Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Minutes of the County Council Meeting held on Monday, 13th October, 2025 in the Council Chamber - County Hall, Swords, at 5.00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors:	**Councillors:**
Boland, Cathal	Maguire, Grainne
Boland, Mark	McCamley, Mary
Burtchaell, John	Mulligan, Dean
Butler, Darragh	Mulville, Paul
Carbone-Mangan, Eimear	Murphy, Tony
Corkery, Luke	Newman, Joe
Dennison, Kieran	O'Brien, Eoghan
Dockrell, Eoghan	O'Leary, Tom
Donnelly, Angela	Onwumereh, JK
Guerin, Jimmy	Quinlan, Patrick
Hanaphy, Breda	Quinn, Malachy
Haughey, Cathal	Redwood, Helen
Healy, David	Ryan, Brendan
Hopkins, Joan	Sheehan, Gerard
Humphreys, James	Shovlin, Siobhan
Johnston, Corina	Smyth, John
Kelly Darren Jack	Tormey, Aoibhinn
Kitt, Tom	Troy, Ellen
Leddy, Ted	Walsh, John

Apologies for inability to attend were received for Councillor Tania Doyle.

The Mayor, Councillor Tom O'Leary presided.

OFFICIALS PRESENT

AnnMarie Farrelly (Chief Executive); Oliver Hunt (Head of Finance); David Storey (Director of Services/Environment, Climate Action, Active Travel & Sports); Matthew McAleese (Director of Services /Planning and Strategic Infrastructure); Paul Carroll (Director of Services /Housing Services and Community Development); Mary Egan (Director of Services/People, Corporate & Digital

Services); John Quinlivan (Director of Services/Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Cultural Development); Naomi Weir (Senior Executive Officer); Liz Hartigan (Administrative Officer); Kevin Halpenny (Senior Parks and Landscape Officer); Oliver Hoey (Senior Executive Parks and Landscape Officer).

F/402/25 (Agenda Item No)

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Mayor, Councillor T. O'Leary, at the start of the meeting, reminded Members that Standing Orders would apply to all aspects of the meeting.

F/403/25 (Agenda Item No 1)

Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes

a **Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 8th September 2025**

Minutes of the County Council Meeting held on Monday 8th September 2025 which had been circulated were considered.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor J. Humphreys, seconded by Councillor E. Carbone-Mangan and **RESOLVED –**

"That the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on Monday 8th September 2025 be **ADOPTED."**

F/404/25 (Agenda Item No 1b)

Confirmation and Re-affirmation of Minutes of Presidential Election - Special Meeting held on Friday 12th September 2025

Minutes of the County Council Meeting Special Meeting held on Friday 12th September 2025 which had been circulated were considered.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor K. Dennison, seconded by Councillor J. Walsh and **RESOLVED –**

"That the minutes of the County Council Meeting Special Meeting held on Friday 12th September 2025 be **ADOPTED."**

F/405/25 (Agenda Item No 2)

Nominations

a **Appointment of seven Members to the Fingal North (DMR North) Local Community Safety Partnership**

It was **AGREED** to defer this Item.

b **Appointment of seven Members to the Fingal West (DMR West) Local Community Safety Partnership**

It was **AGREED** to defer this Item.

c **Appointment of one Member to the Dublin & Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board**

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

It was proposed by Councillor A. Tormey and seconded by Councillor L. Corkery and **AGREED**:

"That Councillor Ted Leddy be appointed as a member of the Dublin & Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board".

F/406/25 (Agenda Item No)

QUESTIONS

It was proposed by Councillor M. McCamley, seconded by Councillor J. Walsh and **RESOLVED**:

"That in accordance with Standing Order No. 51, Questions numbered 3 to 18 be **ADOPTED** with the agreed amendment."

F/407/25 (Agenda Item No 3)

Councillor P. Quinlan - Repairs to Social Housing Stock

F/408/25 (Agenda Item No 4)

Councillor C. Haughey - Collection of Unpaid Parking Fines

F/409/25 (Agenda Item No 5)
Councillor P. Mulville - Fingal County Council's Beach/Foreshore Byelaws 2006

F/410/25 (Agenda Item No 6)
Councillor M. Boland - Laughing Gas (Nitrous Oxide) Awareness Campaign

F/411/25 (Agenda Item No 7)
Councillor M. Quinn - New Voter Registration Campaigns

F/412/25 (Agenda Item No 8)
Councillor D. Healy - Taking-in-Charge Process - Design Manual for Roads and Streets/Cycle Design Manual

F/413/25 (Agenda Item No 9)
Councillor JK Onwumereh - Concerns Regarding Antisocial Behaviour, Pallet Stockpiling, and Community Safety in Fingal

F/414/25 (Agenda Item No 10)
Councillor L. Corkery - An Coimisiún Pleanála - Planning Decisions

F/415/25 (Agenda Item No 11)
Councillor S. Shovlin - Community Climate Action Fingal Grants

F/416/25 (Agenda Item No 12)
Councillor A. Donnelly - Retrofitting of Social Homes Data

F/417/25 (Agenda Item No 13)
Councillor J. Smyth - Sub-standard Solar Panels

F/418/25 (Agenda Item No 14)
Councillor J. Smyth - Gaming and Lotteries Act 1956 Part III

F/419/25 (Agenda Item No 15)
Councillor H. Redwood - Not-for-Profit Childcare Services within Fingal

F/420/25 (Agenda Item No 16)
Councillor B. Ryan - Policy Options for Overcrowding in a Council Tenancy

F/421/25 (Agenda Item No 17)
Councillor C. Boland - Live Planning Applications in the name of the daa

F/422/25 (Agenda Item No 18)

Councillor J. Humphreys - Carbon Credits from Public Lands

F/423/25 (Agenda Item No 19)

Report of Committees

a **Quarterly Reports for the Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) Meetings**

The reports by the Strategic Policy Committee Chairpersons which had been circulated were **CONSIDERED.** The report was **NOTED**.

Councillor B. Ryan stated that some detail was absent from quarterly report.

b **Report of Organisation, Procedure and Finance Committee (OP&F) Meeting held on Monday 8th September 2025**

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was **CONSIDERED**. It was proposed by Councillor M. Quinn, seconded by Councillor T. O'Leary, and **RESOLVED:**

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Organisation, Procedure and Finance Committee (OP&F) Meeting held on Monday 8th September 2025, are hereby **ADOPTED.**"

c **Report of Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Thursday 11th September 2025**

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

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Thursday 11th September 2025, are hereby **ADOPTED.**"

d **Report of Howth/Malahide Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 1st October 2025**

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

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Howth/Malahide Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 1st October 2025, are hereby **ADOPTED.**"

e **Report of Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Thursday 2nd October 2025**

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

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Thursday 2nd October 2025, are hereby **ADOPTED.**"

f **Report of Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on Monday 6th October 2025**

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was **CONSIDERED**. It was proposed by Councillor T. O'Leary, seconded by Councillor B. Ryan, and **RESOLVED:**

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Corporate Policy Group (CPG) Meeting held on Monday 6th October 2025, are hereby **ADOPTED.**"

Councillor B. Ryan stated the reason for his dissent on Item 6 on the CPG Agenda, which had not been minuted.

g **Report of Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Thursday 9th October 2025**

The report by the Chief Executive, which had been circulated, was **CONSIDERED**. It was proposed by Councillor T. O'Leary, seconded by Councillor J. Smyth, and **RESOLVED:**

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Thursday 9th October 2025, are hereby **ADOPTED.**"

F/424/25 (Agenda Item No 20)

Financial Matters

a **3-year Capital Programme**

A presentation was given by Mr. Oliver Hunt, Head of Finance, and the Executive Management Team.

During discussion, the Mayor Councillor T. O'Leary informed the members that six motions had been received by Councillor D. Healy and were ruled out of order.

The Capital Programme was **NOTED**.

F/425/25 (Agenda Item No 21)

Proposed Disposal of Properties

a **Notice of proposed disposal of land at Clonswords, Ballyboughal, Co. Dublin to Mr John Rodgers**

The attached report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was **CONSIDERED.** It was proposed by Councillor C. Boland and seconded by Councillor DJ. Kelly and **RESOLVED**:

"That land at Clonswords, Ballyboughal, Co. Dublin, as referred to in the Notice under S183 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended and dated 16th September 2025, be disposed of to Mr John Rodgers in accordance with the terms specified therein."

F/426/25 (Agenda Item No 22)

Declarations of Roads

a **Glaslinn, Donabate, Co Dublin**

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

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

b **Taylor Hill Phase 1 & 2 Balbriggan, Co Dublin**

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

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

c **Greenbrook, Rush, Co Dublin**

The report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was **CONSIDERED**. It was proposed by Councillor T. O'Leary, seconded by Councillor C. Johnston, and **RESOLVED**:

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

F/427/25 (Agenda Item No 23)

Report pursuant to Part XI of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part VIII of the Local Government Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), Proposed Public Play Space Development at Hartstown Park, Dublin 15

The report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was **CONSIDERED**. It was proposed by Councillor K. Dennison, seconded by Councillor A. Donnelly, and **AGREED.**

F/428/25 (Agenda Item No 24)

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), Proposed Public Play Space Development at Hazelbury Park, Dublin 15

The report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was **CONSIDERED**. A presentation was given to the members by Kevin Halpenny, Senior Parks and Landscape Officer and Oliver Hoey, Senior Executive Parks and Landscape Officer.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor E. O'Brien, seconded by Councillor E. Carbone-Mangan, and **AGREED.**

F/429/25 (Agenda Item No 25)

Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2026 - 2030

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

Following discussion, the report was **NOTED**.

F/430/25 (Agenda Item No 26)

Draft Stephenstown and Folkstown Little Framework Plan

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

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor T. Murphy, seconded by Councillor M. Quinn, and **RESOLVED** that –

"That the Draft Stephenstown (FP4.A) and Folkstown Little (FP4.B) Framework Plan is hereby agreed with the amendments recommended in the Chief Executive's Report in line with the policies and objectives of the Fingal Development Plan 2023 - 2029 and the proper planning and sustainable development of the county."

F/431/25 (Agenda Item No 27)

Special Speed Limit Bye-Law - Moylaragh Road, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin

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

Following discussion; it was proposed by Councillor T. Murphy, seconded by Councillor G. Maguire, and **RESOLVED** that –

"Fingal County Council, in exercise with the powers conferred on it by Section 9 of the Road Traffic Act 2004 (No.44 of 2004) and Section 86 of the Road Traffic Act 2010 (No. 25 of 2010) and Section 22 of the Road Traffic Act 2016 (No. 21 of 2016) and following consultation with An Garda Síochána, makes a Special Speed Limit Bye-Law in respect of speed limit reduction from 50km/h to 30 km/h at

Moylaragh Road (L-1171) from its junction with Castlemill Link Road to the roundabout junction of Harry Reynolds Road in Balbriggan."

F/432/25 (Agenda Item No 28)

Community Activities Funding

A presentation was given to the Members by Naomi Weir, Senior Executive Officer, Community Section.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Newman, seconded by Councillor J. Walsh and **AGREED**.

F/433/25 (Agenda Item No)

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

It was **AGREED** to extend the meeting by 15 minutes.

F/434/25 (Agenda Item No 29)

Fingal Arts Plan 2019 - 2025 - Extension

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

"That the duration of the Fingal Arts Plan 2019 to 2025 be extended to 2029 as set out in the foregoing report is hereby **APPROVED**."

F/435/25 (Agenda Item No 30)

Chief Executive's Report

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

F/436/25 (Agenda Item No 31)

Mayor's Business - Councillor T. O'Leary

It was noted there was no business on this item.

F/437/25 (Agenda Item No 32)

Conference Report

a **AILG Autumn Training September to December 2025 Training Brochure 2025 Updated**

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

b **Irish Planning Institute 50th Anniversary Autumn Planning Conference - 2nd October 2025 - Gibson Hotel**

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

c **Local Authority Members Association (LAMA) Autumn Seminar - 16th and 17th October 2025 - Amber Springs Hotel, Gorey, Co Wexford**

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

F/438/25 (Agenda Item No 33)

Correspondence

a **Letter dated 12th September 2025 from Carlow County Council - Re: Increase in College Fees and maintain the Grant in the upcoming Budget**

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

b **Letter dated 18th September 2025 from Kerry County Council - Re: Ban on Vaping in all Workplaces**

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

c **Letter dated 18th September 2025 from Sligo County Council - Re: Love Sligo Gift Cards**

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

d **Letter dated 25th September 2025 from Roscommon County Council - Re: Development Contribution Wavier Scheme**

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

e **Letter dated 26th September 2025 from Limerick and City County Council - Re: Increased Investment in Counselling and Psychotherapy in Budget 2026**

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

F/439/25 (Agenda Item No 34)

Departmental/Ministerial Correspondence

a **Letter dated 1st September 2025 from Office of the Taoiseach Re: Items 43 and 44 - Cllr B. McDonagh & Cllr P. Mulville - Occupied Territories Bill - December 2024 Council Meeting**

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

MOTIONS - STATUTORY FUNCTIONS

F/440/25 (Agenda Item No 48)

Councillor J. Hopkins - Halloween 2025 Bonfire Prevention

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

The report was **ACCEPTED.**

F/441/25 (Agenda Item No 49)

Councillor JK Onwumereh - Need to Rezone lands for Residential Purposes in Fingal

The motion, in the name of Councillor JK. Onwumereh was proposed by Councillor C. Haughey and seconded by Councillor T. O'Leary.

The report was **ACCEPTED.**

The Meeting concluded at 20.00.

MAYOR _____ DATE _____

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 02a

APPOINTMENT OF SEVEN MEMBERS TO THE FINGAL NORTH (DMR NORTH) LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Seven (7) nominees are sought from the Council to join the Fingal North (DMR North) Local Community Safety Partnership which is being established in accordance with the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024.

Introduction

New Local Community Safety Partnerships (LCSP) are being established nationwide in accordance with Part III of the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024.

The LCSP will bring all the relevant state services and the community together at a local authority level. This will build on the work undertaken through the Joint Policing Committee and supplement it by ensuring that all other relevant stakeholders necessary to constitute a more holistic forum for discussion and decisions on community priorities are present.

The Structure of the LCSP's



It is intended that membership of the Local Community Safety Partnership will include residents; community representatives - including representatives of youth, new communities and the voluntary sector; business and education representatives; relevant public services in the area, including HSE, Tusla, AGS, and the local authority; and local councillors. The LCSP will have a core membership of 20 with each LCSP having a maximum of 30 members.

The Chairperson

The role of the Chairperson is pivotal to the Partnerships achieving their full potential. Following direction from the Department of Justice and in accordance with the new Regulations the Chairperson is now to be elected from within the membership of the Committee. It is anticipated that this election will be held at the first meeting of the Partnership on foot of guidance from the National Office for Community Safety.

The Chairperson's role will be supported by a Community Safety Coordinator and an administrator. Both posts will be 100% funded by the Department of Justice.

Fingal Local Community Safety Partnerships – Structure

County Fingal comprises of parts of both DMR West and DMR North divisions of An Garda Síochána. 2 Community Safety Partnerships for Fingal are to be established and will align with the Garda Sub – District Boundaries as follows: -

- **Fingal North Community Safety Partnership (DMR North)**
  - (Swords, Balbriggan, Skerries, Lusk, Rush, Donabate, Portrane, Oldtown, Garristown, The Naul, Malahide, Portmarnock, Baldoyle, Sutton, Howth, St. Margarets)
- **Fingal Dublin West Community Safety Partnership (DMR West)**

- (Castleknock, Mulhuddart, Blanchardstown, Clonsilla, Corduff, Ongar, Tyrellstown, Meakstown, Cappagh)

Political Representatives (Councillors)

The Regulations provide for the appointment of 7 Councillors to each LCSP's and the requirement for gender balance and diversity in the membership. The Regulations also provides for representation from all 7 Electoral Areas in the County on the Partnerships.

As Fingal will be establishing 2 LCSP's, Nominations are now sought as follows for this LCSP: -

Nomination of 7 Councillors from the Elected Councillors in the Howth-Malahide/Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords area to be appointed to the **Fingal North Community Safety Partnership (DMR North**)

Please note that group voting can apply to these nominations.

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 02b

APPOINTMENT OF SEVEN MEMBERS TO THE FINGAL WEST (DMR WEST) LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Seven (7) nominees are sought from the Council to join the Fingal West (DMR West) Local Community Safety Partnership which is being established in accordance with the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024.

Introduction

New Local Community Safety Partnerships (LCSP) are being established nationwide in accordance with Part III of the Policing, Security and Community Safety Act 2024.

The LCSP will bring all the relevant state services and the community together at a local authority level. This will build on the work undertaken through the Joint Policing Committee and supplement it by ensuring that all other relevant stakeholders necessary to constitute a more holistic forum for discussion and decisions on community priorities are present.

The Structure of the LCSP's



It is intended that membership of the Local Community Safety Partnership will include residents; community representatives - including representatives of youth, new communities and the voluntary sector; business and education representatives; relevant public services in the area, including HSE, Tusla, AGS, and the local authority; and local councillors. The LCSP will have a core membership of 20 with each LCSP having a maximum of 30 members.

The Chairperson

The role of the Chairperson is pivotal to the Partnerships achieving their full potential. Following direction from the Department of Justice and in accordance with the new Regulations the Chairperson is now to be elected from within the membership of the Committee. It is anticipated that this election will be held at the first meeting of the Partnership on foot of guidance from the National Office for Community Safety.

The Chairperson's role will be supported by a Community Safety Coordinator and an administrator. Both posts will be 100% funded by the Department of Justice.

Fingal Local Community Safety Partnerships – Structure

County Fingal comprises of parts of both DMR West and DMR North divisions of An Garda Síochána. 2 Community Safety Partnerships for Fingal are to be established and will align with the Garda Sub – District Boundaries as follows: -

- **Fingal North Community Safety Partnership (DMR North)**
  - (Swords, Balbriggan, Skerries, Lusk, Rush, Donabate, Portrane, Oldtown, Garristown, The Naul, Malahide, Portmarnock, Baldoyle, Sutton, Howth, St. Margarets)

- **Fingal Dublin West Community Safety Partnership (DMR West)**
    - (Castleknock, Mulhuddart, Blanchardstown, Clonsilla, Corduff, Ongar, Tyrellstown, Meakstown, Cappagh)

Political Representatives (Councillors)

The Regulations provide for the appointment of 7 Councillors to each LCSP's and the requirement for gender balance and diversity in the membership. The Regulations also provides for representation from all 7 Electoral Areas in the County on the Partnerships.

As Fingal will be establishing 2 LCSP's, Nominations are now sought as follows for this LCSP: -

- Nomination of 7 Councillors from the Elected Councillors in the Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar area to be appointed to the **Fingal Dublin West Community Safety Partnership (DMR West**).

Please note that group voting can apply to these nominations.

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 03

SOCIAL HOUSING SUPPORT RECIPIENTS WHO ARE IN RECEIPT OF HOUSING ASSISTANT PAYMENT

Question: Councillor P. Quinlan

"To ask the Chief Executive to provide in tabular form, the amount of social housing support recipients who are in receipt of a HAP payment from Fingal County Council for the years 2020-2024, showing end of year totals, and the most recent figure available for 2025?"

Reply:

Year	HAP Tenancies
2020	2089
2021	2565
2022	2611
2023	2544
2024	2435
27/10/2025	2303

The Dublin Regional Homeless Executive (DRHE) operates the Homeless HAP scheme on behalf of the four Dublin Local Authorities; figures can be requested from the DRHE if required.

Source of Reply:
Paul Carroll, Director Housing and Community Development

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 04

CAR-SHARING SERVICES IN THE FINGAL AREA

Question: Councillor C. Haughey

"To ask the Chief Executive to provide details on how much revenue, if any, the Council has generated over the last 3 years from car-sharing service operators in the Fingal area?

Reply:

Fingal County Council Parking Control Byelaws include specific provisions for Car Clubs / Car Sharing operators throughout the county.

The Scheme was introduced in 2022 on a pilot basis, with a requirement for private operators to apply to the Council for a Car Club Permit. The Council commenced applying the fixed €500 p/annum permit fee in 2023 and the charge is provided for in the Draft Pay and Display Parking Byelaws.

Please find breakdown of income per annum below:

Year	No. of Permits Issued	Income Received
2023	36	€18,500
2024	32	€15,500
2025	8	€3,710*

*2025 is year to date figure.

Source of Reply:
Mary T. Daly, Director of Operations

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 05

NATURE EDUCATION CENTRE AT TURVEY PARK

Question: Councillor JK Onwumereh

"To ask the Chief Executive, in order to demonstrate confidence with the overall National Climate Action Plan, to provide an update on the implementation of the Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030, and the development of a Nature Education Centre in Fingal?"

Reply:

It is planned to commence the preparation of a tender for the design of the Nature Education Centre in Turvey in the coming months.

Source of Reply:
Matthew McAleese, Director of Planning & Strategic Infrastructure

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 06

LOCAL AUTHORITY HOME LOAN SCHEME

Question: Councillor M. Quinn

"To ask the Chief Executive, to provide details as to how many requests have been received by this Local Authority for meetings from prospective applicants for the Local Authority Home Loan Scheme in the last 12 months and to confirm how many of these meetings have taken place?"

Reply:

Within the last 12 months there have been 11 requests for meetings to submit applications and documentation for a Local Authority Home Loan. Due to the significant volume of documentation required for submission and review, no in-person meetings take place at this stage of the application process. Instead, when an applicant requests a meeting, the applicant is contacted, and relevant queries are resolved by telephone or email.

As per the Local Authority Home Loan section on the Fingal County Council website, loan applications can be submitted by post or via the online portal. An in-person meeting is always held at Final Loan Offer stage.

Source of Reply:
Paul Carroll, Director Housing and Community Development

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 07

DRAFT DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTION SCHEME 2026-2030 UPGRADE EXISTING CYCLE LANES

Question: Councillor J. Humphreys

"To ask the Chief Executive if development contributions in the new Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2026-2030, can be used to upgrade existing cycle lanes where the works amount to a substantial improvement, for example, widening, segregation or full reconstruction to current standards and, if so, whether the Executive will look at prioritising such upgrades?"

Reply:

The draft Development Contribution Scheme 2026-2030 provides funding for three general classes of public infrastructure and facilities.

Class 1: Transportation and Active Travel Infrastructure & Facilities Includes for the provision of roads (*including pedestrian and cycling facilities*), refurbishment, upgrading, enlargement or replacement of roads, bridges, harbours, car parks, provision of bus corridors and other infrastructure to facilitate public transport, traffic calming measures and smarter travel projects not covered by National Transport Authority grants, the acquisition of land and any ancillary matters.

Source of Reply:
David Storey Director of Services for Environment, Climate Change, Active Travel & Sports

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 08

UPDATE ON PILOT PROJECT IN A REGIONAL PARK

Question: Councillor A. Donnelly

"To ask the Chief Executive to provide an update on the pilot project to Light up a Park that was passed at the January Council Meeting, Minute No. F/36/25?**"**

Reply:

At the Council meeting held in January this year, the Council was informed on the reasons why public lighting is not suitable for the regional parks and that there was no provision in the 2025 budget for a pilot project to light up a regional park. Therefore, this pilot project has not been carried out. It was also not provided for in the Discretionary Area Works Programme. (Attached Report from January Meeting).

The Council does not encourage after-hours use of parks and open spaces for public safety reasons as daylight hours will determine public safety considerations. The infrastructure required for the installation of lighting in any area of public open space is cost prohibitive in many locations and can only be considered if the route is deemed high priority from an active travel perspective and the works do not cause conflict with the natural biodiversity of that space.

All the regional parks are areas of great important for wildlife habit including mammal species and bird species. Artificial lighting has a negative impact on nocturnal species, particularly, bats. The parks are havens for nocturnal wildlife and all efforts to protect these areas of valuable urban habitat must be taken.

In light of this, if a pilot project in a regional park was to be considered, it would initially require a number of surveys to be undertaken, including:

- Ecological Base Line survey;
- Biodiversity Assessment due to the proposed scale of the lighting proposed;
- Historic Woodland Management Plan;

The draft Revenue budget for 2026 is currently being finalised. There is no provision for a pilot Public Lighting Project in any of the regional parks. An increase is being considered in the discretionary Works Programme for each area. The Councillors Area Works Programme will be brought to the Area Committees for approval in January. The use of this additional budget could be considered by the Area Committees to commence the necessary surveys required.

Source of Reply:
Mary T. Daly, Director of Operations

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 13th JANUARY 2025

ITEM NO. 33

PILOT PROJECT IN A REGIONAL PARK

Motion: Councillor A. Donnelly

"That the Chief Executive establishes a pilot project in one of our regional parks, to include measures such as lighting, extended park ranger hours and CCTV, to allow the community the use of our public areas during winter months and encourage walking and cycling, Budget 2025 refers to the ongoing maintenance and upgrade of our roads and public footpaths to encourage the modal shift to cycle and walking continues, this can only be achieved with adequate lighting."

Report:

The Parks and open spaces in Fingal are a wonderful resource for Fingal residents. The popularity of these spaces for exercise and recreation is well established, and the Council encourages this usage with the provision of wonderful amenities within these spaces. Many of the Regional Parks have an extensive mix of pedestrian paths, sports pitches, playgrounds, open grassland meadows, woodlands, and areas hugely rich in natural biodiversity. These are valuable spaces for the residents of Fingal and require a balanced approach to their maintenance and usage to ensure that these spaces are managed in a way that allows them flourish and to be used in a sustainable manner.

The Council has no provision for such a pilot project within the 2025 budget as the Council does not encourage after-hours use of parks and open spaces for public safety reasons as daylight hours will determine public safety considerations. The infrastructure required for the installation of lighting in any area of public open space is cost prohibitive in many locations and can only be considered if the route

is deemed high priority from an active travel perspective and the works do not cause conflict with the natural biodiversity of that space.

Providing after-hours access to the regional parks for exercise purposes is not considered for the following reasons.

- The after-hours use of any of the regional parks would require an extended park ranger service, which the current budget provision does not allow for. The Council has facilitated unique events such as 'Darkness into Light' and this type of permanent provision would be unsustainable.
- The opening of these spaces after-hours would also add huge additional strain on the gardai from a public order perspective as these spaces are attractive for anti-social activity and difficult to patrol.
- Many urban areas already have a well-established public path network with public lighting that is safe for after-hours recreational walking and exercising purposes. Other after-hours sporting activities are catered for within community centres, gyms, and public sports hubs.
- The Council has an obligation to preserve and protect the valuable ecological habitats within these spaces, and after-hours public use is detrimental from a biodiversity perspective.

The Council therefore does not propose to establish a pilot project in any of Fingal's Regional parks for the reasons as outlined in this motion.

Source of Report:
Mary T. Daly, Director of Operation

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 09

GUIDELINES FOR PET OWNERSHIP IN SOCIAL AND AFFORABLE HOUSING

Question: Councillor J. Walsh

"To ask the Chief Executive if there are any guidelines in place for housing agencies operating in the Fingal County Council area to facilitate pet ownership in social and affordable housing?"

Reply:

Approved Housing Bodies have individual policies in relation to pet ownership, and policies can vary across the different bodies. The policies may also vary across different building types depending on their size and suitability for pet ownership and accordingly, Fingal County Council does not have formalised guidelines in place. In particular in relation to multi-unit developments, there are maintenance, nuisance and cleaning issues that can arise when pets are permitted, that can negatively impact on adjoining neighbours.

Source of Reply:
Paul Carroll, Director Housing and Community Development

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 10

FINGAL LITTER MANAGEMENT PLAN 2025-2028

Question: Councillor L. Corkery

"To ask the Chief Executive to provide a comprehensive report on the number of cases of illegal dumping reported, the average turnaround time between a case of illegal dumping being reported and the waste being removed; the number of reports to An Garda Síochána of litter offenders to date since the approval of the Fingal Litter Management Plan 2025-2028?"

Reply:

The Fingal Litter Management Plan 2025-2028 was adopted by the Council on the 7th of July 2025. Enforcement for illegal dumping under the Litter Pollution Act 1997-2009 and Waste Management Act 1996, is a key objective of the Plan and a function of the Local Authority. Incidences of illegal dumping/littering are investigated by the Litter Wardens/Waste Enforcement Officers to try and identify and bring prosecutions against the offenders. The Litter Wardens carry out daily patrols in Fingal, including known black spots in the area along with carrying out investigations of litter complaints received from members of the public.

Since the Litter Management Plan was adopted, there have been 136 fines issued, and 9 Warning Notices issued by the Litter Wardens for illegal dumping/littering offences since the adoption of the Litter Management Plan 2025–2028. The Waste Enforcement Unit have investigated 38 cases of illegal dumping during this period. Usually where evidence is found, Waste Enforcement Officers will report it to the

Litter Unit and act as witness for litter fines to be issued. Following investigation of an illegal dumping the Litter Wardens/Waste Enforcement Officers liaise with the cleansing crews to arrange the cleanup and removal of the rubbish.

Source of Reply:
David Storey, Director of Environment, Climate Action, Active Travel & Sports Department

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 11

COMPOST/MULCH FACILITIES

Question: Councillor J. Smyth

"To ask the Chief Executive to provide details of what the estimated costs would be for compost/mulch facilities to be developed at the major Fingal recycling centres or appropriate related sites?"

Reply:

The Council already provides a number of services for disposal of green waste and composting/mulching. Both Coolmine Recycling Centre and Estuary Recycling Centre currently accept green waste for the following charges:

- Car Boot €6
- Full Car/Jeep/SUV €10
- Car Van/Car plus Trailer €35
- Van (Intermediate/Transit) €80

The Environment Department administers the Community Composting and Leaf Mould Initiative whereby Leaf Mould Cages are made available to community organisations and neighbourhood associations who are carrying out large scale leaf clearance in their housing estates. This gives them the opportunity to turn collected leaves into compost for use within their communities. This is an annual project and is available upon application to the Environment Department.

In instances where there is a large amount of tree fall in the county due to severe weather events, where possible the Council mulches the tree debris and delivers

the bark mulch to the Council's allotment sites to be used by the plot holders for cultivation purposes.

No additional provision is being made in the Revenue Budget 2026 for additional compost/mulch facilities in excess of what is already in place at Coolmine or Estuary as both recycling centres operate a deficit with expenditure far exceeding income.

Source of Reply:
Mary T. Daly, Director of Operations

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 12

DISPOSING OF HOUSEHOLD RUBBISH IN PUBLIC BINS

Question: Councillor B. Ryan

"To ask the Chief Executive to outline any legal impediments to someone disposing of household rubbish in public bins?"

Reply:

Section 3(3) of the Litter Pollution Act 1997–2009 prohibits people from placing municipal waste into or near a litter receptacle. Evidence can be obtained by way of a Witness Statement or inspection by a Litter Warden. Witness statements are forwarded to the Litter Management Team by our cleansing crews when evidence pertaining to a person committing this offence if found, and fines are then issued by the Litter Warden to the offender.

Source of Reply:
David Storey, Director of Environment, Climate Action, Active Travel & Sports Department

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 13

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 13a

REPORT OF CORPORATE POLICY GROUP (CPG) MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 21ST OCTOBER 2025

Budget 2026 Update

Mr. Oliver Hunt, Head of Finance, gave an update to the CPG in relation to the preparation of the 2026 Budget to include the objective for 2026 in sustaining and enhancing quality services and to enhance funding for the delivery of the required infrastructure projects throughout the County. It also proposed increases in some income streams.

The preparation of the Draft 2026 Budget would include issuing the Budget book; a briefing session to members in advance of the Budget meeting; facilitating submission of questions, and a further CPG meeting in advance of the Budget meeting. The Budget meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 18th November 2025 (2pm).

Following discussion, the CPG **AGREED** that the preparation of the Draft 2026 Revenue Budget proceed as outlined.

Signed: Tom O'Leary
Mayor

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 13b

REPORT OF CORPORATE POLICY GROUP (CPG) MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 3RD NOVEMBER 2025

Budget 2026 Update

Mr. Oliver Hunt, Head of Finance, gave an update to the CPG in relation to the 2026 Budget to include proposed increases in some income streams; and an update on the upcoming budgetary process including Members Briefing session to take place on 12th November in advance of Budget meeting on 18th November.

Following discussion, the presentation was **NOTED** and the CPG **AGREED** to the Budget booklet being printed and brought to Full Council for consideration.

Audit 2024

Ms. Mary T Daly, Director of Services, gave an update to the CPG in relation to the 2024 Audit Report.

Following discussion, the update was **NOTED.**

Membership of Local Community Safety Partnerships

Ms. Ciara O hAodha, Senior Executive Officer advised the CPG of the corporate process for filling the vacancies on the Local Community Safety Partnerships. Following the extended deadline for Expressions of Interests (EOIs); 8 EOIs were received for both Fingal North and Fingal West vacancies. The process for filling these vacancies will be outlined at the November Council meeting.

Following discussion this item was **NOTED** and the CPG **AGREED** with this approach.

Signed: Tom O'Leary
Mayor

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 13c

REPORT OF HOWTH/MALAHIDE AREA COMMITTEE SERVICE B MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 2025

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

APPLICATIONS FOR COMMUNITY 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

Howth Sutton Autism-friendly Community GA-003651	€895.00	Arts and Crafts materials Tuff Tray Materials and Accessories Facilitator for Arts and Crafts Silent Disco DJ Silent disco delivery and collection Teen art Facilitator for 3 hours	YES	2025 - €780.00	€645.00
Malahide Seniors' Social GA-003628	€800.00	Transport Hire Musician for event	YES	2024 - €1,514.00	€800.00
Thormanby Lawns Residents Association GA-003652	€663.00	3 x 40m rechargeable lights 30 x 15m rechargeable lights	NO	N/A	€563.00

It was **proposed by** Councillor E. O' Brien and **seconded by** Councillor J. Hopkins. That this Committee recommends that the County Council **APPROVE** of the Community funding in the foregoing report.

APPLICATIONS FOR SPORTS FUNDING

Applications for funding under the Council's Sports 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
Red Rox Baseball	€1,500	Replacement of old and broken sport equipment- Baseball gloves, baseballs and softballs balls, training balls, set of bases, homebase, batting-tess, baseball and softball bats, training bats, training resistance bands, big sport bags, helmets		2024 - €3,000 2020 - €1,000	€1,500 - This gear is to replace old and broken equipment as well as provide additional gear as the club continues growing

It was **proposed by** Councillor E. O'Brien and **seconded by** Councillor J. Hopkins. That this Committee recommends that the County Council **APPROVE** of the Sports funding in the foregoing report.

Signed: _____

Councillor C. Haughey
Area Chairperson

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 13d

REPORT OF BLANCHARDSTOWN-MULHUDDART/CASTLEKNOCK/ONGAR SERVICES B AREA COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 6TH NOVEMBER 2025

APPLICATIONS FOR COMMUNITY FUNDING

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

ACTIVITY FUNDING GRANT 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? Yes/No	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
Laurel Lodge Movie, Book and Bowling Club GA-003605	€2,768.00	Bowls for social healthX3 Educational Transport social trip Belfast Winter social trip	NO	N/A	€2,931.77

Meakstown Community Centre Board GA-003640	€2,964.00	Santa Trees x 2 Decorations Santa Grotto Costumes	NO	N/A	€2,964.00
Jesuit Refugee Service Ireland (The Failte Project) GA-003597	€3,000.00	Group art therapy (10 sessions) Yoga for adults (10 session) Sound baths	YES	2024 - €3,000.00 2023 - €2,958.00	€3,000.00
Blakestown Drive Community Group GA-003627	€2,925.00	Venue Hire Artist Musician Musician Sound Technician Tickets Printed	NO	N/A	€2,952.00
Corduff Sports Centre GA-003635	€1,500.00	Chair Yoga Instructor	YES	2025 - €940.21 2025 - €560.00 2024 - €2,999.98	€1,500.00
Muslim Women Together GA-003614	€3,000.00	Pull Up Banner Acer Aspire Laptop Leaflet print and distribution Piliate Classes x 13 Room Hire Food Festival 3 additional Pilates classes	YES	2023 - €1,854.77	€3,000.00
St. Brigid's Photo Group GA-003638	€3,000	Electric Screen Audio Equipment, Microphones speakers	NO	N/A	€3,000

		Cabling and installation			
Parslickstown House GA-003639	€1,600	Hiring a Santa Santa Suits Elf Suits Photocopy Paper Gardening Course Materials such as plant Pottery Course Materials such as clay	YES	2024 - €1,007.85 2023 - €2,208.44	€1,334
St. Brigid's GAA Club GA-003612	€2,185	Laptop Printer	NO	N/A	€2,184.64

It was **proposed** by Councillor J. Walsh and **seconded** by Councillor G. Sheehan that this Committee recommends that the County Council **APPROVE** of the Community Funding in the foregoing report.

APPLICATIONS FOR SPORTS FUNDING

Applications for funding under the Council's Sports 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

Mulhuddart football Club	€4,000	The current goals in Mick Walshe Park are inadequate for training the younger teams. Smaller goals are essential for children when playing football - Wheeled Goals for 7 and 9 aside training with youths - €4,151	Y	2022 - €2,610	€4,000 - The club wants to use the Large Sports Equipment Grant to purchase portable football goals. The total project will cost €4,151. The grant will cover €4,000. I recommend allocating the full amount of €4,000.
Castleknock Cricket Club	€4,000	Purchase storage container for secure storage for cricket equipment, reducing risk of theft or damage. Protection from Weather, extending the lifespan of all cricket related stuff. Better Organisation of training and match day equipment, improving efficiency for coaches	Y	2024 €3,000 2023 - €3,000	The club wants to use the Large Sports Equipment Grant to purchase a container for storing equipment. The total project will cost €4,350. The grant will cover €4,000. I recommend allocating the full amount of €4,000
Clonee United	€3,688	Purchase of a pitch marker and a set of goal trollies- Marking of the pitches for 7/9/11 a side	N		The club wants to use the Large Sports Equipment Grant to

		games on a bi-weekly basis and trollies for transporting goals			purchase a line marking machine and a set of goal trolleys. The total project will cost €3,688. The grant will cover €3,688. I recommend allocating the full amount of €3,688.
St. Brigids GAA Club	€4,000	Purchase of portable goalposts for training - €6,000	N		The club wants to use the Large Sports Equipment Grant to purchase portable goalposts. The total project will cost €6,000. The grant will cover €4,000. I recommend that the full amount of €4,000 be allocated.

It was **proposed** by Councillor M. McCamley **seconded** by Councillor B. Hanaphy. That this Committee recommends that the County Council **APPROVE** of the Sports Funding in the foregoing report.

Signed: **Councillor E. Cabone-Mangan**
Area Chairperson

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 14

FINANCIAL MATTERS

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 14a

OVERDRAFT FACILITY RENEWAL

Report on Overdraft 2026

At its meeting held on the 11th November 2024 the Council approved, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, the securing of overdraft accommodation on the Council's bank account to a limit of €25m for the period 1/1/2025 to 31/12/2025.

While it has not been necessary to avail of this overdraft accommodation to date, it is considered prudent to again seek approval to the securing of overdraft accommodation for the period 1/1/2026 to 31/12/2026.

Accordingly, I recommend that the Council approve, subject to the sanction of the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, the securing of overdraft accommodation on the Council's bank account to a limit of €25m for the period 1/1/2026 to 31/12/2026.

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 15

PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF PROPERTIES

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

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

File Ref: LD 1623

30th October 2025

To: Each Member of the Council

Re: Notice of proposed lease of land at Ballymastone, Donabate, Co. Dublin to Donabate Golf Club CLG, Balcarrick, Co. Dublin

---

It is proposed to grant a lease of land at Ballymastone, Donabate, Co. Dublin, comprising an area of 1,065 square meters approximately as shown outlined in red and hatched in blue on Drawing No. LA-4073-25 dated 25th July 2025 to Donabate Golf Club CLG, Balcarrick, Co. Dublin 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 lease is to allow Donabate Golf Club CLG to realign a fairway to prevent stray golf balls impacting on the greenway being developed by the Council at Ballymastone, Donabate, Co. Dublin.

2. That the property is shown outlined in red and hatched in blue on Drawing No. LA-4073-25 dated 25th July 2025 comprising an area of 1,065 square metres approximately.

3. That Fingal County Council shall grant a lease to Donabate Golf Club CLG for a term of 99 years, to commence on a date to be agreed, following receipt of statutory approval.

4. That the rent shall be in the total amount of €800.00 (eight hundred Euro) per annum, plus VAT if applicable.
5. That the said rent shall be abated to the amount of €1.00 (one Euro) per annum plus VAT (if applicable), provided the site is used for Sporting, Community and Recreational uses only, and for no other purpose.

6. That the rent shall be reviewed at the end of every 5th year and shall be fixed by reference to the increase in the Consumer Price Index.

7. That the rent is to be paid annually in advance.

8. That the lessee shall be responsible for any VAT or stamp duty arising.

9. That the lessee must sign a Deed of Renunciation prior to the signing of the lease.

10. That the lessee shall keep the property in good condition.

11. That the lessee shall obtain Public Liability Insurance indemnifying Fingal County Council in the sum of €6,500,000 (six million, five hundred thousand euro) and Employers Liability Insurance indemnifying Fingal County Council in the sum of €13,000,000 (thirteen million euro) against any and all claims arising from its use of the property and surrounding area/curtilage, and shall provide proof of such insurances to Fingal County Council.

12. That the lessee shall be responsible for all outgoings – rates (if applicable), insurance (to pay the annual premium directly to the insurance company and provide proof of such insurances to Fingal County Council), and any other outgoings, statutory or otherwise, for the duration of the term of the lease from the date of commencement.

13. That the lessee shall ensure that the appropriate Health and Safety legislation is adhered to.

14. That the lessee must seek consent of the Council before undertaking any works, alterations or development, including the erecting of any structure, making any excavation or submitting an application for planning permission. This is to protect the Council's position as lessor and in consideration of good estate management.
15. That the lease can be terminated by either party giving three months' notice in writing.

16. That the lessee shall not sell, assign, grant any sub interests, (with the exception of licence agreements) sub-divide, alienate or part with the possession of the property, without the prior written consent of the Council.

17. That in the event of the lessee failing to comply with any of the terms, conditions, warranties, covenants or the obligations and stipulations herein contained or becoming dissolved or going into liquidation, the Council may revoke this Agreement by giving the lessee notice in writing to that effect or unless otherwise stated in such Notice, this agreement shall cease immediately upon such Notice having been given.

18. That on the expiration or sooner determination of the lease, the lessee shall at their own expense remove all materials not belonging to Fingal County Council (if the Council so require it) and shall leave the property clean and cleared to the satisfaction of the Council.

19. That each party shall be responsible for their own professional fees in this matter.

20. That the lease shall contain all the covenants and conditions normally contained in Council leases of this nature and any other terms and conditions deemed appropriate by the Council's Solicitor.

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

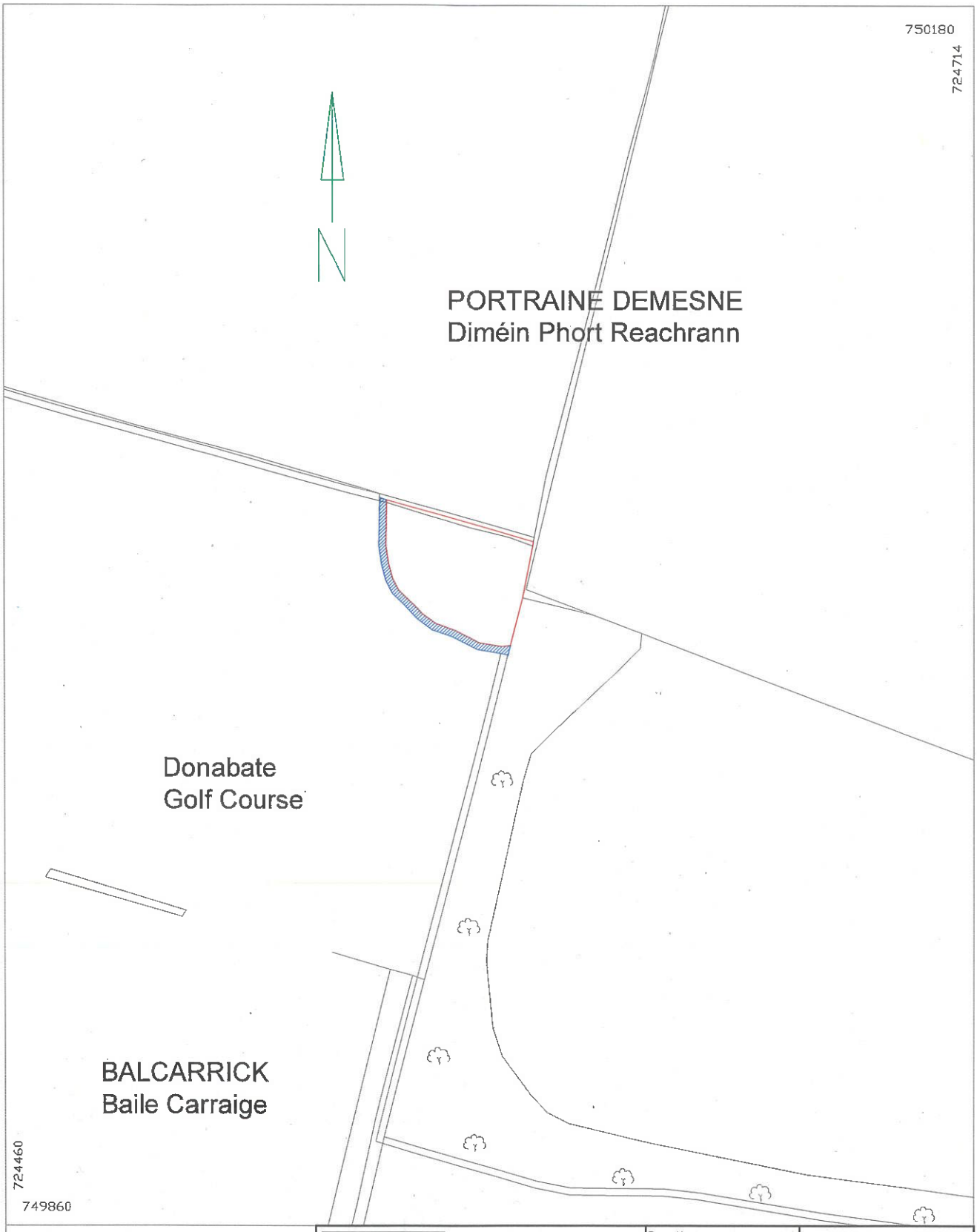
22. All other terms and conditions shall be set out in the legal documentation

The land to be leased was acquired from the Eastern Health Board in 1974 for housing purposes.

Notice is hereby given that a report on the proposed lease was included on the agenda of the Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Area Committee (Services B) meeting which was held on 11th September 2025 and this matter will be included on the Council Agenda for consideration at the meeting of Fingal County Council to be held on Monday, 10th November 2025

PP Natalie Dunne

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



Area of Land delineated by center of red line surrounding the land 957 m2 from Folio DN204742F.

Area of Land hatched and delineated by center of blue line surrounding the land 108 m2 Unregistered lands.

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Project:
Land at Portraine Demesne
Donabate Co Dublin

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Dwg No:	LA-4073-25	O.S.Ref:	
Date:	25 July 2025	Drawn By:	LJM
Scale:	1/1000	Checked:	
Dev. File No:	LD1623	Job No.	SM/073/25
Gross Area :			
Road Area :			
Nett Area :			

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

PROPOSED DISPOSAL OF FEE SIMPLE INTEREST OF DWELLINGS

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

ADDRESS	LESSEE	APPLICANT / PURCHASER	DETAILS OF LEASE	ANNUAL GROUND RENT	PURCHASE OF FEE SIMPLE
18 Westway View, Blanchardstown Dublin 15	John Culleton & Valerie Mooney	Niall & Ciaran Clarke	150 years from 22/06/1977	£0.05 = €0.06 x 59.17 = €3.55	€3.55 +€130.00 = €133.55
34 Lawless Terrace, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin	Joseph Alan Rooney	Alan Rooney	150 years from 29/01/1976	£1.00 = €1.27 x 59.17 = €75.14	€75.14 +€130.00 = €205.14
13 James McCormack Gardens, Sutton, Dublin 13	Mary & Alice Rickard	Lily Cantillon & Fionn Cahill	150 years from 03/03/1969	£0.05 = €0.06 x 59.17 = €3.55	€3.55 +€130.00 = €133.55
56 Seaview Park, Portrane, Co. Dublin	Patrick & Nuala Fogarty	Margaret & Paul Fogarty	150 years from 22/12/1973	£2.60 = €3.30 x 59.17 = €195.26	€195.26 +€130.00 = €325.26
9 Dublin Road, Lusk, Co. Dublin	Colm & Anne Plunkett	Colm Plunkett	150 years from 23/11/1975	£0.05 = €0.06 x 59.17 = €3.55	€3.55 +€130.00 = €133.55

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 16

DECLARATION OF ROADS

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 16a

DECLARATION OF ROADS TO BE PUBLIC ROADS

GREY'S LANE, HOWTH, CO DUBLIN

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

Road Schedule

BC Number – 1807
Taking In Charge – Grey's Lane, Howth.
DED: Howth, TL: Howth

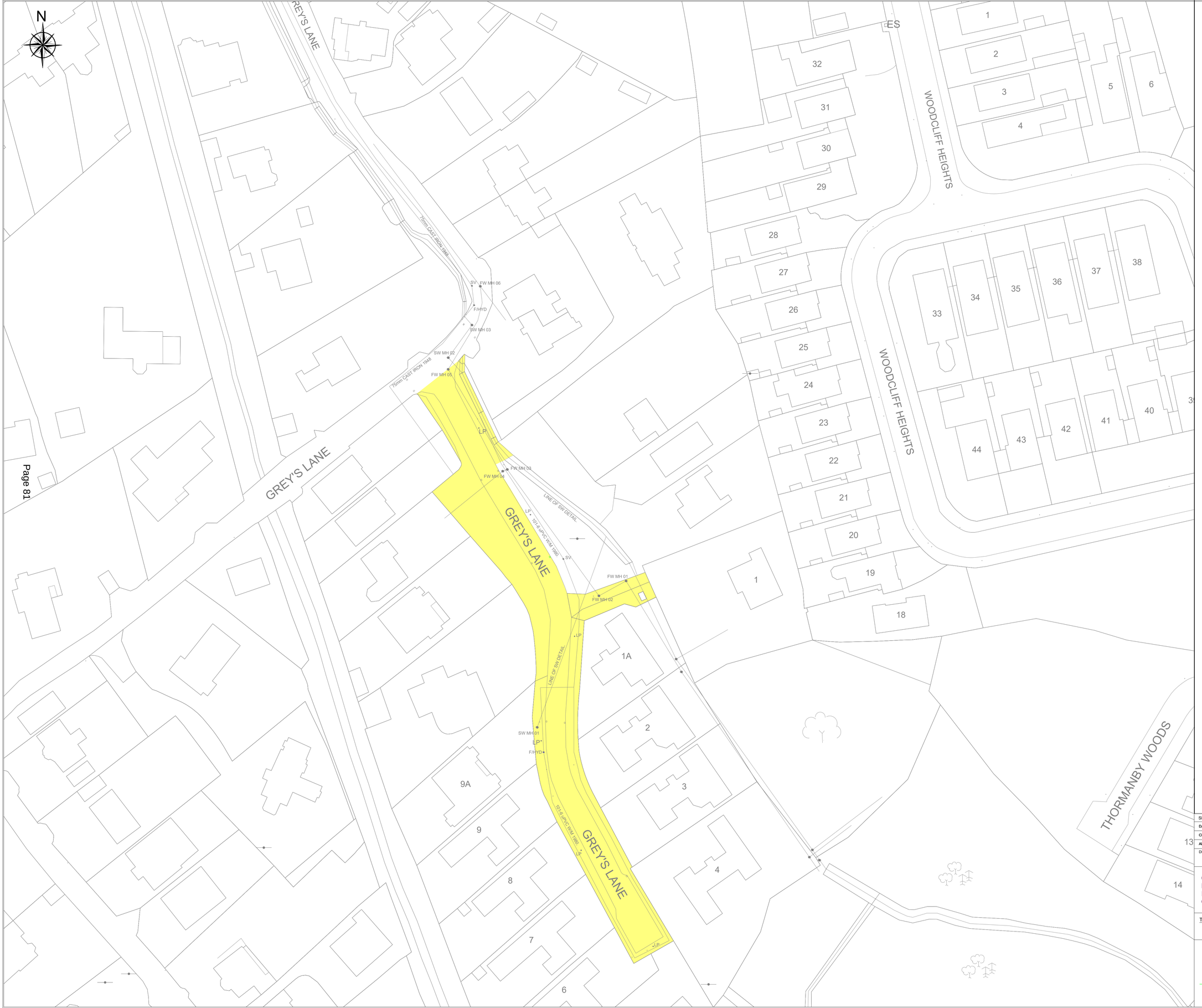
Road Name	Length	Description
Grey's Lane	185 m	From the junction of Grey's Lane outside house "Cruden" Grey's Lane, turn left and head south for 185m to outside No. 6 Grey's Lane to end of junction.
Grey's Lane	24m	Outside No.1A Grey's Lane turn left and head east for 24m to end of junction.
	Total 209 m	

Road Schedule

BC Number – 1807
Taking In Charge – Grey's Lane, Howth.
DED: Howth, TL: Howth

Road Name	Length	Description
Grey's Lane	185 m	From the junction of Grey's Lane outside house "Cruden" Grey's Lane turn left and head south for 185m to outside No. 6 Grey's Lane to end of junction.
Grey's Lane	24m	Outside No.1A Grey's Lane turn left and head east for 24m to end of junction.
	Total 209 m	

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FOUL SEWER				SURFACE WATER SEWER			
MANHOLE NO.	COVER LEVEL	INVERT LEVEL	PIPE DIAMETER	MANHOLE NO.	COVER LEVEL	INVERT LEVEL	PIPE DIAMETER
FW MH 01	87.932	86.232		SW MH 01	89.714		
			XXXX				xxxxxx
FW MH 02	88.132	86.132		SW MH 02	87.122	xxxx	
			XXXX				
FW MH 03	87.617	86.017		SW MH 03	87.043		
			XXXX				
FW MH 04	87.639	86.539					
			XXXX				
FW MH 05	87.194	86.000					
			XXXX				
FW MH 06	87.061	XXXX					

SENIOR ENGINEER: COLIN GALLAGHER

DATE: AUGUST 25	SURVEYED BY:	F MCNeary	ALL FOUL AND SURFACE WATER SEWERS ARE 225mm DIA UNLESS STATED.
CHECKED BY: SHANE HARDING	DRAWN BY:	F MCNeary	SCALED DIMENSIONS T TO BE USED.
APPROVED BY: Martin Byrne	BC.,	1807	LENGTH OF ROADS ARE AS ON THE ATTACHED ROAD SCHEDULE.
DRAWING NUMBER: REV.	SCALE:	1:500 @ A1	WATER MAINS 100mm DIA. UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.
	OS Ref.	2991	

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Inspectorate Division

TAKING IN CHARGE

GREY'S LANE, HOWTH
DED: HOWTH TL: HOWTH

Areas proposed to be taken in charge

Foul Water System proposed to be taken in charge.

Surface Water System proposed to be taken in charge.

Watermains proposed to be taken in charge.

Hydrant

Sluice Valve

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT ON SUBMISSIONS AND OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED ON THE DRAFT OLD SCHOOL HOUSE MASTERPLAN

10th November 2025

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1. Introduction

1.1 Chief Executive's Report on Draft Old School House Masterplan Consultation

This Chief Executive's Report has been prepared to provide a summary of the submissions received in relation to the Draft Old School House Masterplan, to respond to the observations raised in the submissions, and to make any recommendations on the policies and objectives to be included within the finalised Masterplan, taking account of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

1.2 Draft Old School House Masterplan Consultation

The Draft Old School House Masterplan went on public display from 30th June 2025 to 11th August 2025 (inclusive of both dates) at the offices of Fingal County Council at County Hall, Main Street, Swords, County Dublin and at Grove Road, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15 and on the County Council's online consultation portal: https://consult.fingal.ie/en/browse.

A total of 277 no. submissions were received from members of the public and other interested parties in relation to the Draft Old School House Masterplan during the public consultation period. In addition, a submission was received from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (see Section 3 of this report).

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, any proposed recommendations to the Elected Members for amendments to the Draft Old School House Masterplan.
- **Section 3:** A summary of recommendations (if any) to the Elected Members for amendments to the Draft Old School House Masterplan.
- **Section 4:** A list of the individuals and organisations who made submissions on the Draft Old School House Masterplan within the consultation period.

With regard to recommended changes to the text of the Draft Old School House Masterplan set out in Sections 2 and 3, new text is denoted in green italics e.g. ***new text***, with deleted text denoted by red strikethrough e.g. ~~***deleted text.***~~

It should be noted that, if required, editorial changes and updating of the Draft Old School House Masterplan will be carried out and where necessary typographical or graphical errors or discrepancies will be rectified. In addition, all maps and drawings will be updated where relevant to reflect any proposed changes if agreed.

1.4 SEA and AA Screening

It should be noted that all changes as recommended will be subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening and will be set out in a separate Appendix A- '*Screening of recommendations for AA and SEA*.

2. Summary of Issues raised in Submissions / Observations

2.1 Introduction

A total of 277 no. submissions were received during the public display of the Draft Old School House Masterplan between 30th June 2025 and 11th August 2025 (inclusive of both dates). A submission was received from the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

All submissions have been given careful and serious consideration and Fingal County Council wishes to thank all those who engaged in the public consultation process. A list of all parties who made submissions is included in Section 4 of this report.

Section 2 provides a summary of the issues raised in the submissions received during the consultation period.

For each of the issues raised, the Chief Executive will provide a response and will make recommendations to alter the text of the Draft Plan where appropriate.

2.2 Issues raised by State Bodies

A submission was received from two public bodies, namely the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH).

The submission from the EPA provides detailed guidance in relation to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening of the Draft Old School House Masterplan.

The submission from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage makes a number of observations relating to the issue of nature conservation as it relates to the Old School House Masterplan.

The submission states that the Department does not agree that the development of the subject lands in accordance with the Masterplan will have no likely significant environmental effects, particularly in relation to Theme 2 - Natural Heritage.

In this regard, the submission notes the presence of ecologically sensitive habitats and species on the plan lands including trees, hedgerows, scrub and calcareous grasslands as well as badger, bat and bird species. The submission states that the presence of the Royal Canal, a proposed Natural Heritage Area also adds to this ecological value.

It goes on to request that any adverse effects on ecologically significant habitats and species, which may result from the development of the lands in accordance with the Masterplan should be accurately evaluated and measures to mitigate such adverse effects set out in a SEA Environmental Report on the Masterplan, which may then govern their future development.

The Nature Development Area designation under the provisions of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 is also cited in support of the ecological value of the plan lands. In this context, Action 26 of the Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030 is cited which seeks to manage linear calcareous grassland strip along the Canal at Clonsilla with the objective to restore calcareous grassland at this site.

The submission references previous historical surveys undertaken in connection with the preparation of the 2021 Kellystown Local Area Plan that identified bird species, bat roosts, badger setts and calcareous grasslands on the lands, highlighting their biodiversity value.

In addition, reference is also made to a previous Strategic Housing Development (SHD) planning application (ACP ref. TA06F.309622) on the plan lands that was subsequently refused and that included mitigation measures to conserve elements of the calcareous grasslands on the lands.

The submission refers to page 24 of the SEA Screening Report which addresses the issue of calcareous grassland (GS1). The submission also refers to Table 4.3 cited in the Ecological Assessment report at Appendix 6 which the submission states demonstrate the presence of various species typical of calcareous grassland.

The submission makes reference to the SEA Screening Report (p20) which states that, 'Overall, it is considered the proposed residential development of the Masterplan lands will have a minimal impact on the local ecology within the Masterplan lands boundaries and also poses minimal short-term effects on surrounding ecological corridors and the species that use them.' The Department express concerns that this statement could not be verified in the Ecological Assessment Report and associated Appendix A 'Habitat Classification Map' which was not available to view with the Draft Old School House Masterplan documents.

The submission notes the value of trees to support bird and bat species and the high suitability of the Old School House as a bat roost, as evidenced in the Ecological Assessment Report. Concern is expressed that no bat activity surveys were carried out in connection with the Ecological Assessment. The submissions note previous bat surveys undertaken as part of a previous planning application on the lands and as previously referred to by the NPWS in 2021 which recorded the use of the Old School House for bat activity by various bat species.

The submission notes that the mammal surveys of the plan lands carried out in July 2024 did not identify the presence of badgers and badger setts previously recorded on the lands in 2022 and along the northern boundary of the lands, possibly due to dense vegetation and recommends changes in proposed development layouts to ensure the long-term preservation of at least one of these badger setts.

This submission contends that such ecological sensitivity poses significant constraints for the development of the lands but does not wholly oppose residential development on the plan lands. Moreover, the Department seeks to ensure that any adverse effects of the ecologically significant habitats and species which may result from the development of the plan lands based on the provisions of the Masterplan should be accurately evaluated and include mitigation measures to guide future development.

In this regard, the submission recommends that a SEA Environmental Report should be prepared which would include measures to mitigate the potential effects on ecologically

significant habitats and species, that new surveys by experienced botanists and ecologists should be conducted, to inform mitigation measures and that the Masterplan should be revised including adjustments to layout and density of development, to preserve biodiversity elements.

The submission concludes that this would provide for an appropriate quantum of residential development within the Masterplan lands, while allowing the conservation of the most ecologically significant elements of biodiversity present on the plan lands including the adjacent proposed Natural Heritage Area of the Royal Canal.

Chief Executive's Response

The Chief Executive welcomes the submission from the EPA which includes detailed guidance in relation to the SEA process. Full regard was taken of this guidance in the preparation of the Draft Plan, where relevant.

Specifically, it should be noted that the SEA and AA process for the Draft 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.

With regard to the submission from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH), the Chief Executive welcomes the submission but does not accept the assertions that the SEA and ecological assessment process are not sufficient and that the layout or densities provided for should be altered.

Brady Shipman Martin (BSM) was appointed by Fingal County Council to carry out screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and a screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) in respect of the Draft Old School House Masterplan, which is a non-statutory land use plan.

BSM has reviewed the submission in detail and notes that the Department disagrees with the conclusion set out in the SEA Screening report that the implementation of the Masterplan has no real likelihood of having likely significant negative effects on the environment.

BSM notes that screening the Masterplan out for SEA does not mean that mitigation measures may not be required for proposed developments arising out of the implementation of the Masterplan. Any planning application would be accompanied by its own Ecological Impact Assessments which would be most likely to include specific mitigation measures for biodiversity.

While noting the presence of key ecological receptors (KERs) as listed in the Ecological Assessment, and repeated in the Masterplan report, BSM confirmed that the SEA Screening methodology is based on an assessment of the Objectives set out in the Masterplan. In relation to Theme 2 (Natural Heritage) all of the objectives are positive for biodiversity.

With regard to the nature by which the submission questioned the findings of the ecological surveys carried as part of the Masterplan preparation process (which

informed the SEA Screening report), it is important to note that this work was carried out by qualified ecologists employed by ORS, a leading international multi-disciplinary consultancy.

To inform the preparation of the Masterplan, ORS carried out a number of new, dedicated assessments and site-based biodiversity surveys in the second half of 2024 to establish an up-to-date baseline for the subject lands. The results of the surveys and research are set out in the Ecological Assessment document at Appendix 6 to the Masterplan document (with further information provided in the Arboricultural Assessment at Appendix 7).

The information presented in the ORS report comprises the most accurate, detailed and up to date picture of the ecology of the subject site. It supersedes any other sources of historical or out-dated information such as that cited in the DHLGH submission.

Given the detailed nature of the points raised in the submission, the Chief Executive requested ORS to prepare a comprehensive response. This is included in full as Appendix B to this Chief Executive's Report. The ORS response makes the following key points:

- As evidenced by surveys undertaken in the preparation of this Masterplan, including the use of passive infrared cameras (camera traps, no current evidence of badger activity was recorded; former setts appear to have been abandoned following disturbance.
- The lands do not meet Fossitt (2000) criteria for calcareous grassland (GS1); habitats present are predominantly dry meadows and grassy verges (GS2), scrub, and recolonising ground.
- No orchid species were recorded, consistent with the Biodiversity Action Plan objective to restore, rather than conserve, calcareous grassland.
- The main ecological value lies in hedgerows and trees, which provide foraging and roosting opportunities for birds, bats and mammals.
- The Masterplan incorporates measures including retention of trees and hedgerows, bat-sensitive lighting, native planting, and SuDS to mitigate ecological impacts and protect the adjacent Royal Canal pNHA.

The ORS report also acknowledges that the Habitat Classification Map was omitted from Appendix A of the Ecological Assessment in error. This map has is now provided as Appendix C to this Chief Executive's Report and will be included in the final published documents.

Overall, the Chief Executive is satisfied that the SEA and AA process for the Draft Plan has been carried out in accordance with best practice, with full regard to EPA guidance and on the basis of robust professional input.

The work undertaken by BSM and ORS provides the most up-to-date and comprehensive assessment of the site, clearly addressing the issues raised in the Department's submission.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.3 Issues relating to Draft Old School House Masterplan

Issues raised in the submissions can be grouped under the following general headings:

- Public Consultation;
- Growth and Development;
- Built Heritage;
- Natural Heritage; and
- Transport and Movement.

All issues outlined under these general headings are considered to carry equal weight in responding to the issues raised, with no issue given priority over another.

2.3.1 Public Consultation

A number of submissions express concern regarding the timing of the public consultation, during the summer period. The submissions contend that this is not considered an appropriate timing for public display, to allow for full meaningful engagement in relation to the draft plan. One submission welcomed the two-week extension to allow for additional public consultation in response concerns over the timing of display. One submission commends the level of engagement in relation to the draft plan by the general public.

Chief Executive's Response

The preparation of the Old School House Masterplan sought to broadly engage during the preparation of this non statutory Plan. The consultation process included a drop-in session and opportunities to submit observations at draft stage.

The Draft Plan went on public display initially for a period of four weeks, consistent with the timelines for previous, non-statutory local plans which include Framework Plans and Masterplans. The public consultation was also advertised by way of adverts in locally circulating newspaper, social media posts and by engagement with the Public Participation Network (PPN).

It is noted that the timing of public consultation for the Masterplan was influenced by external factors notably the planning and development processes for the Royal Canal Greenway and the DART + West projects, to ensure alignment with these significant transport initiatives and to incorporate relevant design and access considerations. This co-ordination was essential to avoid potential conflicts and to facilitate a more integrated and informed planning outcome for the Draft Masterplan.

In response to the concerns raised regarding the timing of display, the draft plan display period was subsequently extended by a further two additional weeks, bringing the total display period to a total of six weeks, to provide an opportunity for all members of the community to have their say in the making of the draft Plan.

In response to the publication of the Draft Masterplan, 277 no. submissions were received from the public and other interested parties which indicates a high level of public engagement and provides a comprehensive understanding of potential issues and opportunities relating to the plan area.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.3.2 Growth and Development

A number of submissions acknowledge the need for additional housing and generally welcome the Masterplan in this regard, several submissions however, raise concerns regarding the scale and level of new residential development in the Clonsilla area in recent times with perceived deficiencies in supporting infrastructure and the general lack of services and facilities including creches, schools, community and arts and cultural facilities, quality public open spaces as well as the protection of the built and natural heritage assets of the area.

Concerns are also raised in terms of traffic impacts, traffic management and general accessibility as well as a lack of adequate public transport for the area. More specifically concerns are raised regarding the scale of development proposed for the plan lands in the context of these recent developments. In this context, one submission requests the provision of c. 50 housing units on the plan lands only and provision be made for this in the Masterplan.

Submissions express concerns that Clonsilla is deemed to be within the Metropolitan area of the greater Blanchardstown area which puts it at a disadvantage in terms of infrastructure, service and amenity provision.

Some submissions request a co-ordinated approach to the overall planning and development of Clonsilla and to guide new development in the area.

One submission welcomes development of a maximum of four storeys in height within the plan lands, to maximise the potential of the lands while some submissions propose a minimum of one and two storey as the most appropriate heights for the plan lands, given the local context.

Several submissions welcome the proposed building heights of two to three storeys proposed within the Masterplan lands which are considered appropriate to the local context, including adjoining established residential developments.

However, a number, of submissions oppose the provisions within the Masterplan which allows for consideration of increased building heights beyond two and three storeys in the context of the Urban Development and Building Height Guidelines 2018. Submissions contend that such provision in the Masterplan would likely give rise to additional high rise intensive development in the area which is considered inappropriate to the established local context and the sensitivities of the plan lands.

One submission requests that no apartment development should be permitted in the plan lands and provision made for this in the Masterplan, particularly in view of the Government's recent update to the Planning Design Standards for Apartments.

Submissions contend that heights should be consistent with existing established low-rise developments in the area and overall local context. In this regard it is requested that the Masterplan make provision for two and three storeys only, in the form of houses and duplex units, given the environmental sensitivities of the lands, existing natural heritage assets, movement and access constraints and proximity to the Royal Canal. Several submissions acknowledge the need for a bespoke design approach to the development of the plan lands.

One submission welcomes the proposed bespoke residential environment, a mix of residential unit types and sizes appropriate to the local context with a variety of quality and useable open space areas and a universal design approach.

A number of submissions welcome proposals for the provision of a mix of housing including age-friendly housing within the Masterplan lands, to allow existing residents to remain in their existing community, in more appropriate accommodation. Several submissions contend that the plan lands are more suitable to a mix of dwelling types and are opposed to apartment living and provision should be made for this in the Masterplan.

One submission notes that the lands would be a suitable location for an independent living centre offering services for people with disabilities. In this regard, supporting layout and drawings are submitted. Some submissions request the provision of social and affordable housing within the plan lands.

Chief Executive's Response

While the Chief Executive recognises the numerous issues raised in submissions as discussed above, many of these matters do not fall within the direct scope and remit of the Old School House Masterplan which primarily relates to setting out a detailed framework to guide and promote the future development of the plan lands by identifying issues and opportunities and establishing a long term vision and formulating a framework of development objectives for the subject lands.

However, it is important to note, that development in Clonsilla is set against the policies and objectives of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 which identifies strategic spatial planning issues and the vision for development and balanced growth in the county, in tandem with supporting infrastructure.

It is a key focus of the Development Plan to ensure that new development in the County, including in Clonsilla, 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. The Development Plan also includes robust policy and objectives to guide the development of infill sites.

The 'Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlements - Guidelines for Planning Authorities' 2024 emphasises the creation of compact settlements for urban and rural areas, in order, to foster more sustainable forms of development.

The Masterplan lands are residentially zoned lands under the FDP 2023-2029 which adjoin a high-quality public transport corridor and presents an opportunity for compact transport orientated development while having regard to the local context.

The provisions of the Masterplan and specifically Chapter 5 Urban Structure provides a balance of key components which includes appropriate residential development, complementary uses, built heritage preservation, amenity, green infrastructure, and movement.

Specifically, the Masterplan identifies and acknowledges the unique characteristics and sensitivities of the plan lands including the local context and specifically requires a bespoke high quality architectural approach to future development proposals as set out in Chapter 5 Urban Structure of the Masterplan and specifically Section 5.2.

Taking account of the local context, the potential quantum of residential units envisaged is in the region of c. 100 units as set out in Chapter 5 of the Masterplan. However, scope may exist to increase unit numbers where a planning application provides for the creation of a high-quality residential environment and where compliance with the Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlements Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2024 (or update thereof) and requirements of the Masterplan are demonstrated.

In terms of building heights, guidance issued under Section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), includes '*Urban Development and Building Heights - Guidelines for Planning Authorities*' 2018. Specific Planning Policy Requirement 1 (SPPR1) of the Guidelines precludes Planning Authorities from setting blanket numerical limitations on building height.

Notwithstanding, building heights proposed for the plan lands as set out in Chapter 5 Urban Structure of the Masterplan and specifically Section 5.2, have been principally informed by site characteristics and the local context, including the juxtaposition of the Old School House and neighbouring development. It is generally envisaged that buildings will have a height of 2 to 3 storeys. Section 5.2 Building Heights of the Masterplan states that scope may exist for an increase in building heights within the scheme where a planning application demonstrates a high-quality built environment and subject to compliance with the requirements of the Urban Development and Building Height Guidelines 2018 (or any update thereof). This will create a well-structured, liveable and visually attractive residential environment.

A range of exemplars with a bespoke design approach are shown in Chapter 5 which provides summary information regarding, inter alia, unit typologies, context, building height and design approach.

The submissions supporting a mix of residential typologies on the Masterplan lands is welcomed. Section 5.3 Residential Typologies of the Masterplan is explicit in promoting a range of different housing types to cater for different housing needs including age friendly units, which in turn, supports the creation of long-term communities.

In general terms, the Draft Old School House Masterplan further adds to the overarching approach to sustainable growth of Clonsilla as set out in the Development Plan, to create a vibrant village which will support and encourage economic, social and cultural development and provide an attractive, high-quality environment for existing and future residents.

It should also be noted that the provision of additional community facilities within the County is kept under active review and Fingal County Council will support the provision of such facilities where there is an identified need in line with population projections.

2.3.3 Built Heritage

Submissions note the historical role of the Old School House building that contributes to the identity and collective memory of Clonsilla village. Some submissions are concerned regarding plans for demolition of the Old School House building and the absence of a heritage impact assessment to inform proposals for the building.

Submissions request the preservation and restoration of this landmark building and its setting, particularly given the current state of repair of the building. In this regard, submissions require a more robust focus on its preservation in the Masterplan. In this regard, submissions recommended that the Masterplan include an explicit reference stating that any development on the lands should be sustainable and respectful of the importance of the Old School House as a landmark heritage building and its local context.

Some submissions express concerns regarding the private ownership of the Old School House building. The provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 relating to the responsibilities of private owners of protected structures are noted in this regard. One submission notes that Fingal County Council has a duty of care towards the preservation and maintenance of the Old School House building given it is a Protected Structure.

Several submissions oppose the use of the Old School House building for residential use and are specifically concerned regarding any future apartment use within the building. One submission notes that the upper floors could be dedicated to social housing provision. Some submissions are concerned regarding the lack of vision for the Old School house building and a more creative and focused approach to the use of the Old School House building is requested.

Submissions contend that the Old School House Building would be more appropriate for community use, particularly in the context of the level of residential development already permitted in the area, the lack of a dedicated community centre in Clonsilla to support this level of growth as well as the unique historical and architectural attributes

of the building, its social value to the area, its location along the Royal Canal, served by high quality transport links and its integration with the National Famine Way Trail and the planned Royal Canal Greenway.

In this regard, more specific uses are cited for the Old School House building and include, arts, culture, heritage, historic, library, tourism, museum, community meeting spaces, café, theatre, education including a community garden/playground with ecological promotion and awareness as well as active uses including sports and community initiatives. On this basis, submissions promote the 'Canal Cultural Quarter' for this area. One submission notes that the use of the Old School House for such uses would fulfil key objectives of the Fingal Tourism Strategy 2024 – 2029 relating to the growth of tourism within the County.

Submissions express concerns regarding the loss of heritage buildings in Clonsilla in recent times associated with new development as well as the lack of investment by Fingal County Council towards restoration of heritage buildings in the Dublin 15 area. Submissions request that Fingal County Council acquire the Old School House building and restore the building for community use with levies derived from the local area.

One submission expresses concern that the objectives for the Old School House outlined under the previous Fingal Development Plan 2017-2023 for its long-term sustainable use which included a recreational and tourism hub at this location have not been considered in the Masterplan.

One submission contends that residential use risks severing its cultural and social ties to the local area and is contrary to FCC's Heritage Plan 2024-2030 objectives, particularly as it relates to accessible heritage.

In this context, some examples of Fingal County Council owned properties where investment has occurred in terms of restoration and re-use in the County are cited and includes Shackleton Mills, Rush Library, Swords Library and Cultural Quarter, the Casino, Malahide, Newbridge and Ardgillan Demesne and Regional Parks as well as Skerries Mill, Bremore Castle, Balbriggan, Boat House, Loughshinny, the Balbriggan Lifeboat Station and Seamus Ennis Centre, Naul. A national example such as the Battle of the Boyne Visitor Centre is also cited in this regard. One submission cites Lucan House Masterplan led by South Dublin County Council as a reference towards the inclusion of multiple community and cultural uses.

Some submissions request that the Old School House building and its curtilage be zoned CI-Community Infrastructure to maintain the building and its setting for community use.

Submissions contend that such uses would enable the long-term preservation and maintenance of the Old School House building, particularly in view of its current poor condition and would benefit the community as a whole, particularly from a health and well-being perspective. One submission notes that such a community use is particularly prudent for the Old School House Building, in view of the Government's recent update

to the Planning Design Standards for Apartments and the changes to the mandatory requirement for communal and community facilities within apartment schemes. One submission contends that development of the Old School House building should favour a use that would imminently save and protect the integrity of the building.

One submission requests that an archaeological report should accompany the Masterplan and requests that monitoring be put in place for any further development of the lands.

Chief Executive's Response

The Old School House Masterplan was drafted having regard to the provisions of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 (FDP) which supersedes the previous FDP 2017-2023. The FDP 2023-2029 makes provision for the preparation of the Old School Masterplan (MP13.A) on these RA- residentially zoned lands. The Old School House building is a Protected Structure (0700) under the provisions of the Development Plan.

The protection, maintenance and enhancement of the County's built heritage assets is a key strategic objective of the FDP 2023-2029. The Plan contains supportive policy and objectives in this regard, as set out in Chapter 10 Heritage, Culture and Arts. These include policies HCAP1, HCAP3, HCAP8, HCAP9, HCAP10, HCAP11, HCAP21 and HCAP22 and objectives HCAO7 and HCAO11. The Development Plan also supports the implementation of the Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030 which is centred on the protection and promotion of the built heritage of the County.

In the interest of clarity, the Masterplan does not propose the demolition of the existing Old School House Building. In addition, an Architectural Heritage Assessment of the Old School House Building as set out in Appendix 5 and which is appended to this Masterplan, was carried out in May 2025. This assessment provides a sufficient basis to assist the Planning Authority in making an informed decision on the potential impact on the Protected Structure and its setting by providing background information, analysis and supplementary photographic information in formulating Masterplan objectives.

Importantly, the Masterplan is explicit in recognising the significant heritage value of this landmark building, that reflects the architectural, historical and social history of the area and provides a framework for the sustainable long-term preservation and conservation of the building.

The Masterplan within Chapter 3 'Issues and Opportunities' recognises that preserving the building through sensitive restoration and re-use is fundamental to safeguarding its cultural legacy as a landmark feature within Clonsilla, for future generations.

The vision statement for the Masterplan as set out in Chapter 4 'Vision and Objectives lands has been appropriately informed by a detailed analysis of the lands and the existing local context, consideration of identified challenges and opportunities, and alignment with the relevant planning policy and guidance. Specifically,

'The vision for the Old School House Masterplan is to provide the sustainable development of the lands having regard to their unique local setting. The restoration and active re-use of the Old School House building, and the delivery of the Royal Canal Urban Greenway are supported as part of the overall development of the residentially zoned Masterplan lands'

The principal aim as outlined in Chapter 4 'Vision and Objectives' of the Draft Masterplan is to ensure the orderly and sustainable development of the lands, that will create a new residential environment and support the restoration and re-use of the Old School House building.

In this regard, key objectives of the Masterplan within Chapter 4 as they relate to the Old School House building, are explicit in seeking to ensure that the Old School House Building is an integral part of the future sustainable development of the Masterplan lands and fulfils a key role as a landmark feature within the overall development of the plan lands.

Relevant key strategic objectives as follows:

- *Preserve the historical significance of the Old School House building and promote its sensitive restoration;*
- *Old School House building to be to an integral part of the future sustainable development of the Masterplan lands; and*
- *Ensure the future of the Old School House as a landmark feature within the Masterplan lands and local context, enhancing its visibility and accessibility.*

The Draft Masterplan within Chapter 5 'Urban Structure' and specifically Section 5.4 provides a Conservation Plan setting out the key principles of conservation for the Old School House Building as well as the identification of an appropriate use towards its active re-use and long-term sustainability.

Following a detailed assessment of potential uses, residential use was identified as the most viable and sustainable long-term option for the building. Residential use offers a practical means of safeguarding the building by bringing it back into active, viable use.

This approach aligns with national and local policy context which supports the appropriate adaptive and active re-use of heritage buildings having regard to best practise conservation methods. In this regard, relevant key objectives as set out in the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 at Chapter 10 'Heritage, Culture and Arts' include policies, HCAP9, HCAP10 and HCAP13. The key strategic objectives of the FCC Heritage Plan 2024-2030 relating to protection of place and accessible heritage is noted.

While the requests for Fingal County Council to acquire the building for community use and accessible heritage are acknowledged, it is noted that the Old School House building and lands are is currently in private ownership and therefore outside the control of Fingal County Council. The provisions of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended and Section 58 of the Act relating to the responsibilities of private owners of protected structures, is noted, in this regard.

In response to the request to rezone the Old School Building to CI-Community Infrastructure, it is noted that the Masterplan lands are zoned RA-Residential under the current FDP 2023-2029. While this zoning objective supports the development of housing as the primary land use, nevertheless, the zoning objective permits a range of complementary uses including community facilities.

The Chief Executive acknowledges the submissions received which highlight the buildings potential to serve a range of community functions, contributing to social cohesion, wellbeing and local identity, as well as the clear aspiration within the community for the Old School House building to remain in public or community-orientated use.

Should such an application be brought forward for development, the Planning Authority would consider such an application based on the underlying RA zoning objective and associated vision, as well as relevant policy and objectives of the FDP 2023-2029 relating to the protection and enhancement of built heritage as well as the guiding principles of the Masterplan and as they particularly relate to conservation, through the Development Management process.

In recognition of the community's desire to see the Old School House building as a community facility, the text of the Masterplan shall be amended to clarify that a cultural and community use would also represent a suitable use for the Old School House, subject to the need to restore and conserve the building.

It is noted that Chapter 8 Phasing, Implementation and Monitoring of the Masterplan also requires planning applications to clearly demonstrate, inter alia, how proposals will protect the integrity of the Old School House structure during the construction stage while providing for its restoration for a suitable use as well as the protection of the Royal Canal from any detrimental impacts during both construction and operational stages.

Regarding the request for an Archaeological Assessment, Section 10.5.1, Archaeological Heritage, of the FDP 2023-2029 includes a number of policies and objectives which seek the protection, preservation and management of Fingal's archaeological heritage including policy HCAP4 and objective HCAO1. Specifically Objective HCAO11 of the Development Plan seeks to ensure that proposals for large scale developments and infrastructure projects consider the impacts on the archaeological heritage and seek to avoid them. In addition, Chapter 14 of the Development Plan entitled Development Management Standards and specifically Section 14.19.2 Archaeological Heritage includes a number of additional objectives for the protection of archaeological heritage including archaeological impact assessment requirements for new development proposals under objective DMSO169.

The Draft Masterplan at Section 3.2 notes that the future sustainable development of the Masterplan lands will be required to carefully consider the potential effects upon the local built heritage.

Having regard to the above, it is considered that relevant Development Plan provisions, together with the vision, relevant key strategic objectives, design and conservation principles set out in the Masterplan together with proposed recommendations detailed under this section of the report, are sufficiently explicit and robust to protect and enhance the built heritage assets of the plan lands.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

(1) Insert the following text within Section 3.2 - Built Heritage, after the last paragraph on page 15:

It is considered that, having regard to the uses permitted for consideration under the RA – Residential Area zoning objective, a suitable use for the Old School House would include a community use to allow the building to serve as a cultural and community resource for the new housing to be provided on the Masterplan lands but also for the wider area of Clonsilla.

(2) Insert the following text within Section 3.2 – Restoration of the Old School House, after the last paragraph on page 16:

Given the importance of the Old School House to the local community in terms of the identity of the Clonsilla area as a whole, the use of the building for a community or cultural use would be welcomed.

2.3.4 Natural Heritage

Submissions welcome the identification of the unique heritage assets of the lands together with the acknowledgement of the sensitives of the plan lands and surrounding local context. Submissions note the existing flora and fauna within the plan lands as evidenced in the Ecological Assessment Report which is appended to the Masterplan at Appendix 6. Some submissions express concerns that impact on natural heritage assets within the lands cannot be described as minimal and short-term.

One submission notes that natural heritage assets greatly enhance the aesthetic value of new development as well as established development and on this basis, these assets should remain a prominent feature of the Masterplan.

Several submissions express concerns regarding the loss of valuable biodiversity and destruction of habitats and ecological corridors, in view of plan proposals for the future development of the lands. Submissions consider plan proposals including the scale of development proposed in the Masterplan is contrary to FDP 2023-2029 policy and objectives relating to the protection of natural heritage assets and the advancement of a green infrastructure network for the County.

Several submissions request the protection and enhancement of the natural heritage assets within the plan lands as a priority, including its mature trees, hedgerows, rare calcareous grasslands, ecological corridors, including the Royal Canal, a proposed Natural Heritage Area and its associated species, in accordance with relevant policy and objectives at national, regional and local level including the FDP 2023-2029, the Fingal

Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030 and Fingal Climate Action Plan 2024-2029, relating to the protection of natural heritage assets, the advancement of a green infrastructure network and the provision of public open space.

Some submissions request the retention of the undeveloped lands for use as a public linear park and integrated with active travel linkages, that will form a valuable part of the green infrastructure network of the County and benefit Clonsilla from an environmental perspective in accordance with relevant Development Plan objectives.

Submissions contend that the Masterplan does not provide for robust protection of natural heritage assets of the area including the Royal Canal and associated trees and hedgerows including the provision of compensatory measures for the loss of habitat. In this regard, submissions recommend that explicit provision is included in the Masterplan relating to the protection of mature trees and in particular, on the northern and southern boundaries of the plan lands. It is also recommended that dry meadow and grassy verges be given specific protection in the Masterplan to avoid destruction in any new development proposals, to support local biodiversity and eco-systems.

Submissions also refer to previous planning applications on the lands that were refused for a number of reasons including environmental sensitivities of the lands and lack of ecological assessment. Submissions express concerns regarding the loss of calcareous grasslands (GS1), particularly, in the interim period between previous plannings applications on the lands and the current environmental assessments and requests the replacement and enhancement of these grasslands with provision made for this in the Masterplan.

Submissions contend that the plan lands are environmentally sensitive and a vital habitat for species including protected species, including bats and badgers. One submission requests a more detailed bat survey. Submissions also request further assessment to identify any traces of a badger sett or presence of badgers, a protected species, on the lands in collaboration with the National Parks and Wildlife Service. One submission requests comprehensive ecological surveys and monitoring for flora and fauna, to be carried out at different intervals, prior to any development on the lands.

A number of submissions contend that a balance is required between development of the lands and the protection and enhancement of these valuable natural heritage assets which contribute to the overall character of the area and which form part of the valuable local eco-system, in the interests of environmental sustainability, community well-being, aesthetic value and cultural significance of the area.

Submissions contend that ecological preservation can be successfully integrated into the redevelopment the Old School House lands based on best practise methods. In this regard, submissions request the integration of a Biodiversity Management Plan that preserves native grassland, mature trees, and wildlife corridors as well as the planting of native species and the installation of bat boxes or eco-hedging to reinforce existing biodiversity within the plan lands. Submissions also suggest that existing natural

heritage assets can be promoted through ecological education and awareness including a community eco-scheme that integrates the Irish language. One submission notes examples of developments where lessons can be learned to adequately mitigate for new development in the Masterplan lands.

Chief Executive's Response

The Draft Masterplan was drafted having regard to the relevant provisions of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 relating to the protection and enhancement of the County's natural heritage.

The Development Plan acknowledges the importance of protecting the natural environment, biodiversity and ecosystems. The Plan includes various objectives for the protection and enhancement of the natural environment and its rich and diverse biodiversity as well the development of a green infrastructure network in Fingal, as set out in Chapter 9 Green Infrastructure and Natural Heritage.

The Development Plan acknowledges that trees and hedgerows provide valuable amenity and wildlife habitats while fulfilling an important role in the improvement of air quality in urban areas.

Tree and hedgerow protection is a key aim of the Development Plan and is extensively addressed by a range of policy and objectives in Section 9.6.9 of the Plan, including policy GINP21, GINHP22 and Objective GINO45.

'The Forest of Fingal-A Tree Strategy for Fingal' sets out the Council's policy for the planning, establishment, protection and management of trees and associated plants, individually and within small groups within the county.

The Development Plan also acknowledges that maintaining and protecting the County's natural environment and its biodiversity and advancing a green infrastructure network, plays a key role in climate adaptation and mitigation.

In addition, Chapter 14 of the Development Plan entitled Development Management Standards and specifically Sections 14.18.1 Tree Policy and 14.18.2 Natural Heritage includes a number of additional objectives for the protection and enhancement of natural assets within the County including the advancement of green infrastructure networks and associated requirements for future development proposals.

To inform the preparation of the Masterplan, a number of new environmental assessments were carried out to ensure the most up to date baseline, this included an Ecological Assessment at Appendix 6 and Arboricultural Assessment at Appendix 7, that was carried out in July 2024 and which accompanies the Masterplan.

In the context of natural heritage protection and based on the findings of these assessments, the Masterplan as set out in Chapter 4 'Vision and Objectives' is explicit in seeking to protect the unique setting of the plan lands and fostering its distinct natural heritage assets.

'The vision for the Old School House Masterplan is to provide the sustainable development of the lands having regard to their unique local setting. The restoration and active re-use of the Old School House building, and the delivery of the Royal Canal Urban Greenway are supported as part of the overall development of the residentially zoned Masterplan lands'

Key specific strategic objectives which are explicit in the protection of natural heritage assets within the plan lands, include the following:

- *Proposals should seek to achieve a high level of environmental quality on the Masterplan lands;*
- *Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030 and Fingal Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 actions /objectives to be considered within future development proposals;*
- *Ensure the retention of existing trees and hedgerows where possible in order to protect the biodiversity value of the lands; and*
- *Promote the planting of native tree and shrub species to support local biodiversity and provide natural screening for future development.*

The Masterplan at Chapter 3 'Issues and Opportunities' is also explicit in acknowledging the Royal Canal, a proposed Natural Heritage Area (pHNA), located within the Masterplan area which is regarded as an important protected structure and key ecological feature, providing an opportunity for the development of the Royal Canal Urban Greenway.

The Masterplan is also explicit within Chapter 4 'Vision and Objectives' in its requirement that any planning application for new development on the Masterplan lands must have regard to the natural heritage of the area and ensure proposals appropriately integrate into the local context.

Chapter 4 of the Masterplan sets out the development option which has been achieved through appraising the vision and objectives set out within the plan. The formulation and key components of the Development Option are illustrated at Figures 4.3 and 4.4 and is cognisant of the impact of proposals on natural heritage assets, which have been fully considered.

Chapter 5 and specifically Section 5.2 is also explicit in ensuring that the built form that will come forward must ensure compatibility with adjacent land uses and local context while integrating with the Masterplan land's unique natural and built heritage characteristics. The Masterplan also acknowledges that the constraints associated with the lands will require the delivery of a bespoke residential design.

Specifically, Chapter 7 'Green Infrastructure' of the Masterplan includes a Landscaping Strategy that was prepared on the basis of the findings of the Ecological Assessment at Appendix 6 and the Arboricultural Assessment at Appendix 7.

Specifically, the Arboricultural Assessment includes a Tree Survey of existing trees on the lands. Appendix 4 of this report identifies the categories of trees within the plan lands, which are predominantly located on the northern and southern boundaries. This

report makes recommendations according to category which will inform any future development proposals on the lands. For example, the majority of the trees within the plan lands are Category B, of moderate quality, located primarily on the northern and southern boundaries of the plan lands and where retention is to be prioritised in any future development proposals. A lesser number of trees located on the northern and southern boundaries of the plan lands are deemed Category A, of high quality and the avoidance of removal of these trees is recommended in this report, in the context of any future development proposals. This report also sets out mitigation and protection measures for existing trees in the event of development proposals. Chapters 5 'Urban Structure' and Fig. 5.3 shows the integration of proposed land uses with existing trees on the lands.

Overall, the Landscaping Strategy as set out in Chapter 7 of the Masterplan seeks to provide for a high-quality residential environment that integrates natural heritage assets, open space, and ecological networks. Specifically, this strategy seeks to prioritise the retention of existing natural features such as trees and hedgerows, while enhancing existing green infrastructure assets through additional native planting and sustainable drainage. Proposed landscaping details are illustrated at Fig's. 7-1 to 7-3.

Chapter 7 'Green Infrastructure' also acknowledges the Royal Canal which presents a unique opportunity to reinforce the plan land's identity through soft landscaping works and that respects and enhances the setting of this Protected Structure and canal corridor.

Chapter 8 Phasing, Implementation and Monitoring of the Masterplan requires planning applications to clearly demonstrate, inter alia, how proposals will ensure the protection of the natural environment and its biodiversity and where possible its enhancement.

It is noted that the Ecological Assessment Report at Appendix 6 did not determine any habitats that require special protection, such as Annex I habitats. In addition, no GS1 calcareous grasslands were identified.

Based on the findings of the Ecological Assessment at Appendix 6, the Masterplan avoids placing structures where bat roost potential could be a factor in bat disturbance or destruction of habitat and as stated in Chapter 7 'Green Infrastructure' of the Masterplan. This chapter also provides for best practise methods towards the preservation of bat species during construction and operational phases of development.

The Masterplan within Chapter 7 also states that by integrating these practices into lighting design and implementation, it can significantly reduce the adverse effects of artificial lighting on bats, supporting their conservation and the broader ecological balance.

Regarding concerns over the absence of badgers and badger setts, Section 4.5.2 of the Ecological Assessment Report at Appendix 6 states that no badger setts or other nesting places of mammals were identified on the lands.

As a non-statutory land use plan, the Masterplan has been screened for the requirement for SEA under the requirements of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011. The Masterplan has been considered in respect of the SEA screening criteria set out in Schedule 1 of S.I. No. 435 of 2004, as amended by S.I. No. 200 of 2011, and the findings are set out in Section 6 and Appendix 1of this report. It is considered, on the basis of this exercise, it is stated that the implementation of the Masterplan has no real likelihood of having likely significant negative effects on the environment.

It is noted that new environmental assessments will form part of any future planning application to inform any future development proposals on the lands, given the indicative nature of the plan proposals.

Having regard to the above, it is considered that relevant Development Plan provisions, together with the vision, relevant key strategic objectives and urban design, landscaping and green infrastructure principles set out in the Draft Masterplan, are sufficiently robust to protect and enhance the natural heritage assets of the plan lands.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

2.3.5 Transport and Movement

Submissions welcome the focus on the incorporation of pedestrian and cyclist-friendly active travel proposals into the Masterplan. Submissions also contend that any development of the lands should prioritise the safety of vulnerable road users, ensuring dedicated footpaths, permeability, safe crossings, and clear demarcation between road users. One submission requests segregated pedestrian and cycles paths to avoid conflict with car users within the plan area.

Submissions highlight the importance of integrating the Royal Canal Greenway Project with the development of the plan lands to facilitate active travel. In this regard, submissions require clarity on the how development within the Masterplan lands will integrate with strategic active travel and transport infrastructure projects with specific reference to the pedestrian bridge associated with the permitted Dart + West Scheme and the planned Royal Canal Greenway.

Some submissions welcome proposals to explore potential new linkages from established areas to the Masterplan lands. In this context, submissions request clarity that any access from the plan lands to the Aldi development lands would be strictly limited to pedestrian and cycle access only. Some submissions are opposed to any vehicular access from the plan lands through the Aldi development lands due to traffic generation and safety concerns.

One submission notes that Lambourne residents oppose any plans for enhanced permeability through their development. One submission contends that any proposals for new permeable links through established development areas would require public consultation.

A number of submissions note the constrained nature of the Porterstown Road which is proposed as the main vehicular access to the plan lands, particularly in the context of the potential scale of development as set out in the Masterplan and would likely give rise to additional traffic generation and pedestrian safety concerns.

Submissions also express concerns that traffic generation will be exacerbated on Porterstown Road and the wider area of Clonsilla, in the context of the proposed level crossing closures on the Porterstown Road, as a result of the permitted Dart + West scheme with safety implications for pedestrians.

Submissions contend that a co-ordinated approach to traffic management is required and that planned development in the adjoining area should be considered in tandem with the development of the Masterplan lands.

A number of submissions consider the proposed car parking standards for the area are inadequate, notwithstanding active travel and public transport provision for the area and will likely give rise to additional traffic congestion on the Porterstown Road, with safety implications for pedestrians and impede emergency vehicle movements.

Chief Executive's Response

The Masterplan aims to balance the needs of residents and visitors while promoting sustainable transportation options, aligning with the principles of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 and the appropriate national level planning policy guidance.

The Council welcomes submissions received in relation to the importance of providing an integrated network of active travel infrastructure which, if implemented, would have a transformative positive impact in terms of improved connectivity and accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists, linking residential areas and services / amenities within Clonsilla and the wider area.

Chapter 6 Transport and Movement Strategy of the Masterplan seeks to create low traffic home zones and shift the orientation from private cars to pedestrians and cyclists with proposals for permeable connections to services and amenities beyond the plan lands, including integration with the planned Royal Canal Greenway.

The recent Clonsilla Framework Plan also proposes a range of transport related improvements including proposals for the enhancement of pedestrian and cyclist facilities on Porterstown Road.

The plan lands also adjoin the high-quality transport corridor of the permitted Dart +West Scheme. The permanent closure of the level crossing on Porterstown Road to

vehicular traffic as part of the approved DART + West project with pedestrian and cyclist access maintained through the construction of a new bridge is acknowledged. The approved Dart + West scheme includes alternative traffic management measures in response to proposed level crossing closures in the area.

The focus on proposed home zones and active travel proposals set out in the masterplan as well as transport related improvements as set out in the Clonsilla Framework Plan together with the location of the lands adjoining a high quality public transport corridor and permitted Dart + West scheme and its proximity to the planned Royal Canal Greenway, will significantly benefit the plan lands from a connectivity and movement perspective.

Given the proximity of the plan lands to an adjoining high-quality public transport corridor, the plan lands are located within Zone 1 for the purposes of car parking provision as set out in the FDP 2023-2029. This approach allows greater flexibility in the application of car parking standards on sites in areas with varying levels of road and public transport provision.

The Masterplan seeks to provide an integrated network of continuous and safe pedestrian and cyclist links through the plan lands that will connect with services and amenities beyond the plan lands as set out in Section 6.2 of the Masterplan. The Royal Canal Greenway will also offer a significant amenity for cyclists, providing an off-road route to Dublin City Centre and beyond. Fig. 6.4 shows the potential proposed connections from the plan lands to the planned Royal Canal Greenway.

In the interests of clarity, Fig 6.3 of the Masterplan shows an indicative pedestrian/cyclist connection from the plan lands to the proposed mixed retail and residential development lands to the north, to provide connectivity to amenities on the Clonsilla Road, including public transport services. It is also noted that the text as set out in Section 6.2 'Connection with the External Network' is explicit in this regard.

It is also noted that no future permeable linkages from the plan lands through to the Lambourne residential development are proposed in the Masterplan. It is noted that it is an objective of the Masterplan to assess the feasibility of new active travel linkages with the Village and lands adjoining the Old School House lands.

It should be noted that although the Old School House Masterplan provides the basis for identified active travel provision, any new potential links will require further development with detailed design expertise and opportunity for stakeholder consultation on a project-by-project basis prior to implementation.

Furthermore, it should be noted final design proposals will be required to demonstrate compliance with design safety standards for all road users.

The planned Royal Canal Greenway and the permitted Dart + West represents major investments in sustainable transport and active travel infrastructure for the area.

The Royal Canal Greenway scheme will provide a high-quality urban greenway to facilitate leisure and commuter pedestrian and cycling trips along the 8km section between the 12th Lock to the Fingal's boundary at Leixlip.

The scheme will connect into the existing Greenway at the 12th Lock and will form a strategic part of the GDA Cycle Network and the Galway-Dublin Greenway. The route is envisaged to become a key part of the local transport network providing enhanced connectivity. Fingal County Council is advancing this project which is currently at design stage. On completion of the preliminary design, all supporting documents including the Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be prepared for a planning application to An Bord Pleanála which is envisaged later in 2025.

There has been ongoing engagement between relevant internal departments within Fingal County Council to ensure a co-ordinated and integrated approach between the preparation of the Draft Masterplan and the planning and design of the proposed Royal Canal Greenway.

In relation to new public transport services including the permitted Dart + West, the provision of public transport and supporting ancillary infrastructure is the responsibility of the NTA and other transport providers such as TII and Irish Rail. Fingal County Council liaises on an ongoing basis with key transport providers in the design, planning and construction phases of strategic transport schemes including the permitted Dart + West to achieve sustainable outcomes.

The preparation of the Draft Old School House Masterplan has had due regard to the planning and design phases of these two significant infrastructure projects within the plan area. To ensure a co-ordinated and integrated approach, the Masterplan has been developed in a manner that complements and supports these strategic initiatives, aligning proposed land-uses, access arrangements and landscaping within the evolving transport context.

Any new development proposals on the subject lands will also be subject to a detailed Traffic Impact Assessment which will include the examination of traffic impacts in the wider area.

Chief Executive's Recommendation

No change.

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 Old School House Masterplan.

In the interests of clarity, the recommendations are presented in the order they would appear in the Draft Masterplan document. In addition, each recommendation has been identified according to the specific section of the Draft Masterplan to which it relates.

Chief Executive's Recommendation (1) – Section 3.2 Built Heritage

Insert the following text within Section 3.2 - Built Heritage, after the last paragraph on page 15:

It is considered that, having regard to the uses permitted for consideration under the RA – Residential Area zoning objective, a suitable use for the Old School House would include a community use to allow the building to serve as a cultural and community resource for the new housing to be provided on the Masterplan lands but also for the wider area of Clonsilla.

Chief Executive's Recommendation (2) – Section 3.2 Restoration of the Old School House

Insert the following text within Section 3.2 – Restoration of the Old School House, after the last paragraph on page 16:

Given the importance of the Old School House to the local community in terms of the identity of the Clonsilla area as a whole, the use of the building for a community or cultural use would be welcomed.

4. List of Amendments in Response to Motions at ACM

The Draft Old School House Masterplan was discussed as a headed item (Item 19) at the Blanchardstown, Mulhuddart, Castleknock and Ongar (BMCO) Area Committee Meeting (ACM) on 6th November 2024.

Prior to the meeting, a Draft Chief Executive's Report was circulated to Members which contained a total of nine draft Chief Executive's recommendations. At the ACM, a total of seven additional motions were tabled relating directly to seven of the nine the draft Chief Executive's Recommendations. A further motion was submitted in relation to a requirement to carry out ecological surveys in advance of development.

As all of these motions were agreed by the Elected Members present at the ACM, it is recommended that the text of each ACM Recommendation listed below, will be incorporated into the final Masterplan document.

ACM Recommendation (1) – Table 3.2

Amend Table 3-2 Restoration of the Old School House, page 17 as follows:

- Potentially realising ***and promoting*** its restoration for a new ***community/cultural use*** ~~**or residential use**~~ ***if appropriate***.

ACM Recommendation (2) – Section 4.1 Vision Statement

Amend the following text in Section 4.1 Vision Statement, page 18 to read:

The principal aim of the Masterplan is to ensure the orderly and sustainable development of the lands that will create a new residential environment and ***promote*** the restoration and ~~**residential**~~ ***appropriate*** use of the Old School House building ***for uses including community/cultural or childcare***.

ACM Recommendation (3) – Section 5.1 Built Heritage

Amend the following text in Section 5.1 Built Heritage, page 22 to read:

The Old School House (Protected Structure) will be restored and brought back into active use for ***community/cultural*** ~~**a residential**~~ ***use*** *as part of the sustainable development of the lands.*

ACM Recommendation (4) – Table 5.1 Built Heritage

Amend the following text in Table 5.1 Built Heritage, page 23 to read:

Promote the restoration/reuse of former school building for ***community/cultural*** ~~**or residential**~~ use. Development proposals will not impact the integrity of any Protected Structure.

ACM Recommendation (5) – Figure 5-3

Amend Figure 5-3 on page 24 as follows.

- Insert text to read:

Sensitive Restoration of OSH to ~~**Housing**~~ ***Community/Cultural Facility***.

ACM Recommendation (6) – Section 5.4 Potential and Appropriate Uses

Amend the following text within Section 5.4, subsection, Potential and Appropriate Uses, on page 30, to read:

Given the location of proposed residential buildings along with amenity space in the area of the Old School House building, it is deemed appropriate to develop the Old School House building for ~~**residential use**~~ ***a community/cultural use to serve the Clonsilla area***.

The restoration of the Old School House ***as a community/cultural facility*** will treat the built heritage in a similar way, forming a heritage inspired backdrop to new residential buildings.

The degraded nature of the building fabric, particularly the need to reconstruct much of the interior, may in principle allow for its redevelopment *as a* ***cultural/community facility***. ~~**single residence or as several residential units.**~~

ACM Recommendation (7) – Section 8.2 Implementation

Amended the following text within Section 8.2, subsection Implementation, on page 43 to read:

- Protect the integrity of the Old School House structure during the construction stage while providing for promoting its restoration for a suitable ~~**residential**~~ ***community/cultural use***.

The Masterplan promotes the restoration ~~**and residential use**~~ of the Old School House and requires that the structure form an integral part of the overall development.

ACM Recommendation (8) – Section 8.2, Implementation

Add the following additional text to second bullet point in 8.2, p.43 to read:

- Ensure the protection of the natural environment and its biodiversity (and where possible its enhancement), ***through a comprehensive ecological assessment incorporating specialist surveys in relation to badgers, bats, flora and fauna in advance of development.'***

5. List of Submissions Received

The table below lists the submissions received in relation to the Draft Old School House Masterplan. 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/37176/submissions

Submission Reference	Name
FIN-C850-1	Emer and Mark Hilliard
FIN-C850-2	Monica Green
FIN-C850-3	Ian Lennon
FIN-C850-4	Lorraine Corcoran
FIN-C850-5	EPA
FIN-C850-6	Martina Donnelly
FIN-C850-7	John Henry Donnelly
FIN-C850-8	Rose Marie Ramdenee
FIN-C850-9	Marie Cahill
FIN-C850-10	Paula Curtin
FIN-C850-11	Brian McKenna
FIN-C850-12	Marie-A E
FIN-C850-13	St Mochta's Residents Association
FIN-C850-14	Philip Lynam
FIN-C850-15	Toni Kelly
FIN-C850-16	Paul Walker
FIN-C850-17	Kavanagh
FIN-C850-18	Stephen Gray
FIN-C850-19	Nicole Pallin
FIN-C850-20	B Kennefick
FIN-C850-21	Karen Donnelly
FIN-C850-22	Gillian Mc Crossan
FIN-C850-23	Caroline ORourke
FIN-C850-24	Rhona Kavanagh
FIN-C850-25	Anna Lloyd
FIN-C850-26	Rachel Byrne
FIN-C850-27	Jonathan McNulty
FIN-C850-28	Margaret Traynor
FIN-C850-29	Nicola O' Gorman
FIN-C850-30	Ana Faerman
FIN-C850-31	Valerie Kenny
FIN-C850-32	Melissa Guy
FIN-C850-33	Ursula Hughes
FIN-C850-34	Niamh Gavin
FIN-C850-35	Gemma Gormley
FIN-C850-36	Carol McNulty
FIN-C850-37	Leopold Chmielewski
FIN-C850-38	Brenda Byrne
FIN-C850-39	Brian Lynch

Submission Reference	Name
FIN-C850-40	John Brogan
FIN-C850-41	Sinead McCaughey
FIN-C850-42	Aaron Connolly
FIN-C850-43	Louise O Farrell
FIN-C850-44	Rocio Bayod Crespo
FIN-C850-45	Barbara Gilleran
FIN-C850-46	Edwina Hogan
FIN-C850-47	Shane Hollywood
FIN-C850-48	Joan Lenihan Camacho
FIN-C850-49	Sally Downing
FIN-C850-50	Cathy Oneill
FIN-C850-51	Bernard Coughlan
FIN-C850-52	David Hughes
FIN-C850-53	Edele H
FIN-C850-54	Nilofar Makhani
FIN-C850-55	Gillian Egan
FIN-C850-56	Joyce Sharkey
FIN-C850-57	Ross Boyd
FIN-C850-58	C McMorrow
FIN-C850-59	James Duffy
FIN-C850-60	Jenny Ackermann
FIN-C850-61	Aishling Begley Begley
FIN-C850-62	Grainne Kealy
FIN-C850-63	Dermot Downey
FIN-C850-64	Clare Sharkey
FIN-C850-65	Maeve O' Connor
FIN-C850-66	Z Major
FIN-C850-67	Riain Mac Giolla Phádraig
FIN-C850-68	Elaine Quinn
FIN-C850-69	Chris Byrne
FIN-C850-70	Mary Greene
FIN-C850-71	Tom Murray
FIN-C850-72	Satah Greenbyrne
FIN-C850-73	Marie Cahill
FIN-C850-74	Brian Hogan
FIN-C850-75	Clair Rooney Dolan
FIN-C850-76	Sarah Buckley
FIN-C850-77	Jean Boyd
FIN-C850-78	Dolores McAllorum
FIN-C850-79	D R
FIN-C850-80	Teresa GriffithForan
FIN-C850-81	Brenda Mullins
FIN-C850-82	Aisling Devlin
FIN-C850-83	Louise O Neill
FIN-C850-84	Desmond Brown
FIN-C850-85	Richard Stephenson
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Submission Reference	Name
FIN-C850-87	Paula Murray
FIN-C850-88	Tofiq Golkhaw
FIN-C850-89	Jennifer Kavanagh
FIN-C850-90	Samantha Nolan
FIN-C850-91	Catherine Aarkvisla
FIN-C850-92	Bláthnaid ní Ghréacháin
FIN-C850-93	Michelle Madden
FIN-C850-94	Shashi Singam
FIN-C850-95	Hima Bhamidipati
FIN-C850-96	Philip G
FIN-C850-97	Sean McGeady
FIN-C850-98	Ciaran Heneghan
FIN-C850-99	Mihhail Sapovalov
FIN-C850-100	Matthew Burge
FIN-C850-101	Genna Sherlock
FIN-C850-102	Esther Gray
FIN-C850-103	Eimear Morrissey
FIN-C850-104	Pauline Hilliard
FIN-C850-105	James O'Carroll
FIN-C850-106	Giuseppe Caliciotti
FIN-C850-107	Jim Nolan
FIN-C850-108	Bernard Harbor
FIN-C850-109	Peter Mc Nally
FIN-C850-110	Michelle Fay
FIN-C850-111	Kotryna Cikanaviciute
FIN-C850-112	Maria Vaquer
FIN-C850-113	Lisa Raftery
FIN-C850-114	Joan Duffy
FIN-C850-115	Ciara Holmes
FIN-C850-116	Donal Lynch
FIN-C850-117	Bernadene Byrne
FIN-C850-118	Nat Mueirol
FIN-C850-119	Caroline Barr
FIN-C850-120	Laoise Nugent-Burke
FIN-C850-121	Alan Myles
FIN-C850-122	Jacek Zalawa
FIN-C850-123	Carmel Gleeson
FIN-C850-124	Derek Tobin
FIN-C850-125	Rosaleen Fagan
FIN-C850-126	Tanya Greene
FIN-C850-127	Amy Kealy
FIN-C850-128	Aileen Finlay
FIN-C850-129	Shane Moore
FIN-C850-130	Jon Dungan
FIN-C850-131	A Grant
FIN-C850-132	Tommy Mc Nally
FIN-C850-133	Tracy Richardson

Submission Reference	Name
FIN-C850-134	Deirdre Barry
FIN-C850-135	Clonsilla Tidy Towns
FIN-C850-136	Jean Murray
FIN-C850-137	Sinead Reid
FIN-C850-138	Paul Cecchetti
FIN-C850-139	Niamh Cribbin
FIN-C850-140	Sinéad Henegan
FIN-C850-141	Lueen Toner
FIN-C850-142	Edward Martin
FIN-C850-143	Elena Brunton
FIN-C850-144	Peter Gray
FIN-C850-145	Martin Callanan
FIN-C850-146	Ian Reid
FIN-C850-147	Vivienne Hamilton
FIN-C850-148	Ruth McCabe
FIN-C850-149	Shane Hulgraine
FIN-C850-150	Colm Sharkey
FIN-C850-151	Andrew Marsh
FIN-C850-152	Caitlin McCarthy
FIN-C850-153	Maria Alexiuc
FIN-C850-154	James Clarke
FIN-C850-155	Kirkpatrick Rockfield Coolmine Residents Association (KRCRA)
FIN-C850-156	Sarah Errity
FIN-C850-157	Chris Moore
FIN-C850-158	Rob O'Toole
FIN-C850-159	Michelle Breathnach
FIN-C850-160	Roisin Casey
FIN-C850-161	Joseph O'Connor
FIN-C850-162	Caoimhe Doyle
FIN-C850-163	Steve Moroney
FIN-C850-164	Niamh O'Malley
FIN-C850-165	Andrew Jarrett
FIN-C850-166	Mairead Fennelly
FIN-C850-167	Freda Harbron
FIN-C850-168	Kathy-Anne Brennan
FIN-C850-169	Darren Fayne
FIN-C850-170	Bozena Guillou
FIN-C850-171	Rhonda Hickey
FIN-C850-172	Therese Moran
FIN-C850-173	Clonsilla and Porterstown Heritage Society
FIN-C850-174	Deirdre Donovan
FIN-C850-175	Lambourn Residents Association
FIN-C850-176	Barbara Flynn-Franzoni
FIN-C850-177	Blanchardstown Center for Independent Living
FIN-C850-178	Cliona Brady
FIN-C850-179	Martin Clavin
FIN-C850-180	Gary Connolly

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FIN-C850-183	Ambrose Clarke
FIN-C850-184	Marcello Bruno
FIN-C850-185	Joanne Kelly-Quinn
FIN-C850-186	Seamus O Cearra
FIN-C850-187	Marion O'Haire
FIN-C850-188	Eamonn Moran
FIN-C850-189	Charles Hulgraine
FIN-C850-190	Frances McClelland
FIN-C850-191	Maria Murray
FIN-C850-192	K Gillen
FIN-C850-193	Joan Lenihan Camacho
FIN-C850-194	James O'Higgins Norman
FIN-C850-195	Toni Kelly
FIN-C850-196	Lisa Martin
FIN-C850-197	Yvonne McKernan
FIN-C850-198	Catherine Gray
FIN-C850-199	Barbara O Callaghan
FIN-C850-200	Portersgate Residents association
FIN-C850-201	Roisin Tobin
FIN-C850-202	Stacy Kenny
FIN-C850-203	Cllr John Walsh
FIN-C850-204	Alison Porter
FIN-C850-205	Jean Martin
FIN-C850-206	Alison Martin
FIN-C850-207	Seamus Lynam
FIN-C850-208	Donal O'Donoghue
FIN-C850-209	Liam Diamond
FIN-C850-210	Senan O' Connor
FIN-C850-211	B Maher
FIN-C850-212	D Maher
FIN-C850-213	P Maher
FIN-C850-214	Sharon Campbell-Shaw
FIN-C850-215	Eileen Murray
FIN-C850-216	Louis Watters
FIN-C850-217	Patrick Duggan
FIN-C850-218	Vincent Troy
FIN-C850-219	Dr. Robert Quigley
FIN-C850-220	Patricia Fahy
FIN-C850-221	Sinead Butler
FIN-C850-222	Dublin West Sinn Féin
FIN-C850-223	Jana Hladikova
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FIN-C850-225	NudieBrews Ltd
FIN-C850-226	Aisling Olden
FIN-C850-227	Audrey Power

Submission Reference	Name
FIN-C850-228	Andreea Boamba
FIN-C850-229	Deirdre McGrath
FIN-C850-230	Aideen McGinn
FIN-C850-231	Louise Brennan
FIN-C850-232	Suaimhní Sailí
FIN-C850-233	Clare Connolly
FIN-C850-234	Aoife Kiernan
FIN-C850-235	Louise Cunningham
FIN-C850-236	Ian Farrelly
FIN-C850-237	Emer Minnock
FIN-C850-238	Radoslaw Slomski
FIN-C850-239	Helen Carberry
FIN-C850-240	Michael Moroney
FIN-C850-241	St. Mochta's National School
FIN-C850-242	Alistair White
FIN-C850-243	Lilia Nicolaeva
FIN-C850-244	Aaron Slater
FIN-C850-245	Lorraine Spain
FIN-C850-246	Jane Hughes
FIN-C850-247	Gerard Murphy
FIN-C850-248	D S
FIN-C850-249	Carmel Fahy
FIN-C850-250	Aoife Croft
FIN-C850-251	Barbara Devlin
FIN-C850-252	Cllr. Siobhan Shovlin
FIN-C850-253	Niamh Fanning
FIN-C850-254	Emer Currie
FIN-C850-255	Eimear Begley
FIN-C850-256	Mark Simons
FIN-C850-257	Meryl Coade
FIN-C850-258	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
FIN-C850-259	Siobhan Keaney
FIN-C850-260	Shane McMahon
FIN-C850-261	Ciara Moran
FIN-C850-262	Stephen Murphy
FIN-C850-263	Barbara Barrett Barrett
FIN-C850-264	Mary Louise Wall
FIN-C850-265	Janet Ivers
FIN-C850-266	Mary Dunne
FIN-C850-267	Martin Diskin
FIN-C850-268	Deirdre O Mahony
FIN-C850-269	Brenda Finn
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Submission Reference	Name
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FIN-C850-276	Deirdre MacNeil
FIN-C850-277	Rosemary Keating

Appendix A Screening of Recommendations for AA and SEA

Please Refer to main text of this report for full description of the Proposed Amendments.

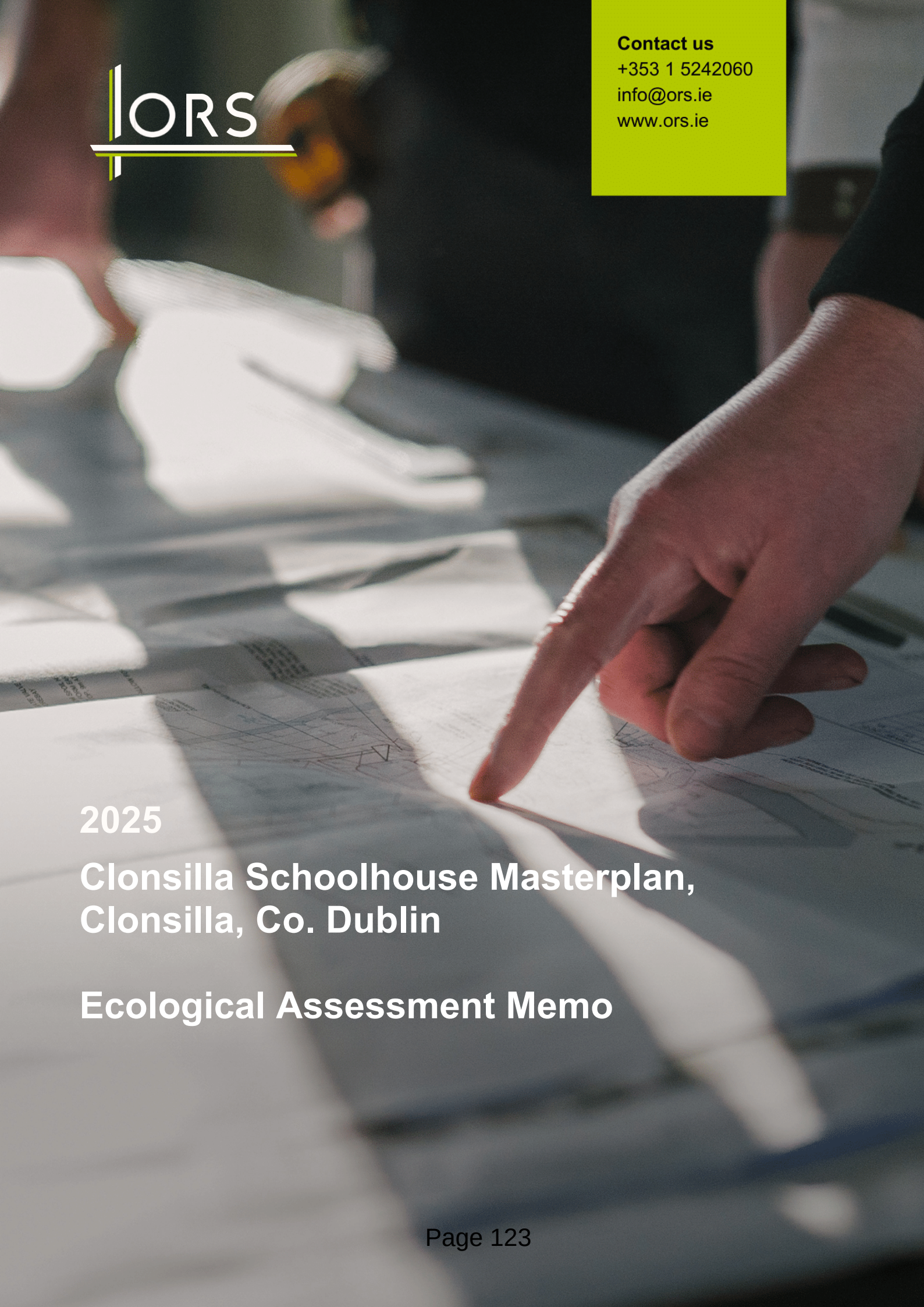
Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
CE's Rec (1)	**Section 3.2 Built Heritage** Insert the following text within Section 3.2 - Built Heritage, after the last paragraph on page 15: ***It is considered that, having regard to the uses permitted for consideration under the RA – Residential Area zoning objective, a suitable use for the Old School House would include a community use to allow the building to serve as a cultural and community resource for the new housing to be provided on the Masterplan lands but also for the wider area of Clonsilla.***	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November
CE's Rec (2)	**Section 3.2 Restoration of the Old School House** Insert the following text within Section 3.2 – Restoration of the Old School House, after the last paragraph on page 16: ***Given the importance of the Old School House to the local community in terms of the identity of the Clonsilla area as a whole, the use of the building for a community or cultural use would be welcomed.***	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November
ACM Rec (1)	**Table 3-2 Restoration of the Old School House** • Potentially realising ***and promoting*** its restoration for a new ***community/cultural use*** ~~**or residential use**~~ ***if appropriate***.	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November
ACM Rec (2)	**Section 4.1 Vision Statement** Amend the following text in Section 4.1 Vision Statement, page 18 to read:	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
	The principal aim of the Masterplan is to ensure the orderly and sustainable development of the lands that will create a new residential environment and ***promote*** the restoration and ~~**residential**~~ ***appropriate*** use of the Old School House building ***for uses including community/cultural or childcare***.		
ACM Rec (3)	**Section 5.1 Built Heritage** Amend the following text in Section 5.1 Built Heritage, page 22 to read: *The Old School House (Protected Structure) will be restored and brought back into active use for* ***community/cultural*** ~~**a residential**~~ ***use*** *as part of the sustainable development of the lands.*	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November
ACM Rec (4)	**Table 5.1 Built Heritage** Amend the following text in Table 5.1 Built Heritage, page 23 to read: ***Promote the*** restoration/reuse of former school building for ***community/cultural*** ~~**or residential**~~ use. Development proposals will not impact the integrity of any Protected Structure.	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November
ACM Rec (5)	**Amend Figure 5-3 on page 24 as follows.** • Insert text to read: Sensitive Restoration of OSH to ~~**Housing**~~ ***Community/Cultural Facility***.	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
ACM Rec (6)	**Section 5.4 Potential and Appropriate Uses** Amend the following text within Section 5.4, subsection, Potential and Appropriate Uses, on page 30, to read: Given the location of proposed residential buildings along with amenity space in the area of the Old School House building, it is deemed appropriate to develop the Old School House building for ~~**residential use**~~ ***a community/cultural use to serve the Clonsilla area***. The restoration of the Old School House ***as a community/cultural facility*** will treat the built heritage in a similar way, forming a heritage inspired backdrop to new residential buildings. The degraded nature of the building fabric, particularly the need to reconstruct much of the interior, may in principle allow for its redevelopment *as a* ***cultural/community facility***. ~~**single residence or as several residential units.**~~	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November
ACM Rec (7)	**Section 8.2 Implementation** Amended the following text within Section 8.2, subsection Implementation, on page 43 to read: • Protect the integrity of the Old School House structure during the construction stage while providing for promoting its restoration for a suitable ~~**residential**~~ ***community/cultural use***.	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November

Proposed Amendment	Outline Description	Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA)	Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)*
	The Masterplan promotes the restoration ~~**and residential use**~~ of the Old School House and requires that the structure form an integral part of the overall development.		
ACM Rec (8)	**Section 8.2, Implementation** Add the following additional text to second bullet point in 8.2, p.43 to read: • Ensure the protection of the natural environment and its biodiversity (and where possible its enhancement), ***through a comprehensive ecological assessment incorporating specialist surveys in relation to badgers, bats, flora and fauna in advance of development.'***	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November	To be finalised in advance of full Council meeting on 10th November

Appendix B Ecological Assessment Memo prepared by ORS



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2025

Clonsilla Schoolhouse Masterplan, Clonsilla, Co. Dublin

Ecological Assessment Memo

Clonsilla Schoolhouse Masterplan, Clonsilla, Co. Dublin

Ecological Assessment Memo

Document Control Sheet

Client:	Fingal County Council
Document No:	240216-ORS-XX-XX-RP-EN-13d-002-P03

Revision	Status	Author:	Reviewed by:	Approved By:	Issue Date
P01	DRAFT	RE	LM	LM	05/09/2025
P02	S2	RE	LM	LM	09/09/2025
P03	S2	RE	LM	LM	12/09/2025

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1 Introduction

1.1 Project Overview

ORS prepared an Ecological Assessment Report (EAR) (**240216-ORS-XX-XX-RP-EN-13d-002-P06**) for the subject site located at the Old Schoolhouse, Clonsilla. The main objectives of this preliminary ecological assessment were to:

- Undertake a desktop review of existing baseline ecological data for the subject site and the wider area, including European and National sites of biodiversity importance within the Zone of Influence of the subject site.
- Undertake a field survey of the receiving environment.
- Evaluate the features of biodiversity value in and in the vicinity of the subject site.

Specialist surveys were not commissioned as part of this report. This report was submitted as supporting documentation for FP2025-058: Draft Old School House (Clonsilla) Masterplan 2025. The ecological findings of the report were placed in the broader context with the accompanying SEA Screening Report (Document: **7079_RPSEA01_SEA**) prepared by Brady Shipman Martin. It was the conclusion of the SEA Screening Report that "the implementation of the Masterplan has no real likelihood of having likely significant negative effects on the environment" and therefore SEA screening was not required.

In response, Development Applications Unit (DAU) returned several "heritage-related observations/recommendations" (Document: **FIN-C850-258**) (see **Section 2**).

1.2 Purpose and Scope

This memo has been prepared to respond to the observations and recommendations listed in **FIN-C850-258**, particularly with respect to:

- The current habitat classification and ecological value of areas previously labelled as "calcareous grasslands".
- The current utilisation of the site by badgers.

This memo has been prepared to resolve queries raised by the DAU.

1.3 Statement of Competency

Lead Author

This Memo was authored by Richard Edwards, BSc (Hons), PhD, FHEA, MRSB. Rich is a molecular ecologist with over 20 years' experience working on interdisciplinary projects. A former academic research leader in bioinformatics, genomics, molecular ecology and evolution, Rich is a creative problem solver across a broad range of biodiversity and ecological sciences. He specialises in identifying pragmatic solutions that maximise mutual benefits. Rich recently joined the Environmental Services team at ORS, bringing strengths in large-scale data analysis, automation, and scientific/technical writing. His experience at the forefront of applying genomic techniques to conservation and biodiversity challenges, including non-native invasive species, positions the ORS team to adapt rapidly to changes in technology relating to

biodiversity management and biodiversity net gain legislation.

1.4 Site Location and Proposed Development

The Old School House Masterplan relates to a strip of land immediately to the north of the Royal Canal, west of Porterstown Road (**Figure 1.1**). The site is bordered to the north by the residential estates of Lambourn Park/Road and The Village. The Royal Canal Proposed Natural Heritage Area (pNHA) is adjacent to the southern border of the site (see 1.4.2). The railway line runs parallel to the canal on the southern side. Adjacent to the railway to the south is the Kellystown Local Area Plan 2021-2027.

The Old School House is also mentioned as LOCAL OBJECTIVE NO 407 of the Clonsilla Urban Centre Strategy 2008: "To preserve the Old School House and facilitate its rehabilitation into a suitable long term use that is integrated with the backlands adjacent to the Royal Canal." The overall site was identified as Opportunity Area No. 6 within the strategy.

The proposed land uses of the Masterplan consists of a mix of residential use, community facilities and green space (**Figure 1.2**).

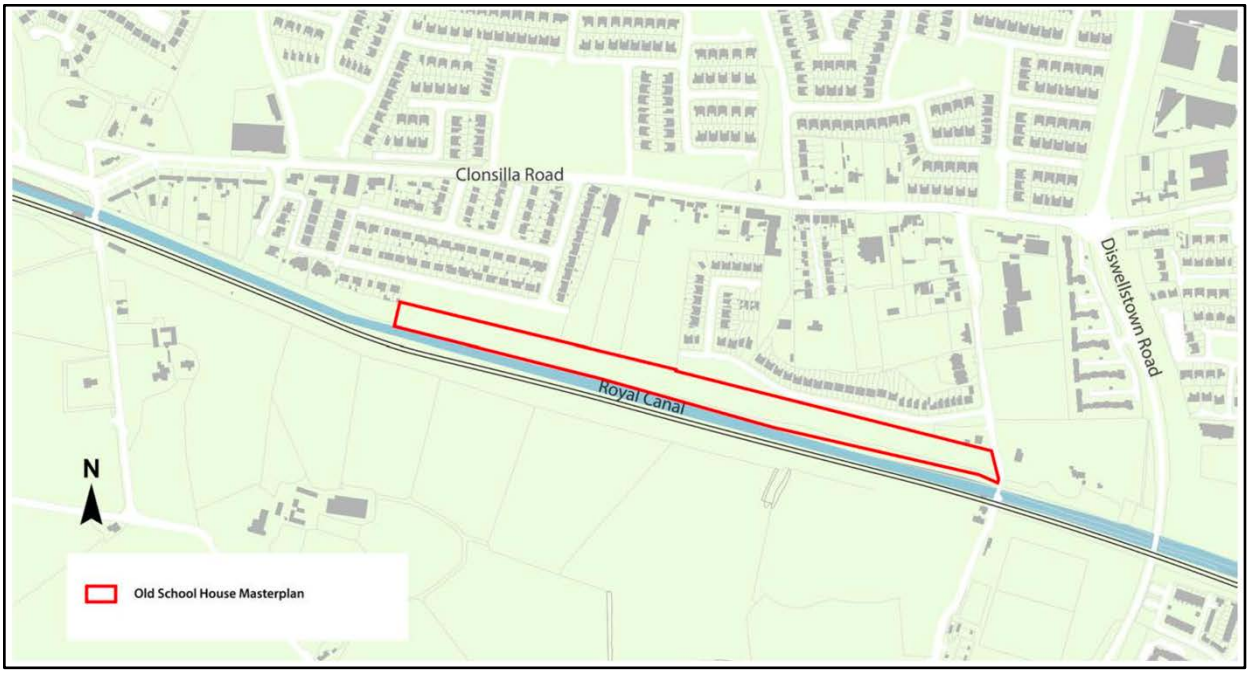


Figure 1.1: Old School House Masterplan site location. (Source: Draft Old School House Masterplan, Fig 1-1.)

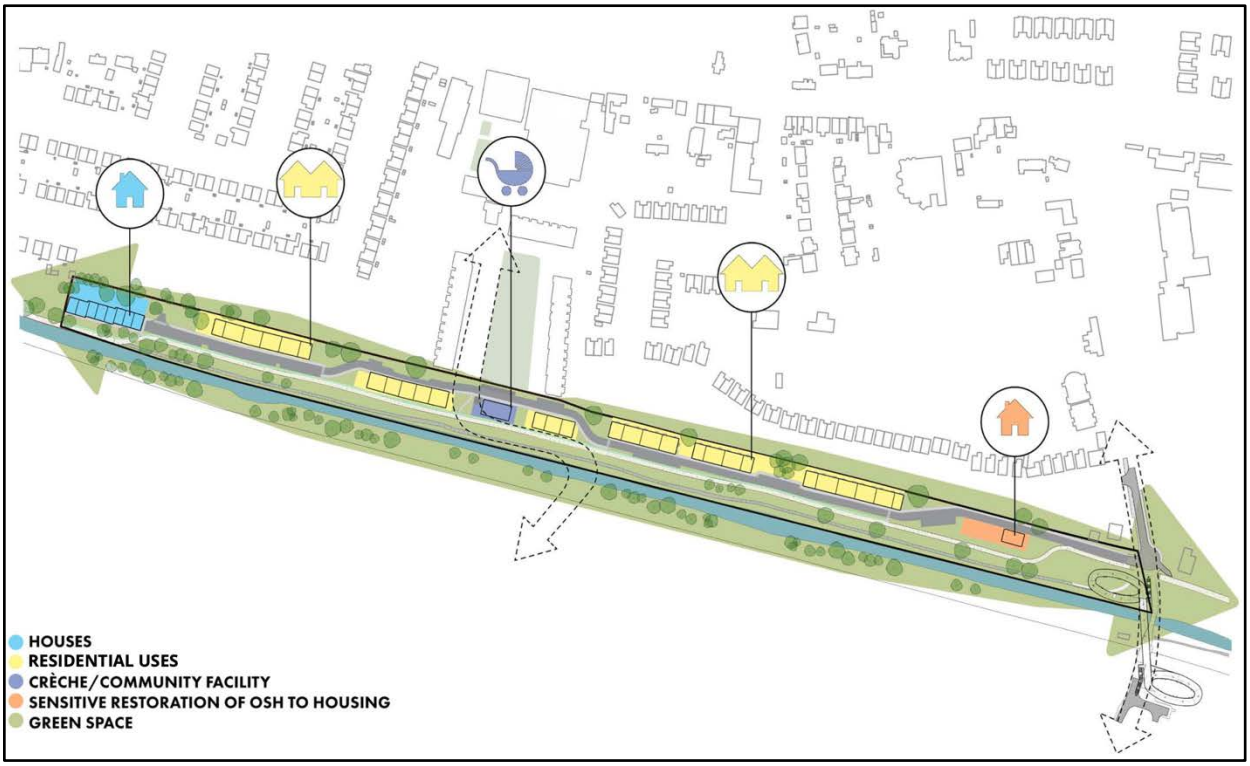


Figure 1.2: Proposed land uses for the Old School House Masterplan. (Source: Draft Old School House Masterplan, Fig 5-3.)

1.4.1 Biodiversity Action Plan

The site is specifically mentioned in Objective 36 of the Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015:

- *Action: Manage linear calcareous grassland strip along the Canal at Clonsilla.*
- *Objective: To restore this calcareous grassland to a flower-rich meadow.*
- *Target Species & Habitats: Calcareous Grassland with Orchid Species such as Pyramidal and Common Spotted Orchid.*

In the absence of completion of this objective, it was updated as Objective 25 of the Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030:

- *Action: Manage linear calcareous grassland strip along the Canal at Clonsilla.*
- *Objective: To restore calcareous grassland at this site.*
- *KPIs:*
  - *Acreage of Calcareous grassland with orchid species that is restored.*
  - *Numbers of Pyramidal and Common spotted orchid on site.*

In particular, calcareous grassland was highlighted in the plan as an important habitat due to its relationship to Annex I Habitat 6210 of the EU Habitats Directive, “Orchid Rich Grassland/Calcareous Grassland.”

1.4.2 pNHA

The NPWS Site Synopsis for the Royal Canal pNHA (002103) draws attention to calcareous grasslands along the towpath, with particular reference to the midlands, along with hedgerows, scrub and woodland.

> *A number of different habitats are found within the canal boundaries - hedgerow, tall herbs, calcareous grassland, reed fringe, open water, scrub and woodland.*
>
> *The hedgerow, although diverse, is dominated by Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna). On the limestone soils of the midlands Spindle (Euonymus europaeus) and Guelder-rose (Viburnum opulus) are present.*
>
> *The vegetation of the towpath is usually dominated by grass species. Crested Dog's-tail (Cynosurus cristatus), Quaking Grass (Briza media) and Sweet Vernal-grass (Anthoxanthum odoratum) are typical species of the calcareous grasslands of the midlands. Where the canal was built through a bog, soil (usually calcareous) was brought in to make the banks. The contrast between the calcicolous species of the towpath and the calcifuge species of the bog is very striking.*
>
> *Otter spraints are found along the towpath, particularly where the canal passes over a river or stream.*
>
> *…*
>
> *The ecological value of the canal lies more in the diversity of species it supports along its linear habitats than in the presence of rare species. It crosses through agricultural land and therefore provides a refuge for species threatened by modern farming methods.*

The tow path south of the Old School House site is dominated by hedgerow, trees and scrub.

1.5 Summary of Baseline Ecology

A site walkover was conducted on 10th July 2024. The purpose of this survey was to establish the general condition and ecological value of habitats, flora and fauna. In line with recommended best practice in *A Guide to Habitats in Ireland (Fossitt 2000)*, habitats were recorded “as they are at the time of the site visit or survey”.

A map of the habitats identified is shown in **Figure 1.3**. Whilst some species associated with calcareous grassland were identified, the overall condition and composition of flora on the site reflected many years without management and could not be classified as *Dry calcareous and neutral grassland (GS1)*. Instead, due to the encroachment of other species, including high coverage non-natives, shrubs and brambles, the majority of the site was classed as *Dry meadows and grassy verges GS2* or *Scrub WS1*. The eastern area next to the Old School House showed signs of previous disturbance and was classified as *Recolonising bare ground ED3*.

Note: Fossitt 2000 explicitly states for GS1 calcareous grassland: “*Grazing is a characteristic feature; unimproved dry meadows which are rarely grazed should be excluded (see dry*

meadows and grassy verges - GS2)." There was no evidence of recent grazing on the site, which was largely overgrown.



Figure 1.3: Habitat map of Masterplan site. (Source: 240216-ORS-XX-XX-RP-EN-13d-002-P06)

2 Development Applications Unit Observations

This section lists the observations made under the “Nature Conservation” heading, and identifies the main points requiring a response. These can be summarised as:

1. The failure to identify badger activity on-site despite previous reports of badger setts.

2. The absence of habitat classified as “Calcareous Grassland” (Fossitt GS1 or Annex I 6210) despite previous classifications as such.

The following sections quote the relevant paragraphs and provide high level responses, which are expanded in **Section 3**.

2.1 Ecological Character of the Masterplan Lands

“Because of the character of the Masterplan lands, dominated by habitats of considerable biodiversity value, including hedgerows, tree rows, scrub and calcareous grasslands, and their utilisation by animal species such as badger, several bat species and various bird species, it will not be possible to develop these lands for residential purposes in conformity with their zoning (RA) in the Fingal County Development Plan (CDP) 2023-2029 without having some negative effects on the local flora and fauna.”

ORS Response: The ecological report, and responses below, challenge that badgers are currently active on the site, or that the “calcareous grasslands” designation is appropriate (see below). The ecological value of hedgerows, trees and scrub for mammals, birds and bats was highlighted in the EAR and Chapter 7 of the Masterplan.

2.2 The ‘Deep Sinking’ and Royal Canal Proposed Natural Heritage Area

“The Masterplan lands’ location, consisting of a strip of land on the northern side of the Royal Canal on which spoil resulting from the excavation of the canal into the bedrock in the 18th century (to form the ‘deep sinking’) was deposited and now effectively forming an expansion of the Royal Canal proposed Natural Heritage Area (pNHA) corridor, also adds to these lands ecological significance, which will inevitably be adversely affected by their development for housing. This is not to state that it is impossible to develop the Masterplan lands for residential purposes, only that any adverse effects on ecologically significant habitats and species, which may result from the development of the lands in accordance with the Masterplan should be accurately evaluated and measures to mitigate such adverse effects set out in a SEA Environmental Report on the Masterplan, which may then govern their future development.”

ORS Response: Proximity of the pNHA was recorded as a proximal feature in the EAR and the Masterplan. The Masterplan incorporates (1) plans to retain hedgerows and trees to maintain the important ecological corridor of the pNHA, and (2) incorporate Sustainable Urban Drainage (SuDS) measures that will mitigate degradation of the water quality in the Royal Canal.

2.2.1 Ecological Value of the Masterplan Lands – Calcareous Grasslands

“The ecological value of the Masterplan lands is recognised in the Fingal CDP 2023-2029 by their inclusion as a Nature Development Area on Map Sheet No. 15 Green Infrastructure 2. The relevant objective set out in the CDP for such areas is Objective GINH 037—Nature Development Areas

'Maintain and/or enhance the biodiversity of the Nature Development Areas indicated on the Green Infrastructure Map'. Action 26 of the Fingal County Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030 in addition appears to relate to this Nature Development Area 'Manage linear calcareous grassland strip along the Canal at Clonsilla. To restore calcareous grassland.' This objective reflects the succession process that has been taking place on these lands since mowing and/or grazing of them was abandoned in the latter half of the last century, which has resulted in the species rich calcareous grassland previously dominating them being invaded by less ecologically valuable scrub spreading out from the surrounding hedgerows and tree rows.

The Biodiversity survey undertaken in connection with the drawing up of the Kellystown Area Local Area Plan (LAP) in 2021 also identifies of the presence of Dry Calcareous Neutral Grassland on the Masterplan lands and an application to carry out a Strategic Housing Development (SHD) made in the same year to An Bord Pleanála (ABP Ref. No. 309622) and subsequently refused, included mitigation measures to conserve elements of the calcareous grassland on the Masterplan lands involving the transplantation of some sections of the grassland to accommodate the construction of apartment blocks on these lands. Section 2.4 Green Infrastructure Overview of the Masterplan and the SEA Screening Report (p24) express doubt as to the identification of the grassland habitat within the Masterplan lands as calcareous grassland (GS1), but the species included in Table 4.3 'List of Plant Taxa Recorded on Site' in the Ecological Assessment Report in Appendix 6 to the Masterplan clearly demonstrates the presence of various species typical of calcareous grassland, such as Knapweed Centaurea nigra and Field Scabious Knautia arvensis, as well as Lady's bedstraw Galium verum referred to in the sections of the Masterplan and SEA Screening Report mentioned above. Strangely though and almost certainly erroneously, Table 4.3 also records as present on the Masterplan lands Little Robin Geranium purpureum not previously recorded in County Dublin, and Small Restharrow Ononis reclinata and Noble Yarrow Achillea nobilis not previously recorded in Ireland."

ORS Response: ORS stands by the decision that the current conditions of the site preclude its classification as calcareous grassland. We have also identified several inconsistencies in the cited LAP survey with respect to this conclusion. Please see **Section 3.2** for details.

2.3 Overall Ecological Impact

"It is stated in the SEA Screening Report (p20) in relation to the Ecological Assessment Report 'Overall, it is considered the proposed residential development of the Masterplan lands will have a minimal impact on the local ecology within the Masterplan lands boundaries and also poses minimal short-term effects on surrounding ecological corridors and the species that use them.' The Department has been unable to locate a section of Ecological Assessment Report supporting this statement."

ORS Response: We stand by the observation that ecological assessment of the Masterplan lands did not determine any habitats that require special protection, such as Annex I habitats. (See **Section 3.2** for details.) The primary ecological value identified on the Masterplan lands was the existence of hedgerows and trees providing potential foraging/roosting habitat for birds and mammals. The Masterplan incorporates plans to maintain these ecological features through use of bat-friendly lighting, and a landscaping strategy that "will prioritise the retention of existing natural features such as trees and hedgerows, while enhancing its green infrastructure through additional native planting and sustainable drainage."

2.4 Missing Appendix from Ecological Assessment Report

"Unfortunately, however, Appendix A to the Ecological Assessment report, and referred to the

assessment, is not included amongst the documentation in relation to the Old School House Masterplan available on the relevant Fingal County Council Website and, therefore, could not be studied by the Department."

ORS Response: This was an oversight that does not meet ORS quality standards. This memo provides clarification of the habitat classification. An updated EAR will be provided.

2.5 Bats and Birds

"The Ecological Assessment Report incorporates the results of breeding bird surveys carried out in July of 2024 and a survey of the suitability as bat roosts of the trees on the Masterplan lands and the Old Schoolhouse itself undertaken at the same period. Of the 26 bird species recorded using the Masterplan lands 20 could potentially nest there. Multiple trees on the lands were considered to be suitable as bat roosts and the Old School House was classified as having a high suitability as a bat roost. No bat activity surveys were carried out in connection with the Ecological Assessment, but bat activity surveys previously undertaken in connection with the SHD planning application previously referred to and by a member of staff of the National Parks and Wildlife Service of this Department in 2021 recorded the use of the Old School House by Common Pipistrelle bat and possibly Long-eared Bat. Mitigation measures to reduce the effects of lighting on bats are proposed in the Ecological Assessment Report but no measures to preserve the potential of the Old Schoolhouse as a bat roost if it is restored and used for residential purposes as suggested in the Masterplan."

ORS Response: A full bat survey was beyond the scope of the EAR. As acknowledged, the Masterplan highlights the high bat roost potential of the Old School House building. A full bat survey should be undertaken as part of any development of the Old School House, and we recommend that the final site-specific plans for this structure incorporate the appropriate design and mitigation contingencies should bats be discovered on site.

2.6 Mammals

"Mammal surveys of the Masterplan lands carried out in July 2024 as part of the Ecological Assessment failed to identify the two badger active badger setts previously recorded from these lands in 2022 along their northern boundary, probably because of the dense growth vegetation at that time of year. One of these setts is located approximately 70 metres northwest of the Old Schoolhouse and the second better used sett in the central section of the Masterplan lands near the proposed site of the creche in Masterplan. The Department considers it would be desirable from a nature conservation perspective that the layout of the buildings and access road as set out in the Masterplan should be modified to ensure the long term preservation of at least one of these badger setts, taking account of Transport Infrastructure Ireland Guidelines with regards to construction works in the vicinity of setts."

ORS Response: Site surveys were conducted with specific awareness of possible presence of badgers. Targeted survey efforts were conducted in the form of camera traps and tracking badger baits (see EAR Page 31-34) and no visible signs of badgers were recorded. Interference to the site and destruction of at least one badger sett has been reported in the local news, raising the likelihood that badgers are not currently active on the site (see **Section 3.1**). Incorporating a possible badger sett in landscape design to encourage their return is beyond the scope of this memo.

3 Response to Ecological Observations

The DAU response (**Section 2**) challenges two elements of the ORS EAR:

1. The failure to identify badger activity on-site despite previous reports of badger setts.

2. The absence of habitat on-site that can be classified as “Calcareous Grassland” (Fossitt GS1 or Annex I 6210) despite previous classifications as such.

These are addressed in detail in the following sections.

3.1 Badgers

Site surveys were conducted with specific awareness of possible presence of badgers. Targeted survey efforts were conducted in the form of camera traps and tracking badger baits (see EAR Page 31-34) and no visible signs of badgers were recorded. Official documentation of historical badger activity at the site location is limited (see **Section 3.1.1**). Furthermore, interference with the site and destruction of at least one badger sett has been reported in the local news (**Section 3.1.2**). A detailed badger survey was beyond the scope of the EAR, but all available evidence is consistent with the EAR conclusion regarding a lack of current badger activity on the site.

3.1.1 Lack of Recent Evidence for Badger Activity in the Area

The Badger Setts of Ireland Database does not report any badger setts within the immediate vicinity of the site, with the closest report listed (from 2008) several km to the northeast, on the other side of the N3 (**Figure 3.1**). Similarly, there are no records in the location documented in the 1995 NPWS Badger and Habitats Survey of Ireland. Habitat adjacent to the Old School House was classified as ED3 (Recolonising Bare Ground), indicating that the region was included in the survey (**Figure 3.2**). This classification, from 1995, matches the classification of the ORS EAR for the same patch of ground, not the GS1 classification of the LAP report (**Figure 3.4**). The closest National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC) Badger (*Meles meles*) records are two road kill records from 2010, beside the golf course on the far side of the LAP lands to the south of the site (**Figure 3.3**).

Sources:

- Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine, Badger Setts of Ireland Database, National Biodiversity Data Centre, Ireland, accessed 04 September 2025, https://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/Dataset/30
- National Parks & Wildlife Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Badger and Habitats Survey of Ireland, National Biodiversity Data Centre, Ireland, accessed 04 September 2025, https://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/Dataset/4
- National Biodiversity Data Centre, Ireland, Badger (*Meles meles*), accessed 04 September 2025, https://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/Species/119470

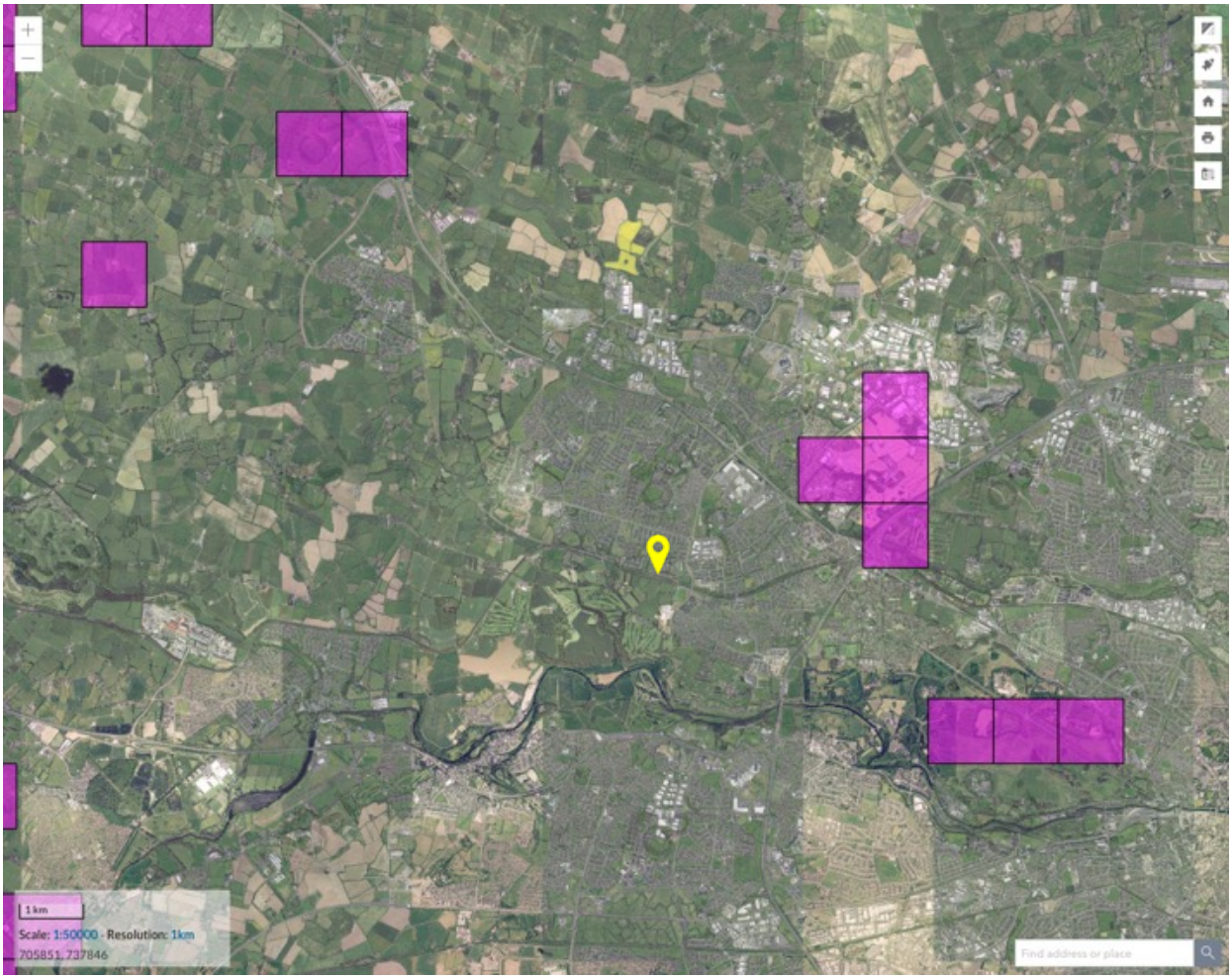


Figure 3.1: Badger sett locations (purple squares) reported by the Badger Setts of Ireland Database. Yellow marker, OSH Site.



Figure 3.2: Fossitt Habitats documented as part of the Badger and Habitats Survey of Ireland.



Figure 3.3: National Biodiversity Data Centre Badger (Meles meles) records (purple squares).

3.1.2 Prior Disturbance to Badger Setts

The Dublin Gazette (https://dublingazette.com) features two reports of destruction or disturbance to the badger setts on site, prior to the ORS site visit in 2024:

- The November 2022 article, *'Desecration' of Old Schoolhouse at Clonsilla infuriates residents* (https://dublingazette.com/dublinlocalmatters/desecration-of-old-schoolhouse-clonsilla-45377/), describes destruction of a badger sett.
- A later March 2024 article, *Heritage and ecological concerns of the Old School House, Clonsilla back in the public domain* (https://dublingazette.com/dublinlocalmatters/news/heritage-clonsilla-ecological-55533/), reports that the case was prosecuted by NPWS and describes additional damage to the site around the badger setts. Consistent with the previous destruction of the two known badger setts in November 2022, this article now refers to "at least one known badger sett" prior to the subsequent disturbance.

ORS does not condone work within exclusions zones around badger setts without the appropriate derogation licenses should badgers be found on site. However, the remit of the

EAR was to report current occupation by badgers. No signs of occupation could be found, despite targeted camera trapping and (harmless) tracer badger baits. This is consistent with abandonment of setts at some point prior to the ORS survey, possibly as a consequence of the documented disturbance.

3.2 Absence of Habitat Classified as "Calcareous Grassland"

The DAU report challenges the conclusion of the EAR that the site does not consist of calcareous grassland, highlighting several species typical of calcareous grassland and questioning other species identifications. ORS acknowledges a lack of clarity in presenting the argument against a "Calcareous Grassland" classification, which we seek to rectify in this section.

In contradiction to the comments made by DAU, the NBDC has previous records for Little Robin (*Geranium purpureum*, species ID 41944) in County Dublin, and *Noble Yarrow Achillea nobilis*, species ID 29673) in Ireland. We acknowledge that there are similar, closely-related species that are more likely to be found on site. A specialist botanic survey was not conducted for the EAR, which instead focused on identifying species and features in support of habitat classification and general evaluation of biodiversity importance. We acknowledge that several species "typical of calcareous grassland" and mentioned in Fossitt 2000 (Appendix I) were reported in both the EAR and prior surveys. However, current and previous surveys also identified species listed by Fossitt 2000 typical of *GS2 Dry meadows and grassy verges*, including: False Oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), Hogweed (*Heracleum sphondylium*), Nettle (*Urtica dioica*), Bush Vetch (*Vicia sepium*), Meadow Vetchling (*Lathyrus pratensis*), Creeping Cinquefoil (*Potentilla reptans*) and clovers (*Trifolium* spp.). Common Knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*), listed by DAU as indicative of GS1 grassland, features in both GS1 and GS2 classification, as does Cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*) and Yorkshire-fog (*Holcus lanatus*).

Critically, species occurrence alone is not sufficient for Calcareous Grassland classification. Key descriptors for GS1 from Fossitt 2000 (Appendix I), include:

- "*Grazing is a characteristic feature; unimproved dry meadows which are rarely grazed should be excluded (see dry meadows and grassy verges - GS2).*"
- *"total cover of dwarf shrubs should not exceed 25% and, while trees and shrubs may be present, they should not be abundant.*"

There was no evidence of recent grazing on the site, which was largely overgrown. There is considerably encroachment by trees, shrubs, and other "scrub". Whilst some regions did feature patches of plants associated with GS1 habitats, there were many patches of characteristic GS2 plants, along with thistles, brambles etc. This is all consistent with an area that was once calcareous grassland but can no longer be classified as such. This is also consistent with the Biodiversity Action Plan objective to *restore* – not *conserve* – calcareous grassland at this site.

3.2.1 Inconsistencies with Background Calcareous Grassland Classification

The DAU makes reference to the inclusion of the site in the Fingal County Biodiversity Action Plan. It was first included in the Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015 as Objective 36:

- *Action: Manage linear calcareous grassland strip along the Canal at Clonsilla.*

- *Objective: To restore this calcareous grassland to a flower-rich meadow.*
- *Target Species & Habitats: Calcareous Grassland with Orchid Species such as Pyramidal and Common Spotted Orchid.*

In the absence of completion of this objective, it was updated as Objective 25 of the Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030:

- *Action: Manage linear calcareous grassland strip along the Canal at Clonsilla.*
- *Objective: To restore calcareous grassland at this site.*
- *KPIs:*
  - *Acreage of Calcareous grassland with orchid species that is restored.*
  - *Numbers of Pyramidal and Common spotted orchid on site.*

In both cases, specific reference was made to "calcareous grassland with orchid species". We note that no orchid species were identified on site, which are also the primary focus of the ecological significance for the related Annex I habitat, *'semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometea) (*important orchid sites) (6210)'*.

The DAU response provided additional context for the objective (emphasis added):

> *"This objective reflects the succession process that has been taking place on these lands **since mowing and/or grazing of them was abandoned in the latter half of the last century**, which has resulted in the species rich calcareous grassland previously dominating them being invaded by less ecologically valuable scrub spreading out from the surrounding hedgerows and tree rows."*

As previously highlighted, the Fossitt 2000 criteria for Calcareous grassland explicitly states:

> "*Grazing is a characteristic feature; unimproved dry meadows which are rarely grazed should be excluded (see dry meadows and grassy verges - GS2).*"

On this basis alone, there is cause to question the ongoing classification of this land as calcareous grassland. It should also be noted that there has be subsequent additional degradation and encroachment "by less ecologically valuable scrub".

The DAU response supports this classification with reference to the ecological assessment for the Kellystown LAP, which identifies the site as "GS1 – Dry Calcareous Neutral Grassland" in a September 2019 habitat map (**Figure 3.4**).

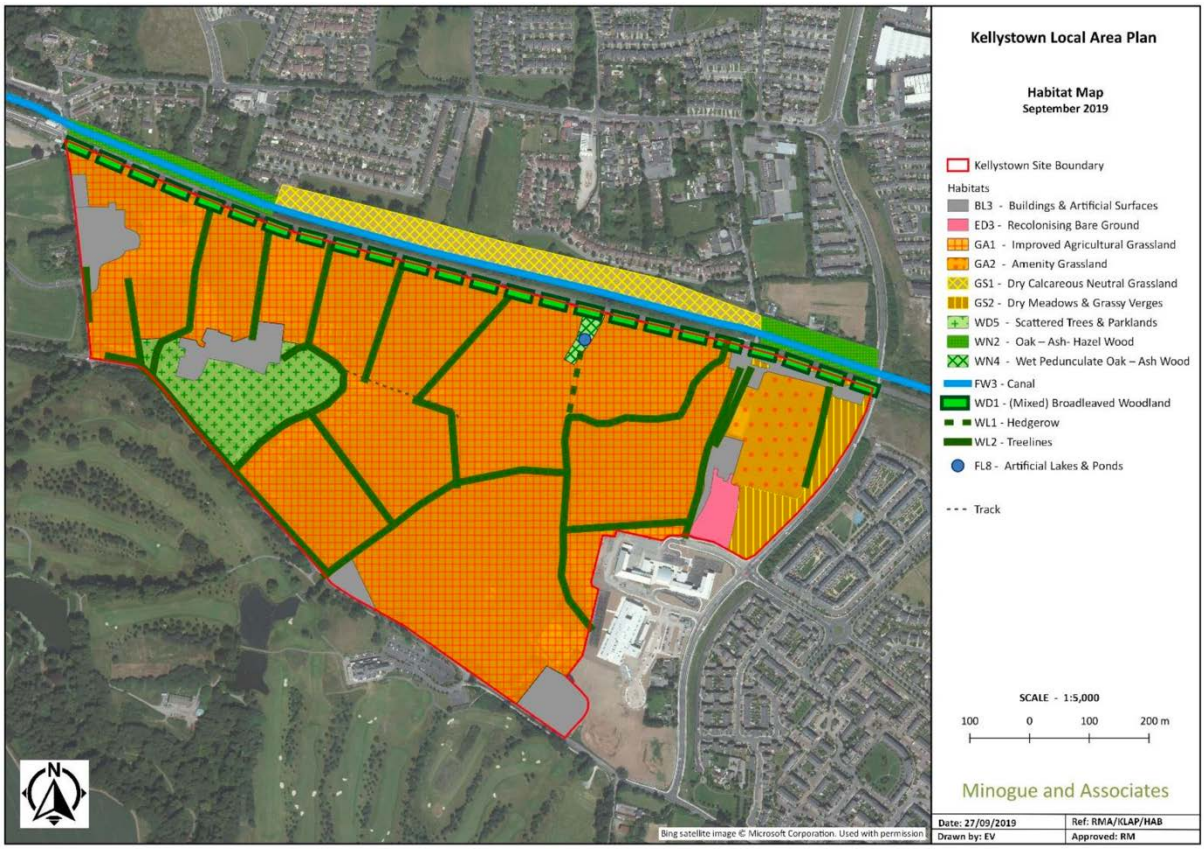


Figure 3.4: Habitat classification (September 2019) for Kellystown LAP. (Source: Kellystown Local Area Plan, Appendix 1)

However, the report accompanying this habitat map provides little evidence to support the ongoing classification, even without considering the additional five years of encroachment.

Section 2.4, which describes the habitats in the habitat map, appears to combine or confuse "GS1 – Dry Calcareous Neutral Grassland" with "GS2 – Dry Meadows and Grassy Verges", and speaks primarily to the LAP lands south of the canal:

> *2.4.3 DRY MEADOWS AND GRASSY VERGES (GS1)*
>
> *Again this habitat is located at the eastern boundary of the LAP lands and forms the southern and eastern boundary of the LAP. Rounding the corner to the main road there are planted Ash and Dogwood with bindweed (Calystegia sylvatica) and ragosa roses behind. Behind this there is an earth bank of brambles, red bartsia, red clover. Bumblebees were plentiful during the survey. Through the bank there is an ungrazed field, with a rough path used as a short-cut to the playing field. The grass is long and herb rich with some Festuca sp., rushes (Juncus sp.) and plentiful Tufted vetch and Black knapweed. An unidentified vetch, possibly (Vicia sativa), has been dominant earlier in the summer and has now gone over. This grassland could be brought back to species rich grassland with careful management. Rosebay willowherb has established a stand mid-field and there are occasional Ragwort plants.*

Many of the plants featured in this description of what is clearly referring to the “GS2 – Dry Meadows and Grassy Verges” “located at the eastern boundary of the LAP” were identified on the Masterplan site. The main reference to indicator species that “favour calcareous and free-draining soils” is section 2.5.2, describing the wildflowers observed during the survey of the Royal Canal Towpath (section 2.5):

> *2.5.2 WILDFLOWERS*
>
> *There was a great diversity of wildflowers which are supporting several bumblebee, butterfly and insect species. Meadowsweet (Filipendula ulmaria), herb Robert (Geranium robertianum), bush vetch (Vicia sepium), cat’s ear (Hypochaeris radicata), honeysuckle (Lonicera periclymenum), black medic (Medicago lupulina), white clover (T. repens), red clover (Trifolium pratense), upright hedge parsley (Torilis japonica), Garlic mustard (Alliaria petiolata), Tutsan (Hypericum androsaemum), square stalked St John’s wort (Hypericum tetrapterum), yellow vetchling (Lathyrus pratensis) and native hogweed (H. sphondylium) are all fairly common. More noteworthy species include wild carrot (Daucus carota) (Image 5), lady’s bedstraw (Galium verum), agrimony (Agrimonia eupatoria), salad burnet (Sanguisorba minor), common restharrow (Ononis repens), dove’s foot cranesbill (Geranium molle), wild marjoram (Origanum vulgare), field scabious (Knautia arvensis), kidney vetch (Anthyllis vulneraria), black knapweed (Centaurea nigra), red campion (Silene dioica) and Hemp agrimony (Eupatorium cannabinum). Many of these species favour calcareous and free-draining soils.*
>
> *In the more shaded areas, the poisonous lords and ladies (Arum maculatum) and Hart’s tongue fern (Asplenium scolopendrium) were locally abundant.*

The overall composition is not described, however, and presence of indicator species alone is not sufficient for classification. No grazing was described and the abundance or identify of common grasses were not reported. The provided image of wild carrot (*Daucus carota*) was too close to assess number or distribution.

Notably, a lack of orchids was reported, highlighting that the Fingal BAP objectives were still unmet in 2019.

A representative photo of calcareous grassland was provided (**Figure 3.5**, left). However, this does not relate to the Masterplan site and is, instead, situated in the southwest of the LAP lands (**Figure 3.5**, right). Despite the title of Plate 1 as “Calcareous Grassland on Edge of Improved Agricultural Grassland”, the location of the photo appears to be in the region of **Figure 3.4** marked as “WD5 – Scattered Trees & Parklands”. (Note: the road labelled as Luttrellstown Road by Apple Maps is labelled Porterstown Road on Google Maps.)

Furthermore, part of the region marked as “GS1 – Dry Calcareous Neutral Grassland” in **Figure 3.4** (2019) was classified as “ED3 – Recolonising bare ground” both before (**Figure 3.2**, 2015) and after (**Figure 1.3**, 2024) this survey. Clearance of this region can be seen in the site photograph from the March 2024 Dublin Gazette article (see **section 3.1.2**). This clearly demonstrates that at least some of the site is now inconsistent with the 2019 classification.



Figure 3.5: Left panel, LAP Ecological Report Plate 1 – Calcareous Grassland on Edge of Improved Agricultural Grassland (Source: Kellystown Local Area Plan, Appendix 1). Right panel, Aerial view of building in Plate 1. (Source: Apple Maps 2025)

4 Conclusion

The ecological value of hedgerows, trees and scrub for mammals, birds and bats was highlighted in the EAR and Chapter 7 of the Masterplan, as was the proximity of the pNHA. The Masterplan incorporates (1) plans to retain hedgerows and trees to maintain the important ecological corridor of the pNHA (including roosting/foraging habitat for birds, bats and terrestrial mammals), and (2) incorporate Sustainable Urban Drainage (SuDS) measures that will mitigate degradation of the water quality in the Royal Canal.

DAU observations challenged the assessment that the Masterplan lands did not contain any habitats requiring special protection, and that badgers were not currently active on site. In summary, the main ORS responses to these observations are:

Badgers:

- Site surveys were conducted with specific awareness of possible presence of badgers. Targeted survey efforts were conducted in the form of camera traps and tracking badger baits (see EAR Page 31-34) and no visible signs of badgers were recorded.
- Official documentation of historical badger activity at the site location is limited. Furthermore, interference with the site and destruction of at least one badger sett prior to the ORS survey has been reported in the local news.
- All available evidence is consistent with the EAR conclusion regarding a lack of current badger activity on the site.

Calcareous Grassland:

- The DAU acknowledges that “mowing and/or grazing of them was abandoned in the latter half of the last century”. As grazing “is a characteristic feature” of GS1 Calcareous Grasslands (Fossitt 2000), it would be inappropriate to classify the site as Calcareous Grasslands.
- The site is not currently dominated by grass species. Whilst some species associated with the Fossitt GS1 habitat were found on site, there was an abundance of GS2-associated species and considerable signs of habitat degradation/encroachment.
- Several inconsistencies were identified with the evidence presented to support the claim that the site consists of “calcareous grasslands”.
- One of the key indicators for objective 25 of the Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030 was the presence of orchid species. No orchids were recorded in either the 2019 or 2024 habitat surveys. The objective is to *restore* rather than *conserve* calcareous grassland, consistent with the ORS classification of current conditions.
- Given the lack of orchids, there is no reason to be concerned about impact on the priority Annex I habitat, ‘semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometea) (*important orchid sites) (6210)’.

In both regards it should also be noted that specialist surveys were not part of the scope for ORS Ecological Assessment.

5 References

Brady Shipman Martin (2025) Draft Old School House Masterplan SEA Screening Report.

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Fingal County Council (2010). Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan 2010-2015.

Fingal County Council (2023). Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030.

Fingal County Council (2025). Old School House Masterplan – Draft June 2025.

Fossitt (2000). A Guide to Habitats in Ireland.

Minogue and Associates (2021). Kellystown Local Area Plan, Appendix 1 Biodiversity Report.

National Parks and Wildlife Service (1995). pNHA Site Synopses archive.

ORS (2024) Ecological Assessment Report (EAR) 240216-ORS-XX-XX-RP-EN-13d-002-P06.

Appendix I: Fossitt 2000 Habitat Classifications

The key sections of Fossitt 2000 regarding GS1 and GS2 grassland describe the key features as follows (bold added for emphasis):

Dry calcareous and neutral grassland GS1

This category is used for unimproved or semi-improved dry grassland that may be either calcareous or neutral, but not acid. It is associated with low intensity agriculture and typically occurs on free-draining mineral soils of various depths. Calcareous grassland is restricted in its distribution and is now largely confined to the steep slopes of esker ridges and moraines in the midlands, and to other areas with shallow and rocky limestone soils. Management and fertiliser use makes calcareous grasslands more like neutral grasslands in character and these have a wider distribution. Most old permanent pastures and less intensively managed lowland grasslands fit into this category. ***Grazing is a characteristic feature; unimproved dry meadows which are rarely grazed should be excluded (see dry meadows and grassy verges - GS2).***

Dry calcareous and neutral grassland may comprise a wide range of grasses and broadleaved herbs. Species richness varies and can be high (up to 45 species per m^2). Common grasses include bents (Agrostis spp.), meadow-grasses (Poa spp.), Meadow Foxtail (Alopecurus pratensis), Timothy (Phleum pratense), fescues (Festuca spp.), Sweet Vernal-grass (Anthoxanthum odoratum), Crested Dog's-tail (Cynosurus cristatus), Cock's-foot (Dactylis glomerata) and Yorkshire-fog (Holcus lanatus). Grasses that are indicative of strongly calcareous soils include Downy Oat-grass (Avenula pubescens), Yellow Oat-grass (Trisetum flavescens), Blue Moor-grass (Sesleria caerulea) and Quaking-grass (Briza media). Perennial Rye-grass (Lolium perenne) may also be present but should not dominate the sward. Common broadleaved herbs include clovers (Trifolium spp.), Yarrow (Achillea millefolium), Common Knapweed (Centaurea nigra), Selfheal (Prunella vulgaris), Common Bird's-foot Trefoil (Lotus corniculatus), Cat's-ear (Hypochoeris radicata), Lady's Bedstraw (Galium verum) and Oxeye Daisy (Leucanthemum vulgare). The more calcareous grasslands are characterised by broadleaved herbs such as Field Scabious (Knautia arvensis), Kidney Vetch (Anthyllis vulneraria), Mountain Everlasting (Antennaria dioica), Yellow-wort (Blackstonia perfoliata), Salad Burnet (Sanguisorba minor) and Carline Thistle (Carlina vulgaris), and may also be important for orchids, including Ophrys and Orchis spp.

Areas that are contaminated with heavy metals, mainly from old lead and zinc mines, and which support a type of calcareous grassland with abundant Bladder Campion (Silene vulgaris), Thrift (Armeria maritima) and the eyebright, Euphrasia micrantha, should be included in this category.

Dry calcareous and neutral grassland may grade into, or contain elements of dry calcareous heath - HH2 or scrub vegetation, characterised by heathers (Calluna vulgaris, Erica cinerea), Juniper (Juniperus communis), gorse (Ulex spp.), Blackthorn (Prunus spinosa), Hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna) or Hazel (Corylus avellana).

To be considered as grassland, total cover of dwarf shrubs should not exceed 25% and, while trees and shrubs may be present, they should not be abundant.

Links with Annex I: Calcareous grasslands ***with either high numbers or diversity of orchids*** *correspond to the priority habitat, 'semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometea) (*important orchid sites) (6210)'. Grassland with scattered Juniper (Juniperus communis) could also be included in the Annex I category, 'Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands (5130)'. Grasslands of old mine workings can correspond to the annexed habitat, 'Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae (6130)' if they are judged to be of interest. There are no naturally-occurring grasslands of this latter type in Ireland."*

Dry meadows and grassy verges GS2

Dry meadows that are rarely fertilised or grazed, and are mown only once or twice a year for hay are now rare in Ireland. Most have been improved for agriculture and ***this type of grassland is now best represented on grassy roadside verges, on the margins of tilled fields, on railway embankments, in churchyards and cemeteries, and in some neglected fields or gardens. These areas are occasionally mown (or treated with herbicides in the case of some railway embankments), and there is little or no grazing or fertiliser application.*** *This pattern of management produces grasslands with a high proportion of tall, coarse and tussocky grasses such as False Oat-grass (Arrhenatherum elatius) and Cock's-foot (Dactylis glomerata). Other grasses may include Yorkshire-fog (Holcus lanatus), Smooth Meadow-grass (Poa pratensis), Barren Brome (Anisantha sterilis) and Meadow Foxtail (Alopecurus pratensis). The broadleaved herb component is characterised by a range of species that either grow tall, such as Cow Parsley (Anthriscus sylvestris), Hogweed (Heracleum sphondylium), Goat's-beard (Tragopogon pratensis), Nettle (Urtica dioica) and Common Knapweed (Centaurea nigra), or climb the stems of others, as in the case of Bush Vetch (Vicia sepium) and Meadow Vetchling (Lathyrus pratensis). Grassy verges may support other smaller broadleaved herbs such as Pignut (Conopodium majus), Creeping Cinquefoil (Potentilla reptans) and clovers (Trifolium spp.).*

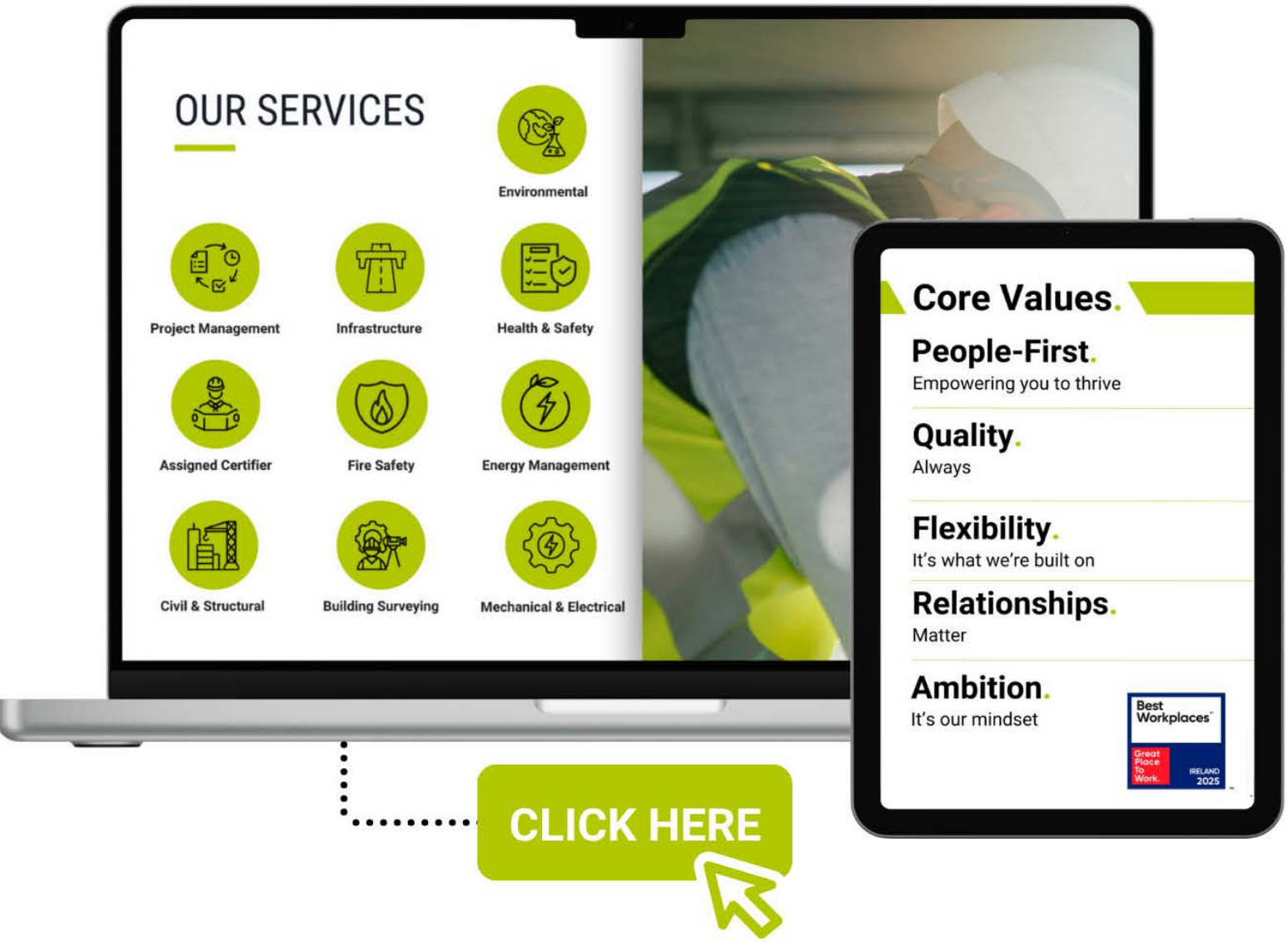
Links with Annex I: Corresponds to the annexed habitat, 'lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis) (6510)'.

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Appendix C Habitat Classification Map

240216 - Clonsilla Schoolhouse Masterplan



8/27/2024

Phase 1 Habitat

- WS1 - Scrub
- BL3 - Buildings and artificial surfaces
- ED3 - Recolonising bare ground
- GS2 - Dry meadows and grassy verges
- WL1 - Hedgerows
- WL2 - Treelines

Boundaries

- Site Boundary

World Imagery

1:4,000

0 0.03 0.06 0.11 mi

0 0.04 0.09 0.17 km

Maxar, Microsoft

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Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Chief Executive's Management Report

10th November 2025

Item No. 18

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Chief Executive's Foreword

I hope you all had a very enjoyable Halloween break. This year, we were very pleased that Fingal was chosen as a hub for 'Ireland, Home of Halloween' – The strategy, which was developed collaboratively by Fáilte Ireland, Tourism Ireland, and Tourism Northern Ireland, seeks to create a link with our Halloween festivities and our ancient history and culture and the marking of Samhain, which traditionally meant the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter. The Wonderful family friendly events which took place complemented the already stellar Halloween programme planned and ensured enjoyment for all not just on Halloween night itself but throughout the month of October. In addition to the incredible programme of safe, accessible and fun events which took place across Fingal in celebration of the season of Samhain, three spectacular fireworks displays took place in Bremore Castle, Balbriggan, Swords Town Park and Millennium Park, Blanchardstown. Thousands of spectators came out to enjoy the music and soak up the atmosphere before the night sky was illuminated with stunning fireworks displays. I have received many messages of thanks from people who thoroughly enjoyed the various Halloween events showcased in Fingal and I wish to thank everyone involved in the planning and staging of these events.

In today's economic climate and with unprecedented demand for housing, sourcing suitable accommodation for your personal circumstances can be extremely difficult. Fingal County Council is proud to have launched Church Fields Cost Rental – a new development offering 80 high quality 1, 2, and 3-bedroom apartments at more than 25% below market rent. These beautifully appointed homes are suitable for young singles & couples, families and older residents (accessible units available) who don't qualify for social housing and who have moderate incomes. This housing model puts fairness first by basing rent on the real cost of building and maintaining the property. The location of the new homes, in the Dublin Enterprise Zone, is surrounded by green open park spaces, a creche, library/community hub & commercial units and is ideally situated to access the M50 with Dublin Airport, Blanchardstown Shopping Centre and Phoenix Park in close proximity. The application portal is open until Monday 12th November at 12 p.m. and further details on the scheme is available here: https://www.fingal.ie/news/church-fields-cost-rental

The SuperValu TidyTowns competition has been promoting civic pride, environmental awareness, and community involvement across Ireland since 1958. This year, over 900 towns entered the competition demonstrating the huge interest from community groups in showcasing their localities and encouraging people to get involved in their areas. There was great celebration when the results were released with towns in Fingal scoring very highly in this year's competition. All the dedicated committees across the county received higher scores than in 2024. Skerries was awarded County Second and a Gold Medal, while Malahide was awarded County Third and a Gold Medal. Swords was also awarded a Gold Medal, while Lusk, Rush and Balbriggan all received Bronze medals. There was also success for Clonsilla, with the group receiving an Endeavour Award for the biggest improvement by an entrant in the county from the previous year, improving by 32 points on 2024. Howth TidyTowns was highly commended in the EPA Circular Economy award, with Malahide receiving second prize in this category. Mayor of Fingal Cllr Tom O'Leary offered his congratulations to all the TidyTowns winners on a fantastic result. On behalf of myself and the Executive Management Team I would like to echo the Mayor's sentiments in acknowledging the stellar work carried out by TidyTowns groups across Fingal each week. For many years our Operations Department has worked collaboratively with TidyTowns groups and in Fingal County Council, we have the highest regard for the volunteers and the tireless work they carry out in their communities.

Fingal's County Architect Fionnuala May has been elected as President of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland (RIAI) for 2026-2027 after being nominated for the position by the RIAI Council. She is the 66th person to hold the position since it was first established in 1839 and the fifth woman. Fionnuala joined Fingal County Council in 1994 and, as the head of the Architect's Department, she has been involved extensively in projects in the areas of housing, public buildings, corporate offices and heritage buildings. Fionnuala brings to the role her wealth of experience and knowledge and it is a testament to her years of dedicated work that she has been elected by her peers. I know you will join me in warmly congratulating Fionnuala and wish her all the very best as she begins her term as President of the RIAI.

Best wishes,

AnnMarie Farrelly
Chief Executive

PEOPLE, CORPORATE AND DIGITAL SERVICES

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People Services
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Recruitment

Recruitment Programme 2025	
Total Recruitment Campaigns	94
Interviews Held to date	1118
New Starters	208
Promotions	97
Number of Current Job Offers	34

Learning & Development Update

Learning & Development	Year to date
Number of courses	292
Number of Attendees	2813
Number of Training Days	2503

Throughout November, courses will be delivered in the areas of Personal Effectiveness, Chain Saw Training, Eco Driver training, Court Room Skills and many more.

Wellbeing Update

The Wellbeing Team continues to champion a workplace culture that prioritises support and wellbeing for every member of staff. Guided by staff feedback and active engagement, the team, through a range of targeted initiatives, resources, and engaging activities, strengthens the four foundational pillars of our Wellbeing Strategy.

HSU – Health & Safety Unit

The HSU is committed to ensuring that safety measures are in place by undertaking a proactive blended approach which creates an effective safe and healthy working environment. This includes undertaking risk assessments, safety audits and inspections, encouraging hazard reporting and taking corrective action. This approach is essential for preventing incidents and improving future safety practices in Fingal County Council.

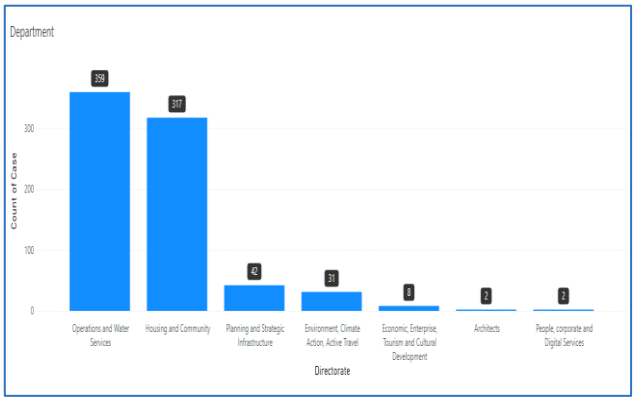
Customer Services

Customer Care Unit Statistics – October 2025

Total Calls CCU	Total Emails CCU
9,025	**1,637**

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 representations for October was 761 broken down by department below.



COMMUNICATIONS

The fingal.ie website had 158,915 visitors during October, an increase of 14,575 from the previous period. The number of page views rose by 35,766 to 364,611. The average time spent on the site rose to 1 minute and 54 seconds.

There have been 1,469,619 visitors and 3,244,758 page views since January and visitors have spent an average of 1 minute and 58 seconds on the site. The most popular page during October was the opening of new pedestrian and cycle bridge in Donabate. Our Planning Applications page also had over 25,000 page views.

The Facebook account rose to 43,067 followers (+1%) while the number of views rose by 10% to 1,814,704 from the previous month. There were 4,784 interactions. The most popular post was about a new off-leash area for pups unveiled in Waterville Park, Dublin 15.

Instagram rose to 16,399 followers. Total views rose 34% to 758,053 (from 565,241) from the previous month, with a reach of 46,431 (up from 37,272). There were 5,867 interactions. The most read post related to Storm Amy.

The number of followers on X rose by 49 to 23,409 and there was an engagement rate of 4.31% from 126,727 impressions.

The WhatsApp channel now has 3,447 followers while the numbers currently following our other corporate channels are Threads (1,586), TikTok (1,163) and Bluesky (462).

For our YouTube Channel the number of subscribers rose by 30 to 1,898 in October. Total views were 7,311. Videos published included the opening of new pedestrian and cycle bridge in Donabate, Storm Amy update and the Council Meeting Webcast. The video on the Affordable Housing Scheme - Online Application Tutorial was our most viewed video in the month.

Press Releases

There were 21 press releases issued during October, covering topics such as the appointment of Fionnuala May as RIAI President, Xplore Your Future TY Skills Expo, the opening of Donabate Pedestrian Bridge, and the launch of the Capital Development Plan.

Key coverage included RTE, Irish Times, Irish Independent, along with other national outlets covering the approval of planning permission for Metrolink and protests over drone deliveries in Dublin 15. Home of Halloween also featured on Dublin City FM.

Alongside this there was an Irish Examiner feature on sustainability at Halloween with Fingal's Environmental Awareness Officer.



Media Queries

Media queries received during October included questions about the Defective Concrete Blocks, Fingal's Climate Action Plan, the erection of unauthorised posters, and removal of the Irish flag from lampposts.

Irish Language

The communications unit continues its role regarding the Irish language, with training provided to staff through Gaelchultur and Fingal continues its participation in the Gaelige365 programme. Some Gaelige365 initiatives in Fingal included internal promotion through Lá Mór na Gaeilge and staff games and competitions to improve Irish.

Irish is included in festivals including Flavours of Fingal, the Ceol agus Craic (Photo 1) evening and the Irish Language Podcast for Heritage Week and An Leabharlann Fháilteach (Photo 2) launched at Oireachtas na Samhna.





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ECONOMIC, ENTERPRISE, TOURISM & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

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TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Ireland Home of Halloween



Fingal has announced an exceptional programme for the month of October as part of the Ireland Home of Halloween campaign, building on a solid base of existing events. The county was announced as one of the seven hubs earlier this year, following a competitive application process. The pilot scheme is part of the 'Ireland, Home of Halloween Strategy' which was developed collaboratively by Fáilte Ireland, Tourism Ireland, and Tourism Northern Ireland.



Fingal Food Markets



The summer food market programme featured 14 markets in three locations from April to September. Two of the trial locations were selected as part of Fingal's Ireland Home of Halloween programme, extending the Fingal Summer Food Markets programme to October. Two Halloween themed markets with performers and face painters were launched:

- Swords Castle Food Market: 18th October 2025
- Malahide Food Market in Casino Model Railway Museum Grounds: 25th October 2025

Fingal Food Circle

Fingal Food Circle welcomed Fingal County Council, Failte Ireland and network members to Carnegie Free Library, Swords on 8th September. The event marked the commencement of a new Failte Ireland Pilot Programme in partnership with Fingal County Council and Fingal Food Circle which is focused on developing the network and food tourism in Fingal.

Fingal Food Circle participated in Fingal's Home of Halloween programme, running free educational Kids Food Workshops as part of the Harvest Food Fair at The Seamus Ennis Arts Centre on Sunday 5th October.



Fingal Tourism Together Sector Symposium

The second Fingal Tourism Together event took place at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Blanchardstown on Wednesday, 5th November. This half-day symposium brought together tourism, food and drink businesses from across Fingal to strengthen collaboration and drive destination development. The symposium provided key tourism stakeholders with a comprehensive briefing on progress, the implementation of the Tourism Strategy and Food and Drink Policy, plans for 2026 and Fingal's ambition to become a leading visitor destination.

The programme included showcase tastings from Fingal Food Circle members, presentations and panel discussions. The event also offered valuable informal networking opportunities and a chance to shape future collaboration across the tourism sector in Fingal.

EVENTS

The Fingal Festal of Fire took place again this Halloween in partnership with the Home of Halloween over 100,000 spectators attended a variety of organised events throughout the county For information and photos on this www.eventsinfingal.ie



Swords Castle Christmas Markets will take place on Friday 28th November 3-8pm, Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th November 12-7pm, Saturday 6th December & Sunday 7th December 12-7pm.

Step into the magic of Christmas at Swords Castle, where festive charm fills the air! The historic castle grounds will transform into a winter wonderland bursting with holiday cheer.



Discover a delightful mix of local **artisan craft stalls** showcasing handmade gifts, festive decorations, jewellery, and local art — the perfect place to find something special for loved ones. Warm up with **food trucks**, **mulled wine**, and **seasonal treats** from local producers while enjoying the enchanting atmosphere under twinkling lights

Festival and Events Funding for 2026

Fingal Festival & Events Funding Programme

Following the success of the 2025 programme, which supported over 100 events across the county to the tune of €600,000, applications for the 2026 scheme will open at the end of October. The programme underlines the Council's commitment to fostering arts, culture, sport, and community engagement, while also delivering economic and tourism benefits in Fingal. Events from local community festivals to large-scale cultural celebrations, this funding ensures that Fingal continues to host a diverse and vibrant calendar of events, providing opportunities for residents and visitors alike to celebrate, participate, and connect.



€49.000 in Festival and Events Funding for October/ November

Just over €49,000 in festival and events funding to support a wide range of festivals and events taking place across the County during August & September. The funding will help enhance community engagement, cultural expression, and tourism throughout Fingal.

The following festivals or events have been approved for funding

- Fingal Open International Ballroom and Latin American Dance Festival 2025
- Gaelcon Irish Games
- Coastal Music Festival Baldoyle
- Autumn International Cross Country Festival
- Spooky Zombie Parade Ballyboughal Marathonkids Final Mile Event in Santry Stadium
- How It's Made 2025
- Malahide Village Turning On Christmas Lights
- Sea Scouts Community Fun Day Portrane
- Rush Christmas Food & Craft Market
- Blanchardstown Main St Tree Lighting

This funding reflects Fingal County Council's ongoing commitment to nurturing local culture, supporting sport and the arts, promoting wellbeing, and celebrating the rich diversity of communities across the county.

HERITAGE PROPERTIES

Malahide Castle



Starting on 14th November, Wonderlights returns to Malahide Castle with a spectacular festive display with over one million lights under the theme 'One Upon a Glow'. This year sees new additions including a 'taste of Holland' experience and hot air balloons aglow. With specially composed music and a landscape filled with light and sound, this is expected to be a very popular festive event.

Malahide Casino



In collaboration with the Fingal Food Circle and Fingal Farmers Group, the final food market of the year took place on Saturday 25th October in the grounds of the Malahide Casino Model Railway Museum. This free autumnal themed event attracted a good turnout to sample a delightful mix of artisan foods, organic local produced and handcrafted goods by talented Fingal crafters.

Skerries Mills



The watermill café located on the first floor of Skerries Mills has undergone an upgrade to provide a bistro like environment with a fresher, more contemporary and less cluttered feel. With more light and more space to move around, the feedback from customers has been overwhelmingly positive.

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

ARTS



Mayor Cllr Tom O'Leary recently visited Sean Molloy's solo exhibition at the Molesworth gallery, Dublin 2. The title of this exhibition, *Headland*, denotes the beginning of a dialogue between two strands in Sean Molloy's practice. Over the past 15 years, he has investigated, deconstructed and reconstituted baroque painting. The exhibition closed on 30th October and further information about the Fingal Arts Office supported artist can be found here: Sean Molloy | 9 - 30 October 2025 - Overview | Molesworth Gallery

New Public Artwork –Semple Woods, Donabate.



Glenveagh Homes in partnership with Fingal County Council's Public Art Programme have successfully delivered a new public artwork for the recently completed Semple Woods housing development.

The work is by artist Marielle MacLeman and it titled Trove. Inspired by Newbridge House and the Cabinet of Curiosities, it was created using traditional terrazzo techniques which combined with local beach glass found by the artist along the areas coast.

Creative Places Balbriggan



Fingal Arts Office has recruited Paula Phelan to consult with key stakeholders for the remainder of 2025. Paula will attend and facilitate upcoming Creative Places events and clinics in November and December to gather data to assist the direction of the project in 2026 and identify priorities within Balbriggan community member groups, such as youth, older people and professional artists.

As well as attending various Climate Action project workshops, the Creative Places Balbriggan Coordinator attended the Arts Council Creative Places Symposium "Art of Place" in Tallaght alongside the Youth and Education Officer to represent Fingal County Council as the project's Lead Partner. Main speakers included Patrick Fox , CE of UK social arts project "Heart of Glass" and Kim Wide, Artistic Director and CEO Take A Part UK Project. A separate coordinators' meeting the following day included a site visit to observe project work at nearby Creative Places MacUíllíam in Tallaght.

Arts Act Grant Scheme



Fingal Arts Office announced that applications for the Arts Act Grant Scheme 2026 opened on Thursday 10th October 2025 and will close on Friday 5th December 2025 at 4.00pm.

The scheme is designed to support individual artists, community groups, and arts organisations engaged in arts and cultural activities in Fingal. Grants are awarded under the Arts Act 2003 and reflect its objectives of promoting the arts, increasing access to the arts, and supporting cultural development across the county.

This scheme welcomes applications across a wide range of artforms, including theatre, literature, music, dance, opera, film, circus, architecture, visual arts and multi-disciplinary projects, events and festivals.

Carnegie

The Carnegie Musician in Residence, Alannah Thornburgh, delivered two interactive workshops with 56 students from River Valley School. The sessions introduced participants to the harp and percussion instruments, offering a hands-on experience that encouraged musical curiosity and creativity. The midpoint of her residency is being marked by a Samhain performance in the Atrium.

Draíocht

We are coming to the end of a very busy September/October season, playing to capacity audiences for many of our performances and film programme. The November/December programme will be as busy. The January/February 2026 programme is being signed off with some shows including Coolmine Panto's production of Cinderella, already on sale and selling fast.

Fingal's 'Home of Halloween' event at Draíocht includes a number of children's workshops which all sold out and a performance by the Fingal Mummers which is booking well.

Our Dublin 15 Youth Theatre held auditions recently and a number of new members began. We now have over 34 members with many more on the waiting list. Our Create Dance groups are also back to their regular workshop programme.
Our dance artist in residence, Matt Szczerek and his close collaborator, Alessio Motta, are beginning their final 4 weeks of a 2-year Residency. The last 3 weeks of same (November) will see them perform the piece they created, 'Monsters', in Dublin 15 Primary Schools.

Our current Exhibition,' Unquiet Layers, works by Brigid Flannery' opened on October 15th. This Exhibition is over both Ground and First Floor galleries and is accompanied by a young people's engagement programme. The Opening Night was well attended by family, friends and professional colleagues of the artist and of Draíocht, including representation from our Board of Directors.

James McLoughlin is into the third month of his 4-month residency in the Artist's studio.

Draíocht is 25 years old in 2026 and several events are being planned to mark the occasion. The planning for an Open Call Exhibition of recent graduates (past 4 years) who are from and/or live in Fingal is underway with the call out for applicants going live in early November. All artists selected to exhibit, will be paid a fee.
Full details are available on www.draiocht.ie

The Seamus Ennis Arts Centre

October was a busy month for The Seamus Ennis Arts Centre with our ongoing exhibition, music and art classes, singing sessions and slow sessions, plus special events for the Fingal Home of Halloween month.

Home of Halloween

The **Home of Halloween** programme kicked off on October 5th with the **Harvest Food Fair**, featuring 22 stands selling a variety of local fruit and veg, homemade bakes, artisan breads, farmhouse cheeses, jams and chutneys, kombucha, cordials, Italian products, chocolates, locally roasted coffee and much more. In addition we hosted a **Herbs, Hexes and Halloween workshop** for adults with Denise Dunne exploring Samhain traditions and Irish Herbal Lore with 24 attendees (sold out), and four sold out **children's cookery classes in conjunction with the Fingal Food Circle** (80 attendees). Overall we had over 1100 attendees on the day.





Over the midterm we hosted a variety of special **Home of Halloween children's craft workshops** (all sold out – 72 participants in total), with animal sculpture in clay, fused glass creations, an owl log workshop and a dreamcatcher workshop. Our children's programme ended with the magical film, **The Book of Kells** on October 30.

Rounding out the HoH month was a talk focused on Fourknocks, our local passage tomb entitled **Death in the Neolithic** on October 24 – sold out (92 attendees), an Irish language horror film, **An Taibhse** (The Ghost) on October 30, and finishing up with a talk and whiskey tasting night **Uisce Beatha – Monks, Moonshine and Mythical Mashbills** with Rosi Goswell and Garry Quinn.



Music

We commenced a new series this month, **The Pure Drop,** which will showcase the very essence of traditional Irish music. We kicked off on October 3 with a captivating performance by Noel Hill and Paddy Glackin (71 attendees). This was followed on October 11 by Tara Breen, Padraig Rynne and Jim Murray (48 attendees) and on October 17, Ye Vagabonds (90 attendees – sold out).

Within our traditional music programme, we had the **Céilí Beag** with 16 parents and toddlers being introduced to a different traditional instrument each week**.** We had 8 people for **The Pop Up Gaeltacht** join us before the **Singing Sessions** (17 in person, 17 online) and the **Slow Sessions** (16 in person, 29 online) continued to support both learners and those more experienced in engaging with the Irish language, instruments and song.

October saw the start of a new slow session for younger musicians (**Sessiún Óige**) with 14 attendees (ages 8 to 15), working this month with Gléas Traditional Music Ensemble from Balbriggan.

Theatre, Cinema & Comedy

Sinead Culbert, one of the Dirtbirds, supported by Sharon Mannion, was a big hit at the centre, with a sold out raucous show (92 attendees) on October 10.
In Cinema, we showed Dutch/French film **The Last Journey** (31 attendees) as well as other films mentioned above.

Visual Arts

We had one adult **craft workshop** this month – Fused Glass with Eddie Byrne (10 participants) – creating lanterns out of coloured glass.
Our **current exhibition**, 'Fine Point' by Gillian Cullen, runs until November 20. The exhibition features a series of intricate, detailed drawings paying homage to the enduring art of the pencil.

Libraries

Write Time Festival

The Write Time Festival, Fingal Libraries' annual celebration of creative writing and literature is now in its 10th year. Once again this November, we are delighted to welcome an outstanding group of writers to take part, discuss their work and engage people in creative activities in their communities. Author talks and expert-led workshops will take place in library branches. There will be discussions on Irish crime fiction and how to make a living as a writer. Workshops will explore the process of writing and give aspiring writers tips on taking inspiration from the world around them and improving their craft.

A showcase of author talks will take place in the Carnegie Free Library, Swords, on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th November. Curated by Balbriggan author Kevin Curran, the weekend will feature conversations with renowned authors such as Kevin Barry, Joseph O'Connor, Cecelia Ahern, Lisa McInerney and many more. There will be panel discussions on the challenges faced by debut authors and on what happens in the editing process between writing a book and seeing it on shelves. The range of free events at the Write Time will give readers the opportunity of meeting some of their favourite authors to find out what inspires them. Whether you're a reader or a writer, a poet or a playwright, a novice or a wordsmith, there's something for all book lovers at the Write Time festival.

Home of Halloween

Fingal Libraries programmed a variety of free, family-friendly events and workshops, across all library branches as part of the Ireland Home of Halloween initiative. The Halloween programme included fun monster mask making and pumpkin collage workshops, spooky story sessions from renowned storytellers, author visits, creative writing workshops, family movie screenings, and Halloween crafts.

Makerspace Programme



A full programme of hands-on workshops for adults, teens and children is taking place at the Makerspace in Blanchardstown Library throughout the winter months. Fingal Makerspace is a place where people come together to learn new skills, share ideas, collaborate on projects and access equipment such as 3D printers and laser cutters.

Upcoming workshops in November include an introduction to sewing machines aimed at adults who want to learn to sew but don't know where to start. Also, for adults there will be a hands-on workshop where attendees will learn to design and print their own tote bag. A textile and sewing meetup for teens provides a space for young creatives to explore and enhance their skills. Introduction to 3D printing workshops will teach children and teens the fundamentals of designing and printing their own 3D creations. All these workshops offer participants great ways of combining creativity, technology, and problem-solving in fun, practical sessions.

Fingal Inclusion Week

Fingal Libraries has organised events to celebrate Fingal Inclusion week which takes place between 17th - 23rd November. At Balbriggan Library, author and educator Oein DeBháirdúin will share his passion for the stories and folklore rooted in the Traveller oral tradition.

The Balbriggan Traveller Project will provide a unique opportunity for people to learn how to create a piece of traditional copper art. For children, there will be a fun, inclusive story time using the spoken word and Lámh signs. Fingal Libraries will invite ASD units from local schools in Balbriggan and Blanchardstown to sensory hour at the library. A class of school children will explore how to create inclusive communities in a 'Show Racism the Red Card' workshop in Blanchardstown Library.

'Sharing Songs...Unforgettable Voices': A Shared Island Community Arts Collaboration Project



On Thursday, 14th November, the Creative Fingal team will attend the Creative Ireland Shared Island Conference in Croke Park, where the two choirs involved in Creative Fingal's Shared Island project "Sharing Songs…Unforgettable Voices" will perform for Taoiseach, Micheál Martin. This inspiring two-year project is an all-island creative partnership established between the Forget-Me-Nots Choir based in Baldoyle, North Dublin, This Is Me Choir from Larne, and Community Arts Partnership 'CAP' in Belfast. Connections with choir members North and South are created through shared creative learning and public performances in both communities. The project is due to conclude with a Gala performance in Stormont Buildings, Belfast, at the end of February 2026.

Fingal Festival of History 2025



Fingal Libraries ninth annual Festival of History took place from Monday 29th September to Saturday 11th October in conjunction with the Dublin Festival of History. This year the programme consisted of 12 talks throughout library branches and a guided tour of St. Mary's Church and Graveyard in Clonsilla. Topics covered included the History of Loreto Convent Balbriggan; Luttrelstown Castle; Ireland's space exploration; the use of DNA in family history research; and culinary experiences at Newbridge House.

Presentations by well-known names such as Flor McCarthy, Turtle Bunbury and Myles Dungan drew sizeable and appreciative audiences. History at the Library Day took place on Saturday 4th October in the Carnegie Free Library in Swords. The talks covered the Carnegie Library itself and the role it played in Swords' life, Gentours Holiday Camp in Skerries, the use of DNA in family history research and the last Theatre Royal, Dublin. The Theatre Royal talk included recordings of music and film from bygone years, with past ushers, usherettes and Royallettes (resident dance troupe) in the audience. The content of the talks, the speakers and the convivial surroundings made for an excellent and very well attended day.

Economic Development

Fingal Skills Strategy Update – November 2025

FUTURE FINGAL:
FINGAL Skills STRATEGY
IDEAS COLLABORATION ACTION

- Fingal Skills Strategy Implementation Group Meeting is scheduled for 25th November 2025.
- Fingal Skills Strategy sub-group meetings are scheduled for 10th – 20th November 2025.
- Inaugural Fingal Skills Summit is scheduled for 18th November 2025 in Riasc Centre, Feltrim Road, Swords
- Review proposals for Neuro-Inclusion Pilot with stakeholders for 2026

Xplore Your Future Fingal TY Skills Expo – Update – November 2025

- Date: 14th October
- Venue: The Helix, DCU

This interactive event is designed to help Fingal TY students explore potential future career possibilities.



This year's Expo was huge success with positive feedback from both teachers and students. This year had the largest number of attendees yet with over 2,500 students from 22 schools across Fingal and c. 80 exhibitors attended the Expo.

Xplore Your Future Competition - Student Skills Competition (Construction, Transport & Logistics)



- Invitations to enter competition issued to 36 secondary schools in Fingal Region.
- Closing date for entries: 19th December 2025.
- Focus: To build awareness of the wide variety of careers and job opportunities in specific industry sectors.
- Aramark and Glenveagh are partnering with FCC to support students with their entries.
- Categories: Senior Category and Junior Category,

Further details are available here:
Student Skills Competition 2025 | Fingal County Council

Interreg Skyla Project – Update – November 2025

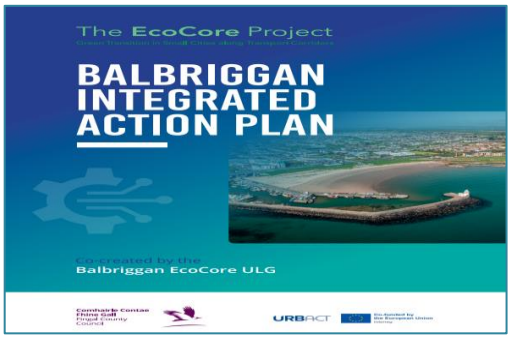
Interreg Europe SMART
Co-funded by the European Union

- The team attended a project meeting held in Bialystok (Poland) from 30th September to 1st October.
- We reviewed implementation of policy improvement and Identification of indicators to measure and monitor effectiveness of policy Improvements.
- Liaised with partners & key stakeholders on good practices.
- The team are currently working on the project and policy improvement reporting documents for semester 5 of the SKYLA project.

URBACT–EcoCore – Update – November 2025

The EcoCore Project
Green Transition in Small Cities along Transport Corridors

- The final EcoCore transnational city visit took place in September in Dubrovnik (Croatia).
- Balbriggan's IAP (Integrated Action Plan) document has been finalised and presented to partners.
- IAP launch event scheduled for 10th December 2025 in the Bracken court Hotel, Balbriggan.



- The EcoCore podcast has been launched, and all episodes are available to listen on Omny, Apple Podcasts & Spotify.
- Focus: the successes, challenges, and learnings of project partners throughout the URBACT EcoCore journey.

Podcast episodes available to listen here: [EcoCore Podcast clips - Omny.fm]



Sustainable Fingal - Update – November 2025

- Consultants appointed to develop the Future Fingal: Fingal Sustainability Strategy.
- Consultants are presenting a draft of the Sustainability Strategy during the November Climate Action and Economic Development SPC meetings.
- Sustainability stakeholder engagement sessions are scheduled for November and December with the internal Fingal County Council team, Business Stakeholders, community groups and the Councillors.

Circular Cities - Update – November 2025

- Ongoing engagement on CCRI Community of Practice
- Feasibility study from EcoCore Hackathon in progress on a Circular Hub and Digital Platform for the Balbriggan area.

LOCAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Fingal LCDC

- Next LCDC Meeting: 16th December 2025
- Healthy Ireland & LECP: Ongoing implementation and review

SICAP Update

- Budget 2025: €1.57M + €425,000 for New Arrivals.
- Mid-Year Review: Annual Plan and Programme of works presented and approved by Committee.
- SICAP 2026 Annual Planning Process for setting KPI targets is now underway.

LEADER Programme Update

- LAG Meeting: 16th October 2025
- 9 projects approved
- Applications currently open for Leader Funding: For rural individuals, businesses & community groups
- Next LAG Meeting: 15th December 2025

Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) 2025

- Budget 2025: €280,000
- Funding Awarded: 92 Fingal community groups (announced 13th June 2025)
- Additional Support: €38,404 allocated for everyday costs (e.g. electricity, heating, insurance etc.)

County Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP)

- Presented to Full Council April 2025, and approved
- Submitted Plan to DRCDG April 2025

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS)

- Funding Secured: €210,500 for 5 projects
- Swim Shelters (€40K each): Donabate, Rush, Skerries
- Feasibility Studies:
- Greenway (Balrothery to Ardgillan Park) – €40,500
- Royal Canal 'Canal Quarter' – €50,000
- One Unsuccessful application: Rush Play Trail



Additional ORIS Applications with DRCDG:

An announcement regarding funding awards under Measure 2 and 3 is awaited from DRCDG. Fingal County Council applied for the following projects:

- Fingal Camino (Measure 2)
- Balbriggan Boathouse & Bathhouse upgrades (Measure 3)

Healthy Steps

- 4 GP Referral walks in Balbriggan, Donabate, Millennium Park and Mulhuddart running until end of November.
- New Mulhuddart route up and running
- Developed By Healthy Fingal and Fingal Active Travel and supported by the HSE
- Linking participants to free indoor activities developed by the sports office for the Autumn/Winter period.





Taking Heads - Let's Talk About Suicide

- A Healthy Fingal, HSE & CYPSC partnership in suicide prevention.
- Barbers complete free online Let's Talk About Suicide training.
- Making barbershops around Fingal safe spaces for mental health conversations.

Sailing into Wellness



- Programme launched in Howth, supporting addiction recovery through sailing.
- Participants complete 4 days training over 4 weeks
- build teamwork, confidence, and wellbeing while learning practical sailing skills.
- Delivered in conjunction with the Drugs Task Force and Sailing into Wellness to promote health, resilience, and community connection.

Let's Play Rush Halloween Event



- Halloween Event took place in Kenure Woods
- Organised by the Let's Play Rush team — Rush Tidy Towns, Rush Community Council, 38th Rush Scout Group and supported by EETCD
- Family friendly carnival games, face painting, and spooky activities in a lively, community-focused atmosphere.

Community Recognition Fund (CRF) 2023

- Funded by the DRCDG
- Fingal allocated €1,813,912 for 26 projects
- Meeting with DRDCDG held in August to analyse submitted claims (€1.6 million)
- EETCD continues to submit drawdown claims as the projects reach completion.

Community Recognition Fund (CRF) 2024

Application Window 1 – €630K (Aug 2024)

Projects:

- Castleknock Community Centre Association CLG for demolition and rebuilding of the old credit union building
- Accessible Transport Project CLG- Locallink Louth Meath Fingal for the purchase of a community bus

- O'Dwyers GAA Club for the provision of wheelchair access and development of facilities
- Hartstown Community Centre for the installation of new windows
- Foroige - Coastal North Dublin for purchase of a mini-bus
- Trinity Gaels GAA Club for pitch enhancement including drainage and surfacing
- Phoenix Football Club for development of equipment storage facilities
- Skerries Harps GAA and Camogie Club for LED floodlighting installation

Application Window 2 – €596K (Feb 2025) Projects:

- Donabate Portrane Community Centre - Safety and Accessibility Works
- St Margaret's GAA Club Astroturf Installation
- Baldoyle Forum - Fire Safety Upgrades
- Corduff Resource Centre Fire Safety Upgrades
- Blanchardstown Centre for Independent Living- Electric Wheelchair Accessible Van
- Phibblestown Community Centre Astroturf Resurfacing
- O'Dwyers GAA Club, Balbriggan - Supply and Installation of Perimeter Fencing

Application Window 3 – €309K (June 2025) Projects:

- Irish Institute of Music & Song, Balbriggan – Enhancement of facilities and equipment purchase
- Corduff Sports Centre – Refurbishment works
- Huntstown Community Centre – Window upgrades
- Lusk's Forgotten Laneway – Upgrade and installation works
- Swords Celtic Football Club – All-weather astro pitch conversion.

ENTERPRISE CENTRES

Following an agreement by the Boards of Directors of BASE, Beat and Drinan Enterprise Centres to consolidate the management of all three centres, the Council has now formed a new legal entity "Innovate Fingal" to drive innovation and focus on the strategic development of the 3 Enterprise Centres. The Council approved the lease of BASE and Drinan Enterprise Centres to Innovate Fingal at the April Council Meeting. An official launch event for Innovate Fingal will be scheduled in Q4 2025.

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.

TOWN REGENERATION OFFICE

Our Balbriggan 2019 – 2030 Rejuvenation Plan – A Socio-Economic Strategy

The Our Balbriggan Programme Office continues to support the governance of the Balbriggan Leadership Group responsible for the implementation of the Balbriggan Socio-Economic plan 2025 – 2030. Four multi-stakeholder pillar groups meet periodically, to progress opportunities around Economic Development, Education, Skills & Employment, Community Development and Sustainability, Climate Action and Bio-diversity. The Public Realm Pillar is chaired by the County Architect and reports directly to the Chief Executive, a nominated Pillar Chairperson provides a report to the Leadership Group at each meeting.



The Balbriggan Leadership Group, is independently chaired by Dr. David Begg and provides stewardship and oversight of the implementation of the Balbriggan Socio Economic plan 2024 – 2030.

The Leadership Group meets four times a year to review progress and challenges of its four Pillar Groups and to receive updates from its Pillar Chairs and a detailed update on the Urban Regeneration Development Fund Programme. Membership comprises the five Balbriggan locally elected councillors and senior representatives from the Public Sector and Local and Community Development stakeholders.



A plenary session for members of the Balbriggan Leadership group and Pillar members has been scheduled for 3rd December. The purpose of the session is to mark the successful renewal and adoption of the Our Balbriggan Plan 2025 – 2030.

The plenary will provide an update on Town Rejuvenation projects, and an opportunity to network, share learnings and opportunities for collaboration.



The Leadership Group met last on October 30th and members were provided with a detailed presentation on the De Bruns site by the Integrated Design Team (IDT), McCullough Mulvin Architects, the meeting was proceeded by a workshop in the Hub where members engaged directly with the IDT.

The Council appointed contractor John Craddock Ltd on the redevelopment of the Quay Street, Harbour & Environs area in Q2 2024. Work is due to be substantially completed in Spring 2026. Work continues to progress well across key elements of the Quay Street & Harbour site.



Phase 4 works are underway with the heritage restoration of the RNLI Boathouse building continuing and work is progressing on the slating of the roof. The new public toilets, harbour pavilion buildings and kiosks are progressing well. The Harbour Pavillion buildings, RNLI Boathouse and adjoining Kiosk and Public Toilet are due to be completed by December 2025. It is intended the buildings will be operational in Q2 2026.

Further works in this phase will incorporate the completion of 2 pedestrian bridges, and ongoing construction of exposed aggregate finish at the Plaza area.





Tender documentation to appoint a contractor for the redevelopment of 2-4 Dublin Street were published on October 24th, with tender submissions due back by November 28th. The property and adjoining commercial unit are set 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, digital learning, training and enterprise activities supported by Fingal Arts Office & local stakeholders. Planning permission was granted at Council in October 2023.



An Integrated Design Team, McCullough Mulvin Architects, have been appointed for the DeBruns site and are progressing work on design options based on best possible uses and site constraints. Stakeholder engagement sessions with local community, civic and business groups, and neighbouring properties were completed, insights gained have been incorporated into a pre-design report. Options contained in the report have undergone preliminary scrutiny, based on scheme objectives and financial and economic viability and a preferred option is emerging. It is intended to proceed to a Part 8 planning public consultation process in 2026.

A Feasibility Study for a Swim Platform has been completed by Langan Consulting (Marine) Engineers, the Programme Office are reviewing the proposed options and costs before progressing next steps.

An Internal Project Team has been established from the Town Regeneration Office, Our Balbriggan Programme Office and FCC Architects to progress the Boathouse and Bathhouse project. Based on the current programme, a public planning process is likely to commence in Q1 2026 with construction commencing in late 2026 allowing completion of the project in Q3 2027.



Our Balbriggan Programme Office continue to work with Operations on a programme of works to enhance spaces for young people. Three locations have been completed in Millpond, Bremore and Charlie Moore Parks.

Following the publication of a Draft Open Spaces Scheme for Balbriggan, Chieftan's Drive / Moylaragh Road on Consult.ie in June, and a presentation to the Balbriggan ACM in September installation will commence Q4 2025 – Q1 2026 and include a Half MUGA, and other outdoor enhancements including seating.

The Our Balbriggan Office continues to generate regular and unique content across all social media channels, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn with over 13,500+ followers across its 5 social media channels.

Lár Bailte ar dTús
Town Centre First

Town Centre First – Lusk

Following the completion of the Lusk for Life Plan, two applications for Project Development Measure funding were submitted to the Department of Rural and Community Development for their consideration and both projects were approved for funding.

These projects were identified in the Lusk Town Centre First Plan and include measures to develop appropriate facilities in Lusk's Central Parks and the feasibility of a farmers' market for Lusk.

A feasibility study examining possible locations for the creation of a farmers' market has now been completed by an appointed consultant, and its recommendations are being examined by the Town Regeneration team. A consultant has also been appointed to examine options for the re-development of parks to maximise their public amenity usage at specific locations in Lusk.

A public consultation took place in the Lusk Community Cultural Centre on 24th October to gather ideas from residents of Lusk for potential public amenity uses of these locations, with further consultations expected soon. A community engagement survey was also launched on 24 October, which will run until 07 November in order to give as many residents and community groups as possible in Lusk the chance to have their say. It is envisaged that, when enhanced, these locations within Lusk will contribute significantly to the vibrancy and social cohesion of the town.

A meeting of the outgoing Town Team for Lusk took place on 02 October, where further progress was made towards agreeing the process for creating a new town team. A Community Forum will be launched soon, from which attendees will be asked to put forward representatives to participate in the new Town Team.





Town Centre First – Balrothery

The new Balrothery Town Team is now established and focussed on implementing the new Town Centre First Health Check document.

In addition, the new Town Centre First Health Check plan has also been completed and is scheduled to be launched by the Mayor of Fingal on 06 November at the Heritage Centre, Balrothery.
This plan will focus on the actions identified by the residential and business communities of Balrothery, and will assist the new town team in accessing government funding.
The launch event will be a key opportunity to promote the plan, and to sincerely thank all those who participated in the capacity building process in Balrothery over the past number of months. The Town Regeneration Office looks forward to continued collaboration with the Balrothery Town Team to ensure that the objectives of the Town Centre First Health Check document are implemented.



Town Centre First – Ballyboughal

Ballyboughal's new Town team has been established, and the new Town Centre First Health Check Plan for Ballyboughal is completed.

The document will be launched by Mayor of Fingal on 11th November.

This is the culmination of many months of hard work and dedication from members of the community. It contains actions and objectives which the new town team have identified, and these actions will have a pivotal impact in creating a village which better caters for all of its residents and businesses. The launch event will create public awareness of the document and the new town team. The existence of such a plan will also enable the town team to apply for government funding to aid with the completion of their projects.

The Town Regeneration office looks forward to working closely with the new town team to help deliver key enhancements for the people of Ballyboughal.



Town Centre First – Donabate

Donabate is the third Fingal town this year to complete a Town Centre First Health Check.

A launch event took place in the Parish Hall, Donabate on 07th October, where the Mayor of Fingal launched the Town Centre First Health Check document for the town. The event was attended by members of the new Town Team, officials from Fingal, and many locals who contributed to the capacity building process throughout the year. This plan will benefit the new Town Team in helping them to address actions identified during the capacity building process and provide a mechanism to apply for government funding.

The Town Regeneration Office looks forward to working closely with the new Town Team in the months and years ahead and wishes to sincerely thank all those who participated in the process.



Town Centre First – Rush

Throughout 2025 the Town Regeneration Office conducted a series of capacity building meetings in Rush with a view to establishing a new Town Team. During these workshops a consultant assisted members of the residential and business communities to identify key actions that they would like to implement to improve the functionality and vibrancy of their town. The Town Regeneration Office also appointed a second town planning consultant to create a new Town Centre First Plan for Rush.

Intensive work has taken place on both of these projects throughout the year, and the Town Regeneration Office is now pleased to confirm that a new Town Team has been appointed for Rush, and a new Town Centre First plan for the town has also been created. The inaugural meeting of the new Town Team will take place in early November, during which it is expected that the new Town Plan will be officially adopted by the team.



Town & Village Renewal Schemes

The Town Regeneration Office is currently facilitating two approved projects under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme from 2023.
A Phase 4 development of Floraville Park in Skerries (€55,800) and upgrades to the Rush Community Centre (€64,350) have been approved by the Department of Rural and Community Development. Work has recently been completed on Rush Community Centre. The finishing touches are also currently being applied on the Skerries project.

A new call for projects in 2025 was announced by the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht (D.R.C.D.G) in March. The Town Regeneration Office sought and received Expressions of Interests from a wide variety of internal and external stakeholder groups by the closing date of 13 June 2025.

Five applications which best met the eligibility requirements of the scheme have been selected and submitted by Fingal County Council to the Department of Rural and Community Development & The Gaeltacht totalling €1,035,450. The Town Regeneration Office expects to receive a response on these applications from the department in the coming months.



Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2024

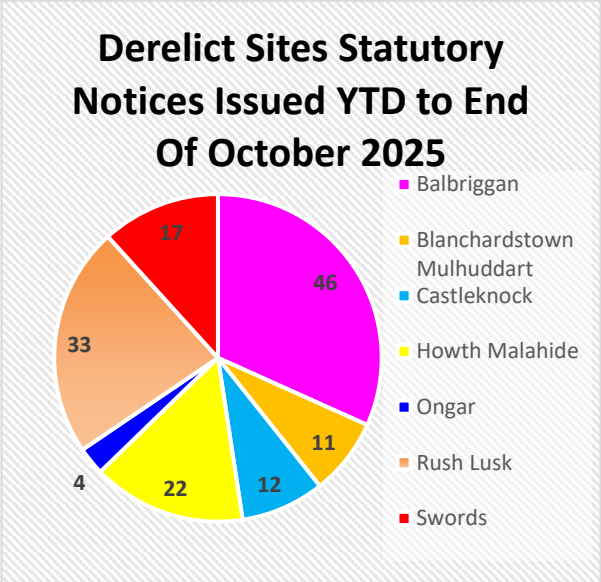
In the most recent Streetscape Enhancement Scheme, nine applications were approved for funding totalling €12,635.28 for a variety of works including painting, green enhancement, and signage improvement.

This scheme has now concluded, and options for a new scheme are being explored.

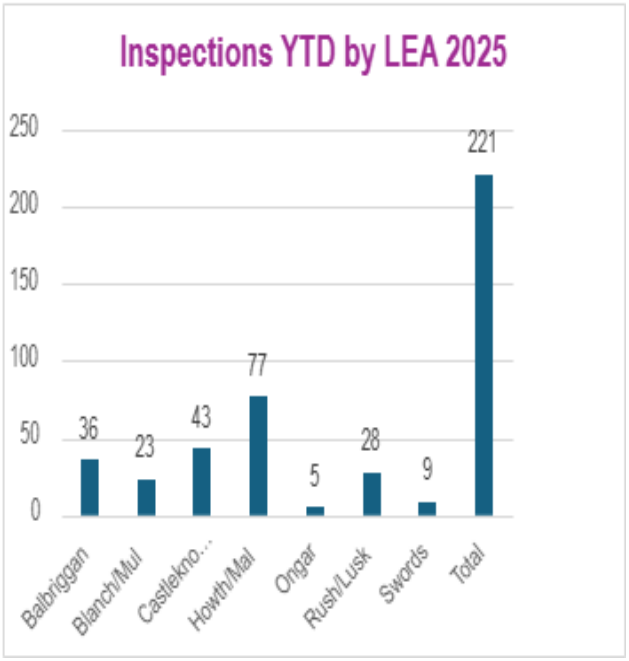


Derelict Sites

145 statutory notices have issued to owners of Derelict properties under the Derelict Sites Act 1990 since the start of 2025 resulting in a further 16 derelict properties being added to the Derelict Sites Register. This brings the total number of properties on the Register to 30.



There have been a total of 221 inspections carried out year to date in 2025 through referrals from members of the public and through the activity of the Derelict Sites team.



The Derelict Sites team continues to focus on engagement with the owners of these derelict sites and will continue identifying further derelict sites across the county.

The Town Regeneration Office actively encourages the reporting of potential derelict sites. Referrals can be made by accessing the Report Form on Fingal County Council's public website and emailing the completed form to derelictsites@fingal.ie

Local Enterprise Office

Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil
Local Enterprise Office

LEO Fingal provides a broad suite of support services to stimulate enterprise and enable small businesses to succeed.

National Women's Enterprise Day (NWED)



Fingal businesswomen came out in force for this year's National Women's Enterprise Day on Thursday, October 16th, at the Radisson Blu Royal Hotel on Golden Lane. Organised by the Local Enterprise Offices in the Dublin region, Ireland's flagship event for women in business was officially opened by Minister for Enterprise, Tourism and Employment Mr Peter Burke TD. More than 300 female founders and business leaders gathered from throughout the Dublin region to network, learn and be inspired by a stellar line up to speakers and panellists.

Cuty Gupta, founder of Cozmotech and winner of the Dublin Regional Enterprise Award 2025 represented Fingal as this year's Ambassador. Her journey and achievements exemplify the spirit of innovation and resilience that National Women's Enterprise Day champions.

Fingal Business Network

Innovating in an Age of Chaos – Fingal Business Network with Mark Little

The next Fingal Business Network Event: "Innovating in an Age of Chaos" with renowned journalist, entrepreneur and innovation expert Mark Little, journalist, founder of Storyful and Kinzen, and leader in the global tech and media landscape, will take place on Friday 5th December in The Grand Hotel, Malahide.



This engaging event will feature practical lessons and fresh perspectives on leadership, adaptability, and creativity in business and as always, the Fingal Business Network provides a valuable opportunity to connect with fellow business owners, entrepreneurs, and leaders and share experiences and ideas over refreshments and networking sessions.

Student Enterprise Programme – Xplore TY Expo in the Helix



LEO Fingal was busy promoting the option to "Be Your Own Boss" at the Xplore Your Future TY Skills Expo at The Helix on 14 October, where over 2,500 TY students and 250 teachers brought incredible energy, curiosity, and creativity.

On the ground floor, information on the Student Enterprise Programme (SEP) was provided, giving students the chance to start a real business while still in school. From gaining hands-on experience in marketing, finance and teamwork, to the opportunity to compete in the Fingal County Final and the National Final in May 2026, SEP offers a powerful springboard for young entrepreneurs.
With exciting prizes from Keoghs, Simtech Aviation, One4All, Blanchardstown Centre, and a trip to Barcelona for the Senior winner, there was huge interest among students and teachers alike.

Many students also asked about the Local Enterprise Office and what supports are available after school – demonstrating their keen interest in entrepreneurship at an early age.

Fingal Business Supports Briefing



On October 8th, LEO Fingal hosted the monthly Business Supports Briefing. The online event attracted 144 registrants and received highly positive feedback. Attendees had the opportunity to engage directly with the LEO team through an open Q&A session.

The next Online Business Supports Briefing is scheduled for November 5th. The October session saw strong participation from local business owners, who benefited from expert advice on training, mentorship, and grant opportunities.

Interest continues to grow in Business Advice Clinics, Start Your Own Business Courses, and Grant Application Workshops. The upcoming briefing will offer even more chances to access these valuable supports. As before, the LEO Fingal team will provide live Q&A sessions and one-on-one consultations to help participants take the next step in their business journey.

Food Sectoral Supports

Dublin Food Chain is a food business networking platform run by the four LEOs in the Dublin region. Four Fingal food producers engaged on an export visit to Belfast along with four food producers from each of the other three Dublin LEO areas.

The visit on 23rd October included meet the buyer visits to Henderson's foodservice, Sawers Retail outlet, a Northern Ireland retail distributor and a talk with a chef, as well as visiting one of the big four supermarkets. The aim of the trip was to encourage the first steps to export for some of our local food businesses. The Dublin Food Chain continues to run many other networking and educational events for food businesses across the Dublin Region including Food Starter, the Digital School of Food and Food Academy.

Evaluations and Approvals Committee

The Evaluation and Approvals Committee (EVAC) has approved 36 projects for total funding Year to Date of €662,346 across Business Feasibility, Priming and Expansion Grants. The next EVAC meeting will be held online on the 12th of November 2025.

Management Development



The Leadership for Business Acceleration programme is currently underway with participants from Fingal and Dublin City LEO's learning about new ways to expand and grow their businesses. This programme has proven to be invaluable to the previous cohorts and has resulted in tangible growth, increased employment and greater ambition. The current programme will complete the learning sessions in November and their Business plans will need to be completed by Mid January. LEO Fingal and LEO Dublin City will run further Leadership for Business Acceleration programs in 2026 and expressions of interest links are open for any interested parties.

Sustainability Supports





The Local Enterprise Office (LEO) provides expertise and incentives to enable small businesses to reduce their carbon footprint and become more sustainable. The Local Enterprise Office has delivered the Green for Business programme to 35 Fingal based businesses Year to date which then allows the businesses to apply for the Energy Efficiency Grant if eligible. The Energy Efficiency Grant provides funding of up to a maximum of €10,000 and 75% of eligible costs, to enable small businesses to acquire energy efficient equipment and processes. To apply, businesses need to be operating from a commercial premises, be solvent and operating within Fingal for at least six months.

This year has seen an increase in interest in this scheme with enquiries coming from across several sectors. 13 companies have been approved for grant assistance under this scheme year to date, with several businesses currently working on applications.

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 provided free of charge to small businesses and are extremely popular. The Fingal mentor panel features 38 skilled and experienced mentors from a range of business backgrounds.

In 2025 year to date, 554 clients availed of one-to-one appointments in Business Advice Clinics and 278 clients have signed up for mentoring, with consistently high demand for this service among Fingal businesses.

Business Loan scheme

LEO Fingal provides a loan scheme through its partnership with Microfinance Ireland (MFI), with loans between €5,000 and €50,000 per approved applicant. LEO Fingal actively promotes the availability of finance to businesses that have difficulty raising funding from their bank. Applications are processed and assessed by LEO Fingal and submitted to MFI. Applications are eligible for a 1% reduced interest rate of 5.5% APR if submitted to and processed by the Local Enterprise Office. So far this year 36 MFI loan applications have been processed. Anyone applying for MFI through LEO Fingal will be supported by an expert mentor who guides applicants through the application process to help maximise their prospect of approval.

Training and Events

LEO Fingal continues to provide vital training to owner/managers with 2,879 participants year to date. Ten Start Your Own Business courses have been provided, with 118 participants year to date.

Internationalisation and Export Development

The new "Market Explorer Grant" is available to small enterprises in the manufacturing and international trading sectors (with up to 50 employees). The amount of the grant is 50% of eligible costs up to a maximum of €10,000. The objective is to support the development of export-oriented businesses by incentivising support to research and explore activities in new markets. Eligible businesses can seek to explore either a new geographic market for an existing product/service or an existing geographic market for a new product/service. LEO Fingal has approved six applications for this grant year to date in the amount of €44,000, with interest in the grant increasing and several businesses currently working on submissions.



In addition to grant assistance, the LEO supports ambitious businesses on their export journey through the "Get Exporting" programme, run at national level throughout all 31 LEOs. Get Exporting is designed to support companies at every stage of their journey to achieve new export sales. Through the Export Development Pathway, the aim is to simplify the export journey for businesses and help build the knowledge, confidence and strategies needed to succeed in global markets. Get Exporting is a collaborative effort between the Local Enterprise Offices and Enterprise Ireland.

Following recommendation based on an export readiness assessment 11 Fingal businesses were among the 120 nationally, progressing through the programme. 60 of these candidates (including 7 Fingal businesses) are progressing to the 'In Market Visit' stage of the programme. Those not progressing can still be considered at a future stage and in the meantime can avail of the support they need to develop their businesses from their Local Enterprise Office. The next Get Exporting programme is due to launch early 2026, with further information available in early November 2025.

Digital & Innovation Supports



The Grow Digital Voucher offers small and medium businesses with up to 50 employees financial support to embrace digital technology. Prior to applying for the voucher, businesses will receive expert digital consulting service completely free of charge in the LEO's "Digital for Business" scheme.

Funding of up to €5,000 to invest in software and training/IT configuration is available under the Grow Digital Voucher Scheme. LEO Fingal have approved 50 Digital for Business assignments year to date and have also approved 12 Grow Digital Vouchers total funding of €31,353.

LEO Fingal provides a regular Digital Boost Webinar to assist business in applying for both Digital for Business and Grow Digital Voucher and to help businesses thrive in this digital age. The next Digital Boost Webinar will be held on Thursday 13th November.

Productivity & Competitiveness Supports



Lean into working smarter, not harder!

Lean For Business is designed to encourage clients to adopt Lean business principles in their organisations to increase performance and competitiveness. Lean is for all companies, regardless of sector – not just for manufacturing companies.

LEO Fingal supports approved clients with a consultant who use LEAN tools and techniques that help companies across the globe to address competitiveness issues within their businesses by building the capability of their people, to identify problems, improve operations and create a more innovative organisation.

Fifteen clients have been approved and are currently undertaking this programme in 2025. A free workshop will take place online on 6th November and attendees will learn from LEAN consultants about "Lean Thinking, & How Small Changes can have a Big Impact!"

OPERATIONS

Contents

Works Programmes
Harbours Update
Car Parking Services
Burial Grounds Services
Traffic Operations County-wide
Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit
Public Lighting
Recycling Centres Update
Licenses
Surface Water

Area Business Totals for May 2025

Area	Public CRM's	Rep CRM's	Area Questions	Area Motions	Headed Items
Balbriggan/Swords	585	79	78	6	3
Castleknock/ Mulhuddart	467	159	23	7	0
Howth/Malahide	304	36	22	3	0
Total	**1,356**	**274**	**123**	**16**	**3**

Works Programme

Donabate

A new Swim shelter installed at Donabate beach as part of the POWs, which also included path & landscape improvement works around the new shelter. This project also received funding support via the ORIS funding scheme and now provides an accessible area for visitors to change or simply sit and view the sea.







Swords

Before and after following leaf clearing at Ashley Estate, Swords.





Burnt out bin replaced at Millers Glen, Swords.





Before and after photos following the clearing of vegetation around bridges on Swords Underpass.





Before and after photos following ivy clearance from a wall in Lioscian, Swords.





Before and after photos following leaf clearing in Rivervalley Park, Swords.





A new pollinator planting scheme installed at the entrance to Ward River Valley park at Brackenstown Avenue. These works were done as part of the recent park upgrades involving the Learn to Cycle area. This the second phase of works after last year's Tree planting project, with New bulb planting and wildflower areas to follow over the coming weeks. This project is being undertaken in collaboration with local residents.





New Bicycle parking racks installed in Millers Glen park adjacent to the MUGA area. This project was initiated following a request by a young park user who regularly cycles to the park to use the facilities with friends and family.



New line markings installed in Ward River Valley Park and Broadmeadow linear park as part of collaboration with the respective Park run groups. This project was initiated by the long established WRV Pk Park run group and will also include the install of timber post directional markers to direct Park runners through the 5km and 2km (Junior) routes within the park. The project coincided with the inaugural Broadmeadow Linear Park park run with the newly launched group in late September.





The cut and collection of meadow areas within the Rathbeale Archaeological Park in Swords which was undertaken by a combination of Operations staff and a contractor who is collecting the arisings. This method of management helps and promotes the establishment of more species diverse wildflower meadows.



A new steel corral installed adjacent to the playground of Ward River park on Brackenstown avenue. This install is part of a phased project to combat the potential access points for unauthorised vehicles entering the park. The corral has been designed to continue to accommodate those park users with mobility challenges, those with Buggies, and forms of cycling bikes also.





Howth/ Malahide Area

Malahide Demesne

New Bicycle racks installed in the coach car park, Back rd. Malahide demesne.



Pedestrian path installed adjacent to the playing pitches, Back Road end of Demesne.



Preparation work for new pedestrian pathway.



Finished surface on new pedestrian path.



9 hole 3 par Golf course Malahide Demesne

Extension and improvement works on Golf Tees.





Work underway to extend the Tee's on the golf course, Malahide Demesne.

Tree works- Malahide Demesne



Playing pitches, Bridgefield below



Spreading of sand to aid the aeration and drainage of the soil for the playing pitches.

Roads / Footpaths – Howth/Malahide Depot Works

The Howth Malahide Crew continue to replace defective concrete footpaths and kerb lines ahead of road resurfacing.



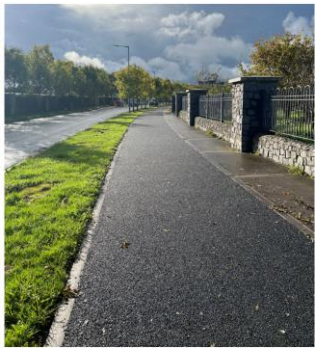






Roads Program of Works

The Contractor has completed all sections of resurfacing of the cycle lane with tar.

Storm Amy –

This storm brought severe winds between Friday 10th to Saturday 11th October. We experienced fallen trees, branches and road/path blockages due to debris during the 17 hour storm period.
Photos below of the work carried out by the How/Mal team dealing with fallen trees & removing debris.





How/Mal staff clearing fallen trees and debris during storm Amy



Cleansing, Beaches and Toilets

Deployment of flood defence barriers at Sutton Strand in advance of Storm Amy.





Flood barrier in place above.



Removal of temporary bins at the Green, Malahide & installation of new permanent bins.



Work being carried out to remediate grave subsidence at Balgriffin Burial grounds





Malahide Parks & Open Spaces

Storm damage in Sutton woods/Redrock. S.A.A.O & S.A.C





Malahide Tidy Towns

New planter installed at open space by Grand Hotel, Malahide.





Howth Malahide team preparing vehicles for the winter gritting season.

Cleansing

Clearance of Fly tipping at Moyne Road and Clothes Bank





Graffiti removal preparation at Oakleigh, Malahide.





Flooding

Flooding situation on Sunday 19th October – Baskin Park. How/Mal crews in attendance.





Talbot Botanic Gardens

Alpine House – Frame and glazing works to date.





Peach House glazing complete at Malahide Demesne.



Drainage works to facilitate rainwater from Peach house and Dutch house.



Dutch house frame and glazing removed, temporary protection installed to provide frost protection to rare plants.





Drainage lines between pond and Dutch house.

Howth Malahide Traffic POW

3 New Bus Ramps installed at Blackwood Lane, Portmarnock.







New Lining & Signing

Installed at Streamstown Lane, Malahide.







Below is works completed to install a drop kerb by St Sabinas Church, Sutton



Castleknock/Mulhuddart Area

Storm Amy





Severe winds from Storm Amy caused widespread tree damage and obstructions across multiple areas. A total of 28 incidents were recorded between 2:15pm Friday and 6:30pm Saturday.
Most incidents involved fallen trees, broken limbs, or debris blocking roads and paths. Immediate safety works were carried out, with follow-up removals and clean-up scheduled during the week.





Deerpark Road

Drainage works were undertaken at Deerpark Road.



Deerpark Road drainage works.



Laverna Dale

Kerb reinstatement works were undertaken at Laverna Dale Blanchardstown.





Orchard Close Blanchardstown

Footpath reinstatement works were undertaken at Orchard close Blanchardstown.



Roselawn Road

Programme of Works 2025 Roselawn Road.



Bramley Blanchardstown

Concrete works were undertaken at Bramley in Blanchardstown.





Clonsilla Village Festival





Clonsilla Village Festival which took place on the 13th & 14th of September in Shackleton Gardens.

Waterville Park



Playground perimeter works were carried out at Waterville park playground, which included reduction of hedge to allow clear visibility into the playground and the installation of a new fence and gates.



Car Parking Services

September 2025

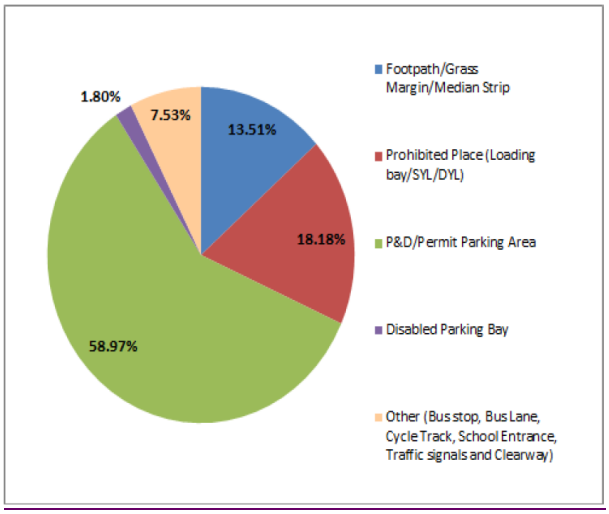
There were a total of 1221 parking tickets issued during September 2025.

Main Ticketing Locations:

Top 10 Locations

Location	Main Ticket Locations September 2025
North Street - Swords	134
Bridgefield Car Park - Malahide	106
Main Street - Swords	61
South Strand Skerries	60
Strand Street - Skerries	51
Harbour Road - Skerries	46
Quay Street (short stay)Carpark - Balbriggan	33
Old Street - Malahide	33
The Green - Malahide	33
Church Road - Malahide	33

Breakdown of Parking Offences:



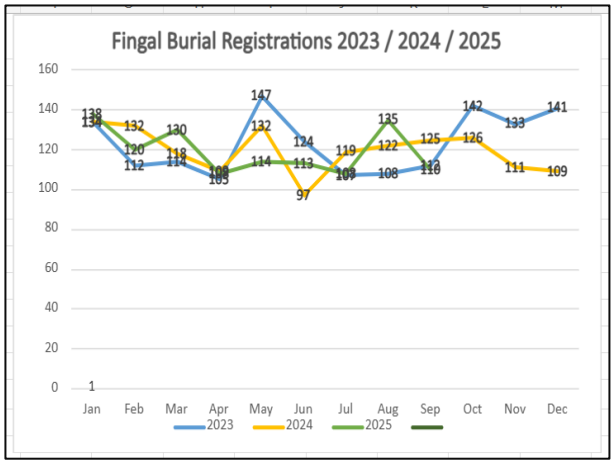
Parking Control Bye-Laws

The Draft Parking Control Bye-Laws 2025 were presented to the 3 Area Committees in October for Noting.

The Revenue Budget for 2026 will include any additional income from the proposed increase in parking fees. This increase will contribute to the new staff resources, 3 No. Additional parking wardens, and public realm improvements and costs at Recycling Centres.

Burial Ground Services

There were 110 Interments in September 2025 in Fingal Cemeteries.



Traffic Operations County-Wide

Default Speed Limits Update

Regarding the 30kph in built up & urban areas, the Department of Transport previously communicated to Councils that we were to proceed with the review and implementation of urban speed limits by special speed limit bye-laws rather than a change in the default speed limit .

In order to undertake the process of setting special speed limits in built up & urban areas, the Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland were being revised. All LA's have been eagerly awaiting their publication. They have just been issued to Councils on the 16/10/2025 via a new Circular. The Circular has directed the LA's to commence the process of reviewing existing speed limits on roads in built-up and urban areas & to set speed limits in accordance with the newly published technical Guidelines. LA's will, where appropriate, introduce 30 km/h speed limits, such as on roads in the urban/built up areas in cities, towns & villages.

The direction by the Minister is for local authorities to start this process with the objective of having the 30km/h speed limits in built-up and urban areas operational by 31st March 2027.

Speed limit changes will be implemented by LAs, through the adoption of special speed limit bye-laws, rather than by changing default limits. Making of bye-laws is a reserved function of local authorities elected members.

Local authorities will hold a statutory public consultation process. Members of the public and stakeholders can make representations to LAs on any proposed speed limit changes, in line with the provisions of the Road Traffic Act 2004, as amended.

Speed limits on roads in built-up and urban areas can only be changed where a majority of the elected members in a Local Authority vote to do so. In 2027, the speed limit changes will come into effect on the dates specified by each LA in their new bye-laws. Signs showing the new speed limit will be installed at appropriate locations, so that road users are aware of any change.

Balbriggan/Swords Area

Flemington Lane, Balbriggan- Traffic calming ramps works in progress.





Howth/Malahide Area

POW 2025: 3 New Bus Ramps installed at Blackwood Lane, Portmarnock.







New Lining & Signing

Installed at Streamstown Lane, Malahide.



New Signals 2025 – Dublin 15

The two sets of pedestrian traffic lights on the Hollywoodrath Road were made operational in October.



Pedestrian lights on the Hollywoodrath Road.

Ramps

Numerous modular speed cushions were replaced with insitu asphalt ones on the Boulevard in Tyrrellstown.





Road markings

Yellow boxes have been installed at the junction of Ongar Distributor Road/Shelerin Road and Ongar Distributor Road/Hartstown Link Road.



Yellow box installed at the junction of Ongar Distributor Road/Shelerin Road



Yellow box installed at the junction of Ongar Distributor Road//Hartstown Link Road.

Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit

93 Plant Hires were put in place from 01/10/2025 to 28/10/2025, engaging 21 suppliers.

7 Fully Electric Renault eMaster tipper trucks purchased for operations.



Public Lighting

Works on the 2025 Public Lighting Programme of Works is progressing.

2025 POW Works jobs Completed to date:

- Village Road / Raheny Roundabout, Lusk
- Dromheath Drive, Mulhuddart
- Warrenstown Green roundabout, Corduff
- Kenure Woods Park entrance, Rush
- Gartan Drive, Swords (two lights were installed here)
- The Nurseries, Swords
- Latchford Close to Old Hansfield Lane walkway beside playing pitches at Phibblestown Community Centre, Ongar
- Millstead Estate entrance, Blanchardstown
- Parnell Green / Church Road Walkway, Mulhuddart
- Turvey Avenue, Donabate - between Beresford Estate and Waterleaf Estate
- Lanesborough Park, Charlestown
- New Haggart Cottages, Balleally
- Glasmore Park Entrance, Swords
- Porterstown Park Main Carpark, Porterstown
- Balgriffin Park, Balgriffin
- Kinsealy Lane, at Bright Sparks Montessori, Kinsealy
- Feltrim Road, besides Feltrim Quarry, Swords
- Streamstown Lane, Malahide
- Howth Village, Howth - East Pier Car Park between Abbey Street and Toilets
- Beechpark Avenue, Castleknock

2025 POW Works in Progress/Ongoing:

- Chapel Close Green / Bremore Green Pedestrian Walkway, Balbriggan
- Forest Road, Swords – Phase 2

Works on the public lighting column replacement programme have commenced.

Public Lighting Column Replacements Completed:

- Dromheath Green, Mulhuddart
- Wellview Estate, Mulhuddart
- Lohunda Estate, Coolmine (Phase 1 – Lohunda Close, Court, Crescent, Dale, Downs, Drive, Green, Grove and Road)
- Thormanby Lawns, Howth
- Lohunda Park, Coolmine (Lohunda Estate, Phase 2)

Public Lighting Column Replacements ongoing:

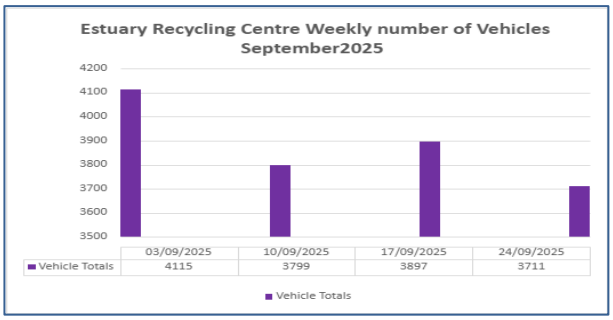
- Ashfield Estate, Mulhuddart
- Woodvale Estate, Clonsilla

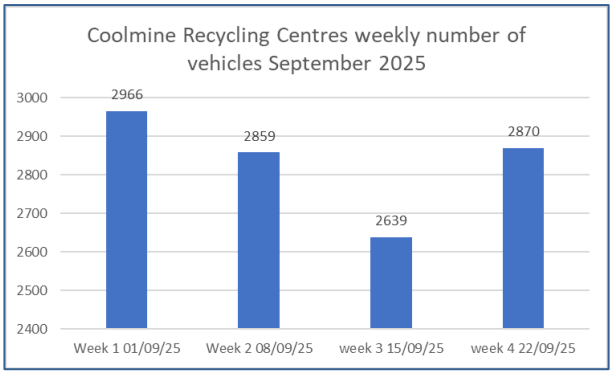
Other public lighting works completed:

- Installation of public lighting on pedestrian walkway from Riverside Court/Old Corduff Road to N3 underpass.
- New columns installed at Skerries Mills pedestrian walkway

Recycling Centres Update

The Council is currently in the process of recruitment of additional Recycling Centre Operators to commence the new opening hours at Coolmine.



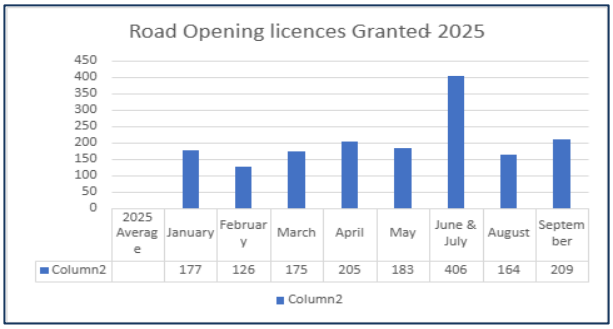


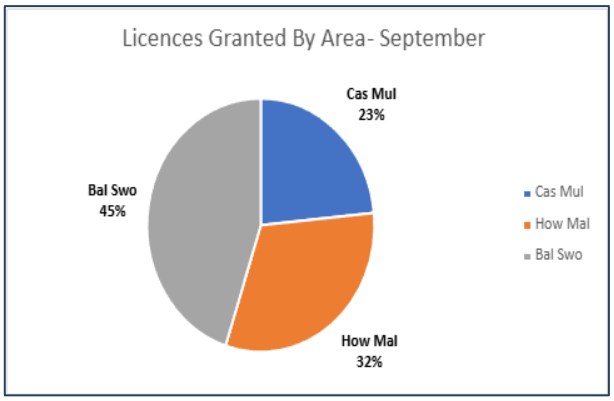
Licenses

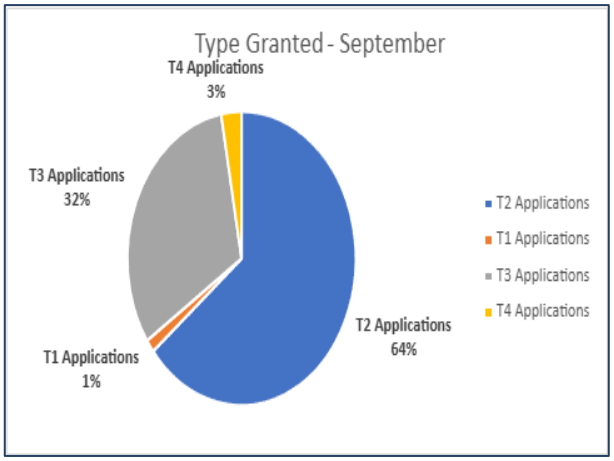
- Road Opening Licenses

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.

209 Licences were granted in the months of September**, 35% 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.







Bus Enhancement Scheme

The Council received a grant of €500,000 for 2026 from the NTA. A list of proposed works at 20 locations were sent to the NTA as pre-approval was required prior to works commencing. In September 2025 the Council received approval totalling €300,000 to proceed with 13 bus stop works. This has been allocated between the 4 operational areas of Howth/Malahide, Dublin 15, Swords and Balbriggan.

- Howth Malahide Area

There are four bus stops approved for upgrading under the Bus Enhancement Scheme in this area. Two are located in Malahide Village, and two at Howth Summit. A tender is due to be published within the next week for a contractor to carry out the works at the stops. It is envisioned that the works will be carried out before year end.

- **Balbriggan Swords Area**

There are two bus stops approved for enhancements on the R127 Skerries Road in Balbriggan. The upgrade includes the installation of new seating, and these works will be undertaken by direct labour. Completion is anticipated before year end.

- **Castleknock/Mulhuddart Area**

There are five bus stop enhancement projects which have received grant approval by the NTA in the Castleknock/Mulhuddart area. These are located on the Ratoath Road (L3080), two on the R122 close to the National Reception Centre, Westmanstown Road, and the R135 in Broughan. A tender is due to be published within the next week for a contractor to carry out the works at the stops. It is envisioned that the works will commence before the year end.

Grass Pitch Applications 2025/26

To date, **74 applications** have been processed, with **71 applicants accepting their allocations**. A total of **€61,765 in fees** has been received.

We've also **begun processing applications for dressing room usage**, with the aim of supporting clubs and community groups ahead of the upcoming season. Applications & pitch maps can be found on the Fingal County Council website / Grass Pitch Applications.

Casual Trading License

Fingal County Council has a total of 43 valid Casual Trading Licences for the 2025/26 trading season covering trading of Hot Food, Tea & Coffee, Ice Cream and Flowers.

All 43 traders are fully licenced for the 2025 trading season. We are currently processing 3 additional applications. The Operations Department is in regular communication with our traders and area inspectors continue to be carried out to assist in delivery of quality service and ensure compliance.

Once complete we envisage a total of 47 Casual Traders operating in the Fingal Administrative area, the highest number to date.



Pilot Scheme Beach Mobile Saunas

Fingal County Council is currently in the process of re advertising any available pitches for Mobile Sauna's throughout the county. This has been done under the Mobile Sauna Pilot Scheme for the off-peak season running from the 01/11/2025 to 31st March 2026. The deadline set for applications is Friday the 24th of October have been issued under the Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2021.

Street Furniture Licences

A total of 31 Street Furniture Licences have been issued in 2025.
All 31 business have paid their licence fee & have been issued with their Licence, which must be displayed prominently in the front window of their business premises.
We have also received an additional 5 applications which we are currently processing & provisional inspections are being carried out.
Partial Street Furniture Refunds are been processed in line with Circular Letter SPI 01/2025 Planning and Development (Street Furniture Fees) Regulations 2025 (S.I 367 of 2025)



Harbours

Skerries Harbour:

The outer pier (constructed in the 1960s) has surpassed its engineering design life and is in a progressive state of collapse. Accordingly, this section of pier was closed and declared off-limits to all during summer 2025.

Design studies and a preliminary design to encapsulate the existing pier and construct a new, larger pier around it were completed in 2024. Planning Approval for the proposal was granted by An Bord Pleanála on 4th September 2024.

The Council submitted an application for Foreshore Licences to the Department of Agriculture, Food & Marine (DAFM) in December 2024. Two such licences were applied for:- **(a)** to undertake boreholes in the seabed so as to inform the engineering design of the foundations required for the new pier. This would allow the engineering design to be completed, and tenders issued to the market to procure contractors for the construction of the new pier, AND **(b)** a licence to carry out the construction of the new pier itself. These licences are being progressed by DAFM but may take up to 18 months meaning it could be 2027/8 before construction of the new pier can commence.

During 2025 and while awaiting licences from DAFM, extensive regular inspections and monitoring of the pier have been on-going. It has been observed that the rate of deterioration has been rapidly accelerating over the course of the year with evidence of increased loss of material from within the pier creating a number of cavities which increases the risk of a sudden collapse of the pier.





A contractor is to be engaged in the coming months to fill the cavities with concrete in an effort to stem the rate of loss of material from within the pier and to slow down the rate of collapse of the pier pending the grant of licences from DAFM and the construction of the new pier. It is important to be aware that this work cannot render the pier safe and fit for use. Funding is provided in the Capital Budget for these works.

Balbriggan Harbour:

It is the intention of the Operations Department to carry out maintenance dredging of Balbriggan Harbour so as to improve navigation and berthing facilities within. Approximately, on average, 1m+ depth of sediment is to be removed from throughout the harbour basin. Tender documents are nearing completion for the procurement of a suitable contractor.

The Exempted Development Planning Application, to carry out the maintenance dredging was lodged with the Council's Planning Department in accordance with Section 5 of the Planning and Development Act 200 and the decision is currently under review and appeal process.

An application is also being prepared for submission to the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA) for Marine Usage Licence (MUL) which is necessary before maintenance dredging can be carried out. A necessary part of the application to MARA will be the determination from the Council's Planning Department as to whether maintenance dredging can be deemed to be planning exempt. As with the DAFM process, it has been indicated that the MARA application process can take two years or more.





Photos show previous maintenance dredging undertaken in 1996.

Loughshinny Harbour:

The Operations Department also proposes to dredge a channel alongside the pier in Loughshinny, again to improve navigation and berthing facilities. Ayesa Consulting Engineers were appointed during the summer of 2025 to undertake the necessary surveys, nature assessment, design etc. The process, which is similar to that for the Balbriggan dredging, is still at a very early stage and again a MARA licence will be required. A conservative timeframe for when dredging could take place is 2027/8.



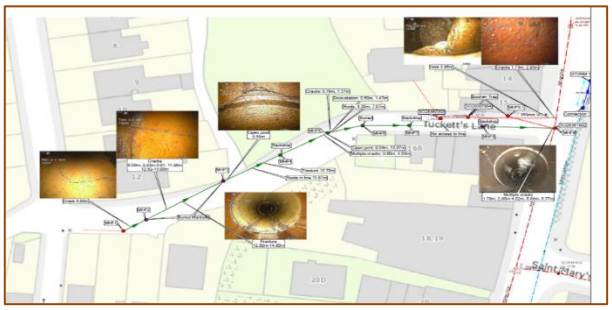
Surface Water

Stormwater Capital Programme 2025-2027

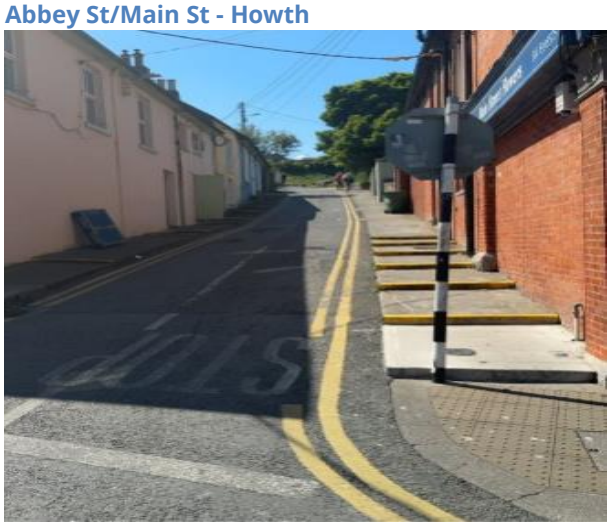
Fingal County Council are continuing to progress projects in the 2025-2027 Stormwater Capital Programme. The 3-year programme includes 16 projects estimated at €1.7 million. Below is a brief update in relation to the status of some of the projects.

Howth Stormwater Culvert:

This project consists of the design and construction of a Stormwater culvert replacement on Howth Main Street (Work Package A) and the separation of a combined sewer on Tuckett's Lane, Howth (Work Package B). Site investigations for WP B took place on 25-29th August and final design drawings were prepared for works to commence in January 2026 with a road closure. Work package A design options are being reviewed for the defective sections of pipe/culvert on Main Street with the preferred solution to lay a new 1200mm pipe to replace the existing culvert. Further surveys and site investigations are required to inform the detailed design.



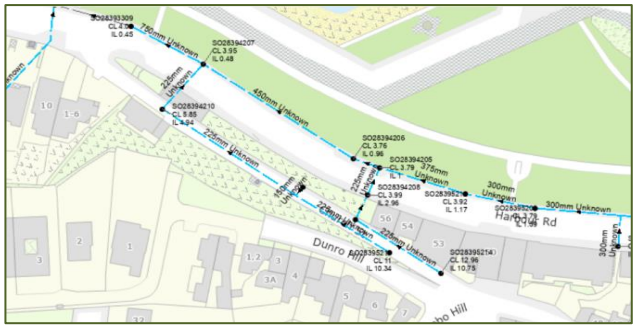
Abbey St/Main St - Howth



Tucketts's Lane, Howth

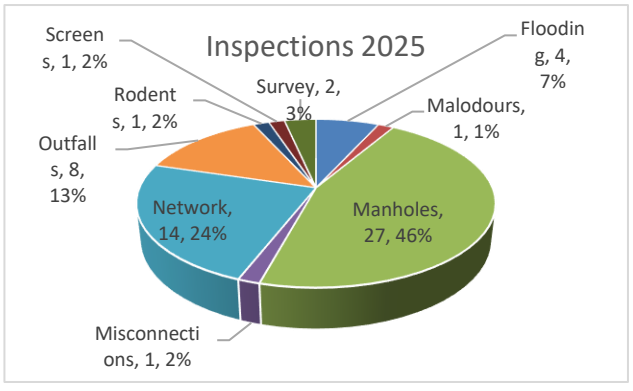
Lusk Network Remedial Works:
Phase 3. A works schedule has been developed to carry out pipeline repairs on Main St, between Post Office Road and Chapel Road junctions. Project material procurement will commence in January 2026. Site set up and works commencement will start in February 2026.

Church Road, Howth Stormwater Network Repairs
Network improvements were identified for the Church Street, Dunbo Hill and R105 areas of Howth. Following optioneering and additional GPS surveys, an in-house design is near completion. Project material quotations have been sought, and work will commence on the 11th of November under a road closure and a project plan of 6 weeks.



Church St, Howth

Storm Water Maintenance
The types and volumes of issues reported are shown in the chart.



Storm Water Connections:
To date 18 Stormwater Connection Applications have been processed in 2025.

Networks
Swords
Survey works in the Hilltown, Forrest Avenue, Rathingle Rd, Cherry Garth and Rivervalley Lawns estateswere completed in July. The completed reports were broken down into a number of work packages. Quotations have been sought for the specialised elements of the repair works and liner installations. Some minor advanced interventions will be carried out by Direct Labour in December with the main works commencing in Q1 2026.




River valley, Swords

Malahide/Portmarnock
Chalfont
Following the completion of invasive repairs and UV CIPP liner installations a 3rd party intrusion will need to be removed by the Utility body to complete all works in the Chalfont estate.


Chalfont, Malahide

Santry -Northwood Avenue

Following surveys carried out by Operations, several defects were identified on the Stormwater line that runs along the R132. This survey report is currently being analysed to develop a remedial works programme.

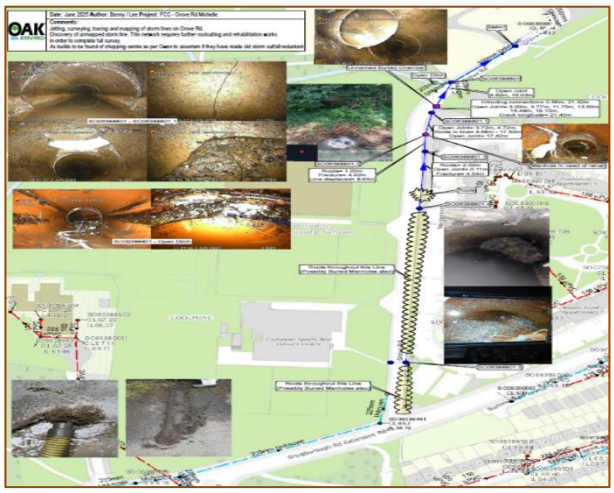
Dublin 15

Surveys were carried out in Mount Symon, D15. A possible Foul to Storm misconnection has been identified with large volumes of Stone, Silt and roots identified in the lines. Remedial works will require additional dye testing, surveys and the installation of a UV CIPP liner to repair defects if required. A specialist contractor has been engaged with start date to be agreed.



Mount Symon, Clonsilla

CCTV surveys were carried out in the Grove Road area of Blanchardstown during August. A number of issues were identified within these lines. Remedial work will require the raising of buried manholes, additional jetting, root cutting and the installation of liner repairs.



Grove Rd, Blanchardstown

Howth

CCTV survey along Seaview Terrace have identified capacity issues with the lines including pipe sizing and buried/inaccessible manholes. Feasibility is currently being considered to excavate the existing line a renew it with a more appropriately sized pipe.



Seaview Terrace, Howth

Baldoyle

Jetting and CCTV camera work is ongoing to clean and identify defects within the SW in Abbey Park with a view to preparing a works programme.



Abbey Park

Balrothery

Following reports of surcharging water in the footway on Coach Rd a CCTV survey revealed a collapsed pipeline full of debris. The damaged pipe has now been replaced, and the area has been reinstated

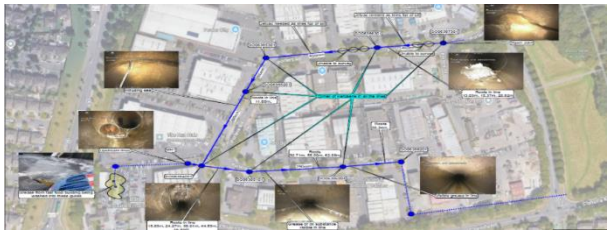




Coach Road, Balrothery

Surface Water Pollution

Investigations are ongoing in conjunction with the FCC pollution section to determine the source of a pollutant intermittently making its way into the Tolka River via a Stormwater Outfall. CCTV survey and extensive dye testing of the surrounding network has taken place and investigations are ongoing.



Coolmine Industrial Estate



Survey in Coolmine

Ironworks

Stormwater manhole cover and frame replacement is ongoing countywide. Manhole cover and frame replacements were carried out in Skerries and Loughshinney



MH cover replacement, Loughshinney

Outfalls and Screens

Following reports of a damage to a Stormwater screen along Dublin Road in Baldoyle a Contractor has been appointed to remove the existing end of life screen and replace it with a new unit.



Outfall, Baldoyle

Preventative Maintenance (Jetting) Programme

Work has recently begun on a countywide preventative maintenance programme. A specialist Contractor has been procured to carry out maintenance and preemptive jetting on a number of networks. These networks have been identified as suffering from slow flows and regularly fill with silt and debris. Jetting works were carried out in Castleknock View, Abbey Park, Seaview Terrace, Westway & Carrick Court.

Underground Stormwater storage Assets

Continuing Identification and recording of underground storm water management assets county wide. There are 48 such structures recorded.

Beaches

Following another successful bathing season for Fingal, below are the stats from our Beach Lifeguards for the 2025 Bathing Season:

	Rescue	Rescue Craft	1st Aid	Lost Child	Advice Given
Balbriggan	1	0	45	10	301
Skerries South	2	0	90	0	525
Loughshinny	0	0	6	0	85
Rush North	0	0	1	0	25
Rush South	1	0	7	0	268
Portrane	0	0	0	0	24
Donabate	1	0	40	7	374
Malahide	29	12	17	2	598
Portmarnock	1	1	101	25	1297
Sutton	19	2	36	13	507
Howth	0	0	16	2	219
JUN-SEPT FULL RETURNS	54	15	359	59	4223

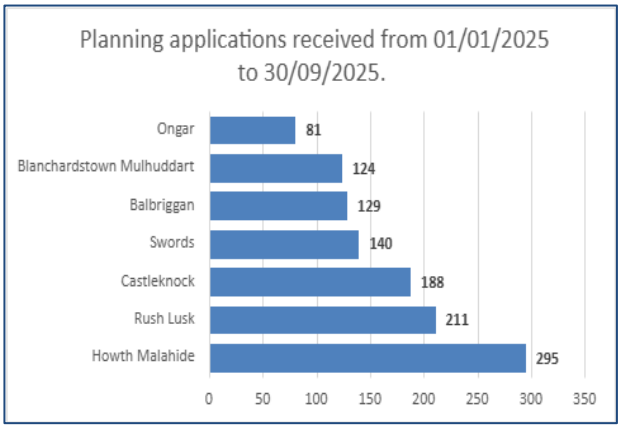
PLANNING AND STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE (PSI)

Contents

Planning Applications
Planning Decisions
Building Control Admin
Strategic Policy Unit
Built Environment Division
Transportation Planning
Heritage Officer

Planning Applications

Between 1st January and 30th September 2025, a total of 1,168 planning applications were received, including 865 electronic applications via the national portal. Of these, 278 applications were deemed invalid, resulting in 890 valid applications. The accompanying bar chart illustrates the distribution of applications across the various areas.



During the same period, 10 Large-scale Residential Development applications were submitted to the Local Authority, with 9 decisions issued on LRD applications.
Additionally, An Coimisiún Pleanála has not issued any decisions on Strategic Housing Development applications during this period.

Planning Decisions

Between 1st January and 30th September 2025, a total of 1,054 planning decisions were issued. This includes 837 decisions to grant permission and 213 refusals of permission.

Building Control Admin

In September 2025, there were 171 building control submissions made via BCMS.
This was made up of 93 Commencement notices, 29 Compliance of Completion Certificates, 26 Fire Safety related Certificates and 23 Disability Access related Certificates.
Commencement notices and Compliance on Completion Certificates are submitted through the Projects module on BCMS. Fire Safety, Disability Access, Regularisation and Dispensation / Relaxation Certificate applications can be submitted online via the Applications module on BCMS, and the Council accepts hard copy applications directly into the office. Most applications are now being submitted via the online system.
The Building Control Admin team processed 118 decisions in September 2025 relating to Fire Safety and Disability Access Certificates. This was made up of 45 decisions to grant, 70 extensions of time, 1 refusal and 2 invalids.



Strategic Policy Unit

Local Area Plans, Masterplans and Framework Plans

The first round of Plans emanating from the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 continue to be progressed.

The Clonsilla Framework Plan was adopted by the Elected Members at the sitting of Fingal Co. Co. on the 12th May 2025.
The draft Old School House Masterplan was on public display between 30th June and 11th August 2025. This Masterplan provides for the sustainable development of the lands having regard to their unique local setting. Over 270 submissions have been received. The Chief Executive's Report has been issued to the Members and the Masterplan will be brought to the local ACM in November.

Further preparatory background analysis is being undertaken in relation to a number of other plans/studies, including advancement through the procurement process.

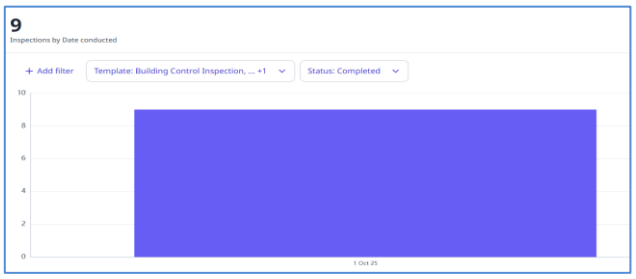
Residential Zoned Land Tax

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. Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) is a tax aimed at activating serviced, zoned land for housing. On the 31st January 2025, Fingal Co. Co. published the annual RZLT map for 2025 followed on the 1st February 2025 by the publication of the draft annual map for 2026, identifying land currently in scope for the tax; land proposed to be removed from current scope; and land proposed to be included. The local authority has concluded a review of all submissions received on foot of public consultation for the annual RZLT map for 2025 and the draft annual RZLT map for 2026. 11 appeals have been submitted to An Coimisiún Pleanála and are being assessed.

Section 28 Guidelines – NPF Guidelines: Housing Growth Requirements

Following the publication of the revised Section 28 Guidelines in July 2025, we have initiated a detailed review of the adequacy of existing zoned lands to meet Housing Growth Requirement targets for the full duration of the current development plan.
This review is actively underway and involves assessing the likelihood of residential lands being delivered within the remaining plan period.

We are examining factors such as planning history, site activation, and servicing potential. Where concerns arise about deliverability, we are exploring the scope for alternative zoning to support short- to medium-term housing delivery.
While no decisions have been reached at this stage, substantial progress has been made in applying the Guidelines. Work is ongoing to prepare the Chief Executive's Report, which will outline our findings and next steps and should be completed in the coming weeks. A further briefing for councillors will be scheduled shortly.



Building Control

- 9 building control inspections were carried out in October 2025 so far, covering 22 Buildings.
- There was 4 no. Section 11 request for further information issued during the month of September 2025.

Taking in Charge.

There were 3 estates taken in charge in October 2025

- Glaslinn, Donabate, Co Dublin
- Taylor Hill Phase 1 & 2, Balbriggan, Co Dublin
- Greenbrook, Rush, Co Dublin

There is one road up for taking in charge in November 2025

- Greys Lane Howth

And 4 estates up for taking in charge in December 2025 meeting

- Forest Little/Barbertown Road adjoining Dublin Airport.
- Foothpath outside the Clonross development in Dublin 15.
- St. Marnock Bay Portmarnock.
- Kinsealy woods Kinsealy.

There are 48 developments with formal Taking in Charge requests, and an additional 327 developments recorded in our system.

- We have appointed O'Connor Sutton Cronin as our Consultant for managing Taking in Charge works where we have taken the bond. The first contract is for Chapelwood, Alderwood and Redwood in Dublin 15. The consultants are currently gathering background information on this scheme

Dangerous Structures

- 1 dangerous structure was reported in October 2025.
- A total of 106 dangerous structures remains active in our database

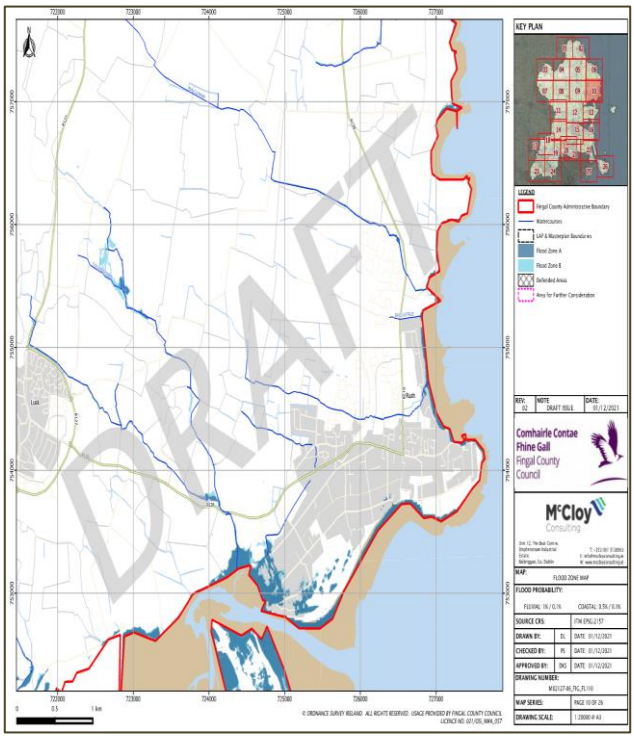
Pictures



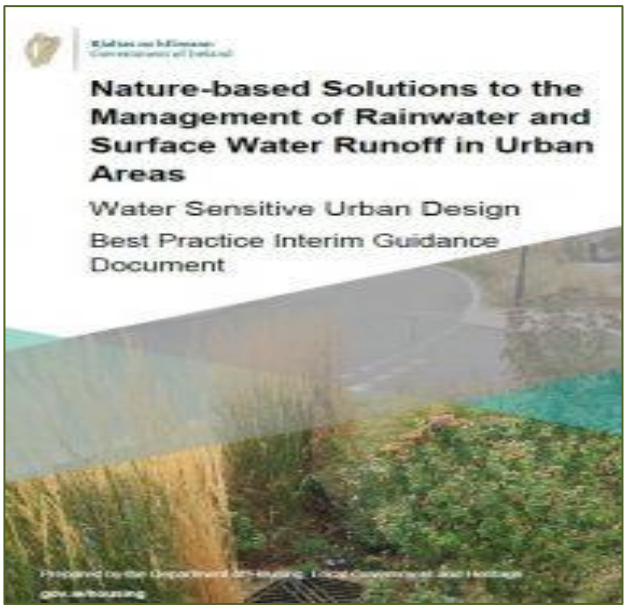
Checking Insulation in a duplex building in Kinsealy

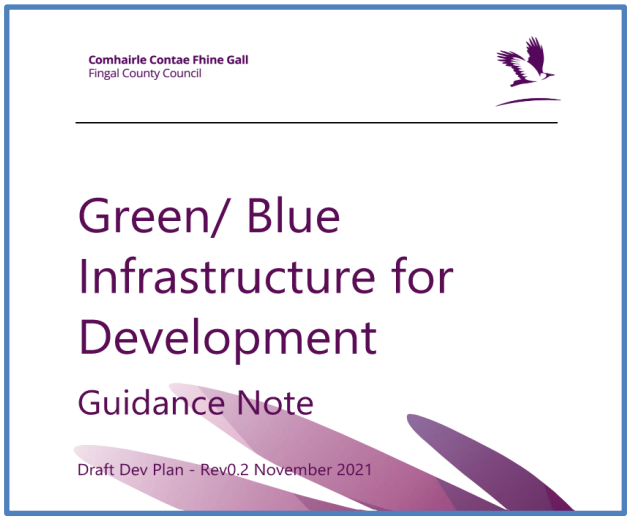


Inspecting floor joists in a house in Rush



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.

Surface Water Management Plans (SWMP)

The procurement process is complete for the preparation of Surface Water Management Plans for *Northwood, Kilbarrack and Baldoyle.* Completed SWMP`s for Northwood, Kilbarrack and Baldoyle were submitted to FCC and approved in January 2025. McCloys Consulting Engineers are currently preparing the SFRA and SDS for Dubber with submission expected in October 2025.
JBA Consultant Engineers have been appointed to complete a SWMP for Barnhill. A purchase order has been raised, and a project kick off meeting took place in May 2025.Completion is forecast for October 2025.

Domestic SuDS Guide

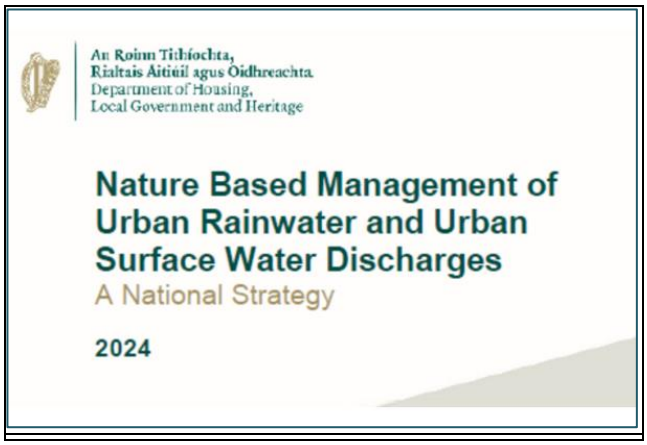
McCloys Consulting Engineers were appointed to produce a Domestic SuDS Guide for FCC. This was completed in Q3 2024, the guide is available on Fingal`s website along with a short presentation video.

Green Blue Roofs Guidance Document

McCloys Consulting Engineers have been appointed to produce a Green Blue Roofs Guidance Document for FCC. This was awarded in Q3 2024 and was completed in Q3 2025.A short promotional video is expected in Q4 2025.

National Guidance

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage has issued "Nature Based Management of Urban Rainwater and Urban Surface Water Discharges A National Strategy" in May 2024.



Irish Water

Staff ceased completing Irish Water templates for planning files in October 2024.

Transportation Planning

PSI 001 Snugborough Interchange upgrade

The contractor is continuing to carry out snagging at the interchange.



002 Ongar Barnhill Road

Bam Civil Ltd. constructed most of the new bridge over the railway line during 2024. Road surfacing, signage, road marking and water infrastructure is being completed. ESB Networks are installing cabling and associated equipment to enable power for the public lighting and traffic signals. Recently laid watermains need to be connected into the Uisce Eireann network over the coming weeks.

There will be temporary traffic management on the R149 in Q4 at the junction with Barberstown Lane South while the new junction is being formed. The overall scheme is expected to be completed in Q4 2025. Updates for the scheme will be posted on www.fingal.ie/ongar-barnhill



PSI-039 – R132 Connectivity Project



Project summary

The Tender Pack was finalized, along with the contract procurement documents and NTA gateway approval was granted, and the project is currently out to tender as part of the Stage 2 of the tender process for the construction phase of the Project.

Meetings and Workshops

Following workshop meeting of various projects in the Swords area and discussions, as well as knowledge sharing on it projects timelines and phasing plus also gathering feedback on these projects to assist in managing the mitigation measures that may be required at key locations.

Monthly meetings with Uisce Éireann are being held monthly to discuss and align the details of a State Body Agreement for the foul water sewer across the Estuary Roundabout to be incorporated into the project.

Coordination/Progress meetings with NTA and TII/Metrolink which are being held monthly and is continuing through 2025.

PSI-005 Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route

The Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route for this key infrastructure project for Balbriggan consisting of 3km fully segregated Pedestrian and Cyclist Route connecting 6 schools in Balbriggan. This Project is now at substantial completion. The contractor is continuing to with 90% of snags completed. The permanent commemorative plaque has been installed at the civic space beside the public car park at the Dublin Roundabout.

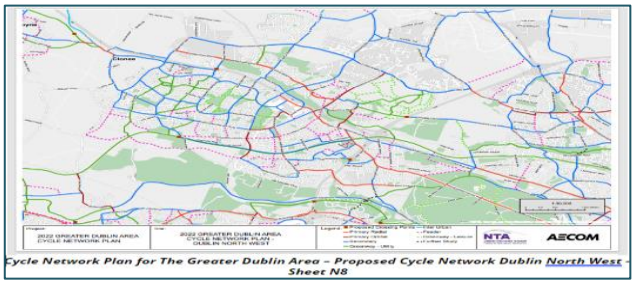


Comparison Photos of before and after Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route Project



Consultancy Framework for Dublin 15 Walking and Cycling Projects

The Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department recently signed a Single Party Framework for Engineering Consultancy Services for Pedestrian and Cycling Route Projects in the Dublin 15 Area.



Cycle Network Plan for The Greater Dublin Area – Proposed Cycle Network Dublin North West - Sheet N8

RPS Engineers Consulting Ltd was appointed Fingal County Council Consultants for the Framework for Dublin 15 Walking and Cycling Projects.

PSI 063 – Pedestrian & Cycling Scheme at Granard Bridge

The first contract as part of this framework will be to undertake phases 2 to 4 for a new Pedestrian and Cycling Bridge at Granard Bridge Castleknock Road which will cross the Dublin Maynooth railway and Royal Canal, parallel to the existing road bridges over the canal and railway, with access for pedestrians and cyclists only.

This 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. This will also improve pedestrian and cycle safely at Granard Bridge and further promote the use of more sustainable travel patterns, in line with Government Policy and the cycle network plan for the greater Dublin area.

Meetings and Reports

Monthly meetings are being held to progress the project and discuss key points, such as route options and possible constraints to be overcome. In addition, an ecological inspection in the Castleknock area to gather valuable data and a better understanding of the local ecosystem ensuring that any future developments or environmental strategies are informed by the best available ecological information.

Regular meetings are continued to be held with Irish Rail / Dart+ West team and Waterways Ireland to discuss the projects and ensure that the design and planning proposals are well-integrated.
A non-statutory public consultation meeting will take place in October. Prior to this, a briefing meeting was held with the councillors of the Dublin 15 area to present the project and facilitate an open discussion.

The design team has developed several route options along with the preferred route option which will be included into the next phase of the project which will included as part of the non-statutory Consultation.

Project Programme

The project programme has begun by the Project Design Team with the Concept Development and Options Selection phase 2 now underway. Next phase will be moving onto phase 3 preliminary design before to phase 4 the statutory processes to obtain planning for the project. Throughout these phases there will be the requirement for regular consultation with all stakeholders including public representatives.

This project design will allow for a much-needed Pedestrian and Cycling link from the new Bridge north to the Roselawn Road/Castleknock Road junction and south to the Laurel Lodge Road/Castleknock Road junction. No alternations are proposed to these existing junctions only to tie into the existing junction's infrastructure.



Granard Bridge Site location



Granard Bridge Street View

For more information and keep updated on the project, please see a recent set-up web page for the new Pedestrian and Cycling Bridge at Grange Bridge Castleknock Road.
Pedestrian & Cycling Bridge at Granard Bridge, Castleknock Road, Dublin 15 | Fingal County Council

PSI -036 Clonsilla-Damastown Cycle Route

Fingal County Council have been working on the Clonsilla-Damastown Cycle Route project brief and the tender documentation are now finalised for tender publication under the Single Party Framework for Engineering Consultancy Services for Pedestrian and Cycling Route Projects in the Dublin 15 Area.

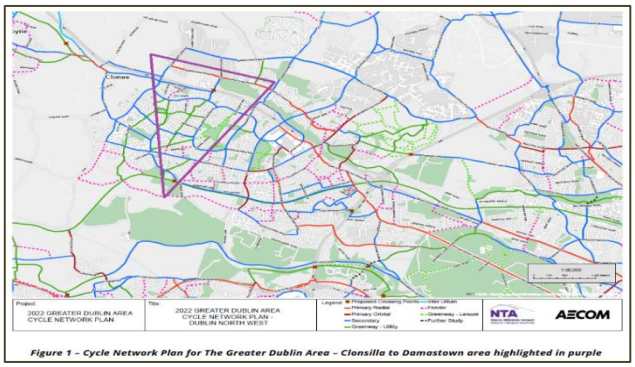


Figure 1 – Cycle Network Plan for The Greater Dublin Area – Clonsilla to Damastown area highlighted in purple

PSI – 004 Royal Canal Urban Greenway

The project team from the Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department is continuing to finalise the preliminary design in consultation with all the key stakeholders, the National Transport Authority, Irish Rail 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.

In November 2024 Fingal County Council requested consent from Waterways Ireland and Irish Rail to make a planning application for the Royal Canal Urban Greenway on their Lands to An Coimisiún Pleanála. Fingal County Council received consent from Irish Rail in July 2025 to proceed with making an application their Lands to An Coimisiún Pleanála.
Waterways Ireland informed Fingal County Council in September that they will issue a letter of support for Fingal County Council to make an application to An Coimisiún Pleanála for the project on their lands. Alterations to the preliminary design from Hansfields to KCC Boundary on widths was agreed following further discussion with Waterways Ireland in September.

The project is currently at preliminary design stage, and following further discussion with Waterways Ireland throughout 2025 the project team reached agreement with Waterways Ireland on the design for the Greenway widths and level in the area between the Kildare border and Collins Bridge in September 2025.

This now requires a body of work to be undertaken to update the EIAR, RSA & EAA, Prelim Business Case, photomontages and do more up to date habitat and ecology surveys which is now been undertaken.
Current Landowner checks and land referencing are being maintained and kept up to date for the project.
Following completion of the preliminary design, all the required documents which includes the Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be prepared prior to making the planning application to An Coimisiún Pleanála.

PSI – 065 Seamount Road Footpath Connectivity Project

Seamount Road Footpath Connectivity Project will provide for improved accessibility for all road users, in particular pedestrian users as there were no pedestrian footpaths along the eastern end of Seamount Road on the approach to the new development's entrance.

The route also forms one of the local health walks (Sli Na Slainte), the coastal walk between Malahide and Portmarnock. The route also connects to the park lands at Robswall and Paddy's Hill and forms a direct link to and from the only local secondary school, Malahide Community School (MCS) - reducing a 4km route by bike or car to a c. 1.5km walk/cycle and helping to reduce traffic volumes through the centre of the town. The Traffic Survey now programmed to be carried out after the school mid-term break in Early November. When the survey has been completed the Options Report will be finalised. The Council continues to liaise with the Key Stakeholders. Discussions are progressing well.





S2M Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme –

The preliminary design drawings have been reviewed by the NTA, and the stage 2 road safety audit has been and an equality audit were completed. Revised preliminary design general arrangement drawings have been received which have incorporated the recommendations of the Road Safety Audit and the Equality Audit into the scheme where required. These are under review.

Pavement design drawings, drainage drawings and drawings to identify the locations of utilities within the scheme have been received and are under review. The project will liaise with utilities to discuss any required diversion works. Public Lighting preliminary design is progressing.

The latest revision of the 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.

Design for structures along the route is progressing using the findings from the Ground Investigations. This includes design of the Malahide Tennis Boardwalk, promenade extension at Baldoyle, Sluice River Bridge, Station Road culvert and Burrow Court retaining wall. Wintering bird surveys have been completed which are required to feed into the planning application. An updated scoping report has been completed and will be circulated to prescribed bodies.

Following completion of the preliminary design, documents will be prepared for a planning application to An Bord Pleanála. This includes preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Natura Impact Statement and Compulsory Purchase Order documentation.

Engagement with potentially impacted property owners, businesses and stakeholders is ongoing. The project team will contact landowners in the coming weeks to discuss the compulsory purchase order process and the scheme and acquisition requirements. Updated land requirement drawings are being drafted. These will be provided to landowners in advance of submission of the planning application for the scheme. The first batch of these are under review.

Meetings have been held with Irish Water to ensure coordination of the scheme with planned and existing assets. A search of unregistered lands is ongoing for production of the deposit maps for the land acquisition. Draft documents are being prepared for the submission to An Bord Pleanála.



Above- Artist visual of possible layout for the Sutton to Malahide Pedestrian and Cycle Route at Portmarnock

Swords Cultural Quarter Public Realm

The new proposed Public Realm is a key feature of the overall Swords Cultural Project. The pedestrian priority public spaces framed between the Castle, the SCC Building and Fingal offices (County Hall) will serve as a civic amenity space providing a place for festivals, events, markets as well as an everyday meeting place for the local community.



Above- visualisation of the Part 8 proposals for the SCQ public realm layout at North Street

The Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department has procured a Multi-Disciplinary Consultancy team for the detailed design and construction supervision of the public realm at Swords Cultural Quarter. Consultants are now progressing with the detailed design phase for the Swords Cultural Quarter Public Realm. Discussions are ongoing with the National Monument Services and an application for Ministerial Consent will be made for the public realm works as the design progresses. The tender pack and contract documents for the public realm works are being developed alongside the detailed design. An application for ministerial consent for the works has been sent to National Monuments Service.

Swords Main Street Transformation

Swords Main Street is a key recommendation from the Sustainable Swords Strategy. The project aims to enhance and transform Main Street, the heart of Swords into a destination, which encourages people to stay longer and enables a more attractive, people-friendly, diverse, and enjoyable town centre experience for local residents, businesses and visitors alike. At its core, this ambitious transformation seeks to reimagine Main Street as a hub of urban activity, with distinctive character and vitality while fostering a sense of community and connectivity through the provision of high-quality public realm to enhance the human experience of the place.



Above- Artist impression of possible intervention at Swords Main Street presented in Sustainable Swords Report 2022 which shows Main Street central public realm, pedestrian amenity zones, raingardens and new street trees

Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department has appointed a multi-Disciplinary Engineering Consultancy for the Option Selection, Preliminary Design and preparation of the application for Planning Consent for Swords Main Street Transformation Project. The commencement meeting occurred in January 2025.

The consultant has completed various baseline studies. The project is at the option identification and selection phase. The consultant has provided a Land use survey, geotechnical report, disability audit, collision analysis, Ecology and Environment report and problem identification report. A concept development workshop is planned to progress the option selection and preliminary design for the scheme.

The initial set up of the transport model to analyse any traffic management interventions proposed as part of Swords Main Street Transformation is ongoing. Traffic data captured in recent surveys will be fed into the model to allow for various scenarios for traffic flow to be modelled. A parking a parking report is currently being drafted by the design team which analysis the findings from recently completed parking surveys.

PSI-041 Kinsealy Walking and Cycling Routes

The Kinsealy Walking and Cycling scheme aims to provide a high-quality walking and cycling routes between Kinsealy and Portmarnock train station, and between Kinsealy and Malahide Castle and gardens. These two walking and cycling routes will form a link from Kinsealy to sustainable transport at Portmarnock and Malahide train stations.

Following a non-statutory public consultation in January 2025, the options report and the preferred route drawings were published on the Fingal website in September 2025. The Kinsealy to Portmarnock part of the project is now progressing to Phase 3 (Preliminary Design & Environmental Screening) with a view to preparing a planning application.

The Malahide to Kinsealy part of the project will be brought forward at a later date.



Artist visual of the greenway from Kinsealy to Portmarnock



Artist visual of the proposed upgrades to Station Road

PSI-009 Fingal Coastal Way

Liaison with utilities and coordination with existing infrastructure are on track and ongoing (Irish Rail, Gas Networks, Eirgrid, TFI and Dublin Bus). This includes the proposed bridges over Rogerstown Estuary and over the rail at Beaverstown Golf Club – application has been made for approval in principle, and these are being assessed by Irish Rail now.

Preliminary design work is progressing along urban roads and a coastal erosion study concluded that was used to locate the greenway nearer to the cliff's edge where applicable to minimise land take and severance.

PSI-023 Swords Western Distributor Road Extension

The Swords Western Distributor Road (SWDR) is within the Oldtown and Mooretown development site, providing access to the Rathbeale Road from the lands to its north and south respectively. The SWDR has cycle tracks in both directions. The SWDR Extension is proposed to extend east to the R132 and the proposed Estuary Park and Ride facility (Metro North) as an extension of the existing carriageway and active travel facilities at Millers Avenue.

Egis (formerly Barry's Transportation) has been appointed to further develop this project to Phase 2 (Options Selection). The Options Report (closing out Phase 2) is expected by the end of 2026.



Proposed SWDR Extension to Metrolink Route

PSI-007 Rush to Lusk Walking & Cycling Route

The aim of this scheme is to deliver a high quality, safe and attractive pedestrian and cycle network of approximately 3km between the towns of Rush and Lusk and to improve connectivity to the local Rush/Lusk train station and to several schools and tourist attractions in the area. The anticipated primary user groups for the network will be local commuters and school children walking and cycling between Lusk and Rush and the train station.

Fingal County Council has appointed engineering consultants to commence work on the delivery of this scheme.

Broadmeadow Way Greenway

Progress on the detailed design phases of the other elements of this project is continuing. Engagement with Irish Rail and with the National Transport Authority is ongoing for the causeway works.

A stage 1 Tender assessment has been completed in advance of a 2-stage tender process to establish a framework for works contractors for the various landward works contracts. The landward elements of the Broadmeadow Way in Donabate i.e. from Newbridge Demesne, through Kilcrea lands to the east side of Corballis railway underpass will be delivered through this framework.

Construction of this environmentally and technically challenging project has been divided into different works packages which will be delivered in stages:

- Construction of the Broadmeadow Estuary Bridge took place in 2024. Works are complete.
- The tender for the construction of the greenway along the Northern Causeway is being finalised. It is expected that construction of the Northern Causeway will not be completed until 2027

- Construction of the greenway along the Southern Causeways will commence during the summer months of 2026.
- Construction of the Donabate landward works and the Malahide landward works will take place during 2026 and 2027.
- Due to the seasonal constraints of working within the estuary, along with the technical challenges of building on the Northern Causeway, it is expected that the opening of the Broadmeadow Way will be in 2027.



New estuary bridge and ramps looking northwards towards Donabate

PSI-026 Portrane Road, Donabate

The Portrane Road Enhancement Project involves works to widen the existing narrow footpath on the northern side of the 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. Third-party lands are required to widen the path, and in this regard the Council is using a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) to acquire the necessary lands. Notices to Treat were issued to affected landowners in July. Tender documents, for the appointment of a contractor to construct the works, are expected to issue to the market in November.

PSI-027 Donabate Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge

Work on the Donabate Pedestrian Bridge has been completed. The bridge was officially opened to the public on 10th October 2025.



Image of the Donabate Pedestrian Bridge being officially opened by the Mayor of Fingal County Council, Councillor Tom O'Leary, accompanied by Andrew Bagnall from the National Transport Authority, AnnMarie Farrelly, Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, and Linda Lally, Senior Engineer in Transportation Planning.



Image of the Donabate Pedestrian Bridge after completion of FCC construction works (August 2025)

PSI-042 Donabate Transport Projects

The Donabate Transport Projects comprise a number of projects with the objective of improving transport 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, and;
- 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 number of potential options have been identified for both Phase 2 of the Donabate Distributor Road and the Blakes Cross Junction Upgrade. The emerging preferred route option has been determined for the second phase of the Donabate Distributor Road. Details of the scheme are currently on public display in the Donabate-Portrane Community Centre as well as being available to view online on the Fingal County Council consultation portal. Scheme details will remain on display until Friday 7th November 2025.

A public information evening was held in the Shoreline Hotel in Donabate on Wednesday 22nd October 2025 to allow members of the public to meet the project team and ask any questions on the emerging preferred route option for Phase 2 of the Donabate Distributor Road.

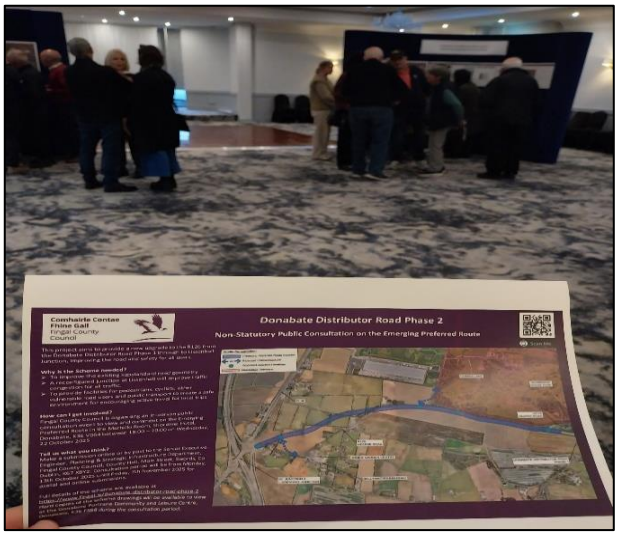


Image of the public information evening (Oct. 2025)

Preliminary design for Phase 2 of the Donabate Distributor Road is expected to follow on in 2026. The emerging preferred option for Blakes Cross is expected to be determined in Q4 2025.

Tender submissions have been received for the appointment of a consultant to progress the next phases of the project. Work relating to environmental assessment, planning consent and detailed design is expected to be carried out throughout 2026, and in subsequent years, as appropriate.

PSI-019 N3 M50 to Clonee

Aecom/ Roughan O'Donovan are appointed to assess bus priority measures on the N3 between the M50 and Clonee. This scheme is funded by Transport Infrastructure Ireland. They are also examining active travel links across the N3. The focus is between the Mulhuddart interchange and Clonee as the NTA bus connects project has already a scheme in development from Junction 3 into the city. Route options are being considered and when an emerging route option has been developed, a public engagement will be carried out. This is likely to be in Q1 2026.

PSI-068 Portmarnock Railway Bridge Pedestrian & Cycle Improvement Works

Improvement works to existing overpass railway bridge OBB21 (which is currently grassed and formerly used as a cattle pass) will facilitate a safe and direct active travel route from Drumnigh Manor to Portmarnock Train Station and beyond via a new linear park which runs north-south, parallel to the railway track within the Saint Marnock's Bay / Sky Lark Development.

The proposed improvement works involve re-surfacing the existing bridge deck with an SMA surface and this will become a shared two-way footpath/cycleway. Jons Civil Engineering Ltd. have been appointed to undertake the upgrade works. The Contractor has produced a works methodology to be agreed with Irish Rail.

It is envisaged the works shall commence on the 17th of November; however, this will be confirmed closer to the time. The works are expected to take up to four weeks to complete.

Heritage Officer



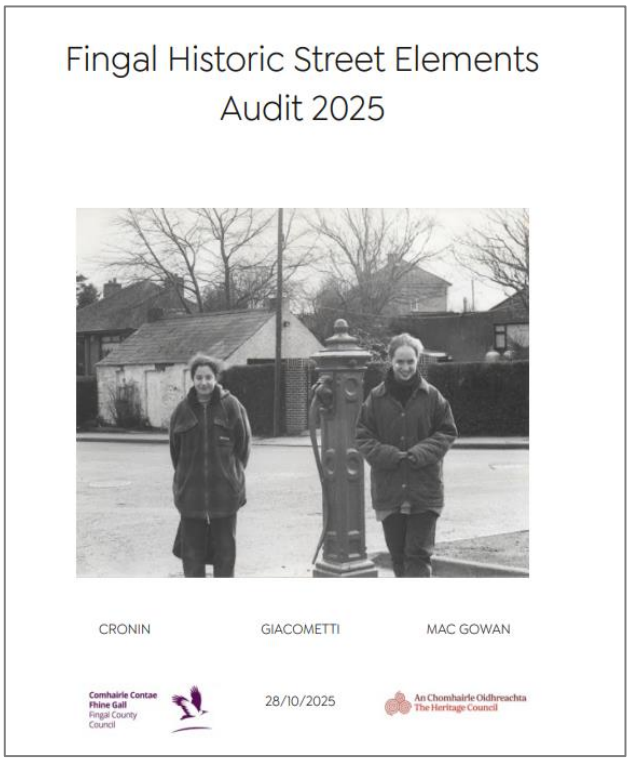
Celebrating 10 Years of Community Archaeology in Fingal

A seminar was held in the packed-out Millbank theatre, Rush at the end of September to showcase the results of research, commercial and community excavations across the county. From Professor' Gabriel Cooney's research on Lambay Island to the Mesolithic pathway uncovered in Balbriggan and the feasting at Maynetown Portmarnock, it was evident that there is huge interconnection between sites and people across Fingal. Ian Doyle, Head of Conservation, The Heritage Council concluded the presentations with the value of and contribution that community archaeology makes-from the economy to well-being!



Heritage Plan Projects:

Both the *Fingal Historic Street Elements Audit* and the *Fingal Coastal Zone* projects have concluded. Reports are available on.
https://www.fingal.ie/heritage



National Heritage Week-County Award



Congratulations to the Balbriggan Traveller Project who are the 2025 winners of the County Award.

HOUSING

Contents

Housing Supply
Asset Management
Support
Tenancy Services Report
Housing Ukraine Response
Vacant Homes

Affordable Home Purchase Scheme & Cost Rental

Link to Affordable Housing landing page can be found here.

For anyone interested in making an application for an affordable home it is important that they have all required all documents ready to upload in PDF **before** submitting an application on the portal to have the best chance possible in being successful. The eligibility criteria can be viewed on www.fingal.ie/affordablehousing

Affordable Housing Developments Update

Development	Status	Affordable Homes
Balleally Rise	Closed	20 Homes Sold
Kilmartin Grove	Closed	36 Homes Sold
North County Homes	Closed	16 Homes Sold
Balmoston (Phase 1)	Closed	86 Homes Sold
Wilkinsons Brook	All Sale Agreed	57 Homes Sold
Aster Park, Rush	All Sale Agreed	96 Homes Sold
Church Fields (Phase 1)	All Sale Agreed	177 Homes Sold
Ballisk Park, Donabate	Assessment of Applications Ongoing	105/112 Homes Sale Agreed
Baile na Móna, Swords	Assessment of Applications Ongoing	58/151 Homes Sale Agreed
Church Fields (Phase 2)	Assessment of Applications Ongoing	28/110 Homes Sale Agreed
Clonrath Hill	Assessment of Applications Ongoing	6 Homes
Balmoston (Phase 2)	Application Portal Launch - Wed 5th of November 2025	73 Homes

FCC's First Cost Rental scheme



Fingal County Council's Affordable & Cost Rental team is delighted to announce the upcoming launch of 80 x 1, 2 & 3 bedroom cost rental apartments in Church Fields, Dublin 15**.** These brand-new high-quality homes will be available for long-term lease under the Cost Rental model**,** offering secure**,** high-quality accommodation at rates at least 26% below market rent.

Our operating partner – OCCU Living LTD will host the application portal which will go live on - Friday 31st October at 12pm and will close I on - Monday 10th November 2025 at 12pm.

https://occu.ie/locations/church-fields/

The Cost Rental Homes will be allocated through a lottery-based system, designed to ensure fairness and transparency in the distribution of available housing. This process is initiated once the application window closes. At that point, all valid applications are entered into a randomised draw, which is conducted to generate a ranked list of eligible applicants.

For more information on the Cost Rental Apartments including Apartment Specifications, Monthly rents, Eligibility Criteria, required documentation and Cost Rental FAQs. https://www.fingal.ie/Housing/CostRental

Fingal Appoints Cost Rental Operator



On Monday 20th of October 2025, Fingal County Council's Direct signed contracts with Occu Living Ltd. for the Cost Rental services requirements at Fingal's first fully funded by Cost Rental homes at Church Fields, Dublin 15.

Occu Living Ltd have extensive experience and expertise in creating rental experiences that are easy, flexible and support our residents' lifestyles without defining or hindering them.

Fingal County Council is delighted to work in partnership with the team in Occu to ensure that the high quality not for profit homes in Church Fields are occupied as quickly and smoothly as possible.

https://occu.ie/locations/church-fields/

Balmoston (Phase 2) Affordable Development



The Affordable Housing team in partnership with Glenveagh homes are delighted to bring **73** new build Affordable 2 & 3 bedroom homes to Fingal's housing market. The application portal will open at **12 p.m. on Wednesday 5th November 2025** and will remain opening until **5 p.m. on Wednesday 26th November 2025.** Applicants are advised to be purchase ready prior making an application. To view the development details, minimum prices, income limits, scheme eligibility, required documentation and how to make an application go to www.fingal.ie/affordablehousing

Aster Park Affordable Development



The Affordable Housing Team are delighted to announce that all 96 properties in the Aster Park development are now sale agreed.

The development is a mix of spacious 2, 3 and 4 bed properties in the highly sought after location of Rush, Co. Dublin.

Our team received a huge amount of interest in this development and are delighted to have been able to help a combination of First Time Buyers and Fresh Start purchasers secure their new home.

Clonrath Hill (Part V) Affordable Development



The Clonrath Hill application portal closed on October 6th 2025. A large volume of applications have been received and assessments are now being conducted on a first come first served basis. All application queries are made through the portal only.

Social Housing Delivery

Part V, Social Turnkey & CALF Programme

The delivery of new homes has continued steadily, supported by a range of delivery mechanisms. Many of these homes are expected to be ready by the end of the year, helping to meet local housing needs.

306 apartments under construction at Pipers Square, Charlestown, Finglas Dublin 11.

Units being delivered in partnership with Respond Housing Association under the CALF Scheme.



Construction Programme

Summary of delivery of social unit numbers in the pipeline	Units
Under Construction	571
Schemes with Planning Approval and Tender Stage	110
Planning and Design	179
Part V	1,075
TOTAL	1,935

Scheme Update since last month (Further detailed information available in Appendix 4)

Schemes on Site

Seatown Road, Swords

Works for the delivery of 36 social homes at Seatown Road, Swords continue on site and are progressing well. This work is being delivered in tandem with the delivery of the civic and cultural building for the Swords Cultural Quarter.



Ballisk Park, Donabate

On behalf of Fingal County Council, Glenveagh are constructing 175 new homes comprising of 123 houses and 52 apartments at "Ballisk Park", New Road, Donabate following the granting of planning permission under the S179A process. The development will be a mixed tenure scheme of 63 social and 112 affordable homes.



Church Fields 3A, Dublin 15

Works are continuing on the mixed tenure scheme of 300 new homes at Churchfields 3A, being constructed by Gem Construction on behalf of Fingal County Council. The development will deliver 40 social, 180 affordable and 80 cost rental new homes in this phase. The first 32 new social homes have been delivered.



Church Fields 3B, Dublin 15

Works are progressing on the mixed tenure scheme at Church Fields 3B, being constructed by Gem Construction on behalf of Fingal County Council which will see the delivery of a further 217 homes in Church Fields, comprising of 121 houses and 96 apartments. As a mixed tenure development, this phase will include 107 social and 110 affordable homes.



Balmoston Phase 1, Ballymastone, Donabate

Construction work is continuing on Phase 1 of Balmoston. This is a mixed tenure development, being constructed by Glenveagh on behalf of Fingal County Council which will deliver 87 social and 86 affordable new homes. The first 33 new social homes have been delivered.



Baile na Móna Phase 1, Mooretown, Swords

Construction work is progressing on the delivery of 274 new homes on Phase 1 of Baile na Móna, Mooretown, Swords. Glenveagh are constructing the new homes on behalf of Fingal County Council. This will be a mixed tenure scheme of 123 social and 151 affordable homes. Planning for this development was granted under the S179A process.



Holywell, Swords

Construction is progressing well on the delivery of 57 new social homes at Holywell, Swords. Planning for this development of 1, 2 and 3 bedroomed homes was granted under the S179A process.



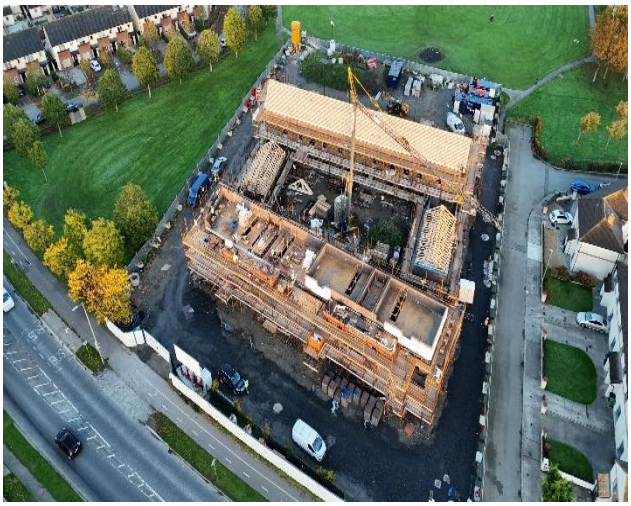
Mourne View, Skerries

Construction work is continuing on the delivery of 14 new social homes at Mourne View, Skerries. Planning for this development of 2, 3 and 4 bedroomed new homes was granted under the S179A process.



Remount Court, Lusk

Construction work is progressing on the delivery of 18 new social homes at Remount Court, Rathmore Road, Lusk. Planning for this development of 1, 2 and 3 bedroomed homes was granted under the S179A process.



North Street, Swords

Construction has commenced on the delivery of 13 new social homes at North Street, Swords, comprising of 1 and 2 bedroomed apartments at North Street, Swords which is being constructed by Broomfield Construction on behalf of Fingal County Council.



Balmoston Phase 2, Ballymastone, Donabate

Construction work has commenced on Phase 2 Balmoston, Donabate. This is a mixed tenure development. Phase 2, Balmoston will deliver 72 new social and 75 affordable homes over several hand-over phases through 2026 and 2027.



Asset Management

Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme

The 2025 Energy Retrofit Programme is progressing, with Fingal County Council allocated €3,196,000 by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, targeting 94 housing units.

Energy Efficiency Retrofit 30th Oct 2025	
Project Status	**Total**
Pre-Survey	**10**
Surveyed	**2**
Tender Awarded	**3**
On-Site	**8**
Completed	**116**
Areas: Brega, Corduff, Fortlawn, Seatown, Wellview, Whitestown.	

Planned Maintenance Programme 2025

External painting, joinery repairs, boiler replacements, and smoke and heat detector upgrades.

Planned Maintenance Programme 30th October 2025	
Painting completions	**565**
Boiler Replacements	**170**
Heat / Smoke Detector Replacement	**179**

Voids

Casual Voids 30th Oct 2025	
In the lettings process	**59**
In re-let works	**52**
Void Unavailable	**3**
Total	**114**

New to stock 30th Oct 2025	
New to stock properties	**96**

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 **244 new HAP tenancies** in 2025 to date with approximately 4458 HAP tenancies established since HAP commenced 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. The HAP Amendments Portal is also available as a secure platform for tenants and landlords to submit requests to update the circumstances of their HAP tenancies

Rents

The Pay My Rent Online system was launched in early October 2025 to facilitate more convenient online rent payments for tenants.



Tenants can also access their rent charge and balance via the Housing Online portal.

Following the introduction in 2024 of new debt management processes and procedures, **rent arrears have reduced by €1.2m** since 01/01/2025. New processes initiated include bi-annual statements and letters to all tenants and quarterly statements and letters to tenants in arrears.

The Rents team continue to engage with tenants who experience challenges paying their rent. The team have issued **123** Tenancy Warnings year to date. Six Orders for Possession have been obtained following court hearings in 2025.

The Rents **collection rate in October 2025 shows an increase of €2.4m** on the same month in 2024.

Private Rented Inspections

The inspections team are working towards inspecting 25% of the registered tenancies which is approximately 21,000 tenancies. The target of 5,169 Dwellings for 2025 has been received from the Department of Housing. Up to the close of business on Friday the 24th of October 5,395 inspections have been conducted in 2025, with 4674 of them qualifying towards the Dwellings target. So far there have been 471 inspections carried out in October. 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

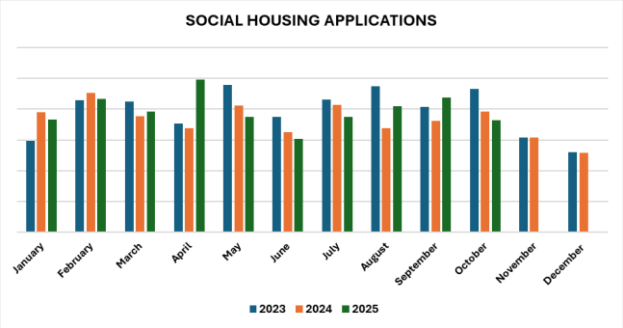
Housing Support

In accordance with Circular 24/2025 as released on 31st July 2025, the Summary of Social Housing Assessment (SSHA) is due for return to the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage on 1st December 2025. Letters have issued 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. All facilities will be available to applicants at the Customer Care Counters and in the Fingal Libraries for those individuals requiring assistance in completing their Housing Needs Assessment. Hard copy forms are available.

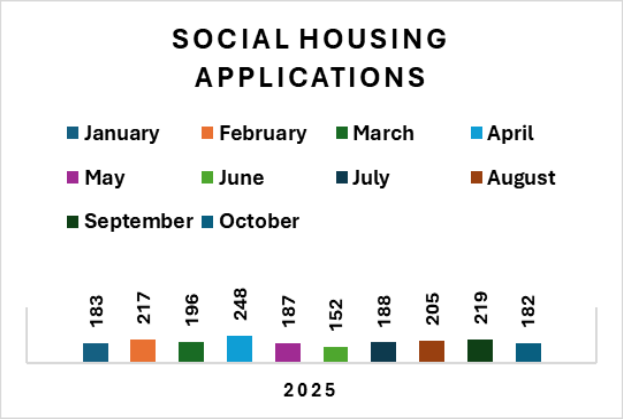
2025 Housing List Positions are available on the Choice Based Lettings Portal. This is a static list position and will be issued and updated on CBL yearly. Further information can be sought via, choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie

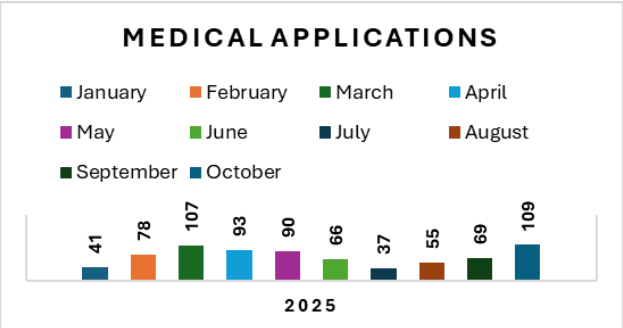
Housing Support receive a large volume of Housing Applications, Medical Applications, Amendment requests and appeals.

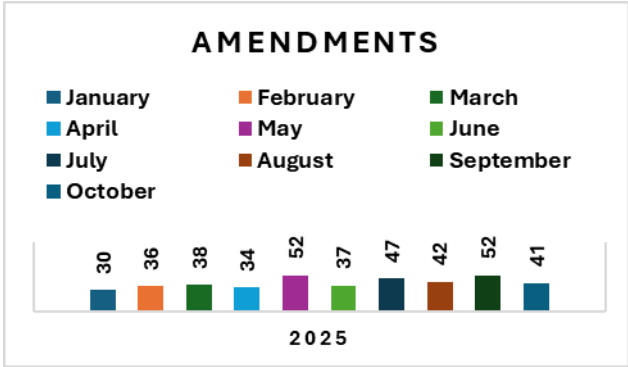
Year on year comparison by month



Applications received



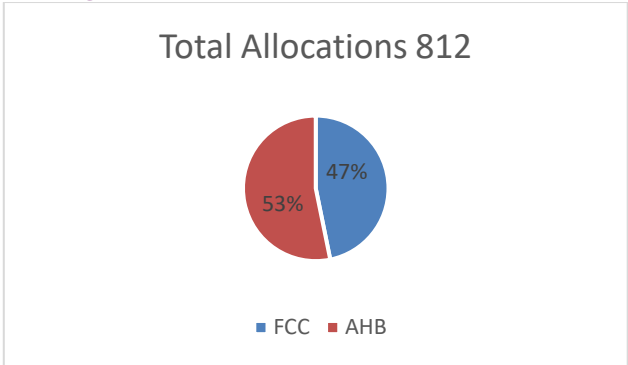




Housing Support Appeals

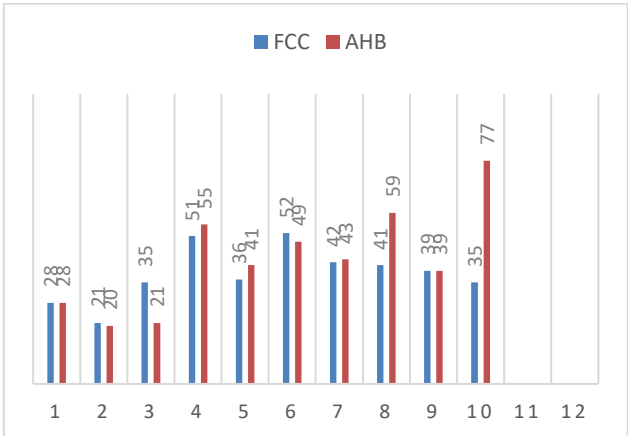
Applicants are reminded, that an appeal must be received within 28 days of a decision being communicated in writing to be eligible for review.

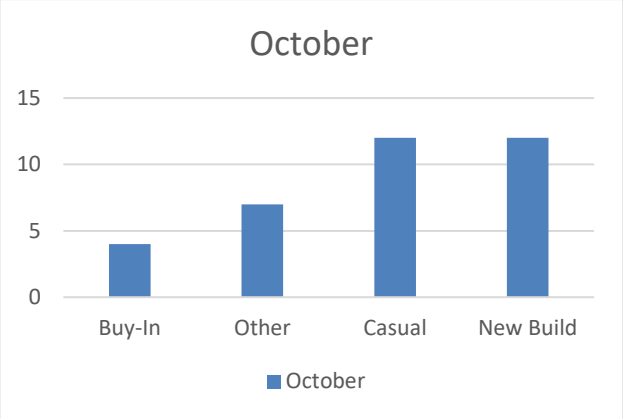
Lettings



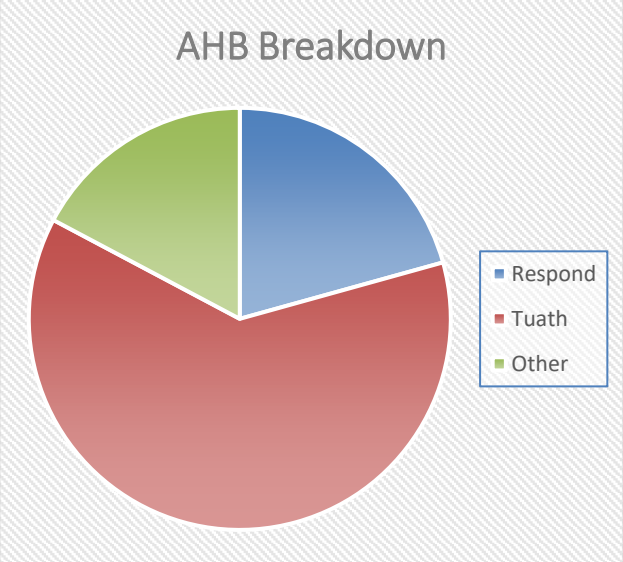
The above chart depicts the total number of properties allocated since the beginning of 2025.

The chart below shows the breakdown of allocations per month.





432 of the **812 allocations have been in collaboration with several Approved Housing bodies.** The other **380** properties were allocated using Fingal County Councils own stock.



Tuath have received the most nominations from Fingal County Council during the month of September.

The collaboration between Local Authorities and Approved Housing Bodies is continuing to have a positive impact on the delivery of social housing.

The Approved Housing Bodies inform Fingal County Council when an applicant has accepted and signed a tenancy following a nomination from Housing Lettings.

Choice Based Letting's Advertised Properties October.



Internal image of advertised property in Piper's Square, Charlestown, Finglas, Dublin 11

Advertisement Period	Property	Bed	Type	Number of Views	Expressions of interest
1st – 7th October	Golden Ridge Mews, Rush, Co Dublin	3	Apt	1034	111
8th – 14th October	Domville Woods, Santry, Dublin 9	3	Apt	1159	103
15th – 21st October	Piper's Square, Charlestown, Finglas, Dublin 11	2	Apt	1488	295
15th – 21st October	Piper's Square, Charlestown, Finglas, Dublin 11	1	Apt	1567	302
15th – 21st October	Wellview Green, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15	3	House	1057	135
22nd – 28th October	Whitechapel Road, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15	3	House	1086	177
22nd – 28th October	Corduff Close, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15	3	House	864	131
22nd – 28th October	Castleview Walk, Swords, Co Dublin	2	House	1720	416
			Total	9975	1670

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 2025

During October 2025, 57 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	HAP Tenancy	Allocation of Tenancy	Total
EA	5	14	19
Homeless Prevention	11	27	38
Total	**16**	**41**	**57**

There was a total of 38 homeless prevention cases and 19 who exited emergency accommodation comprising:

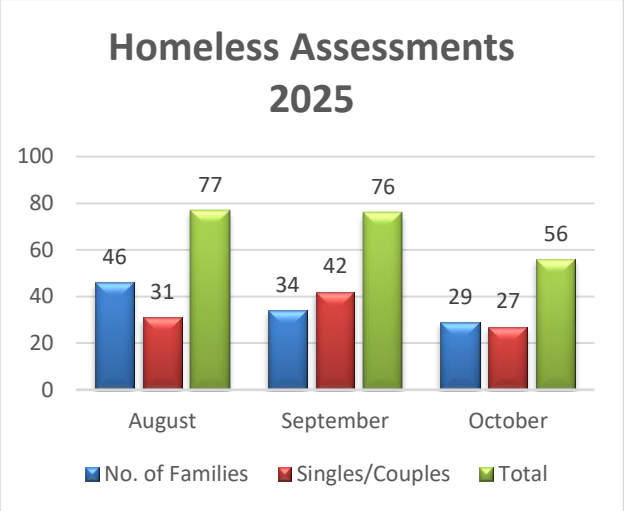
27 allocations of social housing support to homeless prevention cases, 14 exited emergency accommodation.

16 Homeless HAP tenancies, comprising 11 homeless preventions and 5 who exited emergency accommodation.

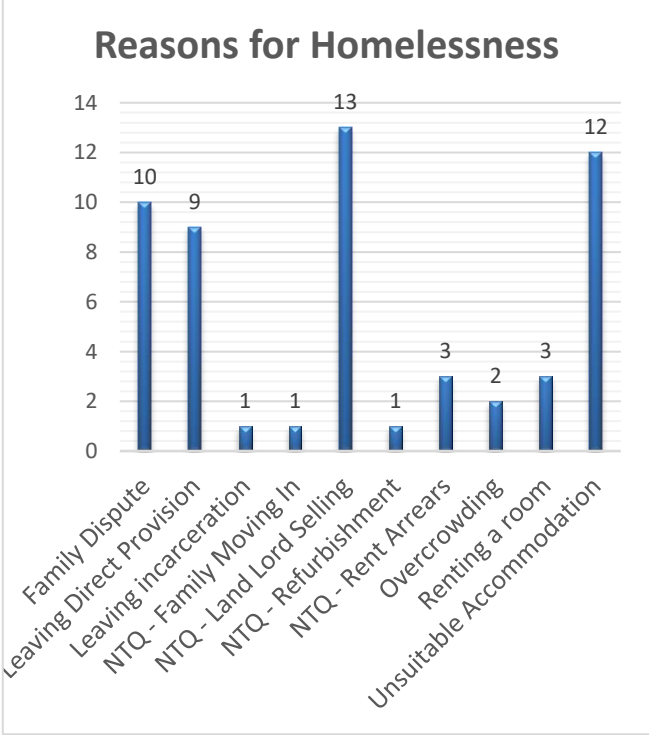
Homeless Assessments

Fingal's Homeless Team continues to engage with those experiencing homelessness to offer advice and support. Homeless Assessments continue to be carried out.

In October 2025, there were a total of 56 full homeless assessments completed – comprising 29 families and 27 singles/couples.



During October 2025, of the 56 Homeless Assessments carried out, 33% of cases resulted from Notice to Termination (NOT) having been served, 18% cases resulted from family/relationship breakdown and 16% were from leaving direct provision. Most of the other presentations to the Homeless Section are from Renting a room (5%) and Overcrowding (4%). The remaining 24% comprise various reasons outlined in the next chart;



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 public. There have been 119 reported rough sleeping cases 2025. 37 of the clients have taken up Emergency Accommodation and we continue to work with 7 others to provide a suitable solution.

There are 8 registered long term entrenched rough sleepers (2 couples, and males) from the Fingal Area. We will continue to work with them to provide suitable supports. Members of the homeless team recently worked in collaboration with the operations team to resolve an issue with a rough sleeper site in North Dublin.

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 18 Fingal County Council clients have been identified, 6 have been housed in 2025 and 2 more has been nominated to housing, awaiting tenancy sign up.

A second sub-group has been created between Fingal County Council and an Interim Disability Case Manager. The HSE have identified 6 new clients, all of whom have Medical Priority and are currently being reviewed for long term allocations. One client has been made a second offer. A third sub-group has been created with St. Michaels House, the first meetings has been held and a list of clients is being collated by their team.

Homeless Action Plan 2025- 2027

The Homeless Action Plan 2025-2027 was adopted at the Council Meeting in July. It has also been adopted by DCC and SDCC and it will go before the next Council meeting in Dun Laoghaire Rathdown.

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, and advising the person on the level of Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) they may be eligible to receive.

Placement in emergency accommodation will be a last resort if no other alternative can be identified.

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

The Council is implementing the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025–2029 by providing sustainable, culturally appropriate Traveller-specific accommodation and supports.

Council officials continue to actively engage with the Traveller Community, Traveller advocacy groups, and relevant support services, including welfare, child protection, and mental health service, as well as other agencies, to address and resolve issues wherever possible.

The Housing Department and the Architects Department are working in close collaboration on upcoming projects as outlined in the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025–2029

LTACC

A meeting of the LTACC was held on 6th October 2025 at Matt Lane Resource Centre, St. Macullins Halting Site. The meeting was well attended and considered highly productive. Members of the LTACC also attended Traveller Cultural Awareness Training on the 6th October. A further meeting of the LTACC is scheduled for mid November.

To date in 2025, meetings have been well attended and considered highly productive. Estate Management remains committed to working collaboratively with all stakeholders to support the delivery and ongoing maintenance of Traveller-specific accommodation throughout the county.

Caravan Loan Scheme

The Council continues to implement the National Caravan Loan Scheme in accordance with Department of Local Government and Heritage Guidelines.

Recent delivery of caravan and upgrade of onsite sanitation unit at Gardiner's Hill





Allocation of properties

This month saw the sign up of a newly refurbished dwelling at St. Philomenas's Court following an extensive re-furb. Further allocation of the remaining refurbished dwellings is intended to return the area to full occupation.



Census

The Traveller Census is due to take place week commencing 3rd November with all Group Housing and Halting Sites included in the annual process. Using the information provided, it is possible to plan and prepare necessary policy to ensure the needs of the Traveller Family located in the Fingal area are well represented and considered in all plans for accommodation.

Dumping on sites

Illegal dumping on halting sites remains an ongoing issue.

Council contractors frequently clear dumped waste from these sites, incurring significant costs to the Council.

Letters continue to be sent to residents reminding them that household waste collection is available on-site and urging them to refrain from illegal dumping.



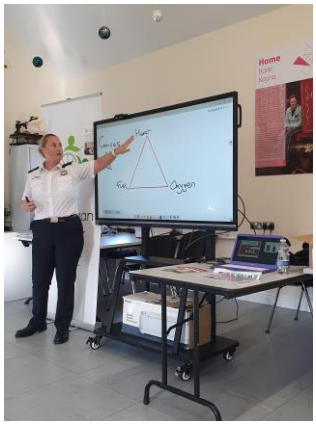
Dumping at St. Philomena's Park and NCT

Fire Safety

Fire safety remains a top priority for the protection of all tenants on our Halting Sites and Group Housing Schemes. The annual service and maintenance of portable fire equipment on Fingal County Council Traveller Accommodation Sites has been completed, with additional fire safety equipment installed at several halting sites. Furthermore, a fire safety audit of caravans has been carried out, accompanied by a leaflet distribution to all halting sites.

The Estate Management section in conjunction with Dublin Fire Brigade organized a successful Fire Safety Training Day which took place on 29th October in Balbriggan. The session was well attended with members of the Traveller community and the Balbriggan Traveller Project in attendance. A further session for the D15 area is planned with the Estate Management section committed to promoting and supporting the training.





Dublin Fire Brigade Training session at Balbriggan

In addition, new notices have been placed on all powerhouse doors to advise that there is no entry permitted to the powerhouse by unauthorised persons.



Wastewater Treatment System – new contract

Managing the Waste Water Treatment System at the Council's stock remains a focus of the Estate Management, maintenance section, with a new Waste Water Contract finalised in July.

Housing Response Maintenance

2025	
Maintenance Requests Received	**10,732**
Tenancy Alerts Issued	**49**
Interviews Held	**45**
Unauthorised Works Documented	**50**
Permission For Works Requests	**92**

Boiler Servicing Programme 2025

The 2025 Programme of work continues, with Contractors working across the County in areas such as Clonsilla, Tyrellstown, Blanchardstown Village, Santry, Baldoyle, Howth, Swords, Rush, Balbriggan, Garristown, and Malahide.

Anti-Social Behaviour / Inspectorate Unit

The Council remains committed to thoroughly investigating all reports of anti-social behaviour and implementing appropriate preventative measures. All complaints are treated in strict confidence by the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit, which works in close partnership with An Garda Síochána to address and manage such issues effectively.

To date in 2025, several Tenant Induction Courses have been delivered, with additional sessions planned.

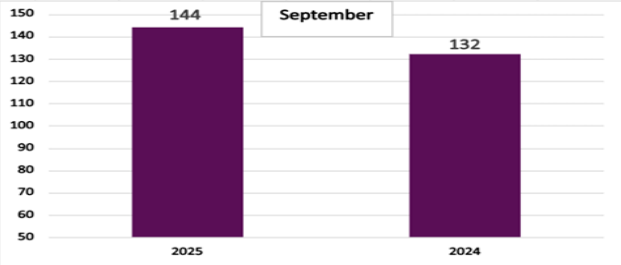
ASB Caseload Management

Complaints Sept 2025	Total	Active	Monitoring	Closed
Balbriggan	32	12	4	16
Rush / Lusk	15	3	6	6
Swords	34	13	15	6
Howth/Malahide	17	10	5	2
Blanchardstown / Mulhuddart	35	11	14	10
Ongar	8	3	1	4
Castleknock	3	2	1	0
Total	144	54	46	44

Surrenders on Estate Management Grounds 2025

January **(**5), February (6), March (3), April (6), May (5), June (2) July (10), Aug (5), Sept (6). One formal tenancy warning issued for illegal occupiers at a dwelling.

2025/2024 comparison of ASB complaints received in the month of September.



Anti-Social Behaviour Interventions

Interviews Held 2025 to date	72
Interviews Held 2024	108
Tenancy Alerts 2025	**21**
Tenancy Alerts 2024	36
Tenancy Warnings 2025	**7**
Tenancy Warnings 2024	9

Inspectorate June 2025

Traveller Specific Site Inspections 2025	**1346**
Traveller Specific Site Inspections 2024	2072
Housing Inspectors Report January 2025	**575**
February 2025	**857**
March 2025	**1076**
April 2025	**909**
May 2025	**947**
June 2025	**826**
July /Aug 2025	**1736**
September 2025	**871**

Housing Ukraine Response and Vacant Homes

Those Fleeing the Conflict in Ukraine

humanitarian response to welcome people fleeing the conflict in Ukraine and seeking protection in Ireland.

Web resources with useful information on support, accommodation and policy changes for Ukrainian Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection are available on the following links.

www.gov.ie/ukraine

https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/9957c-designated-accommodation-centres-current-availability/

The Council's Community Integration Forum 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 and other new arrivals with the next meeting scheduled for the 7th October 2025. The Forum was originally tasked with assisting Ukrainian Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection. However, considering Departmental guidance and the work of the Council's newly formed Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) in assisting the target cohorts below the remit of the Forum has expanded to include

1. Applicants for International Protection (IP Applicants)

2. Those with Refugee, Subsidiary Protection, or Permission to Remain status

3. Programme Refugees

4. Beneficiaries of Temporary Accommodation (BOTPs).

The support provided by the Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT) is set out in this link

https://www.fingal.ie/LocalAuthorityIntegrationTeam

OfferAhome\Pledge Accommodation

The monthly recognition payment (ARP) of **€800** per month for vacant properties and **€800** per month to host a Ukraine person in your home was recently reduced to **€600** in accordance with the new Government policy.

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

Vacant Homes

The Vacant Homes Team continues to engage with persons relevant to vacant properties (private) to encourage them 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 Council survey.

The Vacant Homes Team commenced the statutory CPO process with respect to 3 vacant dwellings in 2024, one of which has come back into occupation and possession was taken of the property below in Wellview estate, Mulhuddart on 1st April 2025 to conclude the CPO process. This long-term vacant property will now form part of the Council's Social Housing stock and be allocated to a social housing applicant upon completion of refurbishment works.



CPO property Wellview above, Dublin 15

This represents the fourth privately owned long term vacant property in Wellview estate that has been dealt with by the Vacant Homes Team. In addition to the above property, three other properties in the estate are back in use or coming back into use through the work of the Vacant Homes Team. One was purchased by FCC under the Buy and Renew scheme and is now occupied by a Council tenant and the two others came back into use via the provision of Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant with new owners now in situ.

A long-term vacant property in Hazelbury Park, Clonee where CPO was finalised earlier in 2025 was refurbished and allocated in July.



Refurb works complete in CPO property Hazelbury Park, Clonee

In addition, the Croí Cónaithe Vacant Homes Refurbishment Grant Scheme is also in utilisation to address vacancy and dereliction.

Croí Cónaithe Vacant Homes Refurbishment Grant

This scheme was launched in July 2022. In May 2023, the scheme was further extended to allow for properties built pre-2008 to qualify and grants increasing to €50k (vacant) and €70k (vacant and derelict). The expansion of the scheme allows for properties to be rented on the private rental market.. **243** applications have been received since launch of the scheme. **66** new applications received in 2025 with additional applications expected shortly based on engagement with potential applicants. **175** applications are approved which equates to **€8.9million** in approved funding with further applications to be approved shortly.

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 address for investigation.

Recently received VPRG application





Recently approved VPRG application







Works complete Property





COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Contents

Community Development
Facilities Management
Interagency
Age Friendly Fingal
Integration Office
Funding

Community Development

Community development is a process where community members come together to take collective action and generate solutions to common problems. Community wellbeing, economic, social, environmental and cultural challenges are often solved through collective action being taken at a grassroots level. Community development ranges from small initiatives within a local group to large initiatives that involve the broader community.

Building community capacity, strengthening community participation, and involving people in decisions that affect their lives is a complex process and can only be achieved by working with local communities and agencies who have responsibility to the people in those communities.

This month the Community Development Office worked in partnership with a number of community groups and partners to support many projects/Initiatives including;

Fingal's 'Our Fabric' Project Weaves Stronger Community Ties, Unlocking Key Resident-Led Initiatives

The Community Department continue to support the 'Our Fabric' project in the Churchfields area of Mulhuddart in partnership with Neighbourhood Networks. On the 8th and 9th of October the project team conducted a targeted door-knocking drive in Avondale Place and The Minnows, overcoming traditional communication barriers and generating immediate, enthusiastic feedback. This project has confirmed its success in directly engaging residents, leading to the identification of several specific, positive, and actionable community initiatives.

A further 26 residents have signed up to the growing WhatsApp group which keeps the community informed of upcoming initiatives. The two-day engagement demonstrated the significant power of direct outreach, confirming a strong appetite for participation in tangible, project-based activities.

Key Positive Outcomes for Residents:

Immediate Community Group Formation: In the Minnows, residents moved swiftly from general interest to concrete action, expressing a high, specific interest in forming a Community Garden Group. The 'Our Fabric' team will immediately support this resident-led initiative, ensuring a tangible, positive participation outcome that builds community capacity from the ground up.

The goal of Neighbourhood Networks is to meet people where they are and listen to their specific needs, and this engagement proved incredibly successful. The immediate enthusiasm for the Community Garden in The Minnows is a fantastic example of residents taking ownership of their local environment. The 'Our Fabric' project is committed to supporting these newly identified resident groups and initiatives, fostering a stronger, more participatory community across Fingal.

The Our Fabric team are also working closely with residents and the newly established Girl Guides in Churchfields to plan a Christmas Choir event in the coming months.

GLAS @ TU Dublin Secures Sláintecare Funding for 'Connect and Grow' Community Wellbeing Initiative

Fingal County Council's Community and Economic Development teams, are delighted to announce that the **Connect and Grow Programme** at the GLAS @ TU Dublin Community Garden has been awarded funding through the Sláintecare Integration Fund. The successful funding application, made possible by the collaborative efforts of GAP, TU Dublin, and Fingal County Council, will expand this crucial therapeutic horticulture and social inclusion project. The initiative is set to enhance mental and physical health outcomes for some of the most socially excluded communities in West Fingal, including Mulhuddart, Corduff, and Tyrrelstown.

The Connect and Grow Programme uses inclusive community gardening as a proactive tool for supporting, **Social Inclusion**, **Health and Wellbeing** and **Building Community Capacity:** The funding will enable the programme to increase the dedicated hours of the qualified Community Garden Manager, ensuring high-quality technical, emotional, and educational support for all participants throughout the growing season.

The support from the Community and Economic Development departments was instrumental in linking this health and wellbeing project to broader local development strategies outlined in the Fingal Local Economic & Community Plan. The Sláintecare funding is a significant achievement for the GLAS garden and the communities it serves. This investment validates the critical link between community development, access to urban nature and public health.



Healthy & Connected Event Fingal Liam Rogers Community Centre

The Community Development Department supported Fingal Liam Rodgers Community Centre in Swords to coordinate a free *Health & Connected* event in October. Participants included the Irish Heart Foundation, Irish Cancer Society, FCC Sports Department and Active Cities Dublin. Alongside free blood pressure testing and strength testing a selection of workshops and information was provided to members of the local community, with a focus on securing feedback from all attendees on activities in the community centre going forward.



Thrive Balbriggan World Mental Health Week

Thrive Balbriggan marked World Mental Health Week in the town with a programme of inclusive events for all the community. Connect cafes, physical exercise and talks on the five ways to wellness were delivered throughout the week with partners including Foroige, Balbriggan Men's and Women's Sheds and Balbriggan Integration Forum. A historic walk and talk event with local historian Jim Walsh brought over 20 people on a tour throughout the town culminating with a Connect Cafe hosted by Cairde at their premises in the town. Art workshops and talks on positive mental health were organised with support from the Community Development Office and Empower. Thrive Balbriggan is representing Fingal in the annual pride of place finals in Limerick this month.



Lusk Residents Associations supports

Lusk Action Group, in collaboration with the FCC Community Development Office is working with two new and re-emerging residents' associations in the town to build their capacity and facilitate best practice. A meeting with Lusk Village Estate was attended by 38 residents who came together to reconvene the dormant group. Advice and supports were provided on the role of the resident's association and the correct procedures in electing committee members. A wider discussion followed on the key concerns in the community and potential areas of work for the resident's group and capacity building supports will be available from the community office. In addition, Dun Emer estate in Lusk is now working with the community office and will elect a new committee later this month. This work follows on the meeting convened by Lusk Action Group earlier this year which saw the formation of The Forge residents' Association who went on to run their own community family day over the summer, with funding and other ongoing supports from FCC Community Development office.



Donabate Town Team launched

The Donabate Town Team was formally launched in Donabate Parish Hall last month. Representatives from the community of Donabate joined with FCC elected members, and FCC Community Office and Economic Development Department officials to launch the town health check plan which focuses on the infrastructural and community development potential of the centre of the town.

A sub committee was formed to plan for the first ever St Patricks Day Parade in March 2026. Donabate Parish Hall provided a photographic display outlining the history and development of the town at the event, which was addressed by the Mayor of Fingal Cllr Tom O'Leary.





Balbriggan Volunteer Expo

Fingal Volunteer Centre held an Expo in the Our Balbriggan Office in October focused on promoting the work of the volunteer Centre and linking up community members who wish to volunteer their time with organisations and community groups in need of such volunteers. The event was attended by many of the groups who regularly use the support services of the Centre including; Foroige Youth Service, Balbriggan Meals on Wheels, Aisha AED project, Remember Us, Balbriggan Youth Forum and Balbriggan Tidy Towns. Groups benefited from positive support and information provided by the Centre, and some travelled from further afield, including the Naul and Dublin 15 to explore potential new volunteering opportunities.

Schools arranged for students, seeking ideas for TY work experience to attend where info relating to the requirements for Gaisce awards was on hand. The rewards of volunteering were in evidence on the day with many now more aware of what can be achieved by giving of your time to volunteer locally. Further Expos are proposed for 2026.



IPB Pride of Place finals in Limerick City

Fingal was proudly represented by Thrive Balbriggan, Coolmine Lodge D15 and Rivervalley Community Centre in Swords at the all-island IPB Pride of Place Competition Finals held in Limerick earlier this month. This north-south competition recognises the best in community development on the island of Ireland and is organised every year by Co-Operation Ireland and local authorities on both parts of the island. The three community projects represented Fingal in the Health and wellbeing, Climate Action and Biodiversity and Urban Neighbourhood Categories respectively. The finals event was attended by Fingal County Council CE AnnMarie Farrelly, Mayor of Fingal Cllr Tom O' Leary and representatives from all three groups alongside FCC community office staff.

ipb pride of place

Community Facilities Management Support

The Community Facilities Unit provides financial and management support to 38 community facilities across Fingal. The Unit also manages the Capital Works programme for the Community Development Office.

Official opening of St Margarets Community Centre St. Margaret's Community Centre was officially opened by the Mayor of Fingal on Friday, October 20th in the company of the Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly. The event drew a significant attendance, including the Board of Directors of St. Margaret's Amenities, public representatives plus many local community organisations and stakeholders. Entertainment for the ceremony was provided by the St. Margaret's Primary School choir, who displayed their musical and vocal talent, followed by a performance from Scoil Rince Ni Anglais.

The opening was made possible following the recent completion of the Phase One refurbishment works carried out by Fingal County Council. This enhanced facility will serve as a crucial asset, offering a dedicated space to encourage community participation in diverse activities and enabling the St. Margaret's community to flourish.



Interagency

The Community Development Office actively seek to work in collaboration with agencies to maximise service delivery and resources to communities across Fingal.

Fingal Comhairle na nÓg



On the 14th of October, Fingal Comhairle na nÓg organised and facilitated their Annual Youth Conference. This fantastic event was opened by the Mayor of Fingal Cllr. Tom O'Leary and had a total of 98 young people in attendance. Throughout the day, the participants got to discuss what they feel are key issues for young people in Fingal. The top 3 issues were mental health, vaping & substance misuse, and anti-social behaviour and safety. After discussing all three topics the participants voted on what they felt was the top issue and anti-social behaviour and safety received the highest number of votes. This decided the topic that Comhairle will focus on as part of a project for the next Comhairle year. Following this event, an information meeting will be held for the young people considering joining Fingal Comhairle na nÓg.

Fingal Public Participation Network (PPN)



The staff of Fingal PPN were delighted to attend the PPN national conference in Trim, hosted by Meath PPN on 16th and 17th of October.

The conference was attended by Jerry Buttimer, Minister of State at the DRCDG. The theme of the event was 'Building Better Communities' and it was the backdrop to the launch of our PPN report 'Building Community Resilience for Times of Emergency' which was a collaboration of all 31 PPNs. A visit to Rathcairn Gaeltacht in Meath and workshops on misinformation, disinformation and mal-information, Girley Bog natural habitats and Trim Tidy Towns Circular Economy Strategy.
The PPN Plenary session took place on 5th November 2025 at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Dublin Airport

Rivervalley & Rathingle Bottle Banks Art Project

Arising from engagement with the Rivervalley & Rathingle *Pride of Place* Steering Committee; a group of local youths spent the last 12 weeks designing, creating and completing a thematic art project for the local Bottle Banks in Rivervalley. Coordinated by the Community Development Department and supported by a successful application to the Anti-Litter - Anti-Graffiti Fund which is part-sponsored by the Department of Climate, Energy with support from the Environmental Department who secured and prepped the bottle bank, the art project was facilitated by CrossCare Swords and Baldoyle Youth Services (BYS) . Taking inspiration from wildlife observed during local woodland walks, the changing seasons and the intended outcome of improving our living environments through recycling, a series of vibrant murals now adorn the bottle banks. With support from FCC environmental department and Rivervalley Community Centre this interagency project has proven to be an engaging project that has successfully delivered a meaningful response to a locally identified need. Consequently, the youth who participated in the project intend to use their learning and involvement as evidence of their civic engagement & participation for a Gaisce Award. The awards which are a direct challenge from the President of Ireland for young people aged 14-25 to dream big and realise their potential and they have certainly done that with this project. You can view the journey via the following link Video Rivervalley Bottle banks.mp4



Community Development Department acknowledged by the Swords Division of St Johns Ambulance Ireland.

Invited to attend their annual Bravery Awards Event , the Community Development Department attended the *Swords Division of SJA* annual awards ceremony and were delighted to be included in the celebration. As a valued community service which provides volunteers for local events, this token of recognition to everyone in the Community Department, was much appreciated.





Age Friendly Fingal

Age Friendly Fingal is committed to driving a collaborative, multi-sectoral approach to supporting interventions that will significantly help to improve the quality of life of the current population of older people in Fingal and future generations
Positive Ageing Week



To celebrate Positive Ageing Week which took place from 29th September to 3rd October 2025, community centres across the county were supported in running events to combat loneliness among older people. Over 25 events were organised with a focus on physical and mental health, ranging from talks on healthy eating to exercise sessions in Tai Chi and Yoga and tea dances. Music sessions were held for those who were less able to participate in physical exercise.

Information Event & Fashion Show

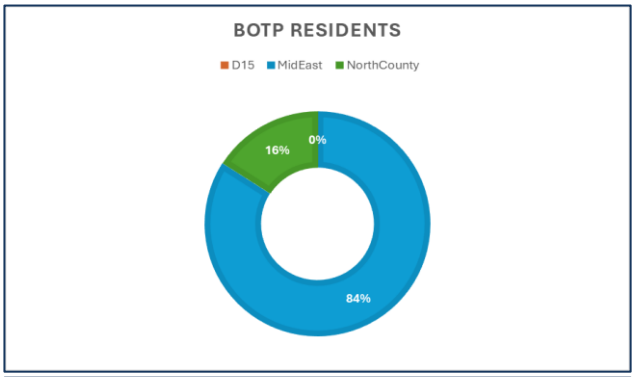


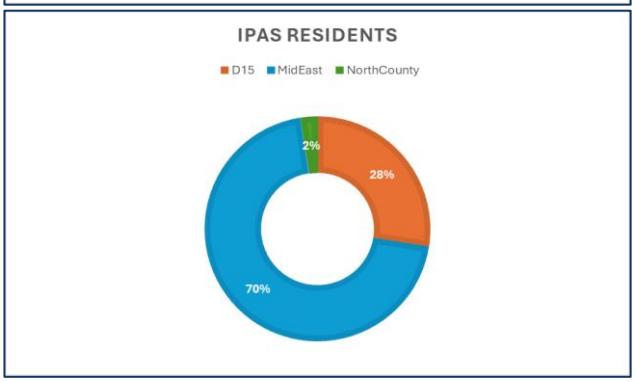
In collaboration with the Pavilions Shopping Centre, Swords, 30 service providers and groups such as Citizen's Information, Care & Repair, Adult Education Providers, Fingal Men's Sheds, Care & Repair, Dementia support, Local Link, An Garda Siochana, Dublin Fire Brigade, Libraries, Sports and Active Travel hosted stands providing information and advice for older people. To coincide with this event, the Pavilions Shopping Centre held a fashion show with older models displaying clothing available from retailers in the centre for older people.

Fingal Integration Office:
LAIT, Ukraine Support, Community Integration Forum and Migrant Strategy.

The LAIT continued to host integration clinics across the three geographical areas of North County, Mid-East and Dublin 15 in IPAS Accommodation centres and BOTP centres.
The latest accommodation statistics as of October 12th, 2025 have been provided by the LGMA (Local Government Management Agency) and UCTAT (Ukrainian Crisis Temporary Accommodation Team).

Geographical Area	BOTP Residents	IPAS Residents
North County	59	54
Mid-East	311	1545
Dublin 15	0	607
Total	**370**	**2206**





Employment Skills Day for BOTP Residents



On 1st October, in partnership with Intreo and the management of an accommodation centre in the Fingal area, the LAIT hosted an employment market skills session in the accommodation centre.

This provided an opportunity to BOTPs living at the centre to get support with CVs and register their interest in employment with a large hotel and property management company who also gave a talk at the event. 28 registered at this event, representing about 33% of the target group.

Integration, Health and Wellbeing Conference



On 14th and 15th October, ' LAIT staff attended the Integration, Health and Wellbeing Conference hosted by Limerick County Council.
This two-day event showcased a broad range of services and initiatives across Limerick with examples of good practice shared nationally amongst the many Local Authority Integration Teams in attendance.

Ukraine Support

The Integration Office has provided funding to support the delivery of events tailored towards Ukrainians living in Fingal. With the support of Fingal Integration, the Ukrainian Volunteers of Ireland will be holding a Cultural Christmas event for Families and running an arts and crafts project for individuals living in a BOTP accommodation centre. The group are also expanding their Symbol of Hope exhibition with funding provided by the Integration Office, which will be on display in County Hall this November. The Fingal Ukrainian Support Group will host a stall at the Fingal Christmas Market in Swords Castle to promote the integration of Ukrainian people within Ireland through Art pieces, with funding provided by the Integration Office.

Community Integration Forum

The Community Integration Forum continues to meet regularly. This forum creates a co-ordinated response from the various statutory agencies and voluntary groups in the county to assist the Ukraine community and other new arrivals. The most recent meeting was held on the 7th October 2025 with the final meeting of the year to be held on the 2nd December 2025. The Forum was originally tasked with assisting Ukrainian Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection. However, in line with the evolving situation, work has expanded to include:

1. Applicants for International Protection (IP Applicants)
2. Those with Refugee, Subsidiary Protection, or Permission to Remain status
3. Programme Refugees
4. Beneficiaries of Temporary Accommodation (BOTPs).

Funding

Community Activities funding is to support community and voluntary groups to develop initiatives that support, community group development, social inclusion initiatives, community events, climate action/environmental enhancement, integration or intercultural Initiatives.

€279,432.52 of funding has been approved to date in in 2025 with further applications to be approved before year end.

A funding scheme has also been provided for in the Community Development Programme to support Health & Safety enhancement works in non-council owned community facilities.

€190,708.00 of funding has been approved to date in 2025

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE ACTION, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND SPORTS DEPARTMENT

Contents

Active Travel
Climate Action
Environmental Awareness
Bring Centres
Litter Management
Sports Office

Active Travel

BLRS Area:

Seatown Road Swords:

A tender competition to procure a contractor to carry out the works has closed. Tenders are currently being evaluated by the Project Team. It is anticipated that the works will commence on site later in Q4 2025.

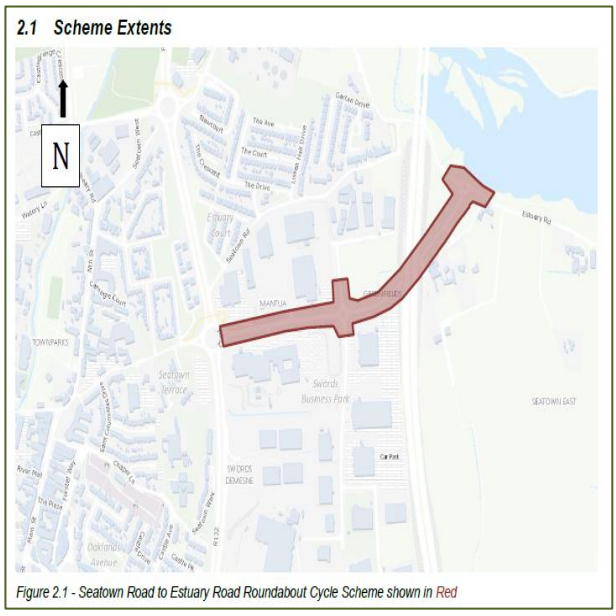


Figure 2.1 - Seatown Road to Estuary Road Roundabout Cycle Scheme shown in Red

Donabate Portrane R126 cycle paths:

The Project Team has reviewed the options report, and it is currently being finalised by the Design Team. Once gateway approvals are received from the NTA, the project will proceed to the preliminary design phase. Further details will be presented to Councillors at ACM in due course.

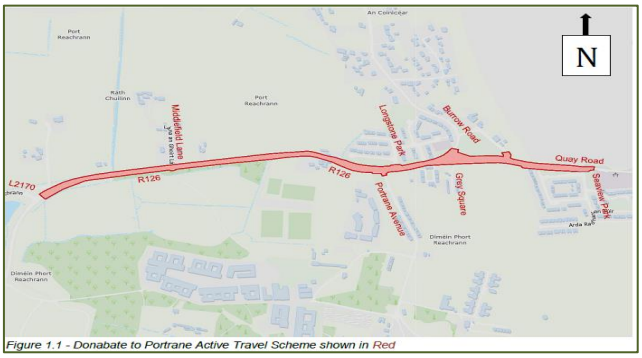


Figure 1.1 - Donabate to Portrane Active Travel Scheme shown in Red

Junction of the R132 and Flemington Lane Balbriggan:

The Contractor has mobilised and commenced works on site at Flemington Lane Junction, Balbriggan. These works will be ongoing over the coming weeks, with traffic and pedestrian management in place. The proposed project is located at the junction of Flemington Lane and the R132 in Balbriggan, Co. Dublin. The Environment, Climate Action, Active Travel & Sports Department of Fingal County Council intends to carry out upgrading works at this location to improve traffic safety, facilitate public transport, and support access to surrounding developments.



Howth-Malahide Area:

Baldoyle-Howth Protected Cycle Lane Scheme Phase 2

The extent of the scheme has been considered, and the brief and tender documents will be amended accordingly. A design team will then be appointed with a view to setting up public consultation at the earliest stage to the Concept Development and Option Selection.

Feltrim Road Active Travel Project

This project is currently progressing well in the Preliminary Design Phase. The design team are currently taking the emerging preferred option and developing it into a preliminary design. To this end, supplementary surveys have been carried out. As part of this phase, the design team will also carry out a range of ancillary deliverables including Road Safety Audits, Road User Audits, Environmental Screenings, and a Preliminary Business Case.

BMCO Area:

Snugborough Road – NAC to Ongar

The preliminary design phase is ongoing. The consultant has received the stage 1 road safety audit on the emerging preferred option. The latest drawings have been updated taking into account the various bus stops along the route which will be upgraded as part of the project. The latest draft preliminary design report is being updated taking this into account. An NTA workshop is due to take place in November 2025. Further updates will be provided over the coming months, through this report and at ACM level.

Clonee to Blanchardstown Shopping Centre

The preliminary design phase is ongoing. Initial discussions have taken place with local landowners with site meetings held. Further site investigations have taken place at pinch points along the R147 with drawings updated accordingly in agreement with the NTA following a workshop. A stage 1 road safety audit has been completed, and draft environmental & appropriate screening report comments have been issued from the Active Travel team to the design team for discussion. A non-statutory public consultation is being prepared.

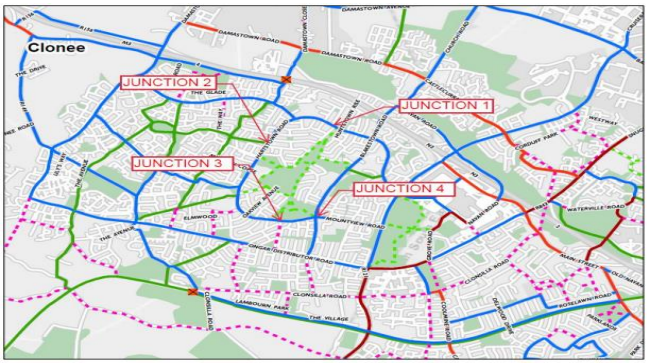
Castleknock to Dunsink Lane

A tender competition to procure a contractor to carry out the works commenced on the 14th August 2025 and is now closed. Tenders have been evaluated by the Project Team. The standstill period has started and will finish on the 4th November 2025. It is anticipated the works will commence on site in Q4 2025.



Hartstown/Huntstown/Mountview Road

Fingal County Council is progressing on finalising the design for roundabout and junction upgrades. Improvements to 2 signalised junctions at Hartstown Road/Hartstown Link Road and at Hartstown Road/Mountview Road with Blakestown Road/Shelerin Road are planned along with 2 roundabouts at the junction of Huntstown Way with Ashfield Way/Huntstown Park and at the junction of Huntstown Way with Castlewood. A non-statutory public consultation has closed and a public consultation report is now published. Detailed design and procurement has now commenced.



Castleknock to Blanchardstown via Farmleigh

The feasibility study has started, and traffic and drone surveys have taken place. A topographical survey has been completed and has been issued to the designers to inform the study. Feasibility and route options are currently being discussed between the design team and Active Travel.

Towns & Villages

Works are continuing in the development of an Active Travel Plan for several of our Towns & Villages. Details are outlined below.

New Street

Detailed design activities across the integrated design team are ongoing and are progressing on programme. The construction tender documents are in the process is being drafted and reviewed by the Active Travel unit.



Balrothery Active Travel Plan

The design team has identified an initial project from the Balrothery Active Travel Plan. This project is in the 'Concept Development and Option Selection' stage. These options will now be further developed and scored using a multi-criteria analysis.

The draft plan is now complete, and a strategic environmental assessment screening recommendation has been prepared. A 'determination' of this recommendation will now by sought by the Active Travel Unit.

Skerries Active Travel Plan.

The optioneering phase is now underway with the detailed analysis of several proposed interventions to aid in the generation of the final report.

A workshop was conducted with internal FCC stakeholders to gather feedback and discuss the proposals. This proved to be beneficial, and the learnings gained in this workshop will be used to improve the proposals.

Meetings have been held with transport operators, such as Irish Rail and Bus Eireann, to ensure coordination between their projects and operations and the proposed active travel plan. Further meetings will be undertaken with these stakeholders as the programme proceeds.

An external communications consultation has being engaged to assist in the non-statutory public engagement process, which will commence in the coming weeks. Local councillors will be briefed on the proposals in advance of this consultation. These non-statutory public engagements will be advertised through all our social media outlets.

Skerries Harbour Road & Red Island Loop:

The Part 8 Planning Process concluded at the full council meeting on 9th June 2025. The proposal was approved at this meeting.

The project is now in the detailed design phase. FCC has continued to engage with the ESB and other utilities on the requirements to underground services on Harbour Road.

Consultation with the local stakeholders will be facilitated in advance of the construction phase in 2026.

These works have been split into two phases for construction with the works to the Red Island Loop, the car parks, link along South Beach to Dorn Lane, forms the initial phase. This will be followed by the works to Harbour Road as a separate contract and phase.

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 the 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:

This project is substantially complete, and the contractor has demobilised off-site. A number of snag items along the route are currently being reviewed in advance of being addressed by the appropriate contractor.

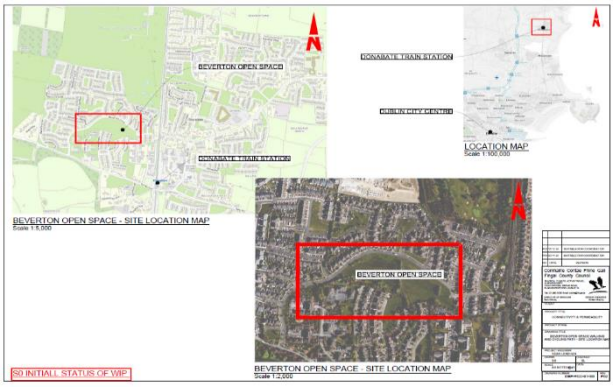
This project has proved very successful in providing safe walking and cycling facilities for vulnerable road users in the area.



Donabate Permeability - Phase 1:

This project involves the provision of a walking and cycling path in Beverton Open Space. The footpaths from the end of the cul de sacs in Turvey Green, Turvey Drive and Turvey Woods will be extended into the Beverton open space to join the new pathway being provided in the green open space.

These works are currently underway and will be completed in the month of November.



Seapark Hill Active Travel Project

This project is progressing on schedule, and the design team are currently designing the public lighting elements of the scheme, as well as incorporating a supplementary arborist's report that was deemed required.

The design team are also preparing the deliverables required to close off this phase of the project.

Broomfield to Paddy's Hill

The brief has been drafted to appoint a multi-disciplinary design team to bring this project from the Options Development Stage through to completion. The extent of the scheme and various other constraints are under consideration at present by the Active Travel Unit.



Secure Bicycle Parking Infrastructure

Works associated with the provision of Bicycle Parking Infrastructure have been completed at the following locations:

Porter's Gate Green, Clonsilla, Dublin 15



Hayworth Drive, Ongar, Dublin 15



Dunsandle Court, Castleknock, Dublin 15



Road Safety:

Safe Routes to School Round 1

All works are complete for the Safe Routes to School Round 1 program.

Safe Routes to School Round 2

Fingal County Council has appointed Clifton Scannell Emerson Associates (CSEA) as the Project Supervisor for the Design Process (PSDP), in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Safety, Health, and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2013.

The appointed schools are:

- St Helen's SNS, Limetree Avenue, Portmarnock, Co. Dublin
- Scoil Bhríde, Cailíní & Buachaillí, Church Avenue, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15
- St Colmcille's Girls NS, Chapel Lane, Swords, Co. Dublin
- Holy Family JNS, Forest Fields, Swords, Co. Dublin

The preliminary designs for Scoil Bhríde Cailíní and Scoil Bhríde Buachaillí, located on Church Avenue, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15, have been completed by the appointed designer and successfully reviewed by the Council. A detailed cost estimate has also been prepared and approved by the National Transport Authority (NTA), ensuring the project aligns with budgetary constraints and safety standards. The Section 38 Public Consultation for these schools is currently ongoing, marking a key milestone in the implementation process.

In addition, preliminary designs for St Helen's SNS, Limetree Avenue, Portmarnock; St Colmcille's Girls NS, Chapel Lane, Swords; and Holy Family JNS, Forest Fields, Swords have also been completed and reviewed. Cost estimates for these projects have likewise been approved by the NTA. The Section 38 Public Consultation for these schools is scheduled to commence in the coming weeks, representing the next phase in delivering safer, more sustainable travel routes for students across Fingal.

Safe Routes to School Round 3

Round 3 of the Fingal Safe Routes to School programme includes the following seven schools:

- Broadmeadow Community National School (CNS)
- Donabate Portrane Educate Together National School (ETNS)
- Holywell Educate Together National School (ETNS)
- Malahide/Portmarnock Educate Together National School (ETNS)
- Scoil Mhuire Junior
- Scoil Thomáis
- St Nicholas of Myra National School, Kinsealy

Fingal County Council is actively progressing Round 3 of the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programme, which aims to create safer, more accessible routes for students walking and cycling to school. The programme is currently in the early engagement phase, with An Taisce working closely with each of the selected schools to develop outline delivery plans tailored to the specific needs and context of each school community. This collaborative approach ensures that proposed infrastructure improvements are both practical and responsive to local conditions. The grant application for Round 3 has been approved by the Director of Fingal County Council and submitted to the National Transport Authority (NTA) for final approval. Once approved, the programme will proceed with pre-works surveys, paving the way for the next stage of design and implementation.

School Wardens:

Our school wardens continue to work across the county withy the service to take a summer break from June 27th. The Road Safety office developed some promotional material this month to highlight the role our wardens play in keeping the county's school children safe on their daily commute, this can be found here.

European Mobility Week:

The Road Safety Office is currently identifying two areas adjacent to schools where temporary **School Streets** can be implemented during European Mobility Week. The initiative aims to enhance safety at the school front and encourage walking and cycling among students.

The schools under consideration for this initiative are:

- Gaelscoil Na Mara & Donabate Community College
- Thornleigh Educate Together National School

Rush National School:

Works have been completed to facilitate the 'School Street' along Channel Road in Rush. The scheme is underway and monitoring of operation of the School Street is ongoing.

Learn 2 Cycle Track, Holywell Park, Swords

Our Cycling Skills Courses in Holywell finished up on Saturday 25th Oct with a very successful group cycle around the Holywell area. This was the first time many of the participants cycled independently on live roads. Our courses will break now until the new year, but they have proved very popular and beneficial to all who have taken part





Learn2Cycle with a Disability

Learn2Cycle with a Disability lessons are progressing very well, with continued demand for the lessons. Lessons are continuing in Rivervalley, Tyrrelstown and Luttrelstown.
Our next lessons are running in:

- Flemington Community Centre, starts 10/11/2025
- Tyrrelstown Community Centre, starts 07/11/2025
- Flemington Community Centre, starts Monday 10/11/2025

A full list of 2025 Courses is available on our website https://www.fingal.ie/activetravel/mobility/learn2cycle

Throughout 2025, we will have run approximately 40 Learn2Cycle with a Disability courses in Fingal.



Balance Bike Buddies – Halloween Party

We finished our Balance Bike Courses for 2025 with a brilliant Halloween Party on the Learn 2 Cycle track in Millennium Park.

Over 80 children came along and enjoyed cycling, face painting, balloon modelling, a magic show and lots of fun activities.
Our Balance Bike Buddies Courses will resume in February 2026. We'd like to say a massive thank you to our wonderful coaches and all our participants who have joined us this year to start their cycling journey.



Utrecht – Study Tour

A group of Fingal County Council Councillors, Planners, Engineers and Active Travel Staff undertook a three-day study tour to Utrecht in October. The purpose of the trip was to meet with representatives from the local municipality, experience the world class infrastructure and identify areas of best practice that could be implemented in Fingal



The tour provided the participants with a fascinating and inspiring insight into Dutch cycling culture and showed us what is possible as we continue to develop our Active Travel infrastructure.



Healthy Steps Projects

Working in partnership with our colleagues in Healthy Fingal, we have been delighted to continue to expand the Healthy Steps Walking Groups around the County. The walks are led by trained walk leaders and participants can be GP referred or self-refer with the goal of using exercise as a way of combating illness.

We currently have walks in as follows:

- Newbridge House – Fridays at 10:30am
- Parlickstown House – Fridays at 9:30am
- Balbriggan Library – Fridays at 11am
- Millennium Park – Thursdays at 12pm



Castleknock Walking Group

The Active Travel team have been working with residents in Castleknock to set up a new weekly walking group from the area. The group will hold their first walk on Tuesday 11th November at 11am. The meeting point is just inside the Castleknock Gate of the Phoenix Park. The gentle walk will finish with a tea/coffee at the Phoenix Park visitors centre.



Sparkpark – Precision Parking Technology

In November, we will launch Irelands first precision bike parking technology system for shared mobility. Sparkpark are a Norwegian company part owned by EIT Urban Mobility. The system works using precision antennas placed over designated sheffield stand locations, in these locations, bike share users will not be able to finish their journey outside of the stand.

The technology ensures that bikes are parked responsibly, keeping the public realm free from obstacles that may inhibit people with reduced mobility, those with prams or people using mobility aids.

The scheme will initially focus on 10 locations in Dublin 15 in conjunction with Moby eBikes.



KINTO Join – Carpooling Platform

In November, a joint project across multiple sections will go live. The Kinto Join sustainable travel platform will allow staff match up with colleagues who may provide a lift or need a lift to either County Hall or Civic Offices. The carpooling platform will verify each sustainable journey, including walking and cycling.

The platform will be of particular use to staff who need to travel between offices and will help us track and monitor our staff travel habits throughout the year.

The Fingal County Council communities will go live from the 25th November and we will have information sessions in both locations.

The platform will play a key part in helping us promote sustainable transport and meet our climate action targets



The Fingal Second Spin Project

Our Second Spin pilot scheme is up and running with the first recycled bikes delivered to teens who have been the victim of bike theft. The project is being run in conjunction with the Rediscovery Centre in Ballymun and as part of the project we provide teens who have experienced bike theft with an upcycled second hand bike free of charge. The scheme promotes the continuation of Active Travel for victims of bike theft while also helping to promote the circular economy by given older bikes a new lease of life.

The 'Second Spin' project recognises the emotional and practical impact that being a victim of bike theft places on a teenager and aims to give them back their independence while also giving older bikes a chance to be restored to their former glory.



The pilot project aims to repair and renew bikes that have been abandoned or donated and while they may not be a new bike, they will give Teenagers an opportunity to continue cycling. Participants will also have the option to re-donate their bike back to the scheme should they ever decide to purchase a new bike again.

Applying for the scheme is easy, if you are the victim of bike theft, simply fill out the application form below and we will be in touch.

https://forms.office.com/e/iX3z0TgTB0

Bleeper Lease E-Bike for Staff

The Bleeper staff lease bike trial is continuing, and staff feedback so far in 2025 has been excellent, with several staff members using the bikes to commute.

The Bleeper lease bike trial is available for staff based in Blanchardstown. Staff can avail of a free trial of Bleeper Lease Bike with the trial lasting from four weeks (with potential to extend, depending on level of demand).

- Choose from a folding e-bike or trekking e-bike – see example images below.
- Staff must collect the bike from the Blanchardstown Civic Offices, and return the bike to the same location at the end of the trial.

For more information, please email Emma.court@fingal.ie





Staff Pooled Bikes

Staff pooled bikes are available in County Hall, Swords through the Bleeper Bike App. To sign up for shared eBikes

- Email Building Facilities for Bike Bunker access
- Download the Bleeper App
- Register with your FCC email
- Search 'My Private Scheme'
- Enter Scheme name: 'Fingal Staff Bikes'
- Await the confirmation from Bleeper The bikes are available from the middle Bike Bunker in Swords, and we plan to have the two bikes available in the Civic Offices, Blanchardstown in January 2025.

For more information, please email active.travel@fingal.ie



Fingal eBike Connect Scheme

Following on from the success of the eBike connect scheme in Donabate/Portrane we are extending the scheme to the Skerries area.

We are currently seeking expressions of interest for Round 1 in Skerries and round 3 in Donabate/Portrane.

This scheme gives residents the opportunity to apply for a subsidised eBike for a 3-month period. The purpose of the scheme is to show people the benefits of eBikes in relation to commuting and remove barriers that may exist towards buying or leasing your own eBike.

The second round of bikes went out in August 2025 and due to the phenomenal demand and feedback we are doubling the number of bikes available, residents from Donabate/Portrane interested in applying for round 3 of the scheme can contact customercare@bleeperactive.com and they will take you through the process



Dublin 15 Bike Library

The uptake for the Dublin 15 Bike Library is currently at 100%, however we are still seeking expressions of interest for the next 2 rounds. Interested participants can still sign up through the jotform and Bleeper Bike will be in touch.

https://form.jotform.com/241503900081343



The bike library offers participants a free three-month trial on an eBike, eCargo Bike or an eLongtail bike and aims to show them the benefits and versatility of eBikes as a primary mode of transport.

The Balbriggan Green Commute Project

The Active Travel Section in partnership with UCD and Irish Rail are running an electric bike pilot project in Balbriggan. Initially, we are seeking six people who currently drive to Balbriggan Train Station and use the train 3 to 5 days a week to take part in a 6-month trial.

Participants will receive **free use of an electric bike** along with **secure bike storage at the station**. The aims of this project are to:

1. Reduce car journeys to Balbriggan Train Station
2. Demonstrate the convenience of eBikes for commuting
3. Showcase the benefits of safe, secure bike storage at train stations
4. Support a greener, more sustainable Balbriggan

Participants will also be entitled to use the Bleeper Bike, Fingal Pass, which will give you 30mins free use of Bleeper Pedal bikes in all their operating zones across Dublin. Expressions of interest will open in early September, but if you have any queries, please contact Stephen.mcginn@fingal.ie



Wheelchair Tandem Bike Service

The Wheelchair Tandem Bike will be available free of charge to the public and training in how to use it and operate the Bike Bunker will be provided.

The Bike is a unique and innovative bicycle designed to be a tandem vehicle for individuals with mobility impairments. It combines a wheelchair with a tandem bike, allowing the person in the wheelchair to participate in cycling activities with another cyclist.

This type of bicycle offers an opportunity for individuals with disabilities to experience the outdoors, get exercise, and engage in cycling activities in a way that wouldn't be possible on a traditional bike. If you'd like more information, email cyclingwithoutage@fingal.ie

Cycling Without Age

Over the summer Cycling Without Age has really taken off in Skerries and Malahide Castle with multiple trips per week in both locations. It has been fantastic to see such an increase in the service, with that though, we are on the lookout for new volunteer pilots for each area. If you would be interested in finding out more, please contact cyclingwithoutage@fingal.ie



There are now two ways to book a Cycling Without Age Trishaw trip. Details below
By Email:

Cyclingwithoutage@fingal.ie with your name, preferred location, preferred date and time.

Online:

Fill out the booking form https://forms.office.com/e/n9aTJLu7jd and we'll be in touch.



Skerries Community Car

The Skerries Community Car is available to book for local trips to the doctors, pharmacist, shops and for social occasions. This volunteer led scheme is vital for fighting social isolation and a valuable service to the people of the Skerries and the surrounding areas.
In September the Community Car completed 67 trips, with 4 being cancelled, the continued growth of the Community Car shows us just how valuable the service is and we are actively working on ways to expand the service to other locations in the County.
To book the service or to sign up as a volunteer simply call Flexibus on 046 9074830 or email flexibus@locallinklmf.ie



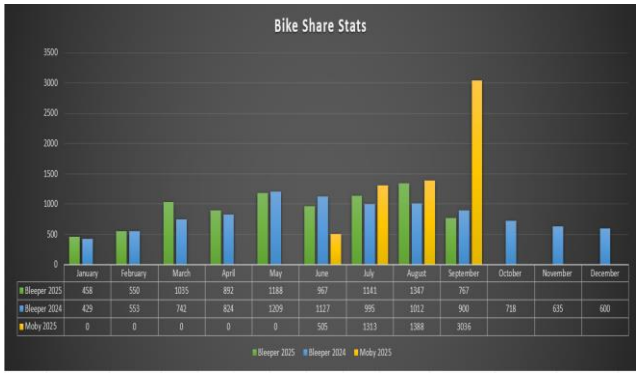
EVPZ

The Active Travel section in partnership with The ESB, Yuko and Go Car recently launched two new shared EV mobility hubs in Swords and Malahide. The hubs each have two electric vehicles on site with a dedicated charger in each location. The Pilot Project aims to increase the number of shared vehicle journeys completed by EV, making the already environmentally friendly form of transport even more sustainable. For more information on the EVPZ eHubs project, you can check out https://esb.ie/what-we-do/esb-ehubs



Month	Trips	KM Travelled
May	38	568km
June	92	2486km
July	42	2626km
August	67	3219km
September	61	2289km
October		
November		
December		
Total 2025		

Bike Share Schemes



Overall, we had nearly 3,700 bike share journeys in Fingal for September.

Moby Bikes In Fingal

Moby had a very strong month in September, completing 3,036 trips across Dublin 15. This equates to roughly 3 trips per bike per day. 3,036 Moby eBike journeys started within Fingal operating zone in September.

- Distance travelled by ebike = 10,925km
- Average Trip Distance = 3.21km
- Thursday recorded the highest usage
- Average Trip Time = 14mins
- Estimated emissions avoided in Fingal this month was 1400kg



Bleeper Bike

The Bleeper Bike Scheme continued to provide a valuable form of public transport for September, the trip numbers using Dublin Airport continues to grow. We removed the Bleeper Bike service from Dublin 15 in April due to vandalism.

This has greatly affected trip numbers in the West of the county in May, but we restarted our service in Castleknock Village, Blanchardstown Shopping Centre and Blanchardstown Village and have seen no increase in vandalism, we hope to continue expanding to the remaining Dublin 15 areas over the coming months.



The new service saw the introduction of the Fingal Pass. This pass gives residents of Fingal their first 30 minutes of every Bleeper trip for free.

Fingal Pass Applications: 391 (29/09/2025)
Approved Applications: 280
Refusal Reasons
Non-Fingal Residents: 7
No Bleeper Account yet: 104

Bleeper Bike Monthly Report

03 Bleeper bike journeys started within Fingal operating zone in July
There were an additional 264 Journeys that took place outside of Fingal using the Fingal Pass
992 bike journeys ended within existing Fingal operating zone in April
Sundays (19%) and Mondays (14%) recorded the highest usage
Howth, Baldoyle, Sutton and Castleknock Village were the most popular starting points.
Estimated emissions avoided in Fingal this month: 191kg of CO2 (Plus an additional 51kg from external Fingal Pass trips)

CLIMATE ACTION

Fingal Sustainable Energy Communities

Fingal County Council, with the SEAI SEC mentors, arranged a workshop with the SEC's in Fingal to discuss barrier to progressing Energy Master Plans and Projects.



E2CUTIES

Work is progressing on the second deliverable for this project: *Progress of the Dublin Pilot Site*.

LASNTG Climate Action Training

The Climate Action Team has promoted and attended Local Authority Climate Action Webinar Series provided by LASNTG.

Our Balbriggan- Sustainability, Climate Action and Biodiversity Pillar

The Climate Team presented to the Our Balbriggan Leadership Group on the methodology for the development of the Decarbonisation Zone Plan for Balbriggan. The Climate Team continue to support the implementation of the Sustainability, Climate Action and Biodiversity Pillar Action Plan.

CARO

The Climate Team continue to liaise with Dublin Metropolitan CARO and four Dublin Local Authorities to implement and monitor the actions contained in the Climate Action Plans.

Harnessing Bioeconomy Solutions

On 16th October 2025, staff from the Climate Action Team attended a conference on Harnessing Bioeconomy Solutions for Climate Adaptation at the Teagasc facility in Co. Meath., which was supported by the CARO Office. Presentations were given by Tipperary and Donegal County Council on projects in their Local Authority.

Decarbonisation Dublin Summit

The Climate Action Team attended the Decarbonisation Summit organised by Codema



Community Climate Action Fingal Grant

Minister Darragh O'Brien from the Department of Climate, Environment and Energy, launched the Community Climate Action Fingal grant on 20th October. The €1.127m fund is open for applications from not-for-profit community groups, organisations and clubs. Projects that are eligible must reduce carbon emissions such as upgrading building insulation, doors and windows, heating, and fitting solar panels on the local hall or sports club, a heat pump, composting food waste, new recycling bins, planting trees and increasing biodiversity. The maximum grant for any individual application is €100k. Anyone wishing to apply should visit the webpage and view the information and then contact the Community Climate Action Officer Sinead Fox. The grant closes on Mon 22nd December.

Applicants are advised to start the application as soon as possible. Harnessing Bioeconomy Solutions for Climate Adaptation.



ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Awareness:

Screening of Losing the Thread: The Cost of Fast Fashion

The short film *Losing the Thread: The Cost of Fast Fashion*, created by the four Dublin local authorities about the consequences of fast fashion, premiered at the Lighthouse Cinema in Smithfield on 3rd October. The event brought together Mayors and Councillors from all four local authorities, stakeholders in sustainable fashion, and secondary school students for an exclusive screening. Following the film, attendees engaged in a lively panel discussion on the environmental and social impacts of fast fashion. Students also participated in workshops facilitated by An Taisce's Let's Fix Fashion programme and the Relove Fashion Competition. A clothes swap organised by Circular Fashion Ireland proved highly successful, with 200 items of clothing exchanged.



Anti-Litter Anti-Graffiti (ALAG) projects

This summer, forty community groups across Fingal received funding through the Anti-Litter Anti-Graffiti (ALAG) grant and have been working on projects aimed at improving their local environment. Most of these initiatives are now in their final stages. A notable example is the Portmarnock Community Association's collaboration with street artist Envoy to paint the bathing shelters on Portmarnock Beach (which the ALAG grant went to part funding). Students from Portmarnock Community School were actively involved in the creative process, making this a true community effort.



Photo by Jimmy Meehan



Community Leaf Mould Composting Project

The Community Leaf Mould Composting Project is in full swing, with over fifty community groups participating. Many of these groups have partnered with local secondary schools, inviting students to assist in setting up compost cages and delivering educational talks on the benefits of composting leaves. This initiative not only promotes sustainable practices but also fosters environmental awareness among young people.

Waste Prevention and Circular Economy Tour

Transition Year students recently visited the Estuary Recycling Centre as part of the autumn programme. During their visit, they attended a talk on waste prevention and the circular economy model, followed by a guided tour of the facility. These sessions aim to highlight the role individuals can play in reducing waste and supporting a circular economy.

Recycled Bikes Project

Two adult bicycles and nine children's bikes were donated schools with students with additional needs through the Active Travel team. This initiative promotes physical and mental well-being while contributing to carbon reduction efforts.

Green Halloween

Halloween provided an opportunity to promote sustainable practices by promoting sustainable celebrations. While the season is traditionally associated with creativity and fun, it also generates significant waste from plastic decorations, costumes, and single-use sweet wrappers. To address this, eco-friendly tips and mid-term activities for children were shared on the Environmental Awareness webpage, encouraging families to celebrate in a more sustainable way.



Media Engagement

Media engagement supported these efforts, with interviews conducted to raise awareness of greener Halloween practices. Helen O'Callaghan from the Irish Examiner featured tips for parents, while Maurice O'Connor from Community Radio Kilkenny discussed sustainability during Halloween festivities.

Social Media Campaign

Complementing this, a social media campaign focused on the correct disposal of seasonal waste items such as costumes, pumpkins, and batteries, reinforcing the message of responsible waste management.





Litter Management

The Litter Wardens continue to deal with large amounts of littering and dumping throughout the county.

- Investigate and report on all D365 cases raised by the litter management section
- Bring banks in the Fingal area are inspected daily to ensure that there is no dumping, and any evidence found is dealt with under the Litter Pollution Act
- Link in with Operations to see if any issues have arisen for their crews regarding illegal dumping/littering in their areas, carry out inspections and follow up with fines/warning notices where evidence is found.
- Report any dumping and littering to Operations division for removal and follow up on witness statements submitted by Fingal citizens.
- Site inspections are carried out following reports of muck on the roads from building developments and farming activities. Site/Farm owners are advised of their responsibilities to ensure the roads are kept clean of muck and that the building sites have a road sweeper/wheel wash facility in operation.
- Continue to raise awareness on the issue of dog fouling on beaches, pathways, parks and roads and target hot spots for dog fouling. Anti dog fouling signs are erected at various locations on foot of requests made and where complaints are received.
- Investigate and report on reports of abandoned cars, photographing and updating the litter app and the CRM system.
- Conduct walking patrols and engage with business owners regarding their responsibilities in keeping outside their premises clean and free of litter.
- The wardens continued the annual litter quantification surveys in September to quantity the litter present, inspecting and counting litter present, thus Identifying black spots, to enable Fingal County Council tackle litter more effectively.
- Attended tenant induction course outlining their responsibilities regarding litter.
- Litter warden to call to business in industrial estate regarding securing and removing of bonfire materials (pallets, tyres etc).



Litter Fines & Warning Notices – October 2025

Month	No of Fines issued	No of Warning Notices issued
January	16	1
February	9	2
March	18	1
April	15	0
May	16	4
June	23	2
July	38	5
August	16	0
September	17	0
October	26	0

There were four cases before the district court in October.

Litter Management Cases for October 2025

Cases for October 2025	Number
Muck on road	2
Inspection of bring banks	316
Inspection of dumping black spots	612
Unauthorised signage	1
Request for Dog fouling signs	3
Report of dumping from a car	2
Report of dumping 1 – 20 bags	10
Surveys	42



Abandoned Vehicles

From 1st January – 30th October 2025, 357 reports of alleged Abandoned Vehicles have been received by the Environment Department. Burnt-out vehicles are also reported to the Environment Department.

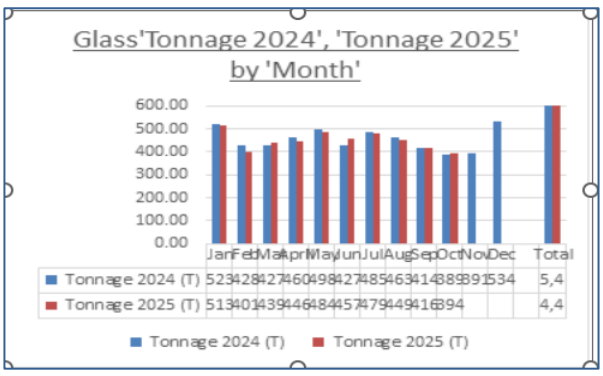
The Litter Wardens carry out an initial inspection of all reported abandoned and burnt-out vehicles. To report a suspected abandoned vehicle the following information is required and should be emailed to environment@fingal.ie

- **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

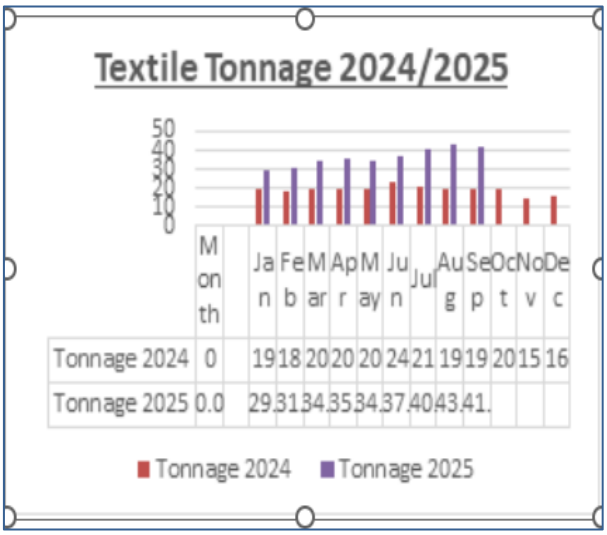
	Abandoned Vehicles Lifted		Burnt out Vehicles Lifted	
	2024	2025	2024	2025
January	0	0	6	0
February	2	0	0	1
March	2	2	3	2
April	2	3	0	0
May	0	2	0	0
June	1	0	0	1
July	0	0	0	0
August	0	0	0	0
September	0	3	0	0
October	0	5	0	0
November	0		0	
December	0		1	
	7	15	10	4

Bring Banks & Bottle Banks



Glass volumes collected in October 2025 were 395 (T). This compares with a collection figure of 389 (T) in October 2025.

Textiles Banks



Textiles collected in September 2025 were 41 (T). This compares with a collection figure of 19 (T) in September 2025.

Animal Welfare

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. 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. Over the summer months the dog wardens will increase their patrols on the beaches and in the parks.

There were 192 x 10 Day Notices and 38 Fines issued by the dog wardens to the 29th of Oct 2025.

Month	10 Day Notices		Fines Issued		Fines Paid	
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025
January	217	10	20	3	€1,997.50	€550
February	297	82	38	5	€2,135	€2,244
March	234	87	40	15	€2,525	€1,121
April	277	85	35	11	€2,073	€1,770
May	408	99	38	15	€2,420	€4,443
June	247	81	58	12	€2,180	€1700
July	29	82	88	12	€3,550	€1221.50
August	15	224	52	29	€4,600	€2200
September	29	104	23	25	€2,919.70	€3750
October	15	192	13	38	€2,321	€3700
November	104		19		€2,185	
December	0		5		€1,700	
TOTAL	**1872**	**1046**	**429**	**165**	**€30,606.20**	**€22,699.50**

The Animal Welfare Section created 43 cases relating to dog incidents from 1st of October 2025 to 29th of October 2025. The Animal Welfare team also successfully dealt with 1592 emails in the period in relation to Control of Dogs.

Service	No of complaints per service from 1st of October 2025 to 29th October 2025
Env - Dog Fine Appeal	10
Env - Dog on Dog Attack	4
Env - Dog on Person Attack	4
Env – Dog warden assistance, garda request	2
Env - Restricted Breed Dog	6
Env - Surrendered Dog	0
Issue with Dog	13
Dog Signage Requests	0
Env- Stray Dog	4
Grand Total	43

Dog Licences

The below table shows the number of annual and lifetime licences purchased from 1st January 2025 to 29th of October 2025 in comparison with the same months in 2024. 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 fine.

Month	Annual Licences Purchased		Lifetime Licences Purchased		Income from Licences	
	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025
January	1078	954	87	66	€33,740	€28,320
February	1010	846	62	56	€28,880	€24,760
March	810	855	58	61	€24,320	€25,640
April	918	838	64	46	€27,320	€23,200
May	1193	939	90	64	€36,460	€27,740
June	1045	795	87	47	€33,080	€22,480
July	843	808	49	52	€23,720	€23,440
August	865	897	67	72	€26,680	€28,020
September	762	719	47	43	€21,820	€20,360
October	804	609	65	45	€25,180	€18,480
November	654		46		€19,520	€
December	310		20		€9000	€
Total for year	**10, 292**	**8,260**	**742**	**552**	**€309,720**	**€242,440**



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 October there were 8 dogs in the shelter. Up to 30th October 2025, 5 dogs were brought to the shelter by the dog wardens as stray or surrenders and 4 were surrendered by members of the public.

Of these 17 dogs 2 were reclaimed, 2 were rehomed to Rescue and 3 were rehomed to members of the public. As of 30th of October 2025 there were 9 dogs remaining in the shelter. The shelter has a **Facebook page Dublin County Dog Shelter** and **Instagram Account @dublincountydogshelter** which they actively update with strays and dogs wishing to be rehomed.

Dogs in Shelter at the start of October 2024	**20**	**Dogs in Shelter at start of October 2025**	**8**
Stray/Seized dogs brought to Shelter	5	Stray/Seized dogs brought to Shelter	5
Surrendered by owners	8	Surrendered by owners	4
Reclaimed	0	Reclaimed	2
Rehomed to Rescue	6	Rehomed to Rescue	2
Rehomed to Public	6	Rehomed to Public	3
PTS	2	PTS	1
Dogs in Shelter at the end of October 2024	**19**	**Dogs in shelter at 30th of October 2025**	**9**





Meet Pixie who is still available for rehoming. Pixie went on trial for Customs and rescue but came back as too much of a pet. Some more training needed in a home environment, however she will thrive with the right owner.

Contact the Shelter on **0873914008**, **WhatsApp or Facebook** for further information or to book a viewing.

Fingal County Council has shared this information on our own Facebook & Instagram pages.

Facebook: Dublin County Dog Shelter

Instagram: dublincountydogshelter

A social media campaign was run in the lead up to Halloween giving practical advice to keep dogs safe during the fireworks. This was shared on all social media platforms and on Staff Messages





Horses

During October a total of 4 horses were seized from the public realm. Weekly welfare inspections and monthly vet inspections continue at Dunsink Landfill to monitor the numbers and welfare of the horses onsite. Hay feeders are filled weekly to ensure adequate forage for the horses on the landfill. There are 12 hay feeders being filled by the Operations Department on a weekly basis to ensure adequate forage for the horses on the landfill.



Waste Enforcement & Regulation

During the month of October, the Waste Enforcement Section continued work on the Fingal County Council Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste Bye-Laws project. To date, a total of 3,224 households, suspected of not participating in a waste collection service, were contacted to confirm how they're managing their waste. Households unable to prove they were in compliance with the Bye-Laws were reminded that non-compliance can result in the issuing of a Fixed Payment Notice. This has resulted in over 200 new bin accounts being put in place since the beginning of the project.

While the vast majority of households have demonstrated compliance with the Waste Bye-Laws, the project will continue with a view to ensuring all households are participating in a waste collection service and managing their waste as per the Fingal County Council Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste Bye-Laws.



Door to door inspection revealed that:

- approx. 5% of houses visited were noted to be vacant,
- 29% were managed by a property management company and had communal bins in place,
- 16% had a bin sharing agreement with a neighbour or relative,
- 42% were engaged/engaging with a waste collector and
- 8% disposed of their waste at an authorised facility.

In tandem with the project, anti-dumping media posts are being displayed on Fingal County Council social media sites during the month of November and December as well as video clips highlighting the Waste Bye-Laws Project and the important of participating in a waste collection service plus the dangers of engaging the services of an unauthorised waste collector with no waste collection permit in place.



Waste Complaints

During October, a total of 28 waste related complaints were recorded and 17 were fully investigated and resolved. 11 are currently under investigation by waste enforcement officers.

Types of Complaints	Oct-25
Fly/ Tipping/Illegal Dumping	3
Unauthorised C&D sites	0
Unauthorised ELV sites	1
Unauthorised Tyre Dumps	0
Unauthorised Waste Collectors	3
Unauthorised Waste Activities	0
WFP Sites (Permit Expired)	0
Extractive industries	0
HH Waste - Backyard Storage	14
Article 27	0
Non-routine inspections	1
Total	22

These complaints related to household backyard burning/storage of waste, unauthorised ELV sites, fly tipping/dumping, and unauthorised waste collectors. A number of enforcement notices were issued to ensure compliance with the Waste Management Act 1996 as amended and the Waste Presentation Bye-Laws. A breakdown of the types of complaints investigated in October is shown in above graph.



The number of waste related complaints received to date in 2025 has increased compared to previous years partly due to the fact that multiple complaints about the same issue have to be recorded as separate complaints for the purposes of RMCEI reporting and in accordance with EPA guidelines on complaint recording.



WEEE Inspections

Under S.I. No. 149/2014 - European Union (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) Regulations 2014 and S.I. No. 283/2014 - European Union (Batteries and Accumulators) Regulations 2014, premises which distribute or produce EEE, and/or batteries must register with a compliance scheme. Customers can return WEEE and waste batteries to these registered premises, which are then collected for recycling. Local Authorities have a key role in enforcing compliance with the WEEE regulations.

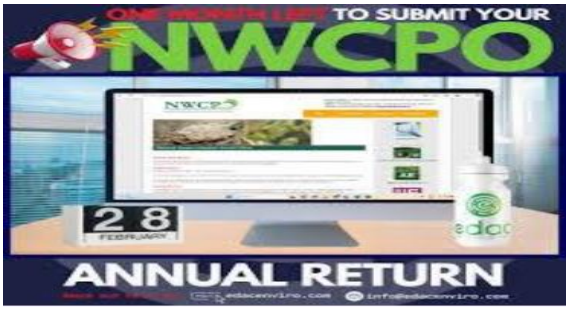


During October, 7 WEEE and 7 battery inspections were undertaken, with only 1 compliant premises. Most premises were unregistered and were directed to register with a compliance scheme and follow the requirements of the legislation by displaying a certificate of registration and statutory notice, and provide takeback of WEEE and batteries.

Annual Returns

Article 20(2)(e) of the *Waste Management (Collection Permit) Regulations 2007* and **Article 19(3)(d)** of the *Waste Management (Waste Facility Permit and Registration) Regulations 2007*, ensures that waste permit holders in Ireland maintain and submit detailed records of their waste activities. These records are managed through the National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO) online portals and validated using a national protocol. The data is vital for tracking waste generation, recovery, and disposal, and supports environmental compliance and enforcement at local, regional, and national levels.

There are 113 Annual Returns to validate for Waste Collection Permit Holders and 20 for Waste Facilities. Currently 103 have been validated.



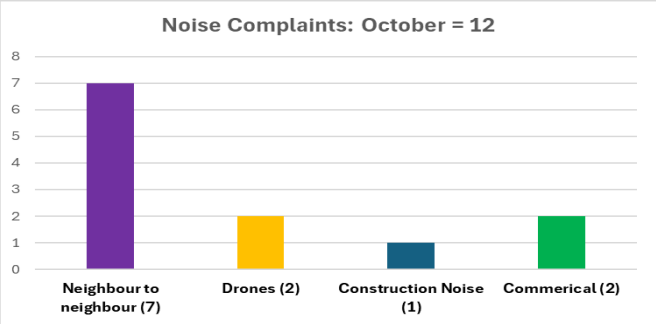
The initial task, which was carried out in April, was to identify permit holders who did not submit their AR by the deadline of 28 February and contact them to seek their submission.

From May to date, desktop validations of all submitted Annual Returns were undertaken , ensuring that the waste data returned was in line with previous years, matched returns from other permit holders, the right List of Waste codes were used, and that the waste data was returned in the correct tabs. Where significant issues were identified at the desktop validation stage, or where issues were identified in the previous year's validation exercise, site inspections were scheduled to check the waste data returned against the permit holder's records. 10 inspections were undertaken in 2025. Where non-compliances were identified, enforcement action was initiated to ensure compliance with the Waste Collection Permit Regulations.

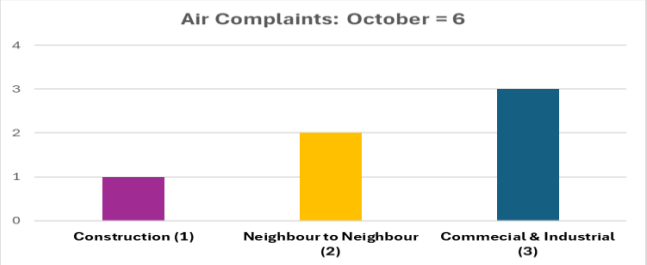
Air and Noise

Air & Noise Complaints

A total of 12 no. noise complaints were received and investigated during October. Complaints were received regarding neighbour-to-neighbour noise, drone delivery noise, construction site noise and noise associated with commercial activities.



A total of 6 no. air complaints were received and investigated during October and these included complaints regarding construction dust, neighbour-to-neighbour air pollution issues and complaints about emissions from commercial and industrial units.



The majority of these complaints have been resolved, with investigations ongoing to resolve the remaining open complaints.

Planning Files

The Air and Noise Section reviewed 14 no. Planning applications referred by the Planning Department during October. Applications are assessed against the latest Strategic Noise Maps for Fingal to ensure that any proposed developments, particularly residential developments, will not be adversely affected by road, rail, industrial or aircraft noise.



The Air and Noise Section also attends pre-planning meetings to advise applicants on noise related matters.

Planning compliance submissions continue to be received and assessed for compliance with air and noise related planning conditions. These submissions typically outline the dust and noise mitigation measures that will be used to minimise the dust and noise impacts during the construction phase of a development.



Water Quality Protection

Bathing Water Quality Report 2025

The Bathing Water season ran from the 1st of June 2025 – 15th September 2025.
9 of the identified designated bathing areas were sampled on 8 scheduled occasions during the 2025 season while the remaining designated bathing water namely Balbriggan Front Strand was sampled on 16 scheduled occasions as Balbriggan Beach was in a status of "change" for 2025. Bathing water quality was also sampled and monitored at Malahide Beach which is a non-identified beach.
2 rounds of sampling were also carried out at Irelands Eye and Balscadden. The identified and non-identified bathing waters are listed in Table 1.

Table 1.

Identified Bathing Waters	Non-Identified Bathing Waters
Balbriggan Front Strand Beach	Malahide Beach
Skerries South Strand	
Loughshinny Beach	
Rush North Beach	
Rush South Beach	
Portrane, The Brook Beach	
Donabate, Balcarrick Beach	
Portmarnock, Velvet Strand	
Sutton, Burrow Beach	
Howth, Claremont Beach	

Interpretation of Results

Bathing water quality sample results are rated as being either Excellent/Good/Sufficient or Poor depending the number of Escherichia Coli (E.Coli) and Intestinal Enterococci (Enterococci) identified in each water sample. **Appendix 3** details the bathing water status achieved in every sample collected and tested at each of the bathing areas in 2025;

Water Quality 2025:

90% of bathing water sampling results returned in 2025 were determined to be of "Excellent" Status with 6% of samples returning as "Good" Status and the remaining 4% of samples determined to be of "Poor" Status. 3 of the 4 Poor results were caused by urban wastewater discharges with the 4th Poor result attributed to bird contamination.

A breakdown of 2025 scheduled bathing water samples collected and tested from the 10 designated bathing areas is detailed below in **Appendix 4**.

2025 Identified Waters Individual Classification					
2025 Season Samples	Excellent	Good	Sufficient	Poor*	**Total**
Scheduled	88	6	0	4	98

All 9 bathing water samples collected and tested at the non-designated bathing area at Malahide were found to be of Excellent water quality in 2025.

Weather During 2025

Summer 2025 in Ireland was provisionally the warmest on record, with a mean temperature of 16.19 °C a significant increase of 1.94 °C above the long-term average. This warm trend was driven by a warmer-than-average June and July and this would have aided bathing water quality due to the intensity which can reduce bacterial count in waters. However, despite the high temperatures, rainfall was mixed, with a wet June and close to average rainfall in July. The heavier than normal rainfall in June and July contributed to agricultural and urban runoff. It also resulted in an increase in stormwater overflows during this period, which have the potential to impact coastal environments.

Storm Floris brought about the closure of all bathing waters on the 3rd of August 2025 due to the forecast of strong winds and heavy rainfall which realised as predicted.

Rainfall levels detailed below were recorded at Dublin Airport from 2020-2025 and in 2025 were just slightly above the long-term average. However, it should be noted that most of this rainfall fell in June, July and September.

Total rainfall in millimetres for DUBLIN AIRPORT 2025						
Year	**May**	**Jun**	**Jul**	**Aug**	**Sep**	**Total**
2025	41	79	80	31	91	324
2024	36	30	37	36	59	201
2023	36	49	149	119	123	477
2022	48	44	30	35	128	284
2021	84	13	73	65	42	276
2020	9	70	99	87	61	326
Long Term Average	**60**	**67**	**56**	**73**	**84**	**314**

Incidents and Actions

There were 28 bathing water incidents raised and acted upon and managed during the 2025 bathing water season. 18 of the bathing water incidents were incidents which arose due to prior weather warning notices, with 9 incidents arising due to urban wastewater discharges and the 1 remaining incident due to bird contamination.
10 of 18 prior weather warning notices raised were raised due to the forecasted Storm Floris in early August which brought about very heavy rainfall and strong winds as predicted.

In terms of urban wastewater discharges there were 3 significant urban wastewater discharges on the 21st of July 2025 which are considered to have contributed to the Poor Water Quality results returned at that time for Balbriggan, Claremont and Rush North designated bathing areas. E.Coli concentrations on that day at Balbriggan were found to be 15,531 MPN/100. There was also one bathing water sample collected at Balbriggan on the 3rd of June 2025 which was affected by bird contamination.

Bathing Water Classifications:

The bathing water assessment and classification is carried out in accordance with Schedule 6 of the Bathing Water Quality Regulations 2008 and as per the Regulations, the mandatory requirement for bathing water quality over a 4-year assessment period is at least "sufficient".

Classification of a bathing water is based on a calculation including 4 years of bathing water quality results, using a percentile evaluation of all bacterial enumerations in the data set.
Each bathing water is given a bathing water classification of "excellent," "good," "sufficient" or "poor" based on scheduled water quality sample results for the current year's results and the previous 3 years.

Fingal County Council's analysis of the 2025 bathing water data finds that there were some significant bathing water improvements and achievements attained in 2025 with the restoration of 2 bathing areas, namely Skerries and Burrow to "Excellent" water quality status. This brings the total number of "Excellent" designated bathing areas in Fingal to 5. There were also significant water quality improvements at Loughshinny ("Sufficient" to "Good") and Portrane ("Sufficient" to "Good") while a major achievement was accomplished in Balbriggan where water quality at this bathing area was reclassified as been "Sufficient" after successfully undergoing a "change" in status process. Balbriggan was previously at Poor status prior to the change process. All remaining 5 beaches maintained there 2024 bathing water status. There are no longer any beaches in Fingal of a "Poor" water quality standard.
The EPA will confirm classifications of each bathing water by the 31st of December 2025. The classification assigned by the EPA following the 2025 bathing season is likely to be as follows:

"Excellent"	"Good"	"Sufficient"	"Poor"
Donabate **(no change)**			
Portmarnock **(no change)**	Rush South Beach **(no change)**	Howth, Claremont Beach **(no change)**	
Rush North Beach **(no change)**	Loughshinny **(improved from "Sufficient to "Good")**		
Skerries **(improved from "Good"to "Excellent")**	Portrane **(improved from "Sufficient to "Good")**	Balbriggan **(improved from "changes" to "Sufficient"**	
Sutton **(improved from "Good"to "Excellent")**			

Blue Flag Beaches

Water quality at Fingal County Council's two blue flag designated bathing areas, namely Portmarnock, Velvet Strand and Donabate, Balcarrick Beach remained at "excellent" water quality for 2025.
Donabate Balcarrick Beach also holds a Green Flag as a designated Green Coast Award Beach.

SPORTS OFFICE

Xplore TY Skills Expo

The Sports Office were delighted to exhibit this year at our Economic Development Depts 'Skills Expo' in the Helix DCU. This gave the team a chance to give students a flavour of Careers in Sport including Sports Development, Sports App Development, Personal Training and Sports Medicine.
The Office also used it as an opportunity to launch the TY Sports Leadership Programme which will give students opportunities to complete Sports Coaching Badges including work experience and a Bursary towards Personal Training Qualifications.





Sports First Aid

Following two successful Basic Sports First Aid Training workshops with 60 participants, representatives from 5 clubs underwent an Accredited Defibrillator Qualification in Holywell Swords.

This training upskilled participants in treating Cardiac Arrest using Defibrillators available in the clubs and has been a very welcome and useful addition to the Sports Office 'Coach Education Series'.



Autism in Sport and Disability Inclusion Training

October was a particularly busy month for Education and Training for inclusive sport which is the focus on promoting inclusive practices in sport. Over the course of the month, a total of three training courses were delivered, engaging 56 participants in total. These included two Autism in Sport courses and one Disability Inclusion course, each designed to equip coaches, volunteers, and educators with the knowledge and tools needed to create more accessible and supportive sporting environments. The positive uptake and high levels of engagement across these sessions reflect a growing interest and commitment within the sporting community to foster inclusivity and better support individuals with disabilities. The success of these courses highlights the continued importance of education in driving change and building awareness at all levels of sport.





Autumn Programmes

The indoor Autumn programmes got underway at the start of October. Fingal on the Move, Active for Life and Parent/Toddler started an 8-week block of fun, accessible, community-based exercise programmes.
With 30 classes taking place throughout the county, the aim of these programmes is to promote physical activity, social connection, and well-being within the community.





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Baldoyle Football For All Launch

Baldoyle United launched a football for all programme to invite children from the community into their club. The launch was well attended with 10 families taking part and participants returning for sessions in the following weeks.



European Week of Sport

The European Week of Sport took place from September 23-30. This year's theme was Move More, Scroll Less, encouraging a focus on physical activity to improve both physical and mental health. We had over 1000 people participate in initiatives throughout the week such as; BMXing, canoeing, hiking, social dancing for older adults, school fitness classes, soccer for all tournament, a boccia blitz for people with disabilities and an autism in sport workshop.



Social Dancing for Older Adults – Swords / Balbriggan / Blanchardstown

As part of the European Week of Sport this year we supported some local social dancing events to encourage older adults to get active and also give them the opportunity to socialize in their local area. Gleb North FC hosted the Balbriggan event, Fingallians GAA hosted the Swords Event and Coolmine Set Dancing group hosted the Dublin 15 event. All events saw an increase in new members taking part.





Football for All Blitz

As part of European Week of Sport, Dublin City Council and Fingal Sports Office hosted a football blitz for adult day services at the FAI Headquarters in Abbottstown. The event brought together teams from both areas to compete for trophies across three different ability levels. While there was a competitive element, the blitz was full of fun and enjoyment, with all participants leaving with a smile — and something to take home.





ARCHITECTS DEPARTMENT

Contents

Refurbishment of Vernacular Housing on Parochial Avenue

Parochial Avenue Project

The Architects Department has recently completed a refurbishment project on Parochial Avenue, Baldoyle with a view to reletting the vacant properties.
Works involved the refurbishment, low energy upgrade and conversion of 2 no. existing, terraced cottages to 3 no. high quality, age friendly homes. The dwellings are located at 8, 9 & 10 Parochial Avenue, within the Baldoyle Architectural Conservation Area.



Figure 1 BEFORE - As 2 Dwellings



Figure 2 AFTER - As 3 Separate Dwellings

The design approach was sympathetic to the existing structures, originally constructed in the early 1900's.

House No.8 was converted back to two separate 1-bedroom dwellings, reinstating the original design.
The existing, single storey structures underwent a full interior thermal upgrade. The internal masonry walls and window reveals were insulated to mitigate damp and condensation. Existing floors were replaced with new insulated concrete slabs. During repairs to the main roof timbers, the original roof slates were sensitively removed and stored on site until they could be reinstated. New dropped ceilings were created, and attic spaces insulated.
The extensions to No's 8 and 10, later additions to the original structures, were demolished, due to structural issues. New, energy efficient rear extensions were constructed to each of the three dwellings, containing upgraded kitchens and age friendly wet rooms. The cottages underwent a full mechanical and electrical refit, with heat pumps and underfloor heating installed.



Figure 3 BEFORE - Toilet and Wash Facilities



Figure 4 AFTER - Age-Friendly Toilet and Wash Facilities

Refurbishment of the front elevations of the cottages was carefully considered to complement the existing streetscape.

The existing windows and doors were in poor condition with a mixture of the original timber and more recent uPVC additions. They were replaced with double glazed, hardwood sash windows and doors, whose design and appearance reinstated the original character of the streetscape.



Figure 5 BEFORE and AFTER - Sash windows upgrade

The existing stone windowsills were sand blasted to remove flaking paint, and a thin coat of new render was applied to the facades.
The project has successfully delivered 3 no. warm, comfortable, energy efficient, 1-bedroom homes with due consideration given to their location in an Architectural Conservation Area.

FINANCE

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Rates
Development Levy Income
Payroll
Procurement
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(a) Revenue Account Income & expenditure to 31st October 2025
(b) Capital Account Income & Expenditure to 31st October 2025
(c) Summary of Corporate Debtors at 31st October 2025
Appendix 2 - Contracts Awarded

Rates

Overall Commercial Rates collection to the end of October 2025 is running at 93.3%.

Rates Collection	
Rates collected €m	€156.37m
Rates collected %	93.3%

Development Levy Income

Development levy income collected to the end of October is €26.7m.

Development Levy Income YTD Oct 2025	
Levies Receipted	€26.7 m
Levies Collected as a % of 2024	37.5%

Payroll

Overall payroll spend to the end of October was €72.3m which is c. **103.6%** of budget YTD.

Payroll	
Salaries & Wages €m	€72.28m
Percentage of Budget YTD.	103.6%

Procurement

Outlined below is a summary of the overall procurement activity at end of October

No. of contracts awarded (details below) for year to date	227	
Value €m	67.5m	
Procurements ongoing at end of October		
No. of procurements awaiting tender responses	12	(i)
Value €m	31.3m	
No. of procurements under evaluation	37	(ii)
Value €m	55.6	
No. of procurements at approved	17	(iii)
Value €m	9.7m	

Notes:
(i) Procurements awaiting tender responses – tender responses awaited at end of October.
(ii) Procurements under evaluation – tender responses submitted and being evaluated at end of the October.
(iii) Procurements at approved – Tender responses have been evaluated and approved. Pre- contract award processes ongoing at end of October.

Appendix 1
Revenue Account – Income & Expenditure

REVENUE ACCOUNT INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 31 OCTOBER 2025

	EXPENDITURE			INCOME			NET
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	€
Housing & Building	98,703,672	123,749,800	80%	102,378,806	126,862,200	81%	-3,675,134
Road Transport & Safety	29,574,477	36,814,800	80%	8,711,413	9,063,700	96%	20,863,065
Water Services	8,782,322	13,233,400	66%	10,263,785	15,070,000	68%	-1,481,463
Development Management	20,758,710	25,261,800	82%	8,820,030	10,206,000	86%	11,938,680
Environmental Services	41,307,949	48,948,700	84%	8,893,109	8,761,100	102%	32,414,840
Recreation & Amenity	50,879,751	59,101,400	86%	3,200,688	4,375,600	73%	47,679,062
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	1,548,144	1,575,200	98%	404,636	422,700	96%	1,143,508
Miscellaneous Services	16,335,345	21,053,000	78%	23,764,063	29,588,900	80%	-7,428,717
Central Management Charge	51,004,678	59,137,800	86%	3,303,962	4,073,900	81%	47,700,717
Local Property Tax / GPG				10,583,583	12,700,300	83%	-10,583,583
Rates				139,792,917	167,751,500	83%	-139,792,917
	318,895,048	**388,875,900**	**82%**	**320,116,992**	**388,875,900**	**82%**	**-1,221,943**

Appendix 1 – continued
Capital Account – Income & Expenditure

CAPITAL ACCOUNT INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION TO 31/10/2025					
		Balance at 0/01/2025 €	Expenditure YTD €	Income YTD €	Balance at 30/10/2025 €
A	Housing & Building	- 9,686,875	263,873,114	- 204,238,184	48,922,035
B	Road Transport & Safety	9,980,266	27,109,207	- 19,134,484	17,954,989
C	Water Services	- 10,327,807	1,879,425	- 1,893,547	- 10,341,929
D	Development Managemer	- 175,344,430	42,525,457	- 24,360,283	- 157,179,256
E	Environmental Services	- 15,418,209	2,930,661	- 875,070	- 13,362,618
F	Recreation & Amenity	- 11,766,355	34,164,387	- 15,496,023	6,902,009
H	Miscellaneous Services	- 42,102,959	11,824,673	- 12,647,681	- 42,925,967
	Total	**- 254,666,369**	**384,306,924**	**- 278,645,272**	**- 149,004,717**

Appendix 1 – continued
Summary of Corporate Debtors

SUMMARY OF CORPORATE DEBTORS TO 31/10/25				
	Balance at 01/01/2025 €	Balance at 31/10/25 €	Current debt €	> 1 Year €
RATES	687,390	11,192,854	10,522,994	669,860
LOANS	2,130,037	1,877,237	157,934	1,719,302
RENTS	10,032,929	8,825,814	3,089,326	5,736,488

Figures for rents and loans are unadjusted by credits/prepayments

(Page 124 to 133)

Appendix 2
Number of Contracts Awarded to the end of September

Description of Procurement	Supplier Name	Legal Address	Value of Contract (excl. VAT)	Contract Start Date (actual)	Contract End Date (actual)	Actual Duration (months)	Contract Award Date
Mechanical Bulb & Wildflower Planting 2025	Flower your Place B.V.	De Oude Wijk 15, 2771, WT, Boskoop	€155,868	01/09/2025	31/12/2025	4	23/10/2025
Resurfacing a section of the Baskin Lane, Kinsealy, Co Dublin and ancillary works	Roadstone Limited	Fortunestown, Tallaght, Dublin 24	€120,051	03/11/2025	28/11/2025	1	22/10/2025
Estate Wall Repairs Newbridge Demesne - Phase 2	Francis Haughey Construction Ireland Ltd	21-23 St. Patricks Street, Keady, Co. Armagh, BT60 3TQ	€418,889	22/09/2025	19/01/2026	5	21/08/2025
Supply and Delivery of Bicycle and Scooter Racks to Multiple Locations for Fingal County Council	IPL Group	Slane Road, Drogheda, Co Louth	€27,260	30/10/2025	30/04/2026	6	08/10/2025
Lift Maintenance and Repair Services for Fingal Buildings	FAIN Ireland Ltd	Unit 6 Broomhill Business Park, Broomhill Road, Dublin 24	€50,000	09/10/2025	25/09/2026	12	26/09/2025
Consultancy Services for segregated cycle network, footpath improvements and public realm space along the R132 in Balbriggan through Dublin Street, Drogheda Street along the R132.	DBFL Consulting Engineers	Ormond House, Upper Ormond Quay, Dublin 7	€709,699	29/10/2025	28/10/2028	36	29/10/2025
Purchase of 8 Battery Electric Vans	Gowan Auto Ltd	Unit 2007, Orchard Avenue, City West Business Campus, D24	€244,944	21/10/2025	20/10/2026	12	21/10/2025
Solar Power Signage Contract 2025	PWS Signs Ltd	Ravensdale, Unit 10 Northlink Business Park, Coes Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth	€46,470	22/09/2025	22/03/2026	6	28/08/2025
Donabate Portrane Library Loose Furniture	Tona Commercial Interiors Ltd	The Harbour Kilcock, Co. Kildare	€25,285	21/10/2025	21/04/2026	6	21/10/2025

Provision of event management services for a programme of events at Swords Castle and Carnegie Library (Sept to Nov 2025)	Invictus Events Management and Consultancy Ltd	Unit 3 Pairc Glas, Rathcormac, Co. Cork	€79,970	01/09/2025	19/12/2025	4	23/10/2025
Provision of event management services for a programme of events at Swords Castle and Carnegie Library (June to August 2025)	Invictus Events Management and Consultancy Ltd	Unit 3 Pairc Glas, Rathcormac, Co. Cork	€74,179	02/05/2025	31/08/2025	4	23/10/2025
Corduff Park Improvement Works, Blackcourt Road, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15	Sole Sport and Leisure Ltd	Unit 8 Rosemount Business Park, Sinnittstown Lane, Wexford	€2,019,348	01/12/2025	01/08/2027	20	21/10/2025
Policy and Economics Consultancy Services to Develop a Comprehensive Business Sustainability Strategy - "Future Fingal: Fingal Sustainability Strategy"	Grant Thornton Finance Ltd	13-18 City Quay, Dublin 2	€114,804	29/08/2025	28/02/2026	9	29/08/2025
Engineering Consultancy Services for Emergency Stabilisation Works for Skerries Pier	Ayesa Consulting Engineers	H5 Oak Road, Centrepoint Business Park, Dublin 12	€38,673	27/10/2025	27/03/2026	6	20/10/2025
Upgrade works at Sluagh Hall Project for Fingal County Council at Sluagh Hall, Spittal Hill, Lissenhall, Swords	Mullacurry Construction Ltd	Mullacurry, Dromin, Dunleer, Co Louth	€199,735	07/08/2025	28/11/2026	15	07/08/2025
Project R132 Flemington Lane Junction Upgrade and Maintenance Works	McAvoy Contracts Ltd	13A Fernhill Road, Annaclone, Banbridge, Co Down, BT32 5AF	€1,171,218.00	10/10/2025	09/10/2028	36	10/10/2025
Racecourse Park Baldoyle - detailed design and tender preparation	Civic Engineers Ltd	36 Lad Lane, Lower Baggot Street, Dublin 2	€641,920.00	23/05/2025	23/09/2027	28	14/05/2025
Resurfacing of a section of Harbour Rd, Howth	D.M Morris Ltd	13 Parklands Office Park , Southern Cross Road, Bray, Co Wicklow	€344,729.50	21/10/2025	21/11/2025	1	17/09/2025
Permeability Works at Beverton, Donabate, Co. Dublin	KT Civil Ltd	Corrydonlon, Rathowen, Co. Westmeath	€138,350.00	14/10/2025	14/04/2026	6	06/10/2025
Establish a Single Party Framework Agreement for Student Enterprise Programme with initial contract for 2025 - 2026	Sharon Rossignuolo T/A Coach Executive Ireland	43 Latchford Square, Castaheany , Dublin 15	€40,000.00	01/08/2025	01/08/2026	12	11/06/2025

Requirement for Supply and Installation of Antiskid for the Howth Road Cycle Lane	Nuzum Road Services Ltd	The Mill House, Ballyshannon, Kilcullen, Co. Kildare	€118,550.00	29/09/2025	26/10/2025	1	15/09/2025
Provision of Tenancy Sustainment Services & Waste Management for Council tenants residing at Ballough Place, Lusk, Co. Dublin	Bridge Housing	39 Uppercross Road, Rialto, Dublin 8	€53,600.00	16/04/2025	01/04/2026	12	16/04/2025
Purchase of up to 5 no 45 - 50 KW Compact Tractors	Maher Tractor Sales Ltd	The Bush, Dunshaughlin ,Co Meath	€36,000.00	16/09/2025	15/09/2026	12	16/09/2025
Resurfacing of the Hartstown Link Road, Junction with Ongar Distributor Road, Dublin 15 and ancillary works.	Breedon Surfacing Solutions Ireland Ltd	Rosemount Business Park, Ballycoolin Road, Dublin 11	€102,842.50	08/10/2025	20/11/2025	2	11/09/2025
Hire of 1 Rubber Wheeled 180° Backhoe Excavators with Full Complement of Multiple Size Buckets, Rock Breaker and Operators For Fingal County Council Stormwater Operations	Larry Kiernan Plant Hire	Grougha. Ring Commons, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin	€66,986.00	13/10/2025	12/10/2026	12	03/10/2025
Upgrade of the existing overflow car park at Porterstown park. To include SUDS features, ducting, lining and traffic calming measures	Dancor Civil Engineering Ltd	Ardee Road, Dunleer, Co. Louth	€844,114.00	10/10/2025	09/10/2026	12	03/10/2025
Resurfacing of Red Arches Road Cycle Lane	Tarstone Road Maintenance Ltd	Easton House, Carranstown, Duleek , Meath	€58,000.00	06/10/2025	24/10/2025	1	29/09/2025
Concrete footpath construction in a serious of batches from 3 - 6 square meters at Ard Na Mara Malahide Co Dublin	Clar Con Construction Ltd	Cnon-Glas, Jordanstown, Lusk, Co Dublin	€39,670.00	22/09/2025	17/10/2025	1	11/09/2025
Project and Portfolio Management System (3 years)	NextGen PPM Ltd	Calle Angel Burna, Spain	€50,000.00	01/09/2025	31/08/2028	36	01/09/2025
The provision of building surveying and Inspection services in connection with social housing.	ABL Surveyors	26/27 Upper Pembroke St, Dublin 2	€104,350.00	26/09/2025	28/02/2026	6	01/09/2025

Supply, Delivery and Installation of Loose Furniture to Skerries Carnegie Library, Strand Street, Skerries, Co. Dublin, K34 FT61	Bushell Interiors Ltd	12 Heaney Ave, Park West Dublin 12	€85,504.16	24/09/2025	24/03/2026	6	24/09/2025
Remedial Works to traffic signal infrastructure at the Churchfields Link Road project (PSI-034) in Damastown, Dublin 15	Traffic Solutions Ltd	Unit 5, Block K, Manooth Business Park, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23 D981	€236,188.30	01/10/2025	31/12/2025	3	26/09/2025
Supply of 2 x PowerEdge R760 Servers	Dell Technologies	Innovation House, Cherrywood, Dublin 18	€29,426.46	01/10/2025	30/09/2028	36	10/09/2025
Technical Advisory Quantity Surveying Consultancy Services for Work stages (ii)(c) to (v) for Design and Construction of 32nr units and works at Park Road, Kenure, Rush, Co. Dublin	McGahon Surveyors Ltd	Block 1 Quayside Business Park, Mill Street, Townparks, Dundalk, Co. Louth	€59,470.00	25/07/2025	25/01/2029	42	11/07/2025
Technical Advisory Civil and Structural Engineering Consultancy Services for Work stages (ii)(c) to (v) for Design and Construction of 34nr units and works at Woodside, Swords, Co. Dublin	Roughan & O'Donovon	Arena House, Arena Road, Sandyford, Dublin 18	€60,000.00	25/07/2025	25/01/2029	42	11/07/2025
Geoenvironmental Consultancy Services at Quay Street Balbriggan Co Dublin	ARUP Ltd	1 Albery Quay, Co Cork	€147,350.00	08/09/2025	09/03/2026	6	05/09/2025
Delivery of New Public Artwork for Harry Reynolds Road	John Kindness	London	€42,750.00	06/10/2025	06/09/2026	11	26/05/2025
Park development works including boundary fencing, entrance gateway works, footpath and associated works at Bleach Green, Lucan	KT Civil Ltd	Corrydoniion Rathowen, Co. Westmeath	€268,005.56	05/08/2025	05/12/2025	4	28/07/2025
Services of Event Managers for Fingal Xplore Your Future TY Skills Expo 2025	Whitelight Consulting Ltd T/A Whitelight Events	60 Bryanstown Village, Dublin Road, Drogheda, Co Louth, A92 X00N	€29,700.00	01/09/2025	28/02/2026	6	01/09/2025

Traffic Calming Ramps Contract 2025	MCM Surfacing Limited	Castlelumney, Dunleer, Co.Louth	€204,356.40	22/09/2025	09/03/2026	7	21/08/2025
Inspections of Playgrounds/ Skate parks /Fitness Equipment and Multi Use Games Areas in Fingal County Council	Play Services Ireland Ltd	705 Lisburn Enterprise Centre, Ballinderry Road, Lisburn, BT28 2BP	€383,150	08/09/2025	08/09/2027	24	05/09/2025
Slipform kerb and bituminous footpath construction at Baskin Cottages Co. Dublin	Postmount Buildings Ltd t/a Jim Hayes Civil Engineering	Ballymore, Rathoath, Co. Meath	€56,481	01/09/2025	26/09/2025	1	25/08/2025
Resurfacing of Clonsilla Road Dublin 15	Siac Bituminous Products Ltd	Monastery Road, Clondalkin, Co. Dublin	€131,135	20/09/2025	20/11/2025	2	11/09/2025
Summerfields Blanchardstown Footpaths	Citius Ltd	Club Road, Ballymount, Dublin 22	€37,240	15/09/2025	15/10/2025	1	11/09/2025
Provision of Arts Services to Manage and Deliver Cultural Development Objectives Fingal County Council	Peninsula Art Productions Limited	77 Carrs Mill, Donabate, Co. Dublin K36 HY26	€160,000.00	10/09/2025	10/09/2027	24	10/09/2025
Resurfacing of Castleknock Drive & Meadows Castleknock Dublin 15	Breedon Surfacing Solutions Ireland Ltd	Rosemount Business Park, Ballycoolin Road, Dublin 11	€74,700	01/09/2025	01/11/2025	2	11/06/2025
Resurfacing of Village Heights Residential Estate Mulhuddart Dublin 15	John McQuillan Contracts Ltd	11 Ballinderry Road, Lisburn, BT28 2SA	€25,726	01/10/2025	01/12/2025	2	01/09/2025
Provision of Professional Services to Support Development and Delivery of Key Initiatives within Swords Cultural Quarter for Fingal County Council	Linda Shevlin Arts Services Ltd	St. Patrick Street, Boyle, Co. Roscommon	€250,000.00	10/09/2025	10/09/2027	24	08/09/2025
Fixed Voice services (Interim Contract)	Eir Ltd	City West, Saggart, Co. Dublin	€90,000	01/09/2025	31/08/2026	12	25/08/2025
The Refurbishment of Existing All Weather Pitch Facility at Ward River Valley Park, Swords, Co. Dublin	JN Cummins & Co ta Premier Pitches	Mayfield, Cashel, Co. Tipperary	€123,123.00	01/09/2025	01/10/2025	1	20/08/2025

Slipform Kerb and Bituminous Cycleway, Concrete footpath and ancillary works - Chapel Rd Kinsealy Co Dublin.	Formac Construction Ltd	60 Upper Main Street, Rush, Co. Dublin	€185,105	04/09/2025	03/10/2025	1	25/08/2025
Countywide Bicycle Parking Infrastructure for Fingal County Council	KT Civil Ltd	Corrydonnellan, Rathowen , Mullingar, Co Westmeath	€68,925	22/07/2025	30/12/2025	5	22/07/2025
Technical Advisory Fire Safety & Disability Access Consultancy Services for Work Stages (ii)(c) to (v) for Design & Construction of 32nr units and associated works at Park Road, Kenure, Rush, Co. Dublin	Eamon O'Boyle & Assoc	51 Cullenswood Rd, Ranelagh, Dublin, D06 X7P1	€56,050	11/07/2025	10/01/2029	42	11/07/2025
Technical Advisory Fire Safety & Disability Access Consultancy Services for Work Stages (ii)(c) to (v) for Design & Construction of 34nr units and associated works at Woodside, Swords, Co. Dublin	Eamon O'Boyle & Assoc	51 Cullenswood Rd, Ranelagh, Dublin, D06 X7P1	€56,050	11/07/2025	10/01/2029	42	11/07/2025
Technical Advisory Fire Safety & Disability Access Consultancy Services for Work Stages (ii)(c) to (v) for Design & Construction of 30nr apartments and associated works at Blakestown Road / Huntstown Way, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15	AFEC International Ltd	Newtown, Co. Dublin, K67 N237	€77,070	11/07/2025	08/01/2029	42	11/07/2025
Supply & Install Exercise Equipment at Corduff Park	Outfit Outdoor Fitness Equipment Ltd	James Street, Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo	€36,960	20/08/2025	19/09/2026	13	20/08/2025
Purchase of incidentals (stock from all other lots)	Multiple Suppliers		€35,000	15/08/2025	14/08/2026	12	15/08/2025
Purchase of non-service stock	O'Mahony's Booksellers	120 O'Connell St, Prior's-Land, Limerick, V94 H6Y8	€75,000	15/08/2025	14/08/2026	12	15/08/2025
Purchase of foreign language material	O'Mahony's Booksellers	120 O'Connell St, Prior's-Land, Limerick, V94 H6Y8	€50,000	15/08/2025	14/08/2026	12	15/08/2025

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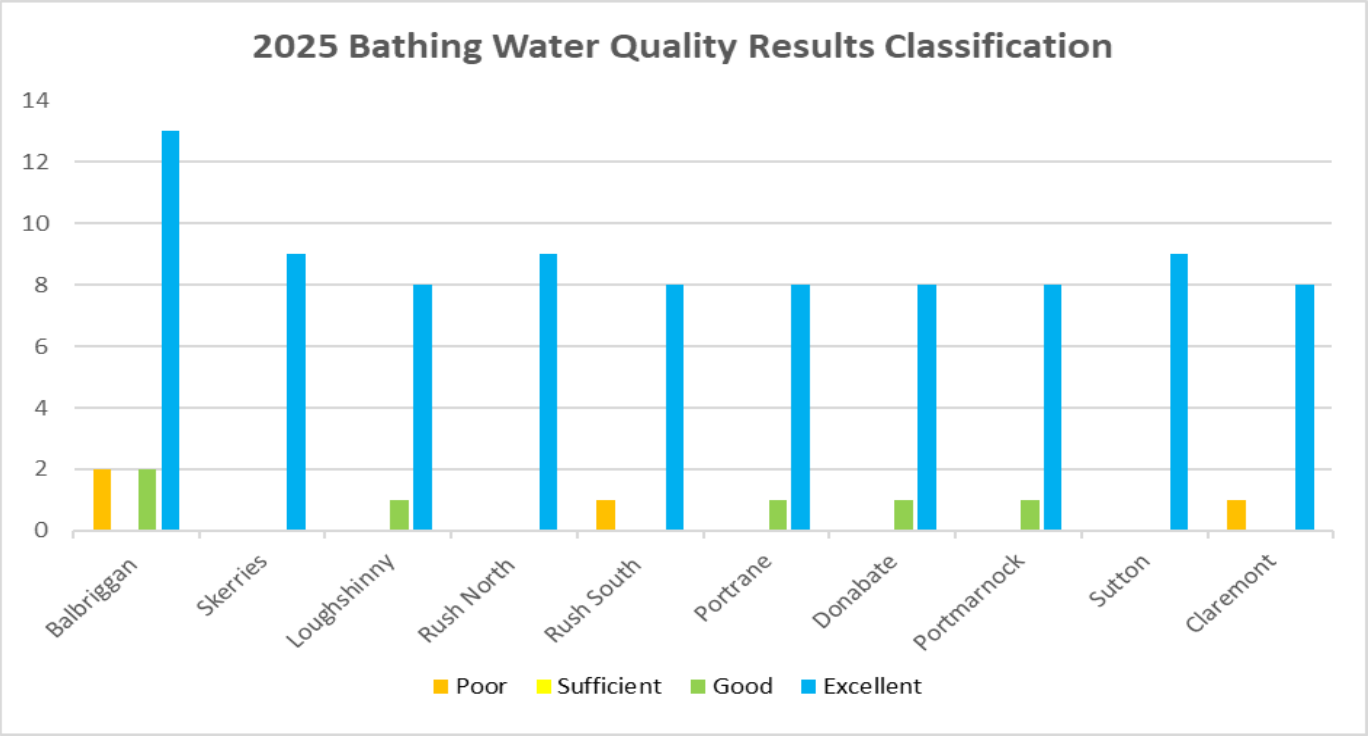
Purchase of graphic novels	O'Mahony's Booksellers	120 O'Connell St, Prior's-Land, Limerick, V94 H6Y8	€50,000	15/08/2025	14/08/2026	12	15/08/2025
Purchase of Irish language material	O'Mahony's Booksellers	120 O'Connell St, Prior's-Land, Limerick, V94 H6Y8	€50,000	15/08/2025	14/08/2026	12	15/08/2025
Purchase of junior and young adult books	International Education Services	Weston Industrial Estate, Salmon Leap, Backwestonpark, Leixlip, Co. Dublin	€180,000	15/08/2025	14/08/2026	12	15/08/2025
Purchase of adult non-fiction books	Irish Library Suppliers	270 Rathmines Rd Lower, Rathmines, Dublin 6, D06 C8Y8	€130,000	15/08/2025	14/08/2026	12	15/08/2025
Purchase of adult fiction books	O'Mahony's Booksellers	120 O'Connell St, Prior's-Land, Limerick, V94 H6Y8	€180,000	15/08/2025	14/08/2025	12	15/08/2025
Purchase of Road de-icing salt for Winter Roads Gritting Season 2025-26	Salt Sales Co.	Fort Road, Carrickfergus, Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland	€142,100.00	01/11/2025	31/03/2026	5	27/08/2025
Maintenance of Playground Equipment, MUGAS, Skateparks, Parkour, and Fitness Equipment in Fingal County Council Parks and Open Spaces	Sproai Linn Ltd	Ballygarran House, Kilmuckridge, Co. Wexford	€1,000,000.00	01/08/2025	31/07/2028	36	10/07/2025
Resurfacing of a section of Wendell and Redfern Avenue, Portmarnock, Co Dublin	John McQuillan Contracts Limited	Ballinderry Road, Lisburn, BT28 2SA	€93,037.65	18/08/2025	17/09/2025	1	30/07/2025
Community Centre Upgrades at Corduff Resource Centre	Vision Contracting Ltd	Melbourne House, Melbourne Business Park, Cork	€2,345,954.39	01/09/2025	31/05/2027	21	03/07/2025
Road inlay & Ancillary works, Old Airport Rd L-2015 Co. Dublin	D.M. Morris Ltd	13 Parklands Office Park, Southern Cross Road, Bray Co. Wicklow	€260,910.00	01/09/2025	30/09/2025	1	08/08/2025
Construction of Naul Village Park	Vision Contracting Ltd	Melbourne House, Melbourne Business Park, Cork	€2,975,795.35	06/08/2025	12/10/2027	26	06/08/2025
Supply of playground equipment for Millenium park playground refurbishment for Fingal County Council	Spraoi Linn Ltd	Ballygarran House, Kilmuckridge, Co. Wexford	€49,950.00	01/09/2025	01/12/2025	3	19/08/2025
Newbridge Demesne - Walled garden boundary wall remedial works	Francis Haughey Building Construction Ireland Ltd	21/23 St. Patricks Street, Keady, Co. Armagh BT60 3TQ	€118,888.50	02/04/2025	02/08/2026	16	02/04/2025

Interform Housing Web-based applications	Interform Ltd	6 York Terrace, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin	€130,300.00	01/06/2025	31/05/2026	12	01/06/2025
NEC RDBA Service (Sept 2025 -2027)	Nec Software Solutions	1st Floor, Imex Centre, 575 - 599 Maxted Road, Hemel, hemstead, Herdforshire, HP2 7DZ Uk	€130,731.00	15/08/2025	01/01/2028	40 months	15/08/2025
Flavours Event Management & Production	Invictus Event Management & Consultancy Ltd	3 Parc Glas, Rathcormac, Cork, P61 WV48	€506,568.10	01/07/2025	10/07/2025	10 Days	02/07/2025
Footpath widening and surface improvements, Lanesborough Park , Dublin 15	KT Civil Ltd	Corrydonnellan, Rathowen , Mullingar, Co Westmeath	€84,235.00	11/08/2025	01/09/2025	3 weeks	11/08/2025
Chalfont Estate, Malahide, Co Dublin - Pipe Rehabilitation - UV CIPP LIner and Robotic cutting	USSR Underground systems and Sewer Repair Ltd	Unit 14 Golden Mile Industrial Estate, Breaffy Road, Castle Bar, Co. Mayo	€30,896.00	15/08/2025	15/08/2026	12	15/07/2025
Seapark Hill Active Travel Project	Clifton Scannell Emerson Associates Ltd	The Highline, Bakers Point, Pottery Road, Dun Laoghaire	€98,710.00	21/05/2025	01/11/2027	30	21/05/2025
Purchase of 1 No. Jeep	Henry Ford & Sons	Boreenmamma Road, Balintemple, Cork	€33,225.00	08/08/2025	07/08/2026	12	08/08/2025
Purchase of 1 No. Electric Van	Setanta Vehicle Holdings	Setanta House, M50 Business Park, Ballycoolin, Dublin 15	€50,830.00	08/08/2025	07/08/2026	12	08/08/2025
Purchase of 20 No. 7.5 Ton Diesel Trucks	MMC Commercials	Mitsubishi House, JFK Drive, Naas Road, Dublin 12	€1,400,000.00	01/08/2025	30/07/2026	12	01/08/2025
Development and implementation of the Fingal Tourism Strategy 2025-2029 and Fingal Food & Drink Policy 2025-2029	Brouder Marketing	5A Humbert Street, Tubbercurry, Co. Sligo	€600,000.00	01/08/2025	31/12/2025	5	01/08/2025
Road Surfacing Inlay and ancillary works, Balbriggan Street, Skerries, Co. Dublin	Breedon Surfacing Solutions Ltd	Rosemount Business Park, Ballycoolin Road, Dublin 11	€102,266.00	24/08/2025	01/09/2025	1 week	01/07/2025
Concrete footpath construction in a serious of batches from 5 - 20 square meters at Asleigh Estate Castleknock Dublin 15.	John Browne Construction Ltd	Kelly Rahill & Co. 16 Town Hall Street, Co. Cavan	€36,540.00	04/08/2025	04/09/2025	1	16/06/2025

CCTV replacement works in Millenium park	SKS Communications Ltd	2 Robinhood Industrial Estate, Longmile Road, Dublin22	€112,030.00	01/08/2025	28/02/2026	7 Months	25/07/2025
Concrete footpath construction in a serious of batches from 3 - 6 square meters in various locations in Bayside Co. Dublin	Pavement & Road Surfacing Ltd	Westwinds, Windmill Hill, Rathcoole, D24 VY90	€37,825.00	21/07/2025	08/08/2025	3 Weeks	21/07/2025
MUGA Upgrade for St. Catherine's Park, Rush	Outfit Outdoor Fitness Equipment Ltd	James Street, Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo	€115,590.00	18/07/2025	05/08/2025	3 Weeks	16/07/2025
Design and installation of a toddler playground at Meakstown, Community Centre, Dublin 11	Play & Leisure Services Ltd	31 Carrowdore Road, Greyabbey, Northern Ireland, BT22 2LU	€88,105.72	04/08/2025	04/02/2027	18	17/07/2025
Full drainage system installed to full size pitch at Hazelbury Park	O'Brien Landscaping	Unit B10 Swords Enterprise Park, Co. Dublin K67 E920	€112,216.00	18/08/2025	17/11/2025	3	10/07/2025
Concrete footpath construction in a serious of batches from 3 - 20 square meters at Pace Road, Littlepace, Ongar Dublin 15	John Browne Construction Ltd	Kelly Rahill & Co. 16 Town Hall Street, Co. Cavan	€34,650.00	23/07/2025	23/10/2025	3	16/06/2025
Managed Print Services Contract	Datapac	Robinhood House, Robinhood Road, Dublin 22	€70,000.00	26/08/2025	25/08/2026	12	11/07/2025
Provision of support, maintenance and training for the existing 3D Models for Public Consultation	RealSim Ltd	Unit 204, Business Innovation Center, Upper Newcastle Road< University of Galway	€37,500.00	06/06/2025	06/06/2027	24	04/06/2025
Engineering Consultancy Services for Swords Western Distributor Road	Barry Transportation	Classon House, Dundrum Business Park, Dundrum Road, Dublin 14	€395,108.64	04/06/2025	02/07/2027	24	04/06/2025
Traffic Management for Hedge and Grass cutting on R132	Swords Auto	Lawless's Yard, North Street, Swords, Co. Dublin	€42,934.96	17/02/2025	06/03/2025	1	06/02/2025
Repositioning of Seabees at Burrow, Portrane, Co. Dublin	Larry Kiernan Plant Hire Ltd	Ring Commons, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin	€77,886.00	02/09/2025	18/10/2025	2	09/07/2025
Commvault managed Service	Sureskills Ltd	2-4 Terminus Mills, Clonskeagh, Dublin 6 D06 VY62	€26,400.00	01/08/2025	31/07/2026	12	08/07/2025

Engineering Design Services for Rathmore Park Recreational Hub, Lusk	Design ID Consulting Ltd	23LR Workspace, 23 Lisburn Road, Hillsborough, B. Ireland, BT26 6AA	€80,655.00	09/06/2025	09/12/2026	18	30/04/2025
Development pipeline analysis to inform preparation of Development Contribution Scheme 2026-2028	EY, Ernst & Young Business Advisory Services	Harcourt Street, Dublin 2, D02 YA40	€65,000.00	01/06/2025	30/07/2025	2 Months	05/06/2025
Road Surfacing Inlay, Ballymadun, Co. Dublin	Roadstone Ltd	Fortunestown, Tallaght, Dublin 24	€105,231.48	21/07/2025	28/07/2025	1 Week	21/05/2025
Road Surfacing Inlay and ancillary works, Fancourt Road, Co. Dublin	Breedon Surfacing Solutions Ireland Ltd.,	Rosemount Business Park Ballycoolin Road Dublin 11	€159,110.00	21/07/2025	28/07/2025	1 Week	30/05/2025
Flavours Transport Services	Marathon Training & Events t/a Marathon Safety Solutions.	Suite 40, Block 5, Northwood Court, Santry, D9	€98,880.00	26/05/2025	07/07/2025	1.5	26/05/2025

Appendix 3 – 2025 Bathing Water Quality Results in Status Form



Appendix 4 – 2025 Bathing Water Quality Results

Date:	Balbriggan	Skerries	Rush South	Rush North	Donabate	Portrane	Portmarnock	Loughshinny	Burrow	Claremont
09/09/2025	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
08/09/2025	Excellent									
02/09/2025	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
25/08/2025	Excellent									
18/08/2025	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
11/08/2025	Excellent									
05/08/2025	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Good	Good	Good	Excellent	Excellent
28/07/2025	Excellent									
**28/07/2025	Excellent		Excellent							Excellent
21/07/2025	Poor	Excellent	Poor	Excellent	Good	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Poor
14/07/2025	Excellent									
07/07/2025	Good	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
30/06/2025	Excellent									
23/06/2025	Good	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
16/06/2025	Excellent									
09/06/2025	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
03/06/2025	Poor									
26&27/05/2025*	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent

Appendix 5 – NTA Active Travel Allocations 2025

Active Travel Investment Grants: 2025 Allocations		
Project Code	**Project Name**	**2025 Allocation**
	Fingal County Council	
FCC/12/0001	Broadmeadow Estuary Cycle & Pedestrian Bridge	€ 6,500,000
FCC/13/0001	S2M Extension Sutton to Malahide	€ 460,000
FCC/14/0001	Royal Canal Cycle Route (12th Lock-KCC) (CN2) inc. Deep Sinking Coolmine	€ 400,000
FCC/18/0001	Harry Reynolds Road Cycleway in Balbriggan	€ 3,000,000
FCC/20/0001	Donabate Ped and Cycle Bridge	€ 1,000,000
FCC/21/0001	National Aquatic Centre (NAC) to Ongar Village	€ 130,000
FCC/21/0002	Baldoyle to Howth Phase 2 (Dublin Road to Dublin Street)	€ 120,000
FCC/21/0004	Donabate Hearse Rd/Main St/Portrane Rd (Link 1 & Link 2)	€ 185,000
FCC/21/0005	Damastown to Clonsilla Cycle Route	€ 150,000
FCC/21/0006	Clonee to Blanchardstown Shopping Centre	€ 185,000
FCC/22/0001	Castleknock, Auburn Ave.	€ 1,820,000
FCC/22/0004	Hartstown/Huntstown/Mountview Rd D15	€ 135,000
FCC/22/0005	St Cronins Road	€ 25,000
FCC/22/0006	Rathingle/Rivervalley Rd Swords	€ 50,000
FCC/22/0007	Balbriggan road mill street and Drogheda st	€ 60,000
FCC/22/0009	Permeability Links North County	€ 250,000
FCC/22/0010	R132 Ministers Road to Blakes Cross and Kilhedge Lane	€ 300,000
FCC/22/0011	Skerries - Harbour Road	€ 140,000

Appendix 5 – Continued

Project Code	Project Name	2025 Allocation
	Fingal County Council	
FCC/22/0012	Seatown Roundabout to Estuary Road (Swords to Malahide)	€ 725,000
FCC/22/0014	Balbriggan - Coney Hill From Devlin Bridge to Bremore Cottages	€ 40,000
FCC/22/0016	New Street Malahide Improvement Scheme	€ 500,000
FCC/22/0018	Data collection for Active Travel Projects (traffic, air, noise)	€ 50,000
FCC/22/0019	Skerries Active Travel Plan	€ 140,000
FCC/22/0020	Balrothery Active Travel Review	€ 165,000
FCC/22/0021	Seamount Heights to Old Golf Links Park Active Travel Route	€ 75,000
FCC/22/0022	Broomfield to Paddys's Hill via Naomh Marnog GAA Active Travel Route	€ 100,000
FCC/22/0026	Staff Costs Active Travel Team	€ 1,100,000
FCC/22/0027	Swords Cycle Network - Sustainable Swords	€ 100,000
FCC/22/0028	Castleknock to Blanchardstown via Farmleigh	€ 175,000
FCC/23/0003	SRTS (R1) - Ladyswell National School	€ 75,000
FCC/23/0004	SRTS (R1) - Scoil Ghrainne CNS	€ 25,000
FCC/23/0005	SRTS (R1) - Scoil Choilm CNS	€ 115,000
FCC/23/0019	SRTS (R1) - Pope John Paul II NS, Malahide	€ 350,000
FCC/24/0001	Feltrim Road cycle infrastructure	€ 160,000
FCC/24/0006	Donabate to Portrane (R126) - Distributor Rd to Portrane Avenue Active Travel Routes	€ 65,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R2) - Scoil Bhride Buachailli	€ 200,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R2) - Scoil Bhride Cailini	€ 200,000

Appendix 5 – Continued

Project Code	Project Name	2025 Allocation
	Fingal County Council	
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R2) - St Colmcille's Girls National School	€ 200,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R2) - Holy Family Junior National School	€ 200,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R2) - St Helen's Senior National School	€ 200,000
FCC/25/XXXX	Castleknock Rd - Auburn Ave to gates of Pheonix Park	€ 60,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R3) - St Nichola's of Myra National School	€ 10,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R3) - Scoil Mhuire Junior National School	€ 10,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R3) - Scoil Thomáis	€ 10,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R3) - Donabate Portrane Educate Together National School	€ 10,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R3) - Holywell Educate Together National School	€ 10,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R3) - Malahide/Portmarnock Educate Together National School	€ 10,000
FCC/25/XXXX	SRTS (R3) - Broadmeadow Community National School	€ 10,000
	Total:	**€ 20,000,000**
	Allocations Through Other NTA Funding Streams	
FCC/24/xxxx	Bus Stop Enhancement Programme	€ 500,000
FCC/22/0029	R132 Junction Upgrade Design	€ 5,800,000
FCC/24/0005	Waterville Junction upgrade	€ 385,000
FCC/25/00XX	Sustainable Traffic Management Measures	€ 1,000,000
Subtotal:		**€7,685,000**

Appendix 6
Summary of Environmental Complaints and Inspections

Complaints / Inspections	Description	2023	2024	Q1 2025	Q2 2025
Complaints investigated	Waste (incl litter)	1,036	2,287	267	327
	Water and Wastewater	101	75	21	18
	Air & Odour	37	54	23	18
	Noise	99	146	47	102
	TOTAL COMPLAINTS	**1,273**	**2,562**	**358**	**465**
Inspections	Routine Waste Inspections	1124	572	27	131
	Non-Routine Waste Inspections	416	463	134	213
	Litter Patrols & investigations	3232	6398	2124	3088
	Routine Water & Wastewater Inspections	720	930	358	320
	Non-Routine Water & Wastewater Inspections	133	136	25	13
	Routine Air & Noise Inspections	61	122	8	10
	Non-Routine Air & Noise Inspections	134	200	70	123
	Planning Inspections	416	630	241	203
	TOTAL INSPECTIONS	**6,236**	**9,451**	**2,987**	**4,101**

Appendix 7
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	Mixed Tenure	Hayestown, Rush 53°31'24.1"N 6°06'42.1"W - Google Maps	10 Social 51 Affordable	On-Site.	Q2 2023	Phased delivery
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	Glenveagh Living Ltd	Mixed Tenure	Balmoston Phase 1, Donabate 53°29'21.2"N 6°07'58.1"W	87 Social 86 Cost Rental 86 Affordable	On-Site.	Q3 2023	Phased delivery
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart/Castleknock / Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Church Fields 3A 53°24'44.7"N 6°23'39.0"W - Google	40 Social 80 Cost Rental 180 Affordable	On-Site.	Q4 2023	Phased delivery
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk /Swords	FCC	Social	Seatown Road, Swords 53°27'35.4"N 6°13'04.7"W Google Maps	36 Social 36 x 2 Bed	On-Site.	Q1 2024	Q3 2026
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart/Castleknock / Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Church Fields 3B 53°24'44.7"N 6°23'39.0"W - Google Maps	107 Social 110 Affordable	On-Site.	Q4 2024	Phased delivery
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Ballisk Park, New Road, Donabate 53°29'02.6"N 6°08'27.5"W	63 Social 112 Affordable	On-Site.	Q4 2024	Phased delivery
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social - Elderly	North Street, Swords 53°27'38.6"N 6°13'06.7"W - Google Maps	13 Social 6 x 1 Bed 7 x 2 Bed	On-Site.	Q2 2025	Q4 2026
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Holywell, Swords 53°26'48.1"N 6°12'42.8"W	57 Social 20 x 1- bed 29 x 2-bed 8 x 3-bed	On-Site.	Q4 2024	Q3 2026

Schemes on Site (Continued)

Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Mourne View, Skerries 53.580404, -6.122225	14 Social 11x 2-Bed 3 x 3-Bed 1 x 4-Bed	On-Site.	Q4 2024	Q1 2026
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Remount Court, Rathmore, Lusk 53.521142, -6.161451	18 Social 2 x 1 bed 12 x 2 bed 4 x 3 bed	On-Site.	Q4 2024	Q2 2026
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Baile na Móna Phase 1, Swords https://maps.app.goo.gl/R8eAG1aoLXh1nL2J9	123 Social 151 Affordable	On-Site.	Q4 2024	Phased delivery.
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Balmoston Phase 2, Donabate 53°29'21.2"N 6°07'58.1"W	72 Social 75 Affordable	On-Site.	Q3 2025	Phased delivery.

Appendix 7 - 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	North and East Housing Association	Social – Elderly	Garristown 53°34'03.7"N 6°22'42.1"W - Google Maps	6 Social 3 x 2-bed 3 x 1-bed	Planning granted.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Woodside, Swords. 53.453901, -6.210574 Google Maps	34	Planning granted.	Q1 2026	Q4 2027
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Park Road, Kenure, Rush. 53.532278, -6.102176 Google Maps	32	Planning granted.	Q1 2026	Q4 2027
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart/ Castleknock/Ongar	FCC	Social – Elderly TBC	Blakestown Cross, Mulhuddart 53.399869, -6.401776 Google Maps	30 Social 16 x 1 Bed 14 x 2 Bed	Consultants to be appointed.	Q1 2026	Q4 2027
Howth/Malahide	FCC	TBC	Tuckets Lane 53.385248, -6.066128 Google Maps	8 Social 4 x 1 bed 4 x 2 bed	On-hold	TBC	TBC

Appendix 7 - Continued
Schemes at the Pre-Planning Stage

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On-Site Date	Handover (Est)
Blanchardstown	FCC	Social	Fortlawn, Blanchardstown https://maps.app.goo.gl/xuML7oPaySiPZmf46	21	Pre-Planning.	TBC	TBC
Howth/Malahide	FCC	Social	Fingerpost, Malahide https://maps.app.goo.gl/zfhguqQj7vYYRJB99	4	Pre-planning.	TBC	TBC
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart/ Castleknock/ Ongar	FCC	Social	Mayeston, Dublin 11 53°24'28.4"N 6°17'02.1"W - Google Maps	74	Pre-Planning	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	TBC	O' Dwyers, Balbriggan. https://maps.app.goo.gl/inSEC4Qq3QSBHQHp8	80	Pre-Planning.	TBC	TBC

*The above-estimated timelines are indicative and subject to a successful planning and procurement process.

Appendix 7 - Continued

CALF Delivery in partnership with Fingal County Council

Area Committee	AHB	Funding Stream	Scheme Name	No. of Units	Projected Substantial Completion*
Balbriggan/ Rush-Lusk/ Swords	Tuath	CALF	Semple Woods	3	Q3 2025 - Delivered
Balbriggan/ Rush-Lusk Swords	Respond	CALF	Meadow Banks, Oldtown, Swords	45 39	Q2 2025 - Delivered Q3 2025- Delivered
Balbriggan/ Rush- Lusk Swords	Tuath	CALF	The Paddocks, Golf Links Road, Skerries	95 2	Q2 2025 - Delivered Q4 2025
Balbriggan/ Rush- Lusk Swords	Tuath	CALF	Folkstown Park, Balbriggan	12	Q2 2025 –Delivered
Balbriggan/ Rush- Lusk Swords	Oaklee	CALF	Harmans Rest, Donabate	44	Q3 2026
Balbriggan/ Rush- Lusk Swords	Tuath	CALF	Whitehaven, Northwood, Santry D9	94	2026
Balbriggan/ Rush- Lusk Swords	Tuath	CALF	Niven Oaks, Santry D9	170	2026
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Cluid	CALF	Hollyfield, Hollystown, Dublin 15	22	Q4 2025
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Tuath	CALF	Kilmartin Grove, Dublin 15	32	Q2 2025 - Delivered
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Respond	CALF	Pipers Square, Charlestown, St. Margarets Road, Finglas, D11	211	Q4 2025
Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar	Respond	CALF	Pipers Square, Charlestown, St, Margarets Road, Finglas, D11	95	2026
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Tuath	CALF	Tyrrelstown Square, Hollywoodrath, Dublin 15	120	2026
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Oaklee	CALF	The Lodge, Clonsilla Lodge, Dublin 15	57	2026
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Cluid	CALF	St. Josephs, Clonsilla Dublin 15	113	Q4 2026

*The above-estimated timelines are indicative and subject to change

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 19

MAYOR'S BUSINESS –
COUNCILLOR T. O'LEARY

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 19a

MAYOR'S BUSINESS –
COUNCILLOR T. O'LEARY

CIVIC RECEPTION
SWORDS COMMUNITY PERSON

Motion: Councillor T. O'Leary

"That the Chief Executive hosts a civic reception, as per the motion passed at the Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Services B Area Committee Meeting of Thursday 9th October, to honour and thank Bernie Marks for her invaluable work over many years in preserving local history along with her work in genealogy services and celebrate her long service to the Swords Community."

Report:

If this motion is passed; the Council will prepare a Civic Reception to honour and thank Bernie Marks for her invaluable work over many years in preserving local history along with her work in genealogy services and celebrate her long service to the Swords Community.

Source of Report:
Mary Egan, Director of People, Corporate and Digital Services

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 20

CONFERENCES

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IRISH DISTRICT ENERGY ASSOCIATION

Supporting and Promoting District Heating and Cooling in Ireland

Back

Add to my calendar

IrDEA Annual Conference 2025

When 13 Nov 2025
08:30 - 18:00 (GMT)

Location The Radisson Blu Royal Hotel, Golden Ln, Dublin 8, D08 VRR7



Registration

- **General Admission (Price Quoted Ex VAT) – €260.00**
  260 + VAT @ 23% (Total inc VAT €319.80)
- **IrDEA Member Ticket (Price Quoted Ex VAT) – €220.00**
  220 + VAT @ 23% (Total inc VAT 270.60)

IRISH DISTRICT ENERGY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2025

Join us for an enlightening and engaging event where professionals, experts, and enthusiasts gather to explore the

latest advancements, trends and opportunities in the district energy sector in Ireland and abroad.

REGISTER

When & Where

- Date: Thursday, 13th November 2025
- Time: 08:30am - 18:00pm
- Location & Format: The Radisson Blu Royal Hotel, Golden Ln, Dublin 8, D08 VRR7. Fully in-person event.

About

The IrDEA Annual Conference 2025 is a must-attend event for anyone interested in district energy and its vital role in transforming Ireland's heating sector to low-carbon. This year's conference will bring together industry leaders, policymakers, researchers, energy sector representatives, and public bodies - among others - to share insights, foster collaborations, and drive innovation within the Irish district energy landscape. Speakers, Sponsors & Full Programme to be announced in the coming weeks.

This year we are honored to have **Minister Darragh O'Brien T.D.** as a keynote speaker for the event. **Chairperson of the Climate Change Advisory Council, Marie Donnelly** as well as **Brian Carroll, Assistant Secretary General of the Department of Climate, Energy and the environment** will also speak at the conference.







Further confirmed speakers are **Paul Kenny, Director of the European Heat Pump Association**, **David McAuley, Founder and CEO of Bitpower** and **Mark Adams, Senior Associate at Asper.**

More speakers to be announced soon.

Who Should Attend

The IrDEA Annual Conference 2025 is designed for professionals and organisations involved or interested in district energy, including but not limited to:

- Energy providers and utilities
- Government representatives and policymakers
- Local authority staff and other public bodies
- Engineers, architects, and urban planners
- Energy consultants and researchers
- Technology providers and equipment manufacturers

- Sustainable development organisations
- Financial institutions and investors
- Students and academia

Be part of the transformative conversations, knowledge exchange, and collaborative initiatives that will shape the future of the low-carbon heating sector Ireland towards 2030 and beyond.

Sponsorship Opportunities

If you are interested in sponsorship opportunities and associating your brand with Ireland's leading district heating event, please contact the team at info@districtenergy.ie to speak with a member of the team.

If you require an invoice in advance of payment, please email info@irdea.ie.





Irish District Energy Association
151 The Island, Chapelizod, Dublin 20, D20 CX27
Company Registration: 619382
info@districtenergy.ie

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 21

CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

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Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin
Monaghan County Council

Acmhainní Daonna
Human Resources
047 30586

Airgeadas
Finance
047 30589

Na Bóithre
Roads
047 30597

Clár na dToghthóirí
Register of Electors
047 30551

Comhshaol
Environment
042 9661240

Na hEalaíona
Arts
047 38162

Iasachtaí /Deontais Tithíochta
Housing Loans/Grants
047 30527

Leabharlann an Chontae
County Library
047 74700

Mótarcháin
Motor Tax
047 81175

Músaem an Chontae
County Museum
047 82928

Pleanáil
Planning
047 30532

Pobal
Community
047 73719

Rialú Dóiteáin/Foirgnimh
Fire/Building Control
047 30521

Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil
Local Enterprise Office
047 71818

Seirbhísí Uisce
Water Services
047 73769

Our Ref: October 2025/07

09 October 2025

Email: ministers_office@health.gov.ie

Private Secretary to the
Minister for Health
Ms. Jennifer Carroll MacNeill, TD
Minister's Office
Department of Health
Block 1, Miesian Plaza
50-58 Lower Baggot Street
Dublin 2 , D02XW14

A Chara

At the October meeting of Monaghan County Council, the members passed the following resolution, and I was directed to forward same to you for attention:

'That this Council *condemns all those involved in the neglect, mistreatment and abuse of residences in Nursing Homes and Care Facilities for the elderly, the most vulnerable in our society and demands of An Taoiseach, Micheal Martin T.D, the Minister for Health, Jennifer Carroll MacNeill T.D. and all of Government to immediately prioritise the strengthening of safe guarding protection across the Health and Social Care Sector, as national confidence, trust and respect for the Health Information and Quality Authority(HIQA), the HSE and the Department of Health is very low, following the revelations of recent years - Children's Health Ireland(CHI), the numbers of deaths during Covid proved standards were very low in Nursing Homes nationally, the recent RTE Undercover Report exposed the abuse of residences in Nursing Homes and were it not for this programme, the nation would be unaware of these outrageous incidents; hence Monaghan County Council demands of all members, parties and groups in Government to act immediately to ensure the Health and Social Care Sector in Ireland is cleansed of neglect, abuse and wrong doing'.*

I would be grateful if you would bring the contents of this letter to the Minister's attention.

Mise, le meas,

Mary McGarvey
Meetings Administrator

c.c. Minister for Health
c.c. Cavan/Monaghan Oireachtas Members
c.c. All Local Authorities

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Comhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe
Galway City Council

16th October, 2025.

Minister Darragh O'Brien,
Department of Transport,
Leeson Lane,
Dublin 2.
D02 TR60

Email: minister@transport.gov.ie

Re: Galway City Council Resolution

Dear Minister O'Brien,

I wish to advise that at the October Meeting of Galway City Council held on Monday 6th October, 2025, the Members passed the following resolution:

"Extension of Free Fares for Under-9s to Commercial Bus Operators
That Galway City Council supports the immediate inclusion of Commercial Bus Operators (CBOs) in the Child Leap Card Scheme, which provides free bus travel for children under nine.
Council notes:
CBOs are an essential part of Ireland's public transport network, already delivering the Young Adult Leap Card and the Department of Social Protection's Travel Pass.

Their exclusion from the under-9 scheme creates unfairness, particularly for rural families who depend on them, and risks a two-tier bus system.
Extending the scheme would cost just €1 million, a modest sum that would support families during the cost-of-living crisis and encourage sustainable travel habits among children.

Therefore, Galway City Council calls on the Minister for Transport and the National Transport Authority to:
1. Urgently include CBOs in the Child Leap Card Scheme.
2. Ensure a fair and consistent transport policy that treats all children equally, regardless of geography or bus service used.

Cont'd…

www.GalwayCity.ie
Seirbhísí Custaiméara/ Customer Service:
+353 (0)91 536400
Rphost: SeirbhisDoChustaimeiri@GalwayCity.ie
Email: CustomerService@GalwayCity.ie
Meáin/ Media: Communications@GalwayCity.ie
Fax: +353 (0)91 567493

Fáiltítear roimh chomhfhreagras i nGaeilge.
Correspondence in Irish is welcome.

Halla na Cathrach, Bóthar an Choláiste, Gaillimh, H91 X4K8

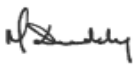
City Hall, College Road, Galway, H91 X4K8

Recommendation:

That this motion be circulated to all city and county councils for endorsement and forwarded to the Minister for Transport for urgent consideration."

I would be obliged if you would consider and revert with your views on the above motion so that I can advise the Elected Members accordingly.

Le gach dea ghuí,



Martha Duddy,
Administrative Officer,
Corporate Services.

Cc. Councillor Clodagh Higgins, Galway City Council.

Comhairle Cathrach na Gaillimhe
Galway City Council

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Fáiltítear roimh chomhfhreagras i nGaeilge.
Correspondence in Irish is welcome.

Halla na Cathrach, Bóthar an Choláiste, Gaillimh, H91 X4K8

City Hall, College Road, Galway, H91 X4K8

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Comhairle Contae Loch Garman

Comhaltas Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2024 - 2025 Wexford

Wexford County Council

County Secretary

MD/ZP

22nd October, 2025

Memo To All Local Authorities

At the October Meeting of Wexford County Council the Members passed the following motion:

"That this Councils endorses the End Discrimination of Inheritance Tax (EDIT) campaign and calls on Ministers for Equality, Norma Foley, Public Expenditure, Jack Chambers TD and Minister for Finance Paschal Donoghue TD to commit to harmonising the inheritance laws and bands so that people with no direct descendants are treated as equal to families with children in inheritance law and succession planning.

Upon adoption, this motion is circulated to all Local Authorities. "

I would appreciate if you could note the view of the Members and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Drea,
County Secretary
e-mail: **michael.drea@wexfordcoco.ie**
Phone: **053 9196260**

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Comhairle Contae Loch Garman

Comhaltas Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 2024 - 2025 Wexford

Wexford County Council

County Secretary

MD/ZP

22nd October, 2025

Memo to All Local Authorities

At the October Meeting of Wexford County Council the Members passed the following motion:

"While strengthening the welfare and health of animals; making dog breeders and sellers more accountable, transparent and animal welfare centred in their dealings; this Councils calls for the reformation of the Dog Breeding Establishment Act (2010) to incorporate "Stout's Law" into the act.

Stout's Law brings forward changes in the ages, duration and treatment/ conditions of breeding age dogs, limits the amounts of litters in a lifetime, the establishment of an single Independent Regulator with a stricter inspection regime and supports for the Local Authorities to work with licenced breeders while outlawing the practice of backyard puppy farms in Ireland.

Upon passage, this motion is circulated to all Local Authorities nationwide. "

I would appreciate if you could note the view of the Members and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Drea,
County Secretary
e-mail: **michael.drea@wexfordcoco.ie**
Phone: **053 9196260**

Comhairle Contae Loch Garman Wexford County Council | An Charraig Leathan, Loch Garman Carricklawn, Wexford Y35 WY93 | 053 919 6000 | customerservice@wexfordcoco.ie | www.wexfordcoco.ie | www.twitter.com/wexfordcoco

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 22

DEPARTMENTAL/MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE

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From: Minister's_Office <ministers_office@health.gov.ie>
Sent: 07 October 2025 14:14
To: Corporate Services <Corporate.Services@fingal.ie>;
jennifer.carrollmacneill@oireachtas.ie

Subject: HEA-MO-00841-2025

Re Item 26a - WHO Intersectoral Global Action Plan on Epilepsy & other Neurological conditions February Fingal Co Meeting 25 Cllr B. McDonagh

---

HEA-MO-00841-2025

8th July 2025

Dear Councillors,

On behalf of Jennifer Carroll McNeill, Minister for Health, TD. I wish to refer to your correspondence regarding the World Health Organisation Intersectoral Global Action Plan on epilepsy and other neurological conditions.

The WHO Intersectoral Global Action Plan (IGAP) initiative The WHO Intersectoral Global Action Plan on Epilepsy and Other Neurological Disorders 2022–2031 (IGAP) was developed in response to growing global recognition of the significant burden posed by neurological disorders, which are among the leading causes of disability and death worldwide.

IGAP defines a goal for 90-80-70 targets for Epilepsy care (90% awareness that Epilepsy is a treatable brain disorder, 80% provided with affordable safe treatment, and 70% achieve adequate seizure control). These values are shared by the National Clinical Programme for Neurology. Officials from the Department officials will continue to engage with the Clinical Programme to identify priorities for improving Neurology and Epilepsy services for patients.

I would like to thank you for bringing this to our attention.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Eoghan Flynn

Private Secretary to the Minister for Health

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 23

DISHING OF PUBLIC FOOTPATHS

Motion: Councillor B. Ryan

"That the Chief Executive agrees to introduce, for a trial period of two years, a scheme to provide the dishing of public footpaths to allow vehicular access, similar to the "Modify a Footpath to allow Vehicular Access" scheme run by Dublin City Council and similar schemes in South Dublin County Council and Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, for which citizens can have this work carried out by the Council for an agreed affordable fee."

Report:

A trial period would require the allocation of staff resources from existing work programmes to these works. There is no provision in the revenue budget to meet the costs of carrying out works to provide for the dishing of public footpaths, nor is there any demand or requests from the public for us to undertake these works.

The procedure in relation to the dishing of footpaths in the Fingal area is done through the RMO's (Road Management Office) online MRL (MapRoadLicensing) system as follows:

- The dishing of a public footpath to allow vehicular access may be subject to Planning Permission, and clarification on whether the works may be exempt under Section 5 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 must be sought from the Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department.

- Once appropriate planning is obtained, the resident is required to employ a fully Insured Contractor who will be required to submit a Road Opening Application through the RMO's (Road Management Office) online system MRL (MapRoadLicensing). The ROL once submitted is assessed by the Roads and Traffic Engineer for that area.

- The licensing fee is then calculated by the MRL system at the time the application is submitted.

- The resident is liable to pay the contractor costs for the works carried out. The Council does not carry out any of the works.

- Prior to the Road Opening Licence being granted, the application is reviewed by the engineer for the area who will attach conditions to be followed by any contractors, including reinstatement conditions for the duration of the works. A bond is paid prior to the granting of the license, which is partially refunded in the case that the reinstatement of conditions has been met.

- An inspection is carried out by the Clerk of Works assigned to the area to ensure that the works are carried out in accordance with the conditions attached to the Licence.

There are no plans for the Council to change the procedure as outlined above or to assign existing resources to carry out these works for the applicant.

Source of Report:
Mary T. Daly, Director of Operations

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 24

YOUTH SERVICES

Motion: Councillor B. Hanaphy

"That the Chief Executive considers establishing purpose-built youth services in all new and existing developments across Fingal."

Report:

The provision of youth services falls under the remit of the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth alongside other statutory healthcare and educational organisations. So, whilst the operation of youth services does not fall directly into Fingal County Council's remit, the Council actively endeavours to facilitate the provision of such services wherever possible. Accordingly, in building and operating our large number of community facilities across the county, the Council caters for all ages including younger people.

Current Usage by Youth Services in Community Facilities:

Community Centre	Type of Service
Blakestown	1:1, cafes, sports groups, Youth justice, teenage health, family support, digital youth work.
Corduff Resource Centre	1:1, cafes, sports groups, Youth justice, teenage health, family support, digital youth work.
Corduff Sports Centre	1:1, cafes, sports groups, Youth justice, teenage health, family support, digital youth work.
Huntstown	1:1, cafes, sports groups, Youth justice, teenage health, family support, digital youth work.

Fortlawn	1:1, cafes, sports groups, Youth justice, teenage health, family support, digital youth work.
Mulhuddart	1:1, cafes, sports groups, Youth justice, teenage health, family support, digital youth work.
Parslickstown	1:1, cafes, sports groups, Youth justice, teenage health, family support, digital youth work.
Phibblestown	1:1, cafes, sports groups, Youth justice, teenage health, family support, digital youth work.
Rush Multipurpose & Youth Facility	out of school supports for young people aged 10-24 years old. offer targeted, quality, flexible and sustainable youth services within the local communities of Skerries, Rush and Lusk
Rush Community Centre	out of school supports for young people aged 10-24 years old. offer targeted, quality, flexible and sustainable youth services within the local communities of Skerries, Rush and Lusk
Skerries Community Centre	out of school supports for young people aged 10-24 years old. offer targeted, quality, flexible and sustainable youth services within the local communities of Skerries, Rush and Lusk
Mourne Estate	out of school supports for young people aged 10-24 years old. offer targeted, quality, flexible and sustainable youth services within the local communities of Skerries, Rush and Lusk
St. McCullins	out of school supports for young people aged 10-24 years old. offer targeted, quality, flexible and sustainable youth services within the local communities of Skerries, Rush and Lusk
Lusk Community Centre	out of school supports for young people aged 10-24 years old. offer targeted, quality, flexible and sustainable youth services within the local communities of Skerries, Rush and Lusk
Castlelands	out of school supports for young people aged 10-24 years old. offer targeted, quality, flexible and sustainable youth services within the local communities of Skerries, Rush and Lusk
Applewood	Foróige Volunteer Youth Club Youth Café

Baldoyle	Volunteer Youth Club
Donabate-Portrane Community Centre	Volunteer led Youth Club each Friday 7.30pm – 9.30pm.

Source of Report:
Paul Carroll, Director of Housing & Community Development

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025

ITEM NO. 39

A LIST OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS WITH SCHOOL WARDENS

Motion: Councillor J. Hopkins

"That the Chief Executive provide in tabular form a list of all primary schools in the Fingal area and state whether or not they have a school warden and the criteria for assigning same."

Report:

Requests for the placement of school wardens are assessed on a case-by-case basis, and the deployment of school wardens is guided by a number of key criteria, including but not limited to:

- The provisions of Section 96 of the Road Traffic Act, 1961
- Land ownership and whether the road has been Taken-in-charge
- Pedestrian volume counts
- Vehicular traffic counts
- A review of existing road safety infrastructure, including crossing points and landing platforms, kerb lines etc., (where controlled crossings are in place, for example, a school warden would not be appropriate)
- Sight line assessments
- Existing speed limits in the area
- Funding considerations

Once this information has been gathered and reviewed, a detailed site inspection is carried out by the Council's Road Safety Officer. A decision is then made as to whether the location meets the required safety and operational thresholds for the deployment of a school warden.

Fingal County Council do not assign school wardens to specific schools. School wardens are appointed where required, as outlined above. Please see the list below detailing the schools which have a school warden service in their vicinity.

School Serviced	2nd School Serviced
Balbriggan Educate Together	
Bracken Educate Together N.S., Castlelands, Balbriggan	Gaelscoil Bhaile Brigín, Castlelands
Burrows National School	
Castleknock Educate Together National School	
Donabate - Portrane Educate Together	Gaelscoil Na Mara, Donabate
Hansfield Educate Together NS	
Holy Family, Rivervalley	
Holywell Educate Together	
John Paul II	
Ladyswell National School	
Lusk National School	
Malahide-Portmarnock Educate Together School Emer Hoy School Principal	
Mary Mother of Hope National School, Littlepace	
Powerstown Educate Together	Gaelscoil an Chuilinn
Rush Lusk Educate Together National School	
Rush National School	
Scoil An Duinnínigh	
Scoil Bhride, Church Avenue, Blanchardstown	
Scoil Choilm	
Scoil Croi Ro Naofa, Sacred Heart of Jesus National School, Huntstown	
Scoil Ghrainne NS, Phibblestown, Clonee	
Scoil Mhuire & Iosef National School, Bayside	
Scoil Mhuire National School, Howth	
Scoil Mhuire, Blakestown	
Scoil Realt na Mara, Skerries	
Skerries Educate Together National School	
St Benedicts National School	Castaheany Educate Together National School
St Brendan's National School Loughshinny	
St Brigid's NS Castleknock	

St Mary's Boys School, Scoil Mhuire, St Andrews Lucan	
St Patrick's National School Diswellstown	
St. Andrew's National School	
St. Brigids, Blanchardstown	
St. Ciaran's National School, Hartstown	
St. Colmcilles National School, Swords	
St. Cronans National School, Brackenstown	
St. Fintan's National School, Carrickbrack Road	
St. Francis Xavier's National School, Castleknock	
St. Georges National School, Naul Road, Balbriggan	
St. Helens JSNS	
St. Laurence's National School Grange Road, Baldoyle (junior school)	
St. Marnock's National School	
St. Mochtas National School	
St. Mologa's National School	
St. Nicholas of Myra National School	
St. Oliver Plunkett's National School	
St. Patrick's National School, Corduff	
St. Patricks National School, Donabate	Donabate - Portrane Educate Together
St. Patricks National School, Skerries	
St. Peters & Pauls National School, Balbriggan	
St. Philips National School	
St. Sylvesters JNS, Malahide	
St. Teresa’s National School, Balbriggan	
St. Thomas' National School, Laurel Lodge, Castleknock	
Swords Educate Together & Gaelscoil Bhrian Bóroimhe	

Source of Report:
David Storey, Director of Environment, Climate Action, Active Travel and Sports Department

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