principles for Improvement
Maintain and restore historic paving and kerbs where they survive.
Retain or reinstate edges, cobbles and grass verges where possible in the Square.
Investigate the repositioning of car parking to the front of St. Patricks Church (COI).
Require the input of a conservation professional with relevant conservation expertise and experience for any works to or in proximity to a protected structure
Consider the opening of the existing pedestrian access to Ballisk Lane from the Beverton Estate on a 24 hour basis

Chief Executive's Recommendation (10) – 10.4 'Funding Opportunities'

It is recommended that text be deleted from Section 10.4 Funding Opportunities on page 44 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document as follows:

10.4 Funding Opportunities

~~**Full implementation will require a combination of pro-active approaches including significant private investment, and/or sponsorship.**~~

Chief Executive's Recommendation (11) – 10.6 'Schedule of Actions'

It is recommended that the text "Undertake a Transport Appraisal" in Table 10.6 Schedule of Actions be amended to read as per the recommendation arising from the Chief Executive's consideration of Special Area Committee Meeting motions from 7th March 2024 (Items 23-26). The full wording of the amended text is provided in Section 4 of the report under ACM Recommendation (8) – Items 23, 24, 25, 26: Transport Appraisals. In the interests of clarity, this means that Chief Executive's Recommendation (11) is identical to ACM Recommendation (8).

Chief Executive's Recommendation (12) – 'Minor and Typographical Errors'

It is recommended to make changes where necessary throughout the Draft Framework Plan document to correct any minor factual or typographical errors which may have arisen.

4. List of Amendments in Response to Motions at ACM

A special ACM was held on 7th March 2024 in relation to the Draft Donabate Framework Plan and the Chief Executive's Report on Submissions and Observations Received on the Draft Donabate Framework Plan.

A total of 28 motions were received and discussed.

The following changes arise out of these motions and supersede any changes outlined in Section 3 of this Chief Executive's Report should any differences between these changes should arise.

ACM Recommendation (1) – Item 2: Correction to CE's Report

Update the Chief Executive's Report to reflect the accurate location of the proposed new library at Ballisk House.

ACM Recommendation (2) – Item 6: Donabate Village Green

It is recommended that at Section 6.1 Donabate Village Green, on page 20 of the Draft Plan, additional text be added to the Key Project 1 table as follows:

Key Project 1 – Donabate Village Green
Redefine the edges of the green space with new planting / hedging and trees where appropriate ***while retaining the existing mature trees at the park where possible.***
Provide for a wild meadow area to provide for increased biodiversity in accordance with the principles of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan.
Provide for a small event space with seating to the front of the park facing onto Main Street.
Incorporate new signage / artwork to signal Donabate and potential signage/ interpretation of the town.
Consider the creation of a raised table crossing Main Street to knit the space with the surrounding area.
Consider incorporating utilities to accommodate a market or events.
Consider an interactive water feature ***if appropriate*** as well as new paths, places to sit and play within the space.
Engage and consult with adjoining residents as part of any detailed design process

ACM Recommendation (3) – Item 8: New Square at St. Patrick's RC Church

It is recommended that references to "St. Patrick's Square" throughout the text are replaced with "New Square at St. Patrick's RC Church".

It is recommended that an additional row in the Key Project 2 - St Patrick's Square table is included with the following text:

Possible names for the new square at St Patrick's RC Church, to be bilingual, will be discussed and agreed with St. Patrick's Parish."

ACM Recommendation (4) – Item 10: Monument at The Hand Pocket Park

It is recommended that additional text be added to the table in Section 6.3 on page 23 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document as per the recommendation arising from the Chief Executive's consideration of Special Area Committee Meeting motions from 7th March 2024 (Item 8).

The full wording of the amended text set out below is also provided in Section 3 of the report under Chief Executive's Recommendation (5) – Item 10: Monument at the Hand Pocket Park.

In the interests of clarity, this means that ACM Recommendation (4) is identical to Chief Executive's Recommendation (5) on page 43 of this report.

Key Project 3 – the Hand Pocket Park
Improve and expand the existing public space at the Hand to allow for greater use by the community
Set back the boundary to the existing Irish Water pump house to create additional space and consider reducing the carriageway width to adjoining roads.
Provide a new boundary treatment with the pumping station to include railing, planting and bench seating.
Provide additional seating within the space that can also provide an incidental space for play and events.
Provide for, within the first 12 months, the erection of a monument at this location to commemorate the role Donabate played in the creation of an Irish State and do this with all relevant stakeholders, including the Fingal Old IRA Commemorative Society and having regard to the requirements for public art set out in the Fingal County Development Plan.
Rationalise or relocate the existing wirescape and lampposts where possible while ensuring the area is well lit at night
Incorporate utilities to accommodate pop up food trucks, or small events.
Consider extending the space to the full width of the adjoining streets, by creating a raised table crossing at Beaverstown Road to Ballisk, Main Street, Portrane Road.

ACM Recommendation (5) – Item 12: Cobbe Court/Glaslinn Pedestrian Crossing

It is recommended that the table on page 36 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document be amended to read as follows:

Approach Streets – Principles for Improvement
Rebalance pedestrian and vehicular space, with maintenance of verges, hedgerows and historic boundaries where practical and appropriate
Provide for additional planting, including tree planting along Portrane Road where appropriate
Provide additional pedestrian crossings where appropriate ***(including on the Portrane Road near Cobbe Court/Glaslinn)*** to include raised tables to allow continuity of pedestrian movement / level crossings at road junctions.
Provide consistent lighting along both streets.
Consider visually contrasting paved paths and crossings.
Incorporate cycling infrastructure where possible.
Continue to progress the Part XI projects on Turvey Avenue and at St. Patrick's national school

ACM Recommendation (6) – Item 13: Dished Kerbing at the Paddocks

It is recommended that an additional row be included at the bottom of in the Key Project 5 – Community Centre Public Space table on page 25 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan.

Provide for a permeable access route to the Paddocks to include, if appropriate, dished kerbing to allow buggy and wheelchair access.

ACM Recommendation (7) – Item 22: Pedestrian Connections

It is recommended that text of page 26, Section 7 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document be amended to include the following text:

There are opportunities for additional pedestrian and cycling connections across the Village and outside the Framework Plan boundary. The Framework Plan seeks to make a contribution to improving connectivity within and through the Village and will support future initiatives to address the issue in the wider Donabate/Portrane area. In particular, at key locations such as the Turvey area, measures will be encouraged to foster increased permeability and mitigate issues of severance.

ACM Recommendation (8) – Items 23, 24, 25, 26: Transport Appraisals

Include additional text on page 17 as follows:

Finally, transport appraisals will also be required to be carried out for each of the projects identified in the following chapters. These appraisals will address issues including but not restricted to safety, speed limits, footpath and carriageway quality, pedestrian crossings and accessibility for people with disabilities. As specified in Chapter 8, in the case of Main Street, any such appraisal will include a baseline assessment, will indicate extent of works, and will consider the potential for the introduction of a one-way system on the street. It will also consider car parking provision in the area.

Include additional text on page 34 as follows:

In the long term, Main Street should become a 'shared space' which could facilitate the use of the street for community events. To do this, it will be necessary to investigate the possibility of making Main Street one way for private vehicles.

It is recognised that any such change can only take place following a detailed, expert report on the traffic and transportation implications of such a change. As a result, it will be necessary to prepare a Transport Appraisal for the Main Street and adjoining streets to include a baseline assessment and will indicate extent of works for projects. This appraisal will address amongst other things speed limits, car parking provision, footpath and carriageway quality, pedestrian crossings and accessibility for people with disabilities.

Amend the Semple Wood and Hearse Road row of Table 10-1 as follows:

Project	Actions	Owner	Project Support	Potential Funding Sources	Indicative Timelines
Semple Wood and Hearse Road	~~Undertake a Transport Appraisal for the Main Street and adjoining streets. This should include a Baseline Assessment and an Area Based Transport Assessment and will indicate extent of works for projects.~~ Undertake a Transport appraisal	FCC	NTA	TVRS, URDF	Short to Medium Term
	Seek consent through Part XI (or other appropriate process)	FCC	NTA	Active Travel Investment Grant	Short to Medium Term

Amend the Main Street row in Table 10-1: Schedule of Actions as follows:

Project	Actions	Owner	Project Support	Potential Funding Sources	Indicative Timelines
Main Street	Undertake a Transport Appraisal ***for the Main Street and adjoining streets. This should include a baseline assessment, will indicate extent of works for projects and will address issues including car parking, speed limits provision, footpath and carriageway quality, pedestrian crossings and accessibility for people with disabilities***	***FCC***	***NTA, Local Businesses, St. Patrick's Church, Local Community***	***Active Travel Investment Grant***	~~**Medium**~~ ***Short Term***
	Seek consent through Part XI (or other appropriate process) and Submit funding application				

ACM Recommendation (9) – Item 29: Undergrounding

Insert the following at Section 9: Improving the Public Realm:

To further enhance the physical fabric and attractiveness of the town centre of Donabate, the undergrounding of utilities and services shall be supported and facilitated where feasible and appropriate, in collaboration with the relevant service providers. The undergrounding of services and utilities shall be considered as part of any programme of public realm works for the town centre.

Lighting and Wirescape Principles for Improvement

Consider the undergrounding of utilities and services where feasible and appropriate within the town centre.

ACM Recommendation (10) – Item 30: Bus Shelters

It is recommended that the following change is made on page 39 of the Draft Framework Plan document:

The following section of this Framework Plan provides high level guidance in relation to the following types of street furniture:

- seating;
- litter bins;
- bollards;
- cycle stands; ~~**and**~~
- water pumps; ***and***
- ***bus stops.***

It is also recommended that the following additional text is inserted on page 40 of the Draft Framework Plan document:

Bus Stops

With regard to the provision of bus stops and shelters in the Framework Plan area in the town it should be noted that the National Transport Authority (NTA) has responsibility for the planning and development of public transport infrastructure, including the provision of bus stops and bus shelters.

Given the importance of ensuring that any new bus stops or shelters to be provided are well lit and of a high quality design, Fingal County Council will actively engage with the NTA in relation to any new bus stops or shelters to be provided in the town.

Street Furniture – Principles for Improvement
Adopt a consistent and integrated approach to the provision of street furniture across the entire Framework Plan area or have regard to any guidance on public realm produced by Fingal County Council
Ensure any additional seating is of high quality and has regard to accessibility and the needs of all users
Ensure that litter bins/recycling are located so as not to obstruct pedestrian movement or building entrances.
Minimise the use of bollards in the study area to reduce street colour, adopt a standardised design for new bollards and retail historic bollards where possible.
Provide additional cycle parking capacity in the study area as part of the delivery of the projects and improvements set out in previous chapters.
Maintain and protect street furniture which has historic character and interest including the town's traditional water pumps
Engage with the NTA in relation to the provision of new bus stops or shelters in the Framework Plan area

ACM Recommendation (11) – Item 31: Signage and Shopfronts

Insert the following at the end of Section 9.6 Signage and Shopfronts – Principles for Improvement:

Encourage improvements to existing shopfronts in Donabate having regard to the principles set out in Chapter 14 of the County Development Plan ***and any forthcoming Shopfront Scheme by Fingal County Council for the town centre.***

Insert the following text at the end of Section 10.4.6 Fingal Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme:

The Town Regeneration Office within the Council managed a shop front scheme in Donabate in 2023, funded through the Town and Village Renewal Scheme. The Town Regeneration Office will shortly be announcing a 2024 county-wide shopfront scheme which will also be open for applications from Donabate, subject to usual eligibility criteria.

ACM Recommendation (12) – Item 34: Stakeholders

It is recommended that the following text is inserted on Page 44 at the end of subsection 10.2 Key Stakeholders:

There will be close consultation with Disabled Persons Organisations prior to, and during implementation of this plan."

ACM Recommendation (13) – Item 15: Extension of Community Centre

It is recommended that the following text is included as an additional row in the Key Project 5 – Community Centre Public Space table on page 25 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document:

Over the lifetime of the Framework Plan, and following the findings of the Community Facilities and Social Infrastructure Audit for the County (as provided for under Objective CIOSO1 of the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029), the Council will consider the construction of a large extension to the existing community centre in order to facilitate the growing needs of our youth, arts, culture and heritage groups.

ACM Recommendation (14) – Item 17: Multi-functional Arts, Community and Youth Facility

It is recommended that the following text is included in the Draft Donabate Framework Plan:

The Donabate Framework Plan supports the provision of town centre space for youth services to provide a much needed local youth outreach service.

The Donabate Framework Plan supports the provision of a Multi-functional Arts, Community and Youth Facility for Donabate.

5. List of Submissions Received

The table below lists the submissions received in relation to the Draft Donabate Framework Plan. The table provides the unique reference number assigned to the submission by the Council's online portal and the name of the person or organisation making the submission. Each submission may be viewed online at https://consult.fingal.ie/en/node/34496/submissions

List of Submissions received on the Draft Donabate Framework Plan

Submission Reference	Name	Body / Organisation represented
FIN-C653-1	Shaun Craig	
FIN-C653-2	Leanne Lynn	
FIN-C653-3	Shane McGivney	
FIN-C653-4	Clare Lalor	
FIN-C653-5	Pat Bailey	
FIN-C653-6	Brian Mc Cormack	
FIN-C653-7	Chris McIvor	
FIN-C653-8	Patrick Lynn	
FIN-C653-9	Paul Burke	
FIN-C653-10	Ciaran Harrington	
FIN-C653-11	Lee Kelly	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
FIN-C653-12	Ann Hogan	
FIN-C653-13	Mattia Accinelli	
FIN-C653-14	Amy Byrne	
FIN-C653-15	Declan Brassil & Company	Aledo Donabate Limited
FIN-C653-16	Orla O'Leary	
FIN-C653-17	Graham Ralph	
FIN-C653-18	Andrew Mc Allister	The Fingal Old IRA Commemorative Society
FIN-C653-19	Tony McDermott	
FIN-C653-20	Jennifer Maxwell	Active Age For All Donabate/Portrane
FIN-C653-21	Mary Attridge-Jones	
FIN-C653-22	Colum Riordan	
FIN-C653-23	Donabate Portrane Community Council	Donabate Portrane Community Council
FIN-C653-24	Steven Rice	
FIN-C653-25	Stephan Bueck	
FIN-C653-26	Ben Riordan	
FIN-C653-27	Ben Riordan	
FIN-C653-28	Ben Riordan	
FIN-C653-29	Cliona O'Reilly	
FIN-C653-30	Donabate Resident	

Submission Reference	Name	Body / Organisation represented
FIN-C653-31	Iomar McManus	
FIN-C653-32	Iomar McManus	
FIN-C653-33	Ann Hogan	DP Crossroads
FIN-C653-34	Rhona Carty	
FIN-C653-35	Keith O'Brien	
FIN-C653-36	Alison Stanley	
FIN-C653-37	Paraic Griffin	
FIN-C653-38	Marzena Kisiel	
FIN-C653-39	Kevin Ryan	
FIN-C653-40	Oisin Fogarty	
FIN-C653-41	Matteo Vescovi	
FIN-C653-42	Killlian Stanley	
FIN-C653-43	Killlian Stanley	
FIN-C653-44	Breda Dockrell & Jim O' Donohoe	
FIN-C653-45	Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications	Geological Survey Ireland
FIN-C653-46	Sharon O'Brien	
FIN-C653-47	Michelle Richardson	
FIN-C653-48	Siobhan O'Donnell	Fingal Chamber
FIN-C653-49	Donabate Resident	
FIN-C653-50	Fergus Brady	
FIN-C653-51	Andrew Mc Allister	Reimagine.ie
FIN-C653-52	Eoghan Dockrell	
FIN-C653-53	Suzanne Young	
FIN-C653-54	Anita Patterson	Portrane Hockey Club
FIN-C653-55	Niamh Rogers	
FIN-C653-56	Katie Hennigan	
FIN-C653-57	Graham Ralph	
FIN-C653-58	Ben Nesbitt	Paddocks Residents' Association
FIN-C653-59	Edmond McDonnell	
FIN-C653-60	Ken Spratt	St. Patrick's RC Church, Fr. Reilly & the Parish of Donabate, Portrane & Balheary
FIN-C653-61	Corina Johnston	
FIN-C653-62	Councillor Paul Mulville	
FIN-C653-63	Ciarán Gethings	
FIN-C653-64	Councillor Adrian Henchy	
FIN-C653-65	Geraldine Foley	

Appendix A Screening of Recommendations for AA and SEA

Please Refer to main text of this report for full description of the Proposed Amendments.

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
CE's Rec. (1)	It is recommended that the text of Section 2.3 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan be amended to read as follows: • be substantially achievable in a ~~15 to 20~~ 10 year time frame.	This is a minor non-material change relating to the change in the timeframe for achieving the strategic objectives. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This is a minor non-material change relating to the change in the timeframe for achieving the strategic objectives. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.
CE's Rec. (2)	It is recommended to include additional text be added to Section 5.3.1 Designing Places for People on page 17 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document: 5.3.1 Designing Places for People The strategy aims to create a pedestrian priority town centre, and to define places where people *of all ages* can meet, and places to enhance their experience of the town. Existing spaces are redefined, and new spaces are suggested. It is intended that the spaces can play host to a wide range of one-off and regular events, including incidental play spaces for children, *age appropriate spaces for teenagers to enjoy*, places for farmers' markets, garden festivals, cultural festivals,	This is a minor non-material addition to *Section 5.3.1 Designing Places for People* to address age-appropriate spaces. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This is a minor non-material addition to *Section 5.3.1 Designing Places for People* to address age-appropriate spaces. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
	parades and other community gatherings and places that are accessible and inclusive.		
CE's Rec. (3)	It is recommended to include additional text to Key Project 1 table in Section 6.1 Donabate Village Green, on page 20 of the Draft Plan, as follows: Key Project 1 – Donabate Village Green Redefine the edges of the green space with new planting / hedging and trees where appropriate *while retaining the existing mature trees at the park where possible.*	This is a minor addition to *Section 6.1 Donabate Village Green* to include additional text to address retention of mature trees where feasible. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This is a minor addition to *Section 6.1 Donabate Village Green* to include additional text to address retention of mature trees where feasible. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.
CE's Rec. (4)	It is recommended that additional text is included after the second paragraph in Section 6.2 St. Patrick's Square on page 21 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document. *In the interests of clarity, it should be noted that any and all works or uses to be carried out on the grounds of St. Patrick's Church shall be subject to agreement with St. Patrick's Parish to ensure the safety and security of both the church grounds and church services.*	This is a minor addition to *Section 6.2 St. Patrick's Square* to ensure that works on the grounds of St. Patrick's Church have regard to safety and security of the church grounds and services. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan.	This is a minor addition to *Section 6.2 St. Patrick's Square* to ensure that works on the grounds of St. Patrick's Church have regard to safety and security of the church grounds and services. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
		The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.
CE's Rec. (5)	It is recommended that additional text be added to the table in Section 6.3 'The Hand Pocket Park' as follows- *Provide for, within the first 12 months, the erection of a monument at this location to commemorate the role Donabate played in the creation of an Irish State and do this with all relevant stakeholders, including the Fingal Old IRA Commemorative Society and having regard to the requirements for public art set out in the Fingal County Development Plan.*	This is a minor text addition for provision of monument at the Hand Pocket Park. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This is a minor text addition for provision of monument at the Hand Pocket Park. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.
CE's Rec. (6)	It is recommended that additional text be added to Section 6.4 Educate Together Recreational Hub on page 24 of the Draft Donabate Framework document: Key Project 4 – Educate Together Site Create an inclusive multi-functional recreational space to provide for a meeting point, sheltered space / pavilion for performance, ~~playing pitches~~ *a multi-sport playing surface*, playground, seating. *Ensure the provision of a broad range of age-appropriate play opportunities for older children and teenagers.*	This is a minor non-material amendment to include for age appropriate and inclusive play facilities. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This is a minor non-material amendment to include for age appropriate and inclusive play facilities. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
			the requirement for SEA is screened out.
CE's Rec. (7)	It is recommended that additional text is included in Section 7.2 The Square and Hearse Road as follows: Connecting Space 2 – The Square and Hearse Rd *Where appropriate, address the lack of continuity of footpaths at this location and the associated poor and inappropriate paving materials*	This is a minor non-material amendment to address lack of footpath continuity and the associated poor and inappropriate paving materials. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This is a minor non-material amendment to address lack of footpath continuity and the associated poor and inappropriate paving materials. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.
CE's Rec. (8)	It is recommended that additional text be added to the table in Section 7.4 The Bridge as follows: Connecting Space 4 – The Bridge *Ensure that all improvements will have full regard to any and all requirements relating to pedestrian and road user safety at this location*	This is a minor non-material amendment to address pedestrian and road user safety. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This is a minor non-material amendment to address pedestrian and road user safety. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
			the requirement for SEA is screened out.
CE's Rec. (9)	It is recommended that additional text is added to Section 8.3 Historic Spaces as follows: *As stated above, there is currently an important pedestrian connection from Ballisk Lane to the nearby Beverton Estate which is located to the west of the railway line, outside the boundary of the Draft Framework Plan area. However, at present there is currently a gate which restricts pedestrian access via this connection after 10:30pm. In the interests of permeability in the area, scope exists to consider the opening of this access on a 24 hour basis. Any such opening will be carried out by the Council in consultation with residents local stakeholders as appropriate.* It is also recommended that additional text is added to the table at the end of Section 8.3 Historic Spaces as follows: Historic Streets / Spaces – Principles for Improvement *Consider the opening of the existing pedestrian access to Ballisk Lane from the Beverton Estate on a 24 hour basis*	This is a minor non-material amendment to address opening hours for existing pedestrian access to Ballisk Lane from the Beverton Estate. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This is a minor non-material amendment to address opening hours for existing pedestrian access to Ballisk Lane from the Beverton Estate. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.
CE's Rec. (10)	It is recommended that text be deleted from Section 10.4 Funding Opportunities as follows: 10.4 Funding Opportunities ~~Full implementation will require a combination of pro-active approaches including significant private investment, and/or sponsorship.~~	This is a minor non-material amendment to delete text regarding funding opportunities. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan.	This is a minor non-material amendment to delete text regarding funding opportunities. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
		The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.
CE's Rec. (11)	It is recommended that the text "Undertake a Transport Appraisal" in Table 10.6 Schedule of Actions be amended to read as per the recommendation arising from the Chief Executive's consideration of Special Area Committee Meeting motions from 7th March 2024 (Items 23-26). The full wording of the amended text is provided in Section 4 of the report under ACM Recommendation (8) – Items 23, 24, 25, 26: Transport Appraisals. In the interests of clarity, this means that Chief Executive's Recommendation (11) is identical to ACM Recommendation (8).	This is a minor non-material amendment to include additional details to Transport Appraisal. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This is a minor non-material amendment to include additional details to Transport Appraisal. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.
CE's Rec. (12)	It is recommended to make changes where necessary throughout the Draft Framework Plan document to correct any minor factual or typographical errors which may have arisen.	No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of correcting any minor factual or typographical errors in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of correcting any minor factual or typographical errors in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
ACM Rec (1)	Correction to CE's report to reflect the accurate location of the proposed new library at Ballisk House.	No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of correcting the location of the proposed new library in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of correcting the location of the proposed new library in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.
ACM Rec (2)	It is recommended that at Section 6.1 Donabate Village Green, additional text be added to the Key Project 1 table as follows: Key Project 1- Donabate Village Green Redefine the edges of the green space with new planting / hedging and trees where appropriate *while retaining the existing mature trees at the park where possible.* Consider an interactive water feature *if appropriate* as well as new paths, places to sit and play within the space. *Engage and consult with adjoining residents as part of any detailed design process.*	This is a minor addition to *Section 6.1 Donabate Village Green* to include additional text to address retention of mature trees where feasible and to engage and consult with adjoining residents as part of detailed design process. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This is a minor addition to *Section 6.1 Donabate Village Green* to include additional text to address retention of mature trees where feasible and to engage and consult with adjoining residents as part of detailed design process. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
ACM Rec (3)	It is recommended that references to "St. Patrick's Square" throughout the text are replaced with "New Square at St. Patrick's RC Church". It is recommended that an additional row in the Key Project 2 - St Patrick's Square table is included with the following text: *Possible names for the new square at St Patrick's RC Church, to be bilingual, will be discussed and agreed with St. Patrick's Parish.*	This is a minor non-material amendment to include naming requirements for the New Square at St. Patrick's RC Church. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This is a minor non-material amendment to include naming requirements for the New Square at St. Patrick's RC Church. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.
ACM Rec (4)	It is recommended that additional text be added to the table in Section 6.3 'The Hand Pocket Park' as follows- *Provide for, within the first 12 months, the erection of a monument at this location to commemorate the role Donabate played in the creation of an Irish State and do this with all relevant stakeholders, including the Fingal Old IRA Commemorative Society and having regard to the requirements for public art set out in the Fingal County Development Plan*	This is a minor text addition for provision of monument (if appropriate) at the Hand Pocket Park. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This is a minor text addition for provision of monument (if appropriate) at the Hand Pocket Park. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
ACM Rec (5)	It is recommended that the table on page 36 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document be amended to read as follows: Approach Streets – Principles for Improvement Provide additional pedestrian crossings where appropriate *(including on the Portrane Road near Cobbe Court/Glaslinn)* to include raised tables to allow continuity of pedestrian movement / level crossings at road junctions.	This is a minor non-material amendment to address pedestrian and road user safety. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This is a minor non-material amendment to address pedestrian and road user safety. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.
ACM Rec (6)	It is recommended that an additional row be included at the bottom of in the Key Project 5 – Community Centre Public Space table on page 25 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan. *Provide for a permeable access route to the Paddocks to include, if appropriate, dished kerbing to allow buggy and wheelchair access.*	This is a minor non-material amendment to provide for permeable access route. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This is a minor non-material amendment to provide for permeable access route. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.
ACM Rec (7)	It is recommended that text of page 26, Section 7 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document be amended to include the following text:	This is a minor non-material amendment to provide for increased additional	This is a minor non-material amendment to provide for

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
	There are opportunities for additional pedestrian and cycling connections across the Village and outside the Framework Plan boundary. The Framework Plan seeks to make a contribution to improving connectivity within and through the Village and will support future initiatives to address the issue in the wider Donabate/Portrane area. In particular, at key locations such as the Turvey area, measures will be encouraged to foster increased permeability and mitigate issues of severance.	pedestrian and cycling connections. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	increased additional pedestrian and cycling connections Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.
ACM Rec (8)	Include additional text on page 17 as follows: *Finally, transport appraisals will also be required to be carried out for each of the projects identified in the following chapters. These appraisals will address issues including but not restricted to safety, speed limits, footpath and carriageway quality, pedestrian crossings and accessibility for people with disabilities. As specified in Chapter 8, in the case of Main Street, any such appraisal will include a baseline assessment, will indicate extent of works, and will consider the potential for the introduction of a one-way system on the street. It will also consider car parking provision in the area.* Include additional text on page 34 as follows: In the long term, Main Street should become a 'shared space' which could facilitate the use of the street for community events. To do this, it will be necessary to investigate the possibility of making Main Street one way for private vehicles.	This is a minor non-material amendment regarding transport appraisals and conversion of 'Main Street' to become a shared space in the long term. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This is a minor non-material amendment to provide for increased additional pedestrian and cycling connections Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.

<table>
<tr><th>Proposed Amendment</th><th>Outline Description</th><th>Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)</th><th>Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*</th></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>
It is recognised that any such change can only take place following a detailed, expert report on the traffic and transportation implications of such a change. As a result, it will be necessary to prepare a Transport Appraisal for the Main Street and adjoining streets to include a baseline assessment and will indicate extent of works for projects. This appraisal will address amongst other things speed limits, car parking provision, footpath and carriageway quality, pedestrian crossings and accessibility for people with disabilities.
Amend the Semple Wood and Hearse Road row of Table 10-1 as follows:
<table>
<tr><th>Project</th><th>Actions</th><th>Owner</th><th>Project Support</th><th>Potential Funding Sources</th><th>Indicative Timelines</th></tr>
<tr><td>Semple Wood and Hearse Road</td><td><s>Undertake a Transport Appraisal for the Main Street and adjoining streets. This should include a Baseline Assessment and an Area Based Transport Assessment and will indicate</s></td><td>FCC</td><td>NTA</td><td>TVRS, URDF</td><td>Short to Medium Term</td></tr>
</table>
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</table>

<table>
<tr><th>Proposed Amendment</th><th>Outline Description</th><th>Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)</th><th>Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*</th></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>
<table>
<tr><td></td><td><s>extent of works for projects.</s> Undertake a Transport appraisal</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Seek consent through Part XI (or other appropriate process)</td><td>FCC</td><td>NTA</td><td>Active Travel Investment Grant</td><td>Short to Medium Term</td></tr>
</table>
Amend the Main Street row in Table 10-1: Schedule of Actions as follows:
<table>
<tr><th>Project</th><th>Actions</th><th>Owner</th><th>Project Support</th><th>Potential Funding Sources</th><th>Indicative Timelines</th></tr>
<tr><td>Main Street</td><td>Undertake a Transport Appraisal for the Main Street and adjoining streets. This should include a baseline assessment, will indicate extent of works for projects</td><td>FCC</td><td>NTA, Local Businesses, St. Patrick's Church, Local Community</td><td>Active Travel Investment Grant</td><td><s>Medium</s> Short Term</td></tr>
</table>
</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
</table>

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
	and will address issues including car parking, speed limits provision, footpath and carriageway quality, pedestrian crossings and accessibility for people with disabilities Seek consent through Part XI (or other appropriate process) and Submit funding application		
ACM Rec (9)	Insert the following at Section 9: Improving the Public Realm: *To further enhance the physical fabric and attractiveness of the town centre of Donabate, the undergrounding of utilities and services shall be supported and facilitated where feasible and*	This amendment is supported by existing objectives in the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029, e.g. Objective	This amendment is supported by existing objectives in the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029,

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
	appropriate, in collaboration with the relevant service providers. The undergrounding of services and utilities shall be considered as part of any programme of public realm works for the town centre. Lighting and Wirescape Principles for Improvement *Consider the undergrounding of utilities and services where feasible and appropriate within the town centre.*	DMSO230 – Undergrounding of Cables. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	e.g. Objective DMSO230 – Undergrounding of Cables. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.
ACM Rec (10)	The following section of this Framework Plan provides high level guidance in relation to the following types of street furniture: • seating; • litter bins; • bollards; • cycle stands; ~~and~~ • water pumps; *and* • bus stops. It is also recommended that the following additional text is inserted on page 40 of the Draft Framework Plan document: *Bus Stops* *With regard to the provision of bus stops and shelters in the Framework Plan area in the town it should be noted that the National Transport Authority (NTA) has responsibility for the planning and development of public transport infrastructure, including the provision of bus stops and bus shelters.*	This is a minor non-material amendment to include liaison with NTA in relation to any new bus stops or shelters to be provided in the town. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This is a minor non-material amendment to include liaison with NTA in relation to any new bus stops or shelters to be provided in the town. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
	Given the importance of ensuring that any new bus stops or shelters to be provided are well lit and of a high quality design, Fingal County Council will actively engage with the NTA in relation to any new bus stops or shelters to be provided in the town. Street Furniture – Principles for Improvement *Engage with the NTA in relation to the provision of new bus stops or shelters in the Framework Plan area*		
ACM Rec (11)	Insert the following at the end of Section 9.6 Signage and Shopfronts – Principles for Improvement: Encourage improvements to existing shopfronts in Donabate having regard to the principles set out in Chapter 14 of the County Development Plan *and any forthcoming Shopfront Scheme by Fingal County Council for the town centre.* Insert the following text at the end of Section 10.4.6 Fingal Shopfront Improvement Grant Scheme: *The Town Regeneration Office within the Council managed a shop front scheme in Donabate in 2023, funded through the Town and Village Renewal Scheme. The Town Regeneration Office will shortly be announcing a 2024 county-wide shopfront scheme which will also be open for applications from Donabate, subject to usual eligibility criteria.*	This is a minor non-material amendment regarding signage and shopfronts. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This is a minor non-material amendment regarding signage and shopfronts. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.
ACM Rec (12)	It is recommended that the following text is inserted on Page 44 at the end of subsection 10.2 Key Stakeholders: *There will be close consultation with Disabled Persons Organisations prior to, and during implementation of this plan.*	This is a minor non-material amendment to undertake consultation with Disabled Persons Organisations. No likely significant environmental effects on	This is a minor non-material amendment to undertake consultation with Disabled Persons Organisations. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
		European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.
ACM Rec (13)	It is recommended that the following text is included as an additional row in the Key Project 5 – Community Centre Public Space table on page 25 of the Draft Donabate Framework Plan document: *Over the lifetime of the Framework Plan, and following the findings of the Community Facilities and Social Infrastructure Audit for the County (as provided for under Objective CIOSO1 of the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029), the Council will consider the construction of a large extension to the existing community centre in order to facilitate the growing needs of our youth, arts, culture and heritage groups.*	This amendment is to support extension of the existing community centre on appropriate zoned lands as per the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029. No likely significant environmental effects on European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	This amendment is to support extension of the existing community centre on appropriate zoned lands as per the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.
ACM Rec (14)	It is recommended that the following text is included in the Draft Donabate Framework Plan: *The Donabate Framework Plan supports the provision of town centre space for youth services to provide a much needed local youth outreach service.*	This is a minor non-material amendment to support provision of town centre space for youth services. No likely significant environmental effects on	This is a minor non-material amendment to support provision of town centre space for youth services. Having regard to the criteria set in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
	The Donabate Framework Plan supports the provision of a Multi-functional Arts, Community and Youth Facility for Donabate.	European sites arise as a result of this text in the Plan. The requirement for Stage 2 AA is screened out.	2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, no likely significant environmental effects arise as a result of this text in the Plan and the requirement for SEA is screened out.

*** Screening for SEA with regard to the criteria set out in Schedule 2A of S.I. 436 of 2004, as amended by S.I. 201 of 2011**.

Having regard to the characteristics of the plan; and the characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected; the Proposed Amendments are not likely to give rise to significant effects on the environment.

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 22

FESTIVAL AND EVENTS FUNDING SCHEME AND WHAT'S ON IN EVENTS PRESENTATION

FINANCIAL SCHEME OF ASSISTANCE FOR EVENTS AND FESTIVALS 2024

A Council evaluation committee from EETCD met in February 2024 to consider submissions for financial assistance towards events and festivals taking place in 2024. A total of 114 applications were received.

After careful deliberation, the committee determined that 99 of the submissions met the criteria for financial assistance. These successful applications amounted to a total funding allocation of €401,130.

This significant investment in events and festivals demonstrates the commitment of Fingal County Council to support local initiatives that contribute to the cultural, social, and economic vitality of Fingal. By providing financial assistance to these events, EETCD helps ensure their success and enriches the lives of residents and visitors alike.

	EVENT NAME	APPLICATION NAME	2024 AWARD
1	Polish Festival Balbriggan	Great Orchestra of Christmas	€15,000
2	Skerries Local History	Skerries Mental Fitness	€1,000
3	12th Slovak Ball	Slovak Centre Ireland	€1,000
4	Lusk 4 Mile Race	Lusk Athletic Club	€1,000
5	Lusk Saints & Scholars	Lusk Community Council	€3,000
6	Rush St. Patrick's	Rush Community Council	€5,000
7	Skerries St. Patrick's	Skerries Chamber of Commerce	€5,000

8	Lusk St. Patrick's	Lusk Community Council	€5,000
9	Dive Ireland Festival	Viking Sub Aqua Club	€5,000
10	Feel Good Fest Swords	EggHeadz Mental Health Awareness	€1,000
11	Windmill Run	Garristown Community Council	€1,000
12	Baldoyle Biosphere Festival	Baldoyle Forum	€20,000
13	Wing Regatta 2024	Pure Magic Watersports	€1,000
14	Fingal Swim Fest	Swim Ireland	€5,000
15	Balrothery Summer Events	Balrothery Heritage	€2,000
16	O' Dwyer's School Blitz	O'Dwyers GAA	€1,000
17	Connect 2024	Greater Conchin Club	€15,000
18	Skerries School League	Skerries Harps GAA	€1,000
19	Old IRA Summer Events	Fingal Old IRA	€6,000
20	Leinster Pipe Band Champs	Irish Pipe Band Association	€4,000
21	Lawrence Pipe Band	East of Ireland Pipe	€3,000
23	Bronze Events	Cultural Immersion & Dance	€2,500
23	Balbriggan Our Nature Fest	Balbriggan Tidy Towns	€1,000
24	Afro-Irish festival 2024	Irish Institute of Music & Song	€5,000
25	Wave Regatta 2024	Wave Regatta – Howth Yacht Club	€20,000
26	Féile Binn Éadair	Paul Byrne Optophonic	€10,000
27	St. Catherines Multicultural Festival	St Catherine's National School	€500
28	LSA 4 Mile Road Race	LSA Athletics Club	€1,000
29	Balbriggan Summerfest	Balbriggan Summerfest	€20,000
30	Fingallian's 140th	Fingallian's GAA	€1,000
31	St. Lukes Family Fun Day	St. Luke's Community	€1,000
32	Outdoor Live Show	Dublin Concert Band Howth	€1,000
33	MIND Mega Mela	MIND Ireland Blanchardstown	€1,000
34	Family Fun Day	Phoenix Ballyboughal Boxing Club	€1,000
35	Summer Nature Talk	Broadmeadow Community Garden	€500
36	Autumn Events Old IRA	Fingal Old IRA	€2,000
37	Skerries Ukulele Festival	Skerries Ukulele Strummers	€1,000
38	Summer Festival	Safer Blanchardstown	€10,000
39	Skerries Rowing Regatta	Skerries Rowing Club	€4,000
40	Castleknock Village Festival	Castleknock Village Festival	€10,000
41	Skerries Midsummer Festival	Skerries Tourism	€15,000
42	Ballyboughal Summer Solstice	Ballyboughal Community Council	€2,500
43	Lusk Summer Festival	Lusk Action Group	€5,000

44	Lusk 5K	Lusk Athletic Club	€1,000
45	Naomh Mearnóg Community Day	Naomh Mearnóg GAA	€1,000
46	East of Ireland Pipe Champs	Leinster Branch Irish Pipe Association	€3,000
47	Sports Across the World	Children 4 World Sport	€3,000
48	Colour Run & Movie Night	Rush 38th Scout Group	€1,000
49	Slí Dhála Summer School	Slí Dhála CCA	€1,500
50	Little Seedlings Festival	Seamus Ennis Centre	€5,000
51	Summer Art & Music	Castleknock Community Centre	€1,000
52	Skerries Sailing Regatta	Skerries Sailing Club	€1,000
53	Meakstown Community Fun	Meakstown Community Council	€2,500
54	Fingal 10k	Dublin Race Series	€10,000
55	Adaigbo Cultural Fest	Adaigbo Ireland	€3,000
56	Balbriggan Regatta	Fingal Rowing Club	€3,000
57	Community Fun Day Portrane	63rd Dublin 14th Scout Group	€1,000
58	Feel Good Fest - Part 2	EggHeadz Mental Health – Swords	€1,000
59	3rd Annual Skerries Wild Bee Festival	Skerries Mills Community Garden	€1,000
60	Multicultural Food and Music Event 2024	Baldoyle Forum	€1,500
61	Brompton Area Summer Party	Brompton Area Residents Association	€400
62	Rush Harbour Festival	Rush Tourism	€12,000
63	Rush Food Festival	Rush Tourism	€8,000
63	Euro Volley Festival	Volleyball Ireland	€2,500
65	Howth Roots & Blues	Paul Byrne - Optophonic	€10,000
66	How It's Made 2	The Socratics	€1,000
67	Man O War Round Run	Lusk Athletic	€1,000
68	Donabate Portrane Festival	Donabate	€20,000
69	Optimist National Championships 2024	Howth Yacht Club	€5,000
70	Garristown Summer Festival	Garristown Community Council	€2,000
71	India Day Farmleigh	Ireland India Council	€10,000
72	Ukrainian Irish Festival	Ukrainian Volunteers of Ireland Swords	€1,000
73	Spud Fest	Keoghs Crips / Country Crest	€10,000
74	Summer Family Fun Day and Christmas Fair	Taylors Hill Residents Association	€1,000
75	Sketchbound Festival	Alison O'Grady	€1,000
76	Clonsilla Heritage Festival	Clonsilla & Porterstown Heritage Society	€2,500

77	Round Rockabill Rowing Race 2023	Skerries Rowing Club	€3,000
78	Fingal Rowing Club - Lambay Challenge 2024	Fingal Rowing Club	€3,000
79	Naul Gardening & Flower Club's Annual Show	Naul Gardening & Flower Club	€1,000
80	Fingal Poetry Festival	Fingal Poetry Festival	€10,000
81	Skerries Eco Festival	Sustainable Skerries	€1,500
82	Stars of the Orient Festival	Dance Fusion	€1,000
83	Skerries Sailing Club Junior Regatta	Skerries Sailing Club	€950
84	Language Explorers	Mother Tongues Blanchardstown	€1,500
85	Fingal International Ballroom & Latin American Dance Championships 2014	Dancesport Ireland	€4,000
86	Autumn Open International Cross Country Event	Athletics Ireland	€5,000
87	Gaelcon	Galecon Irish Games Association	€2,000
88	Dracula Spooky Halloween	Ballyboughal Community Council	€1,000
89	Marathonkids Final Mile Event In Santry Stadium	Marathonkids	€10,000
90	Malahide Christmas Lights	Malahide Chamber	€1,500
91	Rush Xmas Lights and tree	Rush Community Council	€3,000
92	Lusk ICA Christmas Market	Lusk ICA	€880
93	Christmas tree event	Oldtown Community Council	€1,400
94	Donabate Christmas Lights Festival	Donabate Christmas Lights	€1,000
95	Christmas Tree Lights Switch'em on Event - 2024	Portrane Village Renewal Group	€1,500
96	Baldoyle Christmas Fair	Baldoyle Forum	€2,000
97	Christmas Artisan & Craft Market	Rush Community Council	€1,000
98	Christmas Market 2024	St. Maur’s GAA	€1,000
99	Our Santa Truck	Ballyboughal Community Council	€1,500

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Chief Executive's Management Report

11th March 2024
Item 23

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Chief Executive's Foreword

March has come around again so quickly and ushers in a busy time for us in Fingal as we prepare for events this month and over the course of the spring and summer.

Fingal County Council was well represented at the Local Authority Members Association's All-Ireland Community and Council Awards on Saturday, February 17th at the Dublin Royal Convention Centre. Not only did we win the prestigious Grand Prix award as overall winners, but we also took home four category awards, were shortlisted in a further seven categories and were one of five local authorities to be shortlisted for 'Council of the Year'. A huge body of work is represented in receiving these accolades and both myself and Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Adrian Henchy, were very proud to be in attendance at the event and to see such well deserving initiatives and projects showcased. Congratulations to you all – Collaboration is something we do very well here and it is testament to your commitment and hard work that we continue to be recognised so favourably for our excellent standards of public service.

Last month, I was very pleased to welcome Minister for Community Development, Joe O'Brien TD to help launch a new Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) for Fingal. This plan is the result of collaborative efforts involving local communities, individuals, businesses, organisations, and other significant contributors throughout the county, all aiming to steer Fingal towards a flourishing future. The plan was informed by the 2016 version and provides a strong roadmap for future development in the thriving county of Fingal. It is centred around six core themes; Sustainability & Climate Action, Prosperous Economy, Skills for Life & Work, Healthy Inclusive Connected Communities, Rich Arts Culture & Heritage and Safe Accessible Vibrant Places. A need for continued focus on economic growth, rural integration and sustainability has been addressed in the plan with 15 high level objectives providing direction. I extend my thanks to all those who participated in the extensive research required to formulate this plan and I look forward to seeing the benefits of the plan realised for local businesses, communities and the people of Fingal.

There is much to celebrate in March here in Fingal with Fingal Enterprise Week, International Women's Day, Seachtain na Gaeilge and St. Patrick's Day festivities. As always, we supported a full schedule of events to mark International Women's Day on Friday, March 8th. We are fortunate to have a strong female representation in Fingal County Council and I was delighted to join my colleagues, Councillors and members of the public in taking part in some of the events to celebrate and highlight women's achievements and to shine a light on equality, diversity and inclusivity. The theme this year was *#InspireInclusion* and this is something that we all strive for in our personal and professional lives. I would like to thank all the departments who devised such an enjoyable and varied programme of events for this year's celebration.

From celebration of International Women's Day we move to the celebration of our language and heritage during Seachtain na Gaeilge. Our Irish Language Officer, Bernie Kelly, encourages us all to use our Irish, regardless of our proficiency, and to 'Bain Triail Aisti' – Give it a go! Seachtain na Gaeilge is the perfect opportunity to not only speak our language but to immerse ourselves in the culture and music of Ireland. With fantastic events taking place in County Hall Swords, Local Libraries, Ardgillan Demesne and the Seamus Ennis Centre, there are many opportunities to get into the spirit of the occasion. On Wednesday March 13th, the Atrium County Hall Swords, with the support of the Seamus Ennis Arts Centre, is the venue for a Seachtain na Gaeilge celebration with Ceol, Craic and Gaeilge from 7 to 9pm. The entertainment will be provided by three hugely accomplished Fingal resident musicians, Ellie Níc Fhionnghaile, Dónal Kearney agus Fergus Cahilane and this is always a hugely popular event. During the fortnight, there will also be a guided bilingual walk in Ardgillan Demesne, a showing of Irish language film An Tine Bheo (The Living Flame) in the Seamus Ennis Art Centre, Naul and music by Antaine Ó Faracháin and Nollaig Mac Carthaigh in Balbriggan library. I would encourage you to see the full programme of events at

Celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge in Fingal | Fingal County Council

Continuing the theme of celebrating our heritage, the highly anticipated St. Patrick's Day parades will take place across the county on Sunday March 17th. The day will bring together a wonderful mix of sports teams, community groups and thousands of enthusiastic spectators. This year, Fingal County Council proudly present parades in Blanchardstown, Swords, Balbriggan, Malahide, Rush, Lusk and Skerries. Ensuring the parades are hugely enjoyable, safe and sustainable is a considerable task and each year we rely on the expertise of the council's Events Unit who collaborate with other council departments, emergency services and local groups to facilitate the excellent entertainment we look forward to with such excitement each year.

I hope you all have an opportunity to enjoy just some of our events this month – I look forward to shortly bringing you updates on key events such as the Malahide Castle Concert series and Flavours of Fingal in the months ahead.

Best wishes,
AnnMarie Farrelly CE

PEOPLE, CORPORATE AND DIGITAL SERVICES

Contents

People Services
Health & Safety Unit
Customer Services
CRM
Communications
Building Facilities
Current Judicial reviews

People Services

Recruitment

People Services' recruitment of staff will continue in 2024, with a total of 34 recruitment campaigns underway year to date (January & February).

Recruitment Programme 2024	
Total Recruitment Campaigns	34
Campaigns Completed	7
Current Campaigns	27
Interviews Held to date	67
New Starters	36
Number of Current Job Offers	48

Learning & Development Update

The Learning and Development team continue to deliver high quality training opportunities for staff. Throughout March the following courses will be delivered:

Personal Development

Grade 5 IPA Management Training
Grade 7 IPA Management Training
IGNITE Programme
Council Meeting, Staff Induction
Personal Effectiveness Grade 3 & 4
Pre-Retirement Training

Health and Safety

Manual Handling (indoor / Outdoor)
Driver CPC
Safe Pass
First Aid
First Aid Refresher
Fire Warden

Business Skills

Basic IT Skills (outdoor)
Time Management
Court Room Skills
Intro to Excel
HR Dilemmas
Minute Taking
Effective business Writing

Specialised Departmental Training

IAT Road Engineering Training
Understanding your Statutory Responsibilities on Accident Prevention | Legalities & Reporting
Leaders in LG Development Programme

Mandatory

Diversity and Interculturalism
Managing Aggressive Behaviour
Dignity and Equality

Fingal County Council
Wellbeing Programme

Wellbeing Update

Fingal County Council Digital Gym Monthly timetable will be issued to staff including Yoga, Pilates, Combat fitness, Family Fit, Active Agers. Providing something for all staff to keep fit and improve their Wellbeing. Over 150 classes are available on demand.

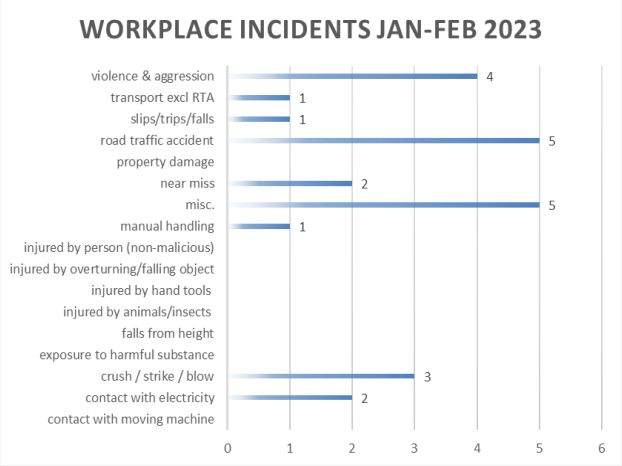
We successfully secured funding from the LGMA for our 'Creativity for Wellbeing' programme launching in March. We are providing guided art sessions for staff. Artistic activities such as painting have been proven to Enhance mental health, Reduce Stress, Foster Resilience, Fuel Joy.

International Women's Day takes place on March 8th a wellbeing message will be issued raising awareness of events throughout the county and nationally.

In collaboration with the new integration officer, we are in the process of procuring Debriefing Training for staff and managers who deal with traumatic or critical incidents. This vital tool will assist in improving the wellbeing of staff who work in difficult circumstances such as Housing, Integration, Community, Customer Care, Inspection roles and Operations staff.

HSU – Health & Safety Unit

The HSU generated a number of risks assessments early this year covering handling of waste materials likely to turn up in FCC recycling facilities and as waste material on public open spaces. These included assessments on the handling of WEEE, batteries, paint, motoring products, aerosols, gas cylinders and chemicals. A number of procedures were created / revised in the same period covering the reversing of vehicles, responses to unreasonable behaviours and vehicles tail-lifts. The unit carried out 67 site safety inspections and audits from the start of 2024 to date in addition to 52 VDU assessments for office and remote based staff. 20 incidents and dangerous occurrences were reported to the HSU to date with 18 incident investigations completed. Overall there was a drop [of 4] in workplace incidents compared to the same period in the previous year.

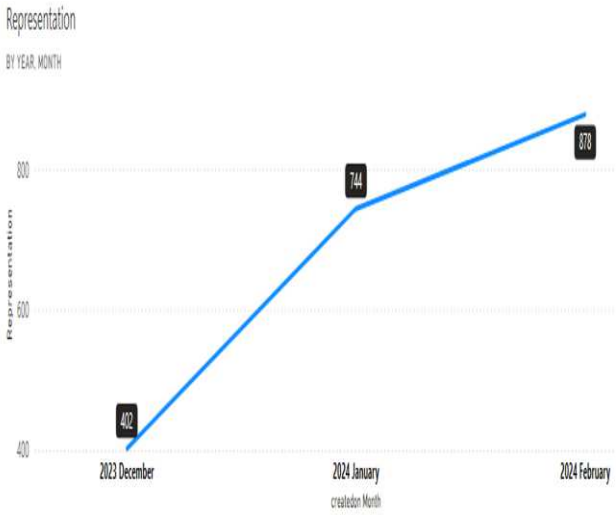


Customer Services

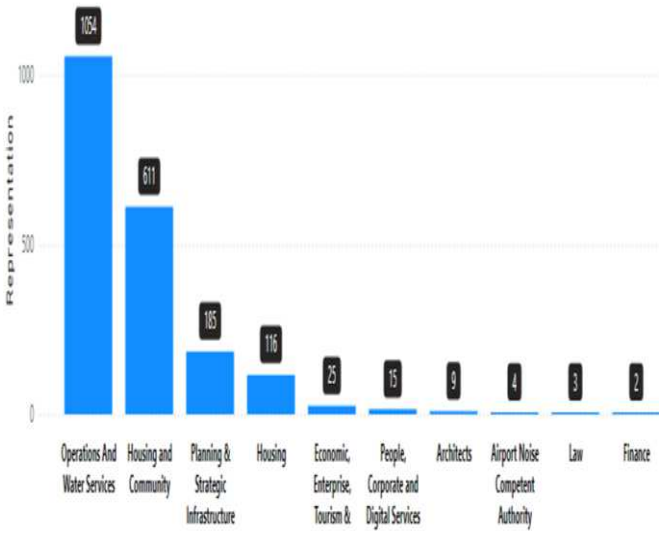
Month	Total No. of Calls	Total No. of Emails	Presenting in Person
February	10,798	1402	2136

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 February – 878.



The table below shows the total number of Elected Members' representations assigned to each Department to date in 2024.



Communications

Seachtain na Gaeilge

We are halfway through Seachtain na Gaeilge with a broad ranging programme taking place in Fingal. Thursday saw the Ardgillan Demesne Bilingual Walk with Irish Officer Bernie Kelly and Head Gardiner Dominica McKevitt. The walk was recently awarded Best Irish Language Initiative at the LAMA awards. On Wednesday in County Hall the Annual Oiche Cheol for Seachtain na Gaeilge will take place with musicians Ellie Níc Fhionnghaile, Dónal Kearney agus Fergus Cahillane. Announced during Seachtain na Gaeilge were the 10 recipients of the new Fingal County Council Gaeltacht Scholarship Scheme for second level students while a further 14 Fingal Staff commenced the Certificate in Professional Irish.

Website

The fingal.ie website attracted 130,915 visitors during February which was almost 10,000 up on the figure for January and 34,126 more than in February 2023. The number of page views, at 312,179, was up by 5% from January and by 26% from the same month last year. The month visited pages during February were the Home Page, Planning Applications, Jobs, Contact Us, Affordable Housing and Playability of Pitches.

Social Media

A post promoting the housing information evening in Donabate on March 7 and the various schemes to support people trying to own a home such as Affordable Housing, the Local Authority Home Loan and the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant got very good traction across our various platforms.

It had a reach of 30,506 on Facebook and a 6.76% engagement rate.

On Instagram there was a 6.46% engagement rate from a reach of 2,711. On X the post had 4,908 impressions and 105 engagements. The number of followers on Facebook has risen to 33,176 while Instagram now has 8,900 followers and LinkedIn has 8,656. The X account saw its followers rise to 23,314 from 23,233.

The five corporate social media channels now have a cumulative following of 75,296, having risen by 758 from last month.

Videos

Nine videos were produced during February and uploaded onto the Council's You Tube channel. They included a video about the photo shoot artist John Byrne held to create a Fingal version of a painting by French artist Eugene Delacroix from 1830. There were also videos produced about the sod-turning for 300 social and affordable homes in Church Fields, the opening of the Carnegie Library in Swords and the visit by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Planning to housing developments in Malahide and Swords.

All Videos can be viewed at https://www.youtube.com/@FingalCountyCouncil Video/videos

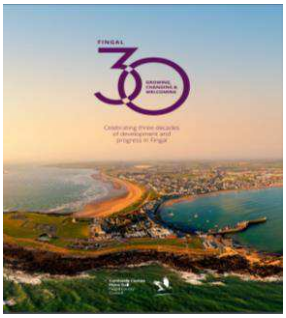
Press Releases

Seventeen press releases were issued during February. These included the commencement of construction at Church Fields and the opening of the refurbished Carnegie Library in Swords as well as the launch of the new Tourism Strategy and the new Local Economic and Community Plan. .

LAMA Nominations

The Communications Unit received two nominations at the recent All Ireland Local Authority and Community Awards organised by the Local Authority Members Association. The Ardgillan Demense Bilingual Walk won the Best Irish Language Initiative Award while the Inside Fingal Podcast was nominated for the Communications Award.

Resident's Booklet



A 24 page Irish-English booklet has been produced by the Communications Unit and delivered to every home in Fingal. The purpose of the booklet is increase awareness of the work being done by the councillors and staff of Fingal County Council to make Fingal a great place to live, work, visit and do business in. The booklet highlights some of the major Capital projects the Council is delivering and how the Council is addressing housing challenges as well as focusing on the work being done by some of the sections within the Council.

Media Queries

The Communications Unit received 26 media queries during February. Among the topics covered were Dublin Airport, Corduff Park, the R132 and restricted dog breeds.

Building Facilities / Energy Improvements

Condensing high-efficiency Calorifiers (hot water heaters) are in the process of being installed and commissioned. Five Units in total. Two which are now in situ in County Hall. Three in Grove Road which are due to be installed in the coming week.
These units will show a 20% gas reduction per unit on the efficiency compared to the previous unreliable models that were in place.
The new units will be operated by the BMS and have a range of functions to ensure energy controls while delivering hot water throughout the buildings.
Heat pump primary heating solution are been pursued as part of the general decarbonization of the Civic Offices.

Current Judicial Review Cases - March

Jimmy Guerin -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2022/116 JR
Kimpton Vale Limited -v- an Bord Pleanala and Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2022/390 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
Joan Reynolds and Edel McDonough -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/372 JR
MKN Properties Limited and another -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023/373 JR
daa plc -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/383 JR
Fiacre Ó Cairbre -v- An Bord Pleanála, Garlandbrook Limited, Alcove Ireland Four Limited, and Uisce Éireann High Court No 2023/570 JR
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
daa plc -v- Fingal County Council and the Irish Aviation Authority High Court Record No. 2023/916 JR
Friends of the Irish Environment CLG and SMTW Environmental DAC-v- the Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Ireland and the Attorney General and the Office of Planning Regulator and Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/1047 JR
Niall O'Connor and Geraldine Kiernan -v- An Bord Pleanala and Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/1122 JR
Erigo Limited and Joseph Flood -v- Fingal County Council and others High Court Record No 2023/1233 JR
Timothy Fitzgerald and James Fitzgerald -v- Fingal County Council Record No 2023/1236 JR
Kinwest Limited -v- An Bord Pleanala, Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Ireland and the Attorney General and Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023/1206 JR
Kinwest Limited -v- An Bord Pleanala, Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Ireland and the Attorney General and Fingal County Council High Court Record No 2023/1207 JR
KInwest Limited -v- an Bord Pleanala, Minister for Housing Local Government and Heritage, Ireland and the Attorney General and Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023.1208 JR
Martin Ryan and Mary Ryan -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023/1245 JR

ECONOMIC, ENTERPRISE, TOURISM & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

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Tourism
Events
Heritage Properties
Cultural Development
Arts
Libraries
Economic Development
LEADER Economic Programme
Local & Rural Development
Enterprise Centres
Healthy Fingal
Town Regeneration
Balbriggan Socio-Economic Strategy
T&V Scheme
Local Enterprise Office

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Launch of the Fingal Tourism Strategy

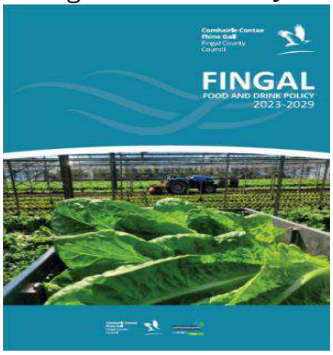
The Fingal Tourism Strategy 2024-2029 was officially launched at Ardgillan Castle on Thursday 8th February. The event brought together key representatives from across the tourism stakeholder community and the Strategy was formally launched by the Mayor in the presence of the Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage, Darragh O'Brien and Paul Kelly, CEO of Failte Ireland. Despite the inclement weather, over 60 people attended the successful launch that included traditional Irish music, an archery demonstration and an opportunity to sample a golf simulator as well as a much-praised lunch provided by The Salty Buoy food truck.

A small delegation will participate in a visit to New York from 18th to 21st March which will coincide with the premiere of the Fingal Sessions on US TV. The sessions were filmed in January 2024 and will be broadcast on almost 100 TV stations across the US. The visit will include a launch of the Fingal Sessions and the Fingal Tourism Strategy and will include opportunities for economic and tourism promotion with local elected officials, media, cultural and business representatives. Meetings have been arranged with Tourism Ireland's North American team, IDA and the Irish Business Organisation of New York. Meetings are also proposed with the County Dublin Society of New York and other groups with a view to strengthening the Council's links with the Fingal diaspora.

Fingal Food & Drink Network

The Fingal Food Network undertook their first Familiarisation visit of 2024 on Friday 23rd February to Belfast to learn best practices in creating food tours. Over 15 members attended the very successful visit which took in the inspiring Belfast Taste Tour sampling the best of produce in Northern Ireland. There was a great opportunity for members to network and discuss possible collaboration projects for food related businesses in Fingal.

The Fingal Food and Drink policy will be launched at Flavours of Fingal at the end of June.



LAMA Awards

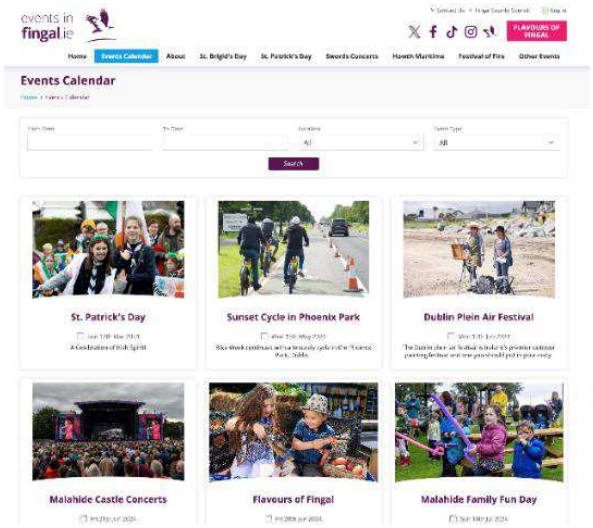
Fingal Culture & Tourism TV won the best tourism initiative category at the LAMA All Ireland Council & Community Awards at a ceremony held on Saturday 17th February. The award was for 'Tradfest the Fingal Sessions' and 'Ireland in Music' TV programmes that feature traditional Irish music in unique settings across Fingal and is broadcast worldwide in conjunction with Tradfest/Temple Bar Company.

EVENTS

Festival & Event Funding Scheme 2024

The 2024 Festival & Event Funding Scheme closed on the 31st of January 2024. It was launched on the 29th of September. 114 applications were received and 84 will be brought forward to the Council Meeting in March for approval with a value of €375,130.00.

The current events calendar can be viewed on www.eventsinfingal.ie/events



St. Brigid's Day 2024

THE IRISH TIMES

irishtimes.com

Sports Monday
Glass shines as Harte beats old charges Tyrone
SEÁN MORAN
'Special victory' in Marseille GERRY THORNLEY

Una Mullally
Immigration is positive, but we are framing it as a negative
Opinion, page 10

Pilita Clark
It looks like demand for top MR 'vs has peaked - and that might be no bad thing
Business, page 13

Going electric
From affordability to charging infrastructure, all you need to know before buying an EV
Pricewatch, page 9

RTÉ agreed to new deal with auditor Deloitte despite role

Company found there were no control deficiencies in the national broadcaster

Agreement reached as station battled in crisis of public and political confidence

Never a cross word
Friends at St Brigid's workshop

At the St Brigid's Day Workshop held yesterday in St Brigid's Community Centre, Blanchardstown, Dublin, were friends Sesan O'Loughlin (6) from Summerfield and Olive Lennon Gallagher, (6) from Mayneuth.

The free family fun day was a huge success in Blanchardstown Community Centre and the concert in the church was a sellout, the feedback received from the attendees and the Blanchardstown Tidy Towns was very positive. A picture of the family fun day made the cover of the Irish Times on the Monday.

St Patricks Day 2024

Lá Fhéile Pádraig
PARÁIDÍ FHINE GALL 2024
events in fingal.ie
DÉ DOMHNAIGH, AN 17 MÁRTA
SORD... 11AM BAILE BRIGÍN...12PM
AN ROS...1PM LUSCA...1.30PM
BAILE BHLAINSÉIR...12PM
MULLACH ÍDE...2PM NA SCEIRÍ...3PM
FAIGH TUILLEADH EOLAIS AGUS FÉACH AR BHEALAÍ NA PARÁIDE AR:
FÁILTE ROIMH CHÁCH
MOLTAR LADAÍ ATA OIRIUNACH DON AIMSIR A CHAITHEAMH
WWW.FINGAL.IE

FINGAL WILL ENJOY 7 ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADES
WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF A CREATIVE DIRECTOR IT IS EXPECTED TO SEE AN INCREASE IN PAGEANTRY, MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT ACROSS THE PARADES.
THE EVENTS UNIT HAVE 4 DIRECTLY MANAGED PARADES, SWORDS, BALBRIGGAN, BLANCHARDSTOWN AND MALAHIDE.
3 COMMUNITY ORGANISED PARADES IN LUSK, RUSH AND SKERRIES ARE FUNDED BY THE EVENTS OFFICE & SUPPORTED BY THE OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT.
EACH PARADE HAS A MANAGED ADDITIONAL NEEDS/ QUIET SPACE AND THIS WILL BE ADVERTISED AND MANAGED WITH CLEAR CONCISE INFORMATION. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE COMMUNICATION UNIT A MARKETING AND PROMOTION PLAN WILL BE IMPLEMENTED. IN 2023 CLOSE TO 80,000 PARTICIPANTS AND SPECTATORS ATTENDED ALL EVENTS.
FOR MALAHIDE ADDITIONAL NEEDS EMAIL: PATRICKSPARADE24@GMAIL.COM
FOR ALL OTHER ADDITIONAL NEEDS EMAIL: FINGAL@DAVISEVENTS.IE
SEE WWW.EVENTSINFINGAL.IE AND WWW.FINGAL.IE TO FIND OUT MORE AND FOLLOW EVENTS IN FINGAL ON SOCIAL MEDIA
FOR SWORDS, BLANCHARDSTOWN AND BALBRIGGAN REGISTER AT WWW.FINGALPARADES.COM
FOR MALAHIDE PARADE REGISTER AT: WWW.MALAHIDEPARADE.IE

Applications for this years parades are now open. For Swords, Balbriggan & Blanchardstown you can apply via: www.fingalparades.com and Malahide via: www.malahideparade.ie additional needs areas are being provided in all four parades and can be booked via emailing patrickspaarde24@gmail.com for Malahide and fingal@davisevents.ie for Swords, Balbriggan & Blanchardstown.

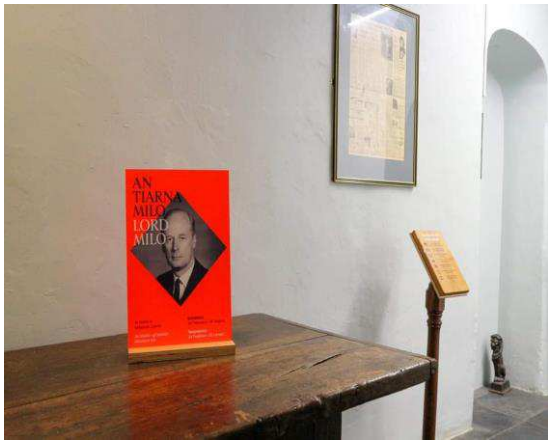
Particular attention is being given this year to try and animate the parades by more creative and artistic ways. So far signs up of groups are: Swords – 29, Blanchardstown - 27, Balbriggan – 20, Malahide - 13

HERITAGE PROPERTIES

Malahide Castle - Boiler upgrade incl. Rainwater Harvesting/CHP

The Mechanical & Electrical consultants are finalising the tender package for the Boiler upgrade incl. Rainwater harvesting/CHP.
The works will consist of a full replacement of the boilers, reintroduction of the CHP and Rainwater Harvesting System, thus providing enhanced efficiencies over time by reducing costs and by promoting energy and water conservation.
It is envisaged that works will commence in Q2 2024.

Malahide Castle – The Lord Milo Exhibition



The Lord Milo exhibition has officially opened in Malahide Castle. This exhibition explores the life of Lord Milo Talbot of Malahide (1912-1973), the last Baron to live at the castle.
It covers his childhood in England, his mysterious diplomatic career, his extensive travels and his imprint on Malahide Castle. Recognising his great contribution to botany and plant collecting, and research on the art collection.

Swords Castle – Lighting up for Rare Diseases Day

Swords Castle was lit up for a week to raise awareness for Rare Diseases Day which took place on 29th February.

Newbridge House – Cafe Upgrades

An improvement to the outdoor environment was agreed with the operator to include better provisions for dog walkers and shelter from rain. This will include a partially covered area on the existing terrace. A mobile coffee unit is included in these discussions and will be located within the demise of the cafe operator. This will reduce queue times and enhance the overall experience and comfort for service users.

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
ARTS

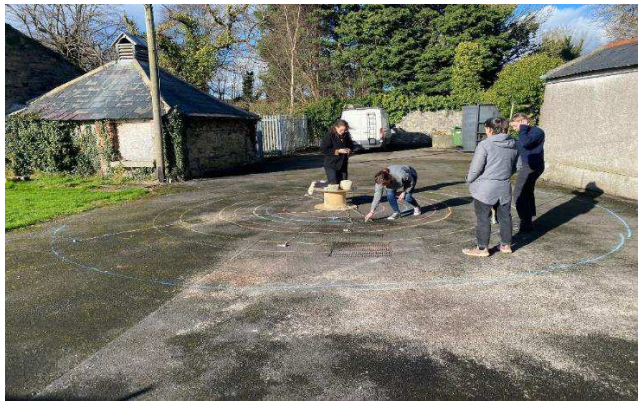
Carnegie Library

After a year of extensive works, the Carnegie Library in Swords has been officially reopened, marking a key advancement in the extensive Swords Cultural Quarter. The Arts Office will now begin to develop a programme which will feature a diverse array of exhibitions, multi-disciplinary residencies, performances, and workshops. A Programme Development Manager has been appointed and a public launch will take place later this year.

Youth and Education

Space Crafts

Fingal Arts Office and DIAS Dunsink are delighted to announce a new STEAM initiative at the observatory, generously supported by the Science Ireland Discovery Programme. This new initiative, titled Space Crafts, will provide new and innovative ways for artists to engage children in and through the arts. Artists Aileen Murphy (dance & visual) Julia McConville (visual) Mary Jo Gilligan (visual & education) will take up residency at DIAS and develop artistic workshops inspired by the work at DIAS and reach out to children in eight local primary schools across a two-year period.



Public Art

John Kindness visited Balbriggan for a site visit and a meeting with the project teams for Harry Reynold Road and Quay Street as we plan for a new Public Art Commission for the town. While in Fingal he visited Swords to look at some of his work and the new Carnegie Library where artist John Byrne was making plans for his installation of new work featuring 60 Fingal residents planned for later this year.

Draíocht

Draíocht's major project, NEST, formally launched on February 17th. This was the first time we gathered everyone involved in the project. Our 48 hosts (a host being a person who lives in Dublin 15), their families, our 5 visual artists, curator, 41 theatre/dance/music artists and our production team were all present. Our hosts are between the ages of 7 weeks old to 22 years old. Our 48 hosts include one class group from PobalScoil Setanta (22 children).

On March 1st, our 23 shows will be performed 3 times, 69 performances in total. These performances will take place in schools and homes all over Dublin 15. It is estimated that they will be seen by 1,500 people.

Our Festival 'Spreacha Soar', where all of the 23 shows will be performed in Draíocht takes place from 11th to 16th March.

April 13th will be the final event of the NEST project. This is the day we formally handover the NEST Portrait project works to Fingal County Council's collection.

The Séamus Ennis Arts Centre

Art Exhibition

Fingal Artist Stephen Wylie's first solo exhibition opened on February 3rd, with 60% of his paintings selling within the first weekend.

Comedy

David McSavage played on February 10th and sold out, with a waitlist.

Cinema

French film Driving Madeleine on February 8th has been one of our most popular films in the last year, with 66 tickets sold. 25% of those attending opted for a meal deal ticket and dined in the café.

Slow Sessions and Singing Sessions

Our slow sessions and singing sessions have been well attended in person, while people from all over the world have joined us on Zoom and via live stream.

Music

Mary Coughlan and Ultan Coughlan played a sell out gig on February 3rd, Blues Singer Dom Martin sold 80% of tickets, The Breath due to play 23rd February have sold out one gig and are playing a matinee, while Session Americana due to play 24th February is also on course for a sell out gig. Piper Ronan Browne and tin whistle maestro Mary Bergin received great reviews for their More Than Music performance on 16th February which was also live streamed on Facebook, Youtube and for the first time on Instagram.

Classes

We started a Parent and Toddler Traditional Music Class called Céilí Beag – each week the children interact with various toys and art materials themed around the "instrument of the week" and in the last 20 minutes a musician comes in and plays that instrument. Thus far we have had Bodhran, Fiddle and Harp! These sessions have been very popular and are selling out every week.

Libraries

Brigid in Balbriggan

To celebrate Brigid's bank holiday, the wonderful community of Balbriggan gathered for a spectacular, illuminated procession through the streets of the town and onto the beach. Balbriggan is one of Europe's most diverse towns and is expanding into a vibrant hub of creative expression and life. On a beautiful, calm February evening, performers from Luxe Landscape Theatre Company were joined by community groups at the Lark Concert Hall. Accompanied by an ethereal soundtrack, they carried light together from Church Street, gathered the community at George's Square and in a powerful and emotive performance, spread Brigid's light, before bringing everyone on a processional journey down Quay Street, under the viaduct and onto a celebration on the beach. All were welcome to join in this family-friendly event to celebrate the return of Spring with a celebration of light, hope, and the coming together of this wonderful and beautifully diverse community.

This breathtaking procession was developed through a collaboration between Creative Fingal, Fingal County Council, Our Balbriggan, Community Wellness, Luxe Landscape Theatre, and the entire Balbriggan community. This demonstrates how the Creative Ireland Programme delivers through collaboration and partnership to promote understanding and appreciation of the value of creativity in all its forms. It was a wonderful and unique opportunity to celebrate community and creativity and to mark the celebration of Lá Fhéile Bríde, St Brigid's Day.

Author Visits

Best-selling authors Emer McLysaght and Sarah Breen of the Aisling series joined author Sarah Maria Griffin in Blanchardstown Library on St. Brigid's Day for a discussion of their work. This booked out event was followed by a lively Q&A session from the audience.

Balbriggan Library hosted the Arts Council of Ireland's Art of Reading Book Club on 7th February. Readers and book clubs joined the Laureate for Irish Fiction Colm Tóibín (via video link), in conversation with Balbriggan author Kevin Curran.

To mark Ireland Reads Day, a national day to celebrate reading supported by public libraries on Saturday 24th February, children's author and illustrator Alan Nolan visited Blanchardstown Library to talk about his books featuring Molly Malone & Bram Stoker.

Children's authors and illustrators Niamh Sharkey and Owen Churcher will visit Rush Library on 15th March for a Monster Doodle event to celebrate the publication of their new book Hello Bird. Children attending this event will be gifted a copy of the book.

Fingal Libraries World Book Tour 2024

Acclaimed children's authors Alan Nolan, Sadhbh Devlin, Nicola Pierce, Ellen Ryan and Sarah Webb will visit libraries and schools across Fingal between 4th - 8th March to celebrate World Book Day Ireland 2024. This is the second year of the popular Fingal Libraries World Book Tour, which gives primary school children the opportunity to meet some of their favourite authors. The children will be gifted a copy of the author's book and get fun World Book Tour-branded activity sheets full of puzzles and games.

Launch of Sensory Resource Back Packs in Fingal Libraries

Backpacks full of sensory-friendly resources are now available in Baldoyle, Swords and Balbriggan Libraries. This has been funded by the Community Recognition Fund. The roll out of the sensory resource backpacks was launched by the Mayor with a photo call in Swords Library on Monday 19th February. The Mayor was joined by the County Librarian and children from St. Cronan's Junior National School in Brackenstown, Swords. The children, who were in the Library for a fun sensory-friendly slime workshop, got some hands-on experience trying out the resources in the backpacks, including fidget kits, fibre optic lights and an ocean wave projector with sounds and speaker. The sensory resource backpacks continue the Libraries' Dept commitment to making our spaces and services inclusive of neurodivergence, through the provision of materials and resources, training for library staff, programming, and sensory-friendly quiet hours.

Inclusive Creativity

Prosper Fingal is taking part in creative workshops in Malahide Library and Swords Library as part of an ongoing Inclusive Creativity project. The workshops include creative writing, photography and illustration. St. Michael's House is also taking part in creative workshops, including painting, arts and crafts, and illustration classes in Swords Library. These workshops give participants an opportunity to express their creativity and interact with others in a supportive and friendly environment.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Fingal Libraries is presenting a range of events for all ages to celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge. Balbriggan and Baldoyle Libraries will host Irish traditional music and singing from Antaine Ó Faracháin and Nollaig MacCarthaigh. Children and adults alike will get the opportunity to learn how to play the bodhrán with champion bodhrán player Niall Preston. Gaeilge i mBaile Brigín will host a bilingual poetry evening in Balbriggan Library. Donabate, Malahide and Blanchardstown Libraries will screen a 3D Irish language film, Ar Ais Arís, on Oculus Virtual Reality headsets. Created by James Riordan from the Brú Theatre in Galway, this visually stunning film features the Irish language, culture, dance, and music.

Storyteller Seosamh Ó Maolalaí will tell stories in Irish for all the family in several libraries. Róisín Murphy will recount Irish legends and folklore that have been passed down through the generations. Illustrator Tarsila Krüse will read Ná Gabh ar Scoil followed by a children's drawing workshop. Fingal Libraries Seachtain na Gaeilge programme features several workshops for schools, including yoga sessions as Gaeilge and comic strip drawing workshops with cartoonist Aidan Courtney of Coimicí Gael. High Rock Productions will present an Irish speaking performance workshop featuring school children, in Skerries and Donabate Libraries.

Creative Ireland: Creative Communities Open Call 2024

Following a significant increase in queries relating to Creative Ireland funding through Fingal since the start of 2024, the Creative Fingal team performed an evaluation of the existing process. Following this, the team engaged with consultant Sinéad Begley to develop an Open Call application form and guidance document for Creative Communities Grants for 2024. This should streamline the process for both applicants and evaluators going forward.

The Open Call is due to go live on 22/02/2024 on the Fingal Submit platform. It will remain live until the deadline of 5:00 pm on 29/03/2024. Information on the funding scheme and how to apply will be available on the Fingal website and it will be advertised across social media channels.

There will be four awards within this scheme. Each award is to the value of €5,000 - €10,000 (max.). Applicants are asked to link their projects to the key strategic themes of the Fingal Culture and Creativity Strategy 2023 – 2027. Applications will be evaluated in early April and successful applicants notified and supported to begin preparations on their projects.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Fingal Skills Strategy

Planning has commenced for the 2024 "Xplore Your Future Expo" which will be held in The Helix, DCU on the 15th of October 2024.

Tenders for consultants to prepare the next iteration of the Fingal Skills Strategy 2024 – 2029 are currently under evaluation.

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. Reporting for Period 1 of the Project has been completed and the identification of good practices in Fingal is in progress with key stakeholders – DRSF and Baldoyle Training Centre – which will be shared with the Project Partners and presented at the next transnational meeting scheduled to take place in Florence in March 2024.

Economic Development Strategy

Grant Thornton Consultants have completed work on the Fingal Economic Development Strategy 'Future Fingal' which was agreed at the February Council Meeting. Work has commenced on a Marketing Plan, with consultations with key stakeholders taking place in January and February 2024. Preparations are underway to launch the Economic Development Strategy in April 2024.

URBACT – EcoCore

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.

The EcoCore Project baseline study and roadmap for the project for the next 2 years has been approved by the URBACT Secretariat. As Lead Partner, Fingal is proceeding to schedule the transnational city visits in collaboration with our Project Partners and to plan Balbriggan's small-scale actions for 2024.

The next core network meeting is scheduled for the 12/13th March in Santo Tirso, Portugal where members of the Balbriggan URBACT Local Group (ULG) will attend the two-day transnational meeting.

As the project is entering the action planning stage for 2024 a series of masterclasses on key topics for partners has commenced, with the following masterclasses delivered to date:

- Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and delivered by URBACT Ad-Hoc Expert Tiago Ferreira, Lead Expert of Urbact Residents of the Future Project on 23rd January 2024
- Facilitation Skills delivered by Louise O'Meara of Queens University on the 16th and 23rd February 2024

- Small Scale Actions delivered by EcoCore Lead Expert Eileen Crowley on 27th February 2024

Fingal County Council attended an Urbact Irish Networks Meeting held by EMRA in Limerick on the 21st February 2024 to present progress on the EcoCore Project and connect with representatives of the Irish local authorities involved in other Urbact Networks.

The Balbriggan Project Team is examining a further application to the Urbact European Urban Initiative (EUI) to inform the development of plans for Balbriggan under the EcoCore Project.

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

Fingal is hosting the fifth Green IT Your Work international meeting on the 6/7th March 2024 with a focus on "It's Time For Green Start"
Fingal County Council will host partner representatives from Romania, Spain Greece, Cyprus, Slovenia, Croatia, Italy and Ireland.

Work is ongoing 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. Work continues on the project with partners from Italy, Poland, Hungary, Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands and Romania. Representatives from Fingal's Sports Office and Foroige attended Lasi, Romania, in February with the Portugal event taking place in April 2024.

Sustainable Fingal

SUSTAINABLE FINGAL An initiative of Fingal County Council

The Council met with representatives from DCU and daa in February to discuss a work programme for 2024 to progress sustainable projects. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for March 2024 to prioritise projects.

CIRCULAR CITIES DECLARATION

Work continues on the development of 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

dublin belfast ECONOMIC CORRIDOR

Fingal County Council was 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. 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. The feasibility study has been completed and was submitted to the Department. Drawdown of the eligible funding has been completed and the Council is liaising with DBEC to consider potential funding streams to progress the implementation of the Study's recommendations.

Fingal County Council continues to liaise with DBEC on a series of potential projects for DBEC.

Enterprise Ireland – Smart Regions Funding

The Council has commenced preparations of applications to the Smart Regions Fund. The application deadline is 31st March 2024. The Council is reviewing potential applications under Stream 1 for Capital Infrastructure and Under Stream 4 for a Feasibility Studies/Priming Grants and is liaising with key stakeholders such as DBEC and the Council's Enterprise Centres on the applications.

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 7th of February 2024 and reviewed progress on various programmes under its remit, discussed a join application from the Fingal LCDC and Fingal CYPSC for a pilot project under the EU Child Guarantee Ireland's National Action Plan and approved the SICAP end of year 2023 review and discussed the annual plan for 2024.

Fingal Local Economic Community Plan 2023 – 2028

The LECP was adopted by the Council in January 2024 and includes a two-year LECP Implementation Plan with actions to implement the Goals and Objectives set out in the LECP.

The LECP was launched on the 26th February 2024 by the Mayor Councillor Adrian Henchy and Minister Joe O'Brien with internal and external stakeholders attending the launch at County Hall along with Minister Darragh O'Brien.

Local Enhancement Programme

The Local Enhancement Programme is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development. Fingal was allocated €220,842.98 in funding for groups across the county. A call for applications has been advertised by the Council with a closing date for applications from community groups/organisations of 8th March 2024. The evaluation of applications will take place in March with a deadline of 28th March for the submission of proposed allocations to the Department of Rural and Community Development for approval.

Alcohol Education

Healthy Fingal in collaboration with the North Dublin Drugs Task Force are piloting an alcohol education programme with Lusk Utd AFC from January 2024. The pre-crisis education programme targeting men over 35 will run for 8 weeks in tandem with an exercise programme to encourage men to evaluate their drinking levels and potentially reduce their consumption levels.

We Can Quit

Healthy Fingal have teamed up with Empower to deliver two pilot We Can Quit programmes with the Blanchardstown Training Centre (to start in Q1) and the Tolka River Project, Mulhuddart. The We Can Quit programme, was developed by the HSE and is aimed at encouraging people to quit tobacco/vaping. The programme with the Tolka River project started in January 2024 and will run for 10 weeks with participants enrolled both quit smoking sessions and weekly yoga sessions to encourage a healthier lifestyle.

Community Recognition Fund

The Community Recognition Fund (CRF), funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development, approved the Council's project proposals in March 2023. Fingal County Council has received an allocation of €1,748,912 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 the project with the Council submitting an initial drawdown in 2023 of €243,000 with a further drawdown to be completed in Q1 in respect of works completed to date in 2024.

SICAP

SICAP
Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme

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.

The new contract for the provision of the SICAP programme over the period 2024-2028 has been awarded to Empower CLG and contracts have been signed. The annual SICAP budget for 2024 is €1,520,811 and there is a separate funding provision for new arrivals to the value of €375, 372 for 2024.

Leader Programme

Following the outcome of the Local Development Strategy (LDS) selection process Fingal LCDC and Fingal LEADER Partnership were selected to run the LEADER Programme 2023 – 2027 in the Dublin rural area. The Dublin Rural LEADER (LAG) includes rural areas in the administrative areas of Fingal, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and South Dublin.

The new LEADER programme launched at the end of February, following the signing of the LEADER Funding Agreement by the Minister for Rural & Community Development, Heather Humphreys, TD. The new Dublin Rural LAG met for the first time on the 27th February 2024 and were briefed on the new LEADER Programme by Fingal LEADER Partnership. A number of workshops are planned in March 2024 to promote the new LEADER 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.

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 with a marketing campaign now underway across various media platforms and includes an article in the Business Post. Drinan Enterprise Centre is also promoting the availability of a bespoke media studio facility available for immediate booking to all individuals, groups and business interests which is also being promoted with a podcast which is planned in March from Drinan Enterprise Centre's Creative Studio by the bilingual podcasters "How to Gael'.

TOWN REGENERATION OFFICE

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 - Growing the Local Economy, Public Realm & Infrastructure, Education, Skills & Employment, Community Integration, Health & Well Being and Community Safety. The Balbriggan Leadership Group, provides oversight and stewardship for the plan's implementation. A 'Review and Renew' meeting of the Leadership Group was held in February. The next meeting will be held in March 2024 where the review and renewal of the Our Balbriggan Programme will continue to progress.

Tenders submitted to appoint a contractor for the Quay Street, Harbour & Environs Scheme are being evaluated. Following successful selection and appointment, the appointed contractor is anticipated to be on site in April 2024, the project is to be completed on a phased basis in 2025. 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 has now progressed 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 and a temporary Pocket Park has been installed. Demolition contractors are on site and have implemented a programme of works to demolish the rear of the De Bruns Buildings. The front facade of the buildings facing Bridge Street are to be kept to maintain the street line. An Integrated Design Team has been selected and will look at preparing a design based on best possible uses and options in line with site constraints. Early and on-going stakeholder engagement will take place shortly and throughout the design process.

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 complete, with some lighting improvements awaiting final completion further to new electricity connections.

The programme office met with Project Management Consultants in February to initiate the phase 2 element of the Balbriggan Tidal Pool and Swimming Platform Feasibility Study. Potential funding options and funding models will also be investigated and identified and necessary environmental studies, site investigations will form part of the phase 2 stage.

An Internal Project Team has been established from the Town Regeneration Office, Our Balbriggan and FCC Architects to progress the Boathouse and Bathhouse project. FCC has met with local stakeholders and potential end users for the Bathhouse and Boathouse. Enabling works commenced in February. Works include full surveys and assessment of the site, which will inform the full works design and 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 were agreed in the third quarter 2023. 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). Consultants to support the preparation of a new Town Plan were appointed to work with the Community, Businesses and Public Realm Pillars in Lusk to get their views for inclusion in the new town plan. Work on this has progressed well, with a draft of the new Town Centre First Plan for Lusk currently being reviewed, with final sign-off on the plan expected shortly. The plan will then be published.

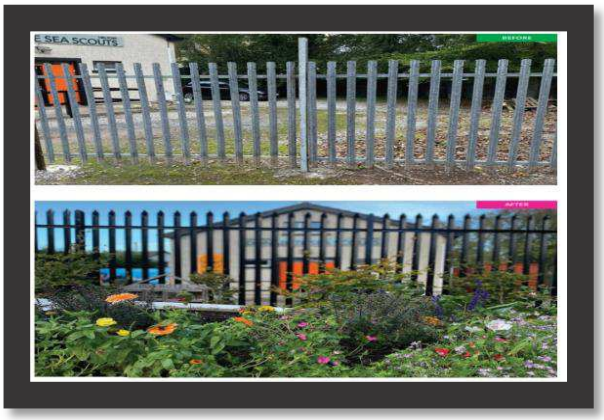
Town Centre First – Rush

At the National Town Centre First Day held 28th February in Limerick, the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphries T.D. announced that Rush had been selected as Fingal's second Town Centre First Town. The Town Regeneration Office welcomes the selection of Rush as a Town Centre First Town and will be engaging with the Local Elected Members, the Community and the Business Sector in Rush to establish a new Rush Town Team. This new Town Team will prepare a new Town Centre First Plan for Rush.

Town & Village Renewal Schemes

The 2023 Town and Village Renewal Scheme was launched during the Summer 2023 and the Town Regeneration Office submitted 5 applications to the Department of Rural and Community Development for consideration in November. The outcome of these applications is awaited.

In 2023, the Town Regeneration Office completed the implementation of projects in Rush, Donabate, Oldtown, Naul, St. Margaret's and Balrothery. With respect to these 6 schemes, the local authority has invested €282,276.00 in total funding drawn down from the Department of Rural and Community Development to support the revitalisation of our Rural towns.



Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme

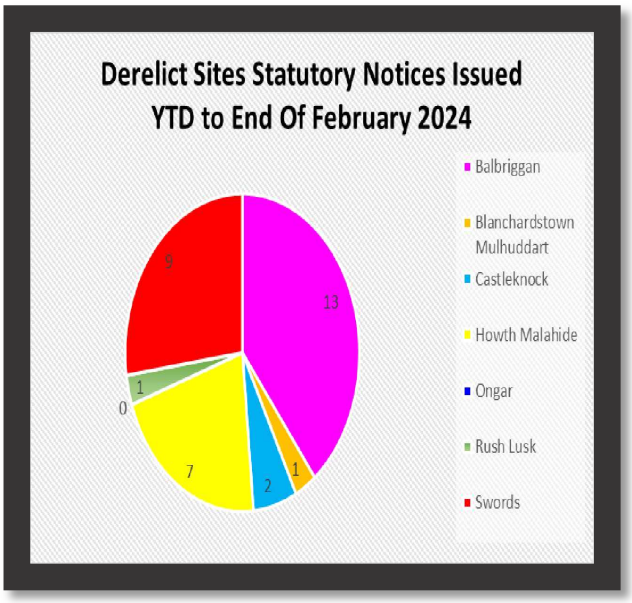
An application under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme for a feasibility study for facilities for sea swimmers in Skerries was successful in November. As of February 2024, the Town Regeneration Office has commenced the study process by engaging with local stakeholders, gathering and collating feedback to inform future options and study scope.

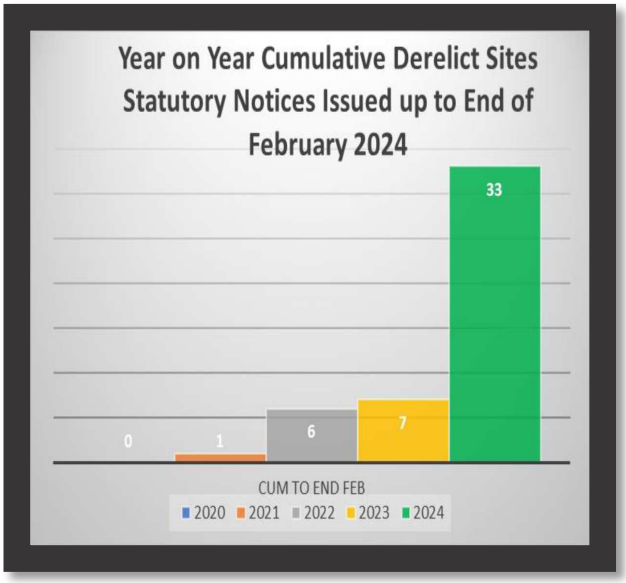
Urban Regeneration Development Fund Call 3

In 2023, 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 inclusion by the URDF Call 3 Fund administered by the Department of Housing Heritage and Local Government. A further 5 properties were approved by the Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government in February. These are being assessed and progressed where appropriate. A further 20 properties are under consideration to be added to the list of properties going forward.

Derelict Sites

33 statutory notices have issued to owners of Derelict properties to the end of February 2024. This equates to 71% of the total notices issued in 2023 and the team are gaining momentum as they work through referrals throughout the County.
25 new sites have been identified to the end of February 2024 which are actively being progressed in line with the Derelict Sites Act 1990.





The Derelict Sites Section actively encourage the reporting of potential derelict sites. Referrals can be made by accessing the Report Form on Fingal County Councils public website and emailing the completed form through to derelictsites@fingal.ie

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 February 2024 are as follows:

Local Enterprise Week 2024

Local Enterprise Week 2024 is scheduled for March 4th to 8th. The week kicks off in the Riasc Centre, Kinsealy with the Fingal Startup Bootcamp. On Tuesday the LEO in partnership with the Balbriggan Chamber is hosting a networking event in the Lark, Balbriggan called "Don't Wait for Opportunity, Create it" with 3 Fingal entrepreneurs sharing their journey at the event. On Wednesday, Fingal Chamber is running a "Behind the Business" event in the Portmarnock Hotel featuring local entrepreneurs. Thursday sees Fingal LEO present a Dublin regional event in the Crowne Plaza, Blanchardstown, with Richard Curran as MC and covering the topic of Raising Finance. Friday will celebrate International Women's Day with the Fingal Enterprising Women Network in the Roganstown Hotel, as well as the LEO sponsored Pitch Perfect event in TU Dublin, Grangegorman.

Fingal Local Enterprise Awards 2024

Fingal Enterprise Awards 2024

The Fingal Enterprise Awards competition is organised annually by the Local Enterprise Office to acknowledge the achievements of small businesses. This is part of a national competition in which one overall winner from each of the 31 Local Enterprise Office areas will compete for the National awards. Each of the finalists who complete the full judging process will be eligible to share in the overall prize fund of approximately €10,000 to be invested in their business. The Fingal winner will be announced at a ceremony on Tuesday of Local Enterprise Week 2024.

Following an assessment of eligible applications these are the 5 Fingal Businesses that have been shortlisted and are now going forward to the judging phase of the competition:

Silvertop Ltd, T/A QBM (Baldoyle), PRM Assist Ltd (Swords); Thorn Environmental Ltd (Dublin 15); MSC Retail T/A Carol Kinsella Chocolates (Kinsealy); Lumineire Ltd, T/A Elite Woodworking Machinery (Dublin 15).

Student Enterprise Programme

26 Second level schools across Fingal are competing in this year's Student Enterprise Programme. Over 1,000 Fingal students have developed their own real-life businesses, researching, resourcing, trading services and products, with the guidance of business mentors. Final preparations are underway for the Fingal County Final which will take place on Thursday 14th March 2024 in the Crowne Plaza Blanchardstown, with the Junior, Intermediate and Senior Fingal winners progressing to the National Finals in Mullingar on 9th May.

Fingal Enterprising Women Network

As part of Local Enterprise Week 2024 and in honour of International Womens Day, the LEO's Fingal Enterprising Women Network will host an engaging networking lunch on Friday, March 8th at the elegant Roganstown House Hotel. Renowned TV personality and accomplished Businesswoman, Anna Daly will feature as guest speaker as she will discuss all things media, motivation and making it happen!

Upcoming Fingal Business Briefing Sessions

A second Business Supports Briefing for 2024 was held on 6th February where 60 small business owners and entrepreneurs heard about supports and services available to them. The briefings outline services and supports for small businesses and individuals seeking to start their own business, through the LEO and other state agencies. 204 individuals attended a business briefing in 2023. The next business briefing is scheduled for Local Enterprise Week Friday 8th March at the Carlton Hotel Dublin Airport.

Food Supports

LEO Fingal is running the next Dublin region Food Starter programme in April 2024, working with small food producers who are starting out on their food business journey. The Food Starter programme is the industry specific Start Your Own Business training for the food sector. As part of the programme, businesses are given a thorough grounding in what is required to set up their business, the health and safety implications and how to capitalise on market opportunity. Participants also benefit from the network of other food businesses on the course and leave with a new set of mentors and business advisors to help them on their journey. As part of Local Enterprise Week, we are running a Meet the Food and Drink Entrepreneurs event for all Dublin food producers, featuring successful food producers who will share their experiences with the audience.

Evaluations and Approvals Committee

The Evaluation and Approvals Committee (EVAC) approved €174,990 in funding across six Business Feasibility, Priming and Expansion Grants in February 2024. Four Technical Assistance for Micro Exporters grants to the value of €10,000 and two Digital for Business grants amounting to €9,000. The next EVAC meeting will be on 20th March 2024.

Management Development

The Leadership for Business Acceleration Programme provides an exceptional opportunity for SME Owners and Managers to build on the necessary leadership skills and knowledge needed to successfully compete in existing, new and international markets. This highly successful "International Best Practice" training programme will run from March – May 2024 and is delivered to small groups by way of onsite skills development workshops and online workshops. As part of the programme, the owner manager participants each produce Work Based Assessments which document their 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. Applications will shortly open for the programme.

Energy Efficiency Grant Scheme

Applications are open for the Energy Efficiency Grant Scheme, the Scheme enables 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. In January 2024, a total of 18 applications have been approved in the amount of €38,504. The next Trading Online Voucher seminar will be held online during Local Enterprise Week on 7th March 2024

Business Advice Clinics and Mentoring

LEO Fingal provides one to one business support services through Business Advice Clinics and a Mentoring programme, both online and in person. These services are heavily subsidised by LEO and provided free of charge to small businesses. The Fingal mentor panel consists of a variety of skilled and experienced mentors from a range of business backgrounds. So far this year, over one hundred clients have availed of one-to-one advice in our Business Advice Clinics. The Mentoring Programme has already got off to a busy start, with 63 clients receiving expert mentoring so far this year.

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 5 MFI loan applications to date in 2024.

Training and Events

2024 training is continuing apace with over 530 participants in events year to date. The second Start your own Business course is starts on February 29th bringing to 24 the number of participants at the multi-day event YTD. The Social Media and Digital Marketing QQI course kicked off in January and is still ongoing with a class size of 12. The second Social Media course is running in Local Enterprise Week. Fingal LEO is running a Startup Bootcamp in Local Enterprise Week which is an intensive one-day course for those who wish to invest in their training for starting their business.

Internationalisation and Export Development

Five Fingal businesses have been selected to participate in the 2024 Export Development Programme. The purpose of this new programme is to provide clients with the skills and the confidence to identify, target and exploit new business opportunities in the Benelux Region. In addition, the TAME (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. Four Fingal businesses have been approved for Export Grants in 2024 to date.

OPERATIONS

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Works Programme
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Recycling Centre Update
Licenses
Surface Water
Meetings/Briefings

Works Programme

Balbriggan / Swords Area

Balbriggan Area Parks

As part of the ongoing improvements and path upgrades in Skerries Town Park, there are recent installations of park rail and bollards at strategic junctions.

As part of the improvement of sightlines at the exit of Loughshinney Park Estate, a small section of hedge was removed with the installation of bollards and associated path improvements.

Following a recent high tide flooding event, the steps access at North beach Skerries required repair and replacement of the bottom set of steps. Works completed by FCC Operations staff.

New self-watering planters installed outside Naul Community Centre.

The Height restriction barrier at the entrance to Red Island Car Park required an increase in height to accommodate the newer design emergency vehicles that occasionally require access to the site.

Swords Area Parks

Holywell Park – 130 trees planted on a rainy Saturday morning in February. The Continuation of volunteer planting undertaken by the Swords Woodland Association and assisted by youth players of Kinsealy Utd along the Northern boundary of Holywell Park, adjacent to the car park.

Santry Demesne - Veteran/Ancient Oak tree fenced off in Santry demesne to restrict access as part of woodland management measures.

Recently installed access path to bench at Portrane, following requests from elected representatives.

Removal of vegetation along paths edges in Rivermeade Open Space.

Harbours

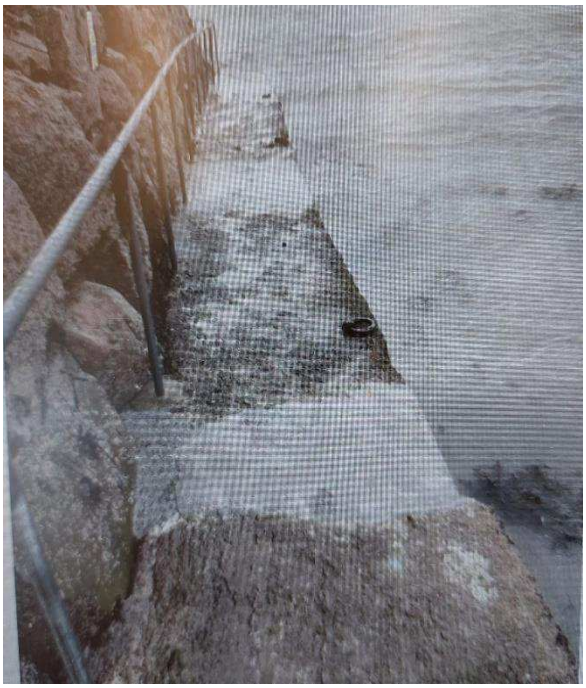
➢ Balbriggan Harbour

Repointing on sea wall.

Clear out & Removal of container from harbour.

➢ Skerries Harbour

Repairs to the back of the concrete sea wall.

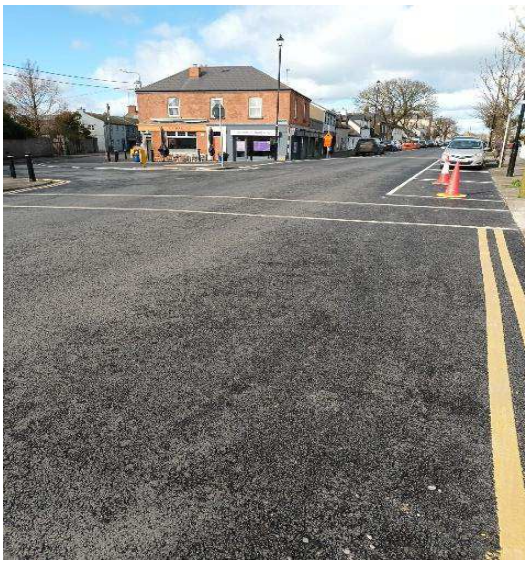


Bridges

Clearing of vegetation from 16 bridges for principal inspection.

Skerries

Newly resurfaced Strand Street in Skerries.



Swords

Concrete road repairs, carried out by the Direct Labour Crew, in Valley View.

Removal of timber posts and clean up of area at Elmwood.

Replacement and adjustment of various road signage in the Swords greater area.

Portrane

Concrete road and footpath repairs by FCC crews at Seaview Park.

Concrete bases, benches and bins installed at Quay Road and Tower Bay.

Public Convenience Building Programme Balbriggan Swords Area

The Part VIII planning consent process for the replacement of the public toilet at Rush South beach commenced following the Area Meeting in December. Plans and drawings of the proposal went on display on the 30th of January 2024 for final decision at the April Council Meeting. It is hoped to have the new toilet, which is to be constructed off site, to be in situ before the start of the bathing season.

Howth Malahide Area
Programme of Works

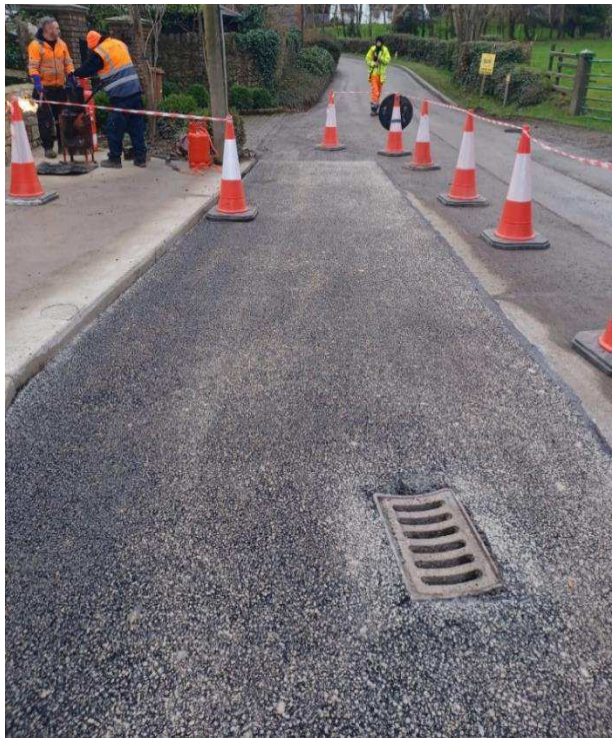
The 2024 POW is currently being tendered. Road Closures have been booked for Road Inlays in March and April and footpath works have been tendered and will commence when suitable weather conditions allow.

Depot Work

Substantial patching repairs carried out by Fingal County Council on Kinsealy Lane

Wearing course being laid as part of deep patching repairs by FCC Crews on Kinsealy Lane

Substantial patching repairs on Feltrim Rd carried out FCC Operations Road Crews



Substantial patching of Streamstown Lane carried out by FCC Operations Crews. Potholes reported through CRM system.

Replacement of Defective Footpaths in Bayside reported through the CRM system.

Malahide Demesne

Official opening of a new piece of inclusive equipment in Malahide Demesne.
Despite the poor weather, sprits were high with Joe Duffy presenting and the Minster and other dignitaries attending.

➢ Refurbishment works of the existing Sports Pavilion and Cafe in Malahide

Series of photos showing the significant progress of the works at the Sports Pavilion and Café in Malahide. Essential and emergency refurbishment works prior to advertising a new tender were required to the building. There are final checks for electricity and plumbing taking place at the moment. The public conveniences are available to the public with works completed to the accessible toilet.
The concession for the management, maintenance and opertion of the facility including the Pitch & Putt, Golf Course and Tennis Courts will be going out to tender at the end of Q2 2024. It is hoped to have a new services concession in place by end of Q3 2024 and in the meantime it remains open with a temporary arrangement in place.

Kettles Park Trim Trail

Pictured above, Kettles Park Trim Trail installed and completed.

Burial Ground Works

Replacement concrete aprons and stone wall repairs at St. Fintan's burial grounds on going.

Due to traffic driving onto the green at Balgriffin, Fingal burial grounds team installed new bollards and wooden posts.

Tree maintenance and cutting back of overhanging trees within St. Fintan's burial grounds in progress.

Kilbarrack burial grounds removal of dangerous tree from storm damage complete

Beaches & Cleansing

Installation of new bins Kinsley, Malahide, Seagrange, Baldoyle and Red Arches, Baldoyle completed.

Graffiti removal Red Arches and Seagrange Baldoyle completed.

Power washing and cleaning at the square rear of Malahide church works completed.

In progress replacement new signage Howth Malahide beach locations currently in progress.

Sand bag delivery at Sutton Strand due to threat of sea overtopping. There was no breach at high tide.

Replacement ladder for High Rock, Malahide due to be installed at location once weather and sea conditions allow.

Public Convenience Building Programme Howth Malahide Area

Work is continuing finalising the Final Drawings, Appropriate Assessment Screening Reports and Environmental Impact Assessment Screening with the aim to complete the replacement toilets at Howth East Pier and Malahide Muldowney in 2024. Part VII to commence as soon as the EIAS is complete. This is now underway.

Castleknock Mulhuddart Area

Tyrellstown Playground

The playground at Tyrellstown Park has re-opened following fire damage.

Works included a new wet pour and spring replacement.

New Climbing Equipment Millennium Park

New climbing equipment was installed at Millennium Park to cater for 13–16-year-olds.

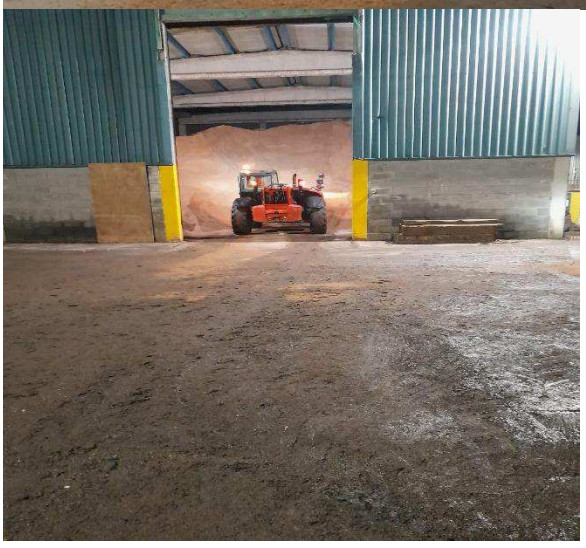
Beechpark

New Calisthenics equipment and additional paving for the car park has been installed at Beechpark, Clonsilla.

Road/Footpath Widening Millennium Park

Road and footpath widening has been carried out in Millennium Park.

Gritting Works

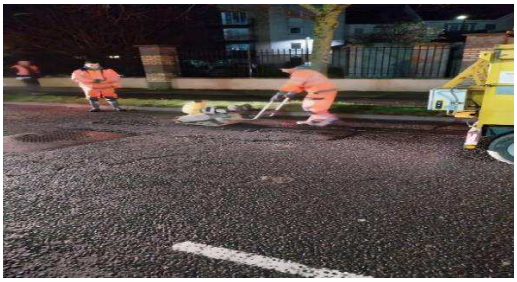


Gritting Works were carried out by our depot crew during the recent cold snap.

Leaf Collection

Leaf Collection was carried out by our operations crews in D15 this month.

Pothole Works



Pothole works were carried out in the D15 area this month.

Car Parking Services

January 2024

There was a total of 1217 parking tickets issued during January 2024.

Breakdown of Parking Offences
Top 10 Offences

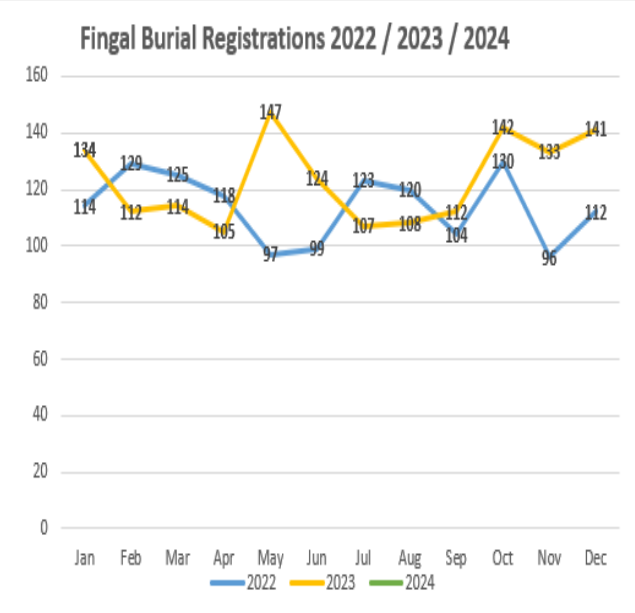
Offence	Main Ticketing Offences - January 2024
9A - A VEHICLE COMMITING AN OFFENCE CONTRARY TO PAY AND DISPLY/PERMIT PARKING	674
04G - PARKING A PRIVATE VEHICLE IN A LOADING BAY	142
08A - PARKING A VEHICLE ON A FOOTPATH	126
9A - A VEHICLE OUT OF TIME TICKET	103
9D - PARKING A VEHICLE ON A DOUBLE YELLOW LINE	81
9C - VEHICLE OUTSIDE BAY	16
9F - PARKING/STOPPING A VEHICLE IN A DISABLED PERSONS PARKING BAY	16
04C - PARKING A VEHICLE IN A TAXI BAY	14
07A - OBSTRUCTION TO OTHER ROAD USERS/PEDESTRIANS	13
9H - PARKING IN AN ELECTRIC BAY	7

Main Ticketing Locations:
Top 10 Locations

Location	Main Ticket Locations January 2024
North Street - Swords	132
Bridgefield Car Park - Malahide	101
Main Street - Swords	80
The Green - Malahide	56
South Strand Skerries	53
Church Road - Malahide	48
Drogheda Street - Balbriggan	48
Harbour Road - Skerries	43
Coast Road - Malahide	42
Quay Street (short stay)Carpark - Balbriggan	36

Burial Ground Services

The Operations Department are continuing to administer and monitor delivery to ensure business continuity for Fingal's Burial Ground Service. There were 134 Interments in January 2024.



Kellystown Burial Ground

The Council went out to tender for the works at Kellystown Cemetery prior to Christmas 2023. The Tender deadline had to be extended to 29th of February, as the Council had concerns over lack of interest in the competition. 9 tenders for the works were received.

Once the tender evaluation is complete, we hope to have the contractor commence the works on site by end of May/June. However, this does depend on the successful contractors work schedule. In advance of the works members of the public who are waiting for a place for family members ashes in the planned Columbarium Wall can now register with HowMalOpArea@fingal.ie.

In advance of the completion of the Cemetery, burial plots, cannot be purchased in accordance with the Burial Ground Bye-Laws 2023.

Traffic Operations County-Wide

The 2024 Programme of Works (POW) for Traffic was approved in all administrative areas and work is ongoing to progress overall programme.

Castleknock/Mulhuddart Area

- **2023 POW**

Traffic calming ramps on Delwood Road completed with permanent paint and reflectors.

- **Road Markings – Lining**

Flexible bollards are placed exiting Navan Parkway to delineate traffic entering and exiting the train station.

Directional arrows are placed at Littlepace Bridge to direct traffic into the merging lane.

Balbriggan/Swords Area

- **Traffic Calming Ramps**

Swords – Chapel Lane - Speed Ramp Replacement

Swords - St. Colmcille's G.N.S.– Speed Ramp Replacement

- **New Traffic Calming 2023 POW**

Naul - New Traffic Calming Ramps in the proximity of Naul National School

Garristown- New Kerb Build Out Garristown Main Street

Howth/Malahide Area

- **Relocation of warden crossing outside St Lawrence Senior School, Brookstone Road, Baldoyle.**

Existing ramp was extended with provision of new tactile pavement, new road markings and adjustment to railings.

Warden crossing upgrade on Brookstone Road, Baldoyle

Meadowbrook Park- Baldoyle, Dishing of footpath to improve mobility for wheelchair users and mobility scooters.

➢ New Approved Road Markings

New Speed Roundels at entrance to Dal Riada – Portmarnock and additional school markings for Stapolin Educate Together School

New Bus Cage markings for relocated Bus Stop on the R124 by Malahide Community School and New Double Yellow Lines for the entrance of Evora Park Howth

POW 2024 – Commencement of conversion of an uncontrolled crossing to a Zebra crossing by St Fintan's National School on Carrickbrack Road-Sutton

Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit

86 vehicle and plant hires were put in place from 01/02/2024 to 29/02/2024, engaging 21 suppliers.

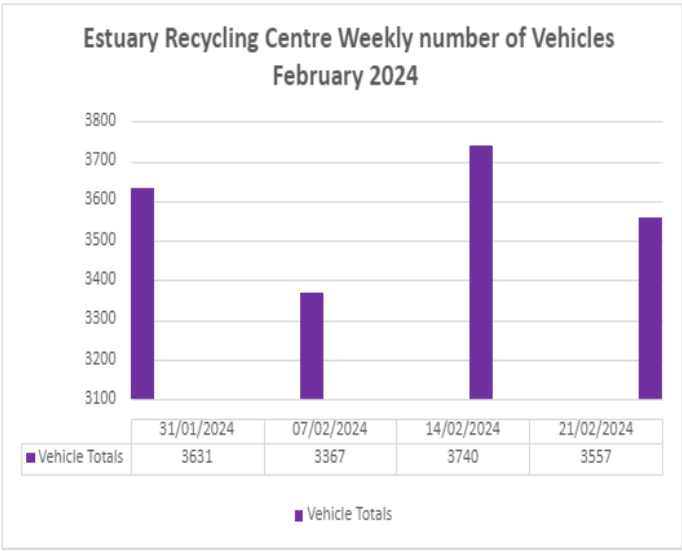
2 New Fully Electric 3.5 Tonne Fleet Vehicles, pictured at Watery Lane Depot. February 2024

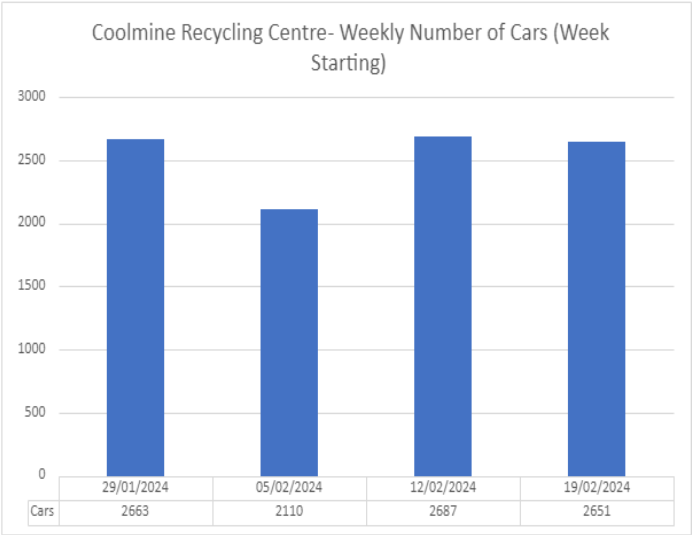
Street Lighting LED Programme

The Public Lighting Section will continue with the LED Programme with 99.6% of all lights switched to LEDS.

100% of new Decorative LED fittings have been installed in towns and villages across the county.

Recycling Centres Update

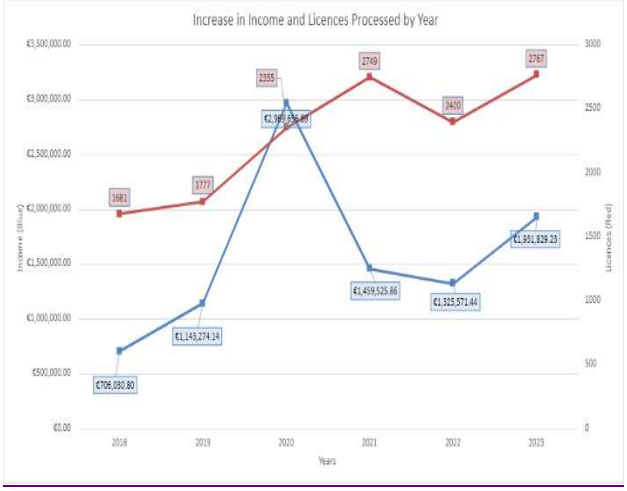




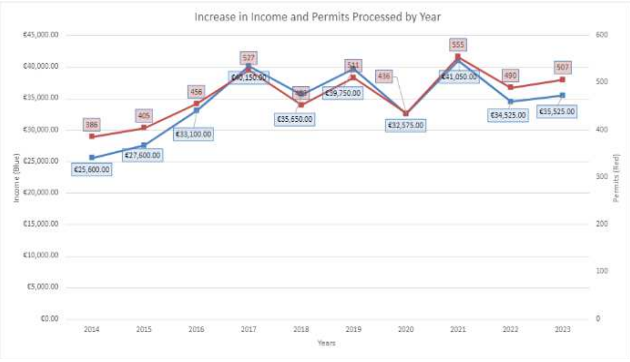
Licenses

- Annual Changes in Licencing Numbers

The below charts show the increasing volume of workload of the licencing department as well as corresponding increase in income in the period.



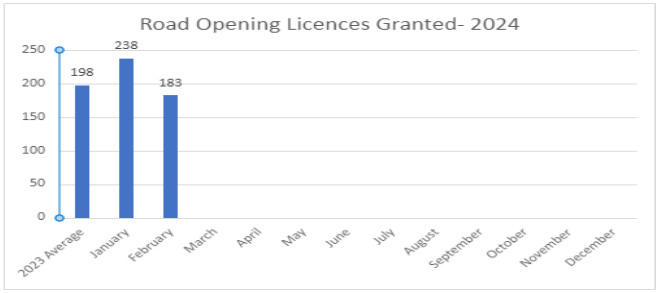
*sharp increase in 2020 is due to major projects being completed while roads were quieter during the COVID pandemic.

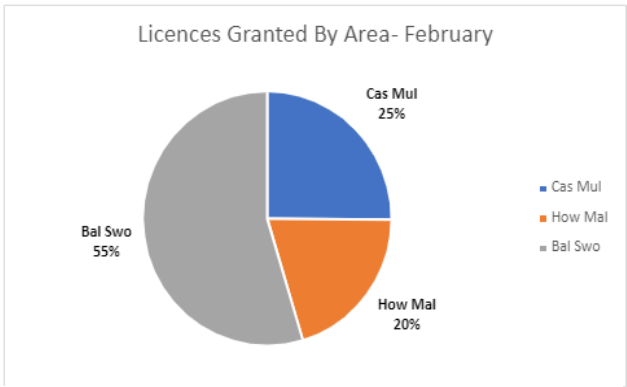


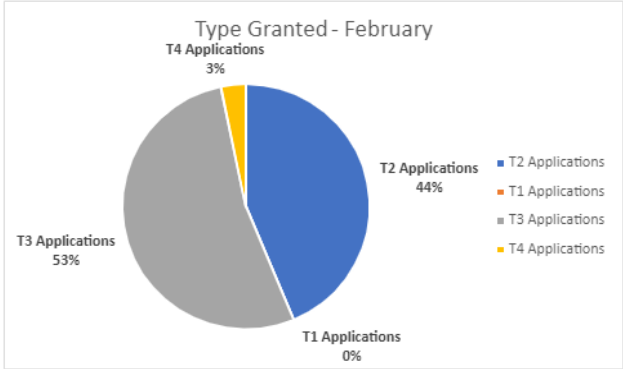
- Road Opening License's

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.

183 Licences were granted in the month of **February, 56%** 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 are currently accepting renewal applications for Casual Trading Pitches throughout the Administrative Area this covers the trading of Hot Food/Tea & Coffee/Ice Cream and Flowers.

Current Casual Traders have got the opportunity to renew their licence at the same pitch for 2024 many of which have applied to do so.
Any remaining pitches are currently being advertised on the Fingal County Council website where there is a high level of interest a lottery system may be required to determine which Casual Trader will occupy a pitch.

Any further applications that come in after the 26th of February deadline are being processed on an Ad – Hoc basis.

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 has processed a significant amount of Street Furniture Applications for 2024 and licences are in the process of been issued.
Similar to 2023 there is a high level of interest in securing a Licence for 2024.

The Castleknock/Mulhuddart Operations Department will continue to carry out site inspections in the coming months to ensure compliance throughout the year.

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Storm Water

- **Stormwater Capital Programme 2023-2025**

Fingal County Council are continuing to progress projects recently adopted in the 2024-2026 Stormwater Capital Programme. The 3-year programme includes 17 projects estimated at approximately €2.5 million with this figure under review as the projects are developed. Below is a brief update in relation to the status of some of the projects that have commenced and planned upcoming projects.

- **Howth Stormwater Culvert**

All Topographical, Manhole, Flow and CCTV Surveys are complete and satisfactory. WPB Optioneering report is currently under review by the consultant after which it will be issued to FCC for review. The Consultant Roughan O Donovan is preparing contract documents for the procurement of a GPR (investigations) contractor to enable design documents to be progressed. An updated programme is due.

- **Bath Avenue Storm Water Pipe**

This project involved the laying of a new Stormwater pipeline along Bath Ave in Malahide to alleviate localised flooding and allow for future capacity. In total 235m of pipe was laid, with the existing network on Grove Road connected to the new network. The new SW pipe is tied into an existing outfall on the Coast Rd. A road closure is currently in effect and additional mobility and drainage works are ongoing. Full reinstatement works by McQuillan Contractors will commence on 11/03/2024.

- **Burrow Beach**

The proposed remediation of a surface water outfall pipe on Burrow Beach was scheduled to begin following the seabird wintering season around March 2024. However, delays with procurement for the supply of anchor blocks have pushed back the start date until September 2024 or March 2025. Works will be executed by FCC Direct Labour with technical assistance to be provided by design consultants.

- **Wendell Avenue/Heather Walk**

Stormwater sewer rehabilitation works in Portmarnock are now complete. In total 200m of collapsed sections of network have been replaced in the Dewberry Park, Wendell Avenue and Heather Walk estates. Trench reinstatement works are progressing. Following a tender process a contractor has now been appointed. Reinstatement works are planned for early March 2024.

- **Lusk Network Remedial Works**

The above project consists of Stormwater infrastructure provision and improvement in the Lusk urban area. It will include second level/follow up investigation, surveys, non-invasive interventions jetting, root removal, pipe lining, replacement and new lay – using conventional cut and cover plus reinstatement of surface.
Currently the Direct Labour crew are upgrading sections of localised damaged pipeline. The works at the junction of **Treen Hill/Ministers Rd** are now complete. In total 60m of damaged and collapsed pipeline has been replaced with a 300mm diameter pipe, in the footway. Some reinstatement work is continuing.

Following additional CCTV surveys two sections requiring remediation along **Lusk Main St** have been identified. Works on these repairs will commence in late January. Sections of the network along **Station Rd & Dublin Rd** are currently undergoing camera survey works to examine its condition and confirm capacity. Most of the repair/replacement will be undertaken By Direct Labour with some input by contractors. The overall project is likely to take 24 months to complete.

➢ Clonsilla/Mulhuddart Network Improvements

Following historical reports of flooding additional CCTV surveys are being carried out to determine the condition of the Stormwater infrastructure in the **Rusheeney and Manorfield estates in D15**. So far, several large restrictions have been found and a manhole was completely blocked with household waste. Build-ups of concrete and collapsed sections have also been identified in other locations along the same network. Works are ongoing to carry out multiple trenchless repair works using a robotic cutting machine.

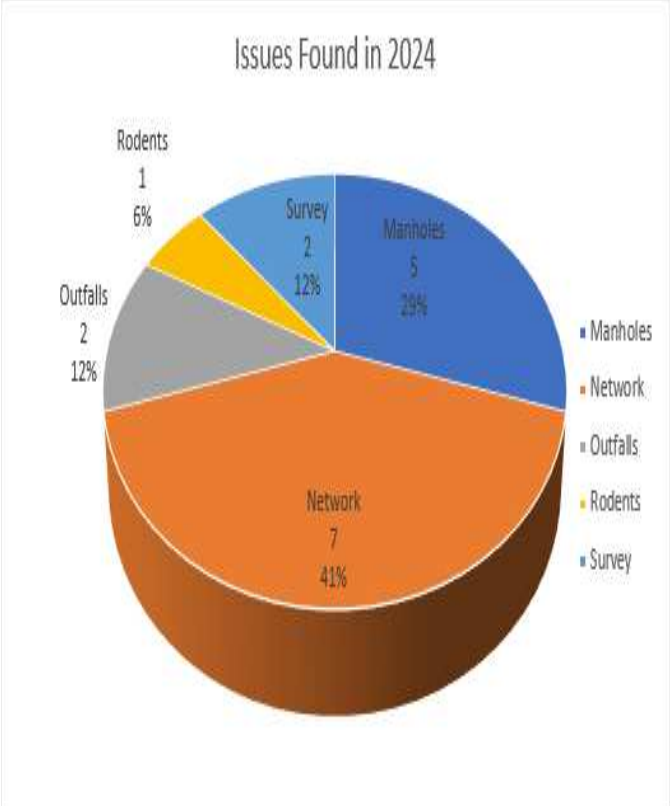
- Carpenterstown Rd SW Pipe refurbishment

Following survey work and subsequent analysis completed in 2023, a Contractor will be engaged to carry out various remedial works including part liner repairs on damaged sections of the network along Carpenterstown Rd. Tender documents are currently being drafted. It is hoped to have a contract in place to allow works to start on site during April of 2024.

- Storm Water Maintenance

Maintenance of the network and much of the capital works programme is generated by inspections which are tabulated on a Works Planner. The types and volumes of issues reported are shown in the chart.

Up to February 23rd 2024



- Storm Water Connections:

8 new connection applications including one diversion application have been processed to date in 2024.

- **Donabate**

Quotations were sought to carry out maintenance work on the **Beaverstown stream** to remove restrictions and clear and overgrown ditch to create storage and to remove flow restrictions, thereby alleviating risk of road flooding. These works were undertaken in February 2024 and will enable further examination of the catchment to improve surface water management.

➢ **Assets**

Ironworks

The Stormwater manhole cover and frame replacement programme for replacing assets at the end of life is ongoing. Covers and frames were recently replaced on highly trafficked locations in Lusk and Balrothery. Offline replacements were also completed in the Bun-a-Knock estate in the Naul.

- **Water Quality**

Balbriggan – Water Quality Improvement

A Contractor has been engaged to carry out reinstatement works following the removal of previously misconnected properties to the Surface Water network in **Flemington**. Full reinstatement is planned for completion in Q1 of 2024.

Following CCTV surveys in **Clonard Court** area of **Balbriggan** a collapsed section of pipe was found. This has since been excavated and replaced with a new section and all restrictions have been removed.

➢ Seagrange park

Assistance is still being given by the Storm Water Unit to *Baldoyle Tidy Towns* who had secured funding for a Biodiversity project on the Seagrange Park stream, Baldoyle.

Recent inspections have focussed on a local culvert to determine the source of contamination to the surface water network and further sampling is being carried out to support this investigation.

Meetings/Briefings

Meeting held with Balbriggan Elected Representatives and "Save Our Sand" group on Monday 26th February with regards to Balbriggan beach

PLANNING AND STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE (PSI)

Contents

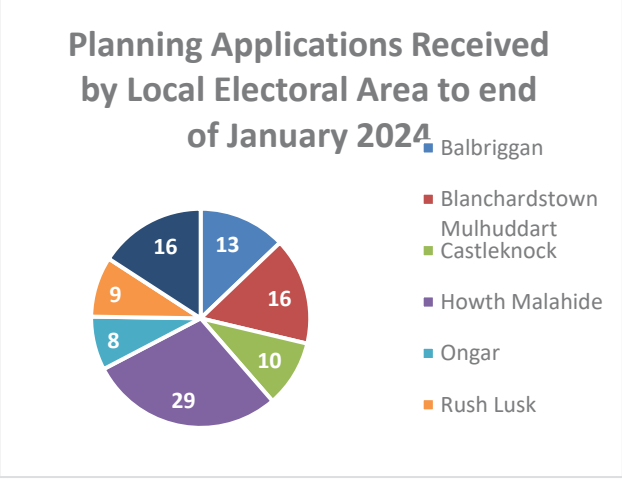
Planning Applications
Planning Decisions
Building Control Admin
Strategic Policy Unit
Built Environment Division
Transportation Planning
Parks & Green Infrastructure Division
Heritage Officer

Planning Applications

There have been 101 planning applications received from 1st January 2024 to 31st January 2024, 31 applications were invalid leaving a total of 70 valid applications. The volume of applications received by Local Electoral Area (LEA) is detailed in the table below.

From 1st January 2024 to 31st January 2024. There have been no Large-scale Residential Development (LRD) full applications made to the Local Authority in January 2024. From 1st January 2024 to 31st January 2024 two decisions have been made on Large Scale Residential Developments. Of these two decisions made, both have been to grant Permission. As these are amendments only the overall number of units granted to date remains the same (3,791 Units)

An Bord Pleanála have issued no decisions on SHD applications in the period from 1st January 2024 to 31st January 2024. There are five SHD's (4,577 units) remaining with An Bord Pleanála for decision.



Planning Decisions

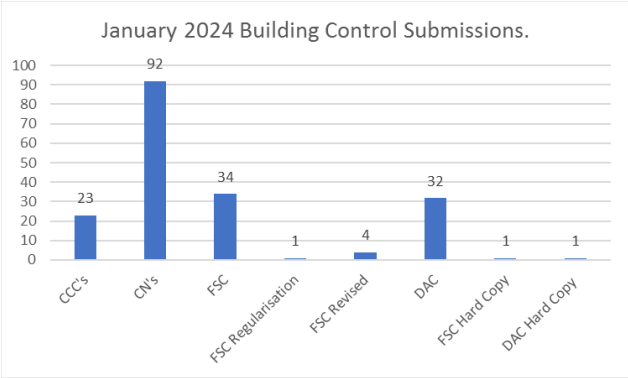
A total of 110 planning decisions have been issued to 31st January 2024. There have been 93 decisions to grant permission (85%) and 17 refusals of permission (15%). Included in the 93 grants there have been 7 grants of permissions in respect of single house construction, 43 grants of permission for domestic extensions/works, 16 commercial grants of permission, 3 retail grants of permission and 3 grants of permission in respect of housing developments of which 3 relate to developments of 2 – 20 units.

Building Control Admin

In January 2024, there were 186 Building Control submissions made via the BCMS together with 1 hard copy FSC and 1 hard copy DAC submission. This was made up of 92 Commencement notices, 23 Compliance of Completion Certificates, 39 Fire Safety related Certificates and 32 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 we are also still accepting hard copy applications directly into the office. Most applications are now being submitted via the online system.

The Building Control Admin team processed 244 decisions in January 2024 relating to Fire Safety and Disability Access Certificates. This was made up of 63 decisions to grant and 181 extensions of time.



Strategic Policy Unit

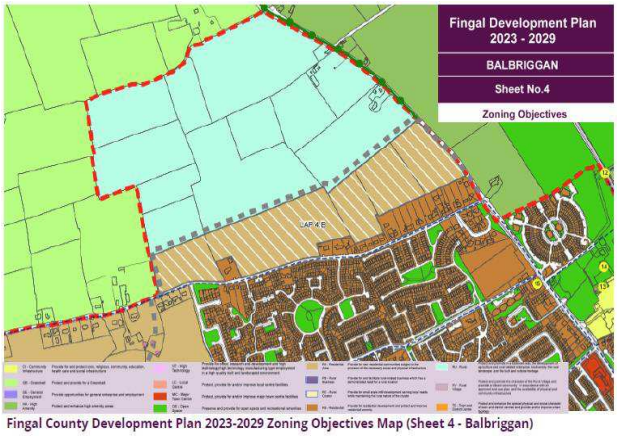
Local Area Plans, Masterplans and Framework Plans

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.

Work has begun on the Flemington Local Area Plan and the Clonsilla Framework Plan.

Flemington Local Area Plan

The proposed LAP boundary has been designated in the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029. Local Area Plans play an important role in setting the framework for the achievement of integrated and balanced communities within a specified area. They seek to provide the optimal development framework to ensure the protection and enhancement of the existing areas, key features and the environment within an area, while providing for a high quality living environment through the use of robust urban design principles. Fingal County Council has commenced the consultation process which is a key feature of the Local Area Plan process. The pre-draft consultation period ran from 1st February to 1st March. A targeted workshop for local members, landowners and community groups took place on Friday 2nd February and a very well attended information drop in session for member of the public was held on 19th February, 4pm – 7pm in Bracken Court Hotel, Balbriggan.



Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029 Zoning Objectives Map (Sheet 4 - Balbriggan)

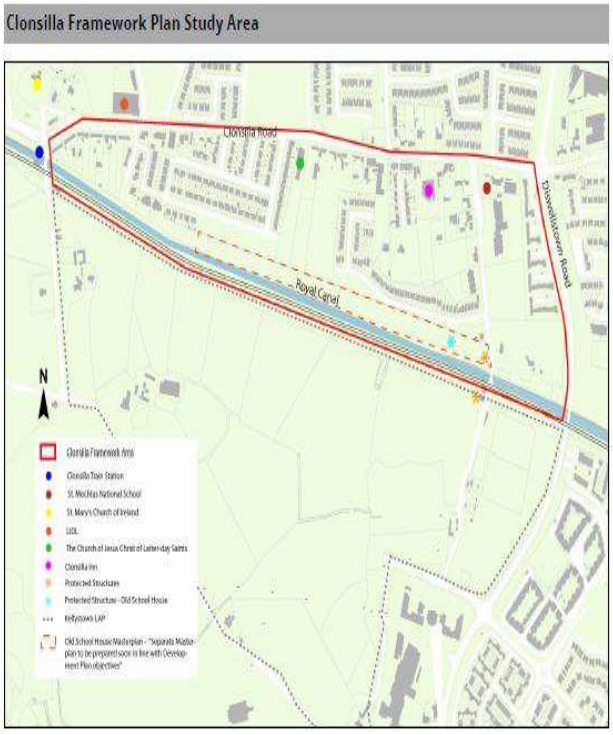
Clonsilla Framework Plan

The Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 provides for an objective to prepare a Framework Plan for lands at Clonsilla (Plan Ref. FP 13.C).

The proposed FP boundary has been designated in the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029 and includes an area of land south of Clonsilla Road/Larch Grove, bounded by Diswellstown Road to the east, Callaghan Bridge to the west and extends just south of the railway tracks.

The Kellystown Local Area Plan, located to the south of the Clonsilla Framework Plan area, was adopted in January 2021 and provides for the future development of that particular area. A specific and separate Masterplan will also be prepared for the Old School House area in the near future.

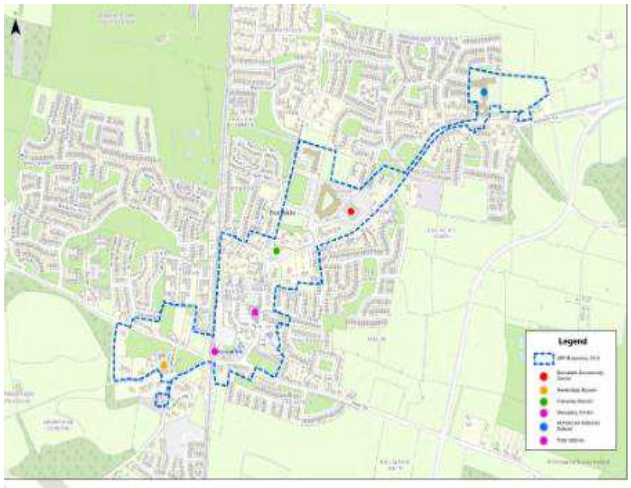
Public consultation is a key element in the preparation of the Clonsilla Framework Plan and the pre-draft consultation period ran from Tuesday 6th February to Tuesday 5th March. A targeted workshop for local members and community groups took place on Tuesday 6th February and a separate information drop in session for member of the public was held on 19th February, 4pm – 7pm.



Donabate Framework Plan

Fingal County Council has prepared and published a Draft Framework Plan for Donabate, County Dublin. The draft Plan provides a vision for the Donabate town centre which will improve and enhance the Main Street area and guide careful urban improvement. The Plan will provide an opportunity to improve the public realm and setting of the town and will guide future funding opportunities. This Plan highlights the distinctive character of Donabate, its setting on the peninsula, current issues pertinent to Donabate and, lastly, outlines a programme of actions which must be agreed with the community.

The Draft Donabate Framework Plan, including SEA Statement and Screening Report for Appropriate Assessment was on public consultation until Wednesday 21st February and is before the March meeting for agreement.



Residential Zoned Land Tax

The Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) is a tax aimed at activating serviced and residentially zoned land for housing. Local authorities are responsible for identifying the land that is subject to RZLT.

On 1st February 2024, Fingal County Council published the annual draft maps for 2025 identifying land currently in scope for the tax, land proposed to be removed from the current scope and land proposed to be added for the first time.

Landowners may make submissions and submit rezoning requests regarding land identified on these maps. 1st April 2024 is the last date to make submissions regarding removal of land from the 2025 annual draft maps if considered to be outside scope, including submissions by landowners in support of the exclusion of their land where it is identified on the annual draft map that the local authority proposes to exclude such land, or challenging the date of inclusion. Submissions may also be made recommending land be included on the maps. The 31st May 2024 is the last date to make a rezoning request regarding land identified on the 2025 annual draft map

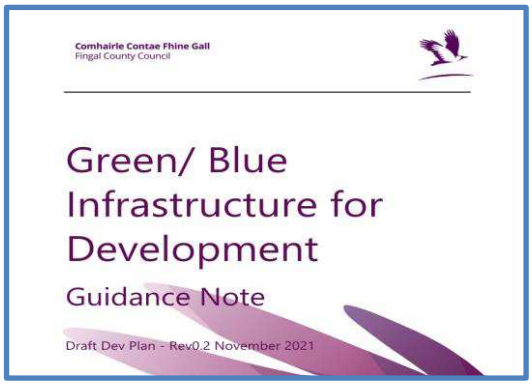
Fingal County Council's final RZLT map for 2024 is now available on our website and at our public office at County Hall, Main Street, Swords. The map includes lands that meet the relevant criteria for inclusion on the map as set out in the current legislation.

- In Scope Residential Lands in Fingal: 3,502 Hectares
- In Scope Mixed Use Lands in Fingal: 209 Hectares

Built Environment Division

Building Control/Taking in Charge Section – 29/02/2024

- There were 19 Building Control Inspections in January 2024 with 31 buildings inspected.
- There were 3 developments Taken in Charge in February 2024 (Barnageeragh Cove in Skerries, Vauxhall Street in Balbriggan and Drynam Hall in Kinsealy).
- There are 4 developments scheduled for Taking in Charge in April 2024 (Riverwood Gardens Carpenterstown, Emsworth Kinsealy Lane in Malahide, Golden Ridge phase 2 in Rush and Coopers Wood in Kinsealy).
- 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.

Multi-Party Framework Agreement for the preparation of Surface Water Management Plans (SWMP)

The procurement process has begun for the new Multi-Party Framework Agreement for the preparation of Surface Water Management Plans (SWMP) for the new County Development Plan. The SAQ for the above framework was posted on eTenders with a closing date for tender submissions set for 30/09/2022.The tenders were assessed and a recommendation for progression to the next phase has taken place. WSFP are working with the planners to identify areas for in inclusion in the framework.

Transportation Planning

PSI 001 Snugborough Interchange upgrade

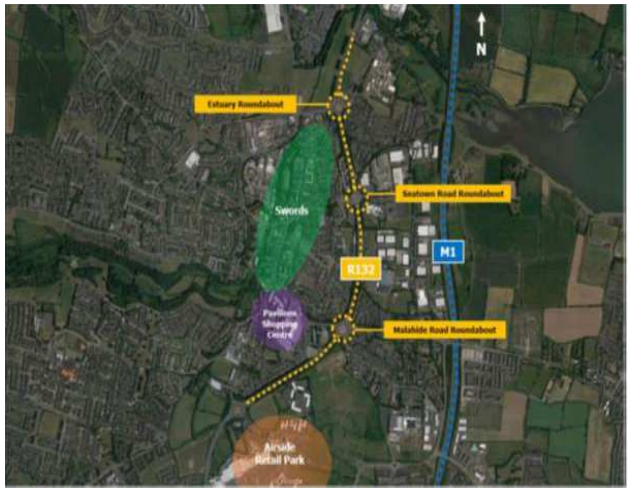
The Snugborough Interchange is currently programmed to be completed in late May 2024. The last element of the scheme to be completed will be the shared active travel route through the underpasses. The scheme has been delayed mainly due to the complexity of the scheme and the number of utility diversions involved. During Q1 refurbishment works have been carried out on the old bridge which include repairs, re-waterproofing, and some surfacing. Utility diversion works in the area near the underpasses have continued. Boundary wall construction at Waterville road, traffic signal installation and construction of footpaths have been carried out. Some of the current works which include surfacing, duct installation and road marking are being carried out in at night to limit impact on traffic flow. New traffic signals and the new junction layouts/ pedestrian crossings will be put in operation during April. Updates will be posted on the scheme web site www.snugboroughinterchange.ie

PSI 002 Ongar Barnhill Road

Bam Civil Ltd. have completed the south abutment base and columns for the bridge over the railway line. The installation of culverts to carry a stream under the proposed road is underway. A consultation for extinguishment of public right of way on Barberstown Lane North was initiated by FCC to allow for the construction of the road Consultations | Fingal County Council Online Consultation Portal. Improvement works will be carried out to Barberstown Lane North and South during March in conjunction with the scheme. An update site briefing for local Councillors has been arranged for mid-March. 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. Following a meeting with a developer on a new access onto the R132. Modelling the impact of this junction is currently being undertaken by consultants. Detailed design stage is underway and progressing as programmed. Meetings continue to be held with the various department of Fingal County Council to gather information for detailed design. The tender documentations has been prepared for CCTV drainage contractor and another tender is currently been also prepared for the Ground Investigations to inform the detailed design process and de-risk the project.



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 Project is now approx 45% completed. The work is ongoing and progressing well at three locations on the project on Hamilton Road, Harry Reynolds Road just south of the R122 and at Moylaragh Road. Additional meeting with the ESB in Feb onsite for the new connection points at 12 Controlled crossing points along the project. Also, relocation of existing ESB cables has been agreed on Harry Reynolds Road.

A site visit to the took place in Early February with the local Councillors for the Balbriggan Electoral Area to the Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route Project to show the progress and answer any queries.

Local Councillors for the Balbriggan Electoral Area attending the site visit.

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]

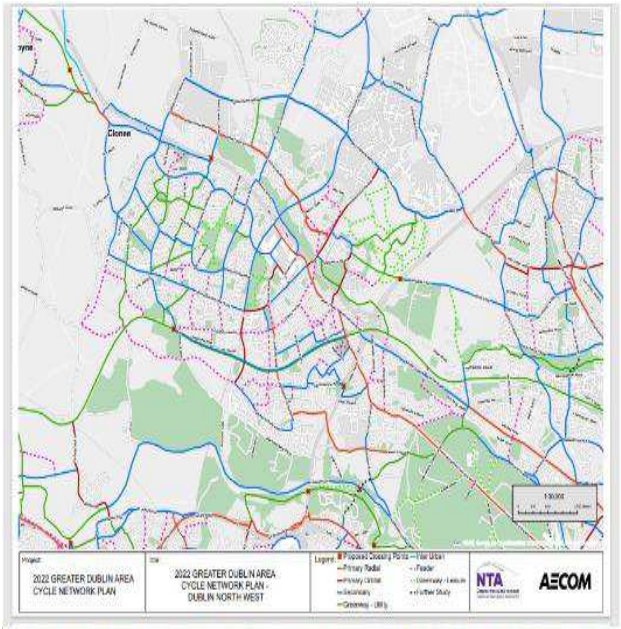
Works progressing on Harry Reynolds Road just north of Fingal Bay Business Park with Footpath and cycle track installed recently.

Works progressing on Harry Reynolds Road just north of Fingal Bay Business Park with Footpath and cycle track installed recently.

Works completed on the south side of the Hamilton Road

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. The procurement process has now moved to Stage 2. 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 was published recently for Engineering Consultancy Services 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 tender forms part of the initial project for the Engineering Consultancy Services Framework for Dublin 15 Pedestrian and Cycling Route Projects which is currently at stage 2 of the procurement process. The current closing date for submissions of tender is late March but this be extended if tenders request a extension.

Figure 1 - View from Rail Bridge towards Granard Bridge and Blanchardstown

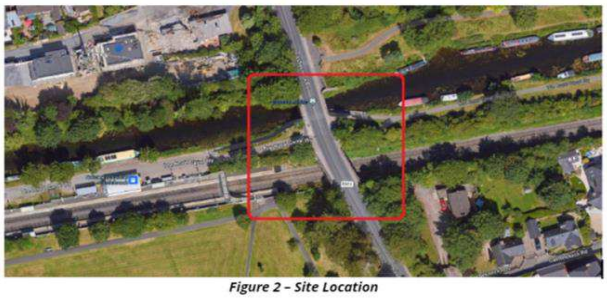


Figure 2 – Site Location

PSI – 004 Royal Canal Urban Greenway

Dialogue continues to be held with 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.

As the project is currently at pre-planning stage there is a requirement to ensure the project preliminary design complies with the new cycling manual which was recently published. Therefore, this has resulted in the need to revise the preliminary design drawing for the project. These changes in the preliminary design requires the need to hold additional meetings with all the relevant key stakeholders to agree the revised design. These meetings will continue over the coming monthly to ensure a coordinated, high quality final design which compiles with the new cycling manual is achieved at interfaces between existing facilities and the proposed scheme. Landowner searches and land referencing are ongoing also.

Following completion of the preliminary design, all the required documents including the Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be prepared for a planning application to An Bord Pleanála. As a result of the additional requirements the project team has carried out a re-appraisal of the timeline of the project given the additional design and meetings to be held with key stakeholders has determined a revised estimated programme for submission of a planning application to An Bord Pleanála to be in Q4 2024

S2M Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme

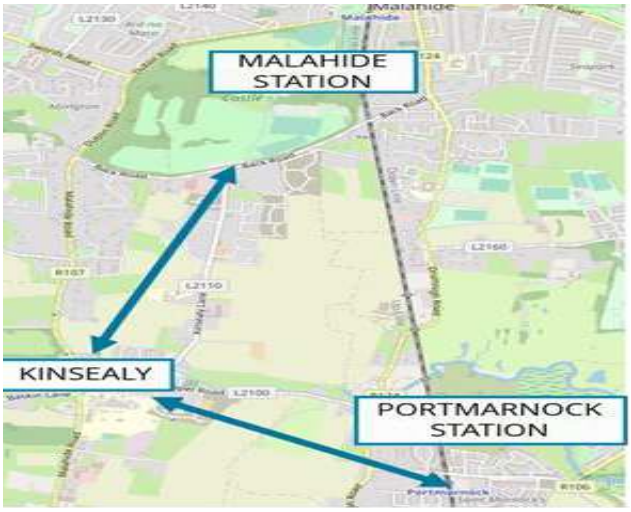
The preliminary design drawings are being finalised. The recently published Cycle Design Manual has led to some improvements being incorporated into the overall scheme design including revised layouts for crossings and bus stops to comply with the new standards. A surveyor has recently completed topographical 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. These works have been procured and are scheduled for early 2024. 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. A search of unregistered lands is ongoing for production of the deposit maps for the land acquisition.

Artists impression for section of S2M Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme

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. Traffic surveys have been completed. Topographical surveys are ongoing which.

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

Meetings have commenced between the Independent Agronomist and affected landowners with farming and horticultural businesses. Searches continue for potentially affected landowners who have not been identified yet.

A local consultation remains open in the Quay Street Area of Skerries and will run to the end of March. The consultation is asking residents for their preferences on traffic management options to facilitate the Fingal Coastal Way. The responses will assist in the selection of designs to be developed further.

The topographical survey of public lands is now complete and the survey data will allow designs in the town and village centres to progress. Further local consultations will be held as details are developed.

Broadmeadow Way Greenway

Design options for the northern causeway have been 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 the NTA and 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.

Tender competitions are complete for a number of sub-elements of the project. Irish Rail have awarded the following contracts which will allow the construction of the main bridge across the estuary:

- OHLE strengthening works to the foundations of the overhead electrical systems associated with the Dart which must be completed in advance of the bridge and ramp construction awarded to Global Rail Services Ltd.
- Manufacture and supply of precast concrete units for the 12-span 180m long precast bridge deck units awarded to Shay Murtagh Precast Ltd.
- Main estuary bridge Civil Engineering Contract awarded to Jons Civil Engineering Ltd.
-

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. A tender competition was for this piece of work was issued to the market and Archaeological Management Solutions were awarded the contract. The study is due to be completed by the end of March.

The Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage has advised that the Minister has approved the granting of the Foreshore Lease, Licence and Consent and the application has now been referred to the Chief State Solicitor's Office for drafting and execution. This is the final step for Foreshore Licence Approval.

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Works to strengthen the foundations of the OHLE masts have commenced at Bisset's Strand, Malahide. This work is to be completed in advance of the construction of the main estuary bridge. In accordance with the conditions of planning, monthly bird surveys are currently being carried out and will continue until April.

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, Damastown roundabout 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.

Landscaping at Ladyswell Road Roundabout

Turvey Avenue & Portrane Road, Donabate

Fingal County Council has lodged an application to An Bord Pleanála (ABP) for a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) for the Portrane Road Enhancement Project. Two landowner objections have been lodged with ABP in this regard. Further consultation regarding landowner concerns has resulted in one of the landowners withdrawing his objection. Consultation continues with the other landowner to try to reach an agreement. 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. Fingal County Council awaits the decision of An Bord Pleanála in this regard.

Separately, Priority Construction Ltd, working on behalf of Fingal County Council, has commenced work on the Turvey Avenue Footpath Enhancement. As part of this project, a new footpath is currently being built on the northern side of the road where no footpath previously existed. The new footpath will provide a continuous and safe walking route along Turvey Avenue for pedestrians travelling to and from Donabate Village and train station. The project also includes drainage improvements, widening of an existing footpath nearby, resurfacing of the road and provision of new line markings, speed ramps and signage. Stop-Go traffic management is in place on Turvey Avenue with marshals on hand to bring vehicles and pedestrians safely around the works area. The project is due to be completed this summer.

Donabate Pedestrian Bridge

License 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 nearing completion. All necessary documents have been submitted to the NTA for approval to award the contract and for funding for 2024. Construction is expected to commence in Q1 2024.

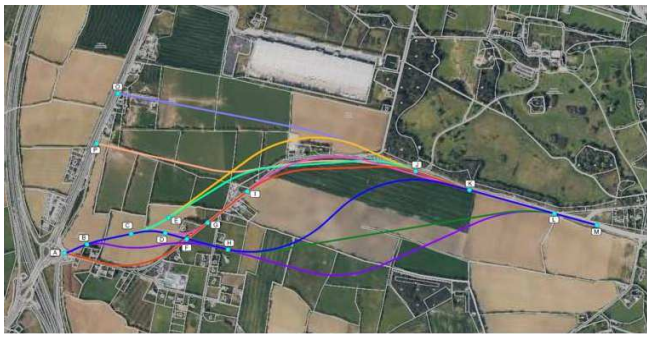
Donabate Transport Projects

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;
- 7no. 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 including topographical surveys of relevant areas of Donabate. Fingal County Council and Roughan and O'Donovan are currently analysing traffic data and carrying out traffic modelling on the M1-Lissenhall Interchange. Separately, a number of potential route options have been identified for Phase 2 of the Donabate Distributor Road. These options are shown below and will be subject to multi-criteria assessment to determine the preferred route.



Further stages of work, relating to environmental assessment, planning consent, etc. will follow on in subsequent years as appropriate.

Parks & Green Infrastructure Division

- The new playground at Lanesborough Park, Meakstown (illustrated below) is now at Practical Completion and will open to the public in the coming weeks.
- Hansfield Park, Clonsilla including the new playground has now been taken in charge.
- Works on the new playground and associated park improvements at Cardy Rock, Balbriggan will be completed during March.
- Works on the Library Garden and playground at Garristown will commence during March.
- Plans for the development of the Rathmore Recreational Hub in Lusk will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála for planning approval during March.
- Works on the historic Brick Arch in the Ward River Valley are now fully completed.

Heritage Officer

The Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030 was launched on the 01 March by Fingal Mayor, Cllr. Adrian Henchy and Minister Darragh O'Brien T.D. in Malahide Castle.

Thank you to all who contributed to the development to the new Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030, during the two phases of public consultation. The heritage plan was approved by the Fingal Heritage Forum and accepted at the December 2023 County Council meeting. The new plan is available to download from https://www.fingal.ie/FingalHeritagePlan2024-2030

The Heritage Plan launch was preceded by a tour of the works undertaken at Malahide Demesne Church as part of the Community Monuments Fund 2023. The Community Monuments Fund was first established in 2020 to provide investment in Ireland's archaeological heritage and Fingal has benefited from funding for over 20 projects including survey, conservation management plans, audits and conservation works. Application for six grants across two streams of Community Monument Funding have been submitted for 2024.

The Howth Community Heritage Audit process is underway for the Peninsula of Howth. Consultants from Abarta Heritage have been appointed and will be working closely with the Howth Peninsula Heritage Society and the local community to undertake a review of the heritage of Howth peninsula and advise on related actions, interpretations and projects.

The Heritage Council's Community Heritage grant scheme is now open for applications. The scheme supports community and voluntary groups nationwide with heritage projects- built, natural, and cultural. The deadline is 25 March 2024. For more information see https://www.heritagecouncil.ie/funding/community-heritage-grant-scheme-2024

HOUSING

Contents

Housing Supply
Asset Management
Support
Tenancy Services
Housing Ukraine Response
Vacant Homes

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 2024 is:

Scheme	Partner	No. of Homes
Balleally Rise, Lusk	Lagan Homes	21
Balmaston, Donabate	Glenveagh	86
Kilmartin Grove, Dublin 15	Glenveagh	36
Churchfields, Dublin 15	GEM	180
North County Homes - (Selection of homes across North Fingal)	FCC	16
Wilkinsons Brook, Dublin 15	LDA	57
Aster Park, Rush	Ballymore	96

Balleally Rise, Lusk

On February 27th, Fingal County Council announced a new affordable home purchase scheme in Balleally Rise, Lusk. Fingal County Council has agreed with Lagan Homes and the Land Development Agency to deliver 21 affordable homes in Balleally Rise, Hands Lane, Lusk, Co Dublin. The scheme will comprise of the following:

- 15 - 2 bed properties
- 6 - 3 bed properties

The application portal for this scheme will open at 12 on March 12th, 2024.

Housing Information Event- Donabate

We will be hosting a **Housing Information Event** for our upcoming Donabate development on **Thursday – March 7th at Donabate Golf Club from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.**

This event will allow potential applicants to learn about affordable housing schemes, vacant homes grants and local authority home loans offered by the council. Further updates will be posted here.

Affordable Housing Scheme at Hayestown, Rush

52 Affordable and 10 Social Units

Works are continuing on 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 and 2 social homes.

Fingal County Council – Update on Affordable Housing Scheme at Hampton Gardens Close, Balbriggan

18 Affordable Homes

18 homes have been made available for sale under an Affordable Housing Purchase Arrangement with Orchid Homes in Balbriggan, Co. Dublin. The development is progressing well with completion expected in early 2024. 5 of the 9 no. 1 bedroom apartments are sale agreed and 9 no. 2 bedroom duplex units are all sale agreed.
(All units are now nearing practical completion).

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	416
Schemes with Planning Approval and Tender Stage	500
Planning and Design	700
Part V	356
TOTAL	1,972

Progress of Projects on Site

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 – Restoration of St Ita's Portrane - 14 units

Nine units have been completed and restoration works commenced on the final 5 units and are due for completion in mid-2024.

3 Part V houses nearing completion in Fosterstown Place, Swords, Co. Dublin

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 - construction scheme at Seatown Road, Swords – 16 dwellings

Works at Seatown Road, Swords have begun with 6 houses being demolished.

City to City Exchange

Following a successful collaboration between the Housing Delivery team and the Economic, Enterprise, Tourism & Cultural Development Department, Fingal County Council were successful in an application for funding under the European Urban Initiative City-to-City exchange programme. The funding is facilitating a learning exchange between Fingal County Council and Helsinki City Council in March and May 2024. Housing Europe recommended Helsinki as an exemplar for affordable housing initiatives in Europe. The city of Helsinki has a long track record of house building with the ability to influence housing supply as well as affordability. The City Council targets a balanced range of housing options for inhabitants while not being dependent on the market for delivery and also not excluding the private sector. It also prioritises new developments to be low carbon while actively retrofitting existing housing stock to become more energy efficient.

Housing Asset Management Report
Energy Efficiency/Retrofitting Programme

Fingal County Council's Energy Efficiency Retrofit programme is progressing well. The 2024 Programme has commenced with Strandmill Phase 3.

Investigative works are ongoing in several other housing estates across the county to include them in this programme.

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 February 2024
In the letting process	50
Undergoing re-let repairs	18
With County Architect for procurement of pre-let repairs	14
TOTAL	**82**

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 currently reaching completion in Corduff Park and works are ongoing in Whitechapel Estate and Craoibhin Close/Park.

Before (L) & after (R) Whitechapel Green

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 48 new tenancies in 2024 to date with approximately 3975 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 5 others currently before the courts. We have recently resolved one case to a satisfactory conclusion for both the tenant and the council. 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.

Housing Loans

The Local Authority Home Loan (LAHL) is a government-backed mortgage for first-time buyers and certain other applicants who are unable to obtain home loan financing from a commercial lender. Interest rates are fixed for the term of the loan and loan terms are available for up to 30 years. The LAHL can be used to purchase new-build homes (including affordable homes); second-hand homes & self-build.

Eligibility Criteria:

- **Income Limit** – Single Applicant = 70,000 / Joint Applicants = 85,000
- **Employment** – 2 years continuous employment / if joint application with a second earner, second earner to be 1-year continuous employment
- **Residency** - legal right to live & work in Ireland & be habitually resident in Ireland
- Insufficient Offers of finance from 2 commercial lenders
- 10% Deposit – 3% to come from savings
- Satisfactory savings record

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

The inspections programme for 2024 has commenced. The inspections team are working towards inspecting 25% of the registered tenancies which is approximately 17,000 tenancies. We anticipate specific targets for 2024 and should receive these from the Department of Housing in the coming weeks. Currently, 927 inspections have been conducted in 2024, with over 400 of them being inspected in February.

The team will continue to work this year with the contractor improving and streamlining the process and utilising all avenues to ensure that compliance improves, and the target is reached.

Housing Tenancy Services Report

Housing Support and Housing Position

Housing List positions have been issued to all applicants.

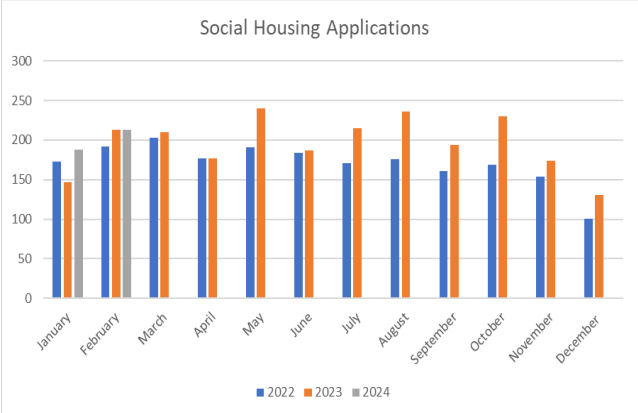
The list position is also available through the CBL portal on Fingal.ie. Applicants who do not have access to this portal should contact Choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie to request their unique username and password.

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.

January – February 2024	401
January- December 2023	2,354
January - December 2022	2,051



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.

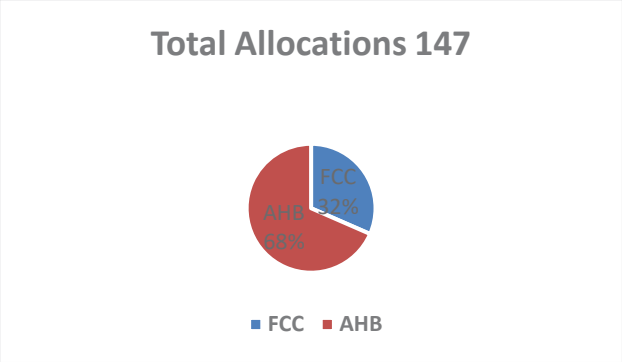
Housing Needs Assessment

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 and was closed on Wednesday 22nd November.

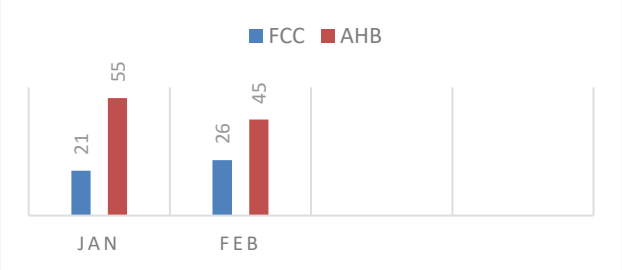
The assessment was complete with the Summary Return submitted to the Department on 28th November 2023.

Lettings

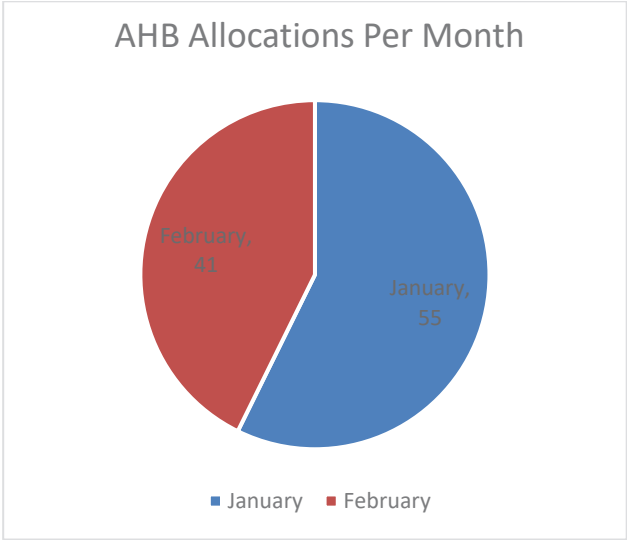


The above chart depicts the total number of properties allocated since the beginning of 2024.

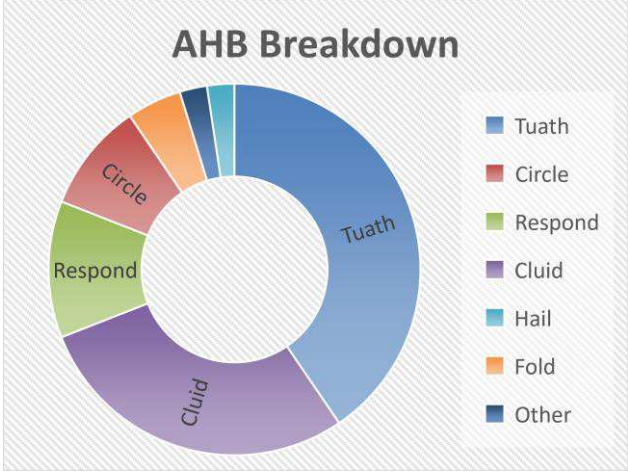
The chart below shows the breakdown of allocations per month.



102 of the **147** allocations have been in collaboration with several Approved Housing bodies. The other **47** properties were allocated using Fingal County Councils own stock.



There were an additional **42** nominations made in February on behalf of FCC applicants. Lettings are awaiting confirmation of their tenancies from the AHB's.



Tuath have received the most nominations from Fingal County Council during the month of February.

The collaboration between Local Authorities and Approved Housing Bodies is continuing to have a positive impact on the delivery of social housing.

Choice Based Lettings February Advertised Properties

Of the **127** allocations made to date, **57** were made via Choice Based Lettings.

Applicants who do not have access to this portal should contact Choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie to request their unique username and password.

Homeless Services.

Homeless Exits 2024

During February 2024, 43 households exited homeless circumstances into various forms of social housing support - including privately rented tenancies under the Homeless HAP Scheme.

Please see the table below for a breakdown of the figures:

Type of Exit	HHAP Tenancy	Allocation of Tenancy	Total
EA	2	6	8
Homeless Prevention	17	18	35
Total	19	24	43

There was a total of 35 homeless prevention cases and 8 who exited emergency accommodation comprising:

18 allocations of social housing support to homeless prevention cases and 6 who exited emergency accommodation.

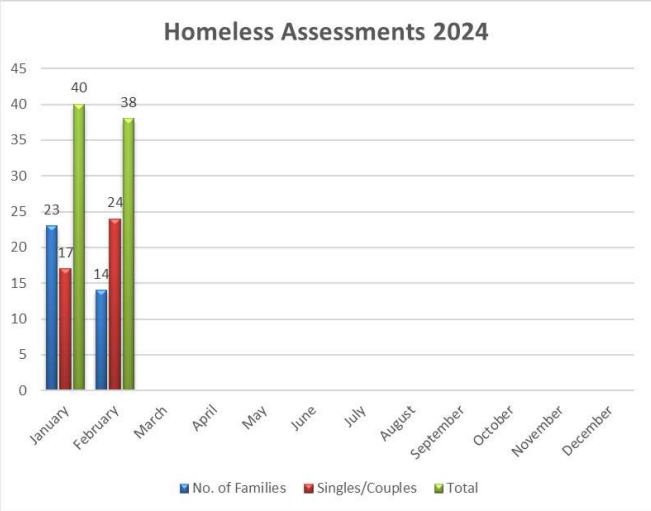
19 Homeless HAP tenancies, comprising 17 homeless preventions and 2 who exited emergency accommodation.

Homeless Assessments

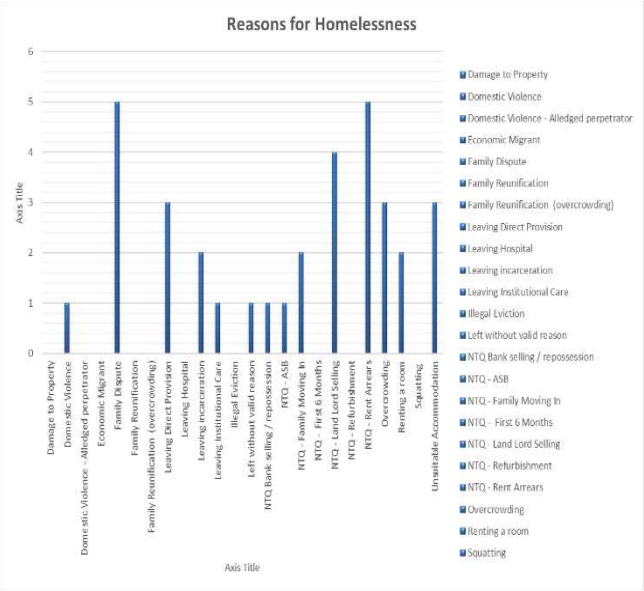
Fingal's Homeless Team continues to engage with those experiencing homelessness to offer advice and support. Homeless Assessments continued to be carried out.

Advertisement Period	Property	Bed	Type	Number of Views	Expressions of interest
31st January – 6th February	Piper's Court, Hansfield, Clonsilla, Dublin 15	2	Apt	1504	294
7th – 13th February	Canal View Court, Hansfield, Clonsilla, Dublin 15	2	Apt	1609	350
14th – 20th February	Creston Avenue, Finglas, Dublin 11	2	Apt	1027	126
14th – 20th February	Park Walk, Hansfield, Clonsilla, Dublin 15	2	Apt	1397	336
21st – 27th February	Lanesborough Crescent, Finglas, Dublin 11	3	Apt	987	96
			Total	6524	1202

In February 2024, there were a total of 38 full homeless assessments completed – comprising 14 families and 24 singles/couples.



During January 2024, of the 38 Homeless Assessments carried out, 35 % cases resulted from a Notice to Quit (NTQ) having been served. Most of the other presentations to the Homeless Section are from family/relationship breakdown (15%), living in overcrowded conditions (9%) and state that they cannot/will not return to the property. The remaining 41% 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 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.

There were no reported Rough Sleeping cases over the Christmas period and 8 reports in January 2024.
5 of these reported rough sleepers have been provided with suitable accommodation.

The progress of the remaining 3 cases are being monitored until the needs of the reported rough sleepers are met and the cases can be closed

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.

National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027 Implementation Plan

Action 1.2.2 of the National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022-2027 Implementation Plan states that Local authorities and the HSE must work together to plan and deliver on housing targets for disabled people in the community (including de-congregation) in line with the forthcoming Disability Services Action Plan.

The HSE Mental Health Housing Coordinator from Parkgate Hall liaises with the Homeless Services Team on a monthly basis.

Currently 11 Fingal County Council clients have been identified, one was housed in January, a second is going through the nomination process after a property has been identified and the teams continue to liaise in relation to the other clients.

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 continues 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.

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, 232 tenant in-situ properties are at the sale closed stage. A total of 82 properties are at the sale agreed stage with a further 77 cases in the negotiation process. In addition, the Council is assessing a further 302 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 neighboring 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 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

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.

Work has begun preparing the Draft Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025 – 2029. Letters of intent have been issued to relevant stakeholders with further engagement anticipated to take place over the coming weeks, with public consultation anticipated to take place regarding the Draft Plan during Summer 2024.

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.

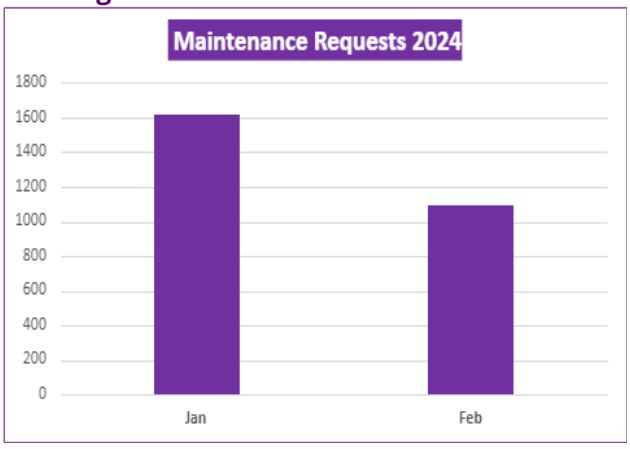
Council officials continue to liaise and engage with the Traveller Community, Traveller Advocacy Groups, Welfare Services, Child Services, Mental Health Services and other services and agencies to resolve issues when and where possible.

St Brigid's Lawns, Porterstown, Dublin 15

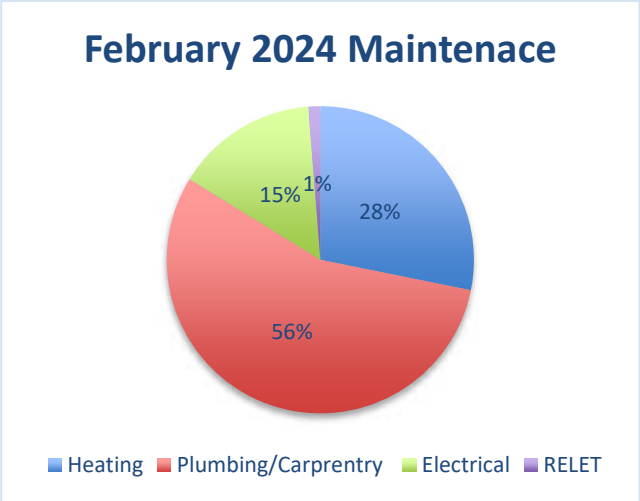
Removal of dumping at Morgans Place, Castleknock, Dublin 15

Removal of Vegetation at Meakstown Close Dublin 11

Housing Maintenance



Maintenance Figures By Category January 2024	
Boiler	814
Plumbing/Carpentry	572
Electrical	152
RELET	7
TOTAL	1545



Boiler Servicing Programme

The 2023 Programme had a 91% completion rate across the County.

The 2024 Programme of work is now underway, with Contractors working across the County in areas such as Blackmills Grove, Strandmill Road, Strand Road, Cardy Rock Road/Ave/Walk/Sq, Lambeecher Estate and Russell's Terrace.

Anti-Social Behaviour/Inspectorate Unit

The Council is committed to investigating all reports of ASB and will take all preventative measures possible. All complaints are received in confidence by the ASB Unit

Fingal County Council delivered 9 tenant Induction Courses throughout 2023. Further courses are expected during 2024 as new developments are completed and are ready for allocation.

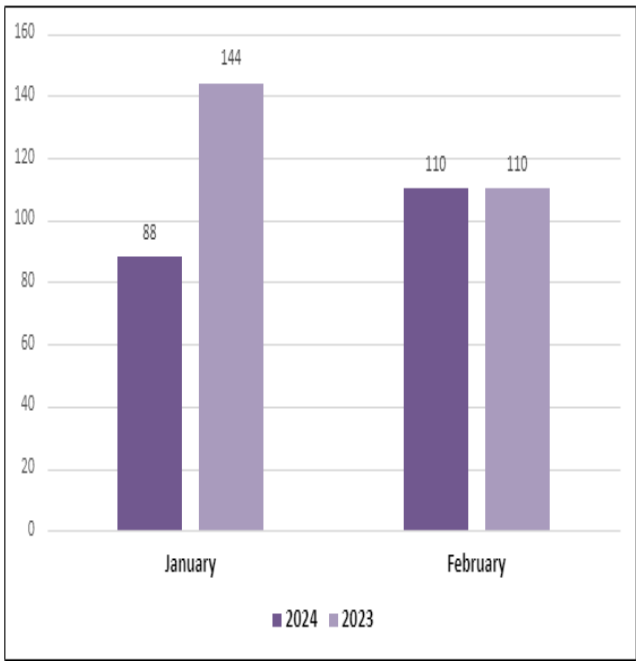
ASB Caseload Management

Complaints January 2024	Total	Active	Monitoring	Closed
Balbriggan	15	10	2	3
Rush / Lusk	15	12	1	2
Swords	14	11	0	3
Howth / Malahide	21	21	0	0
Blanchardstown / Mulhuddart	27	13	1	13
Ongar	12	9	0	3
Castleknock	6	6	0	0
Total	110	82	4	24

Surrenders on Estate Management Grounds 2024

January (1) , February (4)

Monthly Breakdown of ASB Complaints Received 2023-24



Anti-Social Behaviour Interventions

Interviews Held 2024	24
Interviews Held 2023	95
Tenancy Alerts 2024	5
Tenancy Alerts 2023	23
Tenancy Warnings 2024	3
Tenancy Warnings 2023	6

Inspectorate

Traveller Specific Site Inspections 2024	**295**
Traveller Specific Site Inspections 2023	1665
Estate Inspections 2024	**250**
Estate Inspections 2023	1305
Estate Management Inspections 2024	**311**
Estate Management Inspections 2023	1666

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 Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection 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 co-ordinate the response of the various statutory agencies and voluntary groups in the county to assist the Ukraine community with the most recent meeting held on the 26th February 2024.

Liam Rodgers Rest Centre

The centre continues to provide accommodation and support to Ukrainian Beneficiaries of Temporary protection. In the main occupants are 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) over **460 persons** have moved from the Liam Rodgers centre to OfferAhome\pledge accommodation across the county and country with arrangements finalising concerning further moves to OfferAhome\pledge accommodation. An additional **210 persons** have moved along to varying other forms of accommodation in the main to state contracted accommodation.

OfferAhome\Pledge Accommodation

The monthly recognition payment is **€800** per month for vacant properties and **€800** to host a Ukraine person in your home. To pledge fully vacant accommodation, please visit the national portal at https://offerahome.ie or for enquiries, e-mail offerahome@fingal.ie.

To pledge a room in your home, this can be done through the Irish Red Cross via www.redcross.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

The Vacant Homes Team continues to engage with owners of vacant properties to encourage owners to bring them back into use and advise of schemes that are available to assist this with on-going follow up of properties reported as vacant to the Council and those identified by way of survey.

The Croí Cónaithe Refurbishment Grant Scheme is in utilisation to address vacancy and assist citizens in getting a home with increasing enquiries, applications, and grant approvals. The grant can also be used to bring a vacant property back into use for the private rented market.

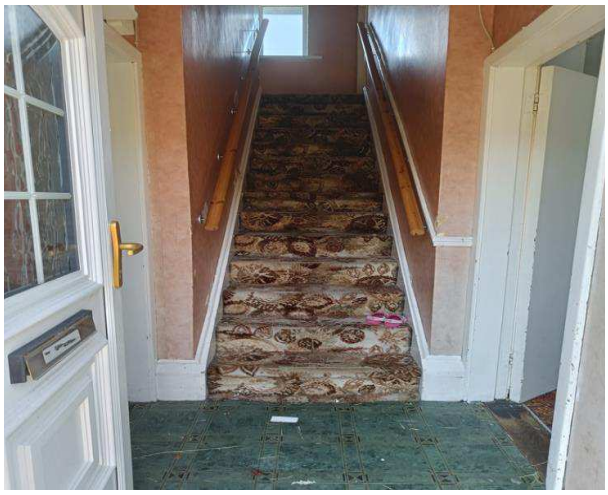
Croí Cónaithe Vacant Homes Refurbishment Grant

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 this change, the grant-approved property had to be the principal private residence of the grant. **105** applications have been received under the scheme with a steady flow of new applications, **54 of** which have been approved with further 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 Crown Plaza, Hotel, Santry on the 1st December 2023 and at Donabate Golf Club on the 7th March 2024. For enquiries on the scheme and other schemes to bring properties back into use please contact the Council's Vacant Homes Office via e-mail at vacant.homes@fingal.ie , Vacant properties can also be reported to this add

Croi Connaithe Vacant Property Grant before and after Photos below:



Before

After

Before

After

Before

After

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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Community Development
Facilities Management
Interagency
Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)
Age Friendly Fingal
Funding

Community Development Office

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 February/March the Community Development Office worked in partnership with a number of community groups and partners to support many projects/Initiatives including;

Pre-development of Meakstown Community Centre Board of Management

The Community Development Office is working with the community of Meakstown to form a Board of Management for the new community centre currently under construction in Lanesborough Park. The new centre is due for completion in Q4 2024.

A second online information session was held on 7th February with over 20 participants in attendance representing various community and voluntary groups in the wider Meakstown area.

Community and Voluntary groups may now nominate one member to sit on the Meakstown Community Centre Board of Management through an expression of interest process that is open until 17th March.

Full details of how to apply are available here: Meakstown Community Centre - Board Member Expression of Interest form. | Fingal County Council Online Consultation Portal

GLAS @ TU Dublin Community Garden Workshops

The Community Development Office will issue a new Service Level Agreement with Global Action Plan for 2024 for the GLAS @ TU Dublin Community Garden. This community garden, located on the campus of TU Dublin Blanchardstown, is growing from strength to strength with a calendar of events planned for the benefit of local residents, community and voluntary groups in the wider Dublin 15 area.
Two free workshops have been scheduled for March 2024.

1. how to construct and manage raised vegetable beds
2. seed sowing for community gardens.

Both workshops are free and open to everyone.

Fingal Women's International Day Women's Programme

Fingal International Women's Day (IWD) will host a series of 35 events across Fingal from the 4th to 10th March. Events are community led and celebrate women in the community by encouraging social engagement, skills development, empower talks and recreational activities.

As part of the programme, the Community Development Office is supporting 29 groups to organise their local events. These groups have demonstrated experience of working with women and will use their event to further reach out or show support to local women.

All events are promoted by Fingal County Council through various media channels and will feature alongside the Fingal Shine a Light Swords flagship event. For more information visit [International Women's Day 2024 in Fingal | Fingal County Council]

Fingal She Leads: Finding the Voice of Fingal Women Pioneers

'Fingal She Leads' are launching an exciting online creative coaching training program, ***"Raising the Voices of Fingal Women Pioneers,"*** on Tuesday 5th March 8pm-9pm. This innovative initiative is designed to bring together a diverse and dynamic group of 16 women who exhibit a budding interest in leadership and possess the potential to become impactful leaders. The program will run from April to July and aims to amplify the leadership identity of those women, fostering their influence in the upcoming local election.

For more information, RSVP now to secure your launch spot!
https://consult.fingal.ie/en/content/raising-voices-fingal-women-pioneers-launch

Donabate and Swords SAMH Groups

The Community Development Office continues to support the Substance Abuse Awareness and Mental Health (SAMH) groups in North and Mid county. Meetings of the Swords and Donabate groups took place, last month with the focus mainly on the findings of the latest Planet Youth research on the emerging needs of young people in the county on issues around vaping, drug and alcohol use and creating safe spaces for young people to express themselves.

SAMH Donabate is organising a community-focused Hello How Are you Day in May on this issue and the Swords group is liaising with the Thrive project in Balbriggan, which promotes community-wide positive mental health, with a view to being a partner in the proposed Thrive initiative planned for Swords.

Mourne Estate Development Working Group

The Community Development Office is supporting local residents from the Mourne Estate Development Working Group to acknowledge the 50th year of the Skerries Estate in 2024. Several key stakeholders have committed to the group and are meeting once a month to plan a calendar of events for the year which is collectively known as "Mourne 50".

The group consists of several local FCC Councillors and representatives from Mourne Celtic FC, Scoil Réalt Na Mara, Mourne Estate Residents Association (MERA) and Foróige. So far events planned will include Street Feast, tree planting and landscaping projects with the co-operation of FCC Operations Department, historical photographic exhibitions, talks about the estate and a Family Fun Day in July with football tournament, similar to the 2023 event successfully led by Mourne Celtic FC.

Facilities Management

Works on Rush Multipurpose Youth Facility

Work is continuing at pace on the Rush Multipurpose Youth Facility, which is anticipating reopening in Q2 2024.

FCC have supported the project financially, alongside funding secured from LEADER, which funded the public realm element of the contract.

The centre has been closed since late 2021 when refurbishment works commenced.

The Board of Management are liaising with the Community Facilities Management Support Unit regarding re-opening initiatives, service delivery, governance and financial support. It is anticipated that the main building works will be completed by and reopened in May 24.

The building, once complete, will be an asset to the local community.

Interagency

The Community Development office actively seek to work in collaboration with agencies to maximise service delivery and resources to communities In January/February the CDO supported the delivery of the following:

Balbriggan Demystifying Integration Conference

The Community Development Office is supporting Balbriggan Integration Forum on the development of a conference taking place on the 13th March 2024 to highlight the importance of '*Demystifying Integration*'. It seeks to provide a platform for lived experience, challenges, and discussion on the meaning of Integration. Social Justice Ireland's Susanne Rogers and practitioner/scholar Fidele Mutwarasibo will be offering insights and direction throughout the conference.

Fingal Comhairle Na nÓg

Representatives from Fingal's Comhairle Na nÓg presented to the Mayor of Fingal, Cllr. Adrian Henchy and CE AnnMarie Farrelly in the Council Chambers on 14th February as part of a visit to County Hall. Following a presentation which was delivered by two of the youth representatives, there was an engaging discussion around youth spaces in the Fingal area, which is the Comhairle's work topic for the year.

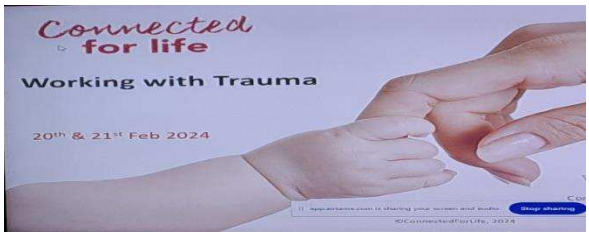
Other topics addressed during the visit included young person's involvement with Sports, Arts and Housing in the county. There were plenty of questions for both the Mayor and the CE. The group are now busy preparing for Dail na nÓg in March. Six members will attend on the day which will take place in Leinster House.

There will be more planned engagements with those seeking election and the young Comhairle Na nÓg members around local election time and with the new Council representatives later in the year.

Fingal Comhairle na nÓg is the recognised voice of young people in the county and it is important that they are consulted on the development of relevant policies and plans.

Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)

The role of the Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) is to provide integration supports to applicants for International Protection, Programme Refugees, those with refugee status, subsidiary protection, or permission to remain status and beneficiaries of temporary protection (BOTP) to enable them to live independently in the community.



In Fingal County Council, the LAIT team is based in the Community Development Office. The team comprises four new roles, and the interview process for these positions is now finished. The LAIT Coordinator and the LAIT Administrative Support Officer took up duty in January 2024. It is anticipated that the remaining two team members, Integration Support Officers, will be in place by the end Q1 2024. The team have begun planning and putting in place systems to support the work of the service. The coordinator and senior FCC staff are working with national and regional implementation and working groups and participating in a series of training sessions relevant to the work of the service alongside colleagues in the Leinster region.

Age Friendly Fingal

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.

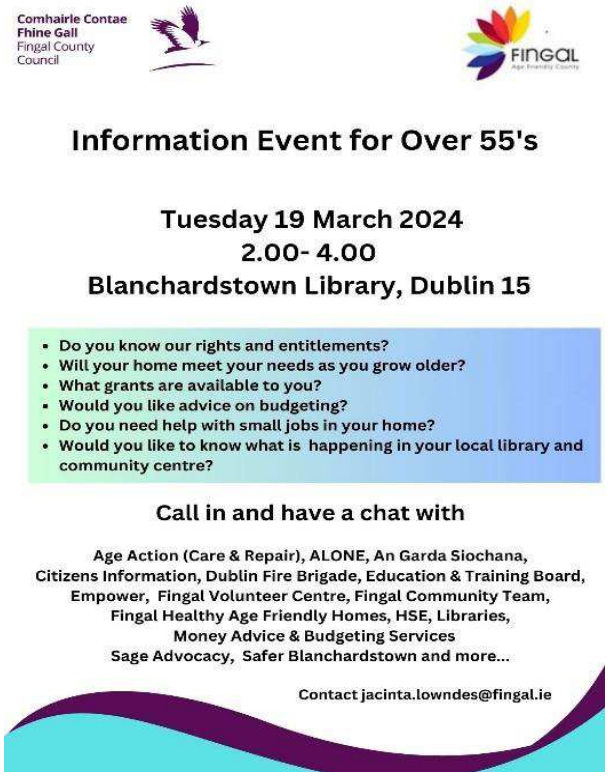
Cross Border Intergenerational Project

Participants in our Cross-Border Intergenerational Projects in Balbriggan and Mayobridge, Newry met in Bagnal's Castle, Newry on Saturday 3rd February. While the meeting provided an opportunity for both groups to give an update on their projects, it was also a chance for engagement among the groups.

An open discussion on the impact of the project was very insightful with older participants in Balbriggan commenting positively on how they enjoy seeing the younger participants around the town, who wave from a distance or spend time chatting and have even introduced them to their parents.

One younger participant, spoke about how the project has changed her opinion of older people, and said that "older people are still living their first life". Through the interactions with older people in the project, she has learned that older people are individuals who continue to learn, develop new skills and interests, and continue to participate in civic and social activities as they age, just like young people.

Information Event for Over 55s in Dublin 15



An Information Event for Over 55s will take place in Blanchardstown Library on Tuesday 19th March (2.00 p.m. -4.00 p.m.). Information stands will be provided by local organisations and groups providing services and activities for older people in Dublin 15, including the HSE, An Garda Siochana, Age Friendly Ireland, Fingal Older People's Council, Age Action, Alone, Citizens Information, Dublin Fire Brigade, MABS and Community Centres.

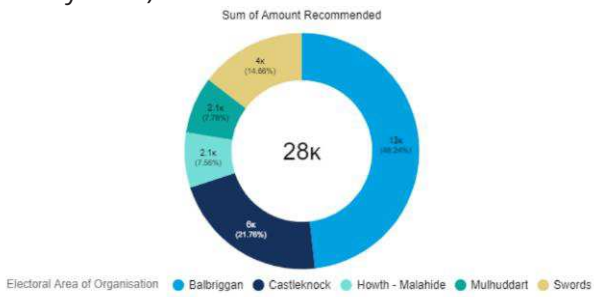
Swords Men's Shed – Heart Foundation Mobile Unit

The Community Development Office continues to support Swords Men's Shed in creating an avenue for social engagement and wellbeing for men in Swords. Recently we supported the Heart Foundation Mobile Unit to visit the shed, providing an opportunity for up to 30 members to have their heart rate and blood pressure checked. Information and advice were provided by nurses in the mobile unit to all attendees on the day.

Funding

Community Activities Funding

Community Activities Funding (up to 22nd February 2024)

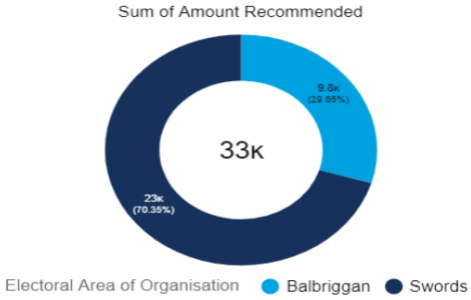


Communities Activities Funding has been awarded to 14 projects to the amount of €27,554.

Castleknock/Mulhuddart €8,139 (3 projects)
Balbriggan €13,291 (6 projects)
Swords €4,040 (2 projects)
Howth Malahide €2,084 (3 projects)

Community Facilities Remedial Works Scheme for non-Council owned facilities

Remedial Funding Up to (22nd February 2024)



Remedial Funding has been awarded to 2 projects to the amount of €33,054 in 2024.
Balbriggan - €9,800 x 1 project
Swords – €23,254 x 1 project

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE ACTION, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND SPORTS DEPARTMENT

Contents

Active Travel
Climate Action
Environmental Awareness
Bring Centres
Litter Management
Landfill Aftercare
Water Quality Protection
Sports Office

Active Travel

NTA funding allocations for 2024 have not yet been finalised.

Protected Cycle Lanes:

BLRS Area:

R132 Blakes Cross to Quickpenny Lane

This project that is constructing nearly 4km of protected shared pedestrian and cycle facilities on both sides of the R132 Road is progressing to the final stages of works. Over 80% of the contract is now complete with the remaining works to be implemented in March/April. The contractor is programming works with suppliers to complete drainage and road resurfacing works on Kilhedge Lane. Installation of bollards, lane separators, line markings and road signage are ongoing as works progress. The project team and Director of Services recently met with agricultural and haulage representatives to discuss concerns raised in recent protest in relation to traffic lanes narrowed and difficulty large farming machinery is having navigating sections of the scheme. Engagement is ongoing with the local community and designers are reviewing issues raised and possible solutions. Weekly updates are provided to local councillors and through social media outlets.

Seatown Road Swords:

The Engineering Consultant is currently working with the Project Team to finalise the Non-Statutory Public Consultation Report, the Options report and detailed drawings and screenings on the final option. Once the documents have been finalised, it will be published on the Consultation Portal in the coming weeks. The project team are working towards going to the market in the coming months for a Contractor to progress to the Construction stage in 2024, subject to NTA approvals. This project will provide segregated walking and cycling infrastructure from the R132 at Swords through to the estuary and connectivity to Malahide along the estuary.

Donabate Portrane R126 cycle paths:

The Project Team are continuing to work collaboratively with our property section to progress the potential acquisition of lands along a section of the route to facilitate the progression of the proposed walking and cycling infrastructure from the end of the distributor road in Donabate along the R126 through to the coast at Portrane.
Details of the preferred option are being finalised and once completed will be presented to the members at local ACM. Additional surveys are being carried out to establish further details to inform the design process.

Coney Hill Balbriggan R132 cycle paths:

The Engineering Consultant is currently working with the Project Team to finalise concept designs and options report to assist with stakeholder engagement. Further Topographical Surveys are underway to assist with the decision-making process on the preferred option.
This is a complex section of road as the road widths are narrow and confined. All options are being considered at present so that the preferred option can be established. Further details will be presented to Cllr's later in the year.

Pathfinder Pinnock Hill to Airport cycle paths:

The Engineering Consultant has developed Options Report and initial concept designs for review and agreement with relevant stakeholders before moving to the next steps. The appointed traffic survey consultant has completed the traffic survey to inform the design process. Consultation is ongoing with the relevant stakeholders including the DAA, NTA and Bus Connects project team. Further updates will be provided over the coming months, through this report and at ACM level.

Howth-Malahide Area:

Baldoyle-Howth Protected Cycle Lane Scheme Phase 2

The Active Travel Unit is currently reviewing funding requests for the 2024-2025 programme, including for a review of the existing road network in Baldoyle. This will include Willie Nolan Road, Brookstone Road and Main Street. It 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 Mearnóg GAA

The design brief for 'Concept Development and Options Selection' has been finalised for this connectivity project. Internal consultation with other FCC departments has taken place. The remaining tender documents are being finalised by the Active Travel Unit.

When these are finalised, the next step will be to run a tender competition to appoint a design consultant for the 'Concept Development and Options Selection' Selection.

Enabling works have been completed to provide connectivity from Paddy's Hill Car Park to St. Helen's Junior School and Limetree Avenue. This included tree surgeon works, footpath works, new access points to the school, ramps, table-top crossings, dropped kerbs and ramps on the carriageway on Paddy's Hill.

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Seapark Hill to Old Golf Course Link Park

A brief, and tender documents are currently being prepared by the Active Travel Unit to progress this project from the design phases through to completion as soon as possible.

The design will incorporate feedback from internal FCC stakeholders and the local Resident's Association.
A temporary footpath has been constructed in December 2023, to provide safe access to the Old Golf Links site and paths through the park, providing safe connectivity to Seamount Heights.

The Developer on the Seamount Road side as recently reopened the access, which is now through the new development, closing the temporary footpath.

Feltrim Road Cycle Infrastructure

A design brief has been completed to bring this project from the 'Concept Development and Options Stage' to completion.

The remaining tender documents are substantially complete and are under review.

It is expected that the works will go to tender for a design consultant n Q1, 2024.

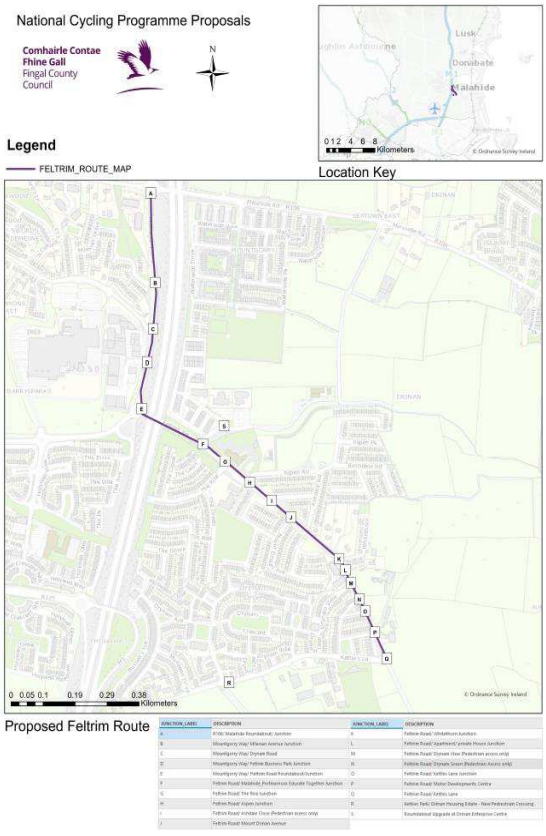
The route of the Feltrim cycle scheme is shown on the map below, commencing at Kettles Lane, along the Feltrim Road to Mountgorry Way and on up to the Swords Road Roundabout.

The Active Travel Unit of Fingal County Council proposes to engage a consultant to provide multi-disciplinary consultancy services for the provision and improvement of infrastructure for pedestrians, people on cycles and other vulnerable road users.

The study area is from the Mountgorry Way/Swords Road roundabout via Mountgorry Way and Feltrim Road, tying into the Feltrim Road/Kettle's Lane junction. An indicative route for illustrative purposes is provided below.

This map outlines the route of the proposed improved active travel infrastructure with the addition of a pedestrian crossing facility to be provided at/near the entrance to Kettles Park on Kettles Lane, and treatment of the three roundabouts at Swords Road/Mountgorry Way, Mountgorry Way/Feltrirm Road, and Drinan Enterprise Centre/Liam Rogers Centre/MPETSS.

The tender for consultants is due to be issued in March 2024. With an anticipated concept and preliminary design completion by Q4 2024.



Proposed Feltrim Route

Scoil an Duinninigh to Waterside Footpath and Cycleway

Planning permission has been granted for the school and the Department of Education is to engage with Fingal County Council in relation to pedestrian access as a condition of the granted Planning Permission. In the interim, a footpath, dropped kerbs with tactile paving have been provided on the route to/from the school and the Feltrim Road.

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 and approval to proceed to the preliminary design phase of the project has been received.

The consultant is now engaging road safety audits and environmental screening on the emerging preferred option. Stakeholder engagement continues with the Bus Connects project team for a proposed new signalised junction at Waterville. A draft preliminary design report has been issued to the Active Travel Unit for comment. Further updates will be provided over the coming months, through this report and at ACM level.

Clonee to Blanchardstown Shopping Centre

All data collection has been collated and has informed the initial development of the options report. The design consultant has been issued with an updated review of the draft Options report and drawings following input from the Active Travel team. Further engagement with Meath County Council and the TII has taken place. Once reviewed a workshop will be held with the NTA.

Castleknock to Dunsink Lane

This project is now focusing on Auburn Avenue linking into the Royal Canal at the 12th Lock along the Old Navan Road. The Options Report and relevant drawings for Auburn Avenue have been reviewed and approved by the NTA in compliance with the Gateway 2 Hold Point requirements.

A stage 1 road safety audit has been carried out and comments taken into consideration with drawings updated accordingly. Photomontages of the emerging preferred option have been prepared in advance of a public consultation.

A presentation will be given to the ACM in March 2024.

Hartstown/Huntstown/Mountview Road

It is proposed to use a newly formed Single Party Framework to progress design from earlier work carried out by the Cycle Design Office. A tender competition has been published to engage the design consultant for phase 2b in this regard. Fingal County Council will progress on finalising the detailed design for roundabout and junction upgrades. This is subject to revision of design standards to ensure compliance with the new National Cycle Manual.

Castleknock to Blanchardstown via Farmleigh

Stage 2 of the tender competition for a design consultant and assessment has been completed. Contract documents have been signed and sealed and a commencement meeting has taken place. The feasibility study has started, and traffic and drone surveys have taken place which will help inform the study.

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

The Chief Executives report for the Part VIII is has been presented to the area committee meeting and full Council in January 2024. The Part 8 Planning Permissions was passed by a vote of the full council. Development of the brief and tender documents for the detailed design are ongoing at present. It is expected to commence detailed design in Q1 2024.

Balrothery Active Travel Plan

The design Consultant is in the process of information gathering and have presented their initial findings to the Active Travel team. The consultant will conduct data collection and initial surveys in Q1, 2024. A non statutory public consultation was held on the 20th February in Balrothery Heritage centre. The purpose of this non statutory consultation was to gain insights from the public of issues experienced and what they would like to see in their village.

The consultation was attended by a significant number of people from 3pm to 8pm, and included a class from St Oliver Plunketts National School, members from community, recreational, agricultural, and business community groups, as well as members of the public and their families of all ages. It was a very successful engagement. The consultants are in the process of analysing the feedback from that engagement and to assess the opportunities and challenges to be considered in the project.

Skerries Active Travel Plan

The project team are currently developing tender documents and a consultant's brief for Stage 2 of the tender process to appoint an Integrated Design Team to deliver active travel town plans across the county. The first project to be developed from this consultancy framework will be Skerries Town. It is anticipated to publish Stage 2 tender documents by the end of March. The three shortlisted tenderers from Stage 1 will have approximately 4-weeks to submit a tender response for assessment. The evaluation board will evaluate the tenders received and aim to appoint a consultant to commence services in May 2024 for this framework.

Skerries Harbour Road:

The Preliminary Design documentation and environmental reports for this project are with the Planning Authority for pre-planning consultation and assessment. The outcome of this will establish the governance and planning route for the project with a decision expected in March 2024. Further meetings will be arranged to update the elected members on the next steps and timelines involved.

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.

Several projects identified through this process are being developed through the design phases for execution on the ground.

Other projects are being progressed in the areas at either design or construction stage. These Connectivity and Permeability improvements are being delivered in cooperation with our Operations Department. These projects will enhance local communities and provide improved walking and cycling infrastructure within the county.

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:
The Engineering Consultant is currently working with the Project Team to finalise the Non-Statutory Public Consultation Report, the Options report and detailed drawings and screenings on the final option. Once the report has been finalised, it will be published on the Consultation Portal. The project team are working towards going to the market in the coming months for a Contractor to progress to the Construction stage in 2024, subject to approvals.

Rush South Beach:
The project team and the Engineering consultant have prepared concept design and options report for new universal access path. Discussions with landowners are ongoing, with further meetings in the coming weeks.

We are working collaboratively with the property owners to find an optimal solution that caters for everyone's needs.

Beaverstown Road, Donabate:
Active Travel is currently at Construction stage for the provision of footpath to link up to existing footpath along Beaverstown Road in Donabate. These works commenced on the 19th February and is expected to last 3-4 weeks in total.

Over the past two weeks site clearance works, including the removal of vegetation and setting out of sight lines for the new footpath and fencing has been conducted. The new fencing will be erected over the next week along with the planting of new trees and some landscaping. On completion of these works the new footpath will be installed including the provision of tactile paving and the appropriate dishing at the end of the new path section.

Balgriffin Park Shared Pedestrian and Cycle Path:
This connectivity piece provides a shared pedestrian and cycle path from the county boundary with Dublin City on Balgriffin Park, to the junction with the R123. This will provide a pedestrian and cycling connection for many dwellings on/near Balgriffin Park to the newly constructed pedestrian and cycling facilities on the R123. Works are substantially complete and snagging is due to take place.

Howth Summit Inn to Bus Stop 567:

Dropped kerbs with tactile paving have been provided on the route between the Summit Inn and Bus Stop 567. This work has been completed.

Offington, Howth:

Junction tightening and provision of tactile paving is complete at three junctions in Offington, Howth: The two junctions of Offington Drive with Offington Avenue and the junction of Offington Lawn with Offington Avenue are complete. This will slow turning movements by motorised vehicles while providing a shorter crossing distance for pedestrians and other vulnerable road users. Grassed areas are also being provided in the new pavement, which will provide additional greening and drainage.

Secure Bicycle Parking Infrastructure

The Contractor is currently progressing works to install a number of bicycle parking facilities across the Dublin 15 and Swords Areas. Further works are planned in Skerries and Balbriggan in the coming weeks.

18 bicycle parking spaces have been provided in the Dublin 15 Area. Bicycle Parking Sheffield Stands have been installed at the following locations:

- Hazelbury Park, Huntstown, Dublin 15
- Bus Stop 6113, Ongar Distributor Road, Dublin 15
- Bus Stop 7219, Blanchardstown Road South, Dublin 15
- Bus Stop 1902, Orchard Court, Clonsilla Road, Dublin 15

The image below illustrates 5 Bicycle Parking Sheffield Stands that have been installed in Hazelbury Park, Huntstown, Dublin 15.

10 bicycle parking spaces have been provided in the Santry Area. The image below illustrates 5 Bicycle Parking Sheffield Stands that have been installed in Santry Park, Santry, Co. Dublin.

Safe Routes to School

Round 1 – Tranche 1

The works contractor for the Safe Routes to School Tranche 1 contract is finalising snags at each of the 5 schools. 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 has carried out minor snagging and maintenance on rain gardens. The Stage 3 Road Safety Audit has been completed by an independent auditor.

Bayside Junior & Senior School

Works are now completed at the school site. The contractor has carried out minor snagging and maintenance on rain gardens. The Stage 3 Road Safety Audit has been completed by an independent auditor. It is anticipated that the Belisha beacons at the zebra crossing will be connected in Q1, 2024.

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 complete for the Tranche 2 schools (4 no.) and a tender competition for the construction works has been published with a view to start on site in Q1 2024. This tender is now closed and has been assessed with contract documents issued for signing.

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 delivery plans to enable the designers and contractors to carry out the works.

An Taisce are due to provide the delivery plans for each of the schools in the new year that will inform the design process. Fingal County Council has procured the services of a consultants' team that will be working on the designs for these schools.

Rush National School:

Active Travel together with Operations have recently launched two public consultations connected to road safety measures in Rush. A School Street initiative for Rush National School and a junction upgrade adjacent to the school are now open for public feedback.

The public has been invited to review plans for changes at Rush National School on the Fingal consultation portal. A proposal has been brought forward by the council's Active Travel unit to provide a School Street in the area. This initiative is being paired with a proposal from the council's Operations unit who have proposed junction upgrade measures at the nearby 5-arm junction at Millbank Road, Chapel Road and Whitestown Road which forms part of the 2024 Programme of Works. Together these upgrades will reduce traffic speeds in the area and provide children walking or wheeling to school with a much safer environment, at and on the approach to the school gate.

Mobility & Behaviour Change

TY Girl's Bike Mechanics Course

We recently rolled out a Bike Mechanics & Safe Cycling Workshops for TY girls, with training led by the Bike Hub, with the first course held at St Mary's secondary school in Baldoyle from 21-23 February. The course was a great success with 24 TY students participating. The rate of Irish secondary school girls who cycle is very low when compared to the number of boys who cycle. The workshops aim to address Ireland's teenage cycling gender gap, increase interest in cycling and normalise cycling amongst teen girls.

Learn 2 Cycle with a Disability

Our Learn 2 Cycle with a Disability lesson continue to be extremely popular. We are continuing to roll these lessons out across County Fingal, with two more courses starting this March; one in Corduff Sports Centre starting on Saturday 2 March. and another in Luttrelstown community centre starting on Monday 11 March.

Our course in Flemington recently ended and the final lesson in Rivervalley will be held on Monday 26 February. We are putting emphasis on making sure these lessons are promoted across as many channels as possible, to support this we recently shot a promotional video for the course, which we look forward to sharing once the final editing is completed.

Staff eBike Trials

The Staff eBike Trials are continuing in 2024, we now have 5 eBikes available to staff for a one-month trial period.
These are
2 x Trekking Commuter Style Bikes
2 x Folding Bikes
1 x Long Tail Cargo Bike
If any staff are still interested in signing up for the eBike Trials, you can fill in the Expression of Interest form
https://forms.office.com/e/Gng6aR1LaH

Walking Buses

Our walking buses are continuing in 2024. Active Travel are currently assisting on walking buses in Pope John Paul NS on Mondays and St Fintan's NS in Sutton on Fridays. The Pope John Paul NS Walking Bus started on Monday 22nd January and goes from Seabury every Monday and Friday morning. We started a Naul NS Walking Bus on Tuesdays from 23rd January. Walking Buses are a great way for children and parents to get to school

eCargo for Business/Community Group Trials

Our ecargo for community group scheme continues, we are working on providing a bike to Castleknock Tidy Towns and Malahide Meals on Wheels and hope to have these bikes with the groups soon. Our first Community eCargo Bike was launched in December with Baldoyle Wildtown. The cargo bike has been given to the group for a 12-month period to help them with their activities around Baldoyle. The eCargo has already been put to good use by the group to transport shovels, compost and trees during their orchard planting event in Seagrange Park in December.

Men's Walk & Talk Groups

A new Men's Walk & Talk group recently started in Baldoyle, set up in conjunction with the Baldoyle Family Resource Services. The Baldoyle group had their first walk on Thursday 22 February, and they will continue their walks each Thursday at 7pm meeting point at the Baldoyle Family Resource Centre on Grange Road, behind the Credit Union. We have Groups in Swords, Rush, Lusk and Castleknock but are always on the lookout for people who would like to start their own group. Just email active.travel@fingal.ie and we'll help you get going

Fresh Air Friday

We have launched our Fresh Air Friday Challenge, with several new Fingal schools joining the initiative. Participating schools will be entered into a fun prize draw for a trip to Flynn Park / PE Supply Pack, and some active travel goodies. Participating schools just have to register online and then walk, cycle or scoot to school each Friday! Fresh Air Fridays can help to encourage a long-term behaviour change, improve the air quality around our towns and villages while also promoting a healthy start to the day. If your school or business are interested in signing up to Fresh Air Friday, simply contact active.travel@fingal.ie and we will help you get going.

Marchathon & Staff Heritage Walks this March

The annual Marchathon step challenge for FCC staff starts again on 4 March! Marchathon is a fun way to get more fresh air and exercise, while also building some team spirit! To join the Marchathon step challenge go to **ActiveTravelLogger**

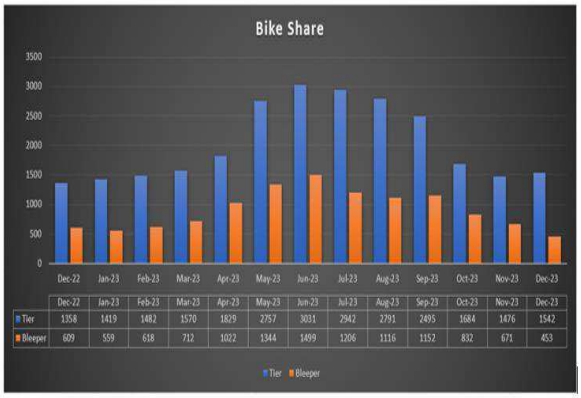
The active travel unit are organising a series of lunchtime heritage walks for staff during March, to encourage staff to walk this Spring- Sign up Here

Skerries Community Car

The Community Car in Skerries had 98 requested Trips for December and completed a total of 90, The Community Car completed 667 trips in 2023.
64% of Requested bookings were completed, 18% were cancelled by the hospital and 18% were cancelled due to no volunteer being available.
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 Trips	Appoint. Cancelled by Hospital	Missed Demand (no volunteer available)
Feb	106	90	12	4
Mar	108	58	34	16
Apr	114	80	16	18
May	65	34	11	14
Jun	50	26	8	16
Jul	50	33	7	10
Aug	130	52	28	50
Sep	128	66	30	32
Oct	102	68	22	14
Nov	90	70	18	2
Dec	98	90	4	4

Bike Share Schemes



Bleeper Bike

You can pick up a Bleeper bike easily. Just download the Bleeper app, scan the code on the bike to unlock it and you are on your way!

Bleeper Bike Update January 2024; key statistics

429 Bleeper bike journeys started within Fingal operating zone in January
453 bike journeys ended within existing Fingal operating zone
Highest usage recorded on Fridays (18.4%) and Mondays (17%)
Hartstown and Donabate were the most popular starting points.
Estimated emissions avoided: 196.3kg of CO2

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 are 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 January 2024; Key Statistics

Metric	Details
Trips	1,142
No of Customers	474
Trips / Customer	2.4
Distance Covered (KM)	3,440
Average Trip Duration	13.9mins
Average Trip length (KM)	3km

During the Winter Period TIER have taken a commercial decision to alter their service provision in areas with limited or no usage. This will enable them to maximise efficiencies in areas of high demand.
Swords, Howth, Malahide and Skerries will see a reduction in eBikes from January to April
Donabate, Rush, Lusk and Loughshinny will see a pausing of the service until the beginning of April 2024.
Dublin 15 will see an increase in the number of eBikes in areas previously underserved. We are currently preparing full tenders for both Pedal and eBikes and we would hope to have these in place by the start of Q2 2024.

ENVIRONMENT

Climate Action

The Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 was adopted by the Members at the Council meeting on February 12th, 2024. Section 16 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon (Amendment) Act 2021 states that no more than 30 days after a local authority climate action plan is approved, the local authority shall publish the local authority climate action plan in such a manner as the local authority consider appropriate. The climate action plan along supporting documentation including the SEA and AA Reports, the CE Report, the SEA Statement and Notice of Adoption will be published and available for viewing by members of the public in County Hall, Swords, Civic Office, Blanchardstown and online from Monday 11th March to Friday 12th April 2024.

Community Climate Action Fingal

The Community Climate Action Fingal Grant application process closed on 28th February. A total of 25 applications were received through the online portal. These applications represent inputs from community groups all over Fingal, many in partnership arrangements, representing climate action initiatives to the value of 1.6m Euro. The Community Climate Action Officer worked with applicants to ensure that the applications included all the relevant quotations and information necessary for assessment. The Council is required to assess the applications and present a portfolio to the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications before the end of April.

Climate Awareness

Two Climate Action awareness programmes are being delivered to secondary school students in Fingal. Susan Adams, environmentalist, TED speaker, educator in conservation and founder of non-profit social enterprise Education for Sustainability is on board to deliver an 8-week Climate Literacy Programme to students.

The programme aims to increase climate literacy, foster behavioural change in students, and covers 8 different environmental topics such as climate justice, sustainable development, sustainable transport, and biodiversity loss, among others.

The programme educates young people about the climate crisis and equips them with the knowledge, skills, and tools to take climate action and live sustainably. One of the unique elements of this programme is that it provides training and resources to teachers to enable them to deliver the programme to subsequent year groups.

Students undertake a class action project at the end of the programme to improve their school or local community. Initiatives in Fingal schools so far have included creation of a biodiversity garden, tackling fast fashion through clothes swap shops and 1 school has become plastic free!

Rubbish Film Festival, an exciting digital arts education initiative is also on board to raise climate awareness among secondary school students. Students receive training and support to create short films highlighting climate change and climate action issues. An awards ceremony will be held for best film followed by a regional final. 12 other local authorities are involved in rolling out this programme currently.

Environmental Awareness

Green Schools

Currently 26 schools in Fingal County are undergoing assessments for their Green School Flag, a prestigious recognition of their commitment to environmental sustainability.

The Green Schools Programme supports a student lead approach in encouraging school communities to adopt eco-friendly practices and educates young people about environmental issues, while building a sense of citizenship through participation. The assessments this year are focusing on the themes of Bio Diversity, Litter and Waste, Travel and Water and are being carried out by the Environmental Awareness Officer in conjunction with An Taisce. Below is more information regarding the six themes Green Schools covers.

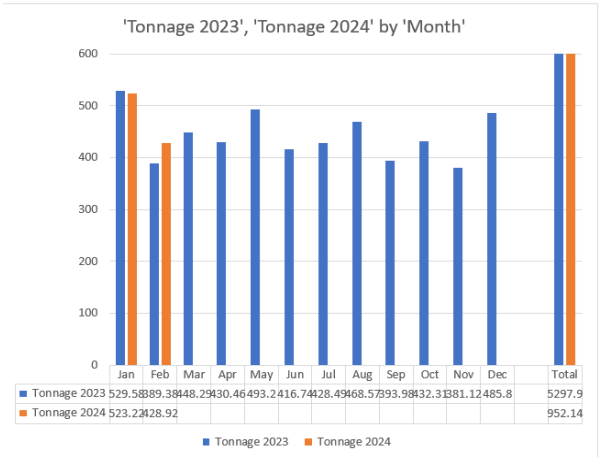
The purpose of assessments is for schools to highlight the work of their Green School committee and for An Taisce and the Environmental Awareness Officer to make recommendations to support schools on achieving green flag status. From reducing waste to promoting active travel, these assessments highlight the incredible efforts of the schools in Fingal to create a greener communities and provide a platform to showcase Fingal's next generation of environmentally conscious citizens. Best of luck to all schools involved!

The Environmental Awareness Office also sponsored the ECO UNESCO Young Environmentalist Awards.

Over the years a number of schools in Fingal have taken part in the programme, this year involving Pobalscoil Neasáin and Skerries Community College. Castleknock Educate Together were granted funds to cover the costs of biodiversity signage. Ballyboughal Tidy Towns received funding towards signage for the new bottle recycling cage at the GAA grounds. The Blakestown Mountview Youth Initiative were granted funding for a hot-bin composter at their facility.

Bring Centres

Bottle Banks



Glass volumes collected in February 2024 were 429 Tonnes. The Glass volumes collected by comparison in 2023 were 389 Tonnes.

Textile Banks

Textiles volumes collected in December 2023-the most recent data available-were 18 Tonnes. This compared with 17 Tonnes of Textiles volumes collected in December 2022.

Litter Management

The Litter Wardens carrying out inspection on large scale dumping in the Fingal area. They also continued with their daily patrols and carried out 276 inspections on all known litter black spots in Fingal.

The Litter warden continued to receive several complaints regarding muck on the roads from building sites. They carried out inspections and ensured that the roads were being keep clean of muck and that the building sites had a road sweeper in operation.

They also followed up on reports to ensure farmers were ensuring the roads were keep clean of muck.

The Litter warden continued to raise awareness of the issue of dog fouling on beaches, paths, and green areas in Fingal. They engaged with dog owners and dispensing dog poo bags, making people aware of their responsibilities to clean up after their dogs. They also erected anti dog fouling signage in areas where complaints were received.

The Litter Warden conducted walking patrols, engaging with business regarding their responsibilities to keep outside their premises clean and free of litter. They also checked to see if any issues have arisen for the Operations crews, and they carried out inspections and followed up with fines/warning notice if evidence 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 Acts.

The Litter Warden also investigated reports of abandoned cars, taking photographs and updating the litter app and the CRM system.

There were 12 cases before the district court in February 2024.

Month	Fines	Warning Notices
January	29	4
February	56	2

The Litter Management section receive numerous complaints regarding litter enforcement and **the following cases were assigned to the Litter Warden under the CRM system.**

CRMs February 2024	Amount
Env - Dog Fouling	2
Env - Fly tipping 1-20 bags equivalent	35
Env - General Litter Issue	15
Env – Littering at Bottle Banks	5
Env – Muck on road	3
Env litter incident with witness	5
Env - Pollution - Dog Fouling Signage	9
Env – Abandoned cars	40

Abandoned Vehicles

There have been 50 reports of alleged Abandoned Vehicles received between 1st January 2024 – 27th February 2024. 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

Month	Abandoned Vehicles			Burnt Out Vehicles		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
January	0	0	0	0	1	6
February	0	1	2	1	0	0
March	3	1		0	1	
April	2	0		0	0	
May	1	0		0	0	
June	0	0		0	5	
July	0	1		0	0	
August	2	0		0	3	
September	0	3		0	0	
October	2	0		0	0	
November	2	4		1	0	
December	1	0		1	0	
	13	10	2	3	10	6

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 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.

There were 297 x 10 Day Notices and 38 Fines issued by the dog wardens during February 2024.

Month	10 Day Notices		Fines Issued		Fines Paid	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
January	217	40	20	68	€1497	€7,800
February	297	13	38	32	€1735	€2,600
March	0	97		29	€0	€2,100
April	0	152		42	€0	€1,500
May	0	232		98	€0	€2,956
June	0	135		53	€0	€2,700
July	0	109		35	€0	€2,644.20
August	0	140		21	€0	€1,500
September	0	125		40	€0	€3,549
October	0	241		40	€0	€1,500
November	0	91		7	€0	€1,100
December	0	222		12	€0	€1,422.50
TOTAL	217	1597	430	477	€1497	€31,372

The Animal Welfare Section received 79 complaints in relation to dogs in February 2024.

Service	No of Complaints per services for February 2024
Dog Fine Appeal	4
Dog on Dog Attack	1
Dog on person Attack	5
Env - Pollution - Issue with	35
Env - restricted breed dog	11
Surrendered Dog	0
Stray Dog	23
Grand Total	79

Dog Licences and Fines

The below table shows the number of annual and lifetime licences purchased during February 2024 in comparison with the same months in 2023. 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	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
January	945	635	80	65	€30,200	€21,800
February	915	562	54	58	€25,860	€19,360
March		561		55	€	€18,900
April		451		41	€	€14,760
May		918		64	€	€27,320
June		516		41	€	€16,060
July		766		47	€	€21,900
August		838		51	€	€23,900
September		759		48	€	€21,900
October		670		30	€	€17,600
November		662		41	€	€18,980
December		626		37	€	€17,700

We will continue to advertise the requirement for dog owners to hold a licence for their dogs on social media platforms.

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 February there were 27 dogs in the shelter. During February 2024, 13 dogs were brought to the shelter by the dog wardens as stray or surrenders and 2 dogs was surrendered by a members of the public. Of these 27 dogs, 2 has been reclaimed by their owner, 10 dogs have been rehomed to rescue, 3 have been rehomed to members of the public and 6 were PTS. At the end of February there are 21 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 February 2023	**9**	**Dogs in Shelter at the start of February 2024**	**27**
Stray/Seized dogs brought to Shelter	14	Stray/Seized dogs brought to Shelter	13
Surrendered by owners	4	Surrendered by owners	2
Reclaimed	7	Reclaimed	2
Rehomed to Rescue	3	Rehomed to Rescue	10
Rehomed to Public	2	Rehomed to Public	3
PTS	3	PTS	6
Dogs in Shelter end of February 2023	12	Dogs in shelter end of February 2024	21

Contact the shelter on 0873914008, WhatsApp or Facebook to make an appointment to see the dogs available for rehoming.

Raja has been adopted from the shelter and is happy in her new home

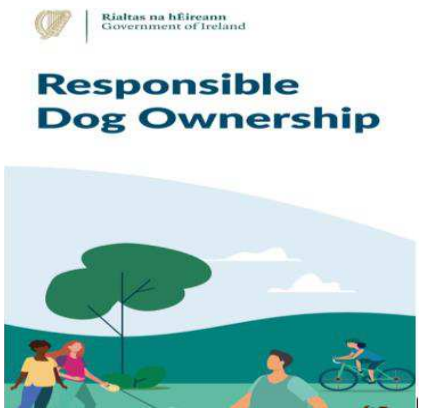
Bootsy is a jack Russell X chihuahua approximately 1 and a half years old!
Bootsy is a very lovable boy! He loves his cuddles and is always jumping up for love!

Hero is possibly a beagle X terrier approximately 3 years old!
She came into the shelter very shy and nervous and took a while to come around! She would stay in her bed and not want to come out!

If you are interested in adopting hero and feel you have a suitable home contact the shelter on 0873914008, WhatsApp or Facebook!

Please share Hero to help find her a new home!

The Control of Dogs Section has launched a campaign to circulate leaflets on Responsible Dog Ownership throughout the Fingal area. The leaflet has been shared on our website and has been circulated on social media and will also be distributed to all vets in the Fingal area. The leaflet will also be circulated by our dog wardens where they see a need to issue further information to dog owners. In addition, it has been issued to our Housing Department to give to new tenants with dogs. We will also provide a link in our emails to the public as it covers all aspects of responsible dog ownership.



Horses

Weekly welfare inspections continue on Dunsink Landfill to monitor the numbers and welfare of the horses onsite. There are 15 hay feeders being filled by the Operations Department on a weekly basis to ensure adequate forage for the horses on the landfill. Two horses which were removed from the landfill and were returned to their owner at a registered equine premises.

Environmental Inspection Plan 2023 & 2024 (RMCEI)

An Inspection Plan under the Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Investigations (RMECI) for 2024 is currently being prepared with input from the litter management, environmental awareness, water pollution, air & noise and waste enforcement sections. The 2024 plan sets out targets for the year ahead, taking into account the National Enforcement Priorities agreed by the EPA and other relevant stakeholders for the period 2022-2024.

The plan was due to be submitted to the EPA by the end of February 2024, but a late notification from the EPA to the Local Authorities of the number of farm inspections allocated to each Local Authority in 2024 and 2025 under the National Agricultural Inspection Programme meant that the deadline was extended to facilitate the planning and incorporation of this work into the 2024 inspection plan.

Statistics on environmental complaints and inspections carried out in 2023 have been submitted online to the EPA. A summary of which is produced in Appendix XX.

In addition, a 2023 progress report on the National Enforcement Priorities was prepared by the Water Pollution, Air & Noise and Waste Enforcement & Regulations sections, and submitted to the EPA by the 29th February 2024 deadline. The progress report details the work carried out by each of the sections towards each of the National Enforcement Priorities.

The combination of these 3 reports is used by the EPA every year to carry out an evaluation of each local authority performance under the Local Authority Performance Framework. This evaluation for 2023 will be published by the EPA towards the end of the year 2024.

Waste Management Planning

The chief executives of the 31 local authorities have made the national waste management plan for a circular waste management plan 2024-2030 in accordance with national waste policy "A waste action plan for a circular economy" published by the government in 2020. A briefing meeting was held on February 27th for members to inform them of the steps in making the plan and the contents of the plan. The making of a waste management plan is an executive function (Waste Management Act 1996- 2011 section 22(10)d)

Waste Enforcement - CCTV

The commencement orders referred to in last month CE report have now been signed by the Minister.

Waste Complaints - A total of 18 waste complaints were recorded for the month of February. Waste complaints investigated primarily related to the illegal backyard storage of waste and the backyard burning of waste. 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 the three-bin system (black, green and brown) to manage their waste. Any information in relation to unauthorised sites/collectors can be forwarded to environment@fingal.ie

2023 Complaint data is contained in Appendix 4

Waste Prosecutions

In January 2024, Fingal County Council's Waste Environment and Regulation Section successfully prosecuted an individual for the illegal storage of waste in the Dublin District Court. The individual was prosecuted under Section 14 and Section 32 of the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended for failing to comply with a direction to cease storing waste and for illegally holding waste in a manner that was likely to cause environmental pollution.

Additionally, the individual was prosecuted under Section 205(1) of The Local Government Act 2001 for breaches in The Fingal County Councils Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste Bye-Laws 2020.

This was for not having a contract in place with an authorised waste collector for the removal of household waste or providing documentary evidence of how they managed their waste in compliance with this bye-law.

It was a successful prosecution for Fingal County Council as the individual was convicted on all 3 counts and given a global fine of €1,500 and costs of €2,720.

Waste Facility Permits - Below is a summary of the activity on waste facility permits in the first 2 months of the year.

A new Waste Facility Permit WFP-FG-23-0002-01 was granted to J. Ryan Haulage Limited for soil recovery at the Barnhill-Ongar Distributor Road. The permit allows for the importation of 25,000 tonnes of waste soil and stone, to be used to raise ground levels to enable the installation of a bridge over the railway line in the construction of the new distributor road.

A reviewed Waste Facility Permit WFP-FG-18-0001-02 was granted to Gannons City Recovery & Recycling Services Limited for the continued operation of their Authorised Treatment Facility at Unit 7 Roseville Industrial Park, Turvey Avenue, Donabate Co Dublin.

Vehicle depollution at Gannons City Recovery

Applications are currently being processed for

- Certificate of Registration COR-FG-24-0001-01 for a privately run Civic Amenity Site by Irish Packaging Recycling on the Cappagh Road, Dublin11
- Transfer of Waste Facility Permit WFP-FG-20-0001-01 from Cloughwater Plastics Ireland Ltd to Starrus Eco Holdings Limited

Air & Noise Section

Complaints

There have been several complaints regarding noise from drone deliveries in Dublin 15 following the licensing of Manna to undertake drone deliveries. Fingal County Council do not regulate the drones (outside of parks where the park bye-laws apply) which are a matter for the Irish Aviation Authority

Noise Action Planning

The preparation of a replacement noise action plan for the Dublin Agglomeration is underway, updated noise maps are available on the Fingal website here https://www.fingal.ie/environment/noise-action-plan

Landfill Aftercare:

Works in relation to the decommissioning of the on-site leachate tanks and reconditioning of the leachate balancing tank and pump works are on-going with an estimated completion date of 3 months. Pictures above detail the new pumpset and electrical kiosk that will service the new pumping arrangements.

EU Water Framework Directive (WFD):

Fingal County Council carried out 2 GAP inspections on two farms in the River Delvin and Palmerstown Catchment. The results of the inspections are under review to determine whether the inspected farms are fully compliant with the GAP.

Environmental Inspections for Water

Water Quality Complaints and Inspections are detailed in the attached Appendix 4.

Inspections of Farmyards: 20 GAP Inspections carried out in farmyards within the functional area of Fingal resulting in enforcement notices and cross reports to the DAFM for non-compliances.

Fingal County Council also carried out reconnaissance land spreading surveys during the land spreading closed season with non-compliant farm operators cross reported to DAFM.

Domestic Wastewater Treatment Systems (DWWTS): The National Inspection Plan sets out a requirement to carry out assessments of 63 DWWTS under the National Inspection Plan 2022-2026.

Fingal County Council assessed 13 DWWTS in 2023 which resulted in the issue of an advisory notice to 1 non- compliant property owner who is required to rectify all non-compliant matters by April 2024.

Section 4 Trade Effluent Discharge Licences: Fingal County Council carried out 64 inspections of the 18 Section 4 licensed facilities in 2023. Non-compliant operators were notified of the exceedance and directed to have each exceedance investigated and resolved. Fingal County Council also initiated a review of 3 Section 4 licences where a licence review is required to ensure the licence addresses the requirements of latest surface water and groundwater regulations.

Bathing Water:

In preparation for the 2024 Fingal County Council has drafted and submitted Beach Management Plans for the Balbriggan and Loughshinny designated bathing areas. The Beach Management Plans sets out a list of measures which Fingal intends to carry out to protect bathing water quality during the bathing water season.
In addition to the beach management plans Investigative monitoring and sampling of the Bracken River continues as part of the out of season management of bathing water at Balbriggan.

Sports Office
Area Based Development Officers

Following the Fingal Sports Office Strategy launch Fingal Sports Officers have gone area based and now have a development officer in each Local Electoral Area while also concentrating on areas in Fingal based on the Pobal Deprivation Index on key areas to target. Fingal Sports Office have also launched a monthly newsletter to Councillors and stakeholders to communicate what is going on in each area programme and event wise. Please find newsletter here - https://bit.ly/FingalSportUpdate

Sports First Aid

The Sports Office were delighted to organise a highly informative and practical Sports First Aid workshop with Velo Club Balrothery and St. Peters GAA Club an underage amalgamation of Ballyboughal, Clann Mhuire and Garristown GAA Clubs.

The tutor on the evening was Brian Pentony and participants went through a wide range of First Aid scenarios that impact cyclists and coaches. Many of the 15 participants now hope to complete the Accredited Defibrillator Training also organised by the Sports Office in the coming months.

SportsCon Teacher Training

The Sports Office PDP Training for teachers continued with another workshop in St.Francis Xavier SNS Coolmine. 20 teachers took part in the training which complemented the recent MarathonKids, Sports Con and Try Track and Field Programmes delivered in the school. The staff and students now have the skillset to participate and mentor in club and community-based activity programmes in the area.

Fingal Athletics League

This year's Fingal Athletics League launched in February with 62 primary schools and over 2,700 students participating in the cross-country running programme. Schools have been training over the past 6 weeks in preparation for the race meets and the first meet for Dublin 15 schools took place in Porterstown Park on 27th February with 3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th class students from 26 local schools coming together to compete. The first race meet for North County schools took place in Newbridge House on 29th February with students representing 36 schools. The second round of race meets is scheduled for 19th & 21st March followed by the grand finale at ALSAA Sports Complex on 24th April.

Revive and Thrive

Revive and Thrive back to exercise programme is nearing it's end and there is huge feedback coming in from all participants. Due to the success of the programme, the local community are taking ownership of the programme and are keeping it going themselves, without direct support from Fingal making this a sustainable community based programme run by local people. Mayor Henchy, Cllr. Guireann and Cllr. Healy came to visit the programme and are keen to see it spread to more area's of Fingal next year

Parent and Toddler – Baldoyle

Parent and Toddler Yoga started in Baldoyle Community Centre in February, due to the collaboration between the community centre and the sport office, the programme filled within days of registration and maintained a big attendance throughout. This was a pilot programme running for 4 weeks and will continue after the Easter break indefinitely due to its success and the demand for the programme. This programme is unique as it gets both adults and toddlers active together.

Boccia Blitz

The Fingal Sport Office host a monthly Boccia Blitz aimed at older adults and adults with intellectual disabilities. Over 70 people attended the event with participants coming from all over Fingal. This event has been hugely successful and maintained large numbers and will continue as a staple monthly event in the Fingal Sport calendar.
Sports Hub - Balbriggan

Parent & Toddler – Holywell

Another initiative run in conjunction with the local residents association in Hoywell the new Parent & Toddler programme started on the Tuesday morning the 20th of February in Holywell Community Centre. The programme incorporates fundamental movement and games for both parent and toddler. The initial eight-week programme is led by a Fingal funded coach qualified in fundamental movement and yoga. The programme received a big uptake from the local residents with over twenty parents their toddlers registered for the initial eight weeks. Showing the demand in the area for activities for this each group.

Inclusive Dance - Baldoyle

Fingal Sport Office have started a block of inclusive dance classes for children with additional needs to attend two primary schools. The sessions are in Baldoyle community hall and fully funded by Fingal Sport. Approximately 15 children between the age of 7 and 10 years are taking part, each supported by their teachers and SNA's. This class will run for 4 weeks.

Coastal CDNT

The Sport Inclusion Officer for Fingal Sport attended the Parents Forum for the Coastal Area Childrens Disability Network Team. They have a presentation about the SPort Office and the work done by Fingal in the area of Sport Inclusion as well as signposting parents of children with disabilities to the various activities going on locally they may not be aware of. There was a very good response form parents who were delighted to be presented with the information.

Ultimate Frisbee Blitz

Fingal Sport Office supported Dublin Youth Ultimate with their Girls Cup Ultimate Frisbee Blitz. 150 secondary school girls attended the blitz. As it was an all-girls event, there was a workshop on exercise through your menstrual cycle which each school attended individually. This offered an excellent opportunity for girls to ask questions to a qualified physiotherapist and athlete who could share her experiences of taking part in sport and physical activity throughout various stages of your menstrual cycle.

Yoga For Newbies in Balbriggan

Fingal Sports Office launched an eight-week programme targeting men and women who had never ventured into yoga before, inviting them to join and experience it for the first time alongside peers in similar circumstances. With 18 participants, feedback has been very positive for yoga first timers.

Fingal HomeFit Yoga

The 6-week Fingal HomeFit Yoga programme concluded on February 27th. Between 50 and 150 participants logged on every Tuesday evening and hundreds watched the recordings through our YouTube channel. Participants logged in to learn about the benefits of yoga through breath work, yoga postures, and relaxation.

'Really enjoyed it. It's just the right level of challenge for me. Not too difficult and I get a lot of benefit from all the breathing exercises at the start of the class. I liked the encouragement to connect with the recordings too.' Lara (Programme participant)

Badminton for Balseskin

The Badminton programme for adults living in direct provision in partnership with Badminton Ireland drew to a close at the end of February. 15 - 25 adults from Balseskin direct provision centre attended each week during the 6-week programme in Mountview Community Centre. Thanks to the enthusiastic coach, Sumesh, for making the programme fun and enjoyable while helping the participants learn the basic skills.

ARCHITECTS DEPARTMENT

Contents

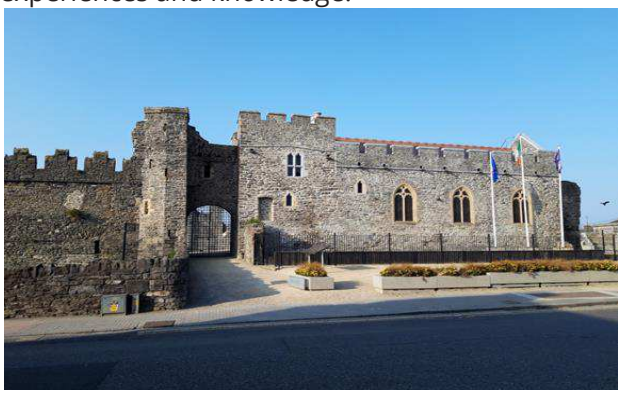
Swords Castle Conservation Works Overview - 2015 to Present

Swords Castle Conservation - Presentation to BLFI

At a recent event hosted by Building Limes Forum Ireland (BLFI), Fingal Architects Department presented an overview of the conservation works completed at Swords Castle from 2015-2023. The presentation was made to the BLFI in the context of traditional building methods and materials employed in the conservation process.

Building Limes Forum Ireland, BLFI

The Building Limes Forum Ireland, BLFI, brings together all those involved in the use of natural lime in the building industry from built heritage to sustainable new build. The BLFI provides information on all aspects of lime and its uses and offers a platform for discussion, sharing experiences and knowledge.



Swords Castle

The works completed in the period from 2015 to 2023 were a culmination of several projects starting in 1985 when Dublin County Council obtained the lands from the Cobbe family. The presentation commenced with a synopsis of the castle history, conservation works completed prior to 2015 as well as the Swords Castle Conservation Plan 2014. It was also outlined how the castle was an integral part of the Sword Cultural Quarter.

The Project - 2015 To Present

Our presenter at the BLFI event, Brian O'Connor, Executive Architect went on to detail the works completed over the period from 2015 to 2023.

2015 - Activities

Enabling Works started in 2015 with the first removal of vegetation. The grounds were opened to the public in March of that year and public access was maintained throughout the works.
Archaeological digs and mortar sampling were conducted in order that subsequent works were conducted responsibly and in sympathy with the structures' original construction and materials. The National Monuments Service were consulted during this phase as part of the process to get approval on the planned building materials and processes.

Exploratory Dig at Swords Castle

2016 Activities - Phase 1

In 2016 there was further vegetation removal on the site and the main areas focussed on were:

- The consolidation of the gatehouse to provide access & protection.
- Old workshop was demolished to provide a new area as a reception/ interpretation pavilion.
- Landscaping & site lighting works completed to facilitate public access to the grounds.
- North Street demolitions & creation of access to the East Wall.
- East tower temporary bracing installed.

Gate House - During and after Works

East Tower - Temporary Bracing

Throughout 2016, archaeological digs continued and the NMS [National Monuments Service] were consulted. All works were subject to ministerial consent.

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2017 Activities – Phase 1a

The main project in this year involved works on the chapel. The works included:

- An upgrade of the chapel fire safety compliance:
- Widening of a historic doorway.
- Alteration of both doors to open outwards.
- Emergency lighting & fire alarm installation.

Chapel Door - Before and After Alteration

2018-2019 Phase 2 conservation & enabling works.

The Phase 2 project continued with more digs. The main works consisted of:

- North street demolitions.
- North street fence installation – a transparent cordon & offsite parking.

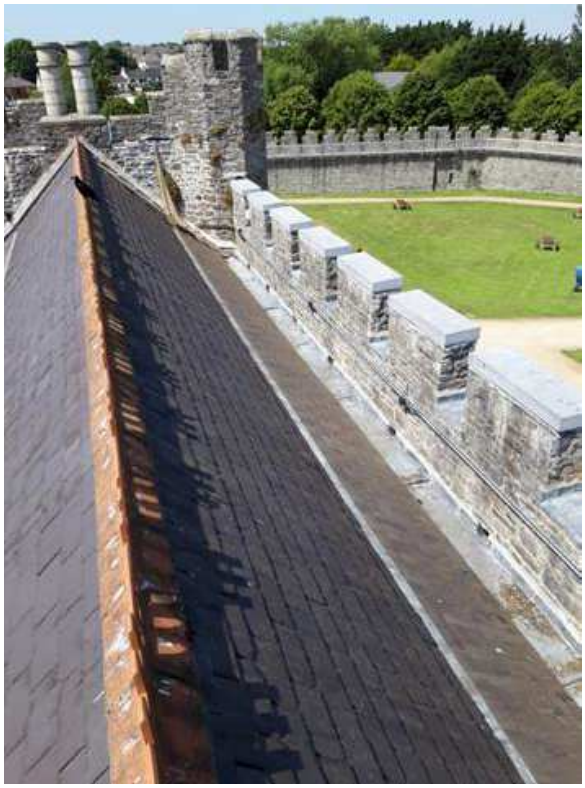
East wall and tower consolidation & repairs. Restoration work on the East tower was recognised with an award from Engineers Ireland - *'Heritage and Conservation Award 2019'*.

East Tower External and Internal Views after Consolidation and Repair

- Constables Tower drainage attenuation.
- The replacement of the wall-walk along the perimeter walls.

Wall Walk Being Installed

- Chapel roof - new lead, copings and access.



Chapel Roof After Replacement of Lead and Copings

2020-2021 - Phase 2 Perimeter Works

Works were completed around the perimeter as a temporary solution to comply with public realm requirements in the area outside the castle walls.

- Public benches installed.
- A consistent surface treatment of pathways and walkway.
- The extension of floodlighting to cover the castle perimeter.
- Installation of works interpretation signage to provide information for the public.
- Measures to control access to the castle.
- Provision of a builders' compound for the next works phase.
- Provision of offsite parking for contractors.

Much of the work in 2021-2022 was completed whilst operating under Covid-19 restrictions thus limiting progress. Work in 2022 consisted primarily of tender preparations for Phase 3.

2023 Phase 3A Conservation & Enabling Works

Phase 3A of the project got underway in 2023 with:

- Knights & Squires Chamber consolidation & repairs
- South wall consolidation & repairs
- South-west tower consolidation & repairs
- North-east tower consolidation & repairs
- Installation of new path kerbs, fixed benches and path lighting

Knights and Squires Wall Consolidation and Repair

Knights and Squires Chamber and Wall After Repair

2024 - Phase 3b – Projected Works

- Knights & Squires chimney consolidation and repair.
- Electricity & cctv upgrade for the entire site.
- Provision of public access to the Knights and Squires chamber.

FINANCE

Contents

Rates
Development Level Income
Payroll
Procurement

Financial Reports – Appendix 1
(a) Revenue Account Income & expenditure to 29th February, 2024
(b) Capital Account Income & Expenditure to 29th February, 2024
(b) Summary of Corporate Debtors to 29th February, 2024

Financial Reports – Appendix 2
Contracts Awarded year to date Contracts Awarded year to date

The tables below outlines key financial statics at the end of February.

Rates

Overall Commercial Rates collection to the end of February 2024 is running at 28**%.**

Rates Collection	
Rates collected €M	45.4
Rates Collection %	28%

Development Levy Income

Development levy income collected to the end of February is €2.7m this is c.47**%** of the overall collection for same period in 2023.

Development Levy Income	
Levies Receipted €M	2.7
Levies collected as % of 2023	7%

Payroll

Overall payroll spend to the end of February is €14.2m which is c. **97.3%** of the budget year to date.

Payroll	
Salaries & Wages €M	14.2
Percentage of budget YTD	97%

Procurement

Outlined below is a summary of the overall procurement activity at end of February

No. of contracts awarded (details below) for year to date	43	
Value €m	10.25m	
Procurements ongoing at end of February		
No. of procurements awaiting tender responses	16	(i)
Value €m	99.84m	
No. of procurements under evaluation	43	(ii)
Value €m	127.52m	
No. of procurements at approved	10	(iii)
Value €m	3.76m	

Notes:
(i) Procurements awaiting tender responses – tender responses awaited at end of February.
(ii) Procurements under evaluation – tender responses submitted and being evaluated at end of the February.
(iii) Procurements at approved – Tender responses have been evaluated and approved. Pre- contract award processes ongoing at end of February.

Appendix 1 (a)

REVENUE ACCOUNT INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 29 FEB 2024

	EXPENDITURE			INCOME			NET
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	€
Housing & Building	15,769,079	105,932,600	15%	16,124,591	108,268,800	15%	-355,512
Road Transport & Safety	6,618,817	36,130,600	18%	1,467,090	9,056,100	16%	5,151,727
Water Services	3,082,460	14,369,700	21%	2,990,332	17,039,600	18%	92,128
Development Management	3,801,884	20,845,600	18%	1,198,595	6,574,000	18%	2,603,290
Environmental Services	8,261,051	48,453,500	17%	1,672,644	10,947,500	15%	6,588,407
Recreation & Amenity	8,845,526	56,603,300	16%	727,683	4,841,800	15%	8,117,843
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	250,545	1,513,800	17%	57,733	409,700	14%	192,813
Miscellaneous Services	3,198,862	21,972,500	15%	4,260,102	29,279,600	15%	-1,061,240
Central Management Charge	8,332,539	56,075,600	15%	562,580	3,969,700	14%	7,769,959
Local Property Tax / GPG				2,061,050	12,366,300	17%	-2,061,050
Rates				26,524,017	159,144,100	17%	-26,524,017
	58,160,764	**361,897,200**	**16%**	**57,646,416**	**361,897,200**	**16%**	**514,348**

Appendix 1 (b)

CAPITAL ACCOUNT
INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION TO 29/02/2024

	Balance at 0/01/2024 €	Expenditure YTD €	Income YTD €	Balance at 29/02/2024 €
Housing & Building	-19,705,839	34,079,429	-2,846,971	11,526,619
Road Transport & Safety	11,744,746	6,473,374	-595,334	17,622,786
Water Services	-11,306,102	385,492	-177,808	-11,098,418
Development Management	-149,245,428	6,724,102	-7,049,491	-149,570,817
Environmental Services	-14,090,477	304,590	0	-13,785,887
Recreation & Amenity	-15,666,274	768,401	-65,274	-14,963,147
Miscellaneous Services	-52,682,662	1,812,905	74,193	-50,795,564
Total	**-250,952,036**	**50,548,293**	**-10,660,685**	**-211,064,428**
NB***				
The Opening Balance for 2024 is subject to change as the AFS 2023 is not finalised				

Appendix 1 (c)

SUMMARY OF CORPORATE DEBTORS TO 29/02/2024				
	Balance at 01/01/2024*	Balance at 29/02/2024	Current debt	> 1 Year
	€	€	€	€
RATES**	€2,579,384	€117,652,870	€115,154,432	€2,498,439
LOANS	€2,130,037	€2,135,546	€241,260	€1,894,286
RENTS	€10,216,580	€10,019,784	€4,692,503	€5,327,281

Figures for rents and loans are unadjusted by credits/prepayments

*Note: Balances at 1/1/2024 are only provisional and will be finalised on completion 2023 AFS.

** value of debit at 31/12/2023 was €3.2m with a credit of €653,644.

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)	Contract Award Date	Original Duration (months)
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Engineering Consultancy Services for the Bremore Recreational Hub Access Upgrade Works	Design ID Consulting Ltd	€ 56,334.00	26/02/2024	28/06/2024	26/02/2024	4
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment, Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening and Appropriate Assessment, if required for LAP at Flemington	Brady, Shipman Martin	€ 28,120.00	17/11/2023	17/11/2024	26/02/2024	12
Housing	Civil & Structural Engineering Services for proposed housing developments at North Street, Swords and Rathmore Road, Lusk, Co. Dublin	Tobin Consulting Engineers	€ 73,000.00	01/12/2023	31/12/2026	23/02/2024	37
Digital Services	Provision of Web Based Applications for Housing Application	Interform Limited	€ 90,000.00	17/02/2024	31/12/2024	16/02/2024	12
Digital Services	Renewal of Licencing of AutoDESK Suites of Software	Diatec Group	€ 60,113.00	01/03/2024	28/02/2025	16/02/2024	12
Digital Services	Managed Print Services	Datapac Ireland	€ 70,000.00	27/08/2024	26/08/2025	15/02/2024	12
EETCD	Upgrade of fire alarm system at Ardgillen Castle	Securitas Technology	€ 30,830.00	01/03/2024	31/03/2024	12/02/2024	1
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Woodland Management Services	Redwood Tree Services Ltd	€ 45,500.00	10/02/2024	10/05/2024	09/02/2024	3
Operations	Hire of Excavator & Operator at the Former Dunsink Landfill & Environs	Anthony Patton Plant Hire Ltd	€ 82,000.00	16/01/2024	15/01/2025	08/02/2024	12
Operations	Fingal Bridge Repair and Rehabilitation	Triur Construction	€ 268,762.00	01/02/2024	01/05/2024	08/02/2024	3
Libraries	Demolition and Enabling Works at Former St. Michaels House Bungalow, Seatown Road	Hegarty Demolition Ltd.	€ 120,243.00	12/02/2024	29/03/2025	08/02/2024	14
Operations	Installation of Traffic Signals 2024	Traffic Solutions Ltd	€ 731,606.00	12/02/2024	31/12/2024	08/02/2024	11
Corporate Affairs	Mobile Voice & Data Communications and Associated Products & Services	Vodafone	€ 1,008,052	01/11/2023	31/10/2027	07/02/2024	48
Operations	Tree Works in the Dublin 15 Area	Redwood Tree Services Ltd	€ 64,880.00	04/02/2024	29/02/2024	06/02/2024	1

Housing	Integrated Design Team Services to provide design, planning Consultancy Services to establish a design framework plan and achieve planning approval for c.300 Units at Mooretown, Swords, Co. Dublin	Brady, Shipman Martin	€ 510,963.00	01/11/2023	31/12/2024	01/02/2024	56
Operations	Requirement for Road Lining Contract for the Fingal Swords, Balbriggan Areas Including PSCS	MacLochlainn (Roadmarkings) Limited	€ 58,796.60	24/01/2024	31/12/2024	31/01/2024	12
Operations	Disposal of Marine Wrecks located in Balbriggan Harbour	Shanowen Plant Hire Ltd	€ 154,450.00	01/03/2024	30/04/2024	29/01/2024	2
Operations	Supply & Delivery of Macadam to various locations in Fingal	Roadstone Ltd	€ 97,630.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2024	29/01/2024	12
Digital Services	Supply of Broadband to Malahide 9Avoca), Ardgillan House & Ballycoolin Training Centre	Viatel Ireland Ltd	€ 26,160.00	01/03/2024	28/02/2026	26/01/2024	24
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Landscape Architect Led Integrated Design Team Services Consultancy Services at Naul Village Park, the Naul	Dermot Foley Landscape Architects	€ 316,577.00	06/11/2023	05/09/2027	25/01/2024	46
EETCD	Tradfest	TASCQ CLG t/a The Temple Bar Company	€ 120,000.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2024	25/01/2024	12
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Supply of Pleached Lime Trees and Yew Hedging	Annaveigh Plants Ltd	€ 29,895.00	30/10/2023	29/10/2024	19/01/2024	12
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Topographical and Underwater Survey at Ward River Park, Swords	Murphy Geospatial Ltd	€ 25,980.00	30/01/2024	30/03/2024	18/01/2024	2
Digital Services	Supply an ICT Managed Service for Fingal County Council	ATOS IT Solutions & Services Ltd	€ 594,114.00	28/02/2024	27/08/2024	17/01/2024	6
EETCD	Programme Development Manager for Carnegie Library Swords	Linda Shevlin	€ 56,000.00	15/01/2024	14/01/2025	15/01/2024	12
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Works for Naul Village Park Site Investigation	IGSL Ltd	€ 40,125.00	15/01/2024	20/02/2024	15/01/2024	1
Digital Services	Departmental access to Lawlink	Dye & Durham Ltd	€ 43,944.00	16/01/2024	31/12/2024	15/01/2024	12
Corporate Affairs	Integrated Design Team Services for Workplace Strategy Project	MCO Projects Limited	€ 325,663.00	15/01/2024	14/12/2025	15/01/2024	23
Corporate Affairs	Post Collection Service	Print Post Ltd	€ 36,250.00	01/01/2024	31/03/2024	11/01/2024	3
Operations	Resurfacing of Section of Bath Avenue, Malahide	John McQuillan Contracts Ltd	€ 52,957.00	05/02/2024	01/03/2024	11/01/2024	3 weeks
People Services	Occupational Health Services	Dr. Ted Murphy	€ 111,600.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2025	02/01/2024	24
Operations	Provision of Maintenance of Earth Moving Equipment	Equipment Company of Ireland Ltd	€ 32,230.00	01/12/2023	30/11/2025	02/01/2024	24
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure	Provision of Services for Independent Agronomist for the Fingal Coastal Way	Hackett Agricultural Consultants	€ 39,700.00	02/01/2024	31/12/2024	02/01/2024	14
Digital Services	Requirement for Support in the Development of an Investment Concept for FC EUCF Grant Funded Project	BABLE Smart Cities Gmbh	€ 50,000.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2024	01/01/2024	12
Housing	Inspections on Private Rented Dwellings located in the Admin Area of Fingal County Council	Arthurstown Construction Limited	€ 165,000.00	01/01/2024	31/03/2024	01/01/2024	3
Operations	Provision of Vehicle and Plant Inspection Services	Truck & Trailer works Ireland	€ 79,600.00	01/01/2024	31/12/2025	01/01/2024	24

Appendix 3

Active Travel Investment Grants: 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	The Project was officially opened in November. The Contractor has completed most of the snags at this stage. The Contractor is due back to site in early 2024 to carry out works on the Murrough Road / Rathbeale Road junction

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. The Active Travel Team are working to Procure an Integrated Design Team for Towns & Village Projects. We have recently completed stage 1 of the process and will be commencing with stage 2 in early 2024, to secure an Integrated Design Team by mid 2024.
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 progressing with some of these projects and tenders are currently out to the market to secure a works contractor to complete some of these works on the ground.
FCC/22/0010	R132 Ministers Rd to Blakes Cross + Kilhedge Lane €300,000	The Contractor commenced on site during September 2023. The majority of the main civil works and junction upgrades are now complete including approximately 90% of the surfacing works.
FCC/22/0011	Skerries – Harbour Road (footpath build outs) €905,000	Engineering consultants have finalised concept designs and options report. The proposed project has been lodged with the Planning Authority for Pre-Planning consent. The outcome of this will establish the governance and planning route for the project. The decision on this is expected in early 2024.
FCC/22/0012	Seatown Roundabout to Estuary Rd (Swords to Malahide) €140,000	Engineering consulting are finalising the Non-Statutory Public Consultation Report is due to be released in early January. Works to complete the screening reports and detailed drawings are well underway and it is anticipated to go to the market for a works contractor in Q1 2024
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 about 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. further discussions with landowner in early January.
FCC/22/0016	New Street Public Realm Project €583,899	The Chief Executive's report was presented to the meeting of the County Council in January 2024, and voted on by the elected members to accept the recommendations of the Chief Executive report. The project tender documents are being prepared for detailed design and tender preparation at is expected to go to tender for consultants in Q1 2024.
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 completed for Stage 1 of the process. Stage 2 to commence early 2024.
FCC/22/0020	Balrothery Active Travel Review €282,500	The design Consultant is in the process of information gathering and have presented their initial findings to the Active Travel team. The consultant will conduct data collection and initial surveys in Q1, 2024, an initial public engagement was held in Balrothery Heritagge Centre on the 20th of February 2024 and was very successful, the consultant are summarising the outcome of that consultation at present and due to present their findings to FCC in the coming weeks.
FCC/22/0021	Seamount Heights to Old Golf Links Park €300,000	A brief, and tender documents are currently being prepared by the Active Travel Unit to progress this project from the design phases through to completion as soon as possible. The design will incorporate feedback from internal FCC stakeholders and the local Resident's Association.
FCC/22/0022	Broomfield to Paddy's Hill via Naomh Mearnog GAA €350,000	The design brief for 'Concept Development and Options Selection' has been finalised for this connectivity project. Internal consultation with other FCC departments has taken place. The remaining tender documents are being finalised by the Active Travel Unit.
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 the Department of Education is to engage with Fingal County Council in relation to pedestrian access as a condition of the granted Planning Permission. In the interim, a footpath, dropped kerbs with tactile paving have been provided on the route to/from the school and the Feltrim Road.
FCC/ 23/XXX	Feltrim Road cycle infrastructure €120,000	A design brief has been completed to bring this project from the 'Concept Development and Options Stage' to completion. The remaining tender documents are substantially complete and are under review. It is expected that the works will go to tender for a design consultant early in Q1, 2024.
FCC/ 23/XXX	Active Travel Pathfinder – Swords to Airport quick build €200,000	Project team have engaged an Integrated Design Team to work on the project. Preferred Options report has been completed and is due for discussion and consultation with the Statutory stakeholder in early January.
FCC/23/XXX	Donabate to Portrane (R126) - Distributor Road to Portrane Avenue €40,000	Consultant is finalising concept drawings and options report. Discussion and negotiations ongoing with Property Section and landowners to acquire lands where required.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Scoil Mhuire & Iosef, Sinsear – Bayside Senior National School €200,000	Works are now completed at the school site. The contractor has carried out minor snagging and maintenance on rain gardens. The Stage 3 Road Safety Audit has been completed by an independent auditor. It is anticipated that the Belisha beacons at the zebra crossing will be connected in Q1, 2024.
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 are now completed at the school site. The contractor has carried out minor snagging and maintenance on rain gardens. The Stage 3 Road Safety Audit has been completed by an independent auditor. It is anticipated that the Belisha beacons at the zebra crossing will be connected in Q1, 2024.

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 has been completed.
FCC/23/XXX	SRTS (R1) – Pope John Paul II NS, Malahide €200,000	Detailed Design complete for the Tranche 2 schools (4 no.), including Pope John Paul II NS. It is envisaged that this work package will go to construction in Q1 2024, and Pope John Paul II NS is currently scheduled to be the final Safe Routes to School scheme implemented in this package. Contract appointment is due to take place in Q1 2024
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

2023 Summary of Environmental Complaints, Inspections and Enforcement Actions

		2023
Complaints investigated	Litter	389
	Waste (non C&D)	638
	C&D Waste	9
	Water and Wastewater	101
	Air & Odour	37
	Noise	99
	TOTAL COMPLAINTS	**1,273**
Inspections	Routine Waste Inspections	1124
	Non-Routine Waste Inspections	416
	Litter Patrols & investigations	3232
	Routine Water & Wastewater Inspections	720
	Non-Routine Water & Wastewater Inspections	133
	Routine Air & Noise Inspections	61
	Non-Routine Air & Noise Inspections	134
	Planning Inspections	416
	TOTAL INSPECTIONS	**6,236**
Enforcement Actions	Litter Fines	463
	Waste Warning Letters	96
	Directions under S14 of WMA	101
	Other waste enforcement	52
	Water & Wastewater	29
	Air Enforcement Action	0
	Noise Enforcement Action	10
	TOTAL ENFORCEMENT	**751**
Prosecutions initiated	Litter	62
	Waste	16
	TOTAL PROSECUTIONS	**78**

Appendix 5

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, Swords 53°27'52.7"N 6°14'04.1"W - Google Maps	**11** 4 x 1Bed 4 x 2 Bed 3 x 3 Bed	On-Site	Q4 2022	Q3 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	Tuath Housing	Social - Elderly	Kilhedge Lane, Lusk 53°31'24.4"N 6°10'30.3"W - Google Maps	**31** 13 x 1 Bed 18 x 2 Bed	On-Site	Q1 2023	Q1 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Ballough Place, Lusk https://goo.gl/maps/8u6BiRWzuLSTtmjk8	**10** 9 x 2 Bed 1 x 1 Bed	On-Site	Q1 2023	Q3 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Monastery Court, Church Road, Lusk https://goo.gl/maps/vqRAVUw8ZqhM75w66	**5** 5 x 2 Bed	On-Site	Q1 2023	Q2 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Hayestown, Rush 53°31'24.1"N 6°06'42.1"W - Google Maps	**62** 17 x 2 Bed 45 x 3 Bed	On-Site	Q2 2023	Q3 2024
Balbriggan/Rush - Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	St. Ita's, Portrane Portrane Ave - Google Maps	**5** Restoration of existing cottages.	On-Site	Q4 2022	Q3 2024
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	Glenveagh Living Ltd	Mixed Tenure	Balmoston Ph1., Donabate 53°29'21.2"N 6°07'58.1"W	**172** 432 units, of which 20% are social and 20% affordable	On-Site	Q3 2023	Q2 2025
Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/ Castleknock/ Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Church Fields 3A 53°24'44.7"N 6°23'39.0"W - Google	**120**	On-Site	Q4 2023	Q3 2025

Appendix 5- continued

Schemes with Planning Approval and at Tender Stage

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On-Site Date	Handover (Est.)
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social - Elderly	North Street, Swords 53°27'38.6"N 6°13'06.7"W - Google Maps	**13** 6 x 1 Bed 7 x 2 Bed	Enabling works complete.	Q4 2023	Q3 2025
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk /Swords	FCC	Social -	Seatown Swords 53°27'35.4"N 6°13'04.7"W Google Maps	**36** 36 x 2 Bed	Tender package to be completed.	Q1 2024	TBC
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** 3 x 2-bed 3 x 1-bed	Planning granted.	TBC	TBC
Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar	FCC	Social – Elderly TBC	Blakestown Cross, Mulhuddart 53.399869, -6.401776 Google Maps	**30** 16 x 1 Bed 14 x 2 Bed	Conveyancing completed with planning permission.	Q4 2024	TBC
Howth/Malahide	FCC	TBC	Tuckets Lane 53.385248, -6.066128 Google Maps	**8** 4x 1 Bed 4x 2 Bed	Boundary issues being resolved.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Holywell, Swords 53°26'48.1"N 6°12'42.8"W	**57** 20 x 1-bed 29 x 2-bed 8 x 3-bed	Tender package to be completed.	Q2 2024	Q4 2025

Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/ Castleknock/ Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Church Fields 3B 53°24'44.7"N 6°23'39.0"W - Google Maps	**217**	ABP approved planning Q4 2023.	Q1 2025	Q2 2026
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock / Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Mayeston, Dublin 11 53°24'28.4"N 6°17'02.1"W - Google Maps	**119** 39 x 1 Bed 68 x 2 Bed 12 x 3 Bed	S179a planning process underway.	Q2 2024	Q4 2025
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Mourne View, Skerries. 53.580404, -6.122225	**14** 11x2Bed 3x3Bed 1x4Bed	S179a planning process underway.	TBC	Q4 2025

Appendix 5 - continued
Schemes at the Pre-Planning Stage

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On-Site Date	Handover (estimated)
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Rathmore, Remount, Lusk 53.521033026946974, -6.161600488074793	**18** 2 x 1 Bed 11 x 2 Bed 5 x 3 Bed	S179a planning process underway.	TBC	Q3 2025
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	New Road, Donabate 53°29'02.6"N 6°08'27.5"W	**160** All Houses	At pre-planning stage.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	TBC	O' Dwyers, Balbriggan. https://maps.app.goo.gl/inSEC4Qq3QSBHQHp8	**80-120**	Surveys progressing.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Woodside, Swords. 53.453901, -6.210574 Google Maps	**34**	Design team have been appointed.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	TBC	Mooretown Phase 1, Swords. https://maps.app.goo.gl/R8eAG1aoLXh1nL2J9	**200**	Design Masterplan to be completed.	Q1 2025	Q1 2026

Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Kenure, Rush. 53.532278, -6.102176 Google Maps	**32**	Design ongoing.	TBC	TBC
Howth/Malahide	FCC	Social	Fingerpost, Malahide	**4**	Design ongoing.	TBC	Q4 2026
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Balmoston Ph2, Donabate 53°29'21.2"N 6°07'58.1"W	**172**	At pre-planning stage.	TBC	TBC

*The above-estimated timelines are indicative and subject to a successful planning and procurement process.

Appendix 5 - 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	Q2 2024

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 24

MAYOR'S BUSINESS - COUNCILLOR A. HENCHY

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

MEETING OF FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 24a

FINGAL PUBLIC RELATIONS CAMPAIGN ON HOUSING

Motion: Councillor A. Henchy

"That the Chief Executive gives consideration to the rolling out of a Fingal themed information campaign to further support the national information campaign underway by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in relation to the various schemes and supports which are available to assist buyers in owning their own home."

Report:

Fingal County Council held several information events during 2023 to build awareness of the various available supports to assist buyers in purchasing their own homes and to help them prepare for the significant delivery pipeline of Affordable Homes that Fingal County Council will bring to the market in 2024, 2025 and beyond.. It is intended to continue this into 2024 with further Information Events held by ourselves and by our partners in delivering Affordable Homes throughout the County.

The website is continually updated to provide information on upcoming schemes and to provide guidance on what documents will be needed in advance of opening applications for any scheme. It is intended to increase this programme and provide additional social media posts to build this awareness, and this will be targeted where appropriate at specific areas where affordable home schemes are being launched. There is a large number of potential schemes due for launch in Spring 2024 and further details on these schemes, in terms of the type of housing

available and the eligibility requirements etc., will be communicated at the appropriate time. An information event will be held on Thursday, 7th March in Donabate Golf Club to inform purchasers of the various supports available to assist them in purchasing their own home.

Source of Reply
Paul Carroll, Interim Director of Services, Housing & Community Development

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 25

CONFERENCE REPORT

ANNUAL PLANNING CONFERENCE 2024

SAVE THE DATE!

Annual Planning Conference 2024

GO BACK

Event Date: 17/04/2024

Event time: From: 5:00 pm -

Location: Waterford City

Event type: Conference

We're delighted to announce that our Annual Planning Conference 2024 will take place in the Theatre Royal and Tower Hotel, Waterford City on Thursday 18 and Friday 19 April, with the welcome reception in Waterford City Hall the evening of Wednesday 17 April. The full programme will be available shortly.

This year's conference will look at how we deliver smart, innovative, competitive and connected regions and cities.

Kindly sponsored by: Waterford City & County Council

Speakers and topics include
Conference Chair: Sarah Carey

Wed 17 April	Evening welcome reception	
Thursday 18 April	Welcome, Policy Update and Opening Keynote	• Gavin Lawlor, IPI President • Claragh Mulhern, A/Principal Adviser, DHLGH (invited) • Peter Mullan, Chairperson, An Bord Pleanála
	Delivering competitive regions and cities Delivering innovation and smart regions and cities	• Michael Walsh, Chief Executive, Waterford City and County Council • David Conway, CEO, Limerick 2030 • Adele Maher, Head of Planning Transformation, Department for Levelling Up • Seán Lotty, Coordinator, Cork Smart Gateway • Speakers TBA
	Gala Dinner	Tower Hotel
Friday 19 April	Delivering a responsive, resourced, planning system	• Minister (invited) • Niall Cussen, Planning Regulator • Michael Lynch, Cork County Council • Mary Hughes, Director, HRA Planning • Sarah Miley, Principal Officer, DFHERIS • Adele Maher, Department for Levelling Up
	Delivering Sustainability	• Stephen O'Shea, Head of Sustainable Construction, Cairn • David Tobin, Circular Economy and Sustainability Director, Beauparc Utilities • Speaker TBC, Construct Innovate
	Tours	

REGISTRATION

In person	Member	€390
	Non-Member	€625
	Councillor/RTPI Member	€505
Online	Member	€200
	Non-Member	€250
	Councillor/RTPI Member	€225

SPONSORSHIP AND EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsorship opportunities exist across the conference. If you have sponsorship ideas and would like to work with us to create a unique opportunity or event please contact us – info@ipi.ie. Sponsorship is considered with reference to our sponsorship policy.

BOOKING

To book your place you can email info@ipi.ie or call +353 (0)1-8788630 or you can reserve your place online below.

Book in-person tickets using the drop-down menu below:

The Suck Valley Way
A truly tranquil walking experience

2024 Annual Suck Valley Way Training Conference

ALONE
YOU'RE NOT ALONE

The Rise of Loneliness on The Emerald Isle

How Community Development & Planning may be the remedy.

Conference will be launched by Shane Tiernan - Chief Executive of Roscommon County Council

Hannon's Hotel, Athlone Road, Roscommon, Co. Roscommon

WEDNESDAY 13TH & THURSDAY 14TH March 2024

9:30am-4:40pm WEDNESDAY
10:00am-3:00pm THURSDAY

Conference Fee: €130

Contact: Cllr. Anthony Waldron, Chairperson, The Suck Valley Way
Email: svwconference2022@gmail.com
Phone: 086 7866774

Comhairle Contae Ros Comáin Roscommon County Council

Social Prescribing

Shane Tiernan
CE Of Roscommon County Council

Mr. Tiernan has worked in the Local Authority sector since 2008. He was appointed as a Director of Services in Roscommon County Council in 2018, having previously worked for Leitrim County Council. In July 2023, he was appointed as Chief Executive of Roscommon County Council following an eight month period serving as Temporary Chief Executive. Mr. Tiernan has wide-ranging experience in the sector, having held senior management responsibility for many service divisions and was Returning Officer for Roscommon in the 2019 local elections. Before working in public service, Mr. Tiernan held senior management positions with several multinational organisations including Magna-Donnelly and Kimball International, as well as working with Ericsson. Qualifying in engineering, Mr. Tiernan attended Atlantic Technology University Sligo. He holds a Masters Degree in Management Practice from Trinity College Dublin as well as a Diploma in Management from the Irish Management Institute and is also a graduate of the Harvard Programme for Senior Executives in State and Local Government.

Martina Earley
CEO of Roscommon LEADER Partnership

Martina Earley, a CEO with the skill and proven track record of managing a respected local development organisation with full corporate, P&L and governance responsibility. She has a Bachelor of Business Studies (Honours) and led the strategic planning process in County Leitrim and County Roscommon for economic and social development. She is currently Chairperson of Roscommon County Council led Local Community Development Committee and is Chairperson of the National Local Development Network. These roles have honed and refined her tactical management and negotiation skills at the highest level. Operationally, Martina is responsible the work plans and activities for 309 people and have a strong track record of team development, operational achievement and change management.

Senator Martin Conway

Seanad spokesperson on Justice and Equality

Martin Conway is a member of the 26th Seanad and previously served in the 24th Seanad on the Administrative Panel, having been elected in 2011. He is the Seanad spokesperson on Justice and Equality and is the first visually impaired member of the Oireachtas. He was first elected to Clare County Council in June 2004 representing North Clare and was re-elected in 2009, topping the poll.
Martin is the third generation of his family to be born with congenital cataracts. When he was just six months old he was taken to London for a series of ground-breaking eye operations, which left him with 16% vision. Rather than going to a school especially for the blind and visually impaired, Martin attended local schools with his brother. Martin first joined Fine Gael whilst at school in Ennistymon and his interest in politics continued throughout his college career. In 1998 he graduated with a Degree in Economics and Politics from University College Dublin. One of his proudest moments was to receive the prestigious University College Dublin President's Award for Excellence, in recognition of his commitment for campaigning and advocacy for people with disabilities.
Martin campaigns tirelessly on behalf of people with disabilities on multiple issues. Martin is a founding member of AHEAD-The Association of Higher Education Access and Disability- which endeavours to make education accessible to all. He is particularly proud of the Willing Able Mentoring (WAM) programme which has successfully placed over 150 graduates with disabilities in employment over the last seven years.

Ronan Bilbow

Roscommon Social Prescribing Co-Ordinator

Ronan is currently the Social Prescribing Coordinator for Co. Roscommon His role includes helping people in Roscommon integrate back into society by linking them with non clinical, social activities around the county. This is done with the aim of improving physical and mental wellbeing. Ronan was also the Rural Recreational officer for County Roscommon. This role involved coordinating, developing and enhancing recreational waking infrastructure around Roscommon. Ronan also has a background in Training & Consultancy.

Ciaran Mullooly

EUJTF Tourism Activator at Longford County Council

Ciaran Mullooly is a former journalist and author who started his career as a reporter in the Longford Leader in 1985, later moving to RTÉ, where he worked on the Ear To The Ground show before becoming the broadcaster's midlands correspondent in 1995. The well-known journalist and broadcaster was a familiar face on TV screens across the country having worked with the national broadcaster for 27 years before announcing his retirement in June 2021. He subsequently took up a role as Community Development and Social Enterprise Worker with the Roscommon LEADER Partnership and as recently taken up post with Longford County Council in Tourism.

Frank Dillion

Head of Communications & Campaigns with ALONE

Frank Dillon is Head of Communications & Campaigns with ALONE , he has previously worked in national radio and the Irish means Sheds Association. ALONE has been a campaigning organisation since it was founded and his work in ALONE also involves working with the Loneliness Taskforce , a cross generational coalition which campaigns on loneliness.

Gillian McGarry

EU Just Transition Tourism Activator for Co. Roscommon

A Commerce Int. graduate from NUI Galway with a Master of Business from TUS Athlone. Gillian has a background in finance with a number of multinational organisations. Currently working as the EU Just Transition Tourism Activator for Co. Roscommon supporting economic diversification through the EU Just Transition Fund and Failte Ireland Regenerative Tourism and Placemaking Scheme to provide investment grant aid for private and community SME’s. This fund provides grants and other capability - building supports to businesses and communities who have ideas for visitor experiences, accommodation choices and other services that complement these developments. This scheme is built on the principles of regenerative tourism. Any tourism investment must seek to develop tourism in a way that helps to deliver a low carbon future, support biodiversity and help regenerate local communities.

Karen Mc Hugh

CEO of Safe Home Ireland

Karen Mc Hugh joined Safe Home Ireland in May 2015. She is a Social Worker by profession and has worked in the migrant sector for most of her career, with Irish emigrants in London, immigrants to Ireland and now with returning Irish emigrants. Prior to becoming the CEO of Safe Home Ireland, Karen was the CEO of Doras, a migrant support charity in Limerick and was also a former Director of an Irish Centre in London. Karen is passionate about human rights, inclusion and social justice. Karen is a returned emigrant and knows first-hand the challenges faced by some Irish abroad, in particular the emotional bond and the pull factor to return home once more.

Dick Ridge

Owner PodUmna Village, De Burgos Gate Lodge & Bike Hire,

Dick Ridge owner/ operator of Podumna Village "Glamping site" and "Dicks Bike Hire" both ran as family businesses with his wife Liz and daughter Neasa. Located in the town of Portumna and operating since 2013 both businesses complement each other and have had a very positive effect on tourism in the local area. His main drive is to create a positive tourism experience for visitors to Portumna and the extended local area, working closely alongside all vested parties, local businesses, government bodies and volunteer groups. He strongly holds the view that success in rural Ireland in the tourism industry can only be achieved when all bodies work in harmony and support each other.

John Higgins

Chairperson of An Bealach

For over 40 years of work at community/town development both as a professional and a volunteer, John Higgins epitomizes much of what is possible for rural and regional development. In 1990 John resigned from his teaching post to work as a full-time community development manager in Kiltimagh, County Mayo. Over 5 years he produced and oversaw an economic development plan, the first of its kind, while also winning a series of community awards. In 1995, John moved on to regional development activity and became CEO of the Western Development Partnership Board (WDPB), under the auspices of the Department of An Taoiseach. The WDPB produced the plan entitled The Challenge, which resulted in the establishment of the Western Development Commission. John has also been seen as the driving force of the regional initiative for the digital creative sectors in the West. An Bealach Creative Hub involves a new-build Digital Creative Hub and Immersive Technology Studio at the Fairgreen site in Ballaghaderreen.

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 26

CORRESPONDENCE

COMHAIRLE CONTAE SHLIGIGH
ÁRAS CONTAE COIS ABHAINN SLIGEACH

SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY HALL RIVERSIDE SLIGO

T: +353 71 911 1111 E: info@sligococo.ie
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Our Ref: 01/2024-19

6th February 2024

To/ **Each Local Authority**

At the Ordinary meeting Sligo County Council held on Monday, 15th January 2024, the Members agreed the following resolution:

"To call on Sligo County Council to write to the Minister of Transport and Bus Éireann to add additional bus services from Dublin Airport to Sligo after 11.15 pm at night for the people in this region as planes continue to come into Dublin airport right through the night."

It was further agreed to circulate this motion to all local authorities.

Yours sincerely,

Sinéad Branley

Sinéad Branley
Meetings Administrator

Corporate Services Section
Sligo County Council,
County Hall
Riverside,
Sligo F91 Y763
Tel: 0719111111 (Switchboard)
0719111024 (Direct line)
e-mail: meetings@sligococo.ie

Comhairle Contae Chorcaí
Cork County Council

Mr Michael McGrath T.D.,
Minister for Finance,
Department of Finance,
Government Buildings,
Upper Merrion Street,
Dublin 2,
D02 R585

8th February 2024

Our Ref: FC/January2.Item 7

Dear Minister McGrath,

At a recent meeting of Cork County Council, the Members resolved as follows:-

"Members agreed to write to the Minister for Finance, An Taoiseach, An Tánaiste and all Cork TD's to ask that the hospitality VAT rate be reverted to 9% and that the collection programme be fair and sensible. Members also agreed that this letter would be circulated to all Local Authorities".

I would be obliged if you would consider the above matter and let me have your response in due course.

Yours sincerely,

K. Cremin

KARINA CREMIN
SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Comhairle Contae Chorcaí
Cork County Council

Mr Michael McGrath T.D.,
Minister for Finance,
Department of Finance,
Government Buildings,
Upper Merrion Street,
Dublin 2,
D02 R585

8th February 2024

Our Ref: FC/January2.Item 7

Dear Minister McGrath,

At a recent meeting of Cork County Council, the Members resolved as follows:-

"Members agreed to write to the Minister for Finance, An Taoiseach, An Tánaiste and all Cork TD's to ask that the VAT rate for pubs should be reduced down from 23% to 17%. Members also agreed that this letter should be circulated to all Local Authorities."

I would be obliged if you would consider the above matter and let me have your response in due course.

Yours sincerely,

K. Cremin

KARINA CREMIN
SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Comhairle Contae **Lú**
Louth County Council

19th February, 2024.

TO/EACH LOCAL AUTHORITY

A Chara,

I write to inform you that the Elected Members of Louth County Council at their January meeting adopted the following resolution:-

Notice of Motion: **Cllr Conor Keelan**
Seconded by: **Cllr Maeve Yore**

"Recognising the significance of the fact that the Joint Policing Committee represents one of the few useful reforms of Local Government in 2014 this Council opposes the proposed legislation to abolish the JPC's and replace them with repackaged Local Community Safety Partnerships.

Addendum: That this Motion be sent to all local authorities in the state, all JPC's in County Louth and that a copy be sent to the Minister for Justice for comment".

It was agreed to circulate this Motion to all other Local Authorities.

Is mise le meas.

Grainne Tuomey
Meetings Administrator

Comhairle Contae Lú
Halla an Chontae
Ionad na Mílaoise
Dún Dealgan
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Cuirfear fáilte roimh chomhfhreagras Gaeilge - Correspondence in Irish is welcome
Féach foláirimh faoi Lú ón gComhairle ag www.mapalerter.ie/Louth
View Council alerts for Louth at www.mapalerter.ie/Louth

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 27

DEPARTMENTAL/MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 28

PLANNING BREACHES IN RESPECT OF DAA LANDS

Motion: Councillor C. Boland

"That the Chief Executive presents a report in respect of the breaches of planning permissions/regulations in respect of the operations of the daa on any of their holdings in Fingal."

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 relevant 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, six Warning Letters and an Enforcement Notice have been issued. With regard to the Enforcement Notice, 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 and the case proceedings has now been transferred into the Commercial Planning and Environmental Division of the High Court with a court hearing in March 2024.

Source of Report
Matthew McAleese, Director of Services, Planning and Strategic Infrastructure

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2024

ITEM NO. 36

INTRODUCING A LITTER FINE ON DISCARDED DISPOSABLE VAPES

Motion: Councillor S. O'Reilly

"That the Chief Executive considers introducing a litter fine to users who dispose of disposable vapes, helping to highlight the increasing issue of these vapes being littered across the County."

Report:

Under the Litter Pollution Acts 1997-2009, each Local Authority is given responsibilities regarding litter prevention and control in its functional area.

Disposable vapes are deemed litter under the Litter Pollution Act 1997 and leaving or throwing litter in a public place is an offence which is subject to an 'on the spot' fine of €150 or a fine of €3,000 may be imposed if legal proceedings are initiated against you.

Source of Report
David Storey, Director of Environment, Climate Action, Active Travel and Sport

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 11TH MARCH, 2024

ITEM NO. 37

CHILDCARE/CRÈCHE IN THE FINGAL ADMINISTRATIVE AREA

Motion: Councillor P. Mulville

"That the Chief Executive provide a report, in tabular format, on the number of childcare / crèche facilities in this Council's administrative area which have been granted planning permission, but not yet either commenced, completed or operational, including the location of same and the relevant planning reference; and outline the steps being taken to address the matter given the very pressing need for these facilities for our communities."

Report:

29 Developments which include Creche facilities were granted planning permission.

11 Developments have commenced but are not yet completed.

18 Developments have not commenced.

Planning reference and location tabulated below.

	Planning Reference	**Location**	**Commenced/Completed**
	SHD/009/19	Howth Malahide	Commenced Not Completed
	SHD/013/19	Howth Malahide	Commenced Not Completed
	F21A/0056	Rush Lusk	Commenced Not Completed
	F21A/0500	Rush Lusk	Commenced Not Completed
	F22A/0687	Swords	Commenced Not Completed
	FW22A/0266	Ongar	Commenced Not Completed
	FW22A/0280	Ongar	Commenced Not Completed

	F23A/0676	Swords	Commenced Not Completed
	F18A/0421	Northwood	Commenced Not Completed
	SHD/010/19	Rowlestown East	Commenced Not Completed
	LRD0010/S3	Swords	Commenced Not Completed
	F19A/0638	Swords	Not Commenced
	SHD/022/19	Swords	Not Commenced
	SHDW/021/19	Castleknock	Not Commenced
	SHD/011/20	Baldoyle	Not Commenced
	SHD/016/21	Baldoyle	Not Commenced
	SHDW/007/20	Charlestown	Not Commenced
	FW21A/0162	Finglas	Not Commenced
	F22A/0260	Malahide	Not Commenced
	FW22A/0147	Clonsilla	Not Commenced
	SHD/006/20	Donabate	Not Commenced
	SHD/018/21	Swords	Not Commenced
	LRD0001/S3	Blanchardstown	Not Commenced
	F22A/0066	Balbriggan	Not Commenced
	LRD0005/S3	Rush	Not Commenced
	F22A/0527	Donabate	Not Commenced
	F23A/0652	Santry	Not Commenced
	FW23A/0013	Clonsilla	Not Commenced
	LRD0017/S3	Donabate	Not Commenced

Source of Report:
Matthew McAleese, Director of Services, Planning and Strategic Infrastructure