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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

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County Hall
Swords
Co Dublin

27th May 2026

To Each Member of the Community, Sports and Culture Strategic Policy Committee

Dear Member

A meeting of the **Community, Sports and Culture Strategic Policy Committee** will be held **Hybrid** in the **Chamber - Grove Road, Blanchardstown** at **4.30 pm** on **Wednesday, 24th June, 2026** to consider the following Agenda.

Yours faithfully

Aoife Sheridan
Meetings Administrator
Corporate Services

A G E N D A

1 Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of the Community, Sports and Culture Strategic Policy Committee meeting held on 25th March 2026.

2 Work Programme Update

3 LECP Update

4 Heritage Workplan Update

5 Access Strategy

MOTIONS

6 Councillor A. Donnelly - Proactively Working to encourage more Women to enter and stay in Councillor roles - AI108606

"That this Strategic Policy Committee prepares for the 2029 Local Elections by engaging with "Women for Election", "See Her Elected" or a similiar organisation to design and deliver a tailored training programme for women who wish to run in the 2029 Elections. Dun-Laoghaire/Rathdown County Council ran a campaign for the 2024 local elections in collaboration with Women for Election. We could use this as a model if we wish."

7 Councillor J. Walsh - Review of Policy on Community Activities Funding - AI108738

"That the Chief Executive review the recent decision in relation to Community Activities funding Scheme to restrict payment to tutors to 50% of an overall grant allocation under Community Activities funding annually, as this is causing significant adverse implications for community groups."

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of Community, Sports and Culture Strategic Policy Committee

Wednesday 25th March,2026 Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Grove Road, Blanchardstown/MS Teams at 4.30pm

Present

Elected Members	**Members/Others**
Councillor Angela Donnelly (Chairperson)	
Councillor Tom Kitt	
Councillor James Humphreys	
Councillor Mary McCamley	
Councillor John Walsh	

Absent	**Apologies**
Brenda Vanderzee Social Inclusion PPN	Councillor Eoghan Dockrell
Abi Wise PPN Representative	

Council Officials

John Quinlivan, Director of Services	Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Cultural Development
Aoife Sheridan, Senior Executive Officer	Economic, Enterprise, Tourism and Cultural Development
Cormac Healy, Senior Executive Officer	Community
Brian Mulcahy, Senior Executive Librarian	Libraries
Linda Ennis, Principal Community Officer	Community
Gene Griffin, Administrative Officer	Community
Valerie McAllorum, Administrative Officer	Community
Geraldine Whelan, Staff Officer	Community
Sile Stewart, Deputy County Arts Officer	Arts Office
Bernie Kelly, Staff Officer	Corporate Affairs
Monika Markowska, Clerical Officer	Corporate Affairs

SPCCSC 01/26 (Agenda Item No 1)
Minutes
Confirmation and Re-Affirmation of Minutes of the Community, Sports and Culture SPC held on 2nd December, 2025.

The minutes of the Community, Sports and Culture SPC meeting held on the 2nd December, 2025 which were circulated were considered.

It was PROPOSED by Councillor Tom Kitt and seconded by Councillor Angela Donnelly and **AGREED**: "That the minutes of the meeting of the 2nd December, 2025 be **ADOPTED** and **APPROVED**."

SPCCSC 02/26 (Agenda Item No 2)
Work Programme Updates & Discussion

John Quinlivan, Director of Services presented on the report circulated. As part of same, it was put to the group that a discussion is necessary to take place on the specific actions the SPC wish to advance against the individual SPC programme items.

A discussion took place and the identified actions, recorded in the Actions column in the table below. Following this discussion, the Report was noted.

Implementation & Updates	**Report**	**Actions**
Community Development and Inclusion	The Community Development Team continues to strengthen inclusion and participation across Fingal by putting our values into action—promoting community well-being, advancing equality, fostering social cohesion, and empowering residents. In 2025, this was demonstrated through major engagement, funding, and integration initiatives, alongside significant use and investment in community centres. All of this reflects our core commitment to supporting connected, resilient, and empowered communities: 2.9 million visitors to our community centres. 38 centres supported . 350 Board of Management meetings held. 4 new community centres were delivered representing a €23 million investment. 153 groups were funded through our Community Activities funding of €340k. 41 Summer projects were funded. 26 Safer Halloween Events.	Future SPC Updates will be provided under the LECP agenda item.

	12 Festival in a Van events. 80 Fingal Inclusion events. 3 Africa Day events. 19 Keen to be Green Climate action events. In 2026, the focus remains on upgrading facilities, expanding digital and climate action initiatives, delivering a full programme of community, inclusion, and capacity building supports to empower diverse communities countywide.	
Strengthen communities through participation, connectivity, inclusion and building capacity of community leaders	The Corduff Place Standards Tool and the Our Fabric project in Churchfields both demonstrate how community led processes can strengthen participation, inclusion, and local leadership. The Place Standards Tool supports residents in shaping their environment through structured dialogue and shared priorities, fostering stronger connectivity and community voice. Similarly, the Our Fabric project cultivates local engagement in a developing neighbourhood, building the capacity of emerging community leaders and creating a foundation for long-term inclusion and resilience. The Corduff Place Standard Research Plan launched 10th March 2026. Our Fabric, Churchfields Neighbourhood Network, mid pilot interim report has been issued with strong community engagement and outputs.	The success of the Corduff Place Standards Tool was noted and it was agreed to examine providing similar in other locations in the County.
Gender Equality Inclusion	Each year the Community Development Office deliver and fund International Women's Day (IWD) events, creating spaces that celebrate women, promote equality, and strengthen women's participation in community life. In 2026, a bursary of €18,000 has been provided across 63 groups for IWD. Supporting Men's Sheds also plays an important role in promoting gender equality and well-being in communities. Men's Sheds provide a complementary space that supports men's mental health, social connection, and skill building and is supported through funding, engagement structures, and community development assistance.	Presentation to be provided to SPC on "She Leads" Project
Creative Ireland Programme	In 2025, Creative Fingal delivered 81 creative projects across Fingal. A total of €276,000 funded 294 creatives from core Creative Ireland funding. A total attendance of 40,000 was recorded for Creative Ireland events in 2025. Funding of €87,000 for Cruinniú enabled a full day of Creativity for children and young people. Cruinniú will take place on the 6 June	

	in 2026 and a youth music festival & spoken word event is planned for Swords Castle. There will also be a full library programme and a programme in Draoicht and the Seamus Ennis centre. Festival in a Van took music and performance into many underserved communities and the joint project with the community section will be repeated in July 2026. Creative Fingal will continue to support artists and programmes to develop capacity, audiences and content for Culture House including residency programmes. Funding has been applied for 2 projects under Creative Health and well-being and for 0ne Creative Communities on a Shared Island project.	
Promotion of Irish Language	Compliance with, and education regarding, the requirements of Irish Language legislation is continuing with regard to Signage, Advertising, Correspondence etc including reporting on our compliance with the bilingual Advertising requirements. We continue to promote the language within the Council and the County with all Press releases available in Irish and the language prominent on social media and in internal communications. Under the Fingal County Council Gaeltacht Scholarship Scheme 2026, 15 partial scholarships of €500 each were awarded to 2nd level students attending courses in the Gaeltacht. Staff Irish language training continues in 2026 with the Certificate in Professional Irish and evening Gaelchultur courses. An Irish language episode of Inside Fingal podcast recorded during Heritage week 2025 has become a quarterly broadcast. Many events took place during Seachtain na Gaeilge including a bilingual walk in Ardgillan and a County Hall Celebration on 11th March and Logainmneacha and Seanfhocail were promoted on social media and internally. Lanyards with Labhair Gaeilge Liom have been introduced to identify staff who are happy to use Irish. Fingal Staff continue to take part in the An Comhairle Craiceáilte programme as part of Gaeilge 365 and were part of the Fís event in the Convention Centre during Seachtain na Gaeilge **Our Libraries are active promoting Irish language initiatives** An Leabharlann Fhailteach pilot, Donabate library.	

	The "Welcome Library programme is part of the Gaeilge 365 initiative which aims to make the Irish language more accessible on an everyday basis. "An Leabharlann Fhailteach" aims to make libraries hubs for the Irish language by encouraging Irish speaking librarians to use the language in their day to day interactions with families. There is also an increased emphasis on events as Gaeilge and Irish/bi-lingual stock. Donabate library held 5 Irish language events in Q1 2026. An annual Irish language festival "Bronntanas" took place in September of 2025 with events across the four local authorities in Dublin. Fingal had 12 events. This is planned for 2026 also. Seachtain na Gaeilge will run across library branches from 1-17th March. 7 events will be held including a schools event in Draoicht that will be open to 250 local school children.	
Sports Strategy	Under the 'Improving Opportunities and Choices For Everyone' strand, schools in 7 Electoral areas with emphasis on DEIS schools have been given access to subsidised swimming for 6 weeks. The Area-Based programmes are a continued success with numbers exceeding 600 participants across 7 locations per week aligning with the 'Making Physical Activity a Priority' strand of the Sports Strategy. 4 projects are now complete as part of the Governments Sports Capital Grants alongside financial contributions from FCC: • Rush Athletic – New artificial training pitch • Rivervalley Rangers – Replace all weather pitch surface • Hartstown Sports & Leisure – Upgrade of All Weather Pitch • Lucan BMX – safety gate replacement All completed Sports Capital Grants projects with part funding from FCC enter into a Memorandum of Agreement for shared use of those new facilities. As part of our strategy will "Enhance our access to quality Sport and Physical Activity facilities" A new social media strategy across the sports channels coupled with a new payment system for programmes has seen a marked increase in attendance and commitment to programmes. It has also increased our online visibility due to our growing number of followers and engaging content published on our channels.	
Public Participation and Resident Engagement	Total number of organisations included in the County Register (maintained in accordance with section 128 of the Local Government Act 2001) for the local authority area as at 31/12/2025. **930**	Updates to be provided going forward under the LECP Agenda item.

	Total number of those organisations that registered for the first time in 2025. **68** Number of organisations that opted to join the Social Inclusion Electoral College on whatever date they registered for the PPN. **147** Our work strengthens participation and resident engagement by providing structured supports that help communities organise, connect, and influence local decision-making. In 2025, this included 10,424 engagements with community participants and 164 residents and tenants' associations registered on our database, demonstrating strong, ongoing collaboration with local groups. The 2026 plan builds on this through targeted capacity-building, tenant inductions, Residents' Association Networks, and initiatives such as the Place Standards Tool and local development groups, all designed to empower residents, enhance their participation, and strengthen their role in shaping their communities.	
Focus on capabilities rather than disabilities.	The Community Development and Inclusion Dept designs our community development work around people's strengths, interests, and contributions rather than their limitations. Our programmes—such as Inclusion Week, Age Friendly initiatives, and community capacity training—create opportunities for everyone to participate meaningfully and on their own terms, celebrating abilities and encouraging leadership across all groups. This approach is reflected in the wide range of accessible, inclusive events and supports delivered in 2025, including 80+ inclusion events and extensive engagement with diverse community participants.	Access Strategy Presentation to be provided at the June 2026 SPC meeting
Active Citizenship	We continue to provide supports for groups engaging with democratic structures like the PPN and Comhairle na nÓg, all of which empower individuals to become active contributors to community life and local decision-making. In 2025, the annual meeting of Comhairle had attendance from 27 secondary schools in Fingal. In 2026 Foroige has received a new two-year contract for the coordination of Fingal Comhairle na nÓg with oversight by the Community Development & Inclusion Dept.	To be covered under the LECP update agenda item at future SPC meetings

Community Not For Profit Early Childhood Education & Childcare	• National policy on childcare in planning is set by the *Childcare Facilities Guidelines* (2001), which cover **land-use only**, not operating models. • The **Fingal County Development Plan 2023–2029** supports childcare provision in line with these Guidelines. • **Fingal County Council does not operate or establish childcare services**; its role is limited to planning facilitation. • The Council collaborates with sector partners through the **County Childcare Committee**, **CYPSC**, and **LCDC**. Childcare is on the **2026 Community SPC Work Programme**. • Support is provided to volunteer community centre boards, where childcare is delivered to -**800 children**. Quality of service depends on delivery standards, not provider type. • The national childcare sector is **under review** by the Minister for Children. • Once national direction is clarified, the position in Fingal will be reviewed through the **Community SPC**.	Invite Fingal County Childcare Committee to the September SPC meeting
Fingal Age Friendly Strategy	Our work within the Age Friendly programme strengthens active citizenship, inclusion, and community participation by ensuring that older people are meaningfully involved in shaping local services and community life. In 2025 Positive Ageing Week was supported by 23 activity events. There were 700 attendees at the Vintage Picnic. The Korale project (addressing loneliness in older people) held a conference last October with 150 people attending from across the county, with consortium partners attending from 5 European countries. 9 Older Peoples Council meetings and 4 Age Friendly Alliance meetings took place. In January 2026 the new 5-year Fingal Age Friendly Strategy was launched with an action plan. Work is continuing in the development of the Pavillion Shopping Centre as the first major Age Friendly retail centre. An information expo for older people will take place in Castleknock on 31st March with a second expo planned for the North County in Sept.	

SPCCSC 03/26 (Agenda Item No 3)
LECP Progress Report

LECP Progress Report was presented by Aoife Sheridan, Senior Executive Officer. Following discussion, the report was **NOTED.** The meeting was advised that an update on LECP Progress will be provided at each SPC meeting going forward and this was **AGREED**

SPCCSC 04/26 (Agenda Item No 4)
Motion: Councillor A. Donnelly - Leading by Example with Job Opportunities for Disabled People in Fingal County - AI106921

The item was **PROPOSED** by Councillor Angela Donnelly and **SECONDED** by Councillor Tom Kitt. Following discussion, the report was **ACCEPTED** and it was **AGREED** that this matter would be further discussed on the next SPC Agenda under a Headed Item - Access Strategy with the Council's Access Officer to be invited to attend as part of this presentation

SPCCSC 05/26 (Agenda Item No 5)
Motion: Councillor J. Walsh - Fingal Participation in New State-Led Capital Programme for Early Childhood Education and Childcare -AI107070

The item was **PROPOSED** by Councillor John Walsh and **SECONDED** by Councillor Angela Donnelly. The report was **ACCEPTED,** and it was **AGREED** to have the item listed on the September SPC meeting agenda for review.

The Meeting concluded at 5.40pm

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CHAIRPERSON **DATED**

COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL
FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMUNITY, SPORTS AND CULTURE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 24th JUNE 2026

ITEM NO. 2 – SPC PROGRAMME UPDATES

Implementation & Updates	**Report**
Community Development and Inclusion	LECP update
Strengthen communities through participation, connectivity, inclusion and Building capacity of community leaders	LECP update
Gender Equality Inclusion	**Poetry in Swords Castle** Fingal Libraries collaborated with Fingal-based poetry collective Rough Draft Poetry for two spoken word events in the Chapel, Swords Castle. 'Bloom' featured spoken word performance, music, and collaborative writing exercises. 'Strands of Home' focuses on women's stories and took place on Poetry Day Ireland, 28th May.
Creative Ireland Programme	**Cruinniú na nÓg** Cruinniú na nÓg took place on Saturday, 6th June offering a day of free creative activities for children and young people across Fingal. This year, over 50 events took place in libraries, arts & cultural centres and Swords Castle. *Carnivals of Curiosity* transformed

	every library branch into a lively hub of imagination. Swords Castle hosted *We Own the Castle*, a live music event for teenagers featuring Garageland Galaxyz, alongside the *Wavin' Words* spoken word event showcasing performances by some of Fingal's most promising young talent. Fingal was represented at the national launch of the programme on 18th May, by two of the acts due to perform at *We Own the Castle*: Eabha O'Keeffe (17) and the band Aerial — Thomas Flynn (15), Matthew Newell (16), Nathan Keegan (17), and Alex Greham (17) — who performed for the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport, Patrick O'Donovan. Creative workshops and performances were delivered across Fingal's Arts and Cultural Centres. These included dance, graffiti, and visual arts workshops in Draíocht, Blanchardstown; puppetry, bodhrán-making, and a circus céilí at the Séamus Ennis Arts Centre in Naul; and spoken word workshops for teenagers at the Carnegie, Swords. **Creative Health and Wellbeing in the Community** Creative Fingal has successfully secured additional funding under the *Creative Health and Wellbeing in the Community Scheme 2026–2028* to deliver two projects: • Imagine, Create, Grow: Helium Inspiring Life Through Art

	• Weaving Worlds: Creative Fashion Upcycling Across Borders and Ages
Promotion of Irish Language	Compliance with, and education regarding, the requirements of Irish Language legislation continues with regard to Signage, Advertising, Correspondence etc including reporting on our compliance with the bilingual Advertising requirements. We continue to promote the language within the Council and the County with all Press releases available in Irish and the language prominent on Social media and in internal communications. A Pop-Up Gaeltacht took place at Family Fun Day during Bike Week and Yoga as Gaeilge at Move Swords. Many Irish events formed part of Cruinniu na nOg and a Pop-Up Gaeltacht will be part of Flavours of Fingal as we continue to integrate Irish into events. Staff Irish language training continues in 2026 with the Certificate in Professional Irish and evening Gaelchultur courses. An Irish language episode of Inside Fingal podcast with Architects Brian O'Connor and Daire Bracken was recorded. Lanyards with Labhair Gaeilge Liom have been have very popular with staff who are happy to use Irish. Irish Officer Bernie Kelly retired on June 5th after 11 years in the role.
Sports Strategy	The Sports Office will prioritise Commitments 2, 3 & 4 of their Sports Strategy over the summer months which focuses on "improving opportunities and choices for everyone" "participation in the Outdoors" and "raising the profile of Sport & Physical Activity in the County". The Sports Office Summer Series will be launched with a 'Move at Swords Castle' event in early June showcasing fitness

	classes, health talks and family activities with 500 families expected to attend. The Water Sport Ability Camp will follow in early July which will provide inclusive opportunities for children with additional needs and all population groups will be prioritised with over 20 different ParkFit, Beach Yoga and Park & Trails activities later in the summer covering Fingal's 7 electoral areas. This will raise the visibility of physical activity in the county. All these events and programmes utilise a Whole Council Approach with other Departments in enhancing opportunities for people in Fingal to stay active.
Public Participation and Resident Engagement	First PPN Plenary of 2026 took place in May with over 60 groups registered to attend. Current membership is 971 groups made up as 769: Community Pillar, 149: Social Inclusion Pillar, 53: Environment Pillar. 39 new members have registered in 2026
Focus on capabilities rather than disabilities.	**Inclusive Creativity** Adults supported by Prosper Fingal are taking part in creative workshops in Balbriggan, Howth, Malahide and Rush libraries over the summer months. These workshops will give participants an opportunity to express their creativity and interact with others in a supportive and friendly environment **Creative Brainwaves Fingal** Creative Fingal partnered with the Global Brain Health Institute to deliver a session of talks and discussions around brain health. Curated by Atlantic Fellows for

	Equity in Brain Health, Karen Meenan and Mike Hanrahan, this event showcased global and local initiatives in creative arts, dementia, brain health, Parkinson's, and extended reality (XR), with talks, workshops, and performances aimed at promoting wellbeing through creativity and innovation. **Glas Tú Community Garden** A high proportion of people with disabilities are engaged as volunteers who are participating in workshops and programmes on upskilling their gardening techniques. Local Social Prescribers are signposting people to Glas Tú for non-medical community supports to improve physical, mental, and social wellbeing. **Swords Neuro Diverse Network** The network is being supported to coordinate a local Festival in a Van for their members and the wider community in Rivervalley Community Centre 18th July **Pride of Place** Howth Autism Town is currently coordinating a presentation of their services for the national judging taking place on 24th Aug **Conai Club Blanchardstown** Collaboration with community facilities to support club members to receive mentoring in an employment situation **WALK Swords** Recent 12-week work experience in Donabate community centre - very

	successful programme for the individual and the centre.
Active Citizenship	**Fingal Comhairle na nÓg** All the Comhairle members participated in the EU Survey on the Digital Fairness Act. Six Fingal members attended Dáil na nÓg 2026, contributing to discussions on education reform.
Community Not For Profit Early Childhood Education & Childcare	• Fingal County Development Plan 2023-2029 supports childcare provision in line with national policy set by the Childcare Facilities Guidelines (2001) • National Childcare Sector is under review with the Minister for Children • Council is proactively engaging with the Department regarding provision of facilities for not-for-profit childcare in Fingal • Council is proactively engaging with the Fingal County Childcare Committee • Council continues to collaborate with sector partners including Fingal CYPSC and Fingal LCDC • Support continues to be provided to volunteer community centre boards where childcare is delivered to c. 800 children
Fingal Age Friendly Strategy	The 2026 OPC annual conference (120 attendees) focused on safe independent living, covering safety, fall prevention, online security, and supports. Weaving Worlds Intergenerational Cross-Border Project: Collaboration with Libraries

	€163,000 secured for a cross-border, intergenerational fashion upcycling initiative promoting wellbeing, creativity, and inclusion.

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Fingal Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) Review

Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development Strategic Policy Committee

10th June 2026

LECP 2023 – 2028

Adopted in January 2024, the LECP sets out the high-level goals, objectives and Actions to promote and support economic development and local and community development over a six-year period.

In line with the LECP framework, an Implementation Plan review is required after two years to reorient and adjust priorities in response to evolving circumstances and emerging challenges.

The LECP review for 2026 is now under review.



LECP Vision & Themes

“Fingal will be a vibrant, sustainable, progressive and climate resilient county, underpinned by inclusive, healthy, empowered communities and a dynamic economy.”

Theme 1 Sustainability & Climate Action

Theme 2 Prosperous Economy

Theme 3 Skills for Life & Work

Theme 4 Healthy, Inclusive, Connected Communities

Theme 5 Rich Arts, Culture & Heritage

Theme 6 Safe, Accessible, Vibrant Places

LECP Pillars

Climate	{	**Theme 1 Sustainability & Climate Action**
Economic	{	**Theme 2 Prosperous Economy**
		Theme 3 Skills for Life & Work
Community	{	**Theme 4 Healthy, Inclusive, Connected Communities**
		Theme 5 Rich Arts, Culture & Heritage
		Theme 6 Safe, Accessible, Vibrant Places

Engagement Process

- 3 stakeholder group engagement sessions to review progress and gather input on proposed amendments
- Progress updates over last 2 years reviewed & discussed
- LECP Implementation Plan wording of actions/stakeholders/outputs reviewed & discussed
- Amendments collated and circulated to stakeholders & LCDC for final input/agreement
- Once changes agreed LECP reporting portal will be updated accordingly
- Stakeholder reporting to move from quarterly to 2 times annually

Proposed Changes – Theme 1

- **Theme 1 Sustainability & Climate Action**
  - Minor updates to relevant stakeholders
  - Referenced Strategies updated with relevant years / new strategies
    - Future Fingal: Business Sustainability Strategy 2026-2030
  - Number of Actions unchanged at 6

Proposed Changes – Theme 2

- **Theme 2 Prosperous Economy**
  - Minor updates to relevant stakeholders
    - To now include MetroLink, Enterprise Ireland, Local Area Employment Services Providers (LAES)
  - Referenced Strategies updated with relevant years / new strategies
  - Number of Actions unchanged at 10

Proposed Changes – Theme 3

- **Theme 3 Skills for Life & Work**
  - Minor updates to relevant stakeholders
    - To now include Fingal Skills Strategy Implementation Group (SSIG)
  - Referenced Strategies updated with relevant years / new strategies
  - Number of Actions reduced from 18 to 9 – primarily due to adoption of Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy which captures many of the actions

Proposed Changes – Theme 4

- **Theme 4: Healthy, Inclusive, Connected Communities**
  - Minor updates to relevant stakeholders
    - To now include Pobal, Local Area Employment Services Providers (LAES)
  - Referenced Strategies updated with relevant years / new strategies
    - Active, Together: Local Sport and Physical Activity Plan 2024 – 2029
  - Number of Actions unchanged at 24

Proposed Changes – Theme 5

- **Theme 5: Rich Arts, Culture & Heritage**
  - Minor updates to relevant stakeholders
    - To now include Irish Traveller Movement, Foroige
  - Referenced Strategies updated with relevant years / new strategies
    - Fingal Tourism Strategy 2024 – 2029; Creative Places Balbriggan Strategy 2026 – 2027
  - Number of Actions unchanged at 11

Proposed Changes – Theme 6

- **Theme 6: Safe, Accessible, Vibrant Places**
  - Minor updates to relevant stakeholders
    - To now include LCSP, Town Teams
  - Referenced Strategies updated with relevant years / new strategies
    - Town Centre Health Checks
  - Number of Actions unchanged at 9

Proposed Changes

- Any further amendments advise the LCDC Team in writing by COB Thursday 18th June
- Next LCDC Meeting scheduled for Thursday 16th July 2026

Fingal County Council Local Economic & Community Plan 2023-2028

2023-2025 Implementation Plan

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1. Introduction

1. Introduction

1.1 Background & Approach

The 2023-2028 Fingal Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) is the second LECP which has been developed for the county, and seeks to build on the progress made under the 2016-2020 Plan.

A new element of the LECP development process, as outlined in the *Local Economic and Community Plans Guidelines 2021,* is the requirement for Implementation Plans to be compiled. Each Implementation Plan is to cover a period of two years which provides agility and flexibility within the LECP to respond to emerging needs and opportunities on an ongoing basis. The LECP *Guidelines recommend that the Implementation Plan*:

"Should examine the High-Level Goals/Sustainable Objectives and outcomes as set out in the Framework LECP and determine the actions to be pursued in that particular planning period to contribute to the achievement of the goals and objectives. The Implementation Plan should include actions of all relevant stakeholders that can contribute to the achievement of the LECP High-Level Goals."

The *Guidelines* outline that the Implementation Plan process should include the following:

- Use of available data to identify and prioritise interventions in line with the High-Level Goals and objectives of the LECP.
- Determination of specific time bound actions under each LECP objective.
- Determination of outputs and indicators to support the ongoing monitoring of the Implementation Plan that also contribute to the realisation of the overall LECP goals and objectives.
- Consideration of the resources available to underpin the implementation of these actions.
- Appropriate participation of the LCDC and SPC in this planning process.

The Fingal LECP Framework has been prepared for the period 2023-2028, with an ambition to further improve economic, social and environmental conditions in the county, in line with the LECP Vision:

"Fingal will be a vibrant, sustainable, progressive and climate resilient county, underpinned by inclusive, healthy, empowered communities and a dynamic economy."

The 2023-2028 LECP Vision is supported by an integrated framework of six overarching 'themes', 15 High-Level Goals, and 31 supporting Sustainable Community Objectives (SCOs) and Sustainable Economic Development Objectives (SEDOs).



The contents of this 2023-2025 Implementation Plan set out measures to support the Vision and the six themes of:

Theme	Theme Description
Sustainability & Climate Action	Pursue climate resilience and embed sustainability in all we do.
Prosperous Economy	A dynamic, outward looking and innovative economy with sustainability at its core.
Skills for Life & Work	A county that provides a supportive and diverse skills ecosystem, nurtures talent, and provides life-long learning opportunities for all.
Healthy, Inclusive, Connected Communities	A healthy, inclusive and connected county where communities are empowered and supported to thrive.
Rich Arts, Culture & Heritage	Promote and protect our arts and heritage, and embrace cultural diversity in the county.
Safe, Accessible, Vibrant Places	A county of vibrant communities and places, accessible for all, where people want to live, work and socialise.

The contents of this Implementation Plan consist of:

1. Inputs (including Lead Agency and Partners);
2. Actions which are Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time Bound (SMART);
3. Outputs; and
4. Potential sources of funding.

2. Implementation

2. Implementation

1.2 Theme 1: Sustainability & Climate Action

Theme	Goal	Goal Description
Sustainability & Climate Action Pursue climate resilience and embed sustainability in all we do.	**G1.1**	To support communities and the economy in the transition to Net Zero and climate resilience.

Goal	Objective(s)	Inputs (Lead Agency in bold)	Actions (6)	Outputs
G1.1	**SEDO 1:** To support communities and the economy in the transition to Net Zero and climate resilience.	1. **Fingal County Council** 2. Local communities 3. Fingal PPN 4. Community and voluntary groups 5. LEADER Implementer 6. SICAP Implementer 7. SEAI 8. Businesses 9. Fingal Chamber 10. Balbriggan Chamber 11. Business representative groups 12. Fingal Local Enterprise Office	**Action 1.1.1:** Broaden the scope of the *Sustainable Fingal* initiative to include businesses, communities and organisations, explore the concept of the circular economy, and lead on a Just Transition to Net Zero and a climate-resilient economy**.**	An extended *Sustainable Fingal* initiative– including supports – for businesses, communities and organisations to transition towards climate resilience.

		13. Enterprise Ireland 14. IDA Ireland 15. Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor (DBEC) Partnership		
		1. SEAI 2. Fingal County Council 3. Local communities 4. Fingal PPN 5. Community and voluntary groups 6. LEADER Implementer 7. SICAP Implementer 8. Businesses 9. Fingal Local Enterprise Office	**Action 1.1.2:** Engage with communities and organisations to scope current climate transition status and identify future need.	A comprehensive record of the climate transition status, and current and potential future needs of communities and organisations.
		1. Fingal County Council **2. Fingal Local Enterprise Office** 3. SEAI 4. Enterprise Ireland 5. Codema 6. IDA Ireland 7. Fingal PPN 8. LEADER Implementer 9. SICAP Implementer 10. Fingal Chamber 11. Balbriggan Chamber 12. Business representative groups 13. DAA	**Action 1.1.3:** Provide clear sign-posting of supports for the transition to a Net Zero, climate resilient county.	An updated portal, potentially linked to the 'one front door' solution of Action 2.2.3, to inform businesses, communities and organisations of available supports.
		1. **Fingal County Council** 2. **SEAI** 3. Education & training providers 4. Fingal Local Enterprise Office 5. Fingal PPN	**Action 1.1.4:** Support initiatives which inform, facilitate and enable behavioural changes towards more sustainable outcomes.	Greater awareness around the need to transition to Net Zero and climate resilience, and steps which can be taken to pursue same.

		6. Codema		
		1. Fingal County Council 2. SEAI 3. Codema 4. Businesses 5. Industry representative bodies 6. Education & training providers.	**Action 1.1.5:** Support the development of renewable and alternative energies, and sustainable construction materials and methods.	Supports for initiatives which further renewable energy development, R&D of alternative energy sources, and the development of sustainable construction practices and materials.
		1. **Fingal County Council** 2. Codema 3. SEAI 4. Community and voluntary groups 5. Local communities 6. Businesses 7. Enterprise Ireland 8. Fingal Chamber 9. Balbriggan Chamber	**Action 1.1.6:** Promote and facilitate the implementation of the Fingal *Climate Action Plan 2024 - 2029*, *Biodiversity Action Plan 2022-2030*, the Fingal *Circular Cities Action Plan*, the *Future Fingal: Business Sustainability Strategy 2026-2030* and climate positive initiatives being rolled out by other bodies and Agencies.	Ongoing support for policies, and engagement with associated stakeholder groups, related to climate positive initiatives.

Funding sources which may be accessed to support Sustainability & Climate Action objectives include:

- European Union Just Transition Fund
- European Regional Development Fund
- Horizon Europe and the EU Innovation Fund (R&D)
- COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology): funding for climate-related research and action
- EU LIFE Programme: funding opportunities for environment and climate projects
- EU Innovation Fund: one of the world's largest funding programmes for the commercial demonstration of innovative low-carbon technologies.
- Green Transition Fund
- National Just Transition Fund
- Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
- The four Project Ireland 2040 funds: the Climate Action Fund, Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund, the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF), and the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF).

1.3 Theme 2: Prosperous Economy

Theme	Goal	Goal Description
Prosperous Economy A dynamic, outward looking and innovative economy with sustainability at its core.	**G2.1**	Support the development of sustainable and strategic infrastructure.
	G2.2	Provide a supportive business environment that encourages innovation and attracts, retains and grows businesses sustainably.
	G2.3	Remove barriers to labour market participation.

Goal	Objective(s)	Inputs (Lead Agency in bold)	Actions (10)	Outputs
G2.1	**SEDO 2:** To promote, support and input into the development of sustainable and strategic infrastructure.	**1. Fingal County Council** 2. Fingal Chamber 3. Balbriggan Chamber 4. Business representative groups 5. Businesses 6. Government Departments 7. Fingal Economic Forum 8. State Agencies ie. NTA 9. Transport Operators i.e. DAA, Irish Rail; Dublin Bus, MetroLink etc. 10. Third level institutions 11. Community Groups	**Action 2.1.1**: Support implementation of the *Fingal County Development Plan* and Future Fingal: AnEconomic Development Strategy relating to economic lands and the development of sustainable and strategic infrastructure ie housing, power, water, wastewater, education facilities, digital connectivity, strategic physical infrastructure, sustainable/active travel infrastructure, public transport, and Dublin Airport.	Ongoing engagement with stakeholder groups to promote balanced infrastructural development and the delivery of sustainable and strategic infrastructure projects in the county.

	SEDO 3: To facilitate incubation and business growth.	**1. Fingal County Council** 2. Enterprise Ireland 3. IDA 4. Fingal Local Enterprise Office 5. Fingal Chamber 6. Balbriggan Chamber 7. Businesses 8. Existing Business Park management organisations (public and private) 9. Incubation space providers (including Drinan and BASE) 10. DBEC Partnership 11. Enterprise Ireland 12. IDA Ireland	**Action 2.1.2**: Support implementation of the Future Fingal: An Economic Development Strategy relating to low-cost start-up and scale-up spaces and business/industrial parks. **Action 2.1.3**: In collaboration with IDA Ireland and Enterprise Ireland, support the delivery of economic development on economically zoned lands and investment attraction in Fingal.	More space for entrepreneurs and growing businesses. Greater engagement with businesses in business/industrial parks. Effective utilisation of business parks. Delivery of more economic lands and facilities for Investors. Supports and networking/collaboration opportunities for entrepreneurs and new businesses.
G2.2	**SEDO 4:** To develop clusters and strategies to leverage sectoral growth opportunities.	**1. Fingal County Council** 2. DETE 3. Fingal Local Enterprise Office 4. Fingal Chamber 5. Balbriggan Chamber 6. Businesses 7. Business and sectoral representative groups 8. IDA Ireland 9. Enterprise Ireland 10. DBEC Partnership	**Action 2.2.1**: Support implementation of the Future Fingal: An Economic Development Strategy relating to cluster development.	Supports for new and existing clusters for key sectors in Fingal – appropriately structured, promoted and resourced to boost impact.
	SEDO 5: To enhance strategic engagement across the business ecosystem.	**1. Fingal County Council** 2. Fingal Local Enterprise Office 3. Fingal Chamber 4. Balbriggan Chamber 5. Private sector companies 6. Business and sectoral representative bodies 7. Fingal Economic Forum	**Action 2.2.2**: Engage with stakeholders on the Future Fingal: An Economic Development Strategy and adopt an 'anchor employer' account management approach to business engagement.	Networking fora to strengthen the Fingal business ecosystem. Frequent engagements between Fingal County Council and key local employers.
	SEDO 6: To provide greater clarity on and access to business supports.	**1. Fingal Local Enterprise Office** **2. Fingal County Council** 3. Enterprise Ireland 4. SEAI 5. Fingal Chamber 6. Balbriggan Chamber	**Action 2.2.3**: Support implementation of the Future Fingal: An Economic Development Strategy relating to the creation of a 'one front door' solution to sign-post business supports.	A 'one front door' solution for Fingal businesses. Regular engagements/communications between Fingal Local Enterprise Office and entrepreneurs/businesses. Regular engagements/communications between Fingal County Council and Chamber bodies.

	SEDO 7: To develop Fingal's brand as a business location.	**1. Fingal County Council** 2. IDA Ireland 3. Enterprise Ireland 4. Businesses 5. Business and sectoral representative bodies 6. Fingal Economic Forum 7. Fingal Chamber 8. Balbriggan Chamber	**Action 2.2.4**: Support implementation of the Future Fingal: An Economic Development Strategy *Marketing Plan*, specifically targeting investors.	A strong Fingal brand and delivery against a defined Marketing Plan.
G2.3	**SCO 1:** To understand and address key barriers to work and identify and support affected population cohorts.	**1. Fingal County Council** **2. Department of Rural & Community Development & the Gaeltacht** **3. SICAP Implementer** 4. Department of Social Protection 5. Migrant and minority representative groups 6. Fingal Children and Young People's Services Committee 7. Fingal County Childcare Committee 8. Businesses	**Action 2.3.1**: Identify under-represented groups and address reasons for under-representation in the Fingal labour market, such as childcare availability, transport options, and skills.	A stronger understanding of barriers to work and affected population cohorts. Regular engagement between key stakeholders to address identified barriers. Implementation of targeted interventions to affected population cohorts. Delivery of SICAP. Support delivery of Fingal Migrant Integration & Social Cohesion Strategy. Support delivery of Fingal CYPSC Plan.
		1. Local Area Employment Service Providers (LAES) **2. LEADER Implementer** 3. Department of Social Protection 4. Education and training providers 5. SOLAS 6. SICAP Implementer 7. Third Level Institutions 8. Fingal Skillnet (Fingal Chamber) 9. Fingal County Council	**Action 2.3.2**: Delivery of employability programmes for economically inactive people.	Targeted interventions and person-centred guidance related to skills development, especially via upskilling and reskilling initiatives.
	SCO 2: To provide supports to enable under-represented groups to (re) enter the workforce.	**1. Local Area Employment Service Providers (LAES)** **2. LEADER Implementer** 3. Department of Social Protection	**Action 2.3.3**: Provide job related training to unemployed people, such as CV preparation, interview skills, social media skills for job seeking, and transition to employment initiatives.	A set of targeted supports for (re) entering the workforce to address under-representation amongst specific groups.

		4. Education and training providers 5. Migrant and minority representative groups 6. SOLAS 7. SICAP Implementer 8. Fingal County Council		

Funding sources which may be accessed to support a Prosperous Economy objectives include:

- SOLAS
- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF)
- Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF).
- Fingal Skillnet
- Department of Rural & Community Development & the Gaeltacht funding streams (SICAP)
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)
- European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF)
- Erasmus+
- LEADER

1.4 Theme 3: Skills for Life & Work

Theme	Goal	Goal Description
Skills for Life & Work A county that provides a supportive and diverse skills ecosystem, nurtures talent, and provides life-long learning opportunities for all.	**G3.1**	Stimulate a culture of life-long learning.
	G3.2	Support skills development to meet the diverse needs of communities and businesses.

Goal	Objective(s)	Inputs (Lead Agency in bold)	Actions (18)	Outputs
G3.1	**SCO 3:** To update Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy 2024 - 2029 and support implementation of its recommendations	1. **Fingal County Council.** 2. Education and training providers. 3. Public and private sector employers. 4. SOLAS. 5. Dublin Regional Skills Forum.	**Action 3.1.1**: Implement Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy 2024 - 2029.	Implementation of Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy 2024 - 2029 Broader participation in Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy 2024 - 2029. Supports for Fingal Skills Strategy sectoral groups to identify and address skills gaps.
	SCO 4: To provide all Fingal residents with basic English language, literacy and numeracy skills.	1. **SICAP Implementer** 2. Education & training providers 3. SOLAS 4. Department of Social Protection 5. Community and voluntary groups 6. National Adult Literacy Agency	**Action 3.1.2**: Engage with community representative organisations and individuals in local target priority groups to identify and address skills needs **Action 3.1.3**: Ongoing monitoring and delivery of relevant education and training by providers in Fingal to address requirements of residents. **Action 3.1.4**: Promote and develop targeted skills development opportunities. **Action 3.1.5**: Align with the recommendations of Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy 2024 - 2029.	Delivery of SICAP programme with ongoing monitoring of relevant SICAP KPI's. Delivery of relevant education and training courses by providers. Regular engagement between Fingal County Council and education/training providers and key stakeholders to inform the implementation of recommendations of Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy 2024 - 2029.
	SCO 5: To develop greater opportunities for up- and re-skilling.	1. **Education & training providers** 2. Fingal Skills Strategy Implementation Group (SSIG) 3. Fingal Chamber Skillnet 4. Fingal County Council 5. Fingal Local Enterprise Office 6. Dublin Regional Skills Forum (DRSF) 7. Business and sectoral representative bodies 8. SICAP Implementer	**Action 3.1.6**: Implement the recommendations of the Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy 2024 – 2029 under Theme 5, relating to upskilling and reskilling	More education and training initiatives to 'future-proof' the skills base of Fingal.

		9. LEADER Implementer		
G3.2	**SEDO 8:** To equip Fingal's labour force with the skills to meet businesses' current and future needs.	**1. Education & training providers** 2. Fingal Chamber Skillnet 3. Third level institutions 4. Fingal Chamber Skillnet 5. Dublin Regional Skills Forum (DRSF) 6. Fingal County Council 7. Public and private sector employers 8. Business and sectoral representative bodies 9. Quality and Qualifications Ireland	**Action 3.2.1**: Implement the recommendations of the Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy 2024-2029 under Themes 3 and 4, advancing innovative skills initiatives and qualification conversion pathways aligned with business needs.	Development of skills needs forecasting to support future training pipeline planning. Greater access to employment for citizens with qualifications gained abroad. A broader and deeper skills base in Fingal. New skills development initiatives.
	SCO 6: To broaden pathways to education. **SCO 7:** To ensure communities have the skills to take effective	**1. Education & training providers** 2. Fingal Skillnet 3. Third level institutions 4. Dublin Regional Skills Forum (DRSF) 5. Department of Social Protection 6. Generation Apprenticeship (National Apprenticeship Alliance) 7. Fingal Children and Young People's Services Committee 8. Fingal County Council	**Action 3.2.4**: Implement the recommendations of the Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy 2024-2029 under Themes 3 and 4 by addressing barriers to education, expanding apprenticeship and traineeship programmes in priority sectors through collaboration, and promoting lifelong learning opportunities.	Broader pathways to education for residents of all ages and backgrounds. Greater collaboration between stakeholders for the promotion of education opportunities available. Expanded apprenticeship/ traineeship opportunities. Expanded access to life-long learning opportunities.

	voluntary and participative action.	1. **Fingal Public Participation Network** 2. Community-based and voluntary organisations 3. Education and training providers 4. Third level institutions 5. SICAP Implementer 6. LEADER Implementer 7. The Wheel 8. SEAI	**Action 3.2.10**: Develop the skills and capacity of Fingal Public Participation Network members to participate in decision-making structures and greater involvement in improving the design and delivery of community services.	Greater skills and capacity within communities to take effective voluntary and participative action. Greater skills and capacity within the Fingal PPN to participate in decision-making structures. Broad range of relevant education and training courses being delivered by providers.

Funding sources which may be accessed to support Skills for Life and Work objectives include:

- SOLAS
- LEADER
- Department of Social Protection Tús Programme.
- Higher Education Authority Programme for Access to Higher Education (PATH)
- Department of Rural & Community Development and the Gaeltacht National Volunteering Strategy & SICAP
- Department of Social Protection funding streams
- Fingal Skillnet funding

1.5 Theme 4: Healthy, Inclusive, Connected Communities

Theme	Goal	Goal Description
Healthy, Inclusive, Connected Communities A healthy, inclusive and connected county where communities are empowered and supported to thrive.	**G4.1**	Increase participation in initiatives that promote active living, positive mental wellbeing, and physical activity to achieve improved health and wellbeing for all.
	G4.2	Promote citizen participation.
	G4.3	Encourage inclusion and connection within and between communities.
	G4.4	Target improvements in areas of disadvantage.

Goal	Objective(s)	Inputs (Lead Agency in bold)	Actions (25)	Outputs
G4.1	**SCO 8:** Provide facilities and support services which enable a healthier lifestyle.	1. **HSE** 2. Fingal County Council 3. National Ambulance Service (HSE) 4. Drug and Alcohol Task Forces 5. Sporting and voluntary organisations 6. Youth Services 7. Family Resource Centres 8. Jigsaw 9. SICAP Implementer 10. Fingal Children and Young People's Services Committee 11.	**Action 4.1.1**: Support implementation of Healthy Ireland and Healthy Fingal initiatives, and *Active, Together: Local Sport and Physical Activity Plan 2024 – 2029,* **Action 4.1.2**: Improve the health and wellbeing of the community by promotion of access to new and existing recreational, physical and mental health support services, programmes, facilities and amenities in Fingal. **Action 4.1.3**: Devise plans to address gaps in support services and facilities in specific geographic areas. **Action 4.1.4**: Support and collaborate with Drug and Alcohol Task Forces and associated partners to implement prevention and early intervention initiatives to reduce the harm caused by the misuse of alcohol and drugs. **Action 4.1.5**: Continue to **support** Community First Responders.	More health-related facilities, initiatives and support services. Reduced gaps in health-related support services provision. Provision of first responder skills in the community.

	SCO 9: Increase participation in health-related activities, particularly amongst young people and senior citizens.	**1. HSE** 2. Fingal County Council 3. TUSLA 4. Sporting and voluntary organisations 5. Youth services 6. Fingal Children and Young People's Services Committee 7. Family Resource Centres 8. SICAP Implementer 9. Older People's Council	**Action 4.1.6**: Promote information resources in community, youth and education settings that reinforce positive health messages for improved health and well-being. **Action 4.1.7**: Facilitate community engagement in the design of outreach initiatives to increase participation and take up of activities and services which promote active living and good mental health. **Action 4.1.8**: Actively promote and increase the inclusion of traditionally under-represented populations in health and wellbeing activities. **Action 4.1.9**: Maintain and develop arts, literacy and sporting/physical activity initiatives designed to support children and young people in reaching their full potential. **Action 4.1.10**: Collaborate with key agencies and community groups in assessing young (under 25 years of age) and older people's needs to develop and implement the Fingal CYSPC Plan and the the Fingal *Age Friendly Strategy*.	More accessible information on available health-related activities. Improved and broader participation rates in health,wellbeing, and sporting/physical activities. Support delivery of objectives in the Fingal CYPSC Plan and the Fingal *Age Friendly Strategy*
	SCO 10: Support community based initiatives to address mental health issues.	**1. HSE** **2. TUSLA** 3. Fingal County Council 4. Jigsaw 5. Youth services 6. Migrant and minority representative groups 7. SICAP Implementer 8. Fingal Children and Young People's Services Committee 9.	**Action 4.1.11**: Facilitate community engagement with the HSE and TUSLA to accelerate the development of early intervention and prevention programmes in line with the National Suicide Reduction Strategy **Action 4.1.12**: Support community based initiatives to address mental health and social inclusion based on the needs of specific communities of interest, such as young males, older people, ethnic minorities and the Traveller Community. **Action 4.1.13**: Continue to develop Mental Health First Responder Schemes.	Continued support for suicide prevention programmes. Continued engagement with at-risk groups.
G4.2	**SCO 11:** To provide more opportunities and access points for citizens to participate in local decision making.	**1. Fingal PPN** 2. Fingal County Council 3. Fingal Volunteer Centre 4. Community and voluntary groups 5.	**Action 4.2.1**: Expand opportunities for residents and community groups to participate in community decision making and local democracy. **Action 4.2.2**: Improve access and engagement between community groups and Fingal County Council and other government/state agencies.	Greater community participation in local democracy and decision-making structures. Greater community group engagement with Fingal County Council and other government/state

				agencies.
G4.3	**SCO 12:** To support implementation of the *Fingal Migrant Integration and Social Cohesion Strategy.* **SCO 13:** To encourage inclusion and integration through support for services, outreach and events.	**1. Fingal County Council** 2. Migrant and minority representative groups 3. SICAP Implementer 4. Fingal Disability Network 5. Fingal Ethnic Network 6. Fingal Children and Young People's Services Committee	**Action 4.3.1**: Support implementation of the *Fingal Migrant Integration and Social Cohesion Strategy.* **Action 4.3.2**: **Ongoing** assessment of the needs of migrants to facilitate integration of children, young people and families both socially and economically. **Action 4.3.3**: Engage with minority and migrant groups through dedicated outreach programmes to highlight available amenities and services in Fingal. **Action 4.3.4**: Develop further initiatives to ensure newly arrived migrants and socially excluded groups are supported. **Action 4.3.5**: Document and share learning with a view to removing duplication and improving service integration and delivery of education, training and activation supports and services.	Greater engagement with communities to understand inclusion needs. Outreach programmes and initiatives to integrate new and existing communities. Shared learning initiatives.
G4.4	**SCO 14:** To reduce absolute and relative disadvantage in specific areas of Fingal.	**1. SICAP Implementer** 2. Fingal County Council 3. Fingal Children and Young People's Services Committee 4. SOLAS 5. TUSLA 6. Education and training providers 7. Department of Social Protection 8. Pobal	**Action 4.4.1**: Ensure appropriate supports are provided to Fingal residents within socially excluded groups and designated disadvantaged areas. **Action 4.4.2**: Identify key drivers of disadvantage in main areas of disadvantage per Pobal's 2022 *HP Deprivation Index*. **Action 4.4.3**: Develop outreach programmes for disadvantaged areas, focusing on removing barriers to work, and promoting accessible education pathways. **Action 4.4.4**: Provide supports to children,young people and families from target groups at risk of early school leaving and/ or not in education, employment or training.	Delivery of SICAP. Support the delivery of objectives of the Fingal CYPSC Plan. Collation of insights in to areas and drivers of disadvantage. Targeted interventions to

				reduce disadvantage.

Funding sources which may be accessed to support Healthy, Inclusive, Connected Communities objectives include:

- Communities Integration Fund
- Healthy Ireland Fund
- Other Government and EU funding administered and managed via Pobal
- Department of Rural & Community Development & the Gaeltacht funding streams (SICAP)
- Department of Social Protection funding streams
- SOLAS

1.6 Theme 5: Rich Arts, Culture & Heritage

Theme	Goal	Goal Description
Rich Arts, Culture & Heritage Promote and protect our arts and heritage, and embrace cultural diversity in the county.	**G5.1**	Promote, protect, and grow the heritage of Fingal and ensure quality amenities for all.
	G5.2	Support new and existing cultures to thrive.
	G5.3	Champion the arts and cultural life of the county.

Goal	Objective(s)	Inputs	Actions (11)	Outputs

5.1	**SCO 15:** To enhance the promotion & brand of Fingal's heritage. **SCO 16:** To improve access to key heritage assets. **SCO 17:** To preserve and protect Fingal's heritage assets.	**1. Fingal County Council** 2. Fáilte Ireland 3. The Heritage Council 4. Operators of key heritage assets 5. OPW 6. National Transport Authority 7. BusConnects 8. Community and voluntary groups	**Action 5.1.1**: Support the implementation of Fingal County Council's *Arts Plan*, the *Creative Places Balbriggan Strategy 2026 – 2027, and the Public Art Initiative* **Action 5.1.2**: Collaborate with operators of key heritage sites and transport operators to identify and address issues in access, specifically relating to transport options. **Action 5.1.3**: Support local communities to protect and develop local heritage and community cultural assets (including festivals and events) . **Action 5.1.4**: Facilitate collaboration between the NTA, BusConnects and other transport operators and Fingal County Council to explore options to improve transport and infrastructure for key heritage site access. **Action 5.1.5**: Support and mentor community heritage groups in the areas of group development, strategic planning, access to funding and project management. **Action 5.1.6**: Foster learning exchanges between heritage asset operators and local heritage and community groups so as to share best practices.	Promotion and Implementation of Arts Assets. Improved promotion of and access to Fingal's heritage assets. Better access to key heritage sites. Protection and development of local heritage and community cultural assets. Improved supports and mentoring relating to heritage assets. Promotion of best practice in the protection, development and operation of heritage assets.
5.2	**SCO 18:** To promote inclusivity by providing supports for new and existing cultures.	**1. Fingal County Council** 2. Migrant and minority representative groups 3. SICAP Implementer 4. Fingal Disability Network 5. Irish Traveller Movement 6. Fingal PPN 7. Fingal Ethnic Network 8. Community & voluntary groups 9. Foroige	**Action 5.2.1**: Facilitate community awareness, community engagement and events to share knowledge and demonstrate diverse backgrounds and cultural beliefs. **Action 5.2.2**: Support the the Yellow Flag Initiative, promoting interculturalism, across Fingal schools. **Action 5.2.3**: Promote awareness regarding the availability of community facilities as places where inclusivity can be fostered. **Action 5.2.4**: Develop an integrated and readily understandable directory of all local services.	Targeted initiatives to promote inclusion for all. Continued Support of the Yellow Flag initiative. Easily accessible directory of all local services available.

5.3	**SCO 19:** To enhance the promotion & brand of Fingal's arts and cultural life.	**1. Fáilte Ireland** 2. Fingal County Council 3. Other Dublin Local Authorities 4. Arts Council 5. Heritage Council	**Action 5.3.1**: Alignment of the *Marketing Plan* which accompanies the *Future Fingal: An Economic Development Strategy* and *Fingal Tourism Strategy 2024 -* 2029 to incorporate and better promote Fingal's arts, heritage and culture within the Dublin and Irish contexts – and maximise the reach of the county's brand.	Distinct and prominent positioning of Fingal's unique arts, heritage and cultural life under the Explore Fingal brand

Funding sources which may be accessed to support Rich Arts, Culture & Heritage objectives include:

- Arts Council funding
- Heritage Council funding
- Integration Fund
- *Connecting Ireland* Rural Mobility Plan funding
- Department of Rural & Community Development & the Gaeltacht Funding Streams
- Town & Village Renewal Scheme
- ORIS
- LEADER
- SICAP
- Fáilte Ireland funding streams
- NTA funding streams

1.7 Theme 6: Safe, Accessible, Vibrant Places

Theme	Goal	Goal Description
Safe, Accessible, Vibrant Places A county of vibrant	**G6.1**	Support the development of areas for a high quality of life.

communities and places, accessible for all, where people want to live, work and socialise.	**G6.2**	Promote safety in the community through collaboration and inclusivity.

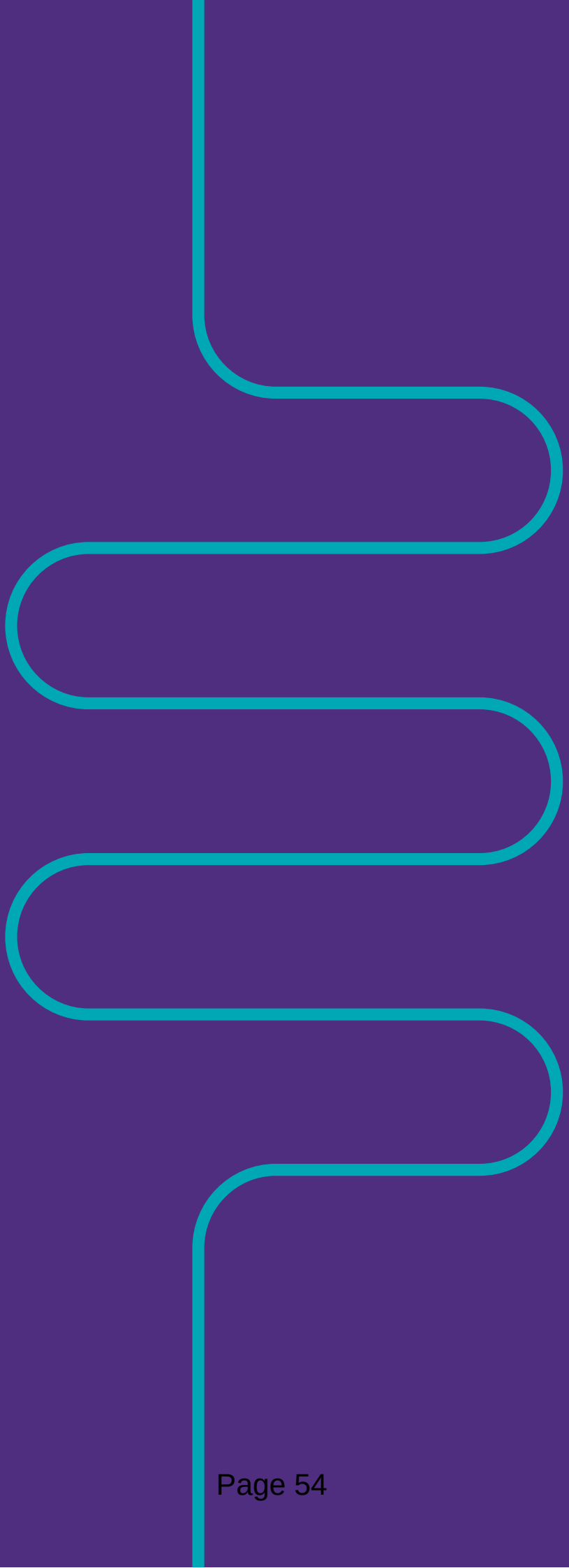
Goal	Objective(s)	Inputs	Actions (9)	Outputs
G6.1	**SEDO 9:** To revitalise the centres of key towns and villages.	**1. Fingal County Council** **2. Town Teams** 3. Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht 4. Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage 5. LEADER Implementer 6. Tidy Towns Committees 7. Fingal PPN 8. Fingal businesses 9. Business representative groups 10. Community & voluntary groups	**Action 6.1.1**: Support implementation of the Future Fingal: An Economic Development Strategy*, the Fingal Tourism Strategy, the Fingal Food & Drink Policy and the LEADER Local Development Strategy* relating to the development of vibrant places and sectors across Fingal. **Action 6.1.2**: Implementation of *Town Centre First* policy and delivery of Town Centre First Plans, including local economic & community development initiatives	Measures to support rural-focussed economic and tourism development in specific sectors. Creation of *Town Centre First* Plans and Health Checks Delivery of the local economic and community development initiatives defined within Town Centre First plans and/or Health Checks Delivery of objectives in the Our Balbriggan Rejuvenation Plan. Targeted actions to develop towns and villages in Fingal.

	SEDO 10: To support enhancements to transport and infrastructure.	**1. Fingal County Council** 2. National Transport Authority 3. BusConnects 4. Public and private sector employers 5. Community & voluntary groups 6. Businesses 7. Fingal Chamber 8. Balbriggan Chamber 9. LEADER Implementer	**Action 6.1.3**: Consult regularly with employers, employees and representative groups to identify and understand transport and infrastructural needs. **Action 6.1.4**: Facilitate collaboration between the NTA, BusConnects and other transport operators Fingal County Council to explore options to improve access and infrastructure – including the development of active travel options.	Regular engagement between Fingal County Council and key stakeholders to identify and understand transport and infrastructural needs. Prioritised measures to improve transport and infrastructure.
G6.2	**SCO 20:** To develop areas which are safe for all. **SCO 21:** To develop and implement measures to reduce anti-social behaviour.	**1. Fingal County Council** 2. Tenants and Residents' Associations 3. An Garda Síochána 4. Probation Service 5. LCSPLocal Community Policing Forums 6. Youth Services 7. Community, and voluntary organisations 8. Fingal Children and Young Peoples Services Committee 9. Jigsaw 10. Comhairle Na nÓg	**Action 6.2.1**: Work with residents to ensure safe neighbourhoods. **Action 6.2.2**: Facilitate a collaborative approach to promoting safer neighbourhoods and reducing anti-social behaviour. **Action 6.2.3**: Promote Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (passive surveillance) as a feature in commercial and residential developments. **Action 6.2.4**: Work in partnership with An Garda Síochána and community organisations to deliver late night sporting and other programmes for young people in key targeted areas. **Action 6.2.5**: Work with An Garda Síochána to ensure community policing remains an integral element of security in Fingal.	Safer neighbourhoods in specific localities. Enhanced passive surveillance via local monitoring and better designed urban areas. Greater community Gardaí presence.

Funding sources which may be accessed to support Safe, Accessible, Vibrant Places objectives include:

- Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF)
- Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF)
- Comhairle na nÓg Development Fund
- Rural Social Scheme
- Department of Rural & Community Development & the Gaeltacht funding streams
- Town Centre First funding
- Town & Village Renewal Scheme

- Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS)
- Fáilte Ireland funding streams
- Department of Justice funding streams
- LEADER
- SICAP
- Connecting Ireland Rural Mobility Plan
- Irish Youth Foundation Grants
- NTA and Road Safety Authority funding streams



Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Heritage Plan Update
Community, Sports & Culture SPC

Christine Baker, Heritage Officer

24 June 2026

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Ceangal
Clár den Chomhairle Oidhreachta
A Heritage Council programme

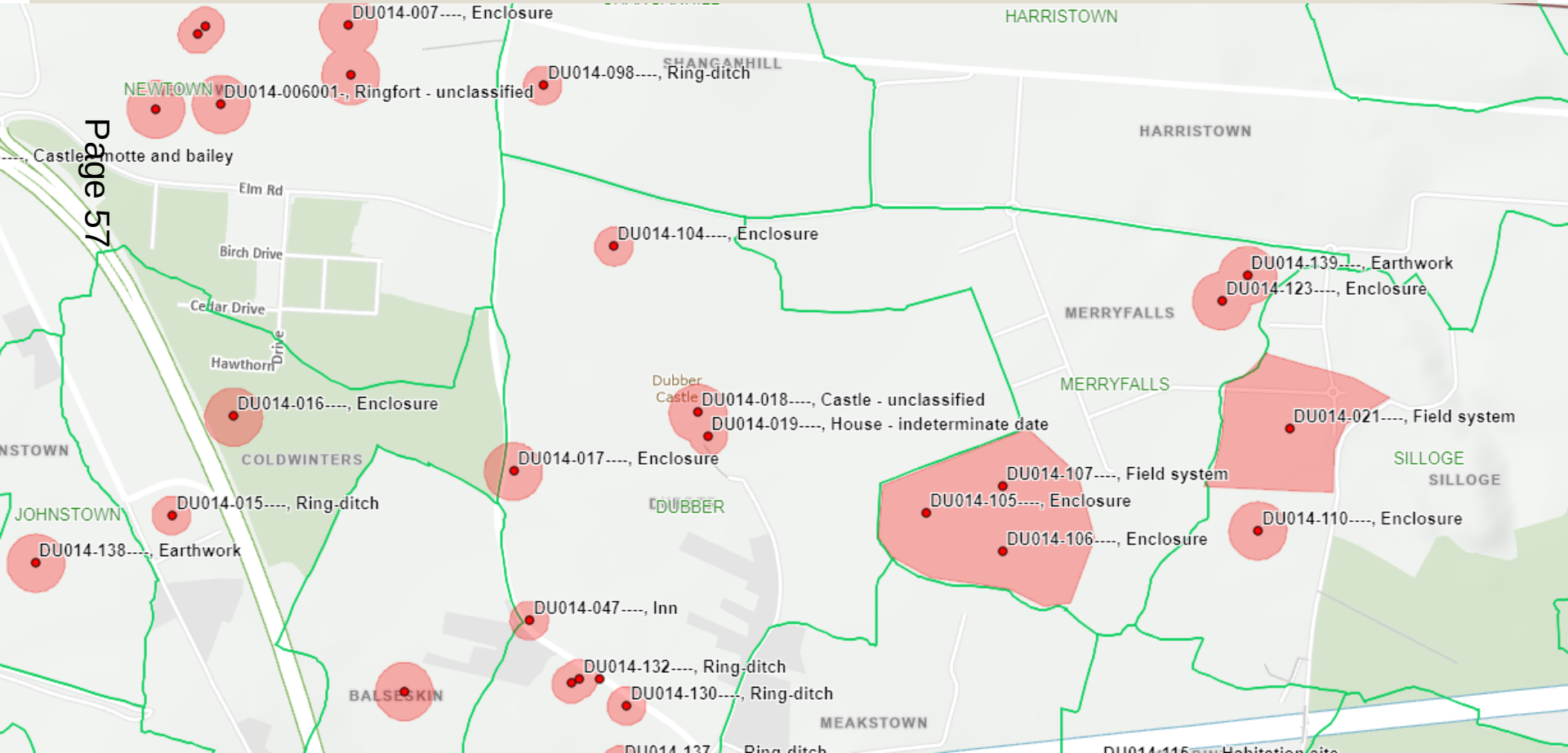
Workplan 2026



Project	Plan Implementation Matrix
Changing Fingal: Stories from my Place	FHP Actions 2.6; 2.7; 4.1; 4.3.; 4.4. FDP HCAO17; HCAO18; HCAO20; SP Communities
County Dublin Archaeology GIS Update	FHP Action 2.7., 5.3; 6.4; FDP HCAO13; HCAO17; SP Communities
Dead Interesting….Stories from Fingal's Graveyards	FHP Action 2.7., 5.1; FDP HCAO17; HCAO20; HCAO54; SP Communities
Fingal Food Heritage – Oral History Research project	FHP Action 4.6; FHP Action 5.1. SP Communities; 7.5 (a) Fingal Food & Drink Policy
Historic Pumps	FHP Action 5.4, 5.5.; FDP HCAO43; SP Communities
Climate Action/Adaptation Plans	FHP Action 3.2; 3.3.; Action 1 PP; FDP HCAO21; FDP HCAO12, FDP HCAO46; FCAP F27; SP Climate Change
Digging Drumanagh 2026	FHP Action 5.3; 2.11; FDP HCAO19; HCAO20; SP Research
Discovering Drumanagh	FHP Action 2.10; FDP HCAO54; HCAO53; SP Communities

Planning


THE IMPORTANCE OF
INTERNAL CONSULTANCY


DU014-007----, Enclosure
HARRISTOWN
SHANGANHILL
DU014-098----, Ring-ditch
NEWTOWN
DU014-006001-, Ringfort - unclassified
HARRISTOWN
----, Castle - motte and bailey
Elm Rd
DU014-104----, Enclosure
Birch Drive
DU014-139----, Earthwork
DU014-123----, Enclosure
Cedar Drive
MERRYFALLS
Hawthorn Drive
MERRYFALLS
Dubber Castle
DU014-018----, Castle - unclassified
DU014-019----, House - indeterminate date
DU014-021----, Field system
DU014-016----, Enclosure
COLDWINTERS
DU014-017----, Enclosure
SILLOGE
SILLOGE
DU014-107----, Field system
DU014-105----, Enclosure
DU014-110----, Enclosure
JOHNSTOWN
DU014-015----, Ring-ditch
DUBBER
DU014-106----, Enclosure
DU014-138----, Earthwork
DU014-047----, Inn
DU014-132----, Ring-ditch
DU014-130----, Ring-ditch
BALSESKIN
MEAKSTOWN

Naming & Numbering



Naming of New Residential Developments

in Fingal:

Guidelines for Developers



May 2023

Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council

Cross Department

Arts

Architects

Conservation

Corporate

Parks & Biodiversity

Digital Officer

Engineering

Tourism

Events

Operations













Community Monuments Fund









Digging Drumanagh 2026









Phase 1- Five Year Consent cycle.

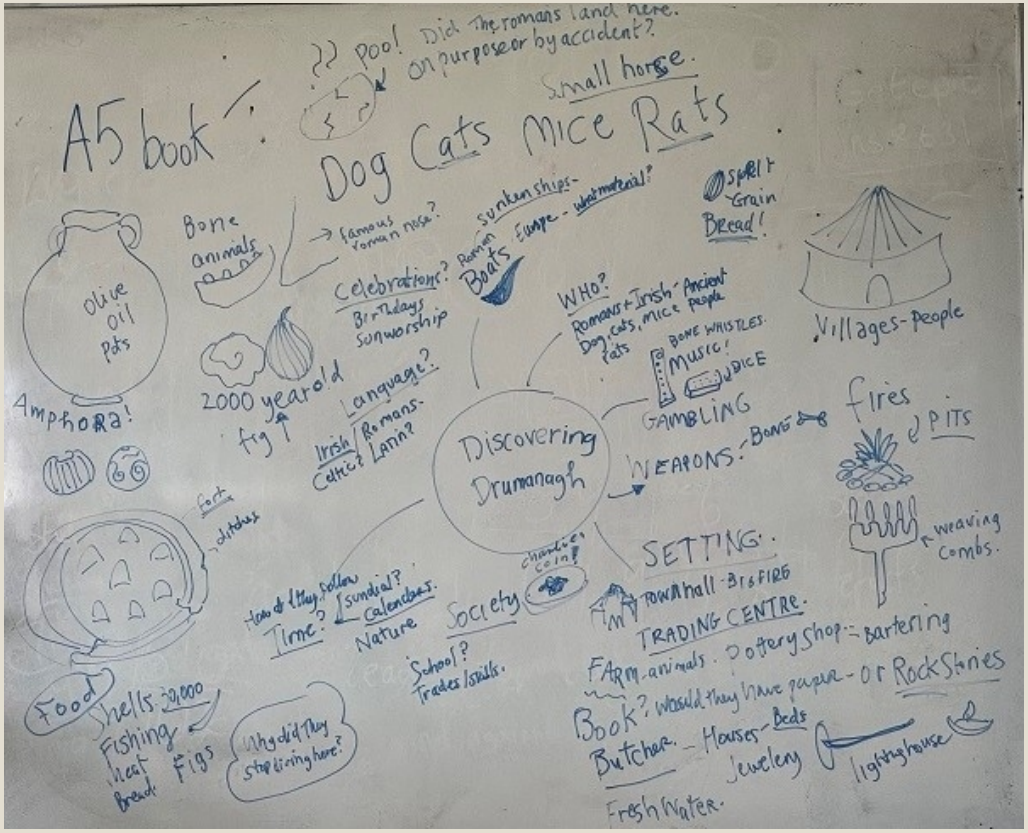
Post-excavation-38,000 shells; 14 boxes of animal bones; 449 finds-206 sherds of Roman pottery; gaming pieces, stone lamps, bone pins & tools

https://www.fingal.ie/digging-drumanagh

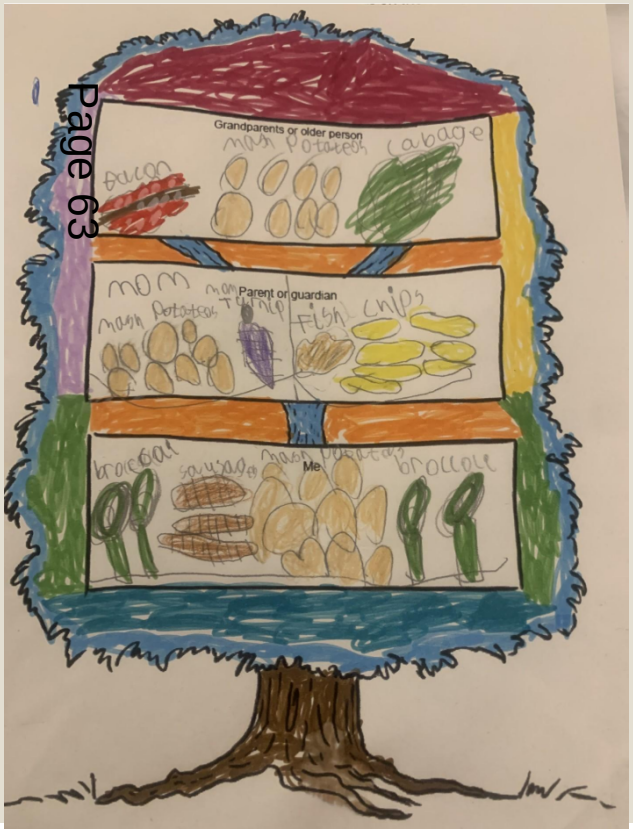
Discovering Drumanagh 2026







BLAS Fingal's Food Heritage







Join curator Cathal Dowd-Smith for a unique insight into the food heritage of Newbridge House Demesne in the video below.



Join Head Gardener Dominica McKevitt and local historian Dr Cora McDonagh in the walled gardens of Ardgillan Castle in the video below.



Fingal Food Heritage Oral History Project



Changing Fingal: Stories from my Place





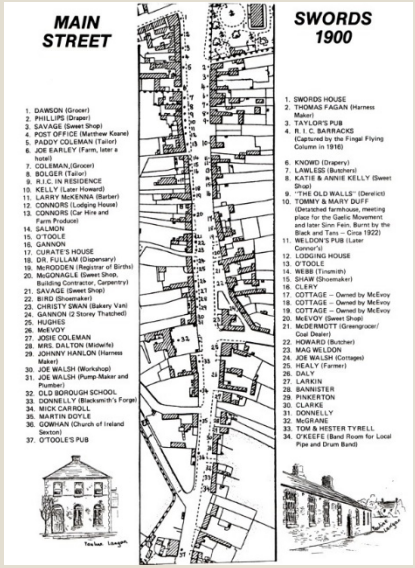
Sources & Resources Workshop

7pm Wednesday, 18 February 2026
Fingal Local Studies & Archives, North Street, Swords









Fingal Traditional Skills-Flavours of Fingal







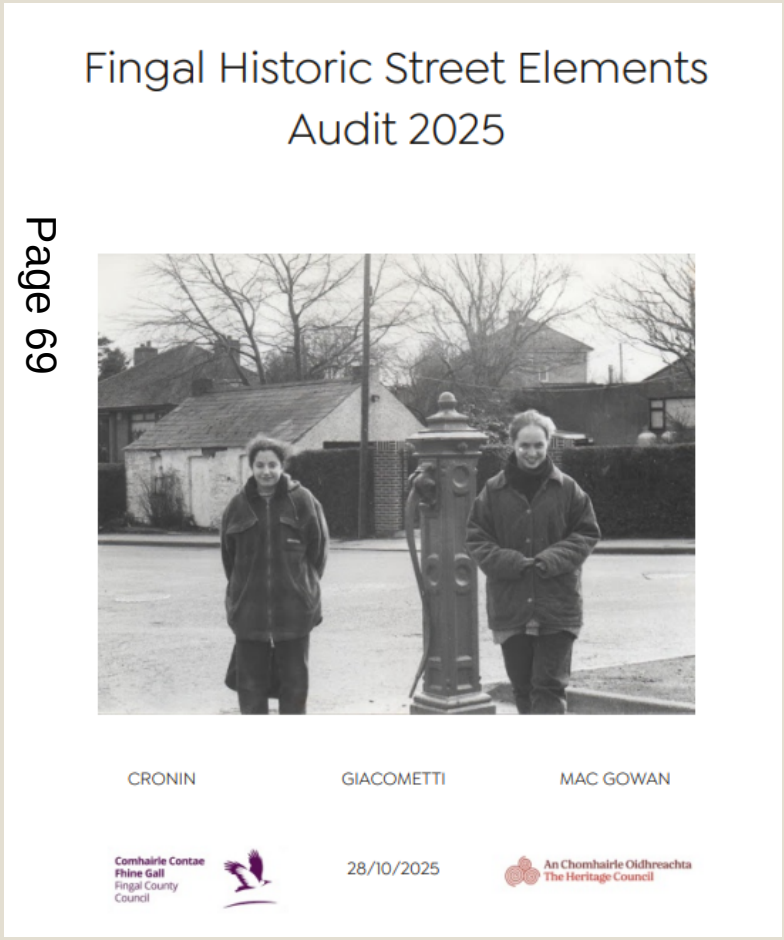


Traditional Skills- Bell Casting





Historic Street Elements Audit 2025



Objective of the Fingal Development Plan

Detailed survey of the historic elements of four towns- Balbriggan, Skerries, Malahide and Howth

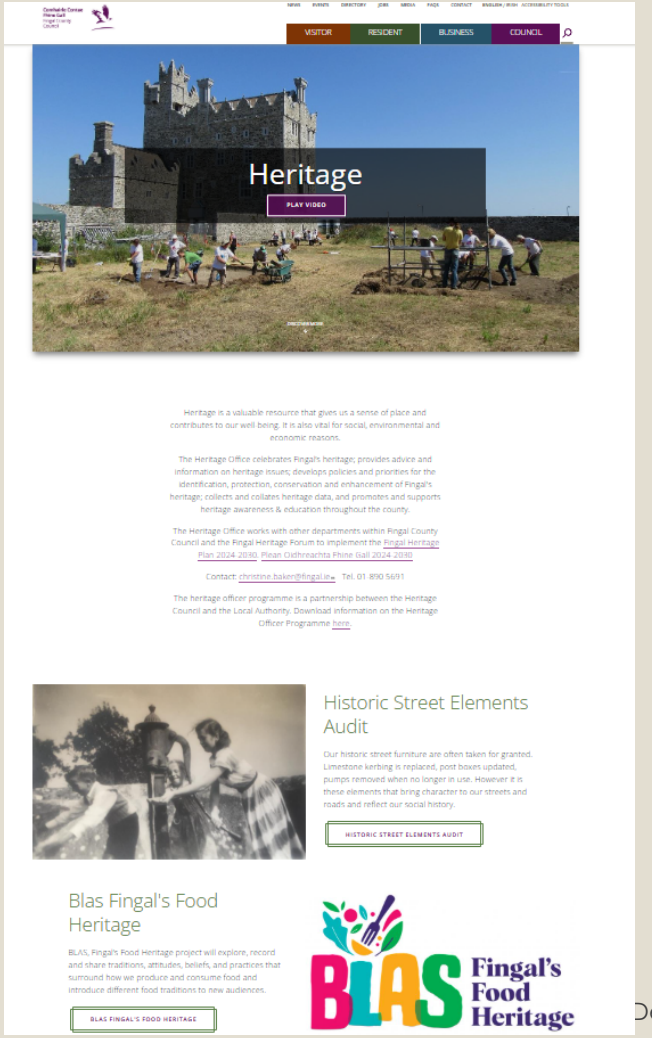
-historic pumps
-kerbs & stones
-post boxes
-milestones
-other

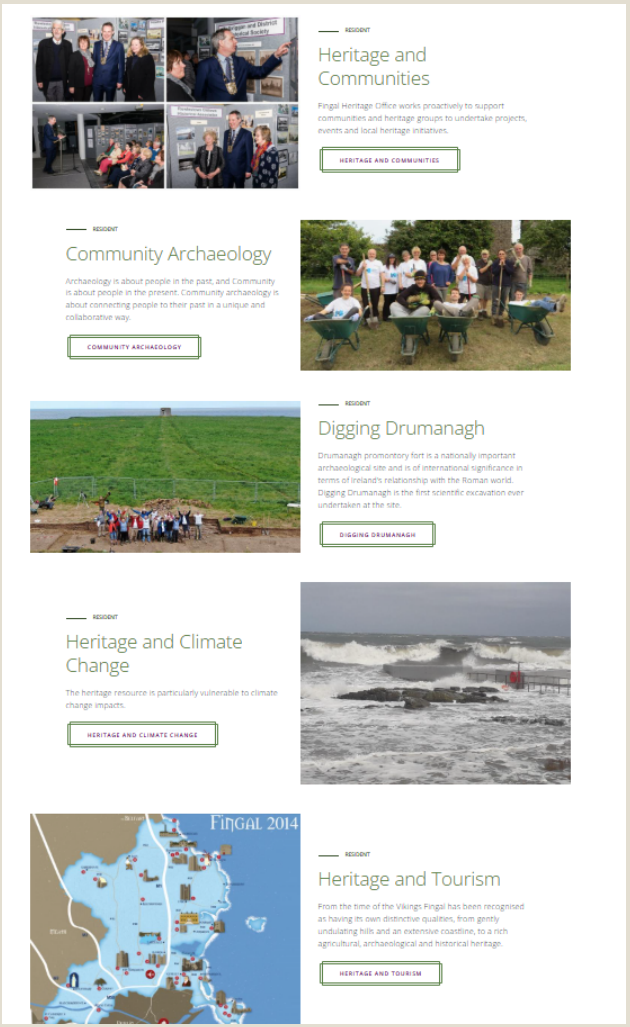
Fingal Historic Pumps 2026




DEAD INTERESTING
TALES FROM FINGAL'S GRAVEYARDS

https://www.fingal.ie/heritage





Fingal County Council

Access Strategy 2026-2030

A Fingal For All

A Presentation by Cathal Kearney, Fingal County Council Access Officer

24th June 2026

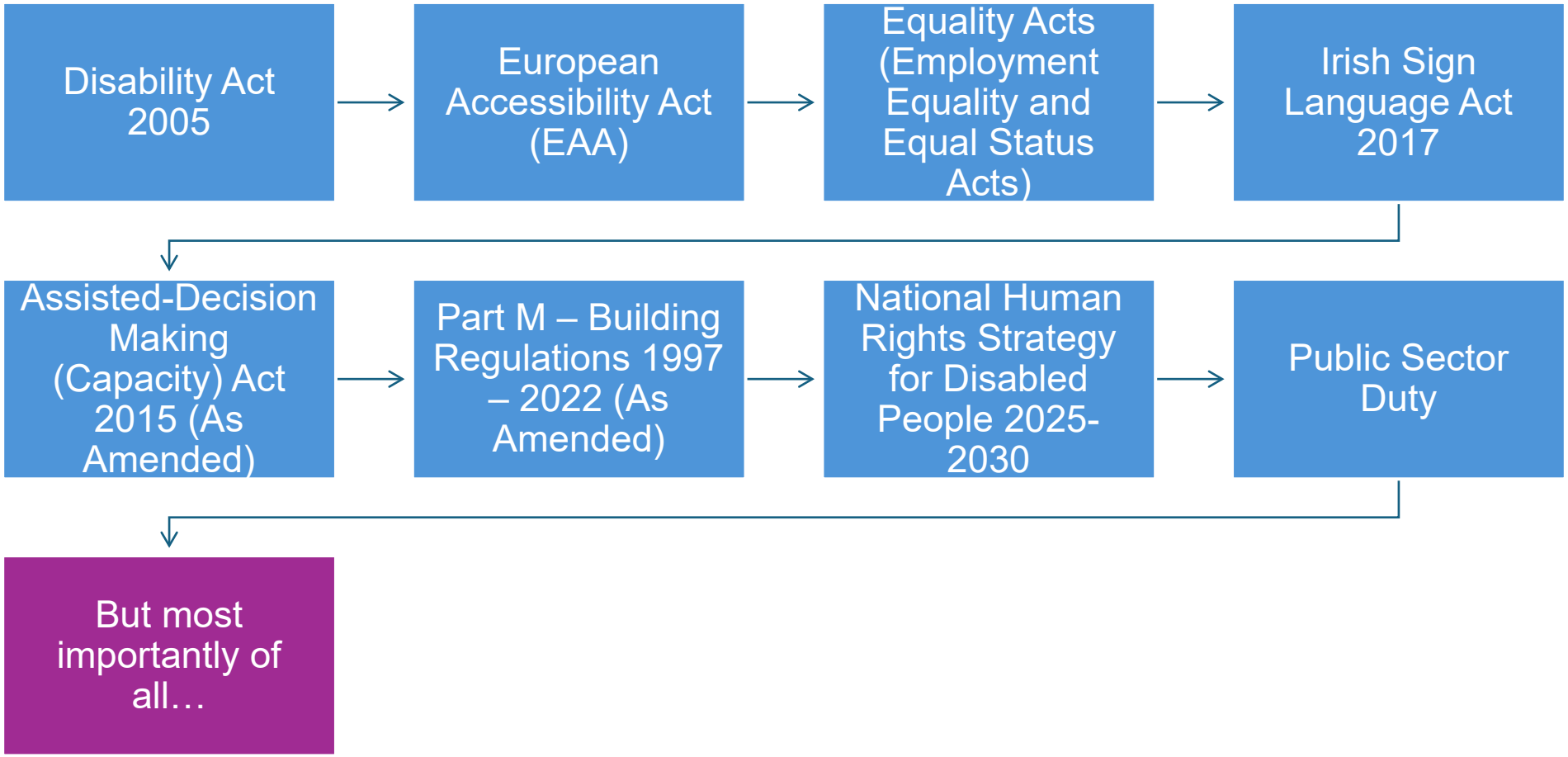




Access Officer – Who Am I?

- Role created from S.26 of the Disability Act 2005
- *'To provide or arrange for and co-ordinate the provision of assistance and guidance to persons with disabilities in accessing its services'* (S.26 (2), Disability Act 2005)
- Appointed by Fingal County Council in 2023
- Previously with Wexford County Council's Access Section
- Fingal's dedicated Access Officer
- Vice-Chairperson of LGMA Access Officer Network
- Member of DHLGH Employment Monitoring Committee

Key Accessibility Legislation & Policy (Irish Context)



United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD)

- Milestone international legislation, ratified by Irish Government in 2018
- Human Rights-based
- 50 Articles covering all aspects of civilian life
- Implementation in Ireland overseen by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (IHREC)
- Optional Protocol provides mechanism for people and groups to report breaches of their rights under the Convention
- Obligations on all public bodies in Ireland



Disabled Persons Organisations/Disabled Persons Representative Organisations (DPO/DPRO)

- Special status groups protected by the UNCRPD
- Rights-based, non-profit representative groups
- Led, run and directed by disabled people
- Majority of their membership must themselves be disabled
- Some represent one impairment, some represent many (cross-impairment)
- Article 4(3): *State Parties shall closely consult with and actively involve persons with disabilities through their representative organisations.*
- Close consultation, early engagement, active participation and co-creation key to fully realising goal of UNCRPD

Access Strategy: A First for Fingal

- Access Strategies are best practice for public bodies
- First of its kind for our Council, dedicated to the improvement of accessibility and inclusion of our public services
- Fingal's Access Strategy is fully aligned to UNCRPD
- A means of aligning our services more closely with national and international disability legislation and policies
- A cross-departmental and external DPO/DPRO-led approach
- Fully aligned with Corporate Plan (Theme 6, Objective 5: *'Create a welcoming environment that respects diversity, embraces equality, integration and inclusion, and promotes meaningful participation in Council activities.')*

Alternative Formats

The Access Strategy will be unique in that it will be available in up to **six** different ways:

- Standard hard copy and soft copy PDF (includes a NALA-accredited Plain English Summary)
- As Gaeilge/Irish
- Irish Sign Language (ISL)
- Easy to Read
- MS Word (for blind or visually impaired people who use screen-readers)
- Braille (only upon request)



The Mission of the Access Strategy

- Access isn't always the easiest thing to do, but **it's the right thing to do**!
- To be the most accessible and inclusive Local Authority in the country, for years to come
- To have the buy-in and ambition to be best-in-class in terms of accessibility, universal design and close meaningful engagement with disabled people (DPO/DPRO)
- To be an example for other public bodies to follow
- To uphold regulatory compliance and safeguard operations by proactively meeting legal standards and future-proof services for an increasingly ageing population (natural acquirement of disabilities)
- To make access a key aspect in all that we do













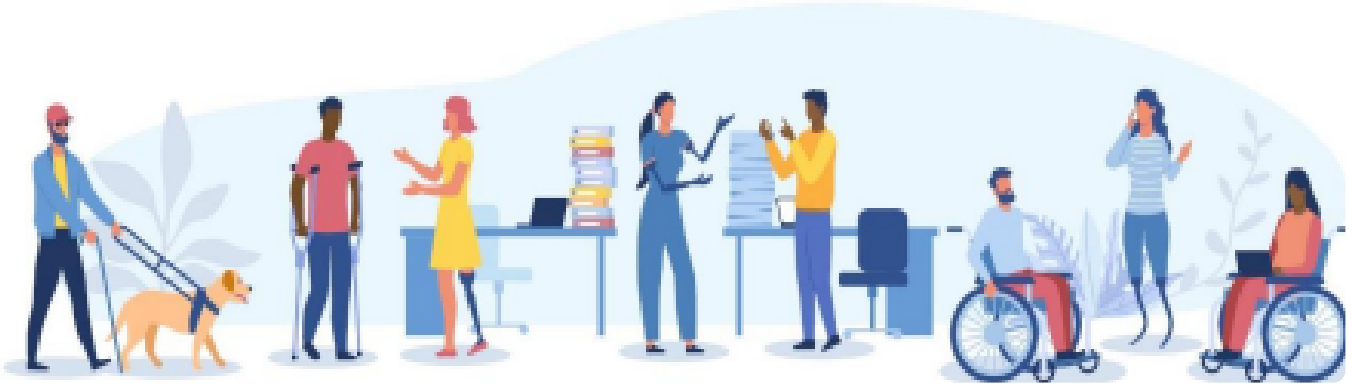
The Journey So Far

Consultation Phase (2024-2025)

- Desktop research including legislation, policies and Access Strategies of other Local Authorities
- Survey in hard copy and via our Consultation Portal on the accessibility and inclusivity of our services - what's working well and what isn't
- Seven in-person workshops held around Fingal; nine different disability groups met
- Ten DPO/DPRO groups engaged with
- Elected Members also engaged with and feedback received



Difficulty accessing website information



High satisfaction with sporting and physical activity offerings for disabled people

Lack of alternative formats of documents

Key Findings

Need for more pre-visit information

Praise for community and library spaces, public offices and amenity spaces

Active citizenship – responses reflected a desire to be more involved in our arts, heritage, community and recreational events and spaces

Damaged footpaths, desire for more accessible parking spaces

Closer consultation on projects and policies









Action Themes of Access Strategy

1. Communications and Information
2. Buildings and Infrastructure
3. Employment and Training
4. Cultural Life, Recreation and Sport
5. Public Realm and Amenity Spaces





Sample Actions

- Make our documents more accessible and in various formats
- Set up an internal Access Committee
- Become a truly neurodiversity-friendly organisation, in close consultation and active involvement with relevant DPO/DPRO
- Interested staff trained in Irish Sign Language, with ISL featured on major video content
- Access audits of our primary public buildings every five years.
- Continue to improve the accessibility of our footpaths and public realm
- Expand our existing range of sensory resources (eg. sensory toys/activities and ear defenders) in Fingal Libraries
- Train all staff with bespoke, first-of-its-kind UNCPRD-aligned access awareness training (launching summer 2026)
- Find ways to increase the access, interpretation and heritage value of our heritage sites

Measuring Success

- ❑ Set up an internal **Access Committee** of ‘access champions’(representation from each Department), chaired by a Director of Services to meet twice a year
- ❑ Access Office to maintain **open dialogue with DPO/DPROs** on Action progression
- ❑ Explore development of an **Action Submissions App** and back-end **Monitoring System**
- ❑ Evidence of Action compliance could be submitted through App, and checked in Monitoring System by Access Office
- ❑ Traffic light system: **Red (Outstanding); Amber (Partially Complete); Green (Completed)**
- ❑ **Real-time reports** available to Departments on Action progression
- ❑ Data collected to assist with producing an **Annual Report** and presentation to Executive Management Team and SPCs
- ❑ Committee to undertake a **bi-annual Review** of Access Strategy



COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMUNITY, SPORTS AND CULTURE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 24th JUNE 2026

ITEM NO. 6

Proactively Working to encourage more Women to enter and stay in Councillor roles - AI108606

Motion: Councillor A. Donnelly

"That this Strategic Policy Committee prepares for the 2029 Local Elections by engaging with "Women for Election", "See Her Elected" or a similar organisation to design and deliver a tailored training programme for women who wish to run in the 2029 Elections DunLaoghaire/Rathdown County Council ran a campaign for the 2024 Local Elections in collaboration with Women for Election. We could use this as a model if we wish."

Report:

The Council has secured funding to develop an appropriate programme under the category: 'Increase Diversity & Participation of Women in Local Government'. Initial engagement has already taken place with "*Women for Election"* to explore potential approaches and what such an initiative might involve. This work is being progressed as a joint endeavour between the Corporate and Community directorates and it is expected that it will get underway shortly in collaboration with "*Women for Election*".

While it is anticipated that this initiative may evolve in the direction of a tailored training programme or campaign aimed at women who may wish to run in the 2029 Local Elections, it would be premature at this stage to define the precise scope or format of the programme. Further development work will be required before any final proposals are brought forward.

Source of Report: Nikki Halleran, Administrative Officer, Corporate Services

Cormac Healy, Senior Executive Officer, Community Development and Inclusion Department

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COMHAIRLE CONTAE FHINE GALL

FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMUNITY, SPORTS AND CULTURE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY 24th JUNE 2026

ITEM NO. 7

Review of Policy on Community Activities Funding - AI108738

Motion: Councillor John Walsh

"That the Chief Executive review the recent decision in relation to Community Activities funding Scheme to restrict payment to tutors to 50% of an overall grant allocation under Community Activities funding annually, as this is causing significant adverse implications for community groups."

Report:

Following approval by Council in late 2025, the revised scheme has been in operation since January 2026. The Council recognises that community groups require time to become familiar with the updated criteria and to adjust how activities are planned, costed and delivered within the new parameters.

It is recognised also that any change of this nature can give rise to challenges for community groups, particularly where there is strong demand for programme-based activities that rely heavily on qualified tutors and facilitators.

As discussed with Members, demand for Community Activities remains exceptionally high across the County, with over 930 groups eligible to apply annually. In this context, it is necessary to apply consistent criteria countywide to ensure that limited funding resources can be distributed equitably and transparently, and that the greatest possible number of groups across Fingal can continue to be supported.

The cap on tutor payments was introduced to encourage a balanced use of funding, ensuring that grants also contribute towards essential non-pay costs such as equipment, materials, venue hire, insurance, accessibility supports and participation expenses. This approach is intended to support the sustainability and inclusiveness of community activities, while reducing the risk that funding disproportionately benefits a smaller number of tutor intensive projects at the expense of broader community participation.

The Community Development office is engaging with groups to provide practical guidance on budgeting, programme design and alternative funding options and will work with area-based staff to support groups in adapting to the revised scheme.

The impact of the changes to the operation of the CAF scheme is under review and feedback from community groups, elected members and SPC members will continue to inform this process.

With the scheme having been recommended by this SPC and agreed by Full Council, any changes arising from this process will need to be channelled through the same forum for consideration. It is envisaged that a presentation will be made to this SPC on the scheme review before year end.

Source of Report: Cormac Healy, Senior Executive Officer, Economic, Community and Cultural Development