

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Email: Corporate.Services@fingal.ie

County Hall
Swords
Co Dublin

Tuesday, 19th August 2025

**To Each Member of the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment
Strategic Policy Committee**

Dear Member

A meeting of the **Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment Strategic
Policy Committee** will be held **Hybrid in Conference Room 3A6 - County
Hall, Swords/ MS Teams** at **4.30 pm** on **Tuesday, 16th September, 2025**
to consider the following Agenda.

Yours faithfully

Ciara O hAodha
Meetings Administrator
Corporate Services

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A G E N D A

- 1 Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Amended Minutes of the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment SPC meeting held on Tuesday 25th March 2025.**
- 2 Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment SPC meeting held on Tuesday 24th June 2025.**
- 3 Biodiversity Implementation Plan**

MOTIONS

- 4 Councillor D. Healy - Green Public Procurement Strategy**
“That the Chief Executive report on the progress in developing the Green Public Procurement Strategy for this Council including the consideration of the "Greener by Default" approach recommended by this Committee.”

Comhairle Contae Fine Gall Fingal County Council

Amended Minutes of Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment Strategic Policy
Committee

**Tuesday, 25th March, 2025,
Room 3A6, County Hall, Swords at 4.30pm**

PRESENT

Council Members:

Cllr Joe Newman (Chair), Cllr JK Onwumereh, Cllr Brian McDonagh, Cllr Siobhan Shovlin, Cllr Helen Redwood, Cllr David Healy.

Non-Council Members:

Tara Byrne (Env), Paul Flynn (IFA), Sarah Zimmerman (PPN)

The Chairperson, Councillor Joe Newman, presided.

OFFICIALS PRESENT

David Storey, Director of Services; John Daly, Senior Engineer; Catherine O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer; David T Byrne, Senior Executive Engineer, Grainne Carroll, Administrative Officer, Bridget Loughlin, Climate Action Coordinator, Enda Hoey, Senior Executive Scientist, Karen Leeson, Senior Executive Engineer, Niamh Moran, Climate Action Officer, Rebecca Walsh, Executive Scientist, Alain Kerveillant, Executive Scientist, Orla Healy, Climate Action Graduate.

Also in attendance, Michael Lanigan, Dublin Inquirer.

CABE/1/25 (Agenda Item No 1)

Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment SPC meeting held on Tuesday 17th December 2024

Minutes of the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment SPC Meeting held on Tuesday 17th December 2024 which had been circulated were **CONSIDERED**.

It was then **PROPOSED** by Councillor J. Newman, seconded by Councillor D. Healy and **RESOLVED** –

“That the minutes of the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment SPC Meeting held on Tuesday 17th December 2024 be **ADOPTED**.”

CABE/2/25 (Agenda Item No 2)

Progress report on Climate Action Plan 2024 - 2029

A presentation was given to Members by Bridget Loughlin, Climate Action Co-Ordinator, providing an update on the CAP Actions including ongoing and completed actions in 2024 across all themes.

The presentation was **NOTED**.

CABE/3/25 (Agenda Item No 3)

**Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections (RMCEI)
Review 2024 and Inspection Plan 2025**

A presentation was given to Members by John Daly, Senior Engineer on the RMCEI Review 2024 and Inspection Plan 2025. Introductions were given to Members of the Environment Team covering, Waste, Water, Air and Noise Pollution.

The presentation was **NOTED**.

CABE/4/25 (Agenda Item No 4)

Strategic Policy Committee Works Programme 2025

The proposed Climate Action, Biodiversity and Environment SPC 2025 Works Programme was presented by David Storey, Director of Services, ECAATS. Members were advised to put forward any further amendments to the Chair/Grainne Carroll prior to approval of the Works Programme.

The presentation was **NOTED**.

CABE/5/25 (Agenda Item No 5)

Councillor D. Healy - Development of a Lighting Policy

“That this Strategic Policy Committee initiate a process including consultation with the public, stakeholders and experts, considering any existing reviews of best practice, to make a policy on artificial light in the environment, in order to inform both the development and maintenance of lighting by the Council and the regulation of lighting in the planning process, which would take account of biodiversity impacts, energy efficiency, amenity, safety and technological innovation.”

The motion, in the name of Councillor D. Healy was proposed by D. Healy and seconded by Councillor J. Newman.

Report:

Fingal County Council Public Lighting follow best practice in all our operations and requirements through our training, membership of a professional lighting body, and our interactions with other local authorities, lighting professionals, and manufacturers.

We regularly liaise with colleagues in the public lighting sections of other local authorities, especially Dublin City Council (DCC), South Dublin County Council, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, and Cork City Council, to collaborate and share information on public lighting matters and projects undertaken in each county. These four councils along with Fingal, comprise the five local authorities with the largest public lighting stocks in the country and the only councils with dedicated public lighting divisions. Fingal County Council Public Lighting are second only to DCC in terms of the number of public lights we maintain.

We are members of the Institution of Lighting Professionals (ILP), and regularly attend seminars and conferences on lighting, as well as training on the software used in the industry, when there are changes to the relevant standards or National Rules for Electrical Installations, or when new technologies in exterior lighting emerge. We also regularly engage with other lighting professionals including consultants and manufacturers, to discuss changes in technology or issues encountered. In addition, all engineers and inspectors in Public Lighting undertake the Exterior Lighting Technology Diploma course run by the ILP.

All exterior lighting schemes installed within the council area are required to comply with the requirements and specifications of the Public Lighting section. In addition they must adhere to the council's policies and strategy documents such as: The Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029; The Fingal County Council Corporate Plan 2025-2029; The Fingal County Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029; and Forest of Fingal – A tree strategy for Fingal; with regards to energy use and climate change, minimising obtrusive light (i.e. light spill and light pollution), as well as protecting and promoting the environment, biodiversity, and the unique urban, rural and coastal areas of the county.

The recommendations stated in the relevant guidance notes and technical reports published by professional lighting institutions like the ILP, on topics such as reducing obtrusive light or lighting in environmentally sensitive areas, also need to be taken into account in all lighting designs.

The Public Lighting General Specification sets out the standards that public lighting schemes and their associated electrical installations, within Fingal County Council, must comply with, as well as detailing the types of equipment that are acceptable. This document also lays out the procedures to be followed and the documentation to be provided, at design, construction, and completion stages, to get a lighting scheme approved, connected, and potentially taken in charge.

There is also a requirement that all lighting schemes are designed and installed to be the most energy efficient while achieving the required lighting levels.

With regards to reducing obtrusive light, to ensure there is minimal obtrusive light from any lighting scheme installed in the county, Public Lighting require that designers of all lighting scheme need to ensure there is no upward light, with all lights mounted at zero degree tilt, parallel to the ground., and that they take account of the recommendations stated in Guidance Note *GN01/21 – The Reduction of Obtrusive Light*, published by the Institution of Lighting Professionals, in the lighting design. This includes ensuring the lighting scheme is appropriate to the relevant environmental zone and providing additional lighting calculation reports specifically for obtrusive light. The Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 acknowledges that “*At present there are no Irish Guidelines in relation to the control of light pollution*”. However, it does refer to the contents of GN01 and requires all new lighting schemes to be designed to the appropriate environmental zone and meet all council standards.

In environmentally sensitive areas, such as where bats are present, additional restrictions are required on a lighting scheme, and the recommendations stated in Guidance Note *GN08/23 – Bats and Artificial Lighting at Night*, published by the Institution of Lighting Professionals and the Bat Conservation Trust UK, must be included in any design.

The Public Lighting General Specification is also part of the council’s Taking in Charge Policy and Specification.

All developments must be constructed to the Council’s Taking in Charge (TIC) Standards, regardless of whether they are offered for TIC or not. This is also stated in Section 14.9.6 Taking in Charge and Management Companies, of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029.

All developments with a public lighting element are reviewed against all the above requirements and policy documents throughout the planning process (application, compliance, construction, and completion stages).

The Public Lighting General Specification document is kept under constant review, and is updated when there are changes to lighting standards, electrical standards, ESB requirements, Fingal policy documents, or the requirements of the Public Lighting section.

The Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 includes several policies and objectives surrounding lighting and avoiding/minimising any adverse impacts of lighting and obtrusive light on sensitive habitats, improving energy efficiency, and reducing carbon emissions. Chapter 11 Infrastructure and Utilities, with particular reference to Section 11.9 Air, Noise, Light Policies and Objectives, and Section 11.9.3 Light, sets out the policies and objectives around light pollution, the design of lighting schemes and lighting new developments. Chapter 14 Development Management Standards, with particular reference to Section 14.20.18 Light Pollution, sets out the policies and objectives for new lighting schemes to design out light pollution and take account of the appropriate lighting environmental zone in the design. In addition, there are many objectives and policies with regards to lighting in terms of biodiversity and climate change, also stated within the plan:

To further protect biodiversity in parks or open green spaces, where Public Lighting are requested to provide lighting in such areas, they are considered on a case-by-

case basis. The provision of lighting in parks and green spaces is only considered in specific circumstances when certain criteria are met. These criteria include:

- The path through the green space/park area provides the most direct link between key community services (e.g. between a train station and shopping centre or housing precinct) and does not have sufficient lighting along the key pathway(s) or pedestrian routes.
- Are there any trees along the path. If there are trees, is there a minimum of seven (7) metres clearance in all directions between the trees and any proposed public lighting infrastructure, as per the Forest of Fingal – A tree strategy for Fingal policy document.
- The path is not in a woodlands area.
- There are no alternative well-lit routes in the vicinity.

All public lighting maintenance and new works undertaken by the Public Lighting section, are carried out by our public lighting contractor in accordance with the terms, and works requirements and specifications, set out in the Public Lighting Maintenance and New Works contract.

Karen Leeson, Senior Executive Engineer, Public Lighting read the report and following discussions.

The Motion was **AGREED**.

CABE/6/25 (Agenda Item No 6)

Councillor J. Newman - PFAS Issue

“That the Chief Executive provide a report including information on locations that contain or may contain PFAS in the Fingal Local Authority area, to set out what documentation the Council has in relation to PFAS sites, and to provide information on how the public can access this information.”

The motion, in the name of Councillor J. Newman was proposed by Councillor J. Newman and seconded by Councillor B. McDonagh.

Report:

The only information on PFAS contamination of surface and groundwater is that for Dublin Airport. DAA have made information available on their website here

<https://www.dublinairport.com/corporate/environmental-social-governance/sustainability>

The EPA have undertaken some monitoring of the rivers around the airport and this is available on www.catchments.ie

https://www.catchments.ie/data/#/waterbody/IE_EA_08W010300?k=r5yehb
https://www.catchments.ie/data/#/waterbody/IE_EA_09S071100?k=o1i3b3

John Daly, Senior read the report and discussions with Members followed.

The report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Meeting concluded at 18.11

CHAIRPERSON

DATED

**Comhairle Contae Fine Gall
Fingal County Council**

Minutes of Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment Strategic Policy Committee

**Tuesday, 24th June, 2025
Room 3A6, County Hall, Swords / MS Teams at 4.30pm**

PRESENT

Council Members:

Cllr Joe Newman (Chair), Cllr JK Onwumereh, Cllr Brian McDonagh, Cllr Siobhan Shovlin, Cllr Helen Redwood, Cllr David Healy.

Non-Council Members:

Tara Byrne (Env), Sarah Zimmerman (PPN)

Apologies for inability to attend were received for Paul Flynn (IFA)

The Chairperson, Councillor J. Newman, presided.

OFFICIALS PRESENT

David Storey, Director of Services; John Daly, Senior Engineer; Catherine O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer; Patricia Cadogan, Senior Planner; Grainne Carroll, Administrative Officer; Hans Visser, Biodiversity Officer; Maria Hand, Senior Staff Officer.

CABE/7/25 (Agenda Item No 1)

**Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of the Climate Action,
Biodiversity, Environment SPC meeting held on Tuesday 25th March 2025.**

The minutes of the meeting of the 25th March 2025 were queried by Councillor D. Healy who stated that the motion on the Development of a Lighting Policy was agreed rather than accepted. Following a discussion it was agreed by the Chair, Councillor J. Newman that the minutes were to be amended to reflect that the motion was **AGREED**. This was proposed by Councillor D. Healy and seconded by Councillor H. Redwood.

CABE/8/25 (Agenda Item No 2)

Draft Litter Management Plan Consultation Report

A presentation on the submissions received and subsequent changes and updates made to the Draft Litter Management Plan was given by Catherine O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer, ECAATS Department.

The presentation was NOTED.

CABE/9/25 (Agenda Item No 3)

Water Action Plan - Priorities and Governance

A presentation was made by Margaret Keenan, Regional Coordinator at Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) which gave an update on the monitoring and evaluation of the plan.

The presentation was NOTED.

CABE/10/25 (Agenda Item No 4)

Community Climate Action Fund

A presentation was given by Sinéad Fox, Community Climate Action Officer detailing the themes, eligibility requirements and next steps for Community Climate Action Plan funding, which assists community projects to reduce emissions.

The presentation was NOTED.

CABE/11/25 (Agenda Item No 5)

Councillor D. Healy - Building a Zero Carbon Ireland

"That this Strategic Policy Committee invite the Irish Green Building Council to present to a meeting of this Committee or to a separate briefing organised under the aegis of the Committee in relation to their report Building A Zero Carbon Ireland <https://www.igbc.ie/building-a-zero-carbon-ireland> and enter into a discussion with them with a view to the Council developing a policy on how we can decarbonise our own construction as well as facilitating and supporting the decarbonisation of other construction in the County."

The motion, in the name of Councillor D. Healy was proposed by D. Healy and seconded by Councillor B. McDonagh.

Report:

If this Motion is passed, an invitation will issue to the Irish Green Building Council to attend a future Climate Action, Biodiversity & Environment SPC Meeting.

The Motion was AGREED.

CABE/12/25 (Agenda Item No 6)

Councillor H. Redwood - Data Centres

"In the context of the existential climate and environmental crisis and given the massive energy and water consumption that these facilities consume, this Committee calls on the Chief Executive to halt the further proliferation of data centres across the County."

The motion, in the name of Councillor H. Redwood was proposed by Councillor H. Redwood and seconded by Councillor B. McDonagh.

Report:

As stated in Appendix 7 to the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029, a data centre is a physical facility composed of networked computers and storage that businesses and other organisations use to organise, process, store and disseminate large amounts of data.

In accordance with Section 34 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), the consideration of applications for planning permission for the construction of new data centres must have regard to a number of considerations including policies of the government or any minister that relate to proper planning and sustainable development, as well as to the provisions of the relevant Development Plan for the area.

With regard to government policy, in 2018, the government published its Statement on the Role of Data Centres in Ireland's Enterprise Strategy, which was subsequently updated in 2022 (see

<https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/publications/publication-files/government-statement-on-the-role-of-data-centres-in-irelands-enterprise-strategy.pdf>).

The 2022 government policy statement states that data centres are core digital infrastructure and play an indispensable role in Ireland's economy and society.

This policy statement signals the government's clear preference for data centre developments that are associated with strong economic activity and employment; make efficient use of the electricity grid, deliver renewable energy in Ireland.

It also underlines government commitment to ensuring the principles set out in the policy statement are *"effective in prioritising future data centre development that delivers strong economic benefits, sustainable energy plans, and a willingness to promote Ireland's national decarbonisation objectives through a fully supportive planning system and other regulatory regimes"*.

With regard to Development Plan policy as set out in the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029, it should be noted that Data Centres are not permitted in the majority of land use classes and are only open for consideration in the 'GE – General Employment', 'HI – Heavy Industry' and 'HT – High Technology' land use classes.

When being considered under these land use zoning categories, data centres are considered to be 'Space Extensive Developments'. As stated in Section 4.15.3 of the Development Plan:

Space extensive developments such as large warehousing units and data centres in most instances generate low intensity employment. The Council will support these facilities at appropriate locations on a case-by case basis. These facilities should not be located on lands that are more suitable for employment intensive developments/facilities, which are close to public transport infrastructure and built-up areas where compact growth is encouraged.

Following on from the above explanatory text, the Development Plan sets out Objective DMSO92 – Space Extensive Developments as follows:

Proposals for space extensive developments such as data centres are required to address the following:

- *Energy efficiency measures for the development to reduce the carbon footprint in support of national targets towards a net zero carbon economy, including renewable energy generation.*
- *The extent of energy demand and proximity to multiple high voltage strategic grid connections with significant electricity supply capacity available, including areas with high concentration of renewable energy electricity generators.*

- *The availability of appropriate infrastructure such as high voltage electricity, fibre optic cables, water and wastewater etc. to support the use as a data centre.*
- *Measures to support the just transition to a circular economy.*
- *Measures to facilitate district heating or heat networks where excess heat is produced.*
- *High-quality design approach to buildings which reduces the massing and visual impact of same. A visual impact assessment may be required in some circumstances, depending on the specific site.*
- *Details of employment numbers once operational.*
- *Details of the levels of traffic to and from the site at construction and operation stage.*
- *Evidence of sign up to the Climate Neutral Data Centre Pact.*
- *A decommissioning report which sets out the development strategy for the site if and when the data centre is no longer in use, in order to bring the site back to a future developable state.*
- *The principles for Sustainable Data Centre Development as per the Government Statement on the Role of Data Centres in Ireland's Enterprise Strategy (July 2022).*

Having regard to the above, and with reference to government policy as outlined previously, it is not considered appropriate or practicable to implement a halt on a specific category of private development which is provided for by government policy and by planning and development legislation.

However, in its function as planning authority, Fingal County Council will continue to ensure that all new applications for data centres are assessed in accordance with all relevant government policy and Development Plan Guidelines.

The report was given by Patricia Cadogan, Senior Planner, Planning & Strategic Infrastructure and a discussion followed with the Members.

The Motion was AGREED.

CABE/13/25 (Agenda Item No 7)

Councillor J. Newman - Forest of Fingal Policy Update

“That the Chief Executive provide an update on the Forest of Fingal Policy, detailing if there has been a low uptake of Nature based solutions in terms of the Climate Action Plan metrics and specifically indicate the progress with targets in the policy, relating to the increase of tree canopy cover, including a

description of their medium term plans for: Reference 5.11 Annual Net Increase in Tree Canopy Cover, Forest of Fingal.”

The motion, in the name of Councillor J. Newman was proposed by J. Newman and seconded by Councillor H. Redwood.

Report:

1.72 Hectares of new woodland have been planted in Newbridge Demesne as part of the implementation of the woodland plan for that site.

Planting licences for two woodland planting areas at Ardgillan Castle and the Nevitt (10ha) have been submitted to the Forest Service. The Ardgillan application has been successful and the result of application at the Nevitt is still awaited.

90 acres of farmland have been acquired adjacent to St Catherines Park near Lucan to facilitate the extension of the ancient woodlands there. It is envisaged that these new woodland areas will be developed over the next 10 years through community tree planting events and some natural colonisation.

Hans Visser answered questions regarding the report. Councillor J. Newman requested that a headed item be brought to a future SPC meeting.

The report was ACCEPTED.

CABE/14/25 (Agenda Item No 8)

S. Zimmermann - Digital Communications Plan for Towns

“That the Chief Executive reports on what digital communications plan for towns noted in actions within the Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan and Fingal County Council’s Climate Action Plan are in place or being introduced, to inform the community of noted actions to increase awareness.”

The motion, in the name of S. Zimmerman was proposed by S. Zimmerman and seconded by Councillor D. Healy.

Report:

Fingal County Council published the Annual Report on the Progress of the Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 on Fingal County Council website. This report details actions taken by Fingal County Council on the implementation of the Local Authority Climate Action Plan. The 2024 report can be seen here:

www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2025-05/final-fcc-climate-action-plan-progress-report-march-2025.pdf

Fingal County Council have developed a Story Map which details the climate actions taken by the various departments within Fingal. The story map can be viewed here: <https://www.fingal.ie/ClimateAction>

All actions such as Dublin Climate Action Week or the Reusable Cup Campaign are promoted on the Fingal County Council social media platforms.

The report was given by Catherine O'Donovan, Senior Executive Officer and discussions with Members followed.

The report was ACCEPTED.

The Meeting concluded at 18:27.

CHAIRPERSON

DATED

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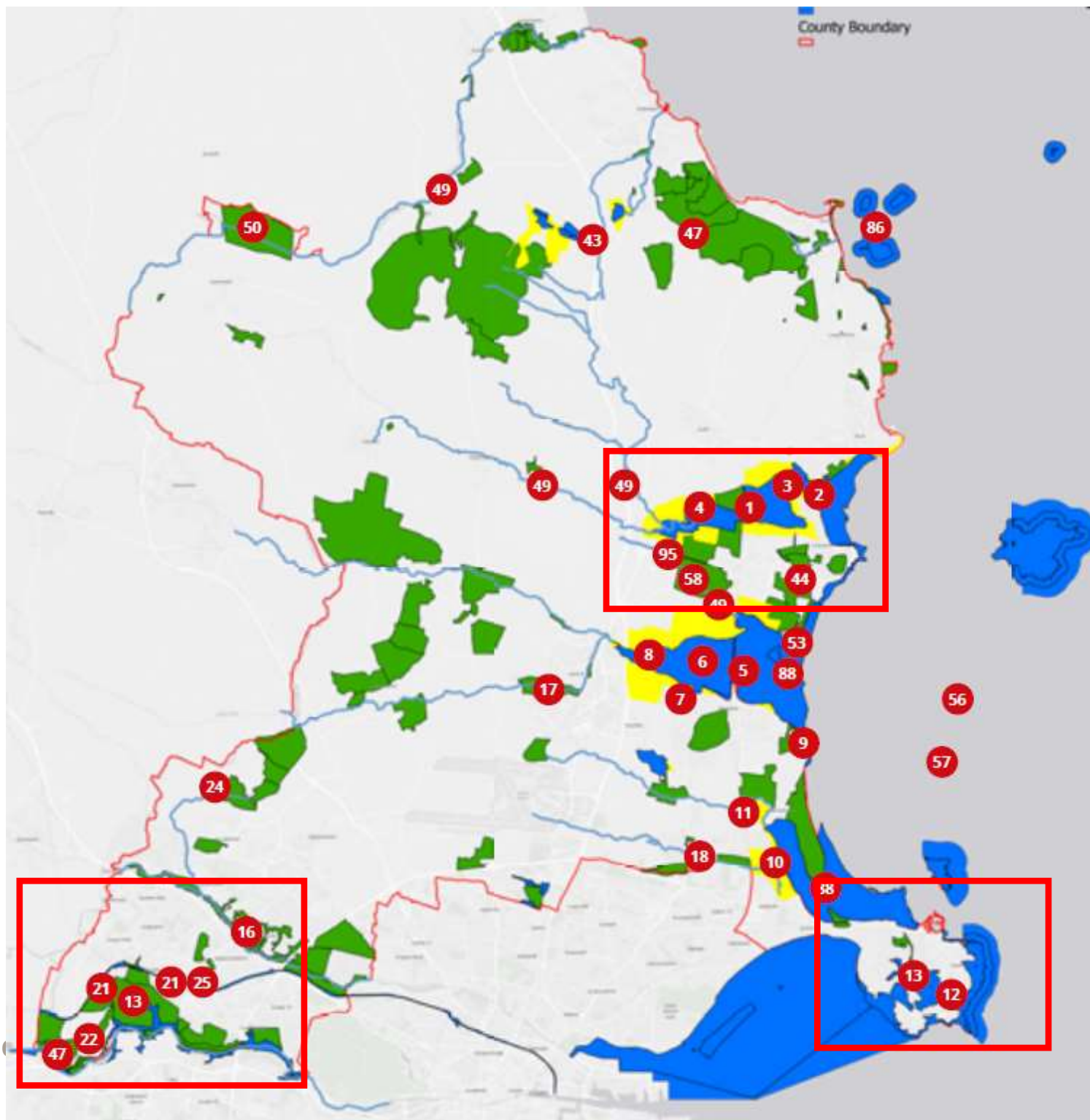
Climate Action, Biodiversity & Environment SPC

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Biodiversity Implementation Plan

16th Sept 2025





Flagship project – Rogerstown Estuary



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Flagship project – Howth SAAO



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Flagship Project – Liffey Valley SAAO



Update Biodiversity Plan

2025 Actions

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2: Little Tern project



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13: Develop and Implement Operational Plans for Howth Head SAAO and Liffey Valley SAAO



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Management Plan Howth Head SAC

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13: Develop and Implement Operational Plans for Howth Head SAAO and Liffey Valley SAAO



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Goat grazing scheme renewed until 2027

13: Develop and Implement Operational Plans for Howth Head SAAO and Liffey Valley SAAO



13: Develop and Implement Operational Plans for Howth Head SAAO and Liffey Valley SAAO



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13: Develop and Implement Operational Plans for Howth Head SAAO and Liffey Valley SAAO



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Ecological Enhancement Ward River



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84: Undertake surveys of obstacles to fish passage & identify mitigation options



84: Undertake surveys of obstacles to fish passage & identify mitigation options



41: Organise and monitor the effects of a biodiversity make-over of 3 housing estates



46: Woodland Management Plans



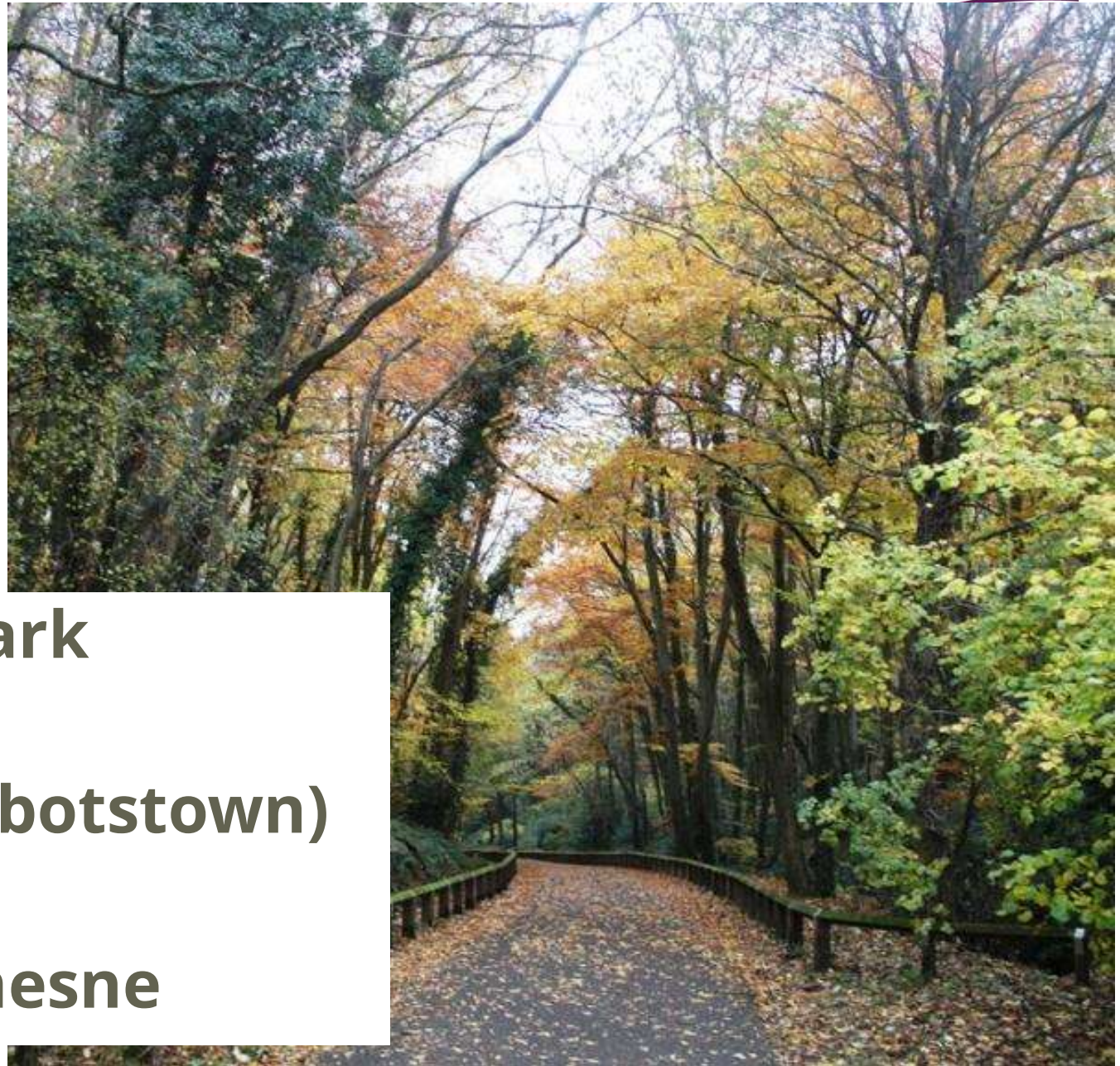
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**Malahide Demesne
Ardgillan Demesne**

46: Implementation Management Plans



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St Catherines Park
Luttrelstown
Tolka Valley (Abbotstown)
Turvey
Newbridge Demesne

26: Control invasive species



Year 15



Year 9



26: Control invasive species

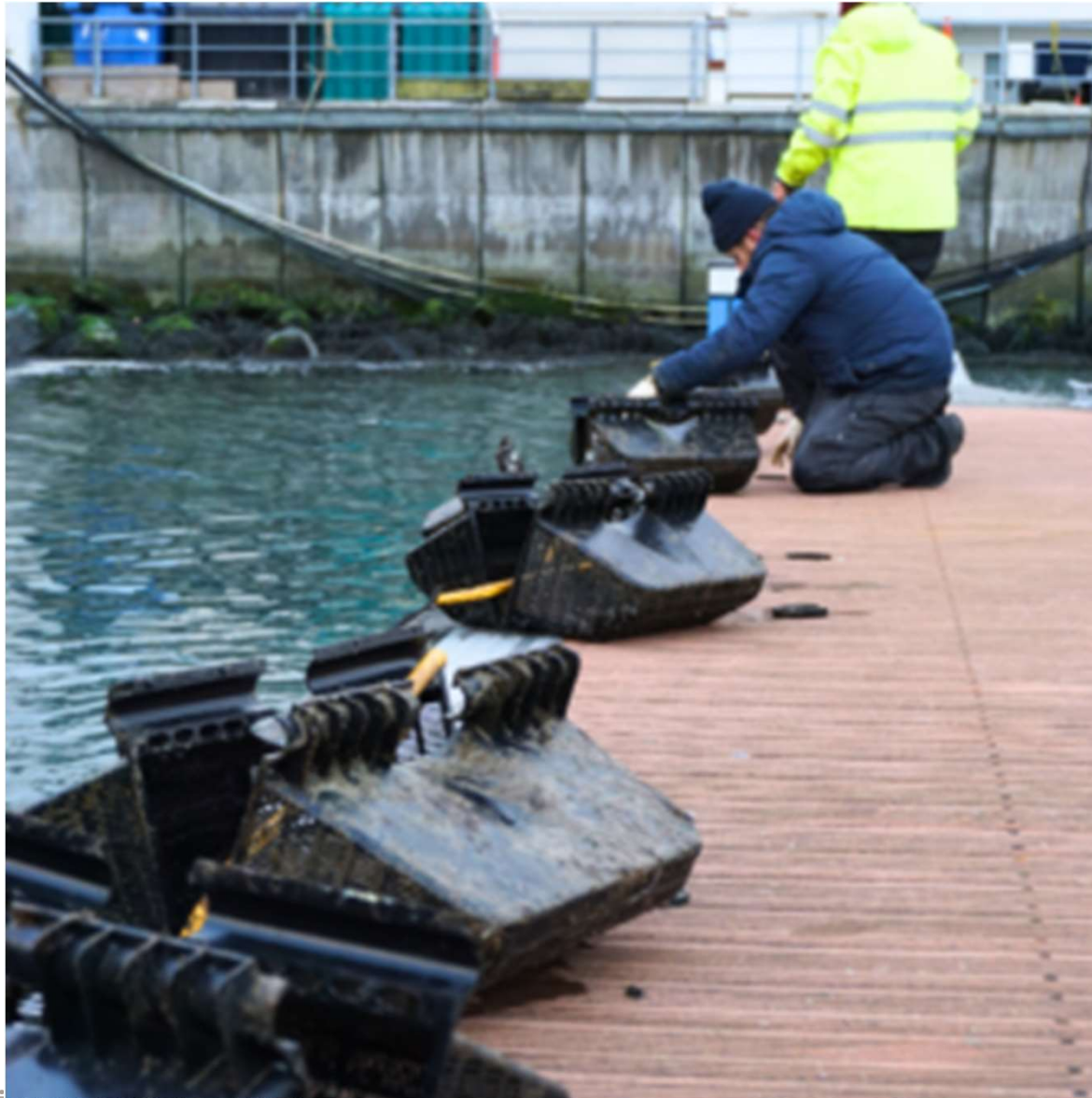


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57: supporting restoration projects of Oyster beds



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Fingal County Council



fingal.ie

58: Develop Newbridge Farm as a national hub for rare breeds



Irish Rare Breed collection completed



69: Carry out urban bird and bat survey



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County wide Swift Survey – 52 pairs

Expenditure 2025



	2025 Revenue	2025 capital	
Total budget	400000	2000000	€ 2.4 million
Projected expenditure	400000	1300000	€1.7 million

2026 Actions

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Expenditure 2026



	2026 Revenue	2026 capital	
Total budget	400000	2000000	€ 2.4 million

84: Undertake surveys of obstacles to fish passage & identify mitigation options



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River Liffey Options Assessment

84: Undertake surveys of obstacles to fish passage & identify mitigation options



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Matt River

Fingal County Council

43: Prepare wetland and river restoration project for the Bog of the Ring and the Matt river corridor



45: Develop SUDS demonstration sites



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Staff Resourcing

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Staffing update



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Work Area	Position
Planning & Development Management:	1 Executive Planning Ecologist <i>Vacant but interviews held</i>
Site Management & Climate Change projects:	1 Executive Biodiversity Officer Lorraine Bull 1 Assistant Biodiversity Officer Lisa Doyle
Working with local communities and landowners:	1 Executive Biodiversity Officer Deirdre O'Farrell 1 Grad Biodiversity Officer Zer Barokas
Marine Environment	1 Executive Marine Biodiversity Officer <i>Vacant – awaiting recruitment</i>
GIS data management	1 Executive Biodiversity Officer Deborah Tiernan
Team Lead	1 Senior Executive Biodiversity Officer Hans Visser

Any Questions

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Climate Action, Biodiversity & Environment SPC

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Update Forest of Fingal

16th Sept 2025



The strategy is based on four key strands:

- Objective 1: Responsible, Efficient & Coherent Approach to Tree Management
- Objective 2: Tree Protection & Retention
- Objective 3: Tree Planting and Establishment Initiatives to Ensure a Sustainable Tree Population
- Objective 4: Community Involvement, Public Engagement & Awareness

20 actions

Objective 1: Responsible, Efficient & Coherent Approach to Tree Management

- Tree Officer in place in Operations Dept.
- Tree management system in place (Arbatrack)
- First round of tree inspection completed for housing estates
- Tree management budget in place (€629,500)
- Approval to recruit Tree management teams
- Woodland Management Plans being prepared and implemented

A photograph of a dense forest with many tall, thin trees and a gravel path leading through the center. The foliage is vibrant green, and the path is made of small, light-colored stones.

• Objective 2: Tree Protection & Retention

- Fingal's Development Plan 2023-2029 contains planning and design guidelines in relation to trees. Woodland Mapping completed CAVAT being used to calculate to quantify compensation
- FCC Tree Officer is a member of the Tree Council of Ireland

Objective 3: Tree Planting and Establishment

- Various sites have been identified for new tree planting
- Constructed tree pits retrofitted in Skerries and main street Swords
- Council facilitates CSR tree planting outings

Community Involvement, Public Engagement & Awareness

- Council has organised various community tree planting days, tree give aways (8-10k trees per year) and supported the development of community orchards.
- Protocols for engaging with communities and residents for proposed significant tree management works in place
- The Council works together with various local community group to assist with the selection of trees, tree planting sites and the planting of trees.

Any Questions

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

CLIMATE ACTION, BIODIVERSITY, ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 04

GREEN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

Motion: Councillor D. Healy

“That the Chief Executive report on the progress in developing the Green Public Procurement Strategy for this Council including the consideration of the “Greener by Default” approach recommended by this Committee.”

Report:

The Fingal County Council Green Public Procurement Strategy 2024-2026 was agreed by the Executive Management Team in July 2024 and is available to view on www.fingal.ie.

The Fingal County Council Green Public Procurement Strategy outlines the Council’s commitment to keeping sustainability to the forefront of everything it does and adopting green procurement strategies to achieve a more sustainable future for our community and promote eco-innovation, climate action, and circular economy. The strategy provides a clear mandate for sustainability through procurement.

Fingal County Council continues to promote sustainable food procurement and recognises that going meat free at least once a week is healthier, cheaper and will

reduce agricultural emissions. <https://www.fingal.ie/simple-ways-act-climate-change>

Fingal County Council Departments are asked to consider incorporating the 'Greener by Default' approach to procurements with a food service requirement.

Source of Report:

Jacqueline Fowler, Administrative Officer, Finance