Thanks Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Minutes of the County Council Meeting held on Monday, 9th February, 2026 in the Council Chamber - County Hall, Swords, at 5.00 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillors:

Boland, Cathal
Boland, Mark
Burtchaell, John
Butler, Darragh
Carbone-Mangan, Eimear
Corkery, Luke
Dennison, Kieran
Dockrell, Eoghan
Donnelly, Angela
Guerin, Jimmy
Hanaphy, Breda
Haughey, Cathal
Healy, David
Hopkins, Joan
Humphreys, James
Johnston, Corina
Kelly, Darren Jack
Kitt, Tom
Leddy, Ted

Councillors:

Maguire, Grainne
McCamley, Mary
McDonagh, Brian
Mulligan, Dean
Mulville, Paul
Murphy, Tony
Newman, Joe
O'Brien, Eoghan
O'Leary, Tom
Onwumereh, JK
Quinlan, Patrick
Quinn, Malachy
Ryan, Brendan
Sheehan, Gerard
Shovlin, Siobhan
Tormey, Aoibhinn
Troy, Ellen
Walsh, John

Apologies for inability to attend were received for Councillors Tania Doyle, Helen Redwood and John Smyth.

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 /Infrastructure and Transport); Roisin Burke (Director of Services / Planning and Development); Paul Carroll (Director of Services /Housing Services); Mary Egan (Director of Services/People, Corporate & Digital Services); John Quinlivan (Director of Services/Economic, Community and Cultural Development); Mary T. Daly (Director of Services/ Operations), Fionnula May, (County Architect); Carmel Brennan (Senior Architect); Liam Burke (Senior Executive Officer); Aoife Lawler (Senior Executive Officer); Ciara O hAodha (Senior Executive Officer).

F/46/26 (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.

The Mayor informed the Members an emergency motion was received and has been ruled out of order.

The Mayor, read into the record for the information for the members, the formal notification from the Chief Executive, as required under Section 147(2) of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended). This is a standard statutory step which the legislation requires before the Chief Executive's contract is extended by three years from November 2026.

F/47/26 (Agenda Item No 1)

Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 12th January 2026

Minutes of the County Council Meeting held on Monday 12th January 2026 which had been circulated were considered.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor T. O'Leary seconded by Councillor J. Humphreys and **RESOLVED –**

"That the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on Monday 12th January 2026 be **ADOPTED."**

F/48/26 (Agenda Item No 2)

Nominations

a **Appointment of one Member to the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment Strategic Policy Committee**

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

It was proposed by Councillor P. Mulville and seconded by Councillor D. Mulligan and **AGREED**:

"That Councillor Joan Hopkins be appointed as a member to the Climate Action, Biodiversity, Environment Strategic Policy Committee."

b **Appointment of one Member to the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)**

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

It was proposed by Councillor A. Tormey and seconded by Councillor T. O'Leary:

"That Councillor Luke Corkery be appointed as a member to the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)."

It was then proposed by Councillor P. Mulville and seconded by Councillor J. Hopkins:

"That Councillor Joan Hopkins be appointed as a member to the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)."

Following discussion, Councillor L. Corkery withdrew his nomination.

The Mayor **DECLARED** Councillor Joan Hopkins be appointed as a member to the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC).

F/49/26 (Agenda Item No)

QUESTIONS

It was proposed by Councillor B. McDonagh, seconded by Councillor J. Walsh and **RESOLVED**:

"That in accordance with Standing Order No. 51, Questions numbered 3 to 19 be **ADOPTED**."

F/50/26 (Agenda Item No 3)
Councillor P. Quinlan - Processing Housing Assistance Payments (HAP)

F/51/26 (Agenda Item No 4)
Councillor T. Murphy - Planning Enforcement

F/52/26 (Agenda Item No 5)
Councillor T. Murphy - Housing Adaptation Grant Applications

F/53/26 (Agenda Item No 6)
Councillor M. Quinn - Provision of Childcare in Fingal

F/54/26 (Agenda Item No 7)
Councillor P. Mulville - Native Woodland across Fingal County Council's Administrative Area

F/55/26 (Agenda Item No 8)
Councillor P. Mulville - Organic Farming in this Council's Administrative Area

F/56/26 (Agenda Item No 9)
Councillor L. Corkery - New Year's Fireworks Display

F/57/26 (Agenda Item No 10)
Councillor JK Onwumereh - Updates on the Priority Actions in Fingal County Council's Biodiversity Plans 2025

F/58/26 (Agenda Item No 11)
Councillor A. Donnelly - Cycle Lane Review Update

F/59/26 (Agenda Item No 12)
Councillor B. Hanaphy - Income Threshold - Social Housing

F/60/26 (Agenda Item No 13)

Councillor B. Ryan - Recent Changes to Planning Legislation

F/61/26 (Agenda Item No 14)
Councillor B. Ryan - Active Travel Investment Programme

F/62/26 (Agenda Item No 15)
Councillor E. Troy - Vacant Houses in Fingal

F/63/26 (Agenda Item No 16)
Councillor J. Smyth - This Council's use of X and similar sites

F/64/26 (Agenda Item No 17)
Councillor E. Dockrell - Community and Sports Grants and Schemes for 2026

F/65/26 (Agenda Item No 18)
Councillor E. Dockrell - Outdoor Gym Equipment

F/66/26 (Agenda Item No 19)
Councillor J. Walsh - Inactive Sites

F/67/26 (Agenda Item No 20)
Report of Committees

a **Report of Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 13th January 2026**

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

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 13th January 2026, are hereby **ADOPTED.**"

b **Report of Howth/Malahide Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 14th January 2026**

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

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Howth/Malahide Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 14th January 2026, are hereby **ADOPTED.**"

c **Report of Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Thursday 15th January 2026**

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

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Area Committee Meeting held on Thursday 15th January 2026, are hereby **ADOPTED.**"

d **Report of Corporate Policy Group (CPG) Meeting held on Tuesday 27th January 2026**

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

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Corporate Policy Group (CPG) Meeting held on Tuesday 27th January 2026, are hereby **ADOPTED.**"

e **Report of Howth/Malahide Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 4th February 2026**

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

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Howth/Malahide Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 4th February 2026, are hereby **ADOPTED.**"

f **Report of Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Thursday 5th February 2026**

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

"That the recommendations contained in the report of Committee of Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Services B Area Committee Meeting held on Thursday 5th February 2026, are hereby **ADOPTED.**"

F/68/26 (Agenda Item No 21)

Financial Matters

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this item.

F/69/26 (Agenda Item No 22)

Proposed Disposal of Properties

a **Notice of proposed disposal of land to the rear of No. 75 Hampton Street, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin to Mr Gerard Murphy, 1 Pump Lane, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin**

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

"That lands to the rear of No. 75 Hampton Street, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin, as referred to in the Notice under S183 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended and dated 7th January 2026, be disposed of to Mr Gerard Murphy, 1 Pump Lane, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin in accordance with the terms specified therein."

b **Notice of proposed grant of wayleave at Remount, Phase 2, Lusk, Co. Dublin to Uisce Éireann, Colvill House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Mountjoy, Dublin 1**

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

"That the grant of wayleave at Remount, Phase 2, Lusk, Co. Dublin, as referred to in the Notice under S183 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended and dated 7th January 2026, to Uisce Éireann, Colvill House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Mountjoy, Dublin 1 in accordance with the terms specified therein."

c **Notice of proposed disposal of land and grant of wayleave at Georgian Village, Castleknock, Dublin 15 to ESB Networks, St. Margaret's Road, Finglas, Dublin 11**

The attached report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was **CONSIDERED.** It was proposed by Councillor S. Shovlin and seconded by Councillor J. Walsh and **RESOLVED**:

"That land and grant of wayleave at Georgian Village, Castleknock, Dublin 15, as referred to in the Notice under S183 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended and dated 7th January 2026, be disposed and granted to ESB Networks, St. Margaret's Road, Finglas, Dublin 11 in accordance with the terms specified therein."

d **Notice of proposed disposal of land to the rear of Shandrum, The Priory, Donabate, Co. Dublin to Vincent and Sharon Arkins, Shandrum, The Priory, Donabate, Co. Dublin**

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

"That lands to the rear of Shandrum, The Priory, Donabate, Co. Dublin, as referred to in the Notice under S183 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended and dated 7th January 2026, be disposed of to Vincent and Sharon Arkins, Shandrum, The Priory, Donabate, Co. Dublin in accordance with the terms specified therein."

e **Notice of Proposed disposal of land at Tyrrelstown, Co. Dublin to Glenveagh Properties Plc., Block C, Maynooth Business Campus, Straffan Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare**

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

"That land at Tyrrelstown, Co. Dublin, as referred to in the Notice under S183 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended and dated 29th January 2026, be disposed of to Glenveagh Properties Plc., Block C, Maynooth Business Campus, Straffan Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare in accordance with the terms specified therein."

F/70/26 (Agenda Item No 22f)

Notice of Proposed grant of wayleave at Dunsink Lane, Finglas, Dublin 11, to Zayo Infrastructure Ireland Limited, Custom House Plaza, Block 6, International Financial Services Centre, Dublin 1

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

"That the grant of wayleave at Dunsink Lane, Finglas, Dublin 11,, as referred to in the Notice under S183 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended and dated 29th January 2026, be granted to Zayo Infrastructure Ireland Limited, Custom House Plaza, Block 6, International Financial Services Centre, Dublin 1 in accordance with the terms specified therein."

F/71/26 (Agenda Item No 23)

Declarations of Roads

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this item.

F/72/26 (Agenda Item No 24)

Part XI of the Planning & Development Act 2000 and Part VIII of the Local Government Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) for the Proposed Demolition of 4 no. dwellings and development of 21 no. dwellings at Fortlawn Avenue and Fortlawn Park, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15

The report by the Chief Executive which had been circulated was **CONSIDERED**. A presentation was given to the Members by Carmel Brennan, Senior Architect, Architects Department.

During the course of the discussion, the Mayor informed the members two motions were submitted.

The following motion, was proposed by Councillor J. Guerin and seconded by Councillor T. Murphy:

"In recognising that there is a housing crisis, and on the basis that no tenants will be forced to surrender their current tenancy and also acknowledging that no tenants in Fingal can have a veto to prevent much needed housing on suitable sites, this Council Supports and passes the part 8 as presented for the development of lands at Fort lawn Dublin 15."

The Mayor then instructed that a roll call vote be taken on this motion and on a division the voting resulted as follows:

FOR: 18 EIGHTEEN
AGAINST: 19 NINETEEN
ABSTAIN: 0 ZERO

FOR: Councillors Darragh Butler, Eimear Carbone-Mangan, Luke Corkery, Kieran Dennison, Eoghan Dockrell, Jimmy Guerin, Cathal Haughey, Darren Jack Kelly, Tom Kitt, Ted Leddy, Grainne Maguire, Tony Murphy, Joe Newman, Eoghan O'Brien, Tom O'Leary, JK Onwumereh, Siobhan Shovlin, Aoibhinn Tormey.

AGAINST: Councillors Cathal Boland, Mark Boland, John Burtchaell, Angela Donnelly, Breda Hanaphy, David Healy, Joan Hopkins, James Humphreys, Corina Johnston, Mary McCamley, Brian McDonagh, Dean Mulligan, Paul Mulville, Patrick Quinlan, Malachy Quinn, Brendan Ryan, Gerard Sheehan, Ellen Troy, John Walsh.

The Mayor then declared the motion **FELL**.

The following motion, in the name of Councillors A. Donnelly, J. Walsh, B. Hanaphy, E. Troy, G. Sheehan, J. Burtchaell, M. Quinn and J. Smyth; was proposed by Councillor A. Donnelly and seconded by Councillor B. Hanaphy:

"That this Council seeks an alternative plan to the "Fortlawn Part 8 planning proposal" as presented on 9th February 2026, in line with motions previously agreed by the Area committee for Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart, Castleknock and Ongar, on 4th September 2025, 6th November 2025, and a further motion on 5th February 2026, providing a revised plan for social housing which does not necessitate the demolition of family homes and could deliver four homes in the short term as opposed to two"

Following further discussions, the Mayor informed the members an amendment to the motion had been received. Mary Egan, Director of Services; People, Corporate and Digital Services read Standing Order 83 and Standing Order 84 into the record.

The Mayor informed the members the amendment to the motion was ruled out of order.

The Mayor then instructed a roll call vote be taken on the motion submitted by Councillor A. Donnelly, J. Walsh, B. Hanaphy, E. Troy, G. Sheehan, J. Burtchaell, M. Quinn and J. Smyth. On a division the voting results were as follows:

FOR: 18 EIGHTEEN
AGAINST: 19 NINETEEN
ABSTAIN: 0 ZERO

FOR: Councillors Mark Boland, John Burtchaell, Angela Donnelly, Breda Hanaphy, David Healy, Joan Hopkins, James Humphreys, Corina Johnston, Mary McCamley, Brian McDonagh, Dean Mulligan, Paul Mulville, Patrick Quinlan, Malachy Quinn, Brendan Ryan, Gerard Sheehan, Ellen Troy, John Walsh.

AGAINST: Councillors Cathal Boland, Darragh Butler, Eimear Carbone-Mangan, Luke Corkery, Kieran Dennison, Eoghan Dockrell, Jimmy Guerin, Cathal Haughey, Darren Jack Kelly, Tom Kitt, Ted Leddy, Grainne Maguire, Tony Murphy, Joe Newman, Eoghan O'Brien, Tom O'Leary, JK Onwumereh, Siobhan Shovlin, Aoibhinn Tormey.

The Mayor then declared the motion **FELL**.

The Mayor then read the recommendation into the record -
"In accordance with Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), and having considered the Chief Executive's Report, the Elected Members approve the proposed development as outlined in the plans, particulars, and documentation placed on public display."

The Mayor then instructed that a roll call vote be taken and on a division the voting resulted were as follows:

FOR: 20 TWENTY
AGAINST: 17 SEVENTEEN
ABSTAIN: 0 ZERO

FOR: Councillors Cathal Boland, Darragh Butler, Eimear Carbone-Mangan, Luke Corkery, Kieran Dennison, Eoghan Dockrell, Jimmy Guerin, Cathal Haughey, Darren Jack Kelly, Tom Kitt, Ted Leddy, Grainne Maguire, Brian McDonagh, Tony Murphy, Joe Newman, Eoghan O'Brien, Tom O'Leary, JK Onwumereh, Siobhan Shovlin, Aoibhinn Tormey.

AGAINST: Councillors Mark Boland, John Burtchaell, Angela Donnelly, Breda Hanaphy, David Healy, Joan Hopkins, James Humphreys, Corina Johnston, Mary McCamley, Dean Mulligan, Paul Mulville, Patrick Quinlan, Malachy Quinn, Brendan Ryan, Gerard Sheehan, Ellen Troy, John Walsh.

The Mayor then declared the recommendation **PASSED**.

F/73/26 (Agenda Item No 25)

Extension of Duration of Kellystown Local Area Plan 2021

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

It was proposed by Councillor T. O'Leary, seconded by Councillor K. Dennison, and **RESOLVED** –

"That the Members having considered the Chief Executive's Report AGREE and hereby approve the extension of the period for which the Kellystown Local Area Plan 2021 shall remain in force for the appropriate period of 5 no. years from the 21st February 2027 to the 20th February 2032, or until the making of a new County Development Plan, whichever occurs sooner."

F/74/26 (Agenda Item No 26)

Festivals and Events Funding 2026 & Events Presentation

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

It was proposed by Councillor T. O'Leary, seconded by Councillor J. Newman, and **APPROVED.**

F/75/26 (Agenda Item No 27)

Fingal Arts Act Grant Scheme 2026

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

It was proposed by Councillor T. Murphy, seconded by Councillor T. O' Leary and **RESOLVED**:

"That the award of Arts Act Grant Scheme 2026 as set out in the foregoing report is hereby **APPROVED."**

F/76/26 (Agenda Item No 28)

Fingal County Council Parking Control Bye-Laws 2026

A report was given to the members by Mary T Daly, Director of Services; Operations.

Following discussion, it was agreed to refer this item to the Public Realm, Transportation / Mobility Management SPC.

The report was **NOTED**.

F/77/26 (Agenda Item No 29)

Chief Executive's Report

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

The Chief Executives report was **NOTED**.

F/78/26 (Agenda Item No 30)

Mayor's Business - Councillor T. O'Leary

It was **NOTED** that there was no business under this item.

F/79/26 (Agenda Item No 31)

Conference Report

a **AILG Elected Members In-Person & Webinar Training Programme - Q1 2026**

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

b **AILG Annual Training Conference 2026 - 22nd and 23rd April 2026 - Hotel Minella, Coleville Road, Raheen, Clonmel Co. Tipperary**

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

F/80/26 (Agenda Item No 32)

Correspondence

a **Letter dated 15th January 2026 from Sligo County Council Re - Government's decision to ratify CETA - the Investor Court System (ICS)**

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

b **Letter dated 22nd January 2026 from Offaly County Council Re - Mercosur Trade Agreement**

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

F/81/26 (Agenda Item No 33)

Departmental/Ministerial Correspondence

a **Email received on the 23rd January from the office of the Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure Re - Item 39 - Cllr D. Mulligan - Local Authorities role in the Recovery and Resilience Facility Funding December 2024 Council Meeting**

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

MOTIONS - STATUTORY FUNCTIONS

F/82/26 (Agenda Item No)

VARY THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

It was **AGREED** to vary the order of business and take Item 40 at this time.

F/83/26 (Agenda Item No 40)

Councillor D. Healy - Social Media Communication

The motion, in the name of Councillor D. Healy was proposed by Councillor D. Healy and seconded by Councillor T. O'Leary.

The motion was **AGREED**.

F/84/26 (Agenda Item No 34)

Councillor D.J. Kelly - Installation of CCTV Cameras

The motion, in the name of Councillor D.J. Kelly was proposed by Councillor D.J. Kelly and seconded by Councillor T. O'Leary.

It was **AGREED** to extend the meeting to conclude Item 35.

Following a discussion, it was **AGREED** that this item be referred to the Local Community Safety Partnership. The motion was **AGREED**.

F/85/26 (Agenda Item No 35)

Councillor J. Humphreys - Fingal Swimming Pool Strategy

The motion, in the name of Councillor J. Humphreys was proposed by Councillor J. Humphreys and seconded by Councillor M. Mc Camley.

Following a discussion, the motion was **AGREED**.

The Meeting concluded at 20.09.

MAYOR _____ DATE _____

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 02

NOMINATIONS

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 02a

APPOINTMENT OF ONE MEMBER TO THE NAMING AND COMMEMORATIVE COMMITTEE (NOMINATIONS ARE FROM THE LOCAL ELECTORAL AREAS)

Following the resignation of Councillor Siobhan Shovlin from this committee, a vacancy is now required to be filled by a Member from the Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart/Castleknock-Ongar Area.

The Council's Naming and Commemorative Memorial Policy was approved by the Council on 9th May 2016 and took effect from that date. As part of this policy the Council established a Naming and Commemorative Memorial Assessment Committee consisting of six Councillors, two Councillors from each Area Committee and three local/community representatives - one from each Area Committee. The Council Members serve on the Committee for a term consistent with the term of the Council.

The following change to the membership of the Elected Members, which was recommended by the Community Development, Heritage, Culture & Creativity SPC and the Corporate Policy Group, involves the increases of the membership from six to ten, on the following basis –

- Up to 4 Members from Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/ Ongar Area Committee
- Up to 4 Members from Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Area Committee
- Up to 2 Members from Howth/Malahide Area Committee

Current members of this Committee
Councillors
D. Butler, C. Haughey, D. Healy, J. Humphreys, D. Kelly, T. Leddy, J. Newman, M. Quinn, E. Carbone-Mangan.

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 02b

APPOINTMENT OF ONE MEMBER TO THE PUBLIC REALM, TRANSPORTATION/MOBILITY MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE FOLLOWING THE RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR JOAN HOPKINS FROM THIS STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

A nomination is now sought for a replacement Member to the Public Realm Transportation/Mobility Management Strategic Policy Committee following the resignation of Councillor Joan Hopkins from this Strategic Policy Committee.

The current elected members on the Public Realm, Transportation/Mobility Management Strategic Policy Committee, are Councillor Darragh Butler Councillor Darren Jack Kelly, Councillor Malachy Quinn, Councillor Corina Johnston and Councillor Patrick Quinlan.

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 03

PERFORMANCE RELATED PAYMENTS

Question: Councillor P. Quinlan

"To ask the Chief Executive to outline if there will be any bonus payments or Key Performance Indicators (KPI) related payments made to senior management this year?"

Reply:

There are no bonus or performance related payments payable to any employees of Fingal County Council. Pay in the Local Government sector, including Fingal County Council, is governed by National Public Sector Pay Agreements.

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

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 04

CHILDCARE PROVIDERS IN FINGAL COMMUNITY CENTRES

Question: Councillor M. Quinn

"To ask the Chief Executive to outline the length of service for all private childcare providers in Fingal Community Centres?"

Reply

Community Centre	Provider	Length of Service
Applewood Community Centre	Appleseeds	13 years
Baldoyle Forum Building	Mos Montessori	16 years
Blakestown Community Centre	Arias Fun and Learn	2026
Castleland Community Centre	Cawley Childcare The Kids Campus	9 years
Cottage Community Centre	Cottage Childcare	1 year
Diswellstown Community Centre	Tigers Time Ltd	20 years
Flemington Community Centre	Really Cool Afterschool	3 years
Fortlawn Community Centre	Hope Montessori Autism Care Centre	6 years

Hartstown Community Centre	Hartstown Montessori Little Sparrows	13 years 11 years
Luttrellstown Community Centre	Phoenix Childcare	4 years
Mountview Community Youth and Sports Hub	Hope Montessori Autism Care Centre	10 years
Mulhuddart Community Centre	By Your Side	5 years
Ongar Community Centre	Tigers Time Ltd	6 years
Tyrrelstown Community Centre	Tigers Time Ltd	16 years
Rush Multi- Purpose & Youth Centre	Little Scholars Montessori & Childcare	1 year
Total Childcare places - 494		

The information provided in this report is based on public records and local data currently on file. Please note that the recorded length of service for childcare operators in community centres may vary slightly from the information listed, due to changes in Boards of Management over time and variations in the completeness of historical records held by the Boards.

Source of Reply:
John Quinlivan, Director of Economic, Community & Cultural Development

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 05

ILLEGAL PARKING ON FOOTPATHS

Question: Councillor P. Mulville

"To ask the Chief Executive to provide details of any plans being made to address illegal parking on footpaths which cause difficulties for wheelchair users, people with buggies and pedestrians generally, with a view to seeing an improvement across the Council's administrative area in advance of Make Way Day 2026?"

Reply:

Fingal County Council fully supports Make Way Day each year and recognises the significant impact that obstacles on footpaths can have on daily life. While some obstructions may be temporary in nature, such as vehicles parked on footpaths, signage, or other impediments, they can create serious accessibility challenges. These challenges particularly affect older persons, wheelchair users, people who are visually impaired, individuals with reduced mobility, and parents or carers using buggies. In many instances, such obstructions may force pedestrians on to the roadway, creating additional safety risks.

As a Local Authority, the Council is committed to promoting universal access and to continuously improving the accessibility of public infrastructure across its administrative area. Accessibility considerations are incorporated into the planning, design, and maintenance of the public realm, and the removal of barriers to movement remains an ongoing priority.

The Council's Parking Control Bye-Laws 2020 were the first Bye-Laws to authorise the enforcement of a range of parking restrictions, including parking on footpaths, double yellow lines, yellow boxes, disabled bays, and non-payment in Pay-and-

Display areas. These have since been superseded by the Parking Control Bye-Laws 2026, which continue to provide the statutory basis for enforcement and reflect updated operational requirements.

Fingal Parking Wardens actively enforce these Bye-Laws throughout the county. This includes routine patrols, responding to public complaints, and issuing Fixed Charge Notices to vehicles parked in contravention of the regulations, particularly where such parking obstructs pedestrian access or compromises safety.

In addition to enforcement measures, the Council continues to review locations where recurring issues arise and, where appropriate, considers engineering or traffic management solutions to deter illegal parking.

Public awareness initiatives, including support for Make Way Day, also play an important role in encouraging behavioural change and fostering respect for shared public spaces. The Council regularly promotes legal and considerate parking via social media messaging to the public.

The Council remains committed to working proactively to ensure safer, more inclusive, and accessible streets and footpaths for all citizens.

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

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 06

YOUTH FOOTBALL PROGRAMME DELIVERY IN FINGAL

Question: Councillor E. O'Brien

"To ask the Chief Executive to outline the impact on the Youth Football programme delivery in Fingal following the recent FAI decision to withdraw funding from the role of the Football Development Officers and the hugely successful Transition Year (TY) programme?"

Reply:

FAI Development Officers currently have played a central role in delivering grassroots initiatives, including school programmes, club support, coach education, women-and-girls participation, Late Night Leagues, and player development pathways. The withdrawal of funding for these posts from 2026 will reduce the capacity to support local clubs and schools and may slow participation growth.

The discontinuation of the TY Football Programme after May 2026 removes a highly effective pathway for youth engagement in sport, personal development, and volunteering in local primary schools.

Both initiatives have contributed to increased grassroots participation in Fingal and stronger links between schools, clubs, and communities. There loss is expected to impact school engagement, talent development pathways, and

opportunities for young people, particularly those who may not otherwise access structured sport.

The Fingal Sports Office is assessing the full implications of the FAI decision and exploring options to mitigate the impact where possible, including engagement with stakeholders and examination of alternative delivery or funding models to sustain youth football participation in the county. These include possible collaborations with the three other Dublin local authorities and procuring qualified contractors/tutors to deliver the most impactful programmes which align to Fingal Sports Office strategic plan.

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

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 07

BUDGETARY IMPACT OF THE RECENT FAI DECISION TO WITHDRAW CO- FUNDING FOR THE ROLE OF DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

Question: Councillor E. O'Brien

"To ask the Chief Executive to outline the budgetary impact of the recent FAI decision to withdraw co-funding from the role of Development Officers and the Transition Year (TY) programme?"

Reply:

The Development Officers' role and the Transition Year (TY) programme were previously delivered on a matched-funding basis between the Council and the FAI. Following the withdrawal of the FAI's contribution, the Council will no longer be required to allocate its matching funds for the 2026 programme cycle.

As a result, the Council's approved allocation of **€247,000** for these jointly funded initiatives will not be drawn down. No contractual liabilities arise from the withdrawal, as delivery of the programmes was contingent on the agreed co-funding arrangements.

The Sports Office is currently reviewing alternative delivery models and potential replacement initiatives to ensure continuity of service provision.

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

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 08

STRATEGIC OVERSIGHT PROCESS FOR ESTATES AWAITING TAKING-IN-CHARGE

Question: Councillor M. Boland

"To ask the Chief Executive to outline if the Council intends to introduce a more structured, strategic oversight process for estates awaiting taking-in-charge, to avoid prolonged delays and provide greater clarity and certainty for residents as many estates have to wait for extended periods for the process to be completed?"

Reply:

Legislation outlines how the Taking-in-Charge (TIC) process operates. The TIC of an estate is a statutory process which begins with a TIC request in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning Development Act, which triggers Section 11 of the Roads Act. The Council cannot begin the TIC process for a newly developed estate without a TIC request.

Once the statutory process is started, the Council ensures that the developer brings the estate up to the TIC standard as per the Council's TIC specifications and send in all the documents that allow the process to proceed. The TIC specifications and the planning permission detail exactly what is to be built and what standard the estate must be brought up to, and it is not possible for the Council to change or add other requirements at the TIC stage. The developer must carry out all the works and therefore, this is what dictates when the estate is ready for advertisement for TIC.

In accordance with the legislation, the estate must be advertised for public consultation for a period of 6 weeks prior to going to the full Council for the

Councillors' consideration and this is the opportunity for anyone to make submissions. Also, since the beginning of 2025, each estate is now presented at the preceding Area Committee Meeting (ACM) for noting and answers to queries by the Elected Members.

Since 2022, 77 estates have been Taking-in-Charge and 14 Taking-in-Maintenance, currently there are 47 have TIC requests and it is only these 47 that the Council can progress.

Finally, the Council has several estates where the Bonds have been taken to bring the estates up to the TIC.

In order to work through all these estates, the Council has tendered and engaged a consultant to assist with these works through the following framework: Framework for Consultant Engineering Services for estates to be brought to Taking-in-Charge Standard by Fingal County Council.

The appointed consultant is currently working on three estates in the Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Electoral Area – Chapelwood, Alderwood and Redwood, Hollystown, Dublin 15. However, the Council is to have the consultant start work on a number of estates in the North County shortly.

Source of Reply:
Róisín Burke, Director of Planning and Development

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 09

MOBILE SAUNA SCHEME

Question: Councillor C. Haughey

"To ask the Chief Executive if there are plans for Fingal County Council to consider or take submissions on new locations for the Mobile Sauna Scheme?"

Reply:

Fingal County Council is currently in the process of reviewing the Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2021. Part of this review includes the assessment of locations across the Fingal administrative area for mobile saunas. Submissions are currently being accepted on the consultation portal up until the 27th of February 2026.

The draft new Casual Trading Bye-Laws will be presented to the Council for adoption, once all the requisite steps in this process are complete.

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

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 10

SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS AND NUMBER OF FOLLOWERS

Question: Councillor D. Butler

"To ask the Chief Executive to confirm the number of followers Fingal County Council has on all social media accounts, listing all accounts on all the different social media platforms?"

Reply:

As of February 2026, Fingal County Council had 58 social media accounts across 11 social media platforms with a total of 310,777 followers. The breakdown is as follows:

BlueSky		
Fingal County Council	https://bsky.app/profile/fingal.ie	522
Facebook		
Fingal County Council	www.facebook.com/fingalcoco	45,792
Fingal Events	https://www.facebook.com/EventsinFingal/	32,550
Fingal Tourism	https://www.facebook.com/LoveFingalDublin/	27,734
Flavours of Fingal	www.facebook.com/flavoursoffingal	17,909
Fingal Libraries	www.facebook.com/fingallibraries	10,246
Our Balbriggan	https://www.facebook.com/ourbalbriggan/	7,354
Fingal Sports	www.facebook.com/fingalsports	6,311

Fingal LEO	https://www.facebook.com/LEOFingal/	5,382
Fingal Heritage	https://www.facebook.com/fingalculturalheritage/	3,568
Healthy Fingal	https://www.facebook.com/healthyfingal/	1,747
Fingal Public Participation Network	https://www.facebook.com/FingalPPN	936
Fingal Community Development	https://www.facebook.com/FingalCommunityDevelopment	942
Fingal Economic Development	https://www.facebook.com/FCCEconomicDevelopment	62
Instagram		
Fingal County Council	https://www.instagram.com/fingalcountycouncil/	17,920
Fingal Events	https://www.instagram.com/events_in_fingal/	11,842
Fingal Tourism	https://www.instagram.com/lovefingaldublin/	5,055
Our Balbriggan	https://www.instagram.com/ourbalbriggan/	4,379
Fingal Libraries	https://www.instagram.com/librariesfingal	4,734
Fingal Sports	https://www.instagram.com/fingalsports/	4,730
Fingal LEO	https://www.instagram.com/leofingal/	3,276
Fingal Arts	https://www.instagram.com/fingalartsoffice/	2,536
Healthy Fingal	https://www.instagram.com/healthyfingal/?hl=en	561
Fingal Economic Development	https://www.instagram.com/fcc_economic_development	201
LinkedIn		
Fingal County Council	https://www.linkedin.com/company/fingal-county-council	13,078
Fingal LEO	https://www.linkedin.com/company/leofingal	2,297
Our Balbriggan	https://www.linkedin.com/company/our-balbriggan/	672
Fingal Skills Strategy	https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/fingal-skills-strategy	600
Fingal Economic Development	https://www.linkedin.com/company/fcc-economic-development	282
Pinterest		
Fingal Libraries	https://www.pinterest.com/fingallibraries/	140
Threads		
Fingal County Council	https://www.threads.net/@fingalcountycouncil	1,668
TikTok		
Fingal Libraries	https://www.tiktok.com/@fingallibraries	1,107
Fingal County Council	www.tiktok.com/@fingalcountycouncil	1,185

Events in Fingal	https://www.tiktok.com/@events.in.fingal	1,066
Vimeo		
Fingal Arts	http://vimeo.com/user2162614	58
Fingal County Council	https://vimeo.com/fingalcountycouncil	15
WhatsApp		
Fingal County Council	WhatsApp Updates Channel	3,671
You Tube		
Fingal County Council	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmwD4xWh7TfQTdtj-P6oCKQ	1,937
Fingal Sports	www.youtube.com/user/fingalsportsoffice	252
Fingal LEO	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI51X2tN0HQYBZF3O0zB21A	245
Our Balbriggan	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG3GXb7vD84g2JIvWremjhQ	100
Fingal Dublin	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh6w7nPJZw5qJxJLCgiac1Q	10
Love Fingal Dublin	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTpdeb7bYfWHr2_vZQxkx-Q	2
X		
Fingal County Council	https://x.com/fingalcoco	23,046
Fingal Events	https://x.com/EVENTSinFingal	10,010
Fingal Libraries	https://x.com/fingallibraries	6,083
Fingal LEO	https://x.com/LEOFingal	5,400
Fingal Tourism	https://x.com/lovefingaldub	4,004
Fingal Sports	https://x.com/FingalSports	3,379
Fingal Heritage	https://x.com/FingalHeritage	3,034
Flavours of Fingal	https://x.com/flavoursfingal	2,490
Fingal Arts	https://x.com/fingalarts	2,441
Fingal Community Development	https://x.com/fingalcommunity	2,273
Our Balbriggan	https://x.com/OurBalbriggan	2,048
Fingal Public Participation Network	https://x.com/FingalPPN	887
Healthy Fingal	https://x.com/HealthyFingal	533
Age Friendly Fingal	https://x.com/agefingal	424
Fingal Economic Development	https://x.com/FCC_Econ_Dev	51

Please note that Fingal County Council no longer post to X.

Source of Reply:
Mary Egan, Director of People, Corporate and Digital Services

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 11

BUILT-UP AND URBAN AREA SPEED LIMITS

Question: Councillor D. Healy

"To ask the Chief Executive, in light of this Council's vote in January to initiate the built-up and urban area speed limits process for Fingal, to set out what further steps are required for proposals to be brought to the Area Committee Meetings and when will this happen?"

Reply:

The National Speed Limit Implementation is being rolled out on a country wide basis led by the Department of Transport (DoT). Initially, there were three phases but since the updated guidance and subsequent workshop with the Department of Transport, there are now four phases. These phases are outlined below.

- Phase 1 Local Rural Roads
- Phase 2 Urban Core Areas
- Phase 3 National Secondary Roads
- Phase 4 Rural Schools

To commence the work on the Phase 2 Urban Core Areas, all local authorities were awaiting a circular and technical guidance to issue from the DoT. These were issued on the 16th October 2025 in conjunction with the Minister directing all local authorities to start the Phase 2 process. The objective is to have the 30km/h speed limits in built-up and urban areas operational by 31st March 2027, country wide.

As previously advised, the introduction of these 30 km/h speed limit changes will be implemented by local authorities, through the adoption of Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws, rather than by changing default limits.

A special speed limit is a speed limit set locally by each local authority and must be in accordance with Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland Guidelines (now updated). As outlined in Section 9 of the Roads Traffic Act 2004 the making and adoption of special speed limits requires statutory public consultation and is a Reserved Function of the Council.

The Operations Department Traffic Section has examined the technical guidance from the DoT and is currently progressing with technical work in order to produce the Draft Bye-Law maps for all urban/built up areas in Fingal County Council's administrative area. Currently, speed surveys are being progressed to gather data on speed and vehicular movements.

It is intended to conduct informal workshops with each Area Committee prior to commencing the statutory consultation phase. These workshops are intended to be held during the latter stages of Q2/2026.

Source of Reply:
Mary T Daly, Director of Operations

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 12

BEACH AND DUNE MANAGEMENT

Question: Councillor D. Healy

"To ask the Chief Executive to set out, including reference to any memorandum or other document which may exist, the differences in beach and dune management at Balcarrick Beach, from all other Fingal beaches, which lead to it being awarded the Green Coasts award, and to set out the cost implications of the different approach being used there?"

Reply:

Green Coast Award- Balcarrick Beach, Donabate

The Green Coast Award aims to celebrate and honour beaches that boast excellent water quality and are adopted by a local Clean Coasts volunteer/community groups.

Balcarrick Beach was awarded the Green Coasts Award as it met the criteria as set out below by An Taisce:

- A Beach Management Plan in place that acknowledges the environmentally sensitive nature of the site, that engages with conservation organisations and other relevant stakeholders.

- Regular beach cleaning activities in place, that avoid the removal of natural debris such as driftwood and seaweed.

- A local Clean Coasts Group(s) in place and engaged in meaningful actions. This key element relates to the main purpose of this award scheme, which is to foster partnerships with communities in an effort to protect and

enhance local coastal environs, and to celebrate the efforts of those communities.

• Have excellent water quality that meets the EU Bathing Water Directive standards.

A pilot project was introduced at Balcarrick Beach, Donabate, led by An Taisce/Coastwatch during the 2021 bathing season, the aim of the pilot project was to remove litter by hand rather than by mechanical rake, and in doing so help to preserve the beaches natural material 'beach wrack' and therefore meet one of the criteria set out under the Green Coasts Award. In addition, the beach had litter removed weekly outside the season.

This practice in cleaning the beach has continued since the 2021 bathing season pilot at Donabate Beach with the continued partnership between Clean Coasts, extensive community volunteerism and the application of additional cleansing resources by the Council's Operations Department. Balcarrick Beach is not raked and continues to be manually litter picked each Saturday and Sunday morning by Fingal County Council staff and community groups. The Green Coast Award at this location would not be feasible without the support of the Community Groups involved.

An Taisce specify that no beach wrack can be moved from its deposited location, and it is to decay and desiccate in situ in order for awarding of a Green Coast Award. It is impossible to ensure all beach wrack is left in-situ and not moved by people who are intent on harmless recreational activities or anti-social behaviour.

Fingal Beaches

The key differences between standard beach management practices in Fingal and the practices at Balcarrick Beach that qualify it for the Green Coast Award are the presence of a local Clean Coasts Group(s) in place who are engaged in meaningful actions and beach cleaning which avoids the removal of natural debris such as driftwood and seaweed.

Identified bathing water beaches, of which there are ten, undergo litter removal daily during the bathing season and more regularly during busy periods. Beaches are mechanically raked weekly (excluding Balcarrick Beach) during the bathing season to remove the deposited litter, debris, broken glass, jellyfish, jellyfish tentacles, seaweed, fishing detritus, dead animals, carrion, broken shells, driftwood and other materials from the beach surface. They undergo litter removal on a weekly basis at other times of the year.

The raking of these beaches is required to ensure that the beaches are safe to use by the public. Litter/debris is removed making the beach safe and clean for public use. This timely cleaning regime also prevents pollution of the water by preventing waste entering the sea.

We have been advised that due to the extremely busy nature of a number of Fingal's beaches during the bathing season, such as Burrow, Portmarnock, Skerries, Rush and Balbriggan, that they are not suitable for the cessation of mechanical raking. Additionally, mechanical raking reduces health and safety hazards on these busy recreational beaches. Injuries from debris and litter, glass, metal, hypodermic needles, jellyfish and jellyfish tentacles, broken shells etc can pose safety hazards to both beachgoers, children, Operations Department staff and wildlife. Mechanical raking ensures that the removal of sharp objects, glass, jellyfish and other potential dangers reduces the risks associated with this coastal debris.

Blue Flag Beaches

Portmarnock, Rush South and Donabate (Balcarrick) Beaches have all continued to retain their Blue Flag status.

Revenue Budget Costs

The budgeted cost for the management of beaches across the County in 2026 is €432,800. There is no provision within the 2026 budget for manual litter picking on the beaches.

The additional costs for manual litter picking for Balcarrick Beach ranges from €28,857.92 to €32,235.84 per annum, based on wages, overtime and equipment costs.

Resource Allocations

In addition to the budgetary cost manual raking deflects staff resources away from their primary duties every week and can result in other essential works not being carried out.

The mechanical beach raking process ensures that the Operations Department staff can be allocated to their primary vital tasks which enhance surrounding areas enjoyment for all users. A clean and well-maintained beach enhances its overall appearance and reduces complaints from recreational beachgoers expecting a clean beach. Beach raking removes debris, often perceived to be unsightly, making the beach more attractive for visitors, tourists and families. The

improved aesthetic appeal positively impacts tourism and community well-being, contributing to a positive perception of the coastal area.

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

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 13

CLAIMS MADE BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AGAINST THE COUNCIL

Question: Councillor B. Ryan

"To ask the Chief Executive to indicate the number of claims made against the Council by members of the public in each of the years 2023, 2024 and 2025 and to indicate the basis for such claims by type?"

Reply:

The table below outlines the public liability claims settled by year of incident by type.

Basis for Claim	2023	2024	2025
CAR COLLIDED WITH OBJECT \ POTHOLE \ FALLEN TREE \ ISLAND	70	30	35
TRIP & FALL ON FOOTPATH \ ROAD \ PARK	18	11	1
DAMAGE FROM TREES (ROOT DAMAGE \ FALLEN TREES ETC)	8	5	7
OTHER	0	4	3
TOTAL	**96**	**50**	**46**

It should be noted that claims can be brought up to two years after an incident (the period is longer for minors).

Source of Reply:
Oliver Hunt, Director of Finance

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 14

DEMAND FOR FOUR-BEDROOM HOMES

Question: Councillor B. Ryan

"To ask the Chief Executive to confirm if the planned delivery of four-bedroom homes is adequate to meet unsatisfied current and short-term future demand for four-bedroom social housing?"

Reply:

Fingal County Council continues to prioritise the expansion of larger family provision. The Council is actively pursuing further opportunities through our extensive housing construction and delivery programme as well as via other channels of delivery including Part V, acquisitions, and collaboration with the Approved Housing Body (AHB) sector to increase overall capacity.

The current construction programme will deliver a total of forty-six new four-bedroom homes, of which eighteen have been completed and taken into stock for allocation. In addition, there are thirty-six four-bedroom properties progressing through Part V and acquisitions pipelines.

Further four-bedroom properties will be added to our construction pipeline as scheme designs are developed and progressed through the planning and design process to construction and delivery. In parallel to that, our Estate Management team actively manages our portfolio to match new applicants and existing tenants to the appropriately sized homes within our overall housing stock.

Source of Reply:
Paul Carroll, Director of Housing

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 15

TENDERING FOR PLAYGROUND UPGRADES AND INSPECTIONS

Question: Councillor J. Smyth

"To ask the Chief Executive to outline if companies who tender for playground upgrades and inspections must be a member of the Association of Play Industries (API) and if the Council is aware that this inadvertently blocks Irish based companies from tendering as only firms with UK addresses are eligible for this membership?"

Reply:

In recent procurement processes relating to playground inspections and upgrades, the Council has outlined specific professional and technical capacity requirements in order to ensure that service providers meet recognised industry standards appropriate to the scope and complexity of the works.

Where referenced, membership of the Association of Play Industries (API) formed part of the professional and technical capacity requirements. API is an established industry body promoting recognised safety and quality standards within the playground sector. There is currently no directly equivalent Irish based professional body operating in this area.

The Council is aware that API membership is not restricted to companies with UK addresses. Irish based companies are eligible to apply for membership, subject to meeting the organisation's criteria. The Council is also aware of Irish based operators within the sector who hold, or have held, API membership.

Such requirements were included to align procurement processes with recognised industry standards and were considered proportionate to the services being procured. They were not intended to exclude Irish based companies.

The Council remains satisfied that its procurement processes are conducted in compliance with national and EU public procurement obligations.

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

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 16

VACANT COUNCIL HOMES

Question: Councillor E. Troy

"To ask the Chief Executive to confirm on average, how long it takes from the date a Council property becomes vacant, (the date the prior occupants left), to the date it is available to be occupied, (the first date the new tenants move in) to provide figures for each Local Electoral Area (LEA) on the occupancy rate per year as a percentage of the total number of Council homes in each LEA; (all council houses should be included, not only those currently available to be inhabited)?"

Reply:

The average turnaround time for Council void properties is reported annually to NOAC, the National Oversight and Audit Committee, through the Housing Indicator H3A. The most recently published figure for 2024— "*the average time taken from the date a dwelling is vacated to the date it is re-tenanted, across all dwellings re-let during 2024*"—is 33.76 weeks. This turnaround time includes surrendering time by the old tenant; clearing of property; design, tendering and undertaking of re-let works (which could be substantial and involved a number of different contractors); time for the tenant to organise utility reconnections; Anti-Social Behaviour checks (e.g. Garda vetting); viewings and refusals by tenants; and the various stages of due diligence in Fingal County Council's allocations process.

With regard to occupancy levels, local authorities are required to report on vacancy rates, and this is the metric reported on by local authorities at national level to NOAC. The most recently published vacancy rate for Fingal County Council for 2024 is 3.72% of total housing stock. As this is measured on 31st December, this includes the significant new stock that comes into Council management in the

last few weeks of the year as part of the Council's significant housing delivery programme.

Providing the granular information requested regarding occupancy would demand resource-intensive data analysis, as this dataset is not currently collated. Completing work of this scale would significantly divert staff resources from core housing services.

Publishing data on a focussed Local Electoral Area (LEA) basis can inadvertently create negative perceptions of areas. Vacancy levels can fluctuate for reasons unrelated to the condition or desirability of a neighbourhood—for example, the age of the housing stock, the timing of refurbishment and remediation programmes. The Council is mindful of avoiding any reporting approach that might inadvertently stigmatise areas or contribute to an inaccurate narrative about local housing performance.

Following on from various discussions at Area Committee Meetings (ACM) and Full Council level with the Elected Members, the Housing Department does intend to engage more proactively, for example at estate level where there may be a higher number of voids, in order to provide more detailed updates directly to councillors where specific local updates are required. As part of this engagement, the issue of voids has been included as a headed item on the agenda for the March meeting of the Housing SPC.

Where Elected Members require additional detail, this can be provided on request through the appropriate channels, in a manner that fully complies with the Council's obligations.

Source of Reply:
Paul Carroll, Director of Housing

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 17

DEPOSIT RETURN SCHEME

Question: Councillor J. Humphreys

"To ask the Chief Executive to report on the operational and financial impacts of the Deposit Return Scheme (Re-turn) on Fingal County Council, including any increase in littering associated with public-bin scavenging, any additional costs incurred for street cleansing, bin maintenance or replacement, and what engagement has taken place with Re-turn to secure mitigation measures or funding to address these unintended consequences in Fingal?"

Reply:

While it is acknowledged that the practise of searching for deposit return scheme bottles and cans may take place it is noted that the picking up of deposit return items in the public realm is helping to reduce littering in our public open spaces.

The impact noted in Fingal County Council's administrative area with regard to an increase in littering levels and our ability to carry out bin collections has been very minimal. To-date no public bins have been identified as having had any major overspill as a result of this practise, and no bins have been damaged as a result.

As a result, there have been no additional costs incurred by the Operations Department Cleansing Sections because of the Deposit Return Scheme.

The Litter Warden Service has not noted any litter issues associated with scavenging of bins for deposit return scheme bottles and cans.

Source of Reply:
Mary T. Daly, Director of Operations
David Storey, Director of Environment, Climate Action, Active Travel & Sports

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 18

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 18a

REPORT OF ORGANISATION, PROCEDURES AND FINANCE COMMITTEE (OP&F) HELD ON MONDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2026

MATTERS OF ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURE

IT System to record commitment given at Council Meetings and Area Committee Meetings

Mr. Paul Barker, Systems Analyst, Digital Services gave a demonstration on the IT system, which has been developed, to record commitments given at Council Meetings and Area Committee Meetings.

Ms. Mary Egan, Director of Services; People, Corporate & Digital Services, advised the Members that the system will be finalised and training will be provided.

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

Finance Matters

Monthly report on both Income and Expenditure on both Revenue and Capital Account

A presentation was given to the Members by Oliver Hunt, Director of Finance. Following discussion, the report was **NOTED.**

Report on all Strategic Financial Matters facing the Council

A presentation was given to the Members by Oliver Hunt, Director of Finance.

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

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 18b

REPORT OF BALBRIGGAN/RUSH-LUSK/SWORDS SERVICES B AREA COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2026

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
Lusk Community Council GA-003705	€3,149	Digital piano Eufy Omni	Y	2025 - €500 2024 - €2500	€3000
Thrive Balbriggan GA-003714	€3,000	Venue Hire of The Lark Theatre Margot Fox -	Y	2024 – €1,900.00 2025- €2,300.00	€3000

		Performance and Production			
Swords Women's Shed GA-003733	€1992	3 Storage cupboard 6 Storage Boxes 1 Pop up Gazebo Mindfulness workshop 1 Roll of oil cloth table cover 1 Heat Press machine T shirt printing paper 2 Pop Banners 2 Flag Banners Jesmonite moulding powder and liquid	N	N/A	€1992

It was **proposed** by Councillor C. Boland **seconded** by Councillor M. Boland 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
Skerries Rowing Club	€1,500	Custom made tarps are placed over boats to keep them dry and to protect them from the elements. One of the old tarps that we have had for many years has started to decline and is no longer fit for purpose and the club need to replace it - €602.70 VHF radios: The safety and co-ordination of club activities is undertaken via waterproof VHF radios for communication between boats and with the beachmaster. They are also essential for	Y	2023 - €3,000 2022 - €2,000	€1,500 This grant will allow the club to purchase the essential equipment necessary for the safety of all members and sustainability of the club

		management of club events such as our annual club regatta, Round Rockabill Rowing Race and club training and club race training. The club need to buy new radios to replace the older radios - €1,079.36			

It was **proposed** by Councillor L. Corkery **seconded** by Councillor J. Smyth that this Committee recommends that the County Council **APPROVE** of the Sports Funding in the foregoing report.

Signed: _____

Councillor L. Corkery
Area Chairperson

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 18c

REPORT OF HOWTH/MALAHIDE SERVICES B
AREA COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH 2026

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

Mid Sutton Athletics Club	€2,308	Storage Unit/ Shed x 2 - €1,390 Club branded Gazebo - €918	N	N/A	€2,308 The grant will allow the club to purchase equipment to help store main club equipment and keep them in good condition
Portmarnock Tennis Club	€2,751	4 target bound practice wall - €1,501 walnut garden storage - €1,320	Y	2022 - €3,000 2000 - €1,000	€2,751 – I recommend this amount for garden storage box/unit for storing tennis equipment safely and 4 Target bound - tennis hitting practice wall

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

Signed: _____

Councillor C. Haughey
Area Chairperson

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 18d

REPORT OF BLANCHARDSTOWN-MULHUDDART/CASTLEKNOCK/ONGAR SERVICES B AREA COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 5TH MARCH 2026

APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING

ACTIVITY FUNDING GRANT APPLICATIONS

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: -

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
D15 Pickleball GA-003741	€3,000.00	Equipment, Venue – tournaments and open sessions, Insurance	Y	2025 - €3,000.00	€2,988.00

Corduff Sports Centre GA-003777	€2,490.00	Facilitator Flowers/Shrubs Wood stain Metal Paint	Y	2025 - € 3,000.00 2024 - €2,999.98	€2,035.21
Huntstown Family Resource Centre Ltd GA-003702	€2,990.00	DJ Facilitators Community Use Tables	Y	2025 - €3,000.00 2024 - €2,980.00	€3,000.00
St. Peregrines SC Network GA-003766	€3,000.00	Bus Hire Insurance Music Workshop Room Hire Chair Pilates	Y	2025 - €3,000.00 2024 - €3,000.00	€3,000.00

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

Signed: _____

Councillor E. Carbone-Mangan
Area Chairperson

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 19

FINANCIAL MATTERS

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Fingal County Council

Audit Committee Annual Report

Year ended 31st December 2025

Fingal County Council Audit Committee
Annual Report 2025

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Appendices

Appendix 1 Audit Committee Statutory Functions

Appendix 2 Audit Committee 2026 Work Programme

Appendix 3 Internal Audit reviews undertaken

Chairperson's Statement

As the Independent Chairperson of the Audit Committee (AC) of Fingal County Council (FCC), I am pleased to present our Annual Report for 2025.

The AC is an important part of the overall control assurance framework within FCC and this report reviews the work of the AC in 2025 and outlines the way the AC has sought to deliver on its key legislative and governance functions.

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

- The consideration of the adequacy and effectiveness of the internal control systems, control environment and control procedures;
- Financial reporting, by way of review of the Annual Audited Financial Statements;
- Consideration of the Internal audit plan in response to organisational risks identified; and
- Reviewing the effectiveness of the Internal Audit Unit and providing advice and guidance in relation to the development of the Unit.

As Chairperson, I am satisfied with the performance of the AC during 2025, during which we met on five occasions. In addition to the regular agenda items, as laid out per the statutory functions of the AC, the work of the AC continued to bring benefit through enhanced engagement with the Executive in a series of management assurance briefings in relation to risk and other issues of importance across a range of Directorates. These management assurances were further supported by the continued utilisation of the Governance Actions Report in the meeting agenda.

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

I would like to take this opportunity to formally acknowledge and thank the Chief Executive and Management Team for their operational stewardship of FCC throughout 2025 and their efforts to continue to support and drive a culture of good governance across FCC.

I would like to thank all my fellow members of the Audit Committee for their time, commitment and considered debate, during 2025. On behalf of the Committee, I would particularly like to thank Alison Byrne for the extremely valuable input and perspective that she brought to the Committee during her membership and wish her well for the future.

I am grateful for the opportunity to work with so many dedicated external members and elected members of the Audit Committee.

Chris Harmon, Audit Committee Chairperson 2025

1.0 Introduction

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

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

This Annual Report covers the period from 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025.

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

Member:	Meeting Date: 6/02/25	Meeting Date: 29/05/25	Meeting Date: 28/08/25	Meeting Date: 3/11/25	Meeting Date: 4/12/25
Chris Harmon*	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Noel O'Connell*	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Anne Carter*	N	Y	Y	N	Y
Alison Byrne*	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
Cllr. Mary McCamley	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Cllr. James Humphries	N	Y	Y	Y	N
Cllr. Eoghan Dockrell	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

2.0 Role of the Audit Committee

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

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

Internal auditing is an independent and objective appraisal activity that is guided by a philosophy of adding value to improve the operations of FCC. It helps the organisation accomplish its objectives by bringing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control and governance processes. In line with its statutory duty in relation to the Internal Audit function, the AC continued to work to support the IA Unit in delivering good quality audit reports based on the Internal Audit Plan. The AC, at each meeting, monitored the agreed audit plan for 2025, the work programme and timeframes, and the use of audit resources (both internal and external) to deliver on the plan.

4.0 Role of Management

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

5.0 Review of 2025 Audit Committee Activities

5.1 Committee meetings

Each meeting, as outlined in the schedule above, begins with private committee time. This allows the AC to deliberate on matters arising on the agenda, the contents of meeting documentation and provides an opportunity to discuss additional relevant issues. Updates on risk, governance actions and procurement are regular items on the agenda for meetings. Throughout the year, the Chief Executive and other members of

the Management Team including the Direction of People, Corporate & Digital Services and the Director of Finance were invited to present to the AC.

In line with Good Governance practice and in support of the AC's contribution towards the effective assurance arrangements within FCC, the AC met with the Local Government Auditor following completion of the 2024 audit process. The AC then followed up with a meeting with AnnMarie Farrelly, Chief Executive, which was a very useful and worthwhile collaborative meeting.

5.2 Internal Audit Plan

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

5.3 Internal Audit Reports

The audit reports reviewed / issued during 2025 are set out in Appendix 3. In respect of each report, the Committee reviewed the findings, conclusions, and recommendations as well as management responses to the control issues raised. The implementation of recommendations is further monitored through specific follow-up reports. The AC continues to work with the IA Unit in developing a robust Internal Audit Plan that reflects the key risk areas in the organisation.

5.4 Risk Management

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

5.5 Local Government Auditor

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

On 3rd November 2025, the Audit Committee met with the Local Government Auditor, Ms. Michelle McLoughlin, and considered and discussed the audited Annual Financial Statement and Statutory Audit Report for Fingal County Council for the year ended 31st December 2024.

The audit was carried out in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, as prescribed under Section 117 of the Local Government Act, 2001. The Audit Committee is pleased to note the unqualified opinion of the local government auditor as follows:

'In my opinion the annual financial statement, which has been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice and Accounting Regulations for local authorities, presents fairly the financial position of the Fingal County Council at 31 December 2024 and its income and expenditure for the year then ended.'

Overview of key discussion points:

- The Audit Committee discussed the contents of the Statutory Audit Report with Ms. McLoughlin, who provided explanations and clarifications on her findings and on the Chief Executive's responses to her findings.
- The Audit Committee reviewed the findings with a view to prioritisation based on the findings of the Local Government Auditor. As per its legislative requirements, the Audit Committee will be overseeing the implementation of the Local Government Auditor's findings and associated recommendations.
- The Local Government Auditor made a number of positive comments on matters investigated during the external audit process namely:
    - The overall external audit went very well and was largely positive.

- The Council experienced a significant increase in activities during the reporting year and performed well with the scaling up of capacity and operations to cope with this increased level of activity.
- The responsiveness to the external audit of the staff in general and the executive team in particular was excellent throughout the external auditing process.
- She also noted the very good working relationship developed with the internal auditor and his team.

The Local Government Auditor raised a number of key concerns and suggested improvements in the following areas:

- The amounts owed by state bodies to the Council was extremely high at the year end and measures should be taken to reduce this level in future years to mitigate any liquidity risks that may arise as a result.
- The Council should take steps to improve internal processes to reduce the level of arrears, legacy debt and general indebtedness but particularly in the area of housing rents.
- The ongoing difficulties with private tenancy arrangements in the Parnell Estate housing scheme was raised again and additional measures should be taken by the Council to expedite resolutions to these legacy matters.
- There should be more clarity provided in relation to public procurement rules, approvals and processes to ensure that these important measures are fully understood at every level in the organisation.
- More resources should be made available to address the number and value of assets owned by the Council that are not yet reflected in the Financial Statements.

The Audit Committee wish to confirm that the Audited Annual Financial Statement, the Statutory Audit Report, and our general discussion with Ms. McLoughlin, will continue to inform the Audit Committee's work and will be considered during the development of the Internal Audit Plan for 2026.

The Audit Committee will also monitor the implementation of recommendations made by Ms. McLoughlin during the coming year through regular management reports and presentations.

6.0 Assurance arrangements

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

7.0 Audit Committee Evaluation

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

8.0 Acknowledgements

The Committee would like to thank the Chief Executive, Directors, senior management and other colleagues for their co-operation and assistance during 2025. In particular, the Committee would like to acknowledge the work of all the Internal Audit team and its leader Stuart James in supporting the work of the AC.

9.0 Conclusion

This Annual Audit Committee Report outlines the progress made in 2025 across all areas of the Committee's functions. The Audit Committee looks forward to assisting and supporting Fingal County Council in the forthcoming year by delivering effectively on its mandate through its interactions with senior and line management, internal and external audit.

Appendix 1 - AUDIT COMMITTEE STATUTORY FUNCTIONS

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

- To review financial and budgetary reporting practices and procedures within the local authority that has established it.

- To foster the development of best practice in the performance by the local authority of its internal audit function.

- To review any audited financial statement, auditor's report or auditor's special report in relation to the local authority and assess any actions taken within that authority by its chief executive in response to such a statement or report and to report to that authority on its findings.

- To assess and promote efficiency and value for money with respect to the local authority's performance of its functions.

- To review systems that are operated by the local authority for the management of risks. The Audit Committee Work Programme for each year will include activities and initiatives to ensure each of these functions are carried out.

Appendix 2 - AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2026

No.	Topic	Timeframe
1	Select Chairperson for New Audit Committee	n/a
2	Preparation of Annual Report for approval by the Council in relation to Audit Committee activity from January 2025 to December 2025 (Regulation 15 Report)	Q1
3	Make Annual Declaration and Disclosure of Interests	Q1
4	Closure of Internal Audit Assignments from 2025 Annual Plan	Q1
5	Annual Report 2025 from Internal Auditor	Q1
6	Review the budgetary outturns and variance analysis of actual versus budget	Q2
7	Review performance and effectiveness of the Audit Committee	Q2
8	Review Protected Disclosures Policy, Audit Committee Protocol and Fraud reports	Q3
9	Develop and review Action Plan for issues raised from Self-Effectiveness Review	Q3
10	Review the Annual Budget of the Council	Q4
11	Review the Annual Financial Statement and the LGA's report on the Annual Financial Statement, statutory audit report, management letter and CE responses and follow up as necessary	Q4
12	Meet with the CE of the Council on at least one occasion	Q4
13	Meet with the LGA within three months following submission of the LGA's report to the Council	Q4
14	Report to the Council on the outcome of the Annual External Audit	Q4
15	Meet with the Head of Finance on at least one occasion to: a) review of FM and reporting arrangements as per Charter b) gain an understanding of budgetary practice	Q4
16	Review Audit Committee and Internal Audit Charters for 2027	Q4
17	Approve the Internal Audit Plan 2027	Q4
18	Prepare 2027 Audit Committee Work Programme	Q4
19	Meet at least four Department Heads to receive presentations on their departments with regards to challenges faced, principal risks, how risk is mitigated, interaction with internal audit, and value for money initiatives	At each of the general business meetings of the Audit Committee
20	Hold at least four meetings during 2026	Planned for Feb, May, Sep and Dec 2026
21	Review resourcing of Internal Audit	IA Update report to each general business meeting of the Audit Committee
22	Review relevant recommendations and findings made by LGAS and NOAC, including Performance Indicators. Review the CE's responses where relevant and follow up as necessary	Presented to the Committee in Summary format as reports arise
23	Consider Value for Money with regards to the Council's performance of its functions (e.g. VFM Reports from LGAS, Management presentations, etc.)	Presented to the Committee in Summary format as reports arise and annually for the NOAC PI report
24	<u>Review Recurring Items Updates</u> Audit Committee Work Programme Internal Audit Annual Plan Management Letter Monitoring Outstanding Audit Actions	Updates provided to each meeting of the Audit Committee as necessary
25	Update on Corporate Risk Management	Update report to each general business meeting of the Audit Committee
26	Meeting training needs of Committee members as identified.	Annually as part of self-effectiveness review and at each meeting as actions arise

Appendix 3 - Internal Audit Reports for the period January to December 2025

Audit
Affordable Housing
ANCA
Animal Control
Arts Grants and Subventions
Cyber Security
Environment Grants
Housing Rents 2025
Maintenance and Improvement of LA Housing
Residential Zoned Land Tax
Shared Services Fire and Ambulance Service
Social Inclusion Community and Activation (SICAP) Programme Verification 2022/2023
Sports Grants
Stocks and Stores
Treasury Management
Water Services Cost Recovery Procedures

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 20

PROPOSED DISPOSALS OF PROPERTIES

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

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

File Ref: LD 1643

29th January 2026

To: Each Member of the Council

Re: Notice of proposed disposal of land and grant of wayleave at Crowcastle Green, Swords, Co. Dublin to ESB Networks, St. Margaret's Road, Finglas, Dublin 11.

It is proposed to dispose of land outlined in red and comprising an area of 9 square metres approximately and to grant a wayleave as shown hatched in yellow and comprising an area of 165 square metres approximately as shown on Drawing No. LA-4086-25 dated 5th September 2025 at Crowcastle Green, Swords, Co. Dublin to ESB Networks, St. Margaret's Road, Finglas, Dublin 11 in accordance with Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) on the following terms and conditions:

1. That the purpose of the disposal and grant of wayleave to ESB Networks is to provide an ESB substation and associated ancillary works at Crowcastle Green, Swords, Co. Dublin to facilitate housing construction.

2. The land to be disposed of comprises 9 square metres approximately as shown outlined in red on Drawing No. LA-4086-25 dated 5th September 2025.

3. The grant of wayleave comprises 165 square metres approximately as shown hatched yellow on Drawing No. LA-4086-25 dated 5th September 2025.

4. The consideration payable to the Council in respect of this transaction shall be in the nominal amount of €1.00 (one euro) plus VAT and stamp duty (if applicable).

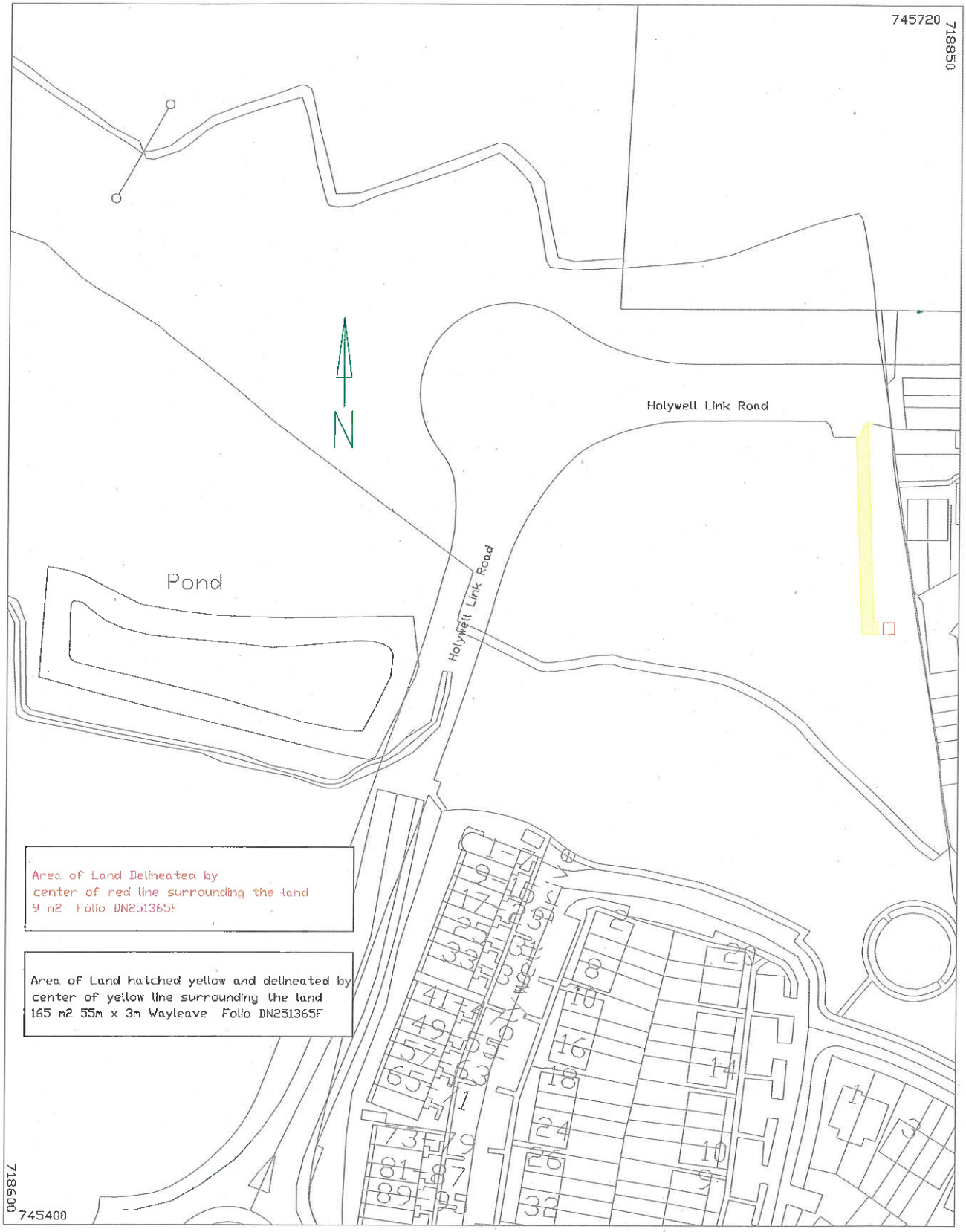
5. All other terms and conditions shall be set out in the legal documentation.

The land to be disposed of was acquired from Tribal Limited Partnership in March 2022 for housing purposes.

Notice is hereby given that a report on the proposed disposal and grant of wayleave will be included on the Agenda of the Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Area Committee (Services B) meeting scheduled for Thursday, 12th February 2026 and the proposed disposal and grant of wayleave will be included on the Agenda for consideration at the meeting of Fingal County Council to be held on Monday 9th March 2026.

Aoife Brandon

Senior Executive Officer,
Economics, Community &
Cultural Development Department.



Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall Fingal County Council	Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL	Dwg No: LA-4086-25	O.S.Ref:
		Date: 05 Sept 2025	Drawn By: LJM
		Scale: 1/1000	Checked:
		Dev. File No: LD1643	Job No. SM/86/25
Project: Land at Drinan Swords, County Dublin		Gross Area :	
Crowcastle		Road Area :	
© Ordnance Survey Ireland/ [illegible] licence number 2018/24/CCMA/Fingal County Council		Nett Area :	

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

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

File Ref: LD 1638

29th January 2026

To: **Each Member of the Council**

Re: **Notice of proposed disposal of land and grant of wayleave at North Street, Swords, Co. Dublin to ESB Networks, St. Margaret's Road, Finglas, Dublin 11.**

It is proposed to dispose of land outlined in red and comprising an area of 9 square metres approximately and to grant a wayleave as shown coloured yellow and comprising an area of 6 square metres approximately as shown on Drawing No. LA-4093-25 dated 8th September 2025 at North Street, Swords, Co. Dublin to ESB Networks, St. Margaret's Road, Finglas, Dublin 11 in accordance with Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and subject to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) on the following terms and conditions:

1. That the purpose of the disposal and grant of wayleave to ESB Networks is to provide an ESB substation and associated ancillary works at North Street, Swords, Co. Dublin to facilitate housing construction.

2. The land to be disposed of comprises 9 square metres approximately as shown outlined in red on Drawing No. LA-4093-25 dated 8th September 2025.

3. The grant of wayleave comprises an area of 6 square metres approximately as shown coloured yellow on Drawing No. LA-4093-25 dated 8th September 2025.

4. The consideration payable to the Council in respect of this transaction shall be in the nominal amount of €1.00 (one euro) plus VAT and stamp duty (if

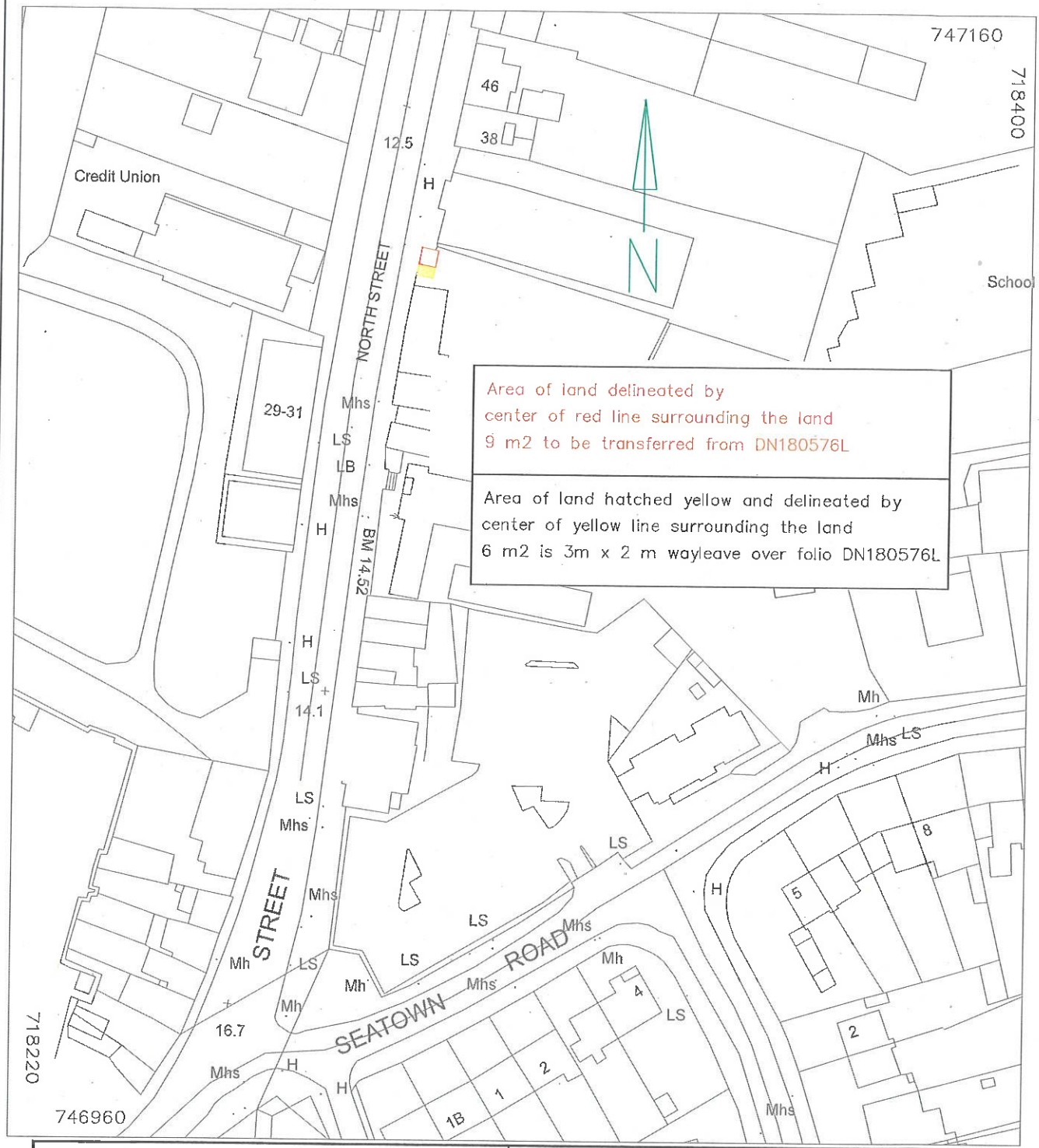
applicable).

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

The land to be disposed of was acquired from Gerard Gannon in January 2020 for housing purposes.

Notice is hereby given that a report on the proposed disposal and grant of wayleave will be included on the Agenda of the Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Area Committee (Services B) meeting scheduled for Thursday, 12th February 2026 and the proposed disposal and grant of wayleave will be included on the Agenda for consideration at the meeting of Fingal County Council to be held on Monday 9th March 2026.

Senior Executive Officer,
Economic, Community &
Cultural Development Department.



Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall Fingal County Council	Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL	Dwg No: LA–4093–25	O.S.Ref:
		Date: 08 Sept 2025	Drawn By: LJM
		Scale: 1/1000	Checked:
Project: Land at North Street Swords		Dev. File No: LD1638	Job No. SM/093/25
Land to be transferred by : Fingal Co Co		Gross Area :	
		Road Area :	
		Nett Area :	

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

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

File Ref: LD1632

6th February 2026

To: Each Member of the Council

Re: Notice of Proposed grant of non-exclusive right of way at Thomondtown, Lusk, Co. Dublin to Donal Butterly and Ann Marie Butterly, Coldwinters, Lusk, Co. Dublin.

It is proposed to grant a non-exclusive right of way on land at Thomondtown, Lusk, Co. Dublin, comprising an area of 5,240 square metres approximately, as shown coloured in yellow on Drawing No. LA-4101-25 dated 16th October 2025 to Donal Butterly and Ann Marie Butterly, Coldwinters, Lusk, 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. The disposal is for the purpose of providing a non-exclusive right of way on land at Thomondtown, Lusk, Co. Dublin to Donal Butterly and Ann Marie Butterly of Coldwinters, Lusk, Co. Dublin for the purposes of accessing land in their ownership, included in Folio DN182908F.

2. That the non-exclusive right of way comprises 5,240 square metres approximately, as shown coloured yellow on Drawing No. LA-4101-25 dated 16th October 2025.

3. That Fingal County Council holds the freehold title of the non-exclusive right of way, will retain the freehold title and reserves the rights to create other legal interests in the area the subject of the non-exclusive right of way.

4. That the non-exclusive right of way will apply to any future successors in title of property contained within Folio DN812908F, or part thereof.

5. That the consideration payable to the Council will be in the total nominal amount of €10.00 (ten Euro).

6. That the purchaser will be responsible for Fingal County Council's reasonable Valuer's Fee, Surveyor's Fee and legal fees and costs as applicable.

7. That Fingal County Council will not be responsible for the insurance or maintenance of the subject area comprising the non-exclusive right of way on the lands.

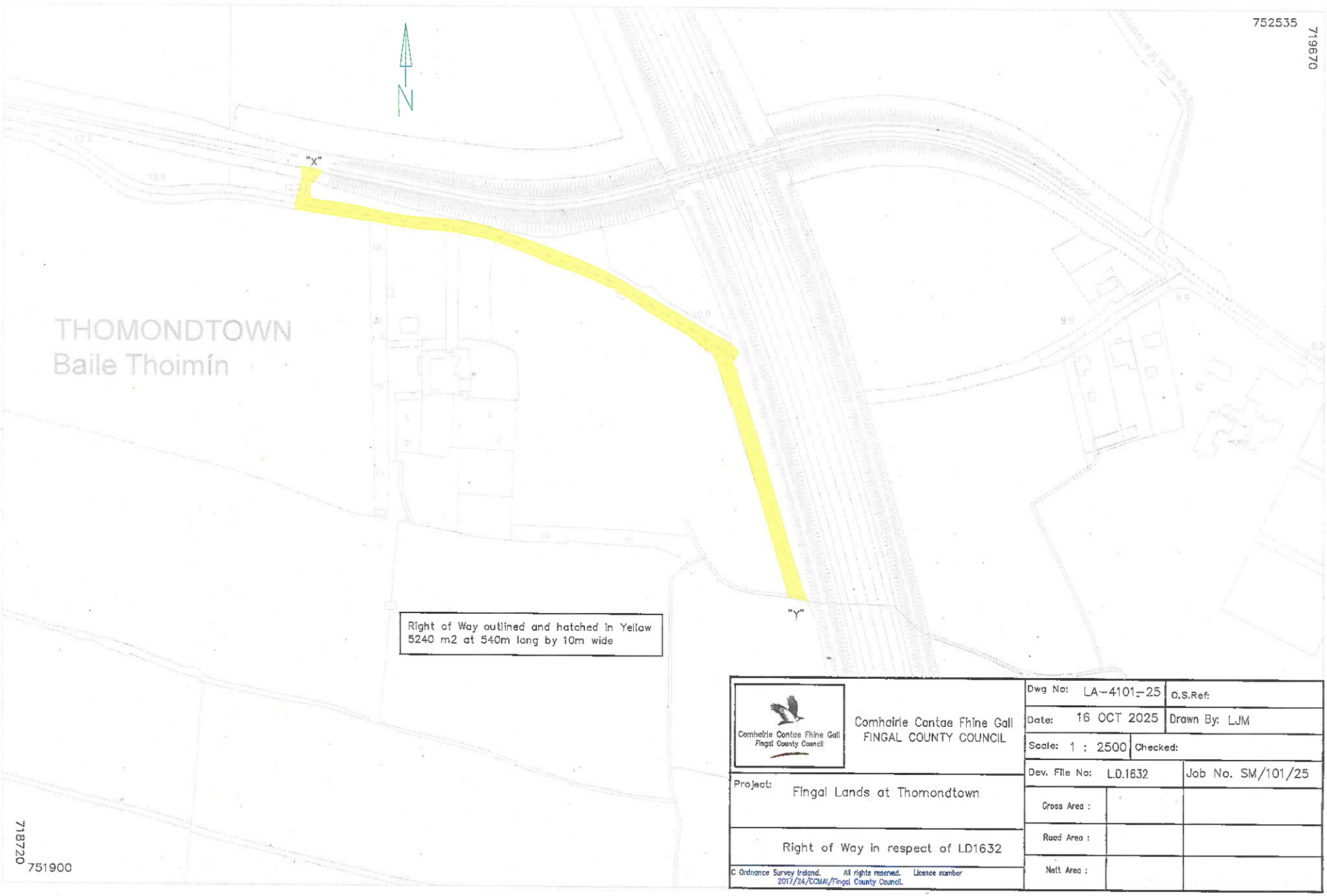
8. That the granting of the non-exclusive right of way is subject to the necessary consents and approvals.

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

The land to be disposed of was acquired from Niall Delaney and Elma Delaney and Eamonn Delaney and Alma Delaney in 2004 for roads purposes.

Notice is hereby given that a report on the proposed disposal will be included on the Agenda of the Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Area Committee (Services B) meeting scheduled for Thursday 12th February 2026 and the proposed disposal will be included on the Agenda for consideration at the meeting of Fingal County Council to be held on Monday 9th March 2026.

Senior Executive Officer,
Economic, Community &
Cultural Development Department.



Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Project: Fingal Lands at Thomondtown

Right of Way in respect of LD1632

Dwg No: LA-4101-25		O.S.Ref:	
Date: 16 OCT 2025		Drawn By: LJM	
Scale: 1 : 2500		Checked:	
Dev. File No: LD.1632		Job No. SM/101/25	
Gross Area :			
Road Area :			
Nett Area :			

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 20d

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
87 St Annes Square, Portmarnock, Co. Dublin	Bernard & Angela Rogers	Frostpeak Limited	150 years from 24/05/1975	£0.05 = €0.06 x 29 = €1.74	€1.74 +€130.00 = €131.74
64 Coolmine Park, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15	William Mahon	LPR's of Eleanor (Nuala) Mahon – Caroline Coyle & Bernadette Mahon	150 years from 17/02/1973	£2.60 = €3.30 x 29 = €95.70	€95.70 +€130.00 = €225.70
62 St Peters Terrace, Howth, Co. Dublin	Margaret & John Barrett	Janette & Stephen Lantry	150 years from 02/08/1971	£0.05 = €0.06 x 29 = €1.74	€1.74 +€130.00 = €131.74
27 Burrowfield Road, Sutton, Dublin 13	Hilary O'Rourke	Frederic Schelbaum	150 years from 04/12/1972	£0.05 = €0.06 x 29 = €1.74	€1.74 +€130.00 = €131.74
142 Glasmore Park, Swords, Co. Dublin	Thomas & Maureen Noctor	Leigh Hayton & Alison Noctor	150 years from 07/06/1975	£0.05 = €0.06 x 30 = €1.80	€1.80 +€130.00 = €131.80

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 21

DECLARATION OF ROADS

No business

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Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council

Fingal County Council

9TH MARCH 2026

Item No. 22

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

PART XI/008/25

Proposed Construction of a 13-unit Crisis Accommodation with associated staff and support accommodation at 30 Clonard Street, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin

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2. INTRODUCTION

Part XI of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) set out the requirements for certain classes of local authority development. These provisions apply to the proposed construction of a 13-unit Crisis Accommodation facility with associated staff and support accommodation at 30 Clonard Street, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin (Ref: PART XI/008/25).

This report is submitted in accordance with Section 179 of the Act, which requires the Chief Executive to prepare and submit a detailed written report to the elected members no later than eight weeks after the public display and submissions/observations period closes. The report must include the following:

Description of the Proposed Development: *A description of the nature, extent, and principal features of the development, including appropriate plans and maps.*

Evaluation of the Proposed Development: *An assessment of whether the proposed development is consistent with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, having regard to the provisions of the Development Plan, including the reasons and considerations informing the evaluation.*

List of Submissions or Observations Received: *A list of all persons or bodies who made submissions or observations in accordance with the regulations.*

Summary of Issues Raised and CE's Responses: *A summary of the issues raised in submissions or observations relating to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, and the Chief Executive's response to each issue.*

Recommendation: *A recommendation on whether the proposed development should be proceeded with as proposed, or as varied or modified, or should not be proceeded with.*

The notice, plans, and particulars describing the nature and extent of the proposed development were made available for inspection during the public consultation period and are included in Appendix A.

3. PUBLIC CONSULTATION PROCESS

Public Notice: In accordance with Part XI of the Planning and Development Acts and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, public notice of the proposed development was published in The Herald and Irish Independent on 12 December 2025. Two site notices were erected on the subject site.

Prescribed Bodies: No prescribed bodies were notified or provided with plans and particulars, as none were required for this development type.

Public Display Period: The notice, plans, and particulars (Appendix A) were made available for inspection from Friday 12 December 2025 to Monday 19 January 2026 on the Fingal County Council website (consult.fingal.ie) and at the following locations:

- Fingal County Council, County Hall, Swords, Co. Dublin
- Fingal County Council, Civic Offices, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15

Submissions or Observations Period: Submissions or observations relating to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area could be made from 12 December 2025 to Monday 2 February 2026, free of charge, either in writing or via the online consultation portal. One (1) submission/observation was received within the statutory period. Section 4.3 and 4.4 of this report provide details.

4. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

4.1. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Planning Context: The site lies within the administrative area of Fingal County Council and is subject to the Fingal Development Plan 2023–2029. It is zoned 'MC – Major Town Centre', the objective of which is: *"Protect, provide for and/or improve major town centre facilities.".* The zoning vision seeks to consolidate the County's major towns through densification and the integration of commercial, residential, civic, cultural, and leisure uses while promoting sustainable transport and enhancing urban quality.

The proposed development supports Policy SPQHP26 and Objectives SPQHO23–SPQHO25 relating to the provision of emergency accommodation and is considered acceptable under the "MC" zoning objective. The site is in Balbriggan's Core Retail Area, within a Coastal Landscape Character type, and partly within a Parks Biodiversity River Buffer, and its proximity to public transport supports sustainable travel patterns.

Site Description: The site (approx. 0.14 ha) is located at 30 Clonard Street, containing a Protected Structure (RPS 0039), an early 19th-century two-storey detached house with later additions, two garages, a large rear garden containing an outbuilding, and mature trees to the south. The property is bounded by a dwelling to the east, Mill Pond Park to the south/south-east, and a laneway to the west.

Proposed Development: In consultation with the Conservation Officer, the full form of the existing house is retained, restored, and reintegrated into the scheme. External fabric will be repaired using traditional materials and methods, and internal historic features will be preserved where feasible. The project will return the unoccupied house back into occupation and use and will also ensure that its presence in Balbriggan and contribution to the streetscape are retained.

The proposal includes refurbishment of the Protected Structure and construction of a new rear extension to provide:

- 13 no. independent living units
- Therapeutic spaces for children, teens, and adults
- Multi-use meeting room
- Staff offices, kitchenette, support spaces
- Laundry room
- Outdoor play area and garden space

A new side extension containing a safe set-down area and first-floor office space is proposed. To the rear, a two-storey block will house the living units, and a single-storey block will house therapeutic and play spaces, linked by a circulation zone and multipurpose room overlooking the amenity space.

Residential Mix: The development will provide the following independent living units:

- Four Studio units which will generally accommodate families of 2 to 3 people (one parent and one to two children)
- Eight One-bedroom units, of which two are universal design/ wheelchair accessible, which will generally accommodate families of 3 to 4 people (one parent and up to 3 children)
- One two-bedroom unit which will generally accommodate families of 5 to 6 people (one parent and up to 5 children)

Open Space, Landscape & Biodiversity: Shared amenity areas include play space, gardens, and a linear landscaped buffer. The scheme incorporates SuDS (green roofs, bioretention,

attenuation), lighting designed to avoid impacts on the Bracken River bat corridor, and biodiversity measures aligned with the Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan 2022–2030.

Climate Action and Energy Strategy: The Climate Action Energy Statement sets out the strategy for the proposal to meet or exceed national and local climate action objectives., and the services strategy developed demonstrates a comprehensive approach to climate action, energy efficiency, and regulatory compliance to support national carbon reduction goals.

Transport, Water, Drainage, Flood Risk & Utilities: Due to the nature of the development, no parking is required or provided (FDP2023-2029 Zone 1), however there are existing on-street parking on Clonard Street and several car parks within walking distance of the site.

The proposal includes:

- 12 no. bicycle parking spaces
- Connections to existing water, foul, and storm infrastructure.
- SuDS-compliant attenuation
- Flood Risk Assessment confirms site is in Flood Zone C.
- ESB and broadband connections to be integrated at detail design.
- Public lighting to comply with ILP/BCT guidance for bat-sensitive areas.

Environmental Assessments: The proposed development was assessed under the relevant environmental legislation and guidance, and the following determinations were made by Fingal County Council as the competent authority:

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA): The screening concluded that there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development. Accordingly, it was determined that the project screens out for an Environmental Impact Assessment. This determination is recorded in Chief Executive's Order PG/0244/2025, dated 4th December 2025.

Appropriate Assessment (AA): The screening concluded that the proposed development will not have a significant effect on any European site, and that this conclusion was reached without considering mitigation measures; an Appropriate Assessment and Natura Impact Statement are not required. This determination is recorded in Chief Executive's Order PG/0243/2025, dated 4th December 2025.

Conclusion: The design complies with relevant legislation, national and local policy, technical guidance, and environmental requirements. Further details and a list of the

reference documents consulted during the design process, are included in the documents made available for Public Consultation.

4.2. EVALUATION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Internal Consultation: In line with Fingal County Council's Part XI Internal Consultation Process Procedure, the proposal was presented to and discussed with the Fingal County Council Planning Department, and other relevant internal Departments and Consultees at pre-planning meetings and formally submitted to Planning Registry for Internal Consultation. Issues raised were addressed in the final design or noted to be addressed at detailed design stage. The following internal consultees submitted reports:

- Conservation Office
- Transportation Planning,
- Water Services,
- Parks & Green Infrastructure

The Planning Department concluded that the development:

- Complies with MC zoning
- Supports Development Plan policies and objectives
- Is consistent with national and regional planning guidance
- Integrates climate action, biodiversity, and SuDS
- Presents no significant environmental effects

The Planning Department concluded that the proposed development is consistent with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area and could proceed to EIA & AA Screening Determinations. Once it was determined to screen out for both EIA & AA, the proposal was presented to the local council members on 8th December 2025, and the public consultation process was initiated as set out in Section 3 above.

4.3. LIST OF SUBMISSIONS OR OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED

One submission/observation was received: FIN-C904-1 — Collette and Stephen Richardson

4.4. SUMMARY OF ISSUES RAISED & CE'S RESPONSES

The submission or observation raised three main issues which are set out below, along with the CE's response to each issue.

1. Scale and Impact of Proposed Development:

The submission or observation states that the proposed development scale is dominant, overbearing and bulky when viewed from the existing property to the north, which will have a negative impact on their residential and visual amenity, and will result in the loss of privacy and light.

It requests the redesign of the extensions to the back, including replacing the single-storey block's roof with a flat roof, omitting the roof lights, and to reduce the scale and massing of the 2-storey element.

It suggests that the proposal does not comply with the current Fingal Development Plan policies and objectives SPQHP41, SPQH045, 3.5.13.1 (Extensions), HCA036 (vernacular Dwellings Extensions), DMS032 (Infill Development), DMS038-039 (Residential Care/Nursing Homes) and DMS083-84 (Medical/Community Facilities).

CE's Response:

The proposed development was designed with careful regard for the amenity of neighbouring properties. The overall massing strategy positions the larger elements to the west of the site, away from sensitive residential boundaries, while lower-scale elements are set back along the east to reduce perceived bulk when viewed from adjoining dwellings. The orientation, layout, and roof profiles have been deliberately configured to visually reduce the scale and to ensure that the development integrates appropriately within its context.

The single-storey block along the eastern boundary was positioned to avoid overlooking, minimise overshadowing, and protect the privacy of both the existing dwelling and the proposed units. Its pitched-roof form was selected to prevent direct lines of sight between the first-floor bay window of the adjoining property and the first-floor windows of the two-storey block, as set out in the Architectural Design Statement (p.44). A flat roof would raise the parapet height, increase overshadowing, and remove this essential visual screening. The submitted overshadowing study confirms that shading impacts are limited and remain within acceptable levels.

Rooflights were incorporated solely to provide natural daylight to internal rooms and do not allow overlooking of the neighbouring property. East-facing windows were avoided for privacy reasons.

The design evolved through extensive pre-planning engagements, resulting in significant amendments, reductions in massing, revised elevations, a reduction in unit

numbers and sizes, and an overall decrease in total floor area; any further reductions would compromise the required unit and service provision.

Overall, the concerns raised regarding scale, massing, and privacy have been fully considered throughout the design process. No issues have been identified that would warrant a change to the proposed development or alter the recommendation.

2. **Relocation of bin store**:

The submission or observation expresses concerns about the proposed location of the bin store and the risk of odours and vermin near the boundary to the east.

CE's Response:

The concerns raised regarding the location of the proposed bin store along the eastern boundary are noted. The facility is intended solely for residential-type waste, with no catering, clinical, or commercial refuse generated from the development. Consequently, the volume and nature of waste storage will be comparable to a typical small-scale multi-unit residential development and presents a low potential for odour or nuisance. The bin store has been positioned to ensure safe and efficient access from Clonard Street for refuse collection, practical access for occupants and on-site staff, and compliance with the layout constraints of the adjoining Protected Structure, which significantly limit alternative placement options on the site.

The bin store is fully enclosed, located under a roof, and fitted with fire-rated louvred metal doors, designed to provide adequate ventilation while preventing access by vermin and minimising any potential visibility or odour concerns. An open-air laneway lies between the structure and the adjoining property, providing additional separation. The design therefore meets both operational and environmental standards and is appropriate for the small scale of waste anticipated.

In addition, the client will implement an operational facilities management plan to ensure all bins are properly maintained, stored, and serviced. Waste will be managed on-site by staff and removed on a regular collection schedule, consistent with their existing successfully managed accommodation premises, where no issues relating to odour, litter, or vermin have arisen. On this basis, the concerns raised have been fully addressed and do not alter the planning assessment or recommendation.

3. **Retention of existing trees:**

The submission or observation expresses concerns about the removal of the existing trees on site and suggests that the proposal does not comply with the current Fingal Development Plan policies and objectives DMSO125-138 (Trees & Biodiversity).
CE's Response: The concerns raised regarding the removal of existing trees on the site are noted. The extent of tree removal is driven both by the footprint required to accommodate the essential facilities on this constrained site and by the findings of the tree surveys undertaken during the design process. These surveys identified that several of the trees are in poor condition and recommended for removal irrespective of the proposed development, for safety reasons. The remaining trees are generally of low arboricultural value. This approach was discussed with Fingal County Council's Parks Department at pre-application stage, who acknowledged the site constraints and advised that compensatory planting opportunities elsewhere in the county should be explored. Importantly, the mature group of trees to the south within Mill Pond Park will be fully retained and protected, with tree protection fencing and temporary ground protection installed along the boundary to ensure no damage occurs during construction. While extensive tree planting cannot be accommodated within the confined site area, the proposal incorporates a biodiverse, low-maintenance landscaping strategy designed to enhance ecological value where feasible. This includes new planting within the linear open space to the west and the communal garden area, as well as broader biodiversity measures such as Swift bricks in the east façade, bat access tiles in the re-roofed Protected Structure, and pollinator-friendly planting aligned with the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan using native, non-invasive species. These measures address many of the issues raised in the submission and align with Fingal County Council's biodiversity and green infrastructure objectives. Overall, the concerns raised regarding tree retention and biodiversity have been fully considered and do not warrant any modification to the proposed development or alter the Chief Executive's recommendation.

5. RECOMMENDATION:

The proposal for a 13-unit Crisis Accommodation with associated staff and support facilities at 30 Clonard Street, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin, supports the Fingal Development Plan 2023–2029 policy and objectives concerning the provision of emergency accommodation across the County.

The design was informed by the brief, the context as well as various best practice design standards, and internal technical reviews raised no objections subject to standard conditions. The importance of maintaining residential amenity for neighbouring properties is recognized and the proposal represents a careful balance between the accommodation requirements, policy and heritage considerations, and the physical limitations of the site.

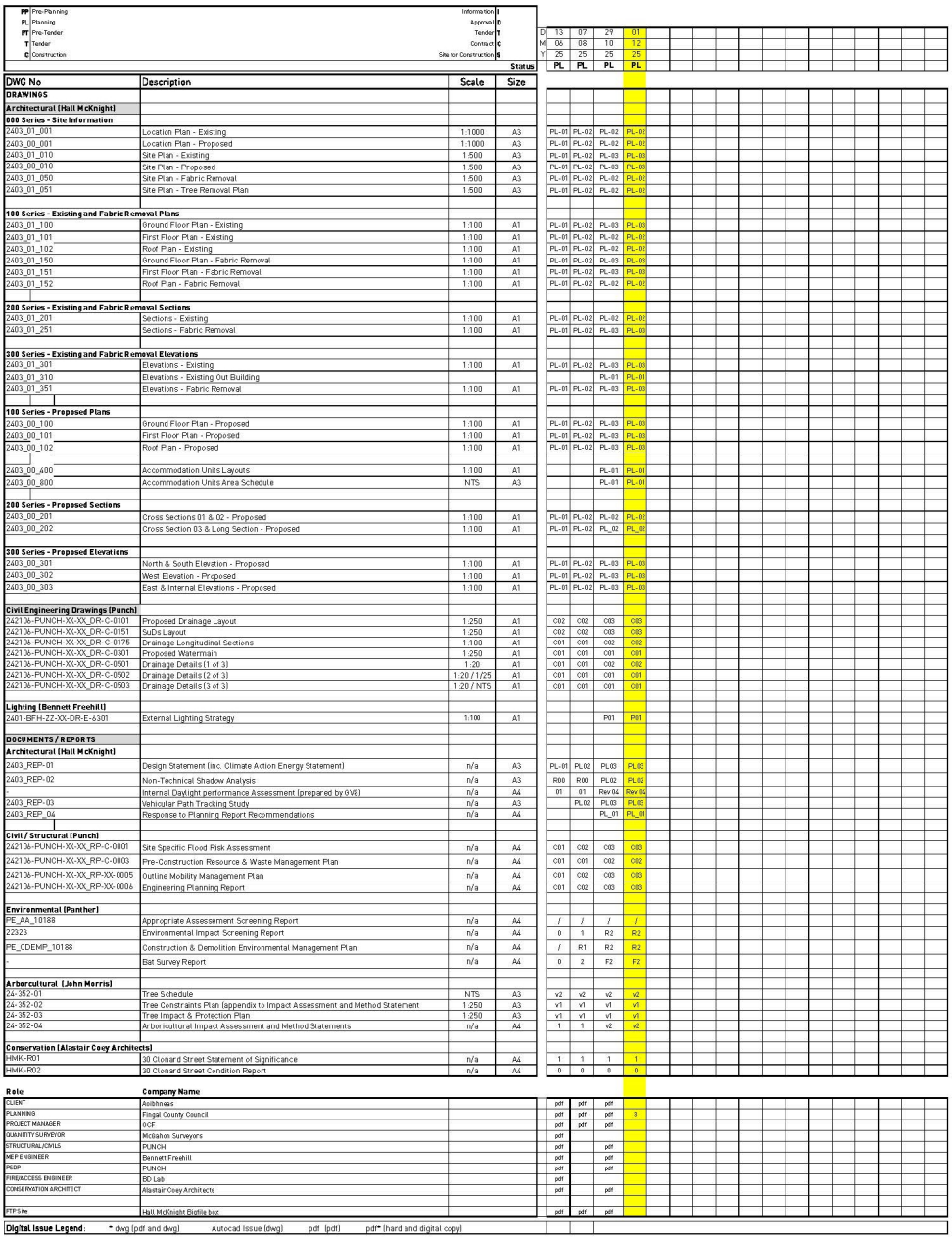
Having regard to the zoning objective, national and regional policy, site characteristics, internal reports, and all submissions or observations received, the Chief Executive concludes that the proposal constitutes proper planning and sustainable development and that no grounds for alteration or refusal have been identified.

It is therefore recommended that, in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), the elected members approve the proposed development as detailed in the plans and particulars placed on public display.

6. APPENDIX A**:**

6.1. Public Display Package:

The Notice of the Proposed Development and the Plans and Particulars describing nature, extent, and principal features thereof, was made available for inspection during Public Consultation. The list of documents is below, and the full package is available at: [PART 8 OF THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 (AS AMENDED) Proposed Construction of a 13-unit Crisis Accommodation with associated staff and support accommodation at 30 Clonard Street, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin | Fingal County Council Online Consultation Portal]



PP	Pre-Planning	Information	I					
PL	Planning	Approval	D					
PT	Pre-Tender	Tender	T	D	13	07	29	01
T	Tender	Contract	C	M	06	08	10	12
C	Construction	Site for Construction	S	Y	25	25	25	25
			Status		PL	PL	PL	PL

DWG No	Description	Scale	Size				
DRAWINGS							
Architectural [Hall McKnight]							
000 Series - Site Information							
2403_01_001	Location Plan - Existing	1:1000	A3	PL-01	PL-02	PL-02	PL-02
2403_00_001	Location Plan - Proposed	1:1000	A3	PL-01	PL-02	PL-02	PL-02
2403_01_010	Site Plan - Existing	1:500	A3	PL-01	PL-02	PL-03	PL-03
2403_00_010	Site Plan - Proposed	1:500	A3	PL-01	PL-02	PL-03	PL-03
2403_01_050	Site Plan - Fabric Removal	1:500	A3	PL-01	PL-02	PL-02	PL-02
2403_01_051	Site Plan - Tree Removal Plan	1:500	A3	PL-01	PL-02	PL-02	PL-02
100 Series - Existing and Fabric Removal Plans							
2403_01_100	Ground Floor Plan - Existing	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL-03	PL-03
2403_01_101	First Floor Plan - Existing	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL-02	PL-02
2403_01_102	Roof Plan - Existing	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL-02	PL-02
2403_01_150	Ground Floor Plan - Fabric Removal	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL-03	PL-03
2403_01_151	First Floor Plan - Fabric Removal	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL-03	PL-03
2403_01_152	Roof Plan - Fabric Removal	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL-02	PL-02
200 Series - Existing and Fabric Removal Sections							
2403_01_201	Sections - Existing	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL-02	PL-02
2403_01_251	Sections - Fabric Removal	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL-03	PL-03
300 Series - Existing and Fabric Removal Elevations							
2403_01_301	Elevations - Existing	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL-03	PL-03
2403_01_310	Elevations - Existing Out Building					PL-01	PL-01
2403_01_351	Elevations - Fabric Removal	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL-03	PL-03
100 Series - Proposed Plans							
2403_00_100	Ground Floor Plan - Proposed	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL-03	PL-03
2403_00_101	First Floor Plan - Proposed	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL-03	PL-03
2403_00_102	Roof Plan - Proposed	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL-03	PL-03
2403_00_400	Accommodation Units Layouts	1:100	A1			PL-01	PL-01
2403_00_800	Accommodation Units Area Schedule	NTS	A3			PL-01	PL-01
200 Series - Proposed Sections							
2403_00_201	Cross Sections 01 & 02 - Proposed	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL-02	PL-02
2403_00_202	Cross Section 03 & Long Section - Proposed	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL_02	PL_02
300 Series - Proposed Elevations							
2403_00_301	North & South Elevation - Proposed	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL-03	PL-03
2403_00_302	West Elevation - Proposed	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL-03	PL-03
2403_00_303	East & Internal Elevations - Proposed	1:100	A1	PL-01	PL-02	PL-03	PL-03
Civil Engineering Drawings [Punch]							
242106-PUNCH-XX-XX_DR-C-0101	Proposed Drainage Layout	1:250	A1	C02	C02	C03	C03
242106-PUNCH-XX-XX_DR-C-0151	SuDs Layout	1:250	A1	C02	C02	C03	C03
242106-PUNCH-XX-XX_DR-C-0175	Drainage Longitudinal Sections	1:100	A1	C01	C01	C02	C02
242106-PUNCH-XX-XX_DR-C-0301	Proposed Watermain	1:250	A1	C01	C01	C01	C01
242106-PUNCH-XX-XX_DR-C-0501	Drainage Details (1 of 3)	1:20	A1	C01	C01	C02	C02
242106-PUNCH-XX-XX_DR-C-0502	Drainage Details (2 of 3)	1:20 / 1:25	A1	C01	C01	C01	C01
242106-PUNCH-XX-XX_DR-C-0503	Drainage Details (3 of 3)	1:20 / NTS	A1	C01	C01	C01	C01
Lighting [Bennett Freehill]							
2401-BFH-ZZ-XX-DR-E-6301	External Lighting Strategy	1:100	A1			P01	P01
DOCUMENTS / REPORTS							
Architectural [Hall McKnight]							
2403_REP-01	Design Statement (inc. Climate Action Energy Statement)	n/a	A3	PL-01	PL02	PL03	PL03
2403_REP-02	Non-Technical Shadow Analysis	n/a	A3	R00	R00	PL02	PL02
	Internal Daylight performance Assessment (prepared by GVB)	n/a	A4	01	01	Rev 04	Rev 04
2403_REP-03	Vehicular Path Tracking Study	n/a	A3		PL02	PL03	PL03
2403_REP_04	Response to Planning Report Recommendations	n/a	A4			PL_01	PL_01
Civil / Structural [Punch]							
242106-PUNCH-XX-XX_RP-C-0001	Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment	n/a	A4	C01	C02	C03	C03
242106-PUNCH-XX-XX_RP-C-0003	Pre-Construction Resource & Waste Management Plan	n/a	A4	C01	C01	C02	C02
242106-PUNCH-XX-XX_RP-XX-0005	Outline Mobility Management Plan	n/a	A4	C01	C02	C03	C03
242106-PUNCH-XX-XX_RP-XX-0006	Engineering Planning Report	n/a	A4	C01	C02	C03	C03
Environmental [Panther]							
PE_AA_10188	Appropriate Assessment Screening Report	n/a	A4	/	/	/	/
22323	Environmental Impact Screening Report	n/a	A4	0	1	R2	R2
PE_CDEMP_10188	Construction & Demolition Environmental Management Plan	n/a	A4	/	R1	R2	R2
-	Bat Survey Report	n/a	A4	0	2	F2	F2
Arboricultural [John Morris]							
24-352-01	Tree Schedule	NTS	A3	v2	v2	v2	v2
24-352-02	Tree Constraints Plan (appendix to Impact Assessment and Method Statement	1:250	A3	v1	v1	v1	v1
24-352-03	Tree Impact & Protection Plan	1:250	A3	v1	v1	v1	v1
24-352-04	Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Method Statements	n/a	A4	1	1	v2	v2
Conservation [Alastair Coey Architects]							
HMK-R01	30 Clonard Street Statement of Significance	n/a	A4	1	1	1	1
HMK-R02	30 Clonard Street Condition Report	n/a	A4	0	0	0	0

Role	Company Name				
CLIENT	Ashtrinad	pdf	pdf	pdf	
PLANNING	Fingal County Council	pdf	pdf	pdf	3
PROJECT MANAGER	OCF	pdf	pdf	pdf	
QUANTITY SURVEYOR	Mcllahon Surveyors	pdf			
STRUCTURAL/CIVILS	PUNCH	pdf		pdf	
MEP ENGINEER	Bennett Freehill	pdf		pdf	
PSDP	PUNCH	pdf		pdf	
FIRE/ACCESS ENGINEER	BD Lab	pdf			
CONSERVATION ARCHITECT	Alastair Coey Architects	pdf		pdf	
PTP Site	Hall McKnight Bigfile box	pdf	pdf	pdf	

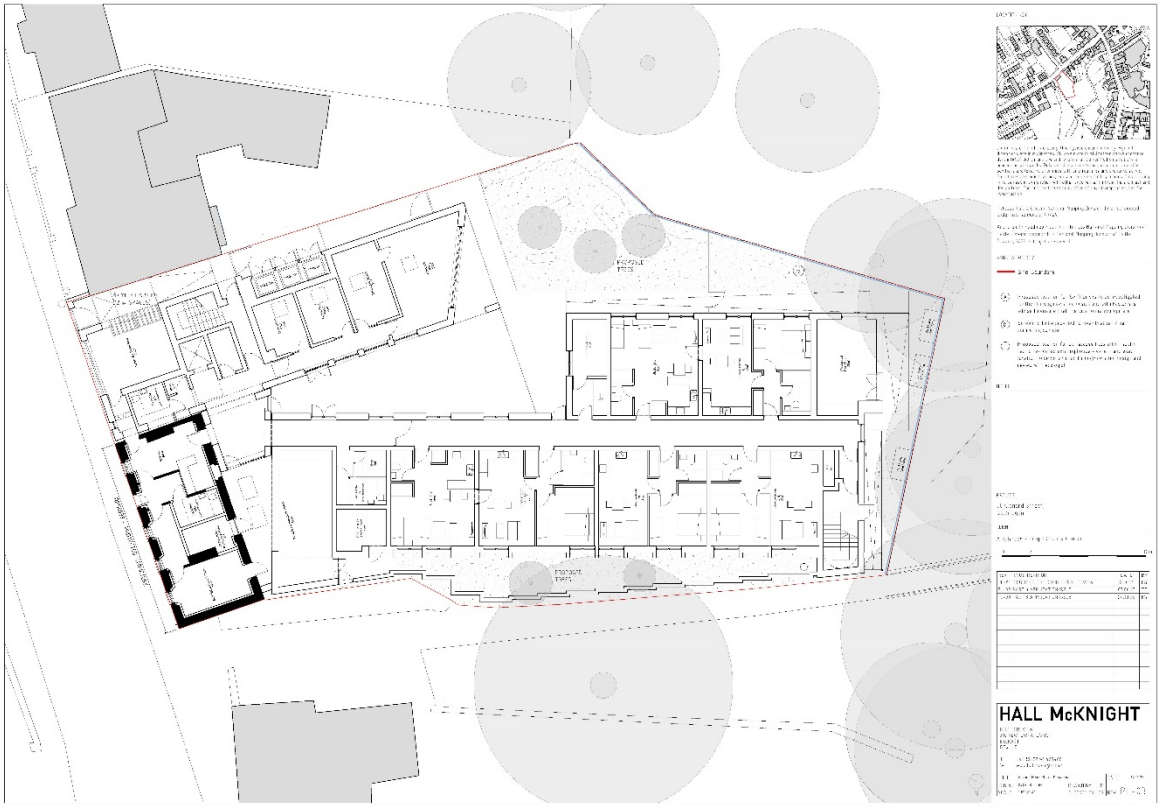
Digital Issue Legend: * dwg (pdf and dwg) Autocad Issue (dwg) pdf (pdf) pdf* (hard and digital copy)

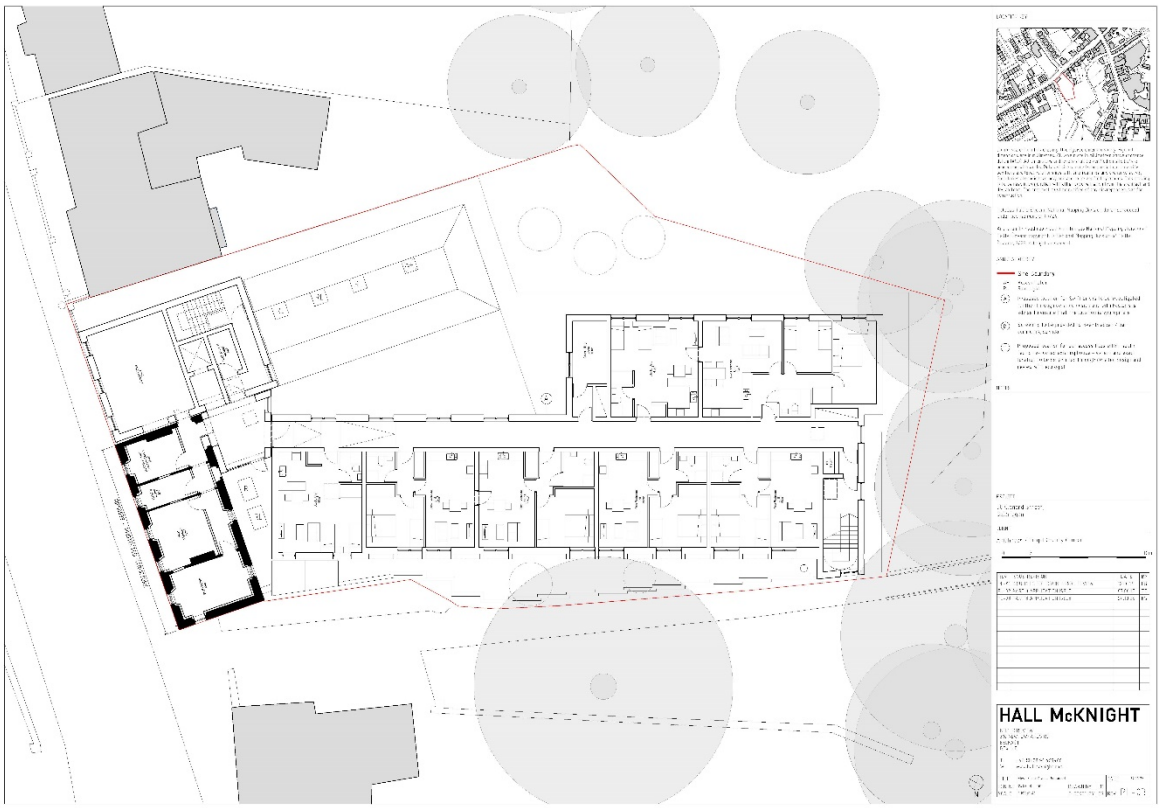
6.2. Site Location Map & Site Plan





6.3. Proposed Site Layout – Floor Plans





6.4. Proposed Elevations





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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 23

FINGAL ROAD SAFETY PLAN 2025/2027

Presentation will be given at the Meeting

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FINGAL LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT **2025**






Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

LCDC
Coiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil Fhine Gall
Fingal Local Community Development Committee



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ABBREVIATIONS

ABBREVIATION	EXPLANATION
CRF	Community Recognition Fund
CYPSC	Children & Young People's Services Committees
DLRCC	Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council
DRCDG	Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht
DSP	Department of Social Protection
DETE	Department of Enterprise, Tourism and Employment
DEZ	Dublin Enterprise Zone
EETCD	Economic Enterprise Tourism and Cultural Development
ESF	European Social Fund
ESOL	English for Speakers of Other Languages
FCC	Fingal County Council
FLP	Fingal Leader Partnership
IP	Implementing Partner
LAG	Local Action Group
LEADER	'Liason Entre Actions de Developpement de l'Economie Rurale' 'Links between the rural economy and development actions'
LCDC	Local Community Development Committee
LDC	Local Development Company
LECP	Local Economic and Community Plan
LEP	Local Enhancement Programme
LES	Local Employment Services
LDS	Local Development Strategy
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
PPN	Public Participation Network
PI	Programme Implementer
SICAP	Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme
SDCC	South Dublin County Council
TUS	Community Work Placement Initiative

This report has been prepared in the context of Chapter 2, Section 128B (1)(i) Local Government Act 2001, as Inserted by the Local Government Reform Act 2014, which states that one of the functions of a Local Community Development Committee is: *"to prepare, adopt and submit to the local authority a report in relation to the performance of its functions during the year immediately preceding the year in which the report is submit."*

Joint Chief Officer and Chairperson Statement





Welcome to the 2025 Annual Report of the Fingal Local Community Development Committee (LCDC). Fingal LCDC has responsibility for implementing a coherent and integrated approach to local and community development through the Implementation Plan for the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2023 – 2028.

The LECP 2023 – 2028 sets out an ambitious vision for Fingal, outlining 15 high-level goals, 31 supporting objectives and a series of actions to progress delivery of the Implementation Plan. In 2025, the LCDC administrative team worked with Fingal's IT Team to create an online portal to streamline reporting for stakeholders. Updates on progress in relation to the implementation of the action plan have been provided by stakeholders, a summary of which is outlined in Section Two of this report. Updates provided by Fingal County Council Departments including Community, Climate Action, Economic Development, Tourism, Town Regeneration and Libraries, highlight strong cross-departmental collaboration on the delivery of the Implementation Plan as staff progress Fingal's mission *'to be a vibrant, outward looking, well-run Council that shows leadership and embraces diversity and opportunity.'* Updates provided by external stakeholders including LDCs, various government departments, HSE and CYPSC highlight areas of focus for future collaboration and development, while drawing attention to the impressive work these stakeholders do in our local communities.

Fingal LCDC also has a key role to play in overseeing and managing a number of programmes such as the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) and Healthy Ireland and administering various funding streams including the Community Recognition Fund and the Local Enhancement Programme which provide vital support to community groups across the county. In addition, Fingal commenced the rollout of the Sláintecare Programme in the Blanchardstown area with the allocation of initial funding for Q4 2025 and will progress with the recruitment of a Local Development Officer to administer the programme in 2026.

The SICAP Programme is co-funded by the Irish Government through the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, and the European Social Fund, administered by Pobal, and managed at local level by the LCDC. In 2025, Fingal was allocated €1,568,717 to support interventions to tackle poverty and promote social inclusion and equality at a local level under SICAP. Fingal received an additional amount of €375,372 with one additional allocation during the year of €50,000 to assist with the Ukrainian Refugee Crisis response. The SICAP Programme Implementer, Empower, successfully achieved targets in the delivery of the SICAP Programme and provided targeted supports to disadvantaged individuals and groups in Fingal.

The Dublin Rural LEADER Local Action Group (LAG) has responsibility for the delivery of the LEADER Programme in the Dublin area. The Dublin Rural area has a budget of €4.7 million over the period 2023 – 2027 and in 2025, the Dublin LAG approved 41 projects to the value of €602,058, with drawdown expected to be completed in 2026. Fingal LEADER Partnership carried out four targeted calls in 2025 and strengthened partnerships with Town Teams, Dublin Mountain Partnership, PPNs, LEOs, Teagasc, and local government bodies.

Healthy Fingal continued with the implementation of the approved workplan and a focus on reducing age-standardised heavy episodic drinking and promoting smoking/vaping cessation for Fingal. This workplan has been extended for a further year until the end of 2026. €104,755.70 was spent on Healthy Fingal projects in 2025. Healthy Fingal continued to work with stakeholders such as Empower and the North Dublin Drugs Task Force and develop strong new initiatives such as Healthy Ireland at Your Library offering resources and events on physical and mental wellbeing, the Healthy Steps Walking Programme expansion to four locations, Sailing into Wellness and the Talking Heads suicide prevention initiative.

During 2025 Fingal LCDC administered the Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) and an allocation of €268,827 in funding for groups across the county with €230,423 available for capital works and €38,404 available for current costs. Fingal LCDC also administered the Community Recognition Fund (CRF) 2024, which has an allocation of €1,538,573 from the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht (DRCDG) to deliver projects over 2024, 2025 and 2026, with funding allocated across 3 application windows. This funding has now been allocated and projects are underway.

We wish to express our appreciation to all members of the Fingal LCDC for their work throughout the past year. We are grateful to the representatives from community organisations, government bodies, the business sector and wider stakeholder groups for their ongoing engagement and contributions to the work of the LCDC during 2025. Their commitment has been key to the progress achieved over the year.

We would like to thank John Quinlivan, Director of Services, Economic Enterprise Tourism & Cultural Department, and all the staff of the directorate for their work in supporting the LCDC and ensuring the successful delivery of the LECP Implementation Plan and the many programmes and funding streams for which the LCDC has responsibility.

At the December LCDC meeting, Laurence Ward stepped down as Chairperson of the LCDC. Throughout his tenure, Laurence has provided steady and considered leadership, guiding the committee through a wide range of important work including the procurement of the 2024–2028 SICAP contract and the development of the 2023–2028 LECP. As Laurence concludes his term, we extend our sincere appreciation for his dedication and the thoughtful manner in which he has chaired the committee. We now welcome Anthony Cooney, who will assume the position of Chairperson in 2026. We look forward to working with him in the year ahead and wish him every success as he takes on this role.

We look forward to working with all members of the LCDC and all stakeholders in 2026 to realise the LECP vision: *"Fingal will be a vibrant, sustainable, progressive and climate resilient county, underpinned by inclusive, healthy, empowered communities and a dynamic economy."*

Aoife Sheridan *Laurence Ward*

AOIFE SHERIDAN **LAURENCE WARD**
Chief Officer Fingal LCDC Chairperson Fingal LCDC






SECTION 1

Fingal Local Community Development Committee

SECTION 1

Fingal Local Community Development Committee Members 2025



Members of Fingal LCDC

(L-R: Cllr Eoghan Dockrell, Aoife Sheridan, John Quinlivan, Eilish Harrington, Mary Attridge Jones, Ellen O'Dea & Laurence Ward)

The Local Government Reform Act 2014 gives legislative effect to the commitments in 'Putting People First', including the establishment of LCDC's in each local authority administrative area, for the purposes of developing, co-ordinating and implementing a coherent and integrated approach to local and community development.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
• A clear focus on Social Inclusion, marginalised communities and the marginalised within communities
• Promotion of enterprise, employment development, training and education, as key element in supporting sustainable communities
• Planning and programme implementation that makes the best use of available resources for citizens and communities

THE FUNCTIONS OF THE LCDC ARE
• Prepare and arrange for the implementation of the Community element of a six year Local Economic and Community Plan
• Co-ordinate, manage and oversee the development of local community development programmes
• Review, monitor and revise actions and strategies set out to achieve the objectives of the Local Economic and Community Plan
• Promotion of enterprise, employment development, training and education, as a key element in supporting sustainable communities.
• Improve the co-ordination of all public funded local and community development programmes in the administrative area

Note: Section 1288 of the Local Government Act 2001 sets out the functions of the LCDC's

The functions of a local authority regarding promoting the interests of communities as set out in Section 66 of the 2001 Local Government Act, delegated to LCDCs, section 128(2)

Fingal Local Community Development Committee Members



Cllr. Eoghan Dockrell

Eoghan is a Fine Gael councillor representing the Rush-Lusk local electoral area. With a career foundation rooted in finance, Eoghan worked as a tax consultant for several years, providing him with a comprehensive understanding of financial systems and strategies. Prior to that, he served as a Revenue auditor in the Office of the Revenue Commissioners, gaining valuable experience in financial oversight and public accountability. This background has equipped him with a strong knowledge of financial procedures, governance, and justice-skills that are essential in his work as a councillor. Currently, Eoghan lives in Donabate and through his work on the council, Eoghan is dedicated to ensuring that the planning of communities is done in a sustainable and responsible manner. He strongly believes in creating long-term strategies that promote both growth and environmental sustainability, ensuring that future generations can enjoy thriving, well-planned communities.



Cllr. Eimear Carbone-Mangan

Eimear is a Fianna Fáil councillor representing the Castleknock local electoral area. As a communications professional with a proven record, Eimear has spent most of her career to date working for Government agencies on the delivery of major transport, infrastructure and planning projects, and was a key contributor to the delivery of all Luas lines that have been built in Dublin. Having operated in the context of high-profile projects of national and international relevance has given her an excellent understanding of delivering for the wider benefits to the public, local community and other stakeholders. Eimear is committed to supporting and delivering for our community to improve the quality of life for people and families. As a trained classical singer, she is passionate about the arts and developing more cultural spaces and facilities for our talented young people and artists. Eimear holds a BA (Economics and Sociology) from National University of Ireland, Maynooth.



John Quinlivan

John Quinlivan is the Director of Services of Economic, Enterprise, Tourism & Cultural Development in Fingal County Council. John has over 30 years of experience in local government, working in 6 Local Authorities in rural, urban, and metropolitan areas and in that time he has been involved in every function of local government. His current role is to advance the economic, community and cultural development of Fingal.



Pat O'Connor

Pat O'Connor is Head of School of Social Sciences, Law, and Education in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at Technological University Dublin. Pat holds a doctoral degree from the University of Manchester and has been involved in further and higher education for over 30 years. He has been on the Council of Fingal Chamber since 2010 and was appointed President of the Chamber in 2025. Pat's teaching interests extend across business, accountancy and humanities and he has extensive experience in programme design and review in higher education. His research interests include higher education, research methodology and community development. Pat's community contributions include Chair of the Board of Management of St Patrick's Junior National School, Corduff and coach at Hartstown Huntstown Football Club.



Oisin Geoghegan

A Master of Business Studies graduate of University College Dublin and post-grad of Trinity College Dublin, Oisín Geoghegan is Head of the Local Enterprise Office in Fingal, since his appointment in 2014. Prior to this he served 14 years as Chief Executive at Fingal County Enterprise Board. Oisín previously held managerial positions in Export Sales and Marketing for Irish and Scandinavian manufacturers of industrial equipment in the food processing sector operating in the UK and Ireland. He previously served as Chairperson of the Network of 31 Local Enterprise Offices and has many years' experience chairing various enterprise development strategy groups and national committees.



Ellen O'Dea

Ellen O'Dea is Head of Service for Health and Wellbeing in the HSE Community Health Organisation Dublin North City and County since November 2016. From 2002, she has worked in management roles within the HSE, previous roles include General Manager for Primary Care and Disability Services, Primary Care Manager & Occupational Therapy Manager. She has a particular interest in community participation in health and in supporting Healthy Communities. Ellen has a BSC (Hons) in Occupational Therapy, Diploma in Leadership and Quality in Healthcare and an MSc in Health Service Management.



Una Caffrey

Una is the coordinator of Fingal Children and Young Peoples Services Committee (FCYPSC). Una's role is to support FCYPSC in its work to bring together a diverse group of agencies in Fingal to engage in joint planning and co-ordination of services for children and young people. Una is a firm believer in working together to achieve better outcomes for children and young people and supports the participation of children and young people to inform the work of FCYPSC. Una brings to FCYPSC a wealth of experience of working in the community and voluntary sector having worked for Focus Ireland, Barnardo's, Fingal County Childcare Committee to name a few. In her previous role Una coordinated the delivery of child protection training to early years professionals in Fingal. Una holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Dublin Institute of Technology and a post grad in child protection from Trinity College Dublin.



Mary Attridge-Jones

Mary Attridge-Jones is actively involved in numerous environmental and community-focused initiatives. She currently works with the Portrane Village Renewal Group and contributes to organisations such as Tidy Towns, DP Sustainable Energy Community, Biodiversity, Eco Congregation, Clean Coasts, Coast Watch, Bird Watch Ireland, Global Action Plan, Wellbeing Economy Alliance, Doughnut Economics Action Laboratory, LEO Fingal, and Hedgerow Ireland. She facilitates group coaching in communities and outdoor meetings, promoting well-being and environmental awareness. Beyond her coaching role, Mary is dedicated to hands-on community work, including litter picking, composting, Adopt-A-Patch, attending community garden events, and supporting biodiversity action plans. She holds a Leadership Coach Practitioner qualification, is currently studying Environmental and Biodiversity Studies.



Anne Marie Brady

Anne Marie volunteers with Balbriggan Tidy Towns and Our Waters and Wild, both striving to enhance and protect our local environment. As Treasurer of the Balbriggan Community Council, she works alongside others to advocate for residents and support community-driven projects. She is an active member of her local residents' association; Chapel Gate/Pine Ridge as Treasurer, ensuring that local issues are addressed and that our neighbourhoods thrive. Anne Marie serves on the Aisha AED Initiative, a community campaign aimed at creating a network of 24 hour accessible AEDs (Defibrillators) and providing education and training on CPR and AED usage. Anne Marie served on the Balbriggan Skatepark Committee and the Playground Committee, both which were successful in achieving the goals of a skatepark and playgrounds for Balbriggan.



Seamus Quigley

Shay is the area manager for the Employment Services Division of the Department of Social Protection (DSP) in North Dublin. He has 20 years' experience in all aspects of DSP services and is a graduate of Dundalk IT, Institute of Public Administration and the National College of Ireland. He sits on various committees in North Dublin and has a strong interest in GAA and soccer.



Samina Ahmed

Samina Ahmed is a dedicated community advocate and a member of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), where she represents the community and voluntary interest from the Public Participation Network (PPN). As a representative of the Irish Women's Network, Samina brings her passion for empowering women and promoting equality to the forefront of her work. Through her involvement in the LCDC, she plays an active role in shaping community development initiatives and ensuring that the voices of diverse groups, particularly women, are heard in local decision-making processes. Samina's commitment to creating a more inclusive and equitable society is reflected in her tireless advocacy for the needs and rights of women at the community level.



William Wanjihia

William Wanjihia is an active member of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), serving as the Social Inclusion Interest representative for the Fingal Africa Association. A passionate advocate for equality, William works to ensure the voices of the African community in Fingal are heard and represented. He is dedicated to promoting social inclusion and addressing the challenges faced by marginalized groups. Through his role, William strives to influence policies and initiatives that foster equal opportunities, access to resources, and community support. His work focuses on creating a more equitable and inclusive environment for all residents of Fingal.



Adeline O'Brien

Adeline O'Brien has worked in the not for profit and social enterprise sector for twenty years. Roles have ranged from Development Director (Cork Opera House) to Director of the Fundraising Institute of Ireland and CEO of an Education & Training facility for at risk young people and their families in Dublin 10. Adeline was a founding Director of the Cherry Orchard Regeneration Company, and a founding member of the Dublin 10 Restorative Practice steering group. Adeline worked as consultant in the not-for-profit sector particularly in the areas of Governance, Strategy and Management, Work & Organisational Psychology / Behaviour. Adeline also provided support in terms of crisis management, operational quality audits and evaluations. Adeline was appointed CEO of Blanchardstown Area Partnership in January 2017, now Empower CLG.



Anthony Cooney

Anthony Cooney is CEO of Fingal Chamber of Commerce. Fingal Chamber is affiliated to Chambers Ireland and is representative of the business community covering the greater Fingal Region. Anthony has more than 25 years' experience at director level working with Private Equity Operators of businesses in the B2B sectors of major companies operating in both the UK and Ireland specialising in the acquisition and management of "Recurring Income" organisations. Anthony will Chair the Local Community Development Committee from 2026 onwards.



Annie Byrne

Annie Byrne has lived in the Dublin 15 area for nearly 40 years as a person with a physical impairment. Since 2008, she has become an advocate for the disability community, campaigning for various causes. She has earned a qualification as a support worker, facilitator, and information research officer, and has worked with Blanchardstown Centre for Independent Living (BCIL) and Greater Dublin Independent Living (GDIL). Annie is experienced in assistive technology, disability equality, social inclusion, group work, and self-advocacy. She designed and delivered a self-advocacy program at the Central Remedial Clinic for adults with cross impairments. Annie has conducted accessibility audits for BCIL, GDIL, Fingal County Council, and others. She has also written an article and given talks on independent living. Over the past 16 years, she has remained actively engaged in advancing human rights, aiming to make a positive societal impact. She believes everyone has a role in supporting the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and is a member of the CRC Human Rights Committee and the Irish Wheelchair Association.



Eilish Harrington

Eilish Harrington is the CEO with Fingal LEADER Partnership since September 2018. In this role Eilish works with her team to deliver the LEADER programme across rural Dublin, Rural Social Scheme for Co. Dublin, Care & Repair Service in the North County, Ability and Tús Programmes in the Fingal area. She has a background in Community Development and brings experience and knowledge in this field to her role in FLP. Eilish graduated with a BA Honours Degree in Public and Social Policy from NUI Galway. After her studies she worked with Special Olympics Munster as a Development Officer and as Co Ordinator of Employ Ability Services West Cork.



Laurence Ward

Laurence is a dry stock farmer near Oldtown, North County Dublin. His passions are GAA football and farming. In 2025, he served as chairperson of Fingal Local Community Development Committee, stepping down at the December meeting. Laurence is also a member and chairperson of the Dublin Rural LEADER Local Action Group. Laurence has taken a role as a member of the Farm Business Committee of the Irish Farmers Association.

Resigned Member of Fingal Local Community Development Committee 2025



Cllr. Cathal Haughey

CATEGORY MEMBERSHIP OF FINGAL LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (LCDC) 2025

NAME	CATEGORY	ORGANISATION
Eoghan Dockrell	**Local Authority Member** Rush-Lusk	Fingal County Council
Eimear Carbone-Mangan	**Local Authority Member** Castleknock	Fingal County Council
Cathal Haughey	**Local Authority Member** Howth-Malahide	Fingal County Council
John Quinlivan	**Local Authority Official** Chief Executive's Nominee	Fingal County Council
Oisín Geoghegan	**Local Authority Official** Local Enterprise Office	Fingal County Council
Pat O'Connor	**State Agency** Higher Education Institute	TU Dublin
Seamus Quigley	**State Agency** Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection	Department of Social Protection
Una Caffrey	**State Agency** TUSLA	CYPSC Child and Family Agency
Ellen O'Dea	**State Agency** HSE	HSE
Samina Ahmed	**Community and Voluntary Interest** Irish Women's Network	Fingal Public Participation Network
William Wanjihia	**Social Inclusion Interest** Fingal Africa Association	Fingal Public Participation Network
Mary Attridge-Jones	**Environmental Interest** Portrane Village Renewal Group & Tidy Towns	Fingal Public Participation Network
Anne Marie Brady	**Community Interest** Chapel Gate/Pineridge Residents Committee	Fingal Public Participation Network
Annie Byrne	**Social Inclusion Interest** Blanchardstown Centre for Independent Living	Fingal Public Participation Network
Adeline O'Brien	**Local Development**	Empower
Eilish Harrington	**Local Development**	Fingal LEADER Partnership
Laurence Ward	**Farming and Agriculture**	The Irish Farmers Association
Anthony Cooney	**Business and Employers**	Chambers Ireland
VACANT	**Community Interest**	VACANT

PUBLIC (STATUTORY) | PRIVATE (NON-STATUTORY

Local Enhancement Programme 2025

The Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht announced the Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) on the 7th of November 2024. The LEP, administered by the LCDC, provided capital and current supports to small community groups and organisations, particularly those who serve disadvantaged areas in rural and urban areas.

Unlike the Local Enhancement Programme 2024, groups were eligible for both capital and current funding as part of the 2025 programme. Eligible capital supports included the purchase of physical items for community use such as water boilers, tables and chairs, lawnmowers, and canopies, as well as funding for improvement works such as kitchen installation costs, doors, paint, and fire upgrade works. Current supports included energy costs such as electricity and heating, operating costs such as rental and insurance, as well as website maintenance fees and audit/accountancy fees.

Fingal County Council was allocated €268,827 in funding for groups across the county. €230,423 was earmarked for Capital Funding, with the remaining €38,404 allocated for Current Funding. Applications for the fund went live on the 13th of December; 101 applications were received for Capital Funding and 87 applications for Current Funding. Requests received for capital support totaled €619,417.46 while requests for current support totaled €229,534.66. All applications were evaluated (viewed and discussed) by the LCDC Evaluation Committee. 63 groups were approved for Capital Funding and 61 groups were approved for Current Funding.

A full list of successful applicants can be found here: https://assets.gov.ie/static/documents/Fingal_LEP_06_2025.pdf



Rush Dramatic Society Millbank


Portrane Village Renewal Group


Mulberry Resident's Association

HEALTHY FINGAL



Healthy Ireland is a national government-led strategy aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of everyone living in Ireland. The Healthy Ireland Fund (HIF), funded under the Healthy Ireland national strategy, supports Local Authorities to deliver activities which will improve health and wellbeing locally. Pobal provides funding for HIF Round 4 to each Local Authority and under HIF Round 4, the Local Authority is the contract holder and is accountable for the implementation, oversight and management of the funds awarded, with the Healthy County Coordinator (HCC) and Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) leading out on the planning and implementation. Previous rounds of HIF were primarily activity-led. In contrast, an outcome-led approach has been introduced to Round 4 to:

- enable the implementation of more targeted and evidence-based activities
- provide a more structured approach to the collection and reporting of relevant data and information which can be used for greater oversight and improved programme evaluation
- provide a clearer understanding of how the work of the funded organisations contributes to HIF programme objectives.

The Healthy Fingal sub-committee is made up of 18 reps from Fingal County Council departments, HSE, Drugs Task Force, Fingal Leader Partnership, Empower, Dublin and Dun Laoghaire Education and Training Board (DDLETB), and Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC).

There were 5 meetings held in 2025 with an average attendance of 10 people, which provided an opportunity to network, collaborate, and to contribute to a healthier Fingal.

Niall McGuirk was appointed as the new Healthy Fingal Coordinator in December 2022 and was tasked with the development of a workplan for 2023-2025 and a focus on reducing age-standardised heavy episodic drinking and promoting smoking/vaping cessation for Fingal. This workplan has been extended for a further year until the end of 2026. .

In 2025 Healthy Fingal through Empower and Fingal's People Services offered Fingal staff in D15 the opportunity to attend a free 10-week We Can Quit Class delivered by Empower in Blanchardstown library. 32 people completed the expression of interest in attending a class with 6 ultimately registering and 2 participants completing the course quitting smoking.

Healthy Fingal is working with Coolmine Therapeutic Centre to support individuals availing of drug rehabilitation services to quit smoking through the Breath Strong Programme, which provides 1 to 1 quit smoking support as well as tailored physical activity options for users. Healthy Fingal also support people in recovery through supporting the North Dublin's Drugs Task Force.



Healthy Fingal supported the development of the 'Talking Heads' initiative in conjunction with CYPSC and the HSE, which seeks to promote the Let's Talk About Suicide awareness training to barbers to enable them to support their clients and signpost them towards an array of mental health supports with plans to widen the reach of the programme around the county.

The Smoke Free Homes Programme in Dublin 15 aims to create healthier living environments by encouraging residents to implement smoke-free policies in their homes and cars. The initiative combined community outreach, educational resources, and weekly emails to reinforce positive behaviors and raise awareness about the risks of smoke and vapor exposure. A key focus was on households with children, emphasizing the long-term health benefits of a smoke-free space.

While many of the 36 households who engaged in the initiative already practiced smoke-free living, the programme helped strengthen their commitment with face-to-face engagement proving the most effective in driving participation, highlighting the need for more personal interaction in future initiatives.

Healthy Fingal linked with the HSE Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (Balbriggan & Swords) to set up a 'Woodlands for Health' programme servicing up to 20 young people every week who are currently receiving mental health support from the HSE. The programme which operates during the summer months uses walking in wooded, peaceful areas to assist young people in their recovery and signpost individuals to Quit Smoking and Alcohol services where required. Healthy Fingal also developed the Healthy Steps programme in conjunction with Fingal's Active Travel section and the HSE to set up GP referral walks in 4 locations around the county which are supported by walking tutors and information on Quit Smoking and Alcohol services, as well as mental health supports provided to participants.

Healthy Fingal linked with the Blanchardstown Drug and Alcohol Task Force to support the Think Before You Buy initiative to be rolled out in key areas of Dublin 15 in Q1 of 2026. The initiative focuses on raising awareness about the dangers of purchasing illegal drugs and highlights the social, health, and community impacts of drug use, urging individuals to make informed choices that protect wellbeing and reduce harm.



Healthy Fingal continues to support the ExWell programme, which provides supervised exercise rehabilitation in Mulhuddart for individuals with chronic illnesses, promoting physical and mental well-being. The programme has grown massively in 2025 with two classes in operation in Mulhuddart and a waiting list due to demand. As a result, a second site was set up in Blakestown in Q4 of 2025, which will run throughout 2026 supported by the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Fund.

Healthy Fingal continues to use the services of MediaSocial to assist in the communication of the Healthy Fingal message, develop engagement and improve brand awareness across multiple social media platforms. We had 621 published items across Facebook and Instagram in 2025 and we have seen a 12.5% growth in our audience compared to 2024 to 2,275 with overall engagement increased by 11.2%. The highest performing post was around the 'Talking Heads' initiative which had over 18,000 views.



COMMUNITY RECOGNITION FUND
2024 & 2025



Administered by the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, The Community Recognition Fund aims to support the development of community infrastructure and facilities for the entire community in recognition of the contribution being made by communities across the country in welcoming and hosting significant numbers of arrivals from Ukraine and other countries.

The funding is specifically targeted at projects that are located in cities, towns and villages that are hosting the Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection and/or International Protection Applicants.

As part of the Community Recognition Fund 2023, Fingal County Council received €1,748,912 divided across 26 projects being delivered by 6 FCC Departments. By the end of 2024 a number of programmes had been granted extensions by the department with completed drawdowns of €896,098.81, remaining funds to be spent and drawdown applications submitted to the Department by March 31st, 2025.

Based on the continued impacts of the 2023 iteration of the fund on communities and the country, and the need to support these communities in welcoming new arrivals, a further €50 million was being provided across the country under the Community Recognition Fund 2024.

Fingal County Council allocated €1,538,573, divided across three application windows. Under Call 2, seven projects were approved by the DRCDG, totaling €596,802.00, and under Call 3, 5 projects were approved, totaling €309,753.00. Drawdown and completion of projects is now underway. A full list of successful projects can be found here: https://www.fingal.ie/community-recognition-fund-2024










SECTION 2

Fingal Local Economic & Community Plan 2023-2028

LOCAL ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY PLAN | FINGAL LECP 2023 2028

Fingal Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2023-2028

Theme 1: SUSTAINABILITY & CLIMATE ACTION

Fingal County Council continue its leadership to embed sustainability across economic development, community engagement and climate resilience to progress objectives set out in the Local Economic and Community Plan, the Climate Action Plan and the Active Travel Strategy, through a series of strategic, community-focused initiatives.

In 2025, the Economic Development Section commenced the development of the *Future Fingal: Fingal Sustainability Strategy*, a key action within the Fingal LECP, with the appointment of consultants, research and stakeholder engagement. The Strategy aims to build on the Fingal Climate Action Plan and advance external climate action by expanding the Sustainable Fingal Initiative into a Strategy which includes collaboration and engagement with businesses, communities and organisations, embedding circular economy principles and supporting a Just Transition to Net Zero. Stakeholder engagement occurred in November and December 2025 to inform the Strategy's objectives and implementation plan for adoption in Q2 2026.

These actions demonstrate Fingal County Council's leadership in embedding sustainability across economic development, community engagement and climate resilience, ensuring progress towards the objectives set out in the Fingal Climate Action Plan 2024–2029 and related strategies.



Fingal County Council completed work on its URBACT EcoCore Project which focuses on advancing the green industrial transition on industrial lands along strategic transport corridors, with the Project Team focusing on Balbriggan along the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor. The Project completed with the launch of the Balbriggan Integrated Action Plan in December 2025 which sets out a roadmap for the development of the Council's industrial landbank in Balbriggan as a green innovation zone. Project EcoCore won the "**Best CSR Project in a Community Award**" at the LAMA 2025 All-Ireland Community & Council Awards.



The Project Team also developed an EcoCore Podcast Series to share lessons learned with the European Project Partners on EcoCore. The EcoCore Hackathon in November 2024 produced a proposal for a circular economy digital platform and hub, during 2025 the Hackathon Team collaborated with Smart Balbriggan and the Council's Economic Development Team to develop a feasibility study on the proposal which should be complete in Q2 2026.

Fingal County Council progressed delivery on commitments under the Circular Cities Declaration with a variety of initiatives promoting circularity such as the reuse of musical instruments on the Replay Project and support for local clothes swaps.







Other initiatives included embedding circular approaches to economic development in the EcoCore Project, exploring potential circular economy projects, advancing delivery under the Council's Active Travel Plan with delivery of School Streets and various active travel and greenway projects across the county.

In 2025, the Council commenced participation in a working group CCRI Community of Practice on supporting local circular businesses. Senior officials from Fingal County Council also participated in a European Urban Initiative City-to-City Exchange with Nokia in Finland on circular economy and innovation hubs, bringing good practice back for incorporation into Fingal's approach to economic development.



Fingal Local Enterprise Office (LEO) continued to provide support to businesses transitioning to a climate-resilient economy through the Green for Business Programme which provided support to 41 Fingal based businesses in 2025, allowing 20 of the businesses to successfully apply for the Energy Efficiency Grant with funding of up to €10,000 and 75% of eligible costs to acquire energy efficient equipment and implement sustainable business processes.



Fingal County Council's Community Development Section's Keen to Be Green Facilities Project achieved its second milestone in water conservation during Dublin Climate Action Week. The Climate Action Heroes Challenge engaged 140 participants across 22 community centres, collectively saving 12,794 kg of CO_2.

Sustainability Ideas for SMEs

Good for Business - Good for the Environment - Good for Customers

Business-focused sustainability efforts advanced in 2025 with a series of briefings by Conscious Kitchens in collaboration with Fingal County Council and Fingal Chamber, showcasing practical case studies in the area of food sustainability to inspire local restaurants/cafes/ hotels to commence their sustainability journeys.





The LEADER Programme in the Dublin Rural Area supported entrepreneurs, SME's and community groups/organisations through targeted calls for electric equipment, while promotional videos highlighted best practice in sustainable construction and manufacturing.

Dublin Rural LEADER

Theme 2: PROSPEROUS ECONOMY



The Council continued to implement the Future Fingal: An Economic Development Strategy to promote and drive economic growth in the county. The development of strategic industrial landbanks was a priority in 2025, with the Council adopting the Stephenstown and Folkstown Little Framework Plans in 2025. These planning frameworks set the vision for the sustainable development of the industrial lands at Balbriggan strategically located along the Dublin Belfast Corridor.

The Council's URBACT EcoCore Project, focused on advancing the green industrial transition and developing a vision for the future development of the landbank in Balbriggan. As part of the project, a branding and marketing exercise commenced for investment attraction to Balbriggan. The Project launched the document Balbriggan – An Integrated Action Plan in December 2025 as the culmination of two and a half years of work with the URBACT Local Group, comprising local Councillors, national and regional economic development representatives and stakeholders across the Council, universities and local business.



Fingal County Council presented key learnings from the EcoCore Project at the Smart City Expo in Barcelona in October, raising Fingal's profile at an international level.

Across the Council, staff participated in a number of webinars highlighting good practices developed in Fingal including green industrial development and sustainable modes of travel.

As part of a regional collaboration, Fingal joined the other Dublin-based local authorities to further develop and promote the DUBLIN place-brand with an advertising campaign to promote the Dublin region in Q1 2025 and ongoing engagement throughout the year to develop marketing collateral and advance objectives under the Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan and contributing articles to the Dublin Economic Monitor to highlight the economic work in Fingal.



FUTURE FINGAL: A BOLD LEAP FORWARDS TOWARD A GREEN ECONOMIC FUTURE



FINGAL FOCUSSED ON TOURISM

Fingal County Council hosted 50 tourism-related Fingal businesses to the inaugural business-to-business event 'Fingal Tourism Together' in Malahide in May 2025 bringing together key stakeholders and businesses in the tourism, leisure and food sectors in Fingal. The event provided briefings on the implementation of the Tourism Strategy and Food & Drink Policy, as well as a presentation by award-winning travel writer Nicola Brady.



Supported by Failte Ireland and Tourism Ireland, the Council joined with South Dublin County Council and Dublin City Council to promote Dublin as part of the Failte Ireland 'Winter in Dublin' campaign and the new brand 'Ireland Home of Halloween' at Irishfest, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Irishfest is the largest Irish festival in the USA and the world's largest celebration of Irish culture and music in the world attracting over 130,000 visitors over 4 days.

Fingal was one of seven destinations awarded funding under Fáilte Ireland's new Home of Halloween Destination Development Pilot Scheme for 2025–2028, receiving funding of €100,000 annually to craft immersive, culturally rooted Halloween experiences. This investment is part of a broader €1.5 million initiative to position Ireland as the global home of Halloween, generate regional economic growth, and attract tens of thousands of visitors.

COME ALIVE Fáilte Ireland





In March 2025, the Fingal Food and Drink Network held an event to showcase the opportunities and benefits of being part of the network. Fingal launched the new Fingal Food Circle brand at Flavours of Fingal and during 2025 the Network developed an Autumn programme to support food markets and commence a pilot project with Fáilte Ireland on developing the network and saleable experience.

FINGAL FOOD CIRCLE

dublin belfast economic corridor



The Council continued to engage with the Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor and its partners, focusing on collaborative projects including tourism, enterprise development and skills development. DBEC held a successful summit in February 2025 with more than 550 attendees learning about the work of the regional partnership to promote economic growth and job creation.



BASE, BEAT and Drinan Enterprises came together to form a new entity in 2025, Innovate Fingal, to develop a new strategic approach to enterprise and innovation in the county. Innovate Fingal seeks to actively seek out new opportunities for funding, collaboration and move beyond the walls of the traditional enterprise centre by providing outreach enterprise services into local communities.



Fingal County Council continued to enhance strategic engagement across the business ecosystem through collaboration with IDA, Fingal Chamber, the Local Enterprise Office and other stakeholders. In parallel, efforts to address labour market under-representation focused on barriers such as childcare and transport, with Empower providing targeted career guidance and training for disadvantaged groups under SICAP, Local Area Employment Services (LAES), TÚS and WorkAbility. Employability programmes, including the Skills for Life initiative across Fingal Libraries, supported upskilling and reskilling.

Fingal County Council is committed to fostering a prosperous, inclusive economy through strategic land development, skills enhancement, business engagement and targeted supports, ensuring alignment with the objectives of the *Future Fingal: An Economic Development Strategy* and the Local Economic and Community Plan 2023 – 2027.

Theme 3: SKILLS FOR LIFE & WORK



Fingal County Council made significant progress in advancing skills development and lifelong learning with the launch of the next iteration of the Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy 2024–2029.

FUTURE FINGAL: FINGAL Skills STRATEGY
IDEAS COLLABORATION ACTION

Officially launched in February at Baldoyle Training Centre, the Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy aims to forecast skills gaps, address workforce needs and strengthen Fingal's position as a leading economic hub. The Strategy has a strong focus on raising awareness of skills/training provision, upskilling and reskilling as part of lifelong learning and the importance of engagement with SME's to address their skills needs.



Fingal County Council promoted sector-specific skills development through events such as the Transport & Logistics Skills Event in April 2025. The event featured industry leaders, highlighted career opportunities in the sector and provided networking opportunities.



In April 2025, Eolas Magazine published an article on how the Fingal Skills Strategy is enhancing the county's economic attractiveness.

Fingal County Council continues to collaborate with Trinity Connect, the Academy of the Near Future and Smart Balbriggan to promote STEM in Fingal schools. The first Design Your Future Fingal week was held in Balbriggan, challenging students to tackle real-world urban issues and develop creative technology-driven solutions.



Not So Different

The SSIG engaged with Not So Different, a social enterprise which promotes inclusion, equality and diversity about the development of a pilot programme to support employability skills for neurodivergent individuals for commencement in 2026.



The Xplore Student Skills Competition was rolled out to Fingal schools to encourage students to explore careers in Construction and Transport & Logistics, replicating good practice learned through participation in the Interreg SKYLA Project.

International collaboration under the Interreg SKYLA Project facilitated knowledge exchange on good practices for skills development with transnational meetings held in Lithuania and Poland. Fingal also hosted a delegation from Skane, Sweden to further explore good practices around labour market intelligence communication and skills audits for businesses.

Lifelong learning opportunities were enhanced through Fingal libraries' extensive programming including literacy, STEM and health awareness workshops. Other key skill actions included the rollout of the Skills for Life programme across Fingal libraries, emphasizing media and financial literacy, and outreach to hard-to-reach cohorts such as older people and those with additional needs.



Fingal County Council also worked with community organisations through SICAP to identify and address barriers to training, including childcare and access to space, while supporting over 70 community groups with tailored interventions.

Capacity-building programmes were delivered by Dublin Rural LEADER for volunteers and community groups, covering governance, financial management and planning for the future.



The Fingal TY Xplore Your Future Expo attracted over 2,500 students from schools across Fingal, offering interactive career and education/training signposting from more than 70 exhibitors.



In November 2025 Fingal County Council hosted the inaugural Fingal Skills Summit in The Riasc Centre, Kinsealy in collaboration with Dublin Regional Skills Forum, Fingal Skillnet, Dublin College FET, Fingal LEO, Department of Social Protection (Intreo) and DCU, providing employers with practical guidance on recruitment, upskilling and availability of training supports and insights from industry experts from Aramex, Hawthorne Logistics, Esmark Finch and Dublin Regional Skills Forum on their experience engaging with skills audits and collaborating with education/training providers.

Fingal County Council continues to demonstrate leadership in supporting the development of a strong future talent pipeline to build a skilled, adaptable workforce in Fingal, supporting the needs of business and fostering inclusive access to education and training in alignment with the objectives of the Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy and the Local Economic and Community Plan.

Theme 4: HEALTHY, INCLUSIVE, CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

Healthy Fingal delivered programmes such as *Healthy Ireland at Your Library*, offering resources and events on physical and mental wellbeing, including talks on menopause, positive ageing and yoga. The Healthy Steps Walking Programme, supported by the HSE and Fingal Active Travel, expanded to four locations - Balbriggan, Donabate, Millennium Park and Mulhuddart - engaging over 100 participants and enabling GP referrals to encourage physical activity and mental health. Plans are in place to grow this initiative to seven venues in 2026.





Fingal also partnered with the HSE to promote the T*alking Heads* suicide prevention initiative, launched during World Mental Health Day, with a promotional campaign targeting barbers to signpost mental health supports.

In Q4 2025, Fingal County Council agreed the rollout of the Sláintecare Programme for the Blanchardstown area with allocation of initial seed funding for 2025 and agreement reached for the recruitment of a Local Development Officer to administer the programme to advance in 2026.

Sláintecare. Healthy Communities



Fingal County Council continued to enhance access to health and wellbeing services through community-based initiatives. Fingal County Council supported Thrive Balbriggan and Swords, fostering mental health awareness and reducing isolation, and delivered playful events for families through the *Let's Play Rush* initiative.

Significant investment in community facilities across the county saw the opening of four new community centres - St Margaret's Parish Hall, Meakstown, Hartstown and Baldoyle - providing vital hubs for social connection, education and local services.



Programmes such as *Healthy Food Made Easy*, delivered in partnership with Empower, addressed barriers to healthy eating, while webinars led by the HSE on fussy eating, baby weaning and obesity awareness supported families across Fingal.



Collaboration with Drug and Alcohol Task Forces remained a priority, with Fingal County Council supporting recovery-focused activities including water sports days, the Sailing into Wellness project and the *Recovery Run* in Swords.

Fingal County Council also worked with Coolmine Therapeutic Centre to deliver quit-smoking supports and physical activity programmes, reflecting a holistic approach to rehabilitation.

Fingal County Council promoted inclusion through initiatives such as Fingal Inclusion Week, celebrating diversity and equality, and supported autism-friendly projects in Howth, Skerries and Swords. Sensory-friendly resource packs were distributed to ten community centres to create accessible environments.



Migrant integration was supported through the Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT), outreach clinics and cultural events such as Africa Day, while Balbriggan and Blanchardstown libraries achieved *Library of Sanctuary* status.

Fingal County Council also advanced the *Fingal Age Friendly Strategy*, approved in October following extensive consultation with older residents, and continued to coordinate Fingal Comhairle na nÓg, ensuring young people's voices influence decision-making.

A collaborative approval with local, regional and national partners ensures alignment with the objectives of the Local Economic and Community Plan and promotes health, wellbeing and inclusion, addressing inequalities and fostering vibrant, connected communities.

Theme 5: RICH ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE

A key achievement under this theme was the approval of a new Public Art Policy, designed to streamline commissioning processes and ensure a coordinated approach across Council departments.



The Tradfest Fingal festival took place in January 2025 in venues throughout the County in an expanded programme that saw 10 venues and 41 headline act performances as well as a large list of fringe events which took place in smaller venues. Although impacted by Storm Éowyn with a small number of concerts postponed over safety concerns, the majority proceeded, were well attended and well received by all who attended, with considerable media coverage locally and nationally.

The Flavours of Fingal County Show attracted c. 70,000 visitors over two days at the historic Newbridge House and Farm. The event was delivered by Fingal County Council in partnership with key stakeholders, featuring local artisan produce and livestock displays to live entertainment, kids' activities, and interactive exhibitions.



The launch of Creative Places Balbriggan, a three-year Arts Council-funded programme, marked a significant step in increasing community participation in the arts. The annual Fingal Artist's Support Scheme, now in its tenth year, attracted 303 applications for grants of up to €5,000 to support professional development, residencies and new work creation.



Smart Balbriggan, with funding from Science Research Ireland, in collaboration with the SCÉAL community, held the How's Its Made: Unmasking AI series of events in Balbriggan promoting collaboration between the creative arts and technology sector, with more than 225 attendees at the events.

Fingal County Council worked with heritage property operators and agencies such as Fáilte Ireland and the National Transport Authority to improve accessibility to heritage sites, including promoting new points along the Dublin Coastal Trail that are accessible by rail.

Fingal County Council also collaborated with local tourism groups and historical societies to protect and enhance cultural assets, providing funding and marketing support for festivals and events, and advancing plans for new walking trails in Rush and Skerries.



Fingal Libraries continued to play a central role in cultural engagement, hosting flagship events such as Cruinniú na nÓg, the *Magic of Stories* children's literature festival, the Festival of History, and Write Time literary events. Culture Night and a series of autumn and winter festivals further enriched Fingal's cultural calendar. Community Activities Funding supported local groups to deliver cultural events, reinforcing Fingal County Council's commitment to grassroots engagement.



Inclusivity was promoted through the Community Facilities Network, which supports 38 community centres with newsletters, training and networking workshops. A notable initiative was the partnership with Conaí Clubhouse, a recovery-oriented service for people living with mental health challenges, introducing a 12-week work placement programme in Huntstown and Corduff Community Centres to foster pathways to employment and social integration.

Section 6: SAFE, ACCESSIBLE, VIBRANT PLACES

Fingal County Council advanced its vision of creating safe, accessible and vibrant places with the progression of the establishment of Local Community Safety Partnerships and confirmation of the membership by the Minister in 2025 with meetings due to be held in Q1 2026. Community safety and cohesion were prioritised with initiatives such as Safer Halloween, which provided diversionary activities for young people, promoting safety and discouraging anti-social behaviour.

As part of Fingal Inclusion Week, Fingal County Council supported an intercultural event in Donabate and Portrane, fostering connections between new and existing residents and celebrating cultural diversity. This event launched a community campaign promoting inclusivity through visible signage and messaging.

Town regeneration remained a priority under the Town Centre First Policy. The Our Balbriggan Rejuvenation Programme progressed significantly, with works at Quay Street, the RNLI Boathouse and Harbour Public Realm progressing during 2025. Improvements to Balbriggan Beach facilities and the design phase for the DeBruns site both advanced in 2025.

Fingal North LOCAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Town and Village Healthchecks were completed for Donabate, Balrothery and Ballyboughal. Draft Town Centre First Plans for Rush and Lusk were developed, alongside capacity-building measures for emerging Town Teams in Skerries and other areas. Community Fora were supported to deliver local projects under these plans, ensuring inclusive participation in shaping vibrant town centres.








SECTION 3
Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme 2024-2028

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Arna chomhchistiú ag an Aontas Eorpach
Co-funded by the European Union

pobal
government supporting communities

SICAP
Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme

The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) is co-funded by the Government of Ireland, through the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, and the European Union.

SECTION 3

Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme 2024-2028

The Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme (SICAP) is a key intervention for harder to reach groups and individuals.

SICAP aims to address poverty, long-term unemployment and social exclusion through local engagement and partnership between disadvantaged individuals, community organisations and public agencies. Delivery of SICAP is overseen and managed by Fingal LCDC. Empower CLG, is the Programme Implementer for SICAP 2024-2028.

The budget for 2025 was €1,568,717.00. The programme implementer achieved its two Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) for 2025 (see table 1 below) and ensured that the programme and services were delivered within the financial parameters approved by the LCDC.



The Horizontal Themes of SICAP are Human Rights and Equality, Quality Community Development Approaches, Collaborative Approaches, and Climate Justice. These themes are fundamental to Fingal LCDC and Empowers' values and are evident through the strategies, reviews, programme planning and daily delivery.

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2024 – 2 Key Performance Indicators (KPI's)				
Goal		Target	Actual	%
Goal 1	LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS	71	71	100%
Goal 2	INDIVIDUALS	895	895	100%

Table 1

GOAL 1: Local Community Groups

Local Community Groups are supported under Goal 1 of SICAP. Empower work closely with both issue-based community groups and target-group representative community groups and have built significant social capital through intense work over time. This includes developing social capital, directly supporting SICAP target groups to address barriers they have identified and respond to their needs.

In 2025 Empower supported 71 Community Organisations, comprised of 47 community groups, 15 collaborative networks and 9 social enterprises. The types of interventions these Community Organisations received include: Supports to expand services (17%); Support to improve organisational capacity (38%); Planning and Review (31%); and Supports to develop and improve governance capacity (15%).

9 social enterprises were supported as part of Empower's work. They include Aster Family Resource Centre, BASE Enterprise Centre, Genesis Psychotherapy & Family Therapy Service, Little Learners, Musicantia, One Step Closer, Our Table, Phoenix FM and You First. Empower assist them to become more sustainable, to access funding and to help them engage with more people/marginalised groups.

Empower's supports included governance, strategic engagement and ongoing developmental input. One Step Closer, a community-based training service operated by Empower, applies a person-centred wraparound approach and is central to Empower's SICAP training provision, particularly for International Protection Applicants and Ukrainian beneficiaries. Empower subcontract Musicantia as part of their Roma engagement strategy. Empower's Deputy CEO also supports the advisory board of BASE Enterprise Centre, strengthening links between social enterprise and community development practice.

Empower also supported Thrive Balbriggan, a mental-health promotion network Chaired by an Empower team member. In February 2025, Thrive received the national Local Authority Members Association Award for Best Mental Health Initiative for the Great Places and Spaces Project. Additionally, Empower established and supported the Balbriggan Social Inclusion Network, bringing together 15 organisations with a shared equality focus to exchange information on funding, venues, local activity and education opportunities, and to develop collaborative actions that benefit SICAP target groups.



GOAL 2: Individuals

IIndividuals are supported primarily under Goal 2 of SICAP. Empower continute to use a Social Role Valorisation approach to support individuals most in need on a one-to-one basis. This person-centred approach allows individuals to explore their options and choose the most appropriate course of action for them and their families.



Individuals were supported by Empower to address food and fuel poverty. Empower continued to provide a foodbank in Balbriggan, based in the Social Inclusion Hub which provides food and hygiene parcels to adults and children weekly. In Mulhuddart, Empower collaborate with Blanchardstown Traveller Development Group, Islamic Centre of Ireland, St Vincent de Paul and local community groups to provide food and sanitary products to approximately 300 people from SICAP target groups each week.

Many people also received career guidance, CV preparation and interview skills from a case officer that helped support 73 people into a new job. In addition, 93 people who were already in employment at their point of SICAP registration were supported. 51 of these were educationally disadvantaged and therefore more likely to be living in low-income household and holding down precarious jobs.

104 people received self-employment supports in 2025 including mentoring and workshops such as Business Resilience, Start Your Own Business, Book-keeping for the Sole Trader, Selling online training. 49 people subsequently set up their own business who received new business after care self-employment supports.

Over 200 people attended a combination of soft skills and labour market courses throughout 2025 many of which were industry certified. These included: English language courses, Emergency First Aid, Food Safety, Forklift Counterbalance, HACCP, Manual Handling, People Movement, Pre-Employment Skills, Reception Skills, Safe Pass, and WRAP.

INDIVIDUAL CASELOAD BY TARGET GROUP 2025

	FINGAL LCDC LOT CASELOAD KP1 2	
TARGET GROUP	**NUMBER**	**PERCENTAGE**
People living in Disadvantaged Communities	**127**	**14%**
People impacted by educational disadvantage	**432**	**48%**
People living in jobless households or households where the primary income source is low-paid and/or precarious	**560**	**63%**
People who are long-term unemployed	**302**	**34%**
People with a criminal history	**14**	**2%**
Refugees	**89**	**10%**
International Protection Applicants	**298**	**33%**
People with Disabilities	**98**	**11%**
Heads of One-parent Families	**89**	**10%**
Travellers	**45**	**5%**
Roma	**201**	**22%**
Island residents	**0**	**0%**

Table 2: List of all SICAP target groups: People living in Disadvantaged Communities, People impacted by educational disadvantage, People living in jobless households or households where the primary income source is low-paid and/or precarious, People who are long-term unemployed, People with a criminal history, Refugees, International Protection Applicants, People with Disabilities, Heads of One-parent Families, Travellers, Roma, Island residents.

SICAP Supports Provided to the Ukrainian Arrivals & International Protection Applicants

Funds of €425,372.00 were allocated by DRCDG to support SICAP working with Ukrainian arrivals and International Protection Applicants. Initial funding of €375,372.00 was allocated to Empower, with an additional injection of €50,000.00 provided to support the year.

New Arrivals continue to experience multiple, compounding challenges arising from reduced resources, restrictive policies, and an increasingly hostile public discourse. Policies such as forced relocations, evictions, deportations, and periods of rough sleeping have had a significant cumulative impact, undermining human rights and contributing to widespread stress and uncertainty among individuals and families residing in accommodation centres.

Empower provides holistic supports to New Arrivals across accommodation, health, education, employment, child and family supports, and integration. A core delivery mechanism is the regular advocacy clinics held within accommodation centres. These clinics provide information on available services, assess needs, and facilitate referrals to internal and external supports

Through this engagement, Empower responds to individual issues such as health-related advocacy, shared needs including language and employment training, and broader structural challenges. For example, tailored supports were developed for LGBTQI+ New Arrivals, including safe spaces for connection, targeted training, wellbeing supports, and an art project entitled Identity as part of Pride which showcased at local libraries and a European inclusion event.

Open and ongoing communication enables Empower to tailor employment-related supports, including pre-employment training such as CV preparation and interview skills, ensuring alignment with participants' individual goals and circumstances.

Empower's Child & Family Team provided a range of interventions and supports, both in IPAS Centres and in their own premises to New Arrivals. In collaboration with Focus Ireland, Empower provided a range of intervention to New Arrival Children & Families in response to identified needs. These included social skills, resilience building, positive peer interactions and social development. In addition, Empower provided a weekly Parent & Toddler group for families from multiple IPAS Centres.








SECTION 4
Dublin Rural LEADER 2023-2027

The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development:
Europe investing in rural areas

Dublin Rural LEADER
Growth, Sustainability & Inclusion

SECTION 4

The Dublin Rural Leader Local Action Group

2025 Review & Key Achievements – Dublin Rural LEADER Programme

The Dublin Rural LEADER Programme built successfully on 2024's foundation, securing strong project approvals, and expanding its collaborative reach across rural communities. The Independent Evaluation Committee and Local Action Group convened five times throughout the year, resulting in the approval and recommendation of 41 projects totalling €602,058 in funding.



Project Approvals & Strategic Calls

The Programme accepted applications through both rolling calls and four targeted initiatives designed to address rural priorities. The Optimise Digitalisation call supported digital skills and connectivity projects, while the Female and Young Entrepreneurs in Rural Dublin call strengthened business support for underrepresented groups. The Go Green with Electric Tools initiative helped community organisations transition to sustainable maintenance, and Feasibility Studies funding advanced strategic development across key themes for rural Dublin.

Collaboration & Community Impact

Dublin Rural LEADER deepened partnerships with Town Teams, Dublin Mountain Partnership, PPNs, LEOs, Teagasc, and local government bodies. A highly successful collaborative Teagasc event engaged local farmers with fully booked attendance, showcasing available supports. The team also produced promotional videos with Fingal County Council highlighting past programme success stories and delivered free capacity-building training for community groups.



International Recognition

In November, European Commission officials visited Taylor's Irish Chillies - a LEADER-funded project representing the Programme's strongest outcomes. The visit demonstrated the effectiveness of Dublin Rural's governance structure and collaborative approach, with officials particularly impressed by the innovation and measurable family farm impact.



PROJECT EXAMPLES

Promoter Name:	Hill Mill CLG
Project Name:	Skerries Harvest Festival
Theme:	Rural Economic Development, Enterprise Development and Job Creation
Area:	Fingal
LEADER Funding:	€12,102.09

Project Description



The Harvest Time Festival was held at Skerries Mills Industrial Heritage Museum, bringing together the community to celebrate local agricultural heritage and land stewardship. This pilot initiative provided free public access to the historic site's windmills and watermill, creating a joyful, inclusive family day centred on themes of sharing, food, and sustainability.

The festival featured five live musical performances alongside craft demonstrations using traditional techniques and grown crops, including basket weaving. Visitors enjoyed looped mini tours of the historic mills, children's activities including a mini farm and harvest crafts, and opportunities to meet local farmers demonstrating machinery and sharing knowledge about food production. The day culminated with the harvesting and baling of barley in the crop field.

The festival attracted 2,990 visitors who provided excellent feedback on the educational and entertaining experience. The event successfully raised awareness of Skerries Mills and surrounding attractions amongst both established residents and newcomers to the area. Going forward, increased footfall to the heritage site and neighbouring community spaces is expected as awareness of these local assets continues to grow through word-of-mouth and media coverage.





PROJECT EXAMPLES

Promoter Name:	St Margarets GAA Club
Project Name:	St Margarets Community Walking Track
Theme:	Rural Infrastructure and Social Inclusion
Theme:	Rural Infrastructure and Social Inclusion
Area:	St Margarets, Fingal
LEADER Funding:	€40,068.86

Project Description

St Margaret's successfully delivered a new walking path project that has had significant positive impact on local wellbeing and cohesion. The path, constructed with a hard-core sub-base and dust surface, extends from an existing route and provides a robust, accessible facility for non-motorised public use.



The community undertook this initiative to enhance the local area through sustainable and inclusive design whilst stimulating community cohesion and overall wellbeing. The project recognised that access to quality green infrastructure was essential for social interaction, mental health support, and quality of life in a small rural setting.

The walking path incorporated several key innovations centred on sustainability and accessibility. The construction utilised eco-friendly materials and sustainable design practices, whilst the track was engineered to accommodate all users, including those with disabilities and mobility challenges. The robust surface ensured durability and comfort across all seasons.

The project has achieved all intended objectives. The completed pathway has become a valued community asset, encouraging regular use and interaction amongst residents.





Promoter Name:	St. Maur's GAA Club
Project Name:	St. Maur's Electric Lawnmower
Theme:	Sustainable Development of Rural Environment & Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation
Sub Theme:	Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation
Area:	Rush, Fingal
LEADER Funding:	€19,759.95

Project Description

St. Maur's GAA Club successfully completed a project funded under the Dublin Rural LEADER Targeted Call for Electrical Tools, acquiring a robotic electric lawnmower to replace aging petrol-powered equipment. The initiative has delivered significant environmental and operational benefits to the club and its volunteers.



The club sought to modernise its groundskeeping operations through sustainable alternatives to traditional fuel-based machinery. The project aimed to reduce carbon emissions and noise pollution, lower long-term maintenance costs, minimise manual labour for volunteers, and demonstrate environmental commitment within the community.



St. Maur's GAA Club successfully procured and implemented the robotic electric lawnmower, which now manages the club grounds with minimal volunteer intervention. The equipment operates autonomously, freeing up volunteer time previously dedicated to manual groundskeeping tasks.

The project achieved all intended objectives. The electric mower has significantly reduced the club's carbon footprint and operational noise levels, whilst delivering measurable cost savings on fuel and maintenance. Volunteers now redirect their efforts towards core community activities, strengthening the club's capacity to serve members. The initiative positions St. Maur's GAA as a leader in sustainable facility management within rural Dublin and demonstrates the practical viability of transitioning rural organisations towards greener operations.

Dublin Rural LEADER LOCAL ACTION GROUP (LAG) Members 2025

SECTOR	AGENCY	NAME
Statutory	Local Authority Member, Fingal LCDC	Cllr Eoghan Dockrell
	Local Authority Official, Fingal LCDC	John Quinlivan
	Local Authority Official, Fingal LCDC	Oisin Geoghegan
	Higher Education Authority, Fingal LCDC	Dr. Pat O'Connor
	Local Authority Member, South Dublin LCDC	Cllr Sarah Barnes
	Local Authority Official, South Dublin LCDC	Lorna Maxwell
	Local Authority Official, South Dublin LCDC	Fionnghuala Ryan
	Local Authority Member, Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown LCDC	Cllr Jim Gildea
	Local Authority Official, Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown LCDC	Deirdre Baber
	Local Authority Official, Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown LCDC	Dave Lawless
Non stat	Farming and Agriculture, Fingal LCDC	Laurence Ward
	Community & Voluntary Interest (Youth Rep), South Dublin LCDC	Andy Leeson
	Environmental Interest, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown LCDC	Annette McAllister
	Community & Voluntary Interest (Youth Rep), Fingal LCDC	Jean O'Gorman
	Local Business Community	Vacant
	Local Development, Fingal LCDC	Adeline O'Brien
	Local Development (Implementing Partner), Fingal Leader Partnership	Eilish Harrington
	Social Inclusion, Marginalised & Disadvantaged Communities, Fingal	Geraldine Rooney
	Environmental Interest, Fingal	Richie Bowden
	South Dublin County Partnership, South Dublin LCDC	Simon Monds

PUBLIC (STATUTORY) PRIVATE (NON-STATUTORY


CABER STAR

Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council

Fingal County Council
Economic Enterprise Tourism and Cultural Development,
c/o Fingal LCDC, County Hall,
Main Street, Swords,
Co. Dublin.
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Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Chief Executive's Management Report

9th March 2026
Item No. 25

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Chief Executive's Foreword

Spring has arrived and with the highly anticipated promise of milder weather comes also some annual events that attract huge interest here in Fingal including Seachtain na Gaeilge and of course the fantastic St. Patrick's Day celebrations both guaranteed to provide fun and entertainment for people of all ages.

Seachtain na Gaeilge will be celebrated from March 1st – 17th and there are a number of Council events taking place in County Hall Swords, in partnership with the Seamus Ennis Arts Centre, in Local Libraries and Ardgillan Demesne as well as many other events being organised by Irish language groups throughout the County. Irish is a language that thrives through use and isn't just for those well versed in the language – it is for everyone to use and whether you are recalling the Irish of your schooldays or learning for the first time, this is the perfect time to become immersed in the culture through speaking the language. The popularity of our Gaeltacht Scholarship Scheme is testament to the enthusiasm and grá for the Irish language as young people across Fingal prepare to spend time in Gaeltacht areas to improve their knowledge. This year, there were 500 applications to the scheme which provides financial assistance for 15 successful applicants who are attending Irish college in the summer months. To mention just a couple of events taking place over this fortnight - Seachtain na Gaeilge's annual celebration with Ceol, Craic and Gaeilge will take place in the Atrium, County Hall on Wednesday, March 11th from 7 to 9pm and is brought to you with support from The Séamus Ennis Arts Centre. Talented musicians Éamonn de Barra, Paudie O'Connor, and Aoife Ní Chaoimh will be performing on the night and everyone is welcome to come along and experience this celebration of music and culture. Always a popular event, the Pop-Up Gaeltacht comes to the Séamus Ennis Arts Centre on March 19th starting at 5.30pm followed by their regular bilingual singing session. To discover all the fantastic events which will be held over Seachtain na Gaeilge, you can go to https://www.fingal.ie/seachtain-na-gaeilge-2026 for full details.

Staying with the theme of pride in our language and culture, St. Patrick's Day will be celebrated with eight parades across Fingal showcasing the best in music, dance and family friendly fun!

Our annual celebration of our patron saint has attracted many thousands of excited spectators over the years and this year will be no exception as local groups, sports clubs and performers don their colours and wave their flags proudly on the day. Parades will take place in Swords, Blanchardstown, Balbriggan, Malahide, Rush, Lusk, Skerries and Donabate and all the start times, routes and details are available here: https://www.fingal.ie/events/st-patricks-day-parades a new *Best Dressed Group* prize for entrants to the Blanchardstown, Balbriggan, Swords and Malahide parades is sure to encourage groups to think creatively this year as there is a chance of winning €1,000 for first place, €500 for second and third place. In the run up to the big day, our local libraries, community spaces and art centres are hosting an exciting lineup of St. Patrick's week activities. You'll find arts and crafts workshops, Ceol le Chéile, quizzes, and more, Find out more: https://www.fingal.ie/libraries-events

Director of Operations, Mary T. Daly, will attend her final council meeting as member of the Executive Management Team this month as she retires from Fingal County Council on March 20th. Over her 40+ years career in the local authority sector, Mary has amassed extensive knowledge and has guided and mentored her colleagues across a variety of roles in Louth, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and Fingal County Councils. Her expertise and experience were particularly put to the test as she steered the Operations & Water Services teams through the Covid era and has overseen many projects and infrastructure milestones during her time. I wish to congratulate Mary T on her many accomplishments and thank her for her many years of diligent public service. I know you will join me in wishing Mary T. a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Best wishes,

AnnMarie Farrelly
Chief Executive

PEOPLE, CORPORATE AND DIGITAL SERVICES

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People Services
Health & Safety Unit
Customer Services
CRM
Communications

Recruitment

Recruitment Programme 2026	
Total Recruitment Campaigns	20
Interviews Held to date	160
New Starters	29
Promotions	9
Number of Current Job Offers	73

Learning & Development Update

Learning & Development	Year to date
Number of courses	65
Number of Attendees	595
Number of Training Days	566

Throughout March, courses will be delivered in the areas of mandatory Disciplinary Training for all staff, Health & Safety – Teleporter, Signing Lighting Guarding – Driver CPC and many more.

Wellbeing Update

The Fingal Staff Choir is relaunching the first week of March 2026 in both Blanchardstown and Swords. Employee Financial Wellness Masterclasses around the subjects of 'Goal Setting & Budgeting' and 'Managing Mortgages' took place on 11th of February and 11th of March respectively. Mental Health First Aid training took place on 24th and 25th of February.

Mental Health Workshops for all staff also took place from 23rd – 25th of February. CE Innovation initiative for 2026 will be beginning in March/April, which will include the Fingal run club in Blanch/Swords, Yoga, Boxercise, Circuit training etc which will continue throughout 2026.

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.

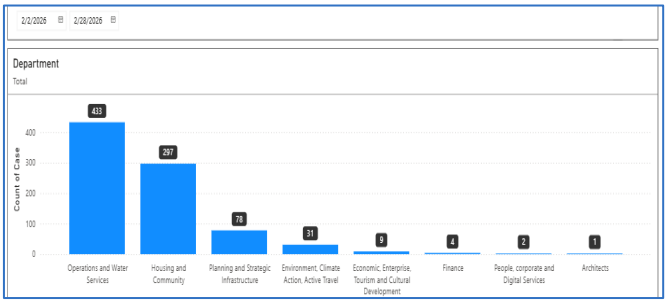
Customer Services

Customer Care Unit Statistics – January 2026

Month	Total Calls CCU	Total Emails CCU
February 2026	**10,246**	**900**

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 February was 855. See below breakdown by each department.



Communications

Digital Statistics

The fingal.ie website had 186,069 visitors during February, an increase of 32,279 from the previous period. The number of page views increased by 49,834 to 386,491. The average time spent on the website increased to 6m 13s.

One of the most popular pages during February was the jobs page. Our Planning Applications page also had over 24,042 page views.

The Facebook account rose to 46,385 followers (+2.5%) while the number of views increased by 56.6% to 3,586,742 from the previous month. There were 10,583 (+31.3%) interactions. The most popular post was flooding and road condition updates.

Instagram rose to 18,403 followers. Total views went up by 80.4% to 1,046.679, with a reach of 109,606 (+215.5%). There were 11,599 (+151.8%) interactions. The most read post was on flooding and road condition updates.

The number of followers on X fell again, down 13 to 23,043. We have stopped posting to X.
The WhatsApp channel now has 3,819 (+4.89%) followers while the numbers currently following our other corporate channels are Threads (1,700), TikTok (1,190) and Bluesky (532).

LinkedIn followers are at 13,195, an increase of 197 new followers in the last 30 days.

For our YouTube Channel the number of subscribers rose by 23 to 1,994 in February. Total views were 6,694. We now have 854 videos, our most popular videos during February were the Affordable Housing Scheme - Online Application Tutorial and Official opening of the Ongar Barnhill Road. We continue to webcast the monthly Council Meeting which is proving popular on YouTube.

Irish Language

Our Gaeltacht Scholarship Scheme was hugely popular again this year with over 500 applications, the draw took place and the 15 successful applicants from schools across the county from Blanchardstown to Balbriggan and Swords to Sutton have been informed.
Seachtain na Gaeilge continues until March 17th
See: www.fingal.ie/Seachtain-na-Gaeilge-2026

Press Releases

There were 13 press releases issued during February covering topics such as the beginning of works on Seatown to Estuary Road Active Travel Scheme, funding for erosion works at Portrane, €800k granted under Festival and Events Funding, launch of Explore Fingal brand, the opening of the Ongar-Barnhill Rd, and the launch of Seachtain na Gaeilge 2026.
Key coverage included the Irish Times and Irish Independent covering a court case involving the demolition of timber cabins (FCC v Gaynor). The Irish Independent also did a feature on playground vandalism on back of an FOI. RTE covered the stalling of plans for a new cargo village at Dublin Airport and the proposed removal of the passenger cap.
Local newspapers picked up the likes of the launch of the Explore Fingal brand, the warning about Hemlock Water Dropwort in Malahide, and the decision by councillors to stop the Council's use of X.



Media Queries

Media queries during February included questions on playground vandalism, evictions of HAP and RAS tenants, pothole damage payouts, flooding in North Dublin, and Fingal County Council's social media policy.

Digital Services

Windows 11 Project

The Windows 11 Project has been successfully completed across all council devices. This work included the upgrade of all laptops and desktops, to the latest supported Microsoft operating system, ensuring improved security, performance, and long-term support. A total of 1,178 devices were upgraded or replaced. This project was delivered in line with national cybersecurity guidance and prepares the organisation for future digital initiatives.



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Current Judicial Reviews

MKN Properties Limited and another -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023/373 JR
daa plc -v- Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023/383 JR
daa plc -v- Fingal County Council and the Irish Aviation Authority High Court Record No. 2023/916 JR
Niall O'Connor and Geraldine Kiernan -v- An Bord Pleanala and Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2023/1122JR
Portmarnock Real Estate Development Limited and St. Marnock's II DAC v An Bord Pleanála and Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2024/1464 JR
Integrated Materials GP Unlimited Company Trading as Integrated Materials Solutions Limited Partnership v An Bord Pleanála and Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2025/502 JR
Daa PLC v Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2025/0001241 JR
Ryanair Dac V An Coimisiun Pleanala High Court Record No. 2025/0001346 JR
Daa Plc V An Coimisiun Pleanala High Court Record No. 2025/0001406 JR
Aer Lingus Limited v An Coimisiún Pleanála and Ors High Court Record No. 2025/1344 JR
SMTW Environmental dac and Serena Taylor v An Coimisiun Pleanala and Ors High Court Record No. 2025/1348 JR
Simon Rutledge v. Fingal County Council High Court Record No. 2025/00001383 JR
Daithi O'Raithbheartaigh v The Ombudsman and Fingal County Council High Court Record Number 2025/1634

ECONOMIC, COMMUNITY & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (ECCD)

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Local & Rural Development
Healthy Fingal
LEADER Economic Programme
Enterprise Centres
Town Regeneration
Balbriggan Socio-Economic StrategyT&V Scheme
Local Enterprise Office
Community Development & Inclusion
Community Development
Facilities Management
Interagency
Age Friendly Fingal
Funding
Integration: Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Destination Brand Launch



The new destination tourism brand, Explore Fingal, was officially launched on Monday 23rd February 2026 at a gala event in the Grand Hotel, Malahide.

Local media personality Simon Delaney was MC. The launch unveiled a new brand identity, dedicated website, and social media platforms, marking a significant milestone in the implementation of the Fingal Tourism Strategy 2024–2029.

The event was officially launched by the Mayor of Fingal Cllr Tom O'Leary, and he informed the 200 attendees representing all areas of tourism in the Fingal area that "The launch of Explore Fingal, the new destination tourism brand, is a significant step in consolidating and highlighting the tourism offering within Fingal."





The launch of the new destination brand was a great opportunity to demonstrate the Council's commitment to delivering on its tourism and economic development ambitions, underpinned by sustainability and the parallel implementation of the Fingal Food & Drink Policy 2024–2029.

The new destination website, **www.ExploreFingal.ie** is now live.

Progression of the Advisory Group and Four Strategic Groups

Following the inaugural Strategic Group meetings in 2025, the first quarterly meetings of 2026 were successfully convened in January, marking continued delivery of the Fingal Tourism, Food & Drink Framework. The four Strategic Groups are now fully operational and meeting on an agreed annual cycle.

The Advisory Group convened for its second meeting on 23rd February 2026, where members were presented with progress updates on the Framework and received reports from each Strategic Group Chair outlining key action areas and priorities.

It continues to provide strategic oversight, facilitate collaboration, monitor progress, and offer expert guidance, with a clear focus on delivering achievable actions within the lifetime of the Framework while maintaining a longer-term strategic lens to inform future opportunities and investment decisions.



EVENTS

St Patrick's Events

2026 will see more events over the St Patrick's Festival. Donabate will add to the parade experience and host a village festival. Overall 8 towns and villages will host community parades.





Festival and Events Funding for 2026

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 closed on the 22nd of December. 136 applications were received with 99 meeting the criteria for festival and events funding. The balance of applications was referred to Sports, Community or the Art sections.

Festival and Events Funding – January to March

The Story of the Fingal 5th Battalion Festival Roadshow

Feasibility Study & Business Plan for Bealtaine Photography Competition and Positive Ageing Week Neighbourhood Festival

All Shucked Up – Howth, Oyster & Music Festival

The Fingal International Festival of Voices

Donabate St Patrick's Festival

Rush St Patrick's Day Parade

Lusk St Patrick's Day Festival

Skerries St Patrick's Day Parade

Total Funding: €54,000



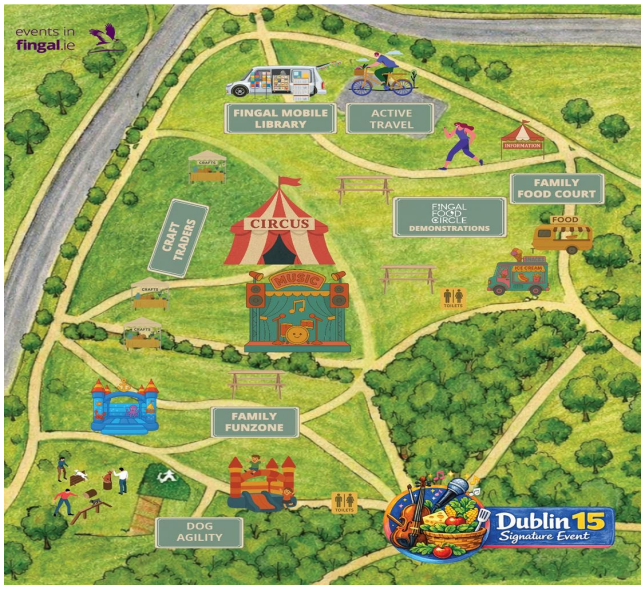
Flavours of Fingal Re-imagined

2026 will see a re imagined Flavours of Fingal significant savings have been made to the programming ethos of the county show. A full presentation will go to the members in April.



Dublin 15's signature event

Saturday 2nd & 23rd July will see the inaugural D15 signature event, details to follow and a briefing to Area Committee.



HERITAGE PROPERTIES

Ardgillan Castle

The Drawing Room at Ardgillan Castle is the venue for a comedy show called 'Four Old Broads' by Balbriggan Dramatic Society from 17th to 21st March. This is a fundraiser for Balbriggan Alzheimer's Society, who should be contacted directly for reservations.



Skerries Mills

ECCD with the assistance of the Architects Department are undertaking a thorough assessment of the damage caused to the four-sail windmill at Skerries Mills. The sail arms were badly damaged during Storm Bram. This work is being done with a view to engaging a specialist contractor shortly. It is our intention that the much-loved landmark of the Skerries landscape is substantively restored to its former glory during 2026.

Malahide Castle

On the 18th March the Visitor Centre at Malahide will host a showcase for the Fingal Food Circle as part of a pre-conference reception for 200 EU CAP practitioners. The attendees will be from 27 countries and are all agricultural advisors who are attending a two-day briefing in the Grand Hotel.

ECCD has worked with Fingal LEADER and other Irish partners to ensure that local attractions, amenities and restaurants are promoted. This is to encourage the idea that the delegates can return to the area to enjoy an exceptional tourism offering, especially excellent sustainable food offering and local experiences.



Malahide Castle has also won the Public Sector Magazine award for National Tourism Impact in 2025. The award is peer-based, and was secured this year due to the excellent ongoing conservation work being undertaken in the Castle, and the integration of this into the guided tour experience.

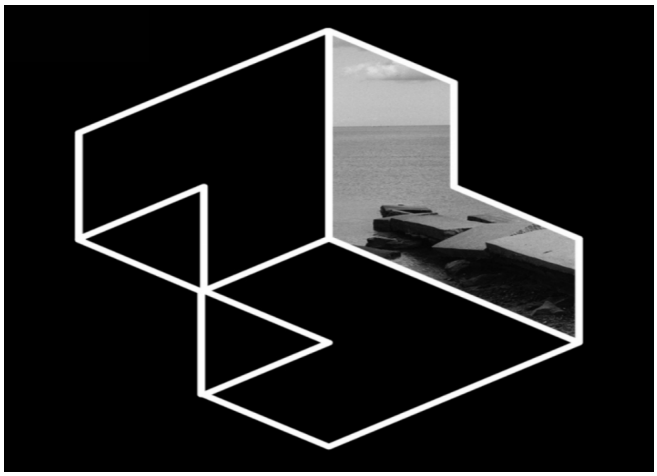


In a similar vein Malahide Castle has won the 2025 award for excellence by CIE Tours. CIE used guest feedback from a survey of over 30,000 visitors to hundreds of sites in Ireland. Malahide emerged with a satisfaction rating of 92%, and this result is best in class for visitor attractions. It is a testament to the quality of the experience in the Castle and Gardens tours.

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Professional Arts Development

Arts Services Evaluation



Fingal Arts Office is currently undertaking an ongoing evaluation of the Fingal Artists' Support Scheme and the Awards & Residency Programme, as part of our commitment to strengthening and developing our supports for artists across the county.

As part of this process, both successful and unsuccessful applicants are invited to complete a short survey. This feedback is essential in helping us to better understand artists' needs, experiences, and the impact of our funding and development programmes.

The evaluation will inform how these schemes can continue to evolve, ensuring they remain relevant, accessible, and responsive to the changing professional and creative landscape.

The deadline is Friday 6th March 2026 and the surveys can be found here: Fingal Arts Office Evaluation of Fingal Artists' Support Scheme and the Awards & Residency Programme for previous applicants | Fingal County Council

Local Arts Development

Arts Act Grant Scheme 2026



This year marked the first time that the Arts Act Grant Scheme was publicly announced as open for applications. In tandem with this, a new Revenue Strand was introduced by invitation only in this pilot year, expanding the scope of the scheme and the range of applicants eligible to apply.

As a result of these changes, the scheme attracted 60% new applicants in this funding round. Overall, this represented a 140% increase in applicants compared to 2025. This public announcement indicated a significantly increased awareness of the scheme and broadened extent of support sought to €730,714.

A total of 84 applications were received and assessed. Having examined the applications, the panel has recommended 38 awards, amounting to a total sum of **€225,000.**

Events, festivals and projects supported under this scheme aim to deliver quality arts experiences to participants and audiences, to increase opportunities for participation and engagement in the arts and to contribute to the development of the arts in the county.

Find the full list of applicants approved at the 9th February Council meeting here: Fingal Arts Act Grant Scheme 2026 | Fingal County Council

The Carnegie

In February, the SCQ Artist Development Programme continued to progress strongly, with active discussions underway with new partners to expand our residency strand at the Carnegie. This includes plans for a Theatre Maker in Residence in partnership with the Irish Theatre Institute, a Composer and Choral Commission in collaboration with the Contemporary Music Centre, and the appointment of a second Musician in Residence with Music Network. All residencies will be based in the Carnegie, supporting the development of artistic work across disciplines in preparation for the opening of Culture House in 2027.

We also convened our second Close Enquiry, bringing together experts from across the arts sector; insights from this session are now informing the development of SCQ's cultural strategy.

Public Art

Draíocht

Local groups programmed over the Jan to Feb period included Coolmine Panto, Coolmine Therapeutic Community and the Sacred Heart of Jesus National School. Our children's performance programme included 'Other Worlds' by Jess Rowell. This show is for young people with a range of needs. We also had Branar's 'Story of A Day'. We brought Pal Curleys' installation piece 'Elephant in the Room' into schools for a two-week period. As we continue to provide access points to work for children, fees paid to companies/artists will never be covered by box office income taken. We have worked with Access Cinema to ensure that all our English language films are captioned to provide greater access to the hard of hearing/deaf community. This works in tandem with our newly installed loop system.

The March/April brochure is printed/distributed. The May/June brochure deadline is fast approaching. Both include our programme mix of local, arts and commercial work. Our schedule is almost booked out for the remainder of the year, with less than 5 dates available. All weekends are booked. Jan to March 2027 is heavily booked. We will be sending out available dates to our D15 schools of dance and drama for the May/June period shortly. The list of local schools interested in having their end of terms shows here is ever growing. Coolmine Community School, Hartstown Community College and Scoil Bride Buachalli are all booked in between the end of Feb and April 2027. Each school is taking a full week and need access to both spaces given their cast sizes. Sinead Kampff, a Dublin 15 artist, was in the Studio artist from early Jan to mid-February 2026. Selena Quilligan is in the space until the end of April. Selena is a Fingal based artist.

The Exhibition called 'Spring 26' will open on 4th March and will run until May 2nd, 2026. The Mayor of Fingal will officially open the Exhibition. 26 artists who live/are from Fingal are included in same. Lucy Hill's Exhibition for children will open on June 4th. This is Cruinniu Na nOg, the national day celebrating children's creativity, so it is a fitting day to open this particular show. Our Children/Youth Arts programme has included film screenings for secondary schools, Gallery explore tours, Youth Theatre workshops, Create Dance workshops and Family days. Our artist support programme continues. There is huge demand regarding any available dates we have either in the rehearsal room or in the studio space. Space for development/rehearsal has been allocated in each month of 2026.

Full details are available on www.draiocht.ie

The Seamus Ennis Arts Centre

Film

Our cinema event this month was Irish comedy/ Drama '**Four Mothers**'. This was screened on 12th February and had 54 attendees.

Kids Workshops & Events

On 13th February we held our February **Céilí Beag** session which was sold out with 15 attendees. The theme for February was 'Cupid's Colourful Play Quest' and featured music by Eamonn Galldubh. At the end of the month we will also be screening a French children's film 'Savages' as part of our IFI schools film screenings aimed at junior cert French students.

Music

Dynamic folk orchestra, **'No Crows'** from co. Sligo, played to a sell-out crowd with 92 attendees on the 14th February. **Seisiún Óige** - A Slow Session for Young Musicians went ahead in the afternoon on Sunday 15th February and was booked out with 50 attendees however, Our **Traditional Irish Music Slow Session with Paudie O'Connor** (20 attendees in person and 20 attendees online via Zoom) unfortunately did not go ahead as scheduled on the 15th February due to a power outage in Naul village.



Coming up This Month

Still to come this month we will be hosting our monthly **Pop-Up Gaeltacht** on 19th February followed by our regular monthly **Singing Session** which will feature special guest singer **Mairéad Ní Mhaonaigh**. Our Singing Session will take place both in person and online via zoom as well as being live streamed via Facebook and YouTube. On 20th February we will host **The Pure Drop** Featuring: Caoimhín Ó Fearghail, Seán Ó Fearghail, Brendan Clancy, and Donnchadh Gough.

The Pure Drop is a monthly showcase of traditional Irish music delivered in its purest form live on stage in our intimate theatre. TSEAC will host Welsh folk band '**ALAW**' on 28th February. The trio are renowned for their fresh and exciting take on traditional folk music

Visual Arts

On Monday 23rd February we will be hanging our new exhibition by Dublin artist Cormac Dennis. "Sanctuary" is a compelling collection of over 25 new works exploring the intersection of the natural world and spiritual growth. The exhibition will run in our Easter Snow Gallery from 23rd February – 31st March 2026.

Libraries

2025 Stats

Libraries in Fingal were as busy as ever in 2025 recording 976,616 visits. 1.4m items were issued which includes physical books and digital items such as e newspapers, e audio books and e books.

International Women's Day

Dr. Mary McAuliffe will give a talk on the fascinating life of Irish revolutionary and feminist Dr. Kathleen Lynn in Balbriggan Library for International Women's Day. Award-winning author Róisín O'Donnell will be in conversation with Olivia Fitzsimons in Blanchardstown Library.

Fingal Libraries World Book Tour

To celebrate World Book Day Ireland, five children's authors will visit libraries and schools across Fingal between 2nd-6th March. The annual Fingal Libraries World Book Tour gives primary school children an opportunity to meet favourite authors.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Libraries programme for Seachtain na Gaeilge includes an Irish language magic show, family-friendly 'pop-up Gaeltachts', Irish language story time, family yoga, a bilingual poetry evening, and a comedy show for secondary school students in the Draíocht Centre, Blanchardstown.

An Leabharlann Fháilteach



Donabate Library is delighted to present An Leabharlann Fháilteach – a new initiative to promote the Irish language through libraries. This initiative will feature family-friendly bilingual events and an expanded collection of Irish language books.

The Toy Library

Blanchardstown Library, Skerries Library and Balbriggan Library will host Toy Library 'swap & play' events where families can swap toys, play, and learn about circular living.

Creative Fingal: Wavin' Words

Wavin' Words will take place in the Chapel of Swords Castle on Saturday, 14th March. This spoken word and music event continues to attract strong engagement from young performers and audiences.

Creative Fingal: Helium Arts Workshops

Helium Arts workshops supporting children with lifelong health conditions are taking place in Blanchardstown Library. Facilitated by professional artists with medical support, these workshops give children a safe social space outside hospital settings in which to be creative.

Economic Development

Fingal Skills Strategy Update – February 2026



- The Economic Development Team in collaboration with the Transport & Logistics Sub-group held a successful Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) briefing event in Baldoyle Training centre on the 4th of February. Over 60 people attended from various sectors within the construction industry. The event highlighted the importance of MMC in the delivery of new homes and infrastructure and shone light on the training opportunities available to employers.

Interreg Skyla Project – Update – February 2026

- The Interreg SKYLA Project will enter the monitoring and follow-up phase in March 2026.
- A pilot school engagement took place in January communicating labour market intelligence to students.

Sustainable Fingal - Update – February 2026

- The Draft Sustainability Strategy will be presented to the SPC in March and Full Council in April.

Circular Cities - Update – February 2026

- Feasibility study from EcoCore Hackathon in progress on a Circular Hub and Digital Platform for the Balbriggan area.
- Information on circular initiatives across Fingal is being compiled for the CCD Report with a submission deadline of end of March 2026.

LOCAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Fingal LCDC

- Next LCDC Meeting: 13th May 2026
- Healthy Ireland & LECP: Ongoing implementation and review.

SICAP Update

- End of year financial and monitoring report
- Pobal and was approved by LCDC on 25th February 2026.

LEADER Programme Update

- Next LAG Meeting: 25th March 2026
- Applications currently open for Leader Funding: For rural individuals, businesses & community groups

Local Enhancement Programme (LEP) 2026

- Funding Available: €268,827 allocated to Fingal for Capital Projects only. Closed on 27 February 2026.
- Evaluation Meeting on 12th March 2026.

Walking Football

- Healthy Fingal is working with Total Football Solutions and local sports clubs to deliver a Walking Football Programme in Fingal which will be rolled out in Q2 & Q3 in 4 areas: Balbriggan, Blanchardstown, Lusk and Malahide/Portmarnock.



TOWN REGENERATION OFFICE

Our Balbriggan 2025 – 2030 Rejuvenation Plan – A Socio-Economic Strategy

The Balbriggan Leadership Group are scheduled to meet next on March 11th where members will receive updates on the Urban Regeneration Development funded Public Infrastructure Projects and progress reports from its four Pillar Chairs; Economic Development, Education, Skills & Training, Community Development & Sustainability, Climate Action & Biodiversity.





The Council appointed contractor John Craddock Ltd on the redevelopment of the Quay Street, Harbour & Environs area in Q2 2024. Work is continuing to progress well across all key elements, with the majority of the work scheduled to be substantially completed in Spring 2026.

Phase 5 works are underway with the heritage restoration of the RNLI Boathouse building in its final stages. The restoration works are due for completion in Q1 2026. The new public toilets, harbour pavilion buildings and kiosks are progressing and are due for completion by March 2026.

Works on 2 new pedestrian bridges have been completed, and extensive bedded planting in the Plaza area completed. Site testing investigations are complete on the site of Balbriggan's old gas works, which is part of the new Harbour Square development.

Following the February Swords/Balbriggan ACM, the Section 38 Quay Street & Environs Traffic Management Scheme was agreed and traffic control measures works in Georges Hill, Mill Street, Quay Street, Harbour Road and Seapoint Lane are to proceed in Q2 2026.



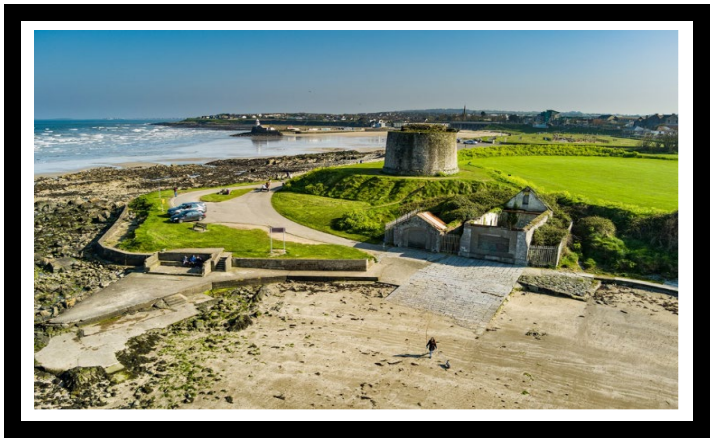
The procurement process to appoint a contractor for the redevelopment of 2-4 Dublin Street is ongoing. The property and adjoining commercial unit are set to be transformed into a new Creative Hub with 8 workspaces at 2 Dublin Street and an ancillary connected space at 4 Dublin Street which will support STEAM education, digital learning, training and enterprise activities. Substantial completion is expected in 2027.



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. 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 with 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 Q3 2026 with construction commencing in early 2027 for completion of the project in late 2027.



Our Balbriggan Programme Office continues to work with the Operations Department 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 Q1 – Q2 2026 and include a Half MUGA, and other outdoor enhancements including seating.

Lár Bailte ar dTús
Town Centre First

Town Centre First – Lusk

Following their recent award of funding in the amount €195,075 from the Department of Community and Rural Development and the Gaeltacht, the Lusk Town Team continue to work on key projects identified from the Town Centre First 'Lusk for Life' plan.



Town Centre First – Balrothery

The Balrothery Town Team held their first meeting of the year on 26 February to discuss their award of funding in the amount of €49,500 from the Department of Community and Rural Development and the Gaeltacht.

These funds have been awarded to complete a feasibility study for one of the key projects contained within their Plan - the creation of a modern, vibrant outdoor area to host local events.



Town Centre First – Ballyboughal

Following a Town Team meeting on 03 February, preparations are ongoing regarding plans to utilise the approved funding of €218,700 which the Ballyboughal Town Team received from the Department of Community and Rural Development and the Gaeltacht for the delivery of key public realm enhancement projects for the village.



Town Centre First – Donabate

The Donabate Town Team continues to make good progress in prioritising projects contained with the Donabate Town Centre First Health Check for implementation during 2026. Plans for the Donabate St. Patrick's Day parade are also at an advanced stage.



Town Centre First – Rush

The town team in Rush hosted an open public information event in late February to obtain feedback from local residents and businesses regarding opportunities for funding of €50,000 form the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht to the Rush Community.



Upgrade works to Rush Community Centre from funding provided by the Department of Community and Rural Development and the Gaeltacht under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme in 2023 to the value of €64,350, have now been completed. These works included painting, complete refurbishment of the existing bathroom facilities and the construction of a Pergola. The enhancement of the community centre represents important public investment in local facilities for the people of Rush.



Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2025

The Town Regeneration Office secured €1,035,450 in funding for all five applications submitted to the TVRS scheme operated by the Department of Rural and Community Development & The Gaeltacht which was announced in December 2025

The successful applications are:

St. Margaret's - Community Hall Enhancement

Funding of €500,000 has been approved to complete the repair, refurbishment and extension of the existing Community Hall in St Margaret's to include mechanical and electrical upgrades, fire safety and site clearing. This project will be led by the Community Development Office and supported by the Town Regeneration Office.

Ballyboughal - Public Realm Enhancement

Funding of €218,700 has been approved. This project will be led by the Ballyboughal Town Team and supported by the Town Regeneration Office.

Lusk - Public Realm Enhancement

Funding of €195,075 has been approved. This project will be led by the Lusk Town Team and supported by the Town Regeneration Office.

Rush – Feasibility Study for Public Realm Enhancement

Funding of €50,000 has been approved. This project will be led by the Rush Town Team and supported by the Town Regeneration Office.

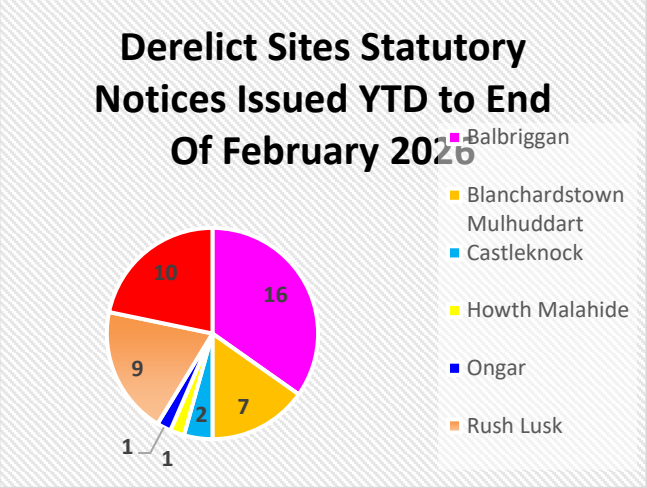
Balrothery – Feasibility Study for Public Realm Enhancement

Funding of €49,500 has been approved. This project will be led by the Balrothery Town Team and supported by the Town Regeneration Office.

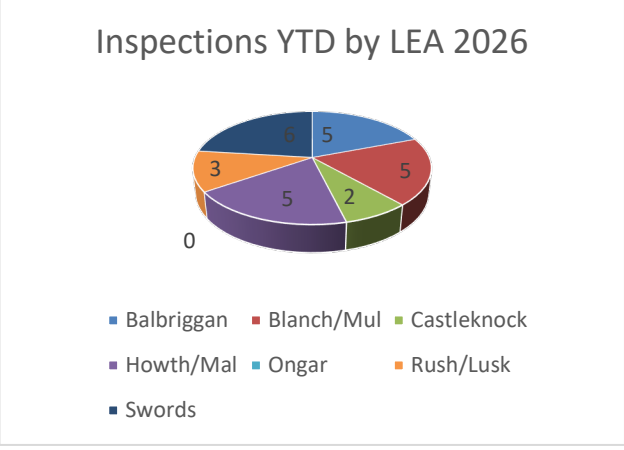
Derelict Sites

46 no. Statutory notices have issued to owners of Derelict sites for the month of February 2026.

2 no. properties have been removed from the Derelict Sites Register since the start of the year following compliance with Section 11 Notices. A further 2 no. properties have been added to the Derelict Sites Register this year which brings the current number of properties on the Derelict Sites Register to 29.



There have been a total of 26 no. inspections carried out year to date in 2026 on existing files and new referrals from members of the public and through the activity of the Derelict Sites team.



Local Enterprise Office

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

Local Enterprise Week 2026



Local Enterprise Week launched on 30th January, and takes place 2nd to 6th March 2026. It features a packed schedule of events for start-ups and small businesses focusing on management training, networking, mentoring and much more.

Fingal Enterprise Awards 2026

The Fingal Enterprise Awards competition is organised annually by the Local Enterprise Office to acknowledge the achievements of small businesses. This is part of a national competition in which one overall winner from each of the 31 Local Enterprise Office areas will compete for the National awards. Five applicants have been short-listed and will compete, with one winner to be announced during Local Enterprise Week, who will go on to represent Fingal at the National Enterprise Awards final in the Mansion House on Thursday, 18th June 2026.

The five finalists are:

Climate Matters Ltd, Cera Slevin (Skerries)
Donna Reilly Wellness Ltd, Donna Reilly (Balgriffin)
Mantra Strategy Ltd, Lisa Nicole Dunne (Malahide)
Now Juice Ltd, Marti Nulty (Ballyboughal)
Snugz Play Ltd, Fiona Synnott (Malahide)

Fingal Business Supports Briefing



The February monthly online *Business Supports Briefing*, attracted 169 registrants to learn about supports for their business.

The next briefing will take place online during Local Enterprise Week on March 6th and will continue to run monthly throughout the year.

Food Sectoral Supports

Food | Drink | Retail | Hospitality
ifex 2026
Eikon Exhibition Centre, Lisburn
24 – 26 February 2026

Through the LEO's Dublin Food Chain initiative, a trade delegation of food producers was organised by LEO Fingal to the IFEX Expo in Lisburn on 24 - 26 February 2026. Ten food producers exhibited at the export-oriented trade show, three of whom were LEO Fingal Clients. This initiative is part of the enhanced strategic focus of the LEO on enabling internationalisation and innovation.

Evaluations and Approvals Committee

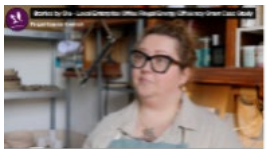
The Evaluation and Approvals Committee (EVAC) approved €160,000 across 8 business grant applications in February 2026. The next EVAC meeting will convene on 1st April 2026.

Management Development



Recruitment is underway in Fingal for the next Leadership for Business Acceleration programme commencing on March 12th. The programme provides learning and mentorship helping businesses to grow, increase employment and move into international markets. The programme is a joint initiative between LEO Fingal and LEO Dublin City with this iteration accepting participants on a pilot basis from DLR & SDCC LEO's.

Sustainability Supports





LEO Fingal provides expertise and incentives to enable small businesses to reduce their carbon footprint and become more sustainable. The Green for Business programme was delivered to 41 Fingal based businesses in 2025 allowing many of these businesses to apply for the Energy Efficiency Grant with funding of up to €10,000 and 75% of eligible costs, to enable small businesses to acquire energy efficient equipment and processes.

20 applicants were approved for funding under this scheme in 2025. 5 applicants have been approved so far in 2026.

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. In 2025 , 665 clients availed of a Business Advice Clinic and 371 signed up for mentoring, with consistently high demand for this service among Fingal businesses. So far this year 190 clients have signed up to the mentor and business advice clinic service.

Business Loan scheme

LEO Fingal provides a loan scheme through its partnership with Microfinance Ireland (MFI), up to €50,000 per approved applicant.

In 2025, 40 MFI loan applications were processed., supported by an expert mentor who guides applicants through the process to maximise their prospect of approval. 2026 looks set to be another busy year for MFI with strong interest already been show among LEO Clients.

Training and Events

Training attendance remains strong throughout Q1 in LEO Fingal. To end of February 2026, there have been 31 events with 568 registered, including 3 Start Your Own Business Courses with 36 attending, a Food Starter Course with 13 attending and 1 Business Supports Briefing with 169 people expressing interest in the LEO Business Supports offered.

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. LEO Fingal approved seven applications in 2025 in the amount of €49,010, with several businesses currently working on applications early in 2026.

Digital & Innovation Supports



The *Grow Digital Voucher* and *Digital for Business* schemes offer SMEs grant and capability supports to embrace digital technology. In 2026 so far 6 clients availed of the programmes.

The next information webinar about Digitalisation supports takes place on 4th March 2026.

Productivity & Competitiveness Supports



Lean For Business is designed to encourage clients to adopt Lean business principles in their organisations to increase performance and competitiveness.

In 2026 to date two clients have been approved under this Programme.

Online regular workshops to promote and enable businesses to participate in the programme are ongoing.

Community Development

Community Development involves local people working collectively to address social, economic, environmental, and cultural challenges. Actions range from small local initiatives to wider community-level programmes.

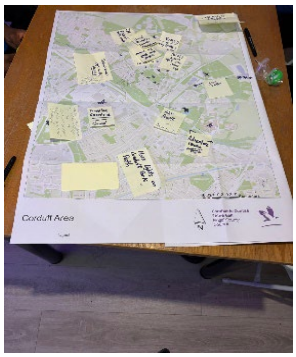
Building community capacity and participation requires sustained collaboration between communities and the agencies that support them.

The Community Development & Inclusion Division delivers work across community support, social inclusion, equality, intercultural engagement, and empowerment.

This month the Community Development Office worked with community groups and partners to support the following projects/initiatives:

Youth Voice Workshops Held in Corduff to Help Shape New Community Walking Routes





The Division advanced its cross-departmental initiative to co-create safe, accessible, community-led walking routes in Corduff. On 23 February 2026, Youth Voice Workshops were held with local youth groups to ensure young people influence design and priorities.

The workshops build on the Corduff Place Standards Tool, enabling young residents to identify barriers and shape meaningful, locally relevant walking routes. A multiagency steering committee—including FCC teams, HSE, Age Friendly Fingal, Active Cities, Foróige, councillors, and community groups—continues to guide project development.

Insights from the workshops and Place Standards research will inform new walking maps and a shared vision for a safer, more walkable Corduff.

Community Partners Unite to Plan International Women's Day 2026 Celebration

A planning meeting on 24 February 2026 brought together partners including Heart and Soul, Clonee Women's Shed, NWCI, Sonas, Hartstown Community Centre, and FCC's Community Office. The session focused on delivering an inclusive, empowering event under the theme **"Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL Women & Girls."**

Discussions centred on programme design, guest speakers, wellbeing supports, and representation. The meeting set a strong foundation for a collaborative countywide celebration.

Community Activities Funding Workshop

A webinar on 23 February 2026 supported Dublin 15 Community Centres in preparing 2026 Community Activity Funding applications. The session outlined eligibility, expenditure rules, documentation requirements, best practice examples, and assessment processes. Attendees engaged in a detailed Q&A with Community Office staff.

Community Development in Lusk

The inaugural meeting of the Lusk Community Forum brought local groups and businesses together to progress the **Lusk for Life – Town Centre First Plan**, now community-owned. Priority projects were reviewed, new Town Team members elected, and interest captured for six project working groups.

FCC's Community Office introduced upcoming training to strengthen volunteer leadership and communication. With €195,000 allocated for initial actions, the Forum is well positioned to deliver tangible improvements.



Rural Community Forum

The Rural Community Forum met on 12 February in Garristown, with a strong focus on community safety. Presentations were delivered by Muintir na Tíre, An Garda Síochána, Fingal's Community Safety Officer, and Empower.

Practical initiatives emerged, including local Community Safety Days with equipment engraving, introduction of Muintir na Tíre's CAIRDE alert app, and further collaboration on inclusion and isolation supports.



The International Women's Day 2026 Programme of events is now live on Fingal.ie

Over 65 groups received up to €300 each to deliver community-led activities, totalling €18,000. Key events will take place across the county, including collaborations with Aster Family Support, Hartstown Community Centre, and Swords Women's Shed. The full programme is available on Fingal.ie.







Thrive Connect CAFÉ Swords



Following Mental Health Ireland's recruitment campaign, the Thrive Swords Steering Group has reconvened and hosted the first 2026 Connect Café. These cafés offer a welcoming space for residents to share experiences, learn about supports, and engage with Thrive initiatives.

BELIEVE Balbriggan Digital Detox & Expo

The Deputy Mayor launched the Digital Detox initiative on 10 February for Safer Internet Day 2026. The project encourages residents to take intentional breaks from screens and reconnect with BELIEVE values.

The Development & Inclusion Department is supporting the initiative and preparations for the **BELIEVE Balbriggan Expo** on 11 April 2026 at Flemington Community Centre. Over 69 partners—including clubs, voluntary groups, Council departments, Gardaí, emergency services and businesses—have registered.



Community Facilities Management Support

The Building Facilities Unit supports 38 community facilities and manages the Community Development Office's Capital Works programme.

Parslickstown House & Blakestown Community Centre – Community Services Programmes

Both centres successfully secured Pobal Community Services Programme funding. Each will recruit a full-time manager to develop sustainable social enterprise models, extend operating hours, increase footfall, and deliver targeted community programmes.

Parslickstown House & Blakestown Community Centre Community Services Programmes





Interagency

The Community Development Office collaborates with agencies to enhance service delivery across Fingal.

Fingal Comhairle na nÓg (FCNN)

Fingal Comhairle na nÓg
Young Voices. Local Issues.

A group meeting took place in the Council Chamber with the Mayor and Chief Executive. FCNN presented its structure and 2026 workplan, followed by a Q&A on issues including online safety, anti-social behaviour, active travel, racism awareness, and local development. The group also consulted on a proposed teen space in Ongar.

Fingal Public Participation Network (FPPN)

FPPN held a joint linkage meeting on 26 February, including all three pillars. A presentation on FPPN roles and supports was delivered. The Secretariat met with FCC Liaison to discuss the MOU, supports, and budget. February's meeting focused on re-registration of members ahead of March 2026.



Age Friendly Fingal

Age Friendly Fingal leads a collaborative, multi-sector approach to improving quality of life for older people in Fingal, both now and into the future.

Age Friendly Alliance

The Alliance met for the first time since the launch of the Age Friendly Strategy 2026–2030. Members discussed progress, reporting processes, and emerging priorities. An annual progress report will issue at year-end.

Funding

To end February, eight Community Activities Funding grants totaling **€22,434** were awarded:

ACM Area	Number of Grants	Amount
BRLS	1	€2,482
BMCO	5	€14,000
HOWTH/MAL	2	€5,952

A further three BRLS grants (€7,992) are progressing to award stage. Applications close **30 June 2026**.

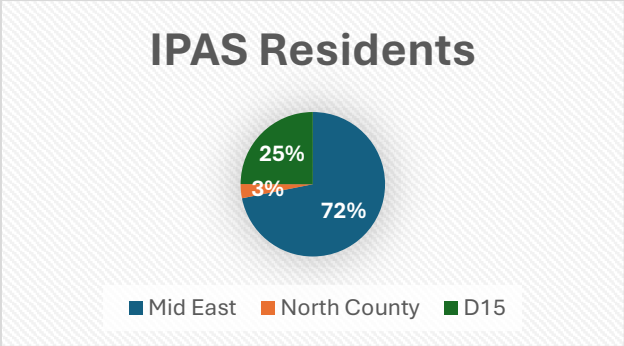
Integration Office

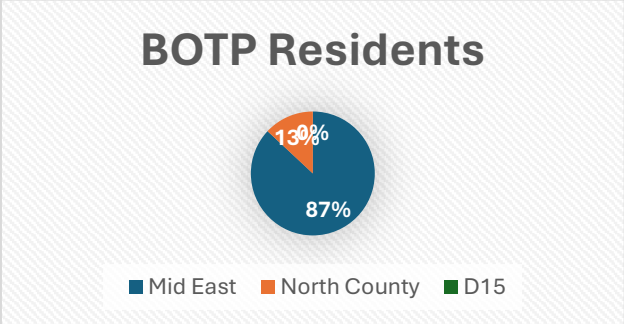
The Integration Office supports social inclusion and intercultural understanding.

Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT)

LAIT continues to provide clinics for International Protection applicants, Programme Refugees, and Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection.

Geographical Area	BOTP Residents	IPAS Residents
North County	48	66
Mid-East	320	1501
Dublin 15	0	521
Total	368	2088





National Integration Event

Team members attended the national event on 26 February at the Department of Justice. Themes included EU integration policy, community development, partnership working, and wellbeing.

CIF (Community Integration Forum)

CIF held its first 2026 meeting on 10 February, introducing partner presentations. Dublin College delivered an update following its recent rebrand from DDLETB.

OPERATIONS

Contents

Area Business
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 DECEMBER 2025

Area	Public CRM's	Rep CRM's	Area Questions	Area Motions	Headed Items
Balbriggan/Swords	798	140	29	8	1
Castleknock/Mulhuddart	383	108	21	7	1
Howth/Malahide	280	30	7	1	1
Total	**1461**	**278**	**57**	**16**	**3**

Works Programme

Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords Area

Newbridge Demesne

Works carried out to fallen Blue Cedar tree in the Arboretum in Newbridge.











Other damage to the Red Barn in Newbridge Demesne as a result of the bad weather.



Swords

Direct Labour crew replacing damaged cobbled bus stop area with reinforced concrete, Main Street, Swords.



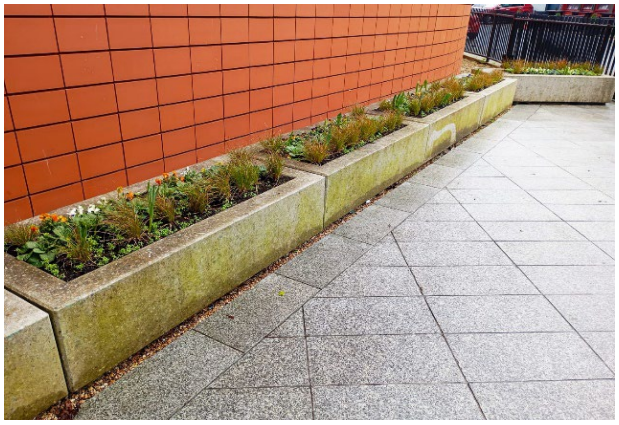
Before and after of clean up on Nevinstown Lane, Swords.

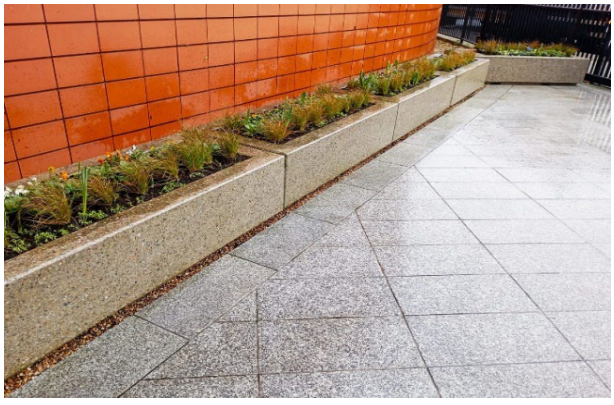


Shredding of Christmas Trees in Newbridge Demesne.



Before and after of cleansing works on planters in the Swords area.





Skerries

Entrance to Ballygossan Estate, Skerries, new curbing and perennial planting.



Extreme Weather

Following on from the continuous severe weather events over the last number of weeks, a large amount of work was carried out to ensure roads remain passable where possible, facilitating diversions and clearing of drains and gullies. The Operations team continues to work on future mitigating measures.

Flooding at Roganstown Golf Club.



Flooding at The Maltings, Skerries.



Flooding at the overflow carpark area at Newbridge Demesne at Cobbles Lane.



The R108 at Roganstown reopened following flooding.



As part of the Council's emergency response to Storm Chandra and other recent severe weather events, the Depot teams were busy ensuring that sand bags were made available for collection at our Watery Lane Depot, Swords and where feasible sand bags were also delivered to locations at high risk of flooding.

Road diversions were put in place to advise citizens of severely flooded roads.





Tree down on the R128 from Rush to Lusk on 13th February.



Fingal Crews on site at Brook Lane, keeping the stream clear following flooding.







Howth/ Malahide Area

Samuel's Reservoir, Howth

Extreme winds and rain brought a pine tree down in Samuel's Reservoir, Howth.
The canopy and trunk were cut into sections and the root base put back in situ to make it a safer area for park users.



Before



After

Malahide Demesne & Woods

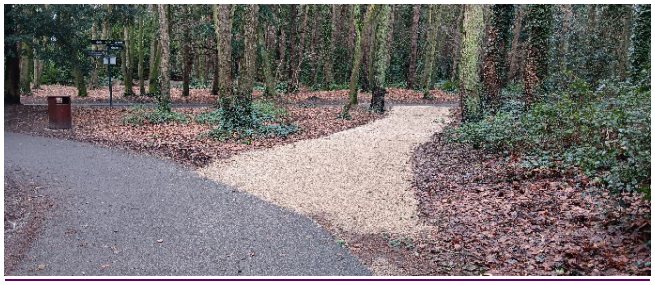
Ivy, Brambles, snowberry etc. cleared away from Hogan's Avenue.





The under growth around the trees was cleared & chipped on site to allow for tree inspections as part of our woodland management plan. Planting of trees are planned for here after the inspections.

This work also opened up the area to make it feel safer for walkers - complaints about anti-social behaviour in the area was logged.





A new stone path was laid between the playground and the woods towards the village. This had become very wet, slippy and impassable at times.

Storm Chandra



Large logs washed up onto the Harbour open green space in Howth due to the wave strength and size.







Tree brought down on Friday 13th February blocking the Malahide Road due to wind and rain.





Damage adjacent to St.Doolagh's Church, Malahide Road.



A second tree blocking the Malahide Road also brought down the ESB lines.
Howth Malahide staff cleared the tree & debris after the ESB made the area safe.

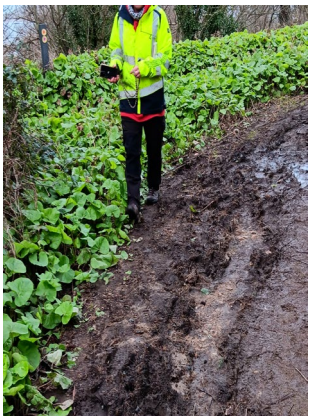
Howth Pathways

During January and February over twice the amount of rain fell as compared to this time last year - a meeting was organised between Howth Malahide Operations staff, the Biodiversity team and the Howth pathway volunteers to log the damage caused by the ongoing rain and storms.



Resultant constant flow of water on some paths.







The constant flow of water has damaged the foundations of the posts.



As part of the clean-up at the community gardens the gullies were cleared and power hosed.



The excess water has caused damage and some soil subsidence. These recons are a valuable tool for our maintenance schedule for Sport Ireland.



Grace O'Malley Community Gardens





Removal of old raised beds from the Grace O'Malley community gardens.

Robs Wall, Malahide





Area adjacent to Robswall playground has been cleared of overgrown tired planting and made ready for new plant-scaping.

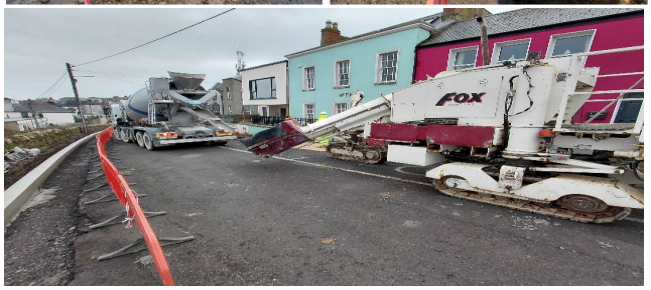
Roads / Footpaths – Howth/Malahide

Howth – Dunbo Hill

The Howth Malahide Crew have progressed on network improvements, while a contractor has started works on new kerbs. Once these are completed, a contractor will undertake a full width road reinstatement.







Portmarnock - Carrick Court

The Contractor working for the Howth Malahide area has completed a new network improvement.





Kinsealy - Chapel Road

The Contractor is nearing completion of the installation of the new footpath and cycle lane, which will connect to the existing one. Contractor is still working on new walls and has completed new kerbs.





Howth – The Summit

Howth/Malahide team have received Capital funding to resurface Howth, Summit carpark. Works went to tender in February, with work to start during late Q1/2026.



Cleansing, Beaches and Toilets



Howth Pier over topping during the latest extreme weather event.



Malahide Portmarnock beaches required extensive cleaning following extreme weather and tidal surges.



Howth Malahide tree clearance during latest storm.



Sandbags defence in place Howth East Pier due to high tides surges.



Balscadden Road Howth – Work to address the minor landslide which occurred due to the extreme weather.



Castleknock/Mulhuddart Area

Mick Walsh Park



New hard standing area has been installed at Mick Walsh Park.

Millennium Park





It is expected that works will be completed on the playground by the end of the month, weather permitting.

Tree Removal



A dawn redwood tree, as recorded on Fingal's street tree management system was removed at Park Drive Grove, Castleknock, on 16th February.

Tree works - Bramley Walk



The tree crew cleared undergrowth and dead Ash trees identified as having Ash die back disease in a copse of trees, on the open space in Bramley walk, in Carpenterstown.



Blanchardstown Road South along Millennium Park



Repairs to potholes were undertaken on the Blanchardstown Road South, alongside Millennium Park.

Storm Chandra

Clearing of excess water after storm Chandra and excessive rainfall at various locations in Dublin 15.







Castleknock - Reinstatement of damaged Road Gully.





A damaged road gully was re-instated in Castleknock.

Ongar Village - Reinstalling cycle racks .



Cycle racks in Ongar Village were re-installed after been hit by a car.



St Margaret's Footpath





Overgrown footpaths were cleaned up at St. Margarets by edging and wire brushing to remove moss and overgrowth.

Shackleton Garden Beechpark

Example of flowering bulbs in Shackleton Garden Beechpark, showing beautiful Spring flowers, providing a key source of early food for bees and other pollinators



Snowdrops



Cyclamen

Tree Planting Works

Tree planting works are taking place on open spaces and road margins. We are currently in the tree planting season working on improving tree cover in Dublin 15, which in turn improves conditions for birds and native pollinators



Car Parking Services

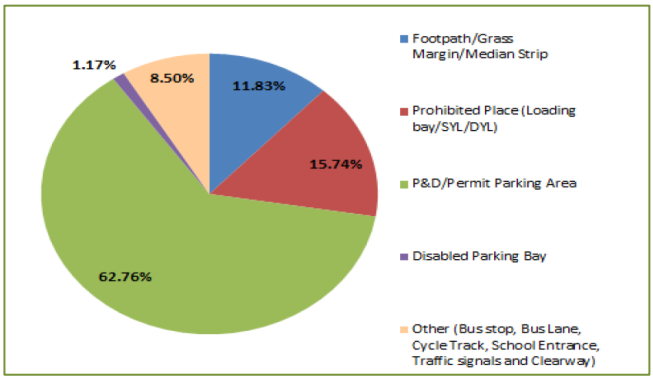
January 2026

There were a total of 1023 parking tickets issued during January 2026.

Top 10 Main Ticketing Locations:

Location	Main Ticket Locations January 2026
North Street - Swords	109
Bridgefield Car Park - Malahide	87
Main Street - Swords	75
South Strand Skerries	52
The Green - Malahide	43
Chapel Street Balbriggan	37
New Street - Malahide	34
Harbour Road - Skerries	31
Church Road - Malahide	26
Railway Street Balbriggan	25

Breakdown of Parking Offences:

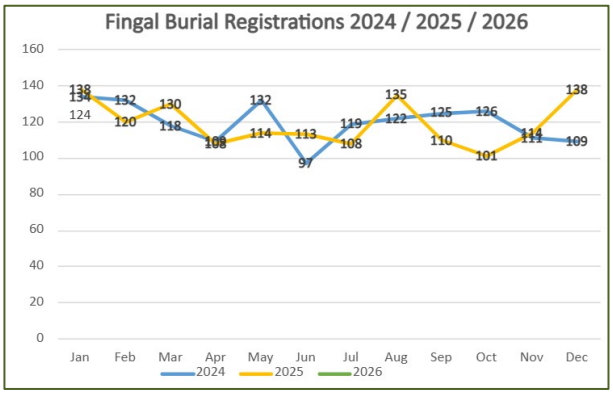


Parking Control Bye-Laws

The new Fingal Parking Control Bye-Laws came into effect on 16th February 2026 following extensive public consultation. Approved by_Councillors in January, these Bye-Laws replace the 2020 Parking Control Bye-Laws, and include new on-street and long-stay parking rates, updated resident and commercial permit fees, and new paid parking arrangements at a number of coastal car parks across the county.

Burial Ground Services

There were 124 Interments in January 2026 in Fingal Cemeteries.





Kellystown Burial Ground

This phase of cemetery development works on a greenfield site at Kellystown will provide approximately 650 grave plots, a columbarium wall for the storage of ashes, a landscaped angel garden, a small services facilities building and yard, including all associated site services and landscaping.

The works are expected to take up to 12 months to complete.

Currently the grave plots and paths are well advanced with buildings at early stages of construction.

Traffic Operations County-Wide

Default Speed Limits Update

Updated guidance has been issued by the Department of Transport nationally. This is currently being reviewed and will inform the next steps for the Phase 2 Speed Limit Review for Urban Areas.

Balbriggan/Swords Area

Stephenstown Road, Balbriggan - New "SLOW" road markings.



Six Cross Lane, Rush- New Double Yellow Lines.



Howth/Malahide Area

Programme of Works 2026 has commenced.
Junction upgrade works at Seamount and R124-Malahide being progressed on site.





Pedestrian signal upgrade, adjacent to St Sylvester's Church, Malahide.



Castleknock/Mulhuddart Area

Traffic Calming Scheme – Porterstown Road







Traffic Calming Ramps installed on Porterstown Road.

Road Markings



Double Yellow Lines installed on Damastown Road outside the public car park

Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit

113 Plant Hires were put in place from 01/01/2026 to 13/02/2026, engaging 21 suppliers.

In news, the Freight Transport Association of Ireland awarded Fingal County Council the Silver Trucksafe Standard Award for 2026. This is in recognition of demonstrating established compliance systems that are consistently implemented and practised within the County Council. Well Done to everyone!





Public Lighting

2026 Programme of Works

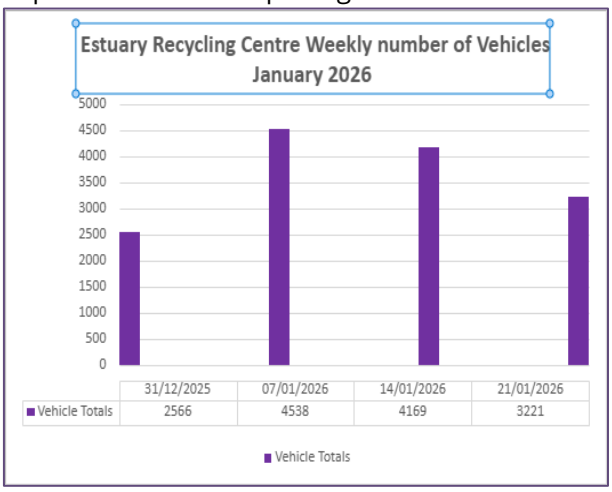
Orders have been placed for all Public Lighting materials required for the 2026 Public Lighting Programme of Works.

Public Lighting Column Replacement and Cable Upgrade Programme

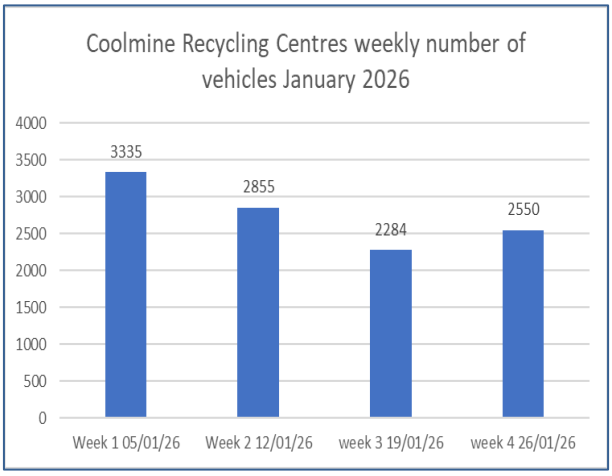
Works on the public lighting column replacement programme are ongoing in the County.

Recycling Centres Update

The Council is currently in the process of recruitment of additional Recycling Centre Operators to implement the new opening hours at Coolmine.



Statistics for Estuary Recycling Centre above



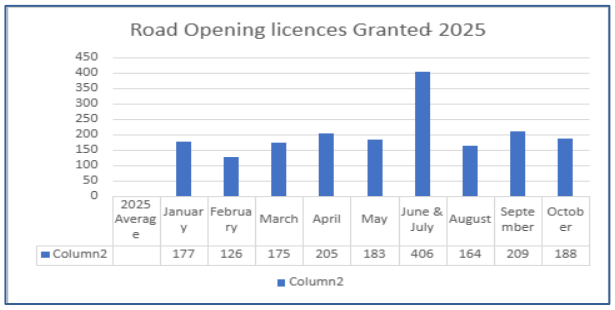
Statistics for Coolmine Recycling Centre above

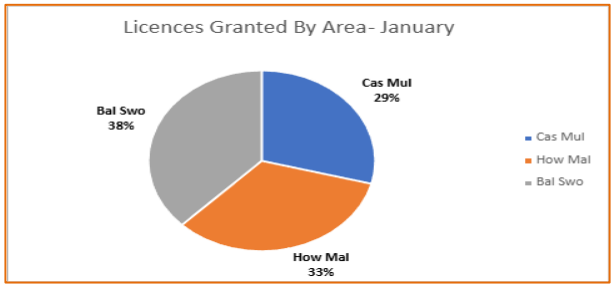
Licences

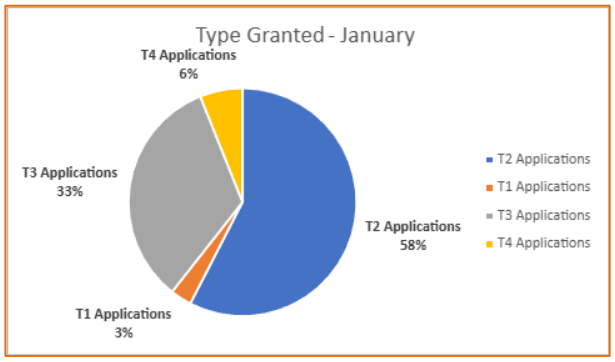
➢ Road Opening Licenses

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.

165 Licences were granted in the month of January**, 39% of which were granted by way of automation**. Clerks of Works in each area continue to carry out regular inspections following road opening works by Utilities.





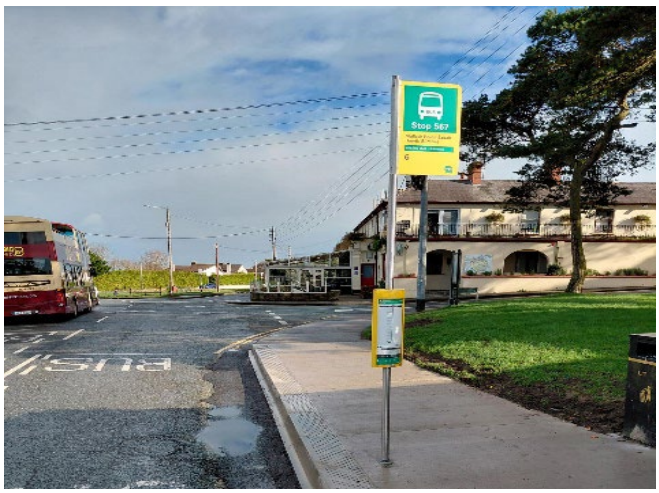


Bus Enhancement Scheme

Works are ongoing in all three Administrative areas on the NTA approved and funded bus stop enhancements at 13 locations.

➢ Howth Malahide Area

Howth: the Contractor has been working on upgrading of stops as part of the bus enhancement scheme.



Howth – Thormanby Road

Malahide: the Contractor is currently working on two bus stops. One has been completed at the front of the Tennis Club on St. James Terrace, on the R106. The other bus stop is currently in progress near St. Andrews School on Church Road.



➢ Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/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. Works are due to be completed in late February.

➢ Castleknock/Mulhuddart Area

The bus stop enhancement projects which received final NTA Approval to be constructed are as follows: one located on the Ratoath Road (L3080) and two on the R122 close to the National Reception Centre, Balseskin, Dubber. The two on the R122 Balseskin have been completed. The remaining project on the Rathoath Road will commence construction when the weather conditions allow.

Grass Pitch Applications 2025/26

Fingal County Council have completed the grass pitch allocation process for the 2025/2026 playing season. All of the 74 clubs have now paid in full.
The process for re-allocation of pitches will begin in May/June of this year.

Casual Trading License

Fingal County Council has a total of 48 valid Casual Trading Licences for the 2025/26 trading season covering trading of hot food, tea and coffee, ice cream and flowers, these licences run until the 28th of February 2026. Fingal County Council is currently in the process of processing renewal applications, once complete any available Casual Trading locations will be advertised on the Fingal County Council website & social media channels with the deadline for new applicants set for the 27th of February at 4pm. For any additional queries re Casual Trading please contact CasualTrading@fingal.ie for further information.

Pilot Scheme Beach Mobile Saunas

3 mobile saunas are still operating in the County under the Mobile Sauna Pilot Scheme running from 01/10/25-31/03/2026 under the off-peak seasonal license. Seasonal licences are issued under the Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2021.

Street Furniture Licences

A total of 24 valid Street Furniture Licences have been issued to businesses so far in 2026.
All 24 business have been issued with their Licence, which must be displayed prominently in the front window of their business premises. Any additional applications will be dealt with on an ad hoc basis.
We are currently processing 4 additional applications. Inspections will continue throughout the county to ensure compliance.

Harbours

The Operations Department continue to work with Ayesa Consultants to progress the required capital works and maintenance dredging at Fingal's harbours in Balbriggan, Rush, Skerries and Loughshinny.
Emergency stabilisation repair works are scheduled for Skerries Harbour commencing Q2 2026 pending the permanent construction of the new Pier.



Surface Water

Stormwater Capital Programme 2026-2028

Fingal County Council are continuing to progress 15 projects valued at €2.4m in the 2026-2028 Stormwater Capital Programme. Below is a brief update in relation to the status of some of the projects.

Howth Stormwater Culvert:

Work Package A: design & construction of a replacement stormwater culvert on Howth Main Street. Preliminary design is complete with the preferred option being a new 1200mm SW pipe on Main Street and Harbour Road to replace the existing defective sections of culvert. The remaining GPR & topographical surveys are currently being tendered to inform detailed design.

Work Package B: Separation of a combined sewer on Tuckett's Lane. Since 19/01/2026, FCC direct labour crews are continuing the installation of a new SW pipe under a temporary road closure.



Tuckett's Lane works

Lusk Network Remedial Works:

A works schedule has been developed to carry out additional pipeline repairs between Post Office Road and Chapel Road to complete Phase 3 of the above project. Materials procurement will commence in March with site works scheduled for April 2026.

Howth Stormwater Network Improvements.

All installation works are complete for the network improvements identified for the Church Street, Dunbo Hill and R105 areas of Howth. A contractor has been appointed to undertake full width road reinstatement starting late February/early March with a one-week duration (weather conditions permitting).

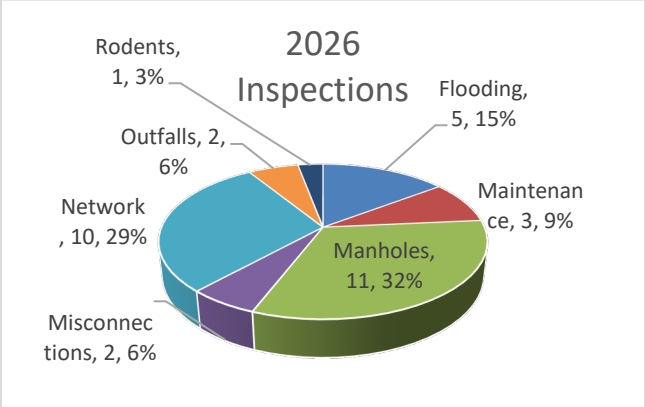
Beaverstown, Donabate.

Following a procurement process, works have commenced on a works package to clean and reprofile a series of ditches that lead to a Stormwater Pump Station to improve storage at the location and allow for access for future maintenance.



Storm Water Maintenance

The types and volumes of issues reported are shown in the chart.



Storm Water Connections:

To date 3 Stormwater Connection Applications have been received for 2026.

Network Improvements

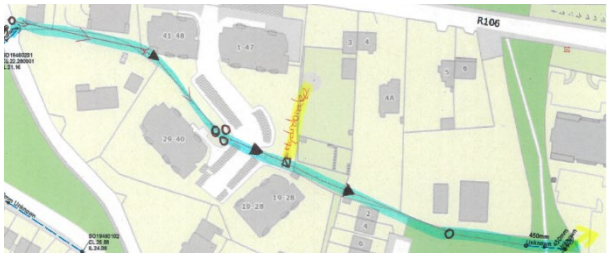
Swords

Locations: Hilltown, Forrest Avenue, Rathingle Road, Cherry Garth and Rivervalley Lawns estates. Survey reports informed a number of work packages. A contractor has been appointed to commence specialised lining and robotic works during Q1 2026.

Location: Pine Grove Swords. Surveys of the network have been analysed to determine what if any interventions are required following complaints of blockages.



Location: Cliffords Lane intersection network. Following reports of road flooding during the recent spell of heavy rain, Stormwater Operations are assisting our colleagues in Road Operations with CCTV and Robotic works on the network.



Santry

Location: Northwood Avenue. A tender process will commence in March 2026 to procure specialised Contractors to carry out repair works identified from surveys of the SW line running along the R132. Works include repairs following discovery of collapses & buried manholes.

Malahide/Portmarnock



Location: Gaybrook Lawns. CCTV surveys were carried out in the Gaybrook estate, Malahide following reports of road flooding and have identified several defects and inaccessible manholes. These will be addressed in March 2026.

Dublin 15

Location: Grove Road area. CCTV surveys identified issues requiring remedial works e.g. raising of buried manholes, jetting, root cutting & installation of 100m pipe liner. Invasive works by direct labour is scheduled to start in April following the completion of specialized works which commenced in January.

Howth

CCTV survey along Seaview Terrace identified capacity issues with the lines. Installation of upsized pipes is now complete with road reinstatement to be effected in March 2026.

Baldoyle

Following a request for a connection to the network in Abbey Park, during suitability investigations a large buildup of silt was discovered within the lines in the estate and a number of other defects. Jetting and CCTV camera work is ongoing.



Abbey Park.

Surface Water Pollution

Work is ongoing regarding sources of any reported pollution to surface water.

Ironworks

Stormwater manhole cover and frame replacement is ongoing countywide. Manhole cover and frame replacements were carried out in Howth, Baldoyle and Damastown.

Outfall Upgrades/Maintenance

Ongoing weekly maintenance continues at the major Coastal Outfalls in Skerries, Howth & Sutton.







Preventative Maintenance Jetting Programme

The recently commenced Countywide Preventative Maintenance Programme carried out Jetting, Robotic & CCTV works in Woodview Grove, Swords, Skerries and Malahide in February 2026.

Underground Stormwater storage Assets

Continuing Identification and recording of underground storm water management assets county wide.



Fingal Beaches

The Operations Department is awaiting the May 2026 notification date of successful applications to An Taisce for the Blue Flag Award 2026 for three locations:

- Velvet Strand (Portmarnock),
- Balcarrick Beach (Donabate) and
- North Beach (Rush).

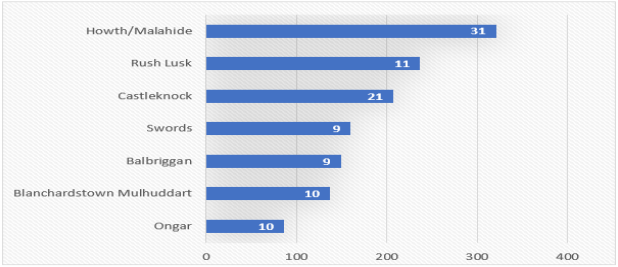
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT

Contents

Planning Applications
Planning Decisions
Building Control Admin
Built Environment Division
Strategic Policy Unit
Heritage Officer
Transportation Planning
Parks & GI Division

Planning Applications

Between 1st January and 31st January 2026, a total of 101 planning applications were received, including 94 electronic applications via the national portal. Of these, 17 applications were deemed invalid, resulting in 84 valid applications. The accompanying bar chart illustrates the distribution of applications across various areas.



During the same period, In January no new Large-scale Residential Development applications were submitted to the Local Authority, 3 granted decisions issued on LRD applications.

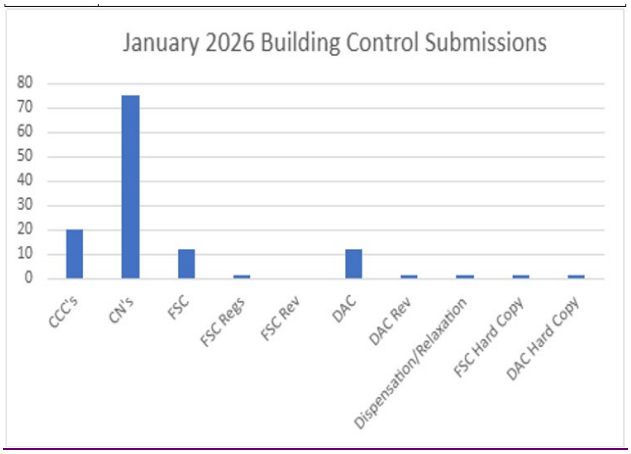
Additionally, An Coimisiún Pleanála have issued one refusal decision on Strategic Housing Development applications during this period.

Planning Decisions

Between 1st January 2026 to the 31st January 2026, a total of 135 planning decisions were issued. The figures include 78 decisions to grant permission and 24 refusals of permission.

Building Control Admin

In January 2026, there were 124 building control submissions made via BCMS.
This was made up of 75 Commencement notices, 20 Compliance of Completion Certificates, 14 Fire Safety related Certificates, 14 Disability Access related Certificates and 1Dispensation/Relaxation.
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 171 decisions in January 2026 relating to Fire Safety and Disability Access Certificates. This was made up of 48 decisions to grant, 121 extensions of time, 1 refusal and 1 invalid.



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 Old Schoolhouse Masterplan which was agreed in November 2025 has been published on the Fingal County Council website.

The Members resolved at the February Council meeting to extend the duration of the Kellystown Local Area Plan until the 20th February 2032, or until the making of a new County Development Plan, whichever occurs sooner. Further preparatory background analysis is being undertaken in relation to several 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. Consultation on the final RZLT map for 2026 is open until 1st April while consultation for the draft map for 2027 is open until 1st April.

Section 28 Guidelines – NPF Guidelines: Housing Growth Requirements

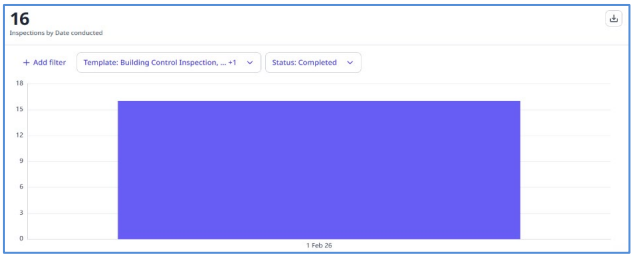
A report on housing growth requirements was presented to the Members at the December council meeting. Variation No. 1 to the Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029 proposes to vary the Development Plan to give effect to the NPF Implementation: Housing Growth Requirements Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2025), introduced in accordance with Section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). This was on public display from 23rd December 2025 to 29th January 2026 (inclusive). The Chief Executive's report has been issued to the Elected Members for their consideration.

Variation No. 2 Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029

Variation No. 2 to the Development Plan proposes to vary the Plan by way of adopting a formal land use zoning objective for the subject lands known as Áras Mhuire Field, Barberstown Lane South, Barnhill, County Dublin, on Sheet 13, Blanchardstown South from Unzone lands to 'OS' Open Space.

This was on public display from 23rd December 2025 to 29th January 2026 (inclusive). The Chief Executive's report has been issued to the Elected Members for their consideration.

Built Environment Division



Building Control

- 16 building control inspections were carried out in February 2026 so far, covering 33 Buildings.
- There was 1 Section 11 request for further information issued during the month of February 2026.

Taking in Charge

2 no. roads have advertised for taking into maintenance in April:

- Barnageeragh Cove phase 3
- Semple Woods phase 1

It was proposed to take the road adjoining Dublin Airport "Forrest Little and Barberstown Road" in charge in January 2026 but this has been delayed until further notice at the request of the DAA.

There are 48 developments with formal Taking in Charge requests, and an additional 327 developments recorded in the system.

Works are ongoing with consultants for managing Taking in Charge works where we have taken the bond. The first contract was for Chapelwood, Chapelton, Alderwood and Redwood in Dublin 15.

The consultants have almost completed snagging, and the works will be tendered shortly.

The second contract for Weston Park, Oldtown Avenue, Dooroge Woods, Palmer Avenue, Ceol Na Mara and The Stableyard is being issued and it is expected to have consultants snagging these estates within the next 2 months.

Dangerous Structures

- There was 1 dangerous structure reported in February 2026.
- A total of 107 dangerous structures remain active in our database.

Pictures



Checking Insulation on a site in Balbriggan



Checking plasterboard moisture content on a site in Malahide

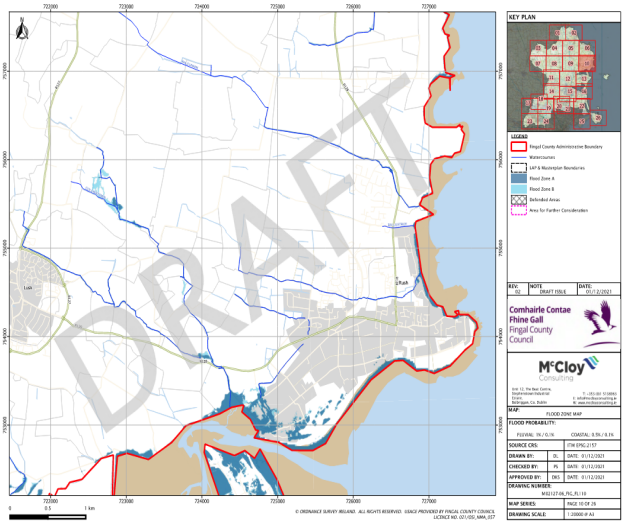
Development Management

- WSFP continue to work on new LRD applications, planning files, additional information files, clarification of additional information files and compliances.

- WSFP continue to support pre-planning consultations with developers to discuss issues related to the provision of water services and to ensure the implementation of flood risk management and sustainable drainage systems on site.

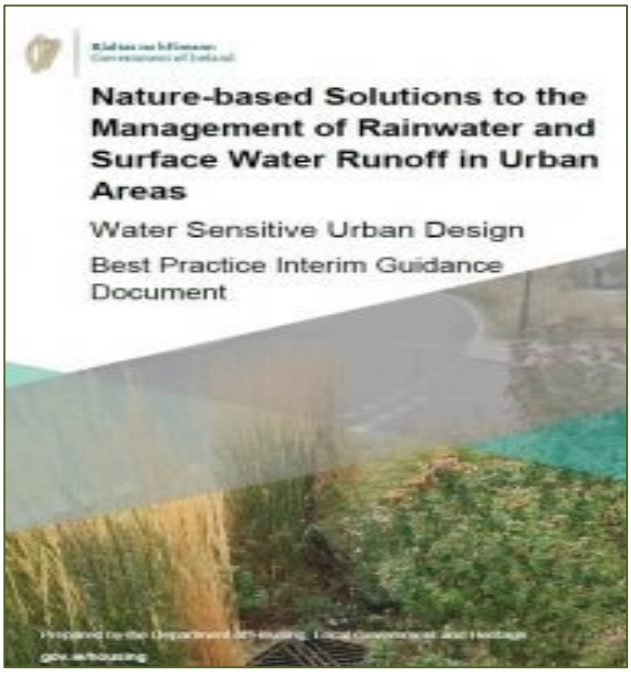
Flood Risk Assessments/ Drainage Strategies

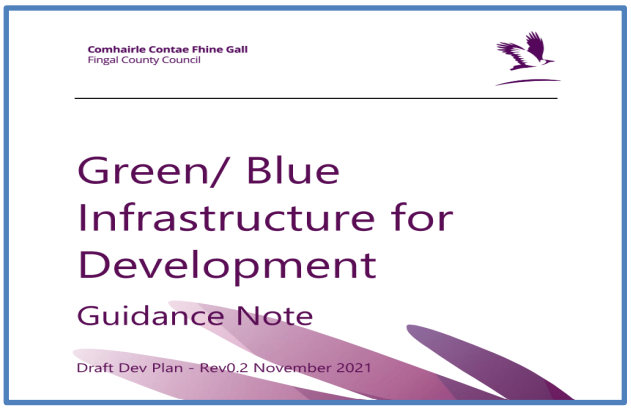
- FCC WSFP staff completed liaising with the appointed consultants developing the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for the County Development Plan. The SFRA flood mapping & report has been completed.
- The Water Services Planning Dept responded to motions received from the councillors under the motion headings of green infrastructure, flooding, Irish Water & re-zoning.
- WSFP are currently working on Variations 1 and 2 to the SFRA for the County Development Plan.



- A new document "Nature-based Solutions to the Management of Rainwater and Surface Water Runoff in Urban Areas - Water Sensitive Urban Design - Best Practice Interim Guidance Document" has been issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. It is intended as a high-level best practice interim guidance document for all those whose work impacts on the urban environment, for urban planners and all built environment professionals involved in the planning process such as engineers, architects and landscape architects and shows how to move towards a more systematic and sustainable approach to urban planning and design that seeks to mimic the natural water balance of rural areas through "water sensitive urban design".

- 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 prepared a SFRA and SDS for Dubber with a submission received in October 2025 and final documents received in December 2025. JBA Consultant Engineers were appointed to complete a CDP Variation SFRA for an area in Barnhill with completion achieved in December 2025. McCloys Consultant Engineers were appointed to complete a CDP Variation SFRA for several areas in Fingal with completion achieved in December 2025. McCloys Consultant Engineers were requested to quote for a CDP Variation SFRA for Dunsink in Fingal with completion targeted for March 2026.

Domestic SuDS Guide

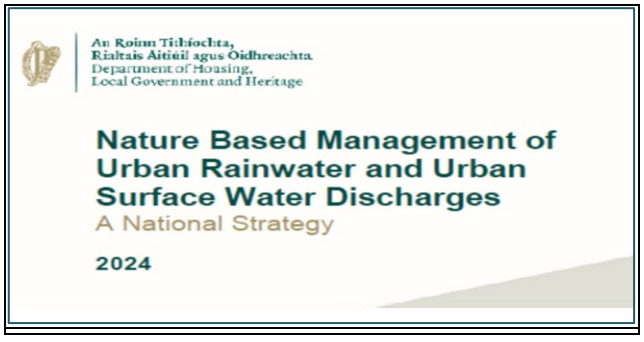
McCloys Consulting Engineers were appointed to produce a Domestic SuDS Guide for FCC. This was completed in Q3 2024, the guide is available on Fingal`s website along with a short presentation video.

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 have 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.

Heritage Officer



Dissemination-Digging Drumanagh

The Heritage Officer was invited to give the first Monday talk of 2026 to the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland on the Digging Drumanagh project. Another talk was given to Malahide Historical Society to a packed house on 10th February 2026.

Changing Fingal: Stories from my Place



This project is a community-led initiative that will look at different aspects of a street/town/area/industry in relation to the upcoming release of Census 1926.

Participants are supported in research, gathering information and the outcomes which will form part of Heritage Week 2026. The first event was a Sources & Resources workshop held in collaboration with Fingal Local Studies & Archives on 18 February 2026. This focused on what census and genealogy information can be accessed freely and what resources are available in the Fingal Archives in Swords.



Ceangal-Heritage Council Programme



The Heritage Officers from around the country met with Minister for Heritage Christopher O'Sullivan at Heritage Council training in Kilkenny recently. Ceangal is the Local Authority Heritage Programme which includes Heritage Officers, Biodiversity Officers and from 2026 Archivists and Architectural Conservation Officers working in Local Authorities across the country.

Grants

Grant applications were made to the Community Monuments Fund 2026. These included Stream 1 Works at Mulhuddart Church and Howth castle and Stream 2 Survey at Glassmore Abbey.

The Heritage Council's Community Heritage Grant Scheme is now open. An annual grant scheme for community groups and not-for-profit non-governmental organisations to protect, share, and celebrate the heritage, the closing date is 20 March 2026. Details at [Community Heritage Grant Scheme | The Heritage Council]



Transportation Planning

PSI 001 Snugborough Interchange upgrade

The contractor is continuing to carry out snagging at the interchange.

PSI 002 Ongar Barnhill Road

Fingal County Council celebrated the official opening of the Ongar Barnhill Road on February 13th, a major strategic investment that unlocks housing potential, boosts sustainable transport and delivers stronger, more efficient connections throughout the area. The event was attended by Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Tom O'Leary, Minister for Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation, Jack Chambers TD, and Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, AnnMarie Farrelly.

The completion of this key piece of infrastructure represents a significant advancement for Dublin 15. Appointed in August 2023, BAM began construction shortly afterwards, turning years of planning into delivery and opening the way for sustainable growth in Barnhill.

Over the coming weeks Bam will complete snagging on the scheme.









PSI-039 – R132 Connectivity Project



Project summary

The tender submissions have been evaluated, and the outcome letters have been issued as part of Stage 2 of the tender process for the Phase 5 the construction stage. A pre-award meeting has been held with the successful contractor to discuss the projects in more detail. We are currently waiting for the contractor to submit the requested documentation prior to proceeding with issuing the letter of acceptance.

Meetings and Workshops

Ongoing meeting of various projects in the Swords area and discussions, as well as knowledge sharing on project timelines and phasing plus also gathering feedback on these projects to assist in managing the mitigation measures is ongoing.
In addition, communication meetings with First responders, private bus and public bus transport operators were held and more meetings will continue in 2026.

Coordination/Progress discussions with NTA and TII/Metrolink which are being held monthly and is continuing through 2026.

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. Snagging is almost complete.



Comparison Photos of before and after Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cyclist Route Project

PSI 063 – Pedestrian & Cycling Scheme at Granard Bridge Castleknock Road

The first contract as part of a Single Party Framework for Engineering Consultancy Services for Pedestrian and Cycling Route Projects in the Dublin 15 Area, is 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 was carried out last year 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 continue 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.

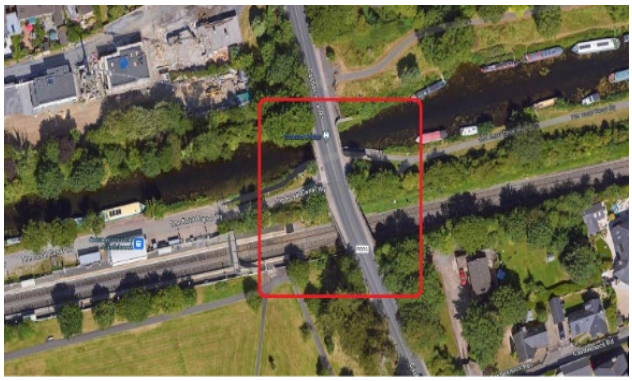
Roselawn Junction was also included in the scheme aiming to improve even more accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists.

Project Programme

The Project Design Team initiated the project programme with Phase 2 Concept Development and Option Selection, which has now been completed.

We are currently moving onto phase 3 - Preliminary Design - prior to phase 4, the Statutory Processes to obtain planning permission 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 will tie in south of the railway on Castleknock Road.



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 – 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 on their Lands to An Coimisiún Pleanála.
Waterways Ireland informed Fingal County Council in September 2025 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 which took place with the project team reaching 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. The Environmental Impact Assessment Report has been reviewed by internal departments, feedback is currently being incorporated into the final report prior to undergoing a legal review in advance of a formal application to An Coimisiún Pleanála.





S2M Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme –

The preliminary design drawings have largely been completed. The Phase 3, Preliminary Design Phase, gateway documents have been completed and have been submitted to the NTA for review and approval.

Detailed preliminary design drawings for pavements, utilities, drainage, traffic junction layouts, Landscape Plans, Public Lighting pole locations and lining drawings have been received are under review. The project will liaise with utility providers to discuss any required diversion works.

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 Promenade, 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. Additional localised surveying will occur in the coming weeks.

Documents are being prepared for a planning application to An Coimisiún Pleanála. This includes preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Natura Impact Statement and Compulsory Purchase Order documentation. Initial draft chapters for the EIAR and NIS have been received and are under review. CPO documentation is currently being prepared. Engagement with potentially impacted property owners, businesses and stakeholders is ongoing. The project team has begun to contact affected landowners to discuss the compulsory purchase order process and the scheme and land acquisition requirements.

A number of meetings with individual landowners have taken place and further meetings will be scheduled as requested. Remaining affected landowners will be contacted in the coming weeks.

Updated drawings will be supplied to landowners during these discussions, which outline the land requirements and show the scheme design at their property. Meetings have been held with Uisce Éireann 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 for CPO.



Above- Artist visual of possible layout for the Sutton to Malahide Pedestrian and Cycle Route at Portmarnock

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.

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.

PSI-041 Kinsealy Walking and Cycling Routes

The Kinsealy Walking and Cycling scheme aims to provide 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 in 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-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 Q2 of 2027.



Proposed SWDR Extension to Metrolink Route

PSI-009 Fingal Coastal Way

The Fingal Coastal Way is a proposed coastal greenway linking Donabate with Balbriggan via the coastal towns of Rush, Loughshinny and Skerries.

The scheme is being developed in conjunction with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and forms part of TII's proposed National Cycle Network (NCN). The scheme is a long-standing objective of Fingal County Council and is reflected in the current development plan, which outlines numerous policies and objectives to plan and develop a route that integrates a coastal pedestrian and cycle route with sensitive natural and built heritage sites whilst achieving a balance between conservation of such sites and public uses such as leisure, recreation and tourism. This scheme is also identified within the Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network Plan and furthermore aligns with the objectives of the "Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways" published by the Department of Transport.

Upon completion of the Emerging Preferred Route, non-statutory public consultations and further consultations with landowners and other stakeholders, the proposed overall strategy for the scheme has been updated along with a revised Emerging Preferred Route. These revisions reflect the need to balance landowner and stakeholder concerns with the overall progression of the scheme and to take account of interactions with various other proposed projects being developed by Fingal County Council. In summary the proposed changes include the Fingal Coastal Way to pe progressed in multiple stages with multiple planning applications:

- The routes through the towns of Donabate, Rush and Skerries will be delivered as part of overall town wide active travel network plans separately.
- The Fingal Coastal Way routes between these towns will be delivered by the Planning and Infrastructure department in three separate planning applications:

- Section 1: Skerries to Balbriggan
- Section 2: Donabate to Rush
- Section 3: Rush to Skerries

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.

RPS Consulting Engineers 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.

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 Causeway has been issued. 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 late 2027 or early 2028.



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.



The Council held a tender competition in January to appoint a works contractor for the project. Tenders are currently being assessed, and the procurement process is due to be completed shortly. Construction works are expected to commence in April 2026.

PSI-042 Donabate Transport Projects

The Donabate Transport Projects comprise several 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 for the second phase of the Donabate Distributor Road went on public display at the Donabate-Portrane Community Centre and was available to view online on the Fingal County Council consultation portal. 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 with the project team and ask any questions. This round of public consultation concluded on Friday 7th November 2025. The project team are currently assessing the feedback received from the public during the consultation period. Preliminary design for Phase 2 of the Donabate Distributor Road is expected to commence in Q1 2026. The emerging preferred option for Blakes Cross is expected to be determined in Q1 2026.

Tender submissions have been evaluated 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-071 Golf Links Road Upgrade

Fingal County Council has appointed Egis Engineering Ireland Ltd., to assist the Council in developing proposals for upgrading Golf Links Road in Portmarnock. Proposals will include facilities for people walking and cycling along Golf Links Road and will also include measures to improve the junction with Strand Road at one end of the road as well as the beach car park at the other end of the road. Topographical surveys and Wintering Birds surveys are currently underway and will be completed by the end of March 2026.

PSI-019 N3 M50 to Clonee

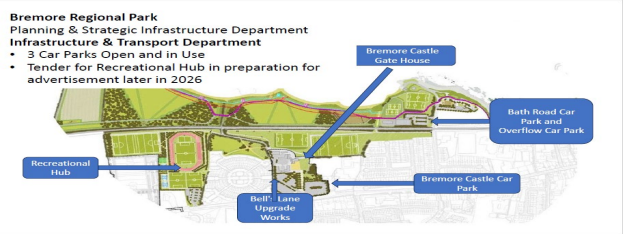
Aecom/ Roughan O'Donovan are appointed to assess bus priority measures on the N3 between the M50 and Clonee. This scheme is funded by Transport Infrastructure Ireland. They are also examining active travel links across the N3. The focus is between the Mulhuddart interchange and Clonee as the NTA bus 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 Q2 2026.

Parks and GI Division

Ballysmastone Recreational Hub



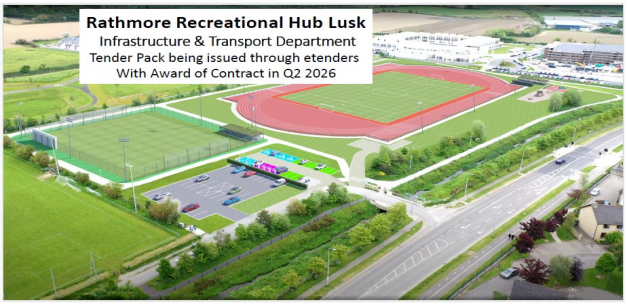
Bremore Regional Park



Skerries Town Park



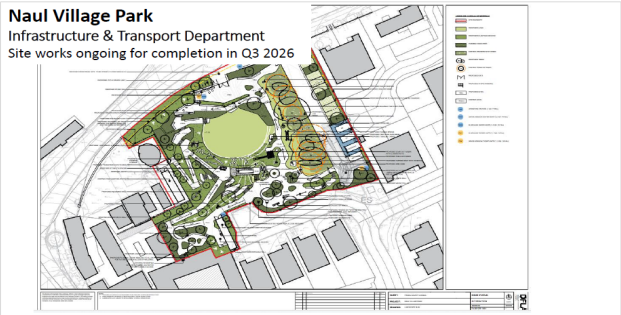
Rathmore Recreational Hub Lusk



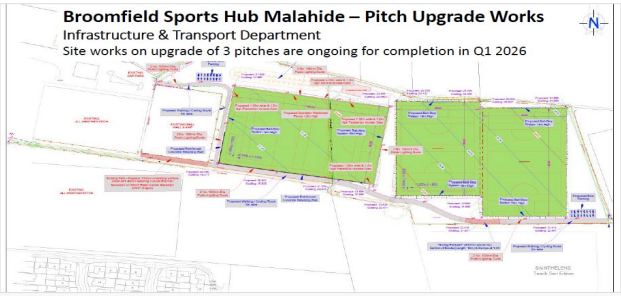
Ward River Regional Park



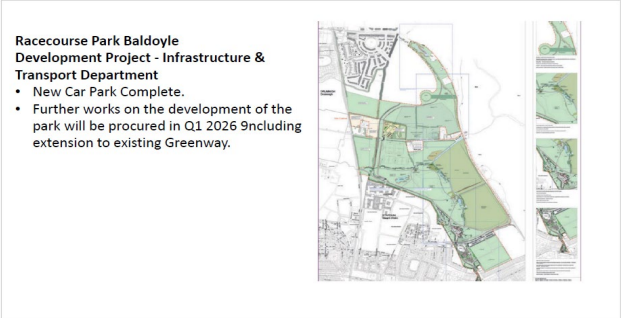
Naul Village Park



Broomfield Sports Hub Malahide



Racecourse Park Baldoyle



Meakstown Community Garden – Lanesborough Park



Corduff Park



Laurel Lodge Playground – Castleknock



Hartstown Park Playground D15



Hazelbury Park Playground D15



Portrane Play Space



Portrane Coastal Defence Works



HOUSING

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Housing Supply
Asset Management
Private Dwelling Grants
Support
Tenancy Services Report

Affordable Home Purchase Scheme & Cost Rental

A link to the Affordable Housing landing page can be found here.

Affordable & Cost Rental Developments in progress.

Affordable Development	Status	Sale Agreed
Baile na Móna, Swords	Assessment of Applications Ongoing	90/151 Homes Sale Agreed
Church Fields (Phase 2)	Assessment of Applications Ongoing	81/110 Homes Sale Agreed
Church Fields Cost Rental apartments	Assessment of Applications Ongoing	68/80 apartments occupied
Balmoston (Phase 2)	Assessment of Applications Ongoing	21/73 Homes Sale Agreed
Folkstown Park, Balbriggan	Application portal will close 4th March	19 Homes
Priory Fields, Hacketstown, Skerries	Application Portal Launch 25th March 2026	36 Homes



Priory Fields, Hacketstown, Skerries

Fingal County Council, in partnership with the Land Development Agency, are delighted to announce the sale of **36 Affordable homes** for purchase within a 10-minute walk from Skerries train station and a short distance to the town centre.

One-bed apartments and two/three-bed duplexes are included in this first phase of delivery. The overall development will include a crèche, community space, pedestrian and cycle routes and parking.

The application portal for Priory Fields will open on the **25th of March at 12pm and close on the 15th of April at 5pm**

To view pricing for the scheme, eligibility criteria and guidelines on how to apply, go to https://www.fingal.ie/priory-fields-skerries

More information also available on https://lda.ie/projects/hacketstown-skerries-dublin/

Social Housing Delivery

Part V, Social Turnkey & CALF Programme

The delivery of new homes has started steadily, supported by a range of delivery mechanisms. Many of these homes are expected to be delivered throughout the year, helping to meet local housing needs.

The second Part V affordable agreement has progressed with the homes now launched by the Affordable Team. There is potential for future Part V affordable housing to be provided countywide.

CALF Programme

There are currently 797 homes under construction across the County in partnership with Approved Housing Bodies.

Kilmartin Town Centre, Dublin 15 - 120 Homes under construction in partnership with Tuath Housing through CALF delivery



Niven Oaks, Santry - 170 Homes under construction in partnership with Tuath Housing through CALF delivery.

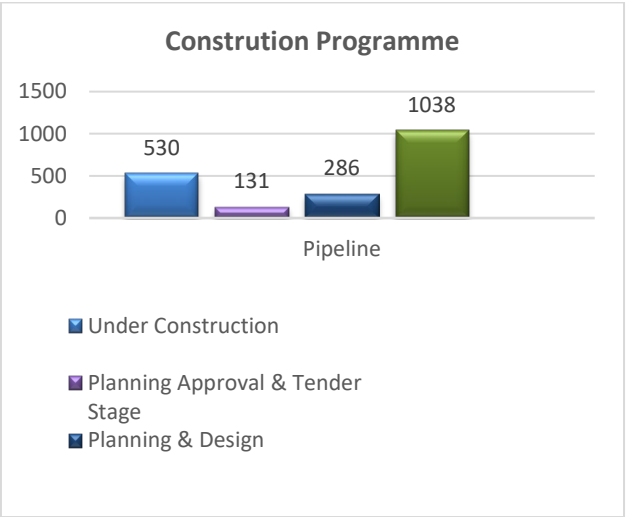


Social Turnkeys

60 homes under construction in Mooretown, Swords delivered via social turnkey.



Construction Programme



Scheme Update since last month (Further detailed information available in Appendix 4)

Planning Consultation

PARTXI/006/25 – Malahide Road

Fingal County Council has initiated the Part XI public consultation for the Proposed demolition of one dwelling and construction of four dwellings and all associated site works at Malahide Road, Malahide, Co. Dublin. Members of the public are invited to submit their submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development through the Fingal County Council Consultation Portal https://consult.fingal.ie

The plans and particulars will be on display and available for inspection for a period of four weeks until Friday, 6th March 2026. The deadline for receipt of submissions or observations is 11.59 p.m. on Tuesday, 24th March 2026.

Construction Schemes on Site

Balmoston Phase 1, Ballymastone, Donabate

Construction work is continuing on the mixed tenure development at Balmoston Phase 1, which is being constructed by Glenveagh on behalf of Fingal County Council. The first **44** new social homes have been delivered, comprising of 17 x 2-bed houses, 5 x 2-bed apartments, 14 x 3-bed houses, 6 x 3-bed apartments and 2 x 4-bed houses.



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 first **11** new social homes have been delivered, comprising of 11 x 4-bed houses.



Church Fields 3B, Dublin 15

Works are progressing on Phase 3B of Church Fields, a mixed tenure scheme which will see the delivery of a further 217 homes in Church Fields, comprising of 121 houses and 96 apartments. Construction is being carried out by Gem Construction on behalf of Fingal County Council.
The first **5** new social homes have been delivered, comprising of 5 x 4-bed houses.



Seatown Way, Swords

Works for the delivery of 36 new, 2 bedroomed 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.



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.



Baile na Móna Phase 1, Mooretown, Swords

Construction work is progressing well 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 is a mixed tenure scheme of 123 social and 151 affordable homes. Planning for this development was granted under the S179A process.



Mourne View, Skerries

Construction work is progressing 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 Court, Swords

Construction work has commenced on the delivery of 13 new social homes comprising of 1 and 2 bedroomed apartments at North Court, 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

Pre works BER assessments for 2026 Energy Retrofit Programme are underway. Fingal County Council are awaiting our confirmed allocation form the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Other properties are currently being identified and checked for eligibility.

Planned Maintenance Programme 2026

External painting, joinery repairs, boiler replacements, and smoke and heat detector upgrades have commenced. Windows and doors replacement programme is currently at the procurement stage.

Planned Maintenance February 2026	
Painting Completion	52
Boiler Replacements	20
Heat /Smoke Detector replacement	12

Voids

Casual Voids 24th February 2026	
In lettings	23
Re-let works	49
Unavailable	4
Total	76

New to Stock 24th February 2026	
New to stock	117

Vacant Homes

The vacant homes officer and team continue engagement with property owners to return vacant homes to use. This team also works in conjunction with the derelict sites section.

Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs):

The Vacant Homes Section is actively identifying and investigating vacant properties within the Fingal area and is committed to pursuing CPOs where applicable. Potential Vacant Homes can be reported at Vacanthomes.ie

Private Dwelling Grants

Croí Cónaithe Vacant Homes Refurbishment Grant

Grants are available up to €50k for vacant properties and €70k if derelict. FCC has received **266** applications since the scheme commenced in 2022.

Croí Cónaithe Applications 2026	
Received	9
Approved	17
Paid	13

- Properties can now be rented privately under the expanded scheme.
- A further expansion of this scheme in 2026 will support include a Vacant Above the Shop Grant and an Expert Advice Grant.
- More information sessions will be provided to the public in 2026 advertising the scheme.

Housing Adaption Grants

Grants for private homes include mobility aid and older persons grants. These grants support people with disabilities and older people to remain living independently and comfortably in their homes.

Housing Adaptation grants update February 2026	
Received to date	92
Paid to date	66
Open applications	418

Recently completed bathroom adaptation works



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 **39 new HAP tenancies** in 2026 to date with approximately 4541 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

Following the introduction in 2024 of new debt management processes and procedures, **rent arrears have continued to reduce during 2026.**

The rents collection rate has shown **an increase of €250k** on the same period in 2025.

The Rents team continue to engage with tenants who experience challenges paying their rent.

Local Authority Home Loan (LAHL)

It was announced in February 2026 that the LAHL scheme will be further expanded;

- House price limit to increase from €360,000 to €415,000 for the administrative area of Fingal.
- Income limits for all single applicants to increase from €70,000 to €80,000.

FCC welcomes these changes which are anticipated to come into effect in Q2 2026.

Private Rented Inspections

The Government housing plan, **Delivering Homes, Building Communities 2025–2030**, requires each local authority to inspect 25% of all private residential tenancies within its area annually. The Private Rented Inspection return has now been confirmed for 2025 with 5,658 dwellings inspected (109% of the target).

The inspections programme for 2026 has commenced. The target of 5,321 for 2026 has been received from the Department of Housing. Currently, 1,024 inspections have been conducted in 2026, with 1000 of them counting towards the dwellings target.

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

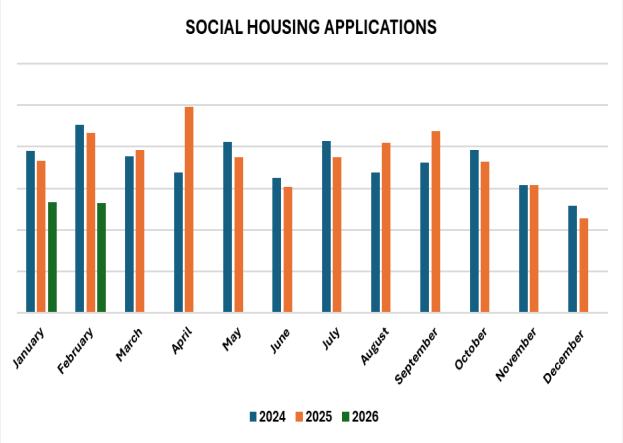
Housing Support

In accordance with Circular 24/2025 as released on 31st July 2025, the Summary of Social Housing Assessment (SSHA) was returned to the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage on 1st December 2025.

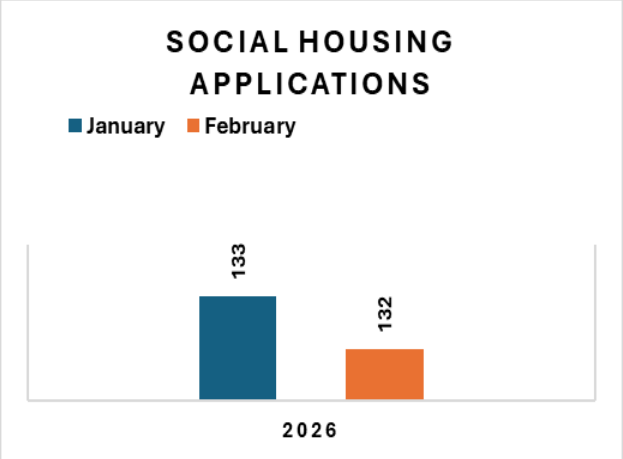
2025 Housing List Position are available on the Choice Based Lettings Portal. This is a static list position and will be issued and updated on CBL yearly. Further information can be sought via, choicebasedlettings@fingal.ie

Housing Support receive a large volume of Housing Applications, Medical Applications, Amendment requests and appeals.

Year on year comparison by month



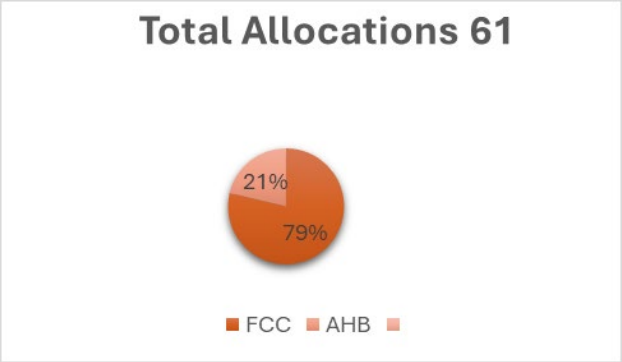
Applications received



Housing Support Appeals

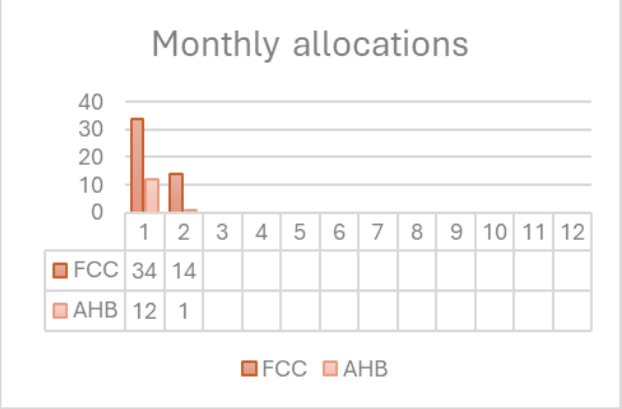
Applicants are reminded, that an appeal must be received within 28 days of a decision being communicated in writing to be eligible for review.

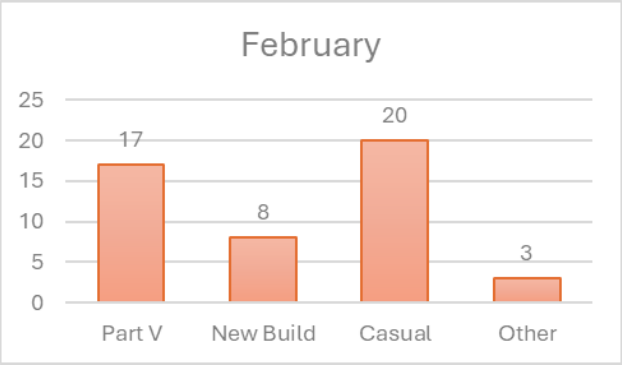
Lettings



The above chart depicts the total number of properties allocated since the beginning of 2026.

The chart below shows the breakdown of allocations per month.





13 of the 61 allocations have been in collaboration with several Approved Housing Bodies. The other 48 properties were allocated using Fingal County Councils own stock.



Respond have received the most nominations from Fingal County Council during the month of February.

The collaboration between Local Authorities and Approved Housing Bodies is continuing to have a positive impact on the delivery of social housing.

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 February



Internal image of advertised property at Hayestown, Rush, Co Dublin

Advertisement Period	Property	Bed	Type	Number of Views	Expressions of interest
11th – 17th February	Fortlawn Avenue, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15	3	House	1354	184
11th – 17th February	Longfield Road, Baldoyle, Dublin 13	1	Apt	1713	336
18th – 24th February	Hayestown, Rush, Co Dublin	3	Apt	1541	214
18th – 24th February	Kelly's Bay Tide, Skerries, Co Dublin	2	Apt	1310	222
18th – 24th February	Balmoston, Donabate, Co Dublin	3	Apt	1554	239
18th – 24th February	Balmoston, Donabate, Co Dublin	2	Apt	1623	357
18th – 24th February	Hayestown, Rush, Co Dublin	2	Apt	1655	312
18th – 24th February	Mayeston Green, Finglas, Dublin 11	2	Apt	1378	241
			Total	12128	2105

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 2026

During February 2026, 27 households exited homeless circumstances into various forms of social housing support - including privately rented tenancies under the Homeless HAP Scheme.

Please see the table below for a breakdown of the figures:

Type of Exit	HHAP Tenancy	Allocation of Tenancy	To HUBS	Total
EA	2	8	0	10
Homeless Prevention	10	7	0	17
Total	**12**	**15**	**0**	**27**

There was a total of 17 homeless prevention cases and 10 who exited emergency accommodation comprising:

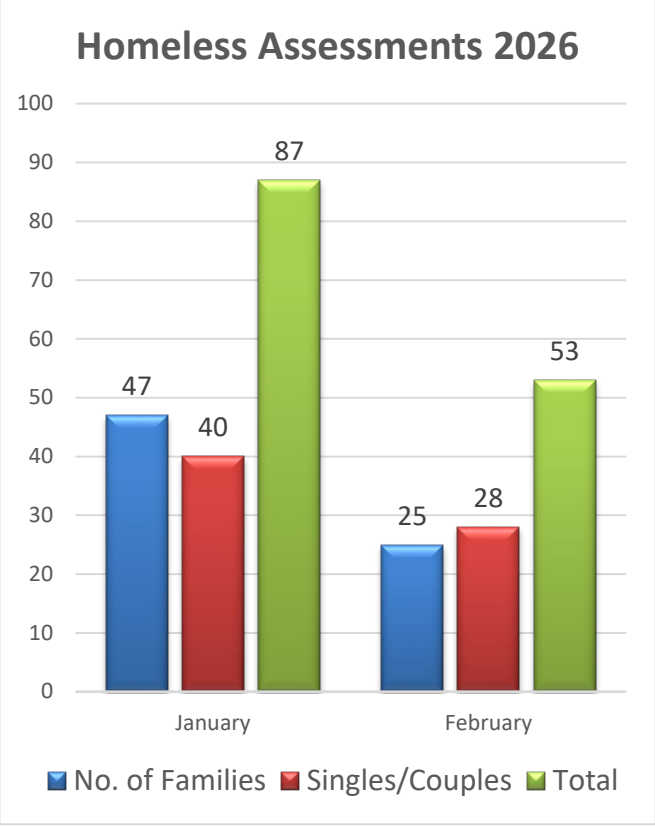
7 allocations of social housing support to homeless prevention cases and 8 exited emergency accommodation.

12 Homeless HAP tenancies, comprising 10 homeless preventions one who exited emergency accommodation and one exit from Direct Provision.

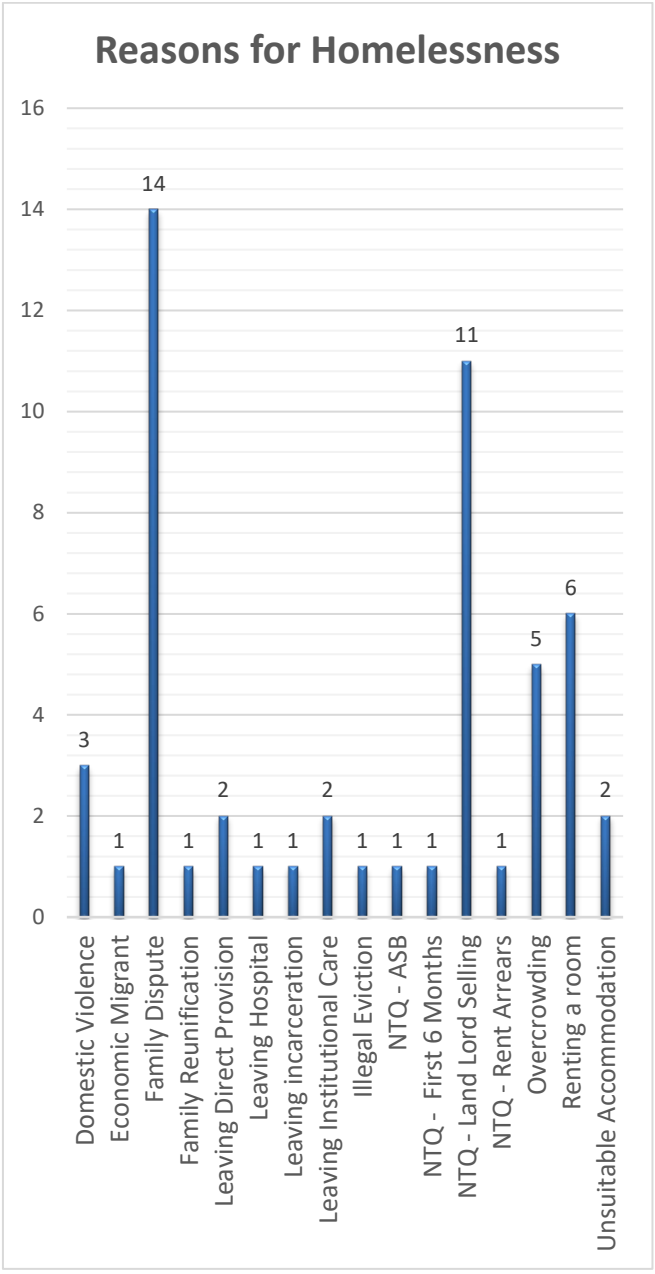
Homeless Assessments

Fingal's Homeless Team continues to engage with those experiencing homelessness to offer advice and support. Homeless Assessments continue to be carried out.

In February 2026, there were an approx. 53 full homeless assessments completed – comprising 25 families and 28 singles/couples.



During February 2026, of the 53 Homeless Assessments carried out, 26% of cases resulted from Notice to Termination (NOT) having been served, 26% cases resulted from family/relationship breakdown and 9% were from Overcrowding. Most of the other presentations to the Homeless Section are from Renting a room (11%) and were from leaving direct provision (4%). The remaining 23% 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 22 reported rough sleeping cases by February 2026. 3 of the clients have taken up Emergency Accommodation and we continue to work with 5 others vacating the sites to move elsewhere. There are 12 registered long term entrenched rough sleepers (2 females, and 10 males) in the Fingal Area, only one of whom is a Fingal client. 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 22 Fingal County Council clients have been identified, 1 is currently under offer and a second has been placed in a Fingal Family Hub.

A second sub-group has been created between Fingal County Council and an Interim Disability Case Manager. The HSE have identified 5 new clients, all of whom have Medical Priority and are currently being reviewed for long term allocations.

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 remains committed to fulfilling its responsibilities under 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 services, 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

The first meeting of 2026 of the LTACC took place on Tuesday 17th February 2026 in the Blanchardstown Offices. The next scheduled meeting is planned to take place on 18th May 2026.

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 preferential Caravan Loan Scheme is intended to support the provision of Traveller-specific accommodation through local authorities to provide preferential loans to Travellers to purchase their own caravan/mobile home/trailer on halting sites for use as their primary residence.

The Council continues to implement the National Caravan Loan Scheme in accordance with Department of Local Government and Heritage Guidelines.

Fingal County Council's allocation under the scheme for 2026 is €240,000.



Delivery of unit to St Philomena's Park

Annual Traveller Census

The Annual Traveller Census has been successfully completed, encompassing all Group Housing and Halting Sites.

The total number of families in the County has increased to 617.

The data collected will enable effective planning and development, to ensure the needs of Traveller Families in the Fingal area are thoroughly represented and considered in all accommodation strategies.

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 Barnlodge

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 2nd December in Dublin 15. A further session for the D15 area took place on 17th February 2026 and was also well attended.

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. Unfortunately, we have had an incident in one of our Dublin 15 Halting Sites where residents broke into the powerhouse, causing significant damage to the door and lock.

Electricity Supply

It has been reported electricity supplies have altered or tampered with causing interruption to power supply and other service issues at a number of sites.

All residents are routinely advised of the dangers of interference with electricity and are advised to make contact with the Estate Management Maintenance team to report power issues in the first instance to allow for inspection and repair by registered contractors.

Wastewater Treatment System – new contract

Overseeing and managing the Waste Water Treatment Systems of Council stock remains a priority of the Estate Management, Maintenance Section.

Housing Response Maintenance

2026	
Maintenance Requests Received	**2,442**
Tenancy Alerts Issued	**9**
Interviews Scheduled	**14**
Unauthorised Works Recorded	**3**
Permission For Work Requests	**25**

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. Preparation for the 2026 Works Programme is underway with servicing scheduled to start in the coming weeks.

Anti-Social Behaviour / Inspectorate Unit

The Council conducts impartial and thorough investigations into all reports of anti-social behaviour and implements appropriate preventative measures when necessary. 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. The ASB Unit is currently preparing an updated Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy.

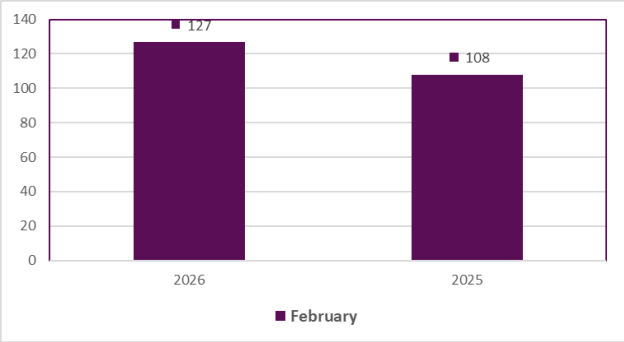
ASB Caseload Management

Complaints Feb 2026	Total	Active	Monitoring	Closed
Balbriggan	**37**	**24**	**1**	**12**
Rush / Lusk	**13**	**9**	**4**	**0**
Swords	**19**	**8**	**7**	**4**
Howth/ Malahide	**14**	**9**	**5**	**0**
Blanchardstown / Mulhuddart	**28**	**12**	**3**	**13**
Ongar	**8**	**2**	**1**	**5**
Castleknock	**8**	**0**	**6**	**2**
Total	**127**	**64**	**27**	**36**

Anti-Social Behaviour Interventions

Interviews Held 2026 to date	**31**
Interviews Held 2025	91
Tenancy Alerts 2026 to date	**16**
Tenancy Alerts 2025	32
Tenancy Warnings 2026 to date	**0**
Tenancy Warnings 2025	10

Comparison of Complaints received February 2026 vs February 2025



Tenancy Management Section

Tenancy Management is responsible for safeguarding the proper use of Council housing stock by investigating suspected tenancy fraud, misuse of properties, and breaches of tenancy agreements.

This includes addressing issues such as illegal subletting, unauthorised occupation, and the abandonment of dwellings.

Surrenders/Abandonments on Estate Management Grounds

January

- **5** tenancy surrenders were received.
- **1** abandonment notice was served.
- **2** tenancies were terminated due to abandonment of the property.

February

- **1** property was surrendered.

Inspectorate 2026

The Council's Housing Inspectorate, including two dedicated Traveller-specific Inspectors. The Housing Inspector role is a key frontline operational function that delivers a wide range of inspectorate services to Council tenants, the wider community, and multiple sections within the Housing Department, including:

- Estate Management
- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- HAP
- Rents
- Homeless Services
- Allocations
- Lettings
- Long-Term Leasing/RAS
- Vacant Dwellings
- Traveller Specific Accommodation
- Voids Management

Housing Inspectors Report	
Traveller Specific Site Inspections 2025	**1682**
Housing Inspections 2025	**10447**
2026	
Traveller Specific Site Inspections to date	**328**
Housing Inspections	
January	682
February	1091
March	
April	
May	
June	
July /Aug	
September	
October	
November	
December **Total Inspections**	

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE ACTION, ACTIVE TRAVEL AND SPORTS DEPARTMENT

Contents

Active Travel
Climate Action
Environmental Awareness
Litter Management
Bring Banks
Abandoned Vehicles
Animal Welfare
Environment – Waste, Air & Noise
Sports Office

Active Travel

Seatown Road Swords:

John Cradock Ltd. have commenced works on site. Works have commenced on Phase 1, from the R132 heading eastwards. An alternative pedestrian route has been established on the south side of Seatown Road to facilitate the current ducting and drainage works. Two-way traffic is being maintained during peak traffic.

Junction of the R132 and Flemington Lane Balbriggan:

The contractor has commenced works associated with signalising the junction. On completion of these works, the resurfacing work on the junction will commence. It is programmed to have substantial completion on the works by end of Q1 2026.



Auburn Avenue Walking & Cycling Scheme

A tender competition to procure a contractor to carry out the works commenced in August 2025. Tenders are being evaluated by the Project Team.
It is anticipated the works will commence on site in Q2 2026.



Hartstown/Huntstown/Mountview Road

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. Detailed design has now commenced.

Clonee to Blanchardstown Shopping Centre

The preliminary design phase is ongoing. A non-statutory public consultation is being prepared and will take place in Q2 2026.

New Street, Malahide

With the February 9th 2026 deadline for the Construction Tender Suitability Assessment Questionnaire now passed, the design team has begun reviewing the submissions received from contractors and are currently in the process of shortlisting candidates for progression to Stage 2 of the tender process.

Feltrim Road Active Travel Project

Work on various aspects of the preliminary design are ongoing and progressing well. The consultant has received the road safety audit on the preferred option. The latest drawings are being updated to reflect the outcome of the road safety audit report.

Skerries Active Travel Plan.

The non-statutory public consultation period closed on the 19th January. Final compilation and moderation of all submissions is underway. The final number of submissions is expected to be around 600.

All feedback received from the consultation will be analysed and considered in the final plan, which will be complete in a number of weeks.

Skerries Harbour Road & Red Island Loop:

Detail Design ongoing. Trail pits were excavated recently as part of site investigation works. Consultation with the local stakeholders will be facilitated in advance of the construction phases in 2026. It is anticipated to be on site with phase 1 works to the Red Island Loop and carpark areas by the end of Q2 2026.

Newtown Bridge, Balheary Road:

Snag items along the route have been reviewed and are scheduled to be addressed by the contractor in Q1 2026. An official opening is planned for late March 2026.



Donabate Permeability - Phase 1

Works have been substantially completed in 2025, with some minor snagging works outstanding. These will be completed early in 2026, subject to dry weather conditions.

Seapark Hill Active Travel Project

The final elements of the detailed design is nearing completion. As part of the closing stages of the detailed design phase, the environmental and appropriate assessment screening report is currently being updated.

Road Safety:

Safe Routes to School Round 2

The detailed design documentation is currently undergoing a final review. Once complete the Construction Tender will be issued via the SupplyGov.ie.

Safe Routes to School Round 3

The SRTS Round 3 schools' outline delivery plan has been received from An Taisce. Work is currently progressing on the design tender documentation. Once this documentation has been completed and approved, the Construction Design Tender will be issued.

Fingal Road Safety Working Together group

The Fingal Road Safety Working Together group is now well established and meets on a quarterly basis. The meetings aim to give an opportunity for all stakeholders to coordinate on road safety within Fingal.

Fingal Road Safety Action Plan 2025 to 2027

Fingal Road Safety Action Plan 2025 to 2027 has now been fully drafted and reviewed and was brought to SPC in December and the Area Committee meetings in January. Next us the full council early in February for noting ahead of publication.

Mobility & Behavioural Change

Balance Bike Buddies

Our Balance Bike Buddies Courses are back in action now for 2026 on the Learn 2 Cycle Tracks in Millennium Park and Holywell Park



Learn2Cycle with a Disability

Learn2Cycle with a Disability is back for 2026, with a full list of courses for 2026 available on our website

Learn2Cycle ages 6-12

Learn2Cycle ages 6-12 is back for 2026, with current courses available on our website

Sofa to Saddle

Our Sofa to Saddle Courses kicked off during the last week of February in Newbridge House and Millennium Park.

The Newbridge Course takes place on Tuesdays at 10am and the Millennium Park Course is on Thursdays at 10:30am.

There are a small number of places available on the Millennium Park Course

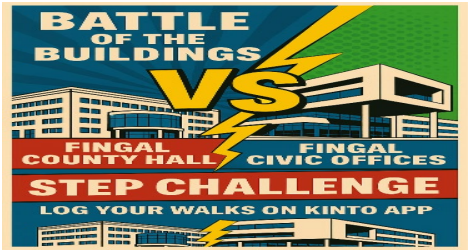


Kinto - Battle of The Buildings

As part of the Marchaton Steps campaign we will be holding a competition on the Kinto Join Sustainable Transport App between County Hall and Civic Offices.

The Community who logs the most sustainable journeys over the Month of March will win a celebratory lunch in their office.

While the focus of Marchaton is a step challenge, the Battle of Buildings challenge will reward all sustainable transport journeys made throughout the month.



Healthy Steps Walking Groups

Working in partnership with our colleagues in Healthy Fingal, the Healthy Steps Walking Groups have recommenced for 2026,

Current walks:

- Millennium Park Thursdays at 12pm
- Balbriggan Fridays at 11am
- Donabate Fridays at 10.30am

The Castleknock Ramblers Walking Group

The Castleknock Ramblers Group meet every Tuesday morning at the Castleknock Gate in the Phoenix Park. They walk for approx. 45min – 60mins per week. March Walk Dates

- **Tues 3rd, 10th and 24th March**

Bike Week Funding 2026

We are delighted to have received €16,522 in Funding from the NTA to support our programme of Events for Bike Week 2026 which takes place from Saturday 9th – Sunday 17th May 2026.

Keep an eye on www.fingal.ie/bikeweek for our full list of events and activities

Skerries Community Car

In February the Community Car completed 169 trips (including some round trips).

To book the service or to sign up as a volunteer simply call Flexibus on 046 9074830 or email flexibus@locallinklmf.ie

Month	Trip Numbers
January	169
February	126

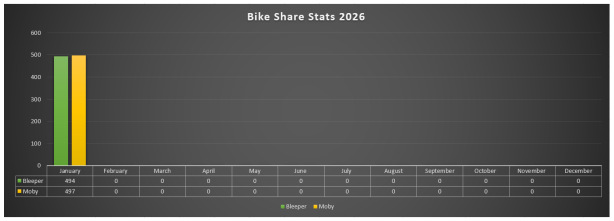
EVPZ

The EVPZ vehicles completed 37 journeys in Feb 2026, For more information on the EVPZ eHubs project, you can check out https://esb.ie/what-we-do/esb-ehubs

Month	Trips	KM Travelled
January	44	3,168km
February	37	Data not available

Bike Share Schemes

We completed over 20,000 bike share journeys in Fingal in 2025.



Bike Share Monthly Stats 2026

Month	Moby	Bleeper	Total
Jan 26	497	494	991

It is worth noting that usage levels in January were significantly lower due to the extremely heavy rain and volume of weather warnings across the month.

Quiet Streets 2026

Applications will open in March 2026. Councillors will be briefed in advance. Communications and application materials are currently being finalised.

CLIMATE ACTION

Dublin Climate Action Week 2026

Dublin Climate Action Week 2026 was announced. It will take place from 11th May 2026.



Balbriggan Decarbonisation Zone

Planning work is progressing the development of the methodology and scope of works for the preparation of the Balbriggan DZ Implementation Plan. Work will commence in early 2026.

E2CUTIES

Work is progressing on the project deliverables for this project: Local Pilot Plan will be prepared in March.

Home Energy Saving Kits

Feedback is now requested from HESK users (survey included on the inside of the kits available in Swords and Blanchardstown).



Library Resources

The Climate Action Team review Climate Action resources avail in all libraries in Fingal and make monthly book recommendations through the Environment and Climate Action Newsletter.

Our Balbriggan- Sustainability, Climate Action and Biodiversity Pillar

The Climate Team continue to support the implementation of the Sustainability, Climate Action and Biodiversity Pillar Action Plan.

Community Climate Action Fingal Grant

Phase 1 Community Climate Action Fingal is now complete and was delivered ahead of schedule. Over 150 projects were delivered by community groups and organisations across Fingal. Projects were delivered across all 5 Themes and included projects such as solar PV, bike repair stations, biodiversity projects, sewing machines for fashion upcycling and recycling bins. Amongst many others. A total of €1,111,709.54 was spent on community projects over an 18-month period.



Pictured: Kids from Kinsealy EFC in Kettles Park with their reusable water bottles.

The closing date for applications for Phase 2 of the CCAP was 22nd December 2025. A total of 76 applications were received from a variety of community groups/organisations across Fingal. The evaluation process has concluded and recommendations for funding approval have been submitted to DCEE. Successful applicants will be notified in April.

ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Awareness:

Green Schools Programme

The Green-Schools programme is an environmental management and education program for schools operating through seven sequential themes starting with the mandatory theme of Litter & Waste. Subsequent themes include Energy, Water, Travel, Biodiversity, Global Citizenship and Marine Environment. Each programme takes 2 years to complete and following completion of the required actions, a green flag is awarded to each successful school under their relevant theme.

The EAO has carried out 5 green school visits in February and will continue to assist and advise participating schools.

Anti-Litter, Anti-Graffiti 2026

The Anti-Litter & Anti-Graffiti Grant is administered annually by Fingal County Council. Each year, community groups across Fingal undertake a variety of initiatives funded through the scheme, contributing to enhanced public spaces and increased community engagement. Activities can include litter clean ups, painting of estate walls, painting murals, introducing areas for biodiversity in places prone to litter and dumping, and awareness campaigns for litter and cigarette butt disposal. The fund is part-sponsored by the Department of Climate, Energy & Environment.

The 2026 ALAG is now open for applications with a closing date of Friday, 17th April 2026.

Applications can be downloaded from our website https://www.fingal.ie/anti-litter-anti-graffiti-grant-2026



Litter Management

In February the Litter Wardens continued investigating large amounts of littering and dumping throughout the county. The bring banks in the Fingal area are inspected daily. Any evidence that is found is dealt with under the Litter Pollution Act.



• The litter wardens 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.

• The litter management section reports 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.

• They Investigate reports of abandoned cars

Litter Fines & Warning Notices 2026

Month	No of Fines issued	No of Warning Notices issued
January	35	15
February	43	6

There were 6 cases before the district court in February 2026.

Litter Management Requests for February 2026

Type of Requests:	Number
Abandoned Car Sticker	1
Dog Fouling signage request	6
Black spot inspection	605
Bring Bank inspections	403
General Litter issue	2
Muck on road	3
Report of dumping 1-20 bags	35
Report of dumping from a car	2
Unauthorised Signage	3
Report of litter issue	24
Total cases	**1,084**

The Litter Management Section have commenced an ongoing Litter Awareness Campaign to continue over the 3-year period of the Litter Management Plan and will look at addressing ongoing issues such as illegal dumping/fly-tipping, dog fouling, unauthorised signage, cigarette butts/disposable vapes, muck on the road etc. The Litter Management section is working on producing several posters such as the poster below to increase litter awareness. The posters will be advertised through the Councils Social Media Platforms, at Bus Shelters, in Libraries, Community Centres, schools and any other viable sources. A leaflet outlining the responsibilities of businesses in relation to litter management is currently being designed, we hope to have this ready for distribution in the coming weeks.



Abandoned Vehicles

A total of 58 reports of abandoned cars were received from 1st January to 25th February 2026. Burnt-out vehicles are also reported to the Environment Department. Burnt-out vehicles are also reported to the Environment Department.

To report a suspected abandoned vehicle the following information is required and should be emailed to environment@fingal.ie

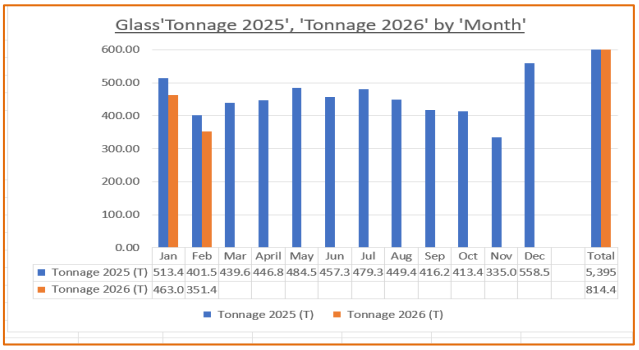
- **Vehicle Registration**
- **Colour / Make / Model**
- **Exact Location**
- **Period of time that vehicle has not been moved**
- **Name and Contact Number of person reporting the vehicle**

Further information on Abandoned Vehicles can be found on the Fingal County Council website: https://www.fingal.ie/council/service/abandoned-vehicles

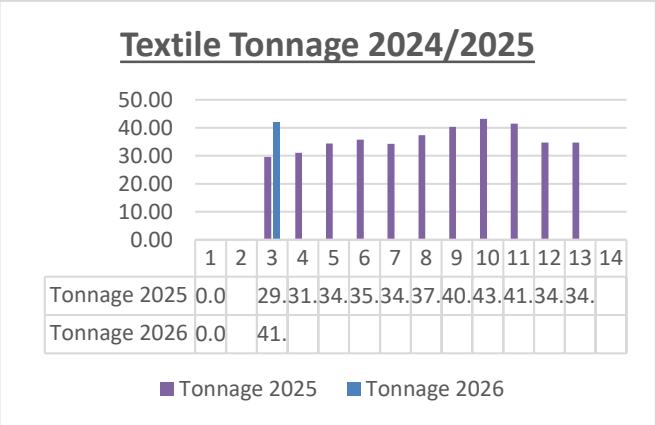
	Abandoned Vehicles Lifted		Burnt out Vehicles Lifted	
	2026	2025	2026	2025
January	0	0	0	0
February	2	0	0	1
March		2		2
April		3		0
May		2		0
June		0		1
July		0		0
August		0		0
September		3		0
October		5		0
November		2		0
December		6		0
	2	**23**		**4**

Bring Banks & Bottle Banks

Glass volumes collected to date in February 2026 are **351 (T).** This compares with a collection figure of 402 (T) for all of February 2025.



Textiles Banks



Textiles collected in **January 2026** were **42 (T)**. This compares with a collection figure of 30 (T) in January 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.

Month	10 Day Notices		Fines Issued		Fines Paid	
	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025
January	50	10	8	3	€1,750	€550
February	76	82	19	5	€2,650	€2,244
March		87		15		€1,121
April		85		11		€1,770
May		99		15		€4,443
June		81		12		€1700
July		82		12		€1221.50
August		224		29		€2200
September		104		25		€3750
October		192		38		€3700
November		141		20		€4610
December		81		72		€2,640
TOTAL	126	1268	27	257	€4,400	€29,949.50

The Control of Dogs Section received 24 complaints relating to dogs from 1st of Feb 2026 to the 25th of Feb 2026.

Service	No of complaints per service from 1st of Feb 2026 to the 25th of Feb 2026
Env - Dog Fine Appeal	4
Env - Dog on Dog Attack	2
Env - Dog on Person Attack	7
Env – Dog warden assistance, garda request	0
Env - Restricted Breed Dog	2
Env - Surrendered Dog	0
Dog Warden Incident	1
Env- Stray Dog	8
Grand Total	**24**

There were 6 cases before the district court in February 2026.

Dog Licences

Month	Annual Licences Purchased		Lifetime Licences Purchased		Income from Licences	
	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025
January	853	952	49	66	€23,920	€28,280
February	670	846	37	56	€18,580	€24,760
March		855		61		€25,640
April		839		46		€23,220
May		937		64		€27,700
June		795		47		€22,480
July		807		52		€23,420
August		898		71		€27,900
September		762		46		€21,680
October		722		51		€21,580
November		831		57		€24,600
December		358		29		€11,220
Total for year	1523	9602	86	646	€42,500	€282,480



Dog Shelter Service

Dublin County Dog Shelter holds stray dogs which are 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. The shelter has a Facebook page Dublin County Dog Shelter and Instagram Account @dublincountydogshelter which they actively update with strays and dogs wishing to be rehomed.

Dogs in Shelter at the start of February 2025	**11**	**Dogs in Shelter at start of February 2026**	**11**
Stray/Seized dogs brought to Shelter	10	Stray/Seized dogs brought to Shelter	4
Surrendered by owners	3	Surrendered by owners	0
Reclaimed	0	Reclaimed	0
Rehomed to Rescue	3	Rehomed to Rescue	5
Rehomed to Public	3	Rehomed to Public	1
PTS	2	PTS	0
Dogs in Shelter at the end of January 2025	**16**	**Dogs in shelter at 22nd of January 2026**	**9**

Horses

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

Waste Complaints

In February, 29 complaints were received, 24 were investigated and 25 fully closed including cases from previous months. These related to Fly tipping, unauthorised C&D sites, unauthorised waste activities, household waste storage/burning, and waste presentation bye-laws.



The table below shows the breakdown of the types of complaints investigated.

Types of Complaints	Feb-26
Fly/ Tipping/Illegal Dumping	3
Unauthorised C&D sites	2
Unauthorised Waste Activities	1
HH Waste - Backyard Storage/Burning	12
Waste Presentation Bye-Laws	5
Non-routine inspections	1
Total	24

To report a waste related complaint; please contact the Environment Section at Email: environment@fingal.ie or Tel: 01 8905000.



The table below shows the number of complaints received to date in 2026 compared to previous years.

Year	Feb
2019	38
2020	48
2021	35
2022	35
2023	37
2024	43
2025	60
2026	54

Construction & Demolition Waste

Planning Applications and Resource Waste Management Plans (RWMP)

One of the National Waste Enforcement Priorities for 2025-2027 is Construction & Demolition (C&D) Waste. The waste enforcement section carries out a variety of inspections in this area, including reviewing planning applications referred to the Waste Enforcement & Regulation Section by the Planning Department in relation to Resource Waste Management Plans (RWMP) that are required for developments over a certain threshold. To date in 2026, the Waste Enforcement & Regulation Section has made submissions to the Planning Department in respect of 7 applications where RWMP's were requested (out of 20 referrals received).



A total of 10 reviews of RWMP's, submitted in compliance to conditions set out in planning permissions, were also undertaken, in conjunction with 5 site inspections at construction sites to ensure that C&D wastes were being managed appropriately.



By-Product Notifications

Soil and Stones from excavations at construction sites are one of the major waste streams generated by construction, and are often managed as a By-Product, as opposed to waste material, whereby they can be re-used at other sites, as long as a number of criteria are fulfilled:

- the material was produced as an integral part of the production process
- further use of the material is certain
- further use is lawful - planning permission, no adverse impacts
- no additional processing is required.

By-product notifications are registered with the EPA and Local Authorities are alerted. The Waste Enforcement & Regulation Section then has a role to play in reviewing these notifications, through desktop assessments and on-site inspections to ensure the By-Product criteria are complied with and no environmental pollution is generated. A total of 21 notifications of by-product soil and stone were made in February - 13 were desktop verified and 5 site inspections were carried out.





Waste Recovery Levy

Inspections under the National C & D Waste Priority also include the collation of waste recovery levy returns, collection of any levies paid, subsequent payment of funds received to the Circular Economy Fund and the auditing of returns made by operators.

The objective of the Landfill Levy and Waste Recovery Levy is to encourage higher value waste management practices by moving material management up the waste hierarchy from waste recovery to more recycling and re-use practices, encouraging greater efforts to segregate waste at source. The Q3 and Q4 returns were received in late October 2025 and late January 2026 respectively – and are currently being reviewed to ensure levies due were declared and paid. No waste recovery levies were paid in Q3, 2025 and a total of €340 was paid in respect of Q4, 2025.

AR Validations

Waste collection permit holders collecting C&D waste are also subject to audits and inspections of their annual returns, along with facilities in Fingal operating under Waste Facility Permit/ Certificate of Registration accepting C&D waste. Inspections of these has not yet started - initial inspections will focus on Annual Return Validations, starting in Q2 2026.

End of Waste

The Production of recycled aggregates reaching End of Waste status is also subject to inspections under the C&D Waste National Enforcement Priority – although there are currently no notifications in Fingal falling under the remit of Fingal County Council (recycled aggregates produced at EPA licensed facilities are inspected by the EPA).



WERLA - C & D Waste Seminar

Officers from the Waste Enforcement & Regulation Section attended a seminar in February 2026, organised by the Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authorities (WERLA) to share experiences and provide guidance on Construction & Demolition (C & D) materials to Local Authorities. The key topics discussed were:

- The Circular Economy including a discussion on National Decisions in terms of recycled aggregates and soil and stone and the implementation approach.
- Local authority experiences in Best Practice in terms of Construction and Demolition Waste Enforcement Action.
- Update from the National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO) on a pilot system for a Centralised Database for Data Returns for the Recovery Levy.
- Case studies and shared experiences from other local authorities regarding Article 27 Notifications.
- Resource Waste Management Plans and achieving key deliverables for C & D waste, keeping circularity at the core of the plan.
- Guidance from WERLA to assist local authorities in fulfilling statutory waste enforcement obligations with a focus on risk-based inspections on C & D sites.
- Article 28 - National end-of-waste criteria for recycled aggregates which enable materials to stop being classified as waste if they meet specific criteria.
- The application of the Landfill Levy at unauthorised sites.

Further info on By-Products and End of Waste criteria C & D waste is available at:

https://www.epa.ie/our-services/licensing/waste/

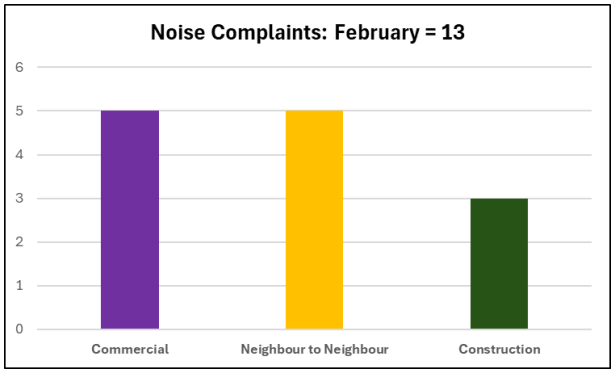
Air Quality & Noise Pollution Complaints

2025 saw a total of **373 complaints** managed by the Air and Noise team, slightly exceeding a projected 370 complaints. 2025 complaints can be categorised as follows.

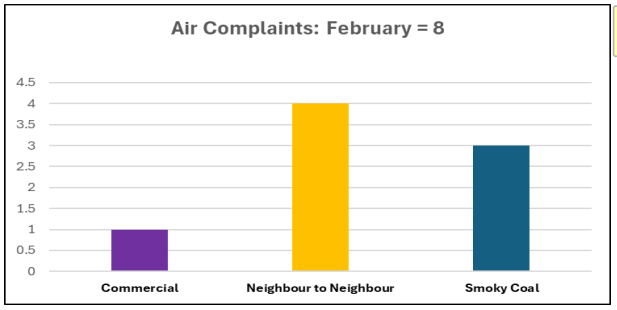
Air = 122 **Noise = 251**

- *Commercial = 107*
- *Neighbour to neighbour = 69*
- *Construction = 63*
- *Drone Noise = 41*
- *Other/Miscellaneous = 93*

A total of **13 noise complaints** were received and investigated during February. Complaints were received regarding neighbour-to-neighbour noise, construction site noise, and noise associated with commercial activities.



A total of **8 air complaints** were received and investigated during February and these included complaints regarding neighbour-to-neighbour, air pollution issues and complaints about emissions from commercial and industrial units.



Unmanned Aircraft Systems (Drones)

Staff from the Planning and Environment Departments recently met with members of the D15 Drone Action Group to listen to concerns around drone activity in the Dublin 15 area and potential impacts on sensitive receptors. A number of issues including increased drone activity, noise, privacy and safety were discussed in conjunction with the role of different authorities and groups.

It was noted that the National Working Group on UAS Geographical Zones, led by the Irish Aviation Authority, is currently being established to develop transparent processes and procedures for the designation of UAS Geographical Zones to ensure all stakeholders views are considered.

A National U-Space Steering Group is also being established to identify, develop, and effectively implement U-Space (automated traffic management system) capabilities and technologies in the State. The Steering Group will be led by the Department of Transport, in close collaboration with the Irish Aviation Authority, and comprise relevant industry, local authorities and research stakeholders. The Steering Group will develop a National Plan for the Implementation of U-Space.

An Roinn Iompair
Department of Transport

The Irish Aviation Authority has committed to supporting local authorities and planners through training initiatives to acquire the necessary aviation knowledge, allowing them to integrate UAS technologies and services into their policies to the benefit of their communities and we await further information in relation to this from the IAA.

A copy of the UAS National Policy Framework document is available here:

https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-transport/publications/national-policy-framework-for-unmanned-aircraft-systems/

Air & Noise Planning Files

The Air and Noise Section have reviewed **9 Planning Applications** referred by the Planning Department during February. Applications are assessed against the latest Strategic Noise Maps for Fingal to ensure that any proposed developments, and particularly residential developments, will not be adversely affected by road, rail, industrial or aircraft noise.



A total of **7 Planning Compliance Submissions** has been reviewed for compliance with air and noise related planning conditions for February. These submissions typically outline the mitigation measures that will be used to minimise the dust and noise impacts during the construction phase of a development.



Solid Fuel Regulations – Retailer Inspections

The team is continuing solid fuel inspections in Q1 2026. Five inspections have been carried out on solid fuel retailers to date, with follow-up letters issued to retailers outlining the non-compliances identified. Information sheets were included to remind retailers of their responsibilities under the Solid Fuel Regulations. The team is compiling inspection data relating to non-compliances with the intention to raise the issues with solid fuel producers responsible.



Solvent Regulations (Dry Cleaner) Inspections

There are currently 6 dry cleaners registered in Fingal under the solvent regulations. Ongoing work around updating the register and monitoring for new businesses potentially carrying out dry cleaning is underway. With the limited number of relevant businesses in the county, the team is reviewing the scope of inspections. As well as confirming the need for registration compliance amongst those certified may be undertaken.

Deco Paints Regulations (Vehicle Refinisher) Inspections

As of February 2026, there are 20 premises registered under the Deco Paint Regulations. Following our Q4 2025 inspections, we are continuing to work closely with vehicle refinishers as they progress through the registration process and move toward full compliance. We will also continue to monitor and inspect any new refinishing businesses that may emerge. The team is currently reviewing our outstanding list to determine whether the Regulations apply to additional premises and planning for 2026 inspections.

SPORTS OFFICE

Area-Based Programmes are back

The indoor Spring programmes got underway after the Bank Holiday Weekend in February. Fingal on the Move, Active for Life, Parent & Toddler started an 8-week block of enjoyable, 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. There is a high demand for places with many classes over-subscribed showing the high quality of the coaching and the need in the community for these activities.



Sports First Aid

Our first General Sports First Aid Course of 2026 took place in the new Baldoyle Racecourse Community Centre. 10 clubs were represented across 19 participants. The workshop covers all common injuries and illnesses that occur in sports such as cardiac arrest, head injuries, concussion, strains, sprains, and other sports related injuries. Recommendations for stocking and purchase of First Aid kits are also included. A follow-up accredited Cardiac First Responder Course will be offered to these participants for training in treating cardiac arrest and similar injuries, with a focus on proper delivery of CPR and Defibrillators.



Couch to Parkrun continues in Fingal

More than 116 enthusiastic aspiring Parkrunners have kicked off the new year by taking part in a six-week “Couch to Parkrun” walk and run fitness programme delivered by the Fingal Sports Office.

The initiative started on January 10th across five Fingal regional parks: Ardgillan Demesne, Newbridge House, Broadmeadows Park, Malahide Park, and Hartstown Park. The programme offers participants instructor-led training designed to improve fitness and build confidence. The programme was open to people of all fitness abilities, and the goal is to help them prepare for their local weekly Parkrun which takes place in the host regional parks. Through their six-week guided sessions participants will gradually progress toward completing a 5km Parkrun by the end of the course.





Special Olympics Ireland Games

More than 100 athletes, families, coaches, volunteers, and community representatives came together on 10 February at the Carnegie Court Hotel to celebrate and wish well the Fingal athletes who will compete in the Special Olympics Ireland Games this June.

The event celebrated over 50 athletes, coaches, and chaperones from 13 Special Olympics clubs across Fingal, who will represent the region across 10 sports at this year's Games—the first national Special Olympics event since 2018 following the Covid-19 interruption.

The evening featured speeches from the Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Tom O'Leary, the Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, AnnMarie Farrelly, and the CEO of Special Olympics Ireland, Karen Coventry, each commending the athletes for their commitment, resilience, and spirit.



Physical Literacy in Libraries

Delivered by the Active Cities Dublin Coordinator in collaboration with Fingal Librarians and Sport Ireland Coaching, the introduction of Physical Literacy sections across four regional libraries directly supports the objectives of Fingal County Council as outlined in the Fingal Local Sport and Physical Activity Plan 2024–2029, particularly Commitment 2 to improve opportunities and choices for everyone to be active.

In line with Strategic Action 13, which emphasises embedding physical literacy and evidence-based approaches into programme design, this initiative promotes the development of motivation, confidence, physical competence, and knowledge that enable lifelong participation in physical activity for people of all ages and abilities.

By delivering accessible resources alongside year-round courses, physical activity programmes, workshops and health promotion days within community library settings, the initiative reduces barriers to participation, supports inclusion of priority groups, and contributes to increased engagement, improved health outcomes, and sustainable behaviour change across Fingal





FINANCE

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Development Levy Income
Payroll
Financial Reports
Procurement
Appendix 1 – Revenue and Capital account income and expenditure at 28 / 2 / 2026
Appendix 2 - Contracts Awarded

Rates

Commercial Rates collection to the end of February 2026 is 23.4%.

Rates Collection	
Rates collected €m	€41.5 m
Rates collected %	23.4%

Development Levy Income

Development levy income collected to the end of December is €89.3m.

Development Levy Income YTD Dec 2025	
Levies Receipted	€89.3 m
Levies Collected as a % of 2024	126%

Payroll

Overall payroll spend to the end of February was €14.85m which is c. 98.4**%** of budget.

Payroll	
Salaries & Wages €m	€14.854m
Percentage of budget.	98.4%

Procurement

Outlined below is a summary of the overall procurement activity at end of February

No. of contracts awarded (details below) for year to date	25	
Value €m	€7.1m	
Procurements ongoing at end of February		
No. of procurements awaiting tender responses	13	(i)
Value €m	€126m	
No. of procurements under evaluation	40	(ii)
Value €m	€51m	
No. of procurements at approved	17	(iii)
Value €m	€37m	

Notes:
(i) Procurements awaiting tender responses – tender responses awaited at end of February.
(ii) Procurements under evaluation – tender responses submitted and being evaluated at end of the February.
(iii) Procurements at approved – Tender responses have been evaluated and approved. Pre- contract award processes ongoing at end of February.

Appendix 1

Revenue Account Income and Expenditure at 28/02/2026

REVENUE ACCOUNT INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 28 FEBRUARY 2026

	EXPENDITURE			INCOME			NET
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date	Income €	Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	€
Housing & Building	21,811,219	146,350,700	15%	21,206,361	153,470,900	14%	604,857
Road Transport & Safety	6,202,828	38,862,000	16%	1,599,620	10,906,700	15%	4,603,208
Water Services	1,991,433	9,382,300	21%	1,672,117	10,034,000	17%	319,316
Development Management	3,919,843	27,038,500	14%	1,202,299	10,387,900	12%	2,717,543
Environmental Services	8,775,227	52,919,900	17%	1,517,217	9,825,900	15%	7,258,010
Recreation & Amenity	11,191,562	68,414,200	16%	933,592	6,291,100	15%	10,257,970
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	276,395	1,844,900	15%	44,730	490,200	9%	231,665
Miscellaneous Services	3,417,141	22,106,400	15%	4,830,851	29,603,200	16%	-1,413,710
Central Management Charge	9,547,618	66,434,500	14%	633,919	4,222,000	15%	8,913,699
Local Property Tax / GPG				3,726,026	22,356,100	17%	-3,726,026
Rates				29,294,233	175,765,400	17%	-29,294,233
	67,133,266	**433,353,400**	**15%**	**66,660,966**	**433,353,400**	**15%**	**472,299**

Appendix 1 continued

Capital Account Income and Expenditure at 28/02/2026

CAPITAL ACCOUNT INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION TO 28/02/2026					
		Balance at 0/01/2026 €	Expenditure YTD €	Income YTD €	Balance at 28/02/2026 €
A	Housing & Building	-24,851,032	60,358,954	-36,018,585	-510,663
B	Road Transport & Safety	8,979,870	2,488,319	-251,702	11,216,487
C	Water Services	-11,236,191	534,185	-86,557	-10,788,563
D	Development Management	-205,146,395	1,644,048	-17,025,069	-220,527,416
E	Environmental Services	-13,144,454	1,206,861	-141,667	-12,079,260
F	Recreation & Amenity	-527,872	2,413,627	-1,929,533	-43,778
H	Miscellaneous Services	-43,928,394	485,074	-2,284,262	-45,727,582
	Total	**-289,854,468**	**69,131,069**	**-57,737,375**	**-278,460,774**

Appendix 2
Number of Contracts Awarded to the end of February 2026

Description of Procurement	Supplier Name	Legal Address	Value of Contract (excl. VAT)	Contract Start Date	Contract End Date	Contract Duration (months)	Contract Award Date
The provision of Public Lighting Maintenance and New Works Services to Fingal County Council	AI Read Electrical Co. Ltd	1 Lorcan Grove, Santry Dublin 9	€650,000	01/03/2026	31/07/2026	7	25/02/2026
Road Reinstatement post Stormwater Pipeline works - Church Street, Howth, Co Dublin	DM Morris Limited	13 Parklands Office Park, Southern Cross Road, Bray, Co Wicklow	€57,675	23/02/2026	13/03/2026	1	12/02/2026
Legal Advise and Representation regarding Leasing Services	Beauchamps LLP	Riverside Two, Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2	€320,000	06/02/2026	05/02/2028	24	06/02/2026
Waste Management Services for Depots (Interim Arrangement to 31/01/2026)	Bord Na Mona	Main Street, Newbridge, Co Kildare	€142,297	01/12/2025	28/02/2026	3	17/11/2026
Sportsturf Consultancy Services for Bremore Recreational Sports Hub, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin	Alan Lewis Ltd	1A Crowmeole Lane, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, UK	€38,610	18/02/2026	18/08/2028	18	15/01/2026
Screening & Assessment Services for Affordable Housing applications for Fingal County Council	Interform Ltd	6 York Terrace, Dun Laoghaire, Co Dublin	€42,000	05/01/2026	30/06/2026	6	05/01/2026
Purchase of up to 12 No.3.5 ton electric tippers for Park Rangers	Harris Commercial Vehicles Ltd	Naas Road, Dublin 12	€489,540	01/02/2026	31/01/2027	12	01/02/2026
Establish a Multi-Party Framework for the Provision of services for building surveying and inspection services on behalf of Housing Department to cover up to 1,000 properties	ABL Surveyors Ltd	26/27 Pembroke Street Lower, Dublin 2	€526,000	09/02/2026	08/02/2028	24	09/02/2026
Supply, Delivery, Commissioning & Maintenance of Emergency Generators for Fingal County Council	Shanahan Power Ltd	Camas, Newcaste West, Limerick	€85,752	18/02/2026	31/12/2029	47	18/02/2026

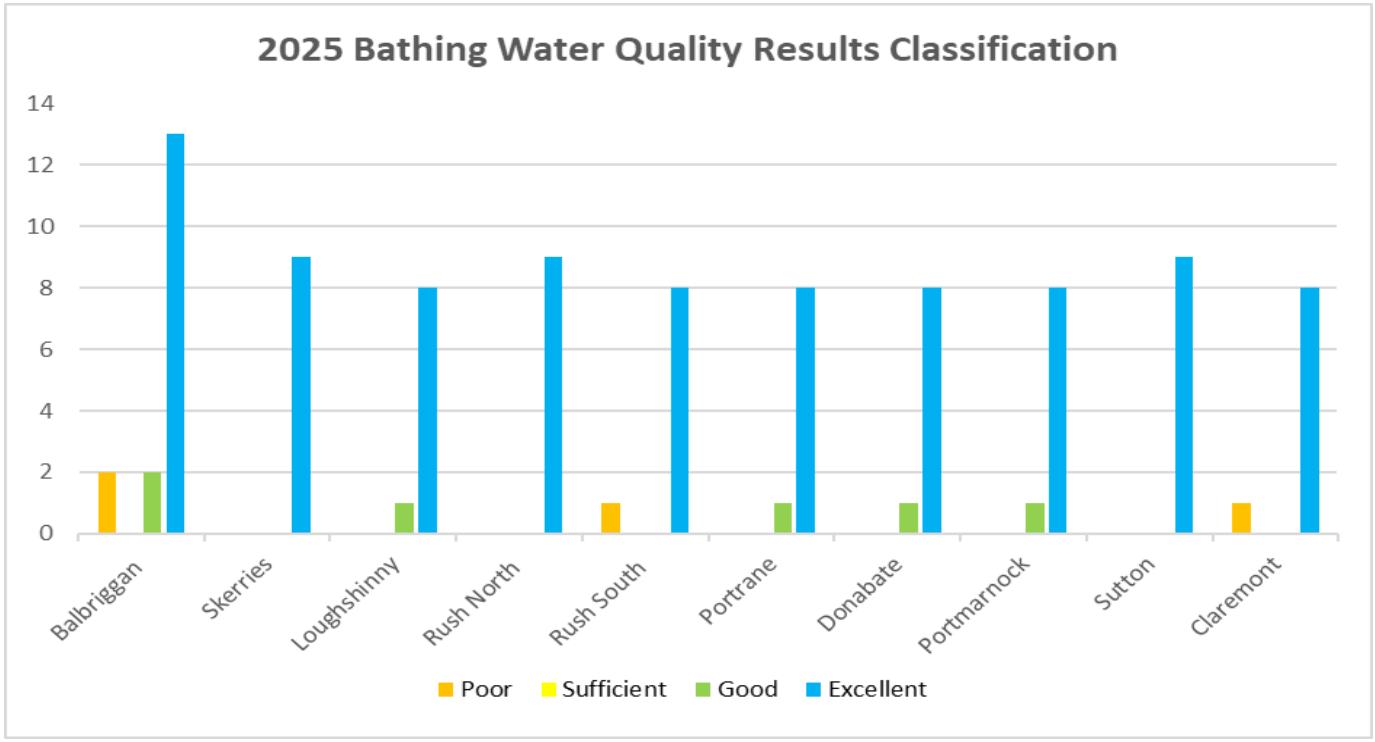
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Renewal of a number of Digital Services products	NEC Software Solutions UK Ltd	1st Floor IMEX Centre, 579-599 Maxted Road, Hemel Hampstead, HP2 7DX	€26,775	20/05/2026	19/05/2027	12	13/02/2026
Installation of New Traffic Signals 2026 for Fingal County Council	Traffic Solutions Ltd	Unit 5, Block K , Maynooth Business park, Maynooth, Co Kildare	€742,191	02/03/2026	18/12/2026	10	13/02/2026
Renewal of FCC's Citrix Licensing and Support for 2026	Arkphire Security Ltd	41 O'Casey Avenue, Park West Industrial Park, Dublin 12, D12 X767	€39,800	31/12/2025	31/12/2026	12	02/02/2026
Sportspitch Rennovation and Associated Infrastructure Works at Skerries, Co. Dublin	Tony Patterson Sportsgrounds Ltd	Unit 9a Plato Business Park, Damastown Road, Tyrrelstown, Dublin 15	€1,290,154	16/03/2026	16/03/2028	24	10/02/2026
Construction of a Sample area for the proposed paving design for the New Street Public Realm Improvement Project in Malahide	Maylim Ltd	103/104 O'Connell St Limerick	€29,306	14/01/2026	13/11/2026	10	07/01/2026
Delivery of Business Skills and Personal Development Training course for Grade 3 & 4 officers	Mark Donovan and Associates	11 Kempton Green, Navan Road, Dublin 7	€33,500	19/01/2026	31/12/2026	12	09/01/2026
Support and maintenance for Fingal County Council's Teams Telephony	Viatel Technology Ltd	Block 2 International Science Centre, National Technology Park, Limerick	€32,350	05/02/2026	31/12/2026	12	01/01/2026
2026 Programme for the Development and Implementation of the Fingal Tourism Strategy 2025-2029 and the Fingal Food & Drink Policy 2025-2029	Brouder Marketing	5A Humbert Street, Tubbercurry , Co Sligo	€619,106	01/01/2026	31/12/2026	12	01/01/2026

Professional Service of OHMS, BI and Logix	Nathean Technologies Ltd	Unit 9a Plato Business Park, Damastown Road, Tyrrelstown, Dublin 15	€143,100	03/02/2026	31/12/2026	12	01/01/2026
Support and Maintenance for Fingal County Council's wireless network for 2026	Exigent	Eastgate Business Park, Little Island, Co Cork	€33,300	20/01/2026	31/12/2026	12	01/01/2026
Trad Fest Winter Music & Culture Festival 2026	TASCQ CLG (t/a The Temple Bar Company)	Second Floor, 1-5 Crampton Court, Temple Bar, Dublin 2	€120,000	01/01/2026	31/12/2026	12	22/01/2026
Manager/Site Operator for daily operations and the facilitation of planned events at Swords Castle and The Carnagie Building	Invictus Event Mnagement and Consultancy Ltd	3 Parc Glas, Rathcormac, Co Cork	€170,000	30/01/2026	30/07/2026	6	26/01/2026
Amenity woodland planting on public lands at Nevitt, Lusk, Co. Dublin	Forestry Services Ltd	Unit 3 Cillin Hill Agri Business Park, Dublin Rd , Kilkenny	€52,988	02/02/2026	01/02/2027	12	27/01/2026
Maintenance and Development of the Logix Business Intelligence Platform	Nathean Technologies Ltd	Unit 9a Plato Business Park, Damastown Road, Tyrrelstown, Dublin 15	€55,800	22/01/2026	31/12/2026	12	01/01/2026
Enabling works related to public realm works at Swords Cultural Quarter	Duggan Brothers (Contractors) Ltd	Templemore, Co. Tipperary	€572,150	19/02/2026	07/05/2027	15	13/01/2026
Property Manager Parnell Estate, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15	Occu Living Ltd	6th Floor Embassy House, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4	€880,000	12/01/2026	31/12/2030	48	12/01/2026

Appendix 3

2025 Bathing Water Quality Results in Status Form



Appendix 3

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 4

Summary of Environmental Complaints and Inspections

		2023	2024	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025	Q4 2025	2025
Complaints investigated	Waste (incl litter)	1,036	2,287	267	327	347	268	1,209
	Water and Wastewater	101	75	21	18	18	13	70
	Air & Odour	37	54	23	18	51	30	122
	Noise	99	146	47	102	67	36	252
	TOTAL COMPLAINTS	**1,273**	**2,562**	**358**	**465**	**483**	**347**	**1,653**
Inspections	Routine Waste Inspections	1124	572	27	131	2783	1100	4,041
	Non-Routine Waste Inspections	416	463	134	213	295	297	939
	Litter Patrols & investigations	3232	6398	2124	3088	2870	3908	11,990
	Routine Water & Wastewater Inspections	720	930	358	320	384	349	1,411
	Non-Routine Water & Wastewater Inspections	133	136	25	13	12	22	72
	Routine Air & Noise Inspections	61	122	8	10	6	63	87
	Non-Routine Air & Noise Inspections	134	200	70	123	119	66	378
	Planning Inspections	416	630	241	203	188	105	737
	TOTAL INSPECTIONS	**6,236**	**9,451**	**2,987**	**4,101**	**6657**	**5,910**	**19,655**

Appendix 5
Housing Delivery Construction Programme
Schemes on Site

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On-Site Date	Handover (estimated)
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	Glenveagh Living Ltd	Mixed Tenure	Balmoston Phase 1, Donabate 53°29'21.2"N 6°07'58.1"W	**87 Social:** 2 x 4-Bed 25 x 3-Bed 28 x 2-Bed 32 x 1-Bed 86 Cost Rental 86 Affordable	On-Site.	Q3 2023	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:** 11 x 4-Bed 6 x 3-Bed 20 x 2-Bed 26 x 1-Bed 112 Affordable	On-Site.	Q4 2024	Phased delivery
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart/Castleknock / Ongar	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Church Fields 3B 53°24'44.7"N 6°23'39.0"W - Google Maps	**107 Social:** 11 x 4-Bed 4 x 3-Bed 56 x 2-Bed 36 x 1-Bed 110 Affordable	On-Site.	Q4 2024	Phased delivery
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk /Swords	FCC	Social	Seatown Way, Swords 53°27'35.4"N 6°13'04.7"W Google Maps	36 Social 36 x 2-Bed	On-Site.	Q4 2024	Phased delivery

Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Baile na Móna Phase 1, Swords https://maps.app.goo.gl/R8eAG1aoLXh1nL2J9	**123 Social:** 19 x 4-Bed 31 x 3-Bed 55 x 2-Bed 18 x 1-Bed 151 Affordable	On-Site.	Q4 2024	Phased delivery
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Mourne View, Skerries 53.580404, -6.122225	**14 Social:** 11x 2-Bed 2 x 3-Bed 1 x 4-Bed	On-Site.	Q4 2024	Q2 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	Q3 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
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social - Eldery	North Court, 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	Q1 2027
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Balmoston Phase 2, Donabate 53°29'21.2"N 6°07'58.1"W	**72 Social:** 2 x 4-Bed 21 x 3-Bed 26 x 2-Bed 23 x 1-Bed 73 Affordable	On-Site.	Q3 2025	Phased delivery.

Appendix 5 - continued
Schemes with Planning Approval and at Tender stage

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On-Site Date	Handover (Est.)
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	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 Grove, Swords. 53.453901, -6.210574 Google Maps	**34 social:** 9 x 1-bed 20 x 2-bed 5 x 3-bed	Planning granted.	Q3 2026	Q1 2028
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Park Road, Kenure, Rush. 53.532278, -6.102176 Google Maps	**32 social:** 7 x 1-bed 10 x 2-bed 15 x 3-bed	Planning granted.	Q3 2026	Q1 2028
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.	Q3 2026	Q4 2027
Howth/Malahide	FCC	Social	Tucketts Lane 53.385248, -6.066128 Google Maps	**8 social:** 4 x 1-bed 4 x 2-bed	On-hold	TBC	TBC
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart/ Castleknock/ Ongar	FCC	Social	Fortlawn, Blanchardstown https://maps.app.goo.gl/xuML7oPaySiPZmf46	**21 social:** 2 x 4-Bed 7 x 3-Bed 6 x 2-Bed 6 x 1-Bed	Planning granted	TBC	TBC

Appendix 5 - continued
Schemes at the Pre-Planning Stage

Area Committee	Provider	Funding Stream	Site Name	No. Units	Status Detail	On-Site Date	Handover (Est)
Howth/Malahide	FCC	Social	Fingerpost, Malahide https://maps.app.goo.gl/zfhguqQj7vYYRJB99	**4 social:** 4 x 2 bed	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 social:	Pre-Planning.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Balmoston Phase 3, Donabate 53°29'21.2"N 6°07'58.1"W	**79 social:** 2 x 4-Bed 24 x 3-Bed 27 x 2-Bed 26 x 1-Bed Affordable TBC	Planning consent	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Social	Dublin Road, Swords https://maps.app.goo.gl/j8kZJtRgpNRMEjks6	**12 social** 5 x 1-Bed 2 x 2-Bed 2 x 3-Bed	Pre-Planning	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	TBC	O' Dwyers, Balbriggan. https://maps.app.goo.gl/inSEC4Qq3QSBHQHp8	**80 Social**	Pre-Planning.	TBC	TBC
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk/Swords	FCC	Mixed Tenure	Baile na Móna Phase 2, Swords https://maps.app.goo.gl/R8eAG1aoLXh1nL2J9	**111 Social** Affordable TBC	Pre-Planning.	TBC	TBC

*The above-estimated timelines are indicative and subject to a successful planning and procurement process.

Appendix 5 - 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	The Paddocks, Golf Links Road, Skerries	95 2	Fully Delivered
Balbriggan / Rush-Lusk Swords	Tuath	CALF	Whitehaven, Santry, D9	47 47	Q3 2025 Delivered Q1 2026
Balbriggan/ Rush- Lusk Swords	Oaklee	CALF	Harmans Rest, Donabate	44	Q3 2026
Balbriggan/ Rush- Lusk Swords	Tuath	CALF	Niven Oaks, Santry D9	170	2026
Balbriggan/Rush-Lusk Swords	Oaklee	CALF	Birch Wood, Santry, D9	20	Fully Delivered
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Cluid	CALF	Hollyfield, Hollystown, Dublin 15	22	Fully Delivered
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Tuath	CALF	Kilmartin Grove, Dublin 15	32	Fully Delivered
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Respond	CALF	Pipers Square, Charlestown, St. Margarets Road, Finglas, D11	211	Fully Delivered
Blanchardstown/Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar	Respond	CALF	Pipers Square, Charlestown, St, Margarets Road, Finglas, D11	95	Q3 2026
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Tuath	CALF	Tyrrelstown Square, Hollywoodrath, Dublin 15	120	Q3 2026
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Oaklee	CALF	The Lodge, Clonsilla Lodge, Dublin 15	57	2027
Blanchardstown/ Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Cluid	CALF	St. Josephs, Clonsilla Dublin 15	113	2027
Blanchardstown / Mulhuddart, Castleknock/Ongar	Cluid	CALF	Luttrellstown Gate, Clonsilla, D15	151	2027

*The above-estimated timelines are indicative and subject to change

Appendix 5 - continued

Affordable & Cost Rental Delivery

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	Closed	57 Homes Sold
Aster Park, Rush	Closed	96 Homes Sold
Church Fields (Phase 1)	Closed	177 Homes Sold
Clonrath Hill	All Sale Agreed	6/6 Homes Sale Agreed
Ballisk Park, Donabate	111 Sale Agreed	111/112 Homes Sale Agreed
Baile na Móna, Swords	Assessment of Applications Ongoing	90/151 Homes Sale Agreed
Church Fields (Phase 2)	Assessment of Applications Ongoing	81/110 Homes Sale Agreed
Church Fields Cost Rental	Assessments of Applications Ongoing	80 Homes
Balmoston (Phase 2)	Assessments of Applications Ongoing	41/73 Homes Sale Agreed
Folkstown Park, Balbriggan	Application Portal closing 4th March	19 Homes
Priory Fields, Hacketstown	Application Portal Launch March 2026	36 Homes

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 26

MAYOR'S BUSINESS –
COUNCILLOR T. O'LEARY

No Business

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 27

CONFERENCE REPORT

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From: Irish Planning Institute <info@ipi.ie>
Sent: 17 February 2026 16:48
Subject: Invitation to Register – IPI Annual Planning Conference 2026

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You don't often get email from info@ipi.ie. Learn why this is important

Dear Councillor,

I hope this email finds you well.

On behalf of the Irish Planning Institute (IPI), I am delighted to invite you to attend our Annual Planning Conference, taking place in the Radisson Blu, Athlone on Thursday 16*th* and Friday 17*th* April 2026.

The theme for our conference this year is *Planning Across Scales, Building Resilient Places*. The conference will feature contributions from a distinguished range of speakers and organisations on key themes affecting planning today, including:

- Kevin Boxer Moran TD, Minister of State at the Department of Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Service Reform and Digitalisation
- Westmeath County Council
- Presidents of the Royal Town Planning Institute and the American Planning Association
- **Future proofing Community, Social and Cultural Infrastructure** – with speakers from Kildare County Council, Tom Phillips + Associates and Dublin YMCA
- **Developments in policy and practice** – with speakers from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, EMRA (invited), Department for Infrastructure Northern Ireland
- **Planning Pathways to Food, Energy and Housing Security**
- **Planning across scales: Looking ahead to the Irish EU Presidency** – with speakers including SRA, Ciaran Mullooly MEP and Niall Cussen FIPI, OPR
- **Delivering climate action, housing and infrastructure: Building sustainable places** – with speakers including Martin Whelan MIPI, Housing Agency

Every year the perspectives of elected member bring invaluable insights to the proceedings. Further information is available on our website, which includes further details on speakers, timelines, and costs. We are pleased to offer a special reduced rate of €515 for in-person attendance by elected representatives. This package includes:

- Welcome reception on Wednesday 15*th* April
- Full conference attendance on 16*th* – 17*th* April
- Gala dinner on Thursday 17*th* April
- Lunch and refreshments on both days
- All conference materials

Please note:

Pre-booking is essential, as spaces are limited. We are unable to accept walk-in registrations on the day. All attendees must be fully registered in advance.

As the programme is regularly updated with new sessions and speakers, we encourage you to visit www.ipi.ie for the most up-to-date information.

Should you or your corporate services team have any questions, please feel free to contact me and I would be happy to assist.

We sincerely hope you will be able to join us.

Kind regards,

Shelly Boylan

IRISH PLANNING INSTITUTE
Institiúid Pleanála Na hÉireann

+353 (0)1-8788630
info@ipi.ie
17 Kildare Street, Dublin 2, D02 P766

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From: Natasha Kinnane <n.kinnane@ailg.ie>
Sent: 02 March 2026 13:24
Subject: Invitation: Cross-Border Shared Island Seminar – Ending Violence Against Women and Girls

Warning: This email was sent from outside of Fingal County Council. Do not click on links or open attachments unless safe to do so

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Dear Corporate Services Staff Member / Meetings Administrator,
The Association of Irish Local Government (AILG,) in partnership with the Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA), this month will host its second cross-border Shared Island seminar, titled **"Ending Violence Against Women and Girls"**, with funding and support from the Department of Foreign Affairs.
This seminar is designed to support the sharing of best practice, collaborative policy development, and the strengthening of councillor and local authority capacity to respond collectively to the issue of violence against women and girls. It will bring together AILG delegates, NILGA delegates and local authority staff from both jurisdictions for a structured programme of engagement.
While the primary focus of the seminar is on elected member engagement, AILG and NILGA have agreed to **open attendance to one local authority staff member from each of the 31 local authorities**, in order to encourage balanced participation and to support a collective approach to addressing this issue. Staff from Northern Ireland councils will also be in attendance, reinforcing the cross-border and Shared Island nature of the event.
The seminar is a full-day programme delivered across two days and includes facilitated discussions and breakout workshops. Given the format, attendees are strongly encouraged to attend the full programme.
Please note: attendance by support staff is limited to **one staff member per local authority** to ensure balanced participation across all councils. AILG delegates have already received notification of the event.

Click HERE to register for the Event

Event details

Dates: Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th March 2026
Tuesday 24th March
– Opening session at 4.00pm
– Event dinner at 7.45pm
Wednesday 25th March
– Programme commences at 10.00am
– Concluding lunch at 1.30pm
Venue: Slieve Russell Hotel, Co. Cavan
An agreed delegate rate of €130 bed and breakfast (single occupancy) has been secured for Tuesday night.
Registration
RSVPs are requested by **Friday, 13th March 2026**, via the Eventbrite registration link or by email to n.kinnane@ailg.ie .
The detailed programme is currently being finalised and will be circulated to attendees closer to the event.
We hope you will be in a position to participate in this important cross-border engagement.

Kind regards,
Natasha

Natasha Kinnane
Accounts and Office Administrator

An Cumann Rialtas Áitiúil na hÉireann
Association of Irish Local Government (AILG)
Aonad Oifige 10, Muilte Mainéir, Contae Chill Dara, W23YT63
Office Unit 10, Manor Mills, Maynooth, Co. Kildare W23YT63

T (+353) 1 6106100
www.ailg.ie

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 28

CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE AN CHLÁIR | CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL

10th February, 2026.

Our Ref: February26 – 14/JC/AC

Dear Meetings Administrator,

At the February meeting of the Council, the members passed the following resolution:

"That Clare County Council calls on the Irish Government, and in particular the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, to urgently respond to the recent appeal from the Irish Beekeepers' Association and associated national beekeeping organisations for:
1. The establishment of a properly resourced, dedicated and coordinated all-Ireland bee inspection service, to protect managed honeybees and wild pollinators from disease outbreaks, parasites and invasive threats;
2. The immediate reinstatement and expansion of professional bee inspection capacity in the Republic of Ireland, working in cooperation with counterparts in Northern Ireland, to ensure early detection, rapid response and effective biosecurity controls;
3. Enhanced national measures to combat invasive species and emerging parasites, including the Asian hornet and the Tropilaelaps
(Tropi) mite;
4. Proactive surveillance, preparedness and contingency planning for the potential arrival of the Tropilaelaps mite in Ireland;
5. Full and continued Government support for the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan;
6. Recognition that bees and other pollinators are essential to Irish agriculture, food security, biodiversity and the wider environment.
This motion is to be circulated to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, the Minister of State with responsibility for biodiversity, all Oireachtas members representing County Clare, and local authorities in Ireland and Northern Ireland."

Yours sincerely,

John Corry,
Senior Executive Officer,
Corporate Services & Governance,
People & Culture, Corporate Services & Governance, ICT & Digital Services

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Comhairle Contae
Loch Garman

Comhaltas
Fleadh Cheoil
na hÉireann
2024 - 2025 Wexford

Wexford
County Council

County Secretary

MD/ZP

10th February, 2026

MEMO TO ALL LOCAL AUTHORITIES

To Whom It May Concern

At the January Meeting of Wexford County Council the Members passed the following motion:

"That this Councils calls on the Government to fast-track and publish the Legislation outlawing the use of anonymous social media accounts, profiles and user/chat groups on all social media platforms.

Upon adoption, the motion is forwarded to all local authorities for consideration. "

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 Cathrach na Gaillimhe
Galway City Council

12 February 2026

Minister for Transport
darragh.obrien@oireachtas.ie.

Re: Galway City Council Resolution

Dear Minister O'Brien,

I wish to advise that at the February Meeting of Galway City Council held on Monday, 9 February 2026, the Members passed the following resolution:

NoM 07/2026, amended by Cllr. A. Curran on 09/02/2026

That in light of the increase in road traffic fatalities and incidents in 2025, representing a failure of national road safety leadership, that this council will write to the Minister for Transport calling for the following:

- That funding will be issued to Galway City Council to pilot the installation of red-light cameras at key junctions on publication of the National Safety Camera Strategy later this year, and that any fines collected would be retained by Galway City Council to help offset costs of other road safety improvements.
- That this council calls for a re-evaluation of the role of the RSA and that the recommendations of the Indecon Report 2024 should be implemented immediately.

Upon adoption, this motion is circulated to all Local Authorities.

Proposed By: Cllr. A. Curran		**Seconded By:** Cllr. E. Seoighthe		
Present: 15	**In Favour:** 15	**Against**: 0	**Abstain:** 0	**Absent:** 3
The motion was carried.				

I would be grateful if you could consider the above motion and provide your views at your earliest convenience.

Le gach dea ghuí,

Martha Duddy, Administrative Officer,
Corporate Services, Galway City Council.

c.c. Councillor Alan Curran, Galway City Council.

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Comhairle Contae
Loch Garman

Comhaltas
Fleadh Cheoil
na hÉireann
2024 - 2025 Wexford

Wexford
County Council

County Secretary

MD/ZP

17th February, 2026

Memo to All Local Authorities

At the February Meeting of Wexford County Council the Members passed the following motion:

"That this Council calls on the Government to task Irish Public Bodies (IPB) with the provision of insurance cover for residential and commercial properties that are unable to obtain insurance from commercial insurers due to previous flooding events or because they are located within designated flood risk zones.

This Council acknowledges that the risk profile of such properties makes it uneconomic for the private insurance market to provide cover on a commercial basis. In that context, the Council further calls on the Minister for Finance to introduce a modest, ring-fenced insurance levy to establish and support a national flood insurance claims fund, which would underpin the provision of such cover and ensure long term sustainability.

This Council believes that access to insurance is essential for the protection of homeowners, businesses, community viability, and local economic resilience, and that a state supported mechanism is required to address this market failure."

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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WESTMEATH COUNTY COUNCIL
Comhairle Chontae na hIarmhí

18 February 2026

All Local Authorities

Re: Request to Review Income Thresholds for Social Housing and HAP

Dear Meetings Administrator

At the January Monthly Meeting of Westmeath County Council held on 26January 2026 the members resolved as follows:

That Westmeath County Council write to the Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage of Ireland and call on the Minister to increase the respective income thresholds for Social Housing Provision and Housing Assistance Payment. It was requested that the motion would be circulated to all other Local Authorities.

Mise le Meas

Eilish Reilly

Meetings Administrator

Westmeath County Council

eilish.reilly@westmeathcoco.ie

0449338605

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 29

DEPARTMENTAL/MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE

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Sent: Tuesday 3 February 2026 11:39
To: CustomerCareUnit@fingal.ie
CC:
Subject: HPLG-MBO-00307-2026
Attachments: HPLG-MBO-00307-2026.pdf

Oifig an Aire

Office of the Minister

3rd February 2026

RE: HPLG-MBO-00307-2026

Dear Ms O hAodha,

I have been asked by Mr. James Browne T.D., Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, to thank you for your letter received 23rd January 2026 with regards to your request from Fingal County Council for increased and multi annual funding for the Local Authority Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme.

Firstly, it is important to note that the management and maintenance of local authority dwellings is a matter for each individual local authorities under section 58 of the housing act 1966.

Notwithstanding the legal obligation on local authorities, this Department provides grant funding to local authorities under the Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme (EERP), which aims to retrofit 36,500 local authority owned homes by 2030.

This Programme provides grant funding to local authorities to upgrade their social housing stock to a minimum B2 BER rating. Eligible works include attic and cavity wall insulation, or external wall insulation where required; windows and doors replacement; heat pump installation; and, ancillary and associated works. These funded measures achieve the minimum B2 BER rating.

Each year the target number of units and funding provided under the EERP are subject to the funding availability as part of the annual estimates process. However, in advance of this year's programme, local authorities were advised they could complete work up to 65% of the previous year's allocation in advance of formal approval. This ensures that work in relation to the programme is progressing on a multi annual programme basis.

For 2026, a substantial increase in funding support is available with €140 million to be allocated this year. This will support the retrofit of approximately 3,500 local authority owned homes, with the selection of homes and nature of works for inclusion in the programme a matter for each individual local authority. As such, I

would urge you to continue this important work given the assurance of funding as outlined in this correspondence.

Yours sincerely,

Jack Savage

Private Secretary

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 30

"CHATTY BENCH" – SIGNAGE ON EXISTING BENCHES ON EACH LOCAL ELECTORAL AREA

Motion: Councillor C. Haughey

"That the Chief Executive considers the installation of 'Chatty Bench' signage on existing benches in each Local Electoral Area of Fingal County Council, as has been done in Local Authorities in the North of Ireland to combat isolation and loneliness."

Report:

Following a request from an Elected Member as a pilot project, the Howth/Malahide Operations Team installed "chatty bench" signage on an existing bench at the Marina in Malahide at the end of 2025. To date, the Council has not received any feedback with regards to this bench.

The Council is open to discussing this proposal with any of the various mental health organisations that would usually initiate this type of proposal. The Council notes that there have been similar initiatives in the UK and Northern Ireland under the 'Chatty Bench' project initiative.

The design of any public seating must be made from materials that are robust enough to survive in the public realm. The Council generally ensures that they are long enough to cater for at least 3 persons and comfortable enough to sit on, ideally with arm and back rests, particularly in areas that have good views. It is

hoped that when the design is good that the users will feel comfortable enough to sit and chat to anyone that choses to sit beside them.

A project of this nature would involve liaising with multiple stakeholders, and the Operations Department would be happy to be part of this process but would require guidance from the specialist and dedicated mental health organisations to proceed.

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

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 33

SOCIAL HOUSING ACQUISITION FUNDING

Motion: Councillor M. Quinn

"That this Council requests the Chief Executive to write to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage and call on him to restore Social Housing Acquisitions funding to at least 2024 levels, adequately resource the Tenant-in-Situ scheme, to include funding for any additional temporary staff needed to expedite the processing of applications and reverse the recent restrictions that have effectively barred some applications."

Report:

Fingal County Council acquired a total of 155 properties under Tenant in-situ in 2024 and 2025 at a total cost of €51.1m. Tenant in-situ acquisitions fall under the second hand acquisitions funding stream, and there are now more specific requirements than previously regarding the types of applications being considered for this scheme, including more focused acquisition of vacant second-hand homes to meet the needs of larger families in long-term emergency accommodation. This is to be available to fund the necessary targeted acquisitions in 2026.

If this motion is passed, the terms therein will be forwarded to the Minister for Housing, Local Government & Heritage and when a reply is received the Members will be informed.

Source of Report:
Paul Carroll, Director of Housing

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 34

PROVISION FOR NOT-FOR-PROFIT COMMUNITY CHILDCARE FACILITIES

Motion: Councillor C. Johnston

"That this Council recommends that "Not-for-Profit" Community Childcare facilities, to include early childhood education and care, be provided in all mixed tenure developments on publicly owned lands in Fingal given the demographics and tenure of such developments, and the need for these facilities to be provided to support young and struggling families moving into newly developed housing estates."

Report:

At a national level, the 'Childcare Facilities Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (2001) set out policy for the provision of childcare facilities through the planning process. The Guidelines, however, refer solely to the land use planning aspects of childcare provision and do not prescribe the sectoral management or operating models of facilities. The Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029 supports the provision of childcare facilities throughout the county in accordance with the policy approach contained in the Guidelines and has application to developments on public and private lands.

Whilst there are various policies at County Development Plan level to facilitate the provision of childcare through the planning processes, it is important to note that the setting up and operation of childcare services does not fall into Fingal County Council's remit.

Notwithstanding this, the Council works with partners to facilitate the provision of such services wherever possible and has participated in the County Childcare Committee, the Fingal Children & Young People's Services Committee and the Local Community Development Committee, (LCDC), which involve the relevant agencies and providers. Further, the issue of childcare provision has been included on the Work Programme of the Community Sports and Culture SPC for 2026.

This Council also provides support to the volunteer boards of Fingal's Community Centres through which childcare services are provided to approximately 800 children. Experience has shown that the optimum operating model must be based on ensuring that the best possible services are delivered for the users and that this cannot be guaranteed by pursuing a specific type of provider.

The childcare sector, both nationally and within Fingal, has experienced challenges and changes in recent years and, as per the recent announcement by the Minister for Children, Disability and Equality, is currently under review.

In light of the developing circumstances of the sector, it is recommended that, once clarity on the intentions of the Minister is available, the situation in Fingal would be examined as part of the Work Programme of the Community, Sports and Culture SPC as agreed.

The content of this motion will be included in this process.

Source of Report:
John Quinlivan, Director of Economic, Community & Cultural Development
Róisín Burke, Director of Planning and Development
Paul Carroll, Director of Housing

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 35

CRÈCHE OR CHILDCARE FACILITY DELIVERY

Motion: Councillor M. Boland

"That the Chief Executive resolves that in all private residential developments, where a crèche or childcare facility is proposed or required as part of the permission, it shall be a condition of planning that the developer must ensure the facility is fully delivered and operational, with an operator secured, this requirement shall be incorporated into planning conditions and enforced consistently to ensure that childcare infrastructure is delivered alongside new homes and is not deferred, left vacant or omitted post-construction."

Report:

The Planning Authority recognises the importance of ensuring that essential community infrastructure, including childcare facilities such as crèches, is delivered in tandem with new housing. Objective CIOSO28 of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 requires the provision of childcare facilities as part of all new residential developments in accordance with the provisions of the Childcare Facilities Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2001. Accordingly, for residential development comprising of more than 75 homes, a crèche or childcare facility must be provided, and the Council seeks to apply this provision consistently across all relevant housing schemes.

The provision of childcare facilities, in larger residential developments, is often secured through conditions around phasing, which require the construction and completion of childcare facilities prior to or alongside the occupation of a phase of residential units. These phasing arrangements are designed to ensure that childcare provision is delivered in a timely manner alongside residential development.

Fingal County Council must operate within the statutory planning framework and can only impose planning conditions that meet the legal tests of being necessary, relevant to planning, relevant to the development, enforceable, precise, and reasonable. While it is our clear intention that permitted crèches are delivered and become operational, planning permissions must rely on conditions that are capable of enforcement under planning legislation.

The inclusion of a condition requiring a facility be *operational, with an operator secured*, would present challenges from a planning enforcement perspective, as planning legislation primarily governs the use and development of land rather than the viability or long-term operation of services.

The Planning Authority will continue to proactively engage with applicants at pre-planning and application stages to secure the provision of childcare facilities that form an integral and functional part of new residential developments, and to include the strongest possible planning conditions to any planning permission so as to ensure their timely delivery.

Source of Report:
Róisín Burke, Director of Planning and Development

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 36

DANGEROUS VEHCILES IN THIS COUNCIL'S PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

Motion: Councillor E. Troy

"That the Chief Executive takes immediate steps to ensure that users of its parks and open spaces are safe from scramblers, e-scooters and quad bikes, and ensure that adequate signage and physical barriers are in place to prohibit the entry of these vehicles to the parks and open spaces, also can consideration be given to the need for park patrols, as the presence of these vehicles is increasing daily."

Report:

The Fingal County Council Regional Parks and Open Spaces Bye-Laws 2017 (under Part 19 Local Government Act 2001 as amended) are used to regulate and manage the use within the Councils Regional Parks, Open Spaces and Recreational Playing Grounds owned by or controlled by or in the charge of Fingal County Council

These Bye-Laws are in force to ensure that parks, open spaces and recreational playing grounds and their facilities are used to the maximum extent, in safety and comfort and for the protection of parks, open spaces and recreational playing grounds which are provided as a public amenity and for respect and consideration for park users to ensure as much enjoyment as is possible of these amenities.

Access by 'Unauthorised Vehicles' are detailed within section 4.6 and within this section in 4.6 (c) discusses and specifies the various vehicles, *'No person other than authorised officials and employees of the Council shall drive or allow to be driven or be a passenger in any mechanically propelled vehicle in the park on*

unauthorised routes save with the permission in writing of the Council and then only in such areas as may be designated by the Council'.

Scramblers are specifically mentioned and are clearly prohibited within 4.6 (h) *'No person shall in any park or open space engage in motorcycle scrambling except in an area designated by the Council for that purpose'.*

The Bye Laws clearly prohibit the use of all motorised vehicles, and the bye laws are enforceable by Law.

The Council is fully committed to continue to prevent unauthorised access onto public open space areas but is challenged as a universal access design ethos must permit access for wheelchairs, wide double buggies and the various types of cargo bikes currently being used for active travel purposes. While the previous designed 'Kissing Gate' is no longer permitted, the Council has commenced installation of a 'Corral' style entrance gate which is working well in discouraging scrambler usage and access in some locations.

The Council is also re-examining the current suite of parks and open space signage to specifically incorporate clearer messaging that the use of 'Scramblers, e-Bikes and e-Scooters and any other motorised vehicles are specifically prohibited. The Council's Mobile Ranger services patrol all parks and open spaces daily advising the public where the observe any breach of the Open Spaces Bye-Laws Space and will continue to liaise with An Garda Síochána regarding the enforcement of the Council's Regional Parks and Open Spaces Bye-Laws 2017

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

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 37

COMPULSORY SALE OF DERELICT PROPERTIES

Motion: Councillor J. Walsh

"That the Chief Executive seeks the necessary powers to achieve the compulsory sale of derelict properties."

Report:

The Derelict Sites Act 1990, as amended, does not provide powers to compel the sale of any site. If the Motion is passed, the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage will be requested to consider the inclusion of such a power in any future review of the Act.

Source of Report:
John Quinlivan, Director of Economic, Community & Cultural Development

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 9TH MARCH 2026

ITEM NO. 38

FINGAL SUPER SPORTS HALL

Motion: Councillor D. Butler

"That the Chief Executive considers developing a Gormanstown Sports Hall type solution for Fingal, which would accommodate multiple sports and activities, all at the same time, with multiple break-out and sub-division courts available."

Report:

Fingal County Council is pioneering the provision of Active Recreational Hubs strategically located in parks and open spaces around the county. This programme is in response to the expanding level of demand for outdoor active recreational facilities expressed to the Council by Sports Clubs and Elected Members on their behalf on an ongoing basis.

The approach is also in line with the Council's own audit of sports facilities, relevant objectives in the Fingal County Development Plan and the Council's "Keeping it Green – Open Space Strategy" adopted in 2015. Recreational Hubs include high specification, well serviced sports facilities designed for high intensity use, catering for a range of sporting codes and located so that they facilitate ease of access with good connectivity via active travel infrastructure.

Proximity to primary and post primary schools is also a factor in determining the optimum location for these facilities. Where hubs are located close to schools, this increases the daytime use of the facilities and ideally associated infrastructure, adding greatly to the financial sustainability of the facilities. The intensification of use in these hubs is achieved by the inclusion of professionally designed and

constructed grass pitches, all-weather sports pitches and athletics facilities which are floodlit and available for evening use when demand is high.

The Recreational Hub model is predicated on the Council liaising with local clubs with a view to these clubs becoming major stakeholders in the facilities and forming special purpose vehicles (SPVs) to manage the facilities. These SPVs are legal entities formed by two or more clubs from different sporting codes for the sole purpose of entering into a Management Agreement with the Council for the purpose of managing the Recreational Hub.

Overall, this approach avoids individual clubs having sole access to the facility which would undermine the public access aspirations underpinning the recreational hub concept. The Capital investment provided by the Council by way of open space levies and grant funding is protected by a "not for profit" sustainable financial model.

Currently in Fingal, four of these facilities Bremore, Balbriggan, Ward River Valley Swords, Ballymastone, Donabate and Porterstown in Dublin 15 have received planning approval and are in the process of being developed and several more are at various stages in the planning and development process.

As regards the demands for indoor sports facilities, a level of provision is already available at various community centres around the county and the demand expressed to the Council is at a much lower level as compared to that for outdoor pitch provision.

There is a consideration of the use of school facilities and whilst the use of school facilities is a matter for each school's board of management, there is strong support from the Department of Education for out-of-hours community use, as set out in the guidance published last year by the Department "Procedures on the use of school property and school sports facilities outside of school hours".

Accordingly, the Community Development Office and the Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department engage with stakeholders on this matter on an ongoing basis and staff within the Community Development Office remain available to support local groups and clubs in engaging with school governing bodies.

The capital cost of and ongoing maintenance and management financial commitment related to the provision of a major multi-code sports facility would be very significant and difficult to justify having regards to the level of demand

expressed to the Council on an ongoing basis. Presently, there is no provision in the capital budget to provide such a facility.

Source of Report:
Matthew McAleese, Director of Infrastructure and Transport
David Storey, Director of Environment, Climate Action, Active Travel & Sport
Paul Carroll, Director of Housing

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