

**Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall**
Fingal County
Council



FINGAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2023-2029

TWO YEAR PROGRESS REPORT



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Chief Executive's Foreword



The Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 came into effect on the 5th of April 2023 and is now two years in operation. This two-year Progress Report, prepared in accordance with Section 15(2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), provides an overview on the progress achieved in securing the many objectives of the Plan.

Informed by extensive public consultation and stakeholder engagement during the plan-making process, the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029, continues to shape the development and growth of Fingal, which is now home to a population of 330,506.

Fingal continues to progress the current three-year Capital Programme which runs from 2024 to 2026. This Programme is worth €1.35 billion and represents a 37% increase on the previous Capital Programme and is four times larger than the programme adopted in 2017. The Plan contains 312 projects, many of which will be included within this Progress Report.

Major infrastructure projects which are underway include the €44m Swords Cultural Centre, the €16m Ongar to Barnhill Road and the €7.7m pedestrian and cycle route on Harry Reynolds Road in Balbriggan. Other major projects include the Balbriggan Harbour and Quay Street redevelopment, Baldoyle Community Centre, Ballymastone Recreational Hub and the Broadmeadow Greenway.

In terms of Fingal's population growth, the Development Plan shows that the county has a projected housing demand for 16,425 units during this time-period, with sufficient land zoned to accommodate 35,000 units.

As a Housing Authority, Fingal has a wider role in facilitating housing delivery to meet the social and economic needs of Fingal. 63% of Fingal's three-year Capital Programme for 2024-2026 will be spent on housing delivery. Social and affordable housing targets have been set for each Local Authority by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) for the period 2022-2026 and Fingal has a target of over 6,500 new build homes up to 2026.

In terms of transport and improved connectivity, Fingal continues to support the roll out of key transport infrastructure projects by national government, including BusConnects, the DART plus project and MetroLink. Within Fingal, the Council continues to implement Transportation Schemes and the Active Travel Strategy.

Progress also continues on the delivery of 14 no. recreational hubs strategically located in parks and open spaces across Fingal. The Ward River Valley Park in Swords, Porterstown Park in Castleknock and Bremore Park in Balbriggan have opened, and work is underway on a €10m recreational hub in Donabate.

Significant progress has been achieved in securing the Objectives set out in the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 and work will continue across Fingal in implementing the strategic vision to ensure that Fingal is the best place to live, work and do business.

1. INTRODUCTION



1. Introduction

1.1 Background

The Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 was made by the Elected Members on the 22nd of February 2023 and came into effect 4 weeks later, on the 5th April 2023. The Development Plan is valid for a period of six years (until April 2029). Section 15(2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, requires the Planning Authority to prepare and present to the Elected Members a Progress Report not more than 2 years after the making of the Development Plan.

Section 15 of the Act which states:

15 (1) It shall be the duty of a planning authority to take such steps within its powers as may be necessary for securing the objectives of the Development Plan.

(2) The chief executive of a planning authority shall, not more than 2 years after the making of a development plan, give a report to the members of the authority on the progress achieved in securing the objectives referred to in subsection (1).

Section 95(3)(a) requires that the report also include a review of the progress achieved in implementing the housing strategy.

The Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department of Fingal Co. Co. has prepared this report in response to the above legislation and further to the relevant statutory guidelines under Section 28 of the Act, including 'Development Plans- Guidelines for Planning Authorities' prepared by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage published June 2022, and advice therein regarding the Progress Report.

While the legislation does not provide guidance in relation to the scope of the report required under Section 15(2) of the Act, it is clear that a targeted approach is required in the interest of feasibility, coherence and accessibility. This report focuses on the county-wide objectives included in the Development Plan Written Statement, which effectively constitute the actions designed to implement the major strategies and policies of the Plan. The structure of the Progress Report follows Chapters 1-14 of the Development Plan Written Statement, with their individual sections. Chapter 2 relates to the Core Strategy.

Thus, the 124 Local Objectives on the Development Plan Maps and the 33 further map-based GI objectives are not individually assessed in the Progress Report. However, the policy context within which they are set is directly addressed through the Objectives in the Written Statement.

It is a requirement of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive that the significant environmental effects of implementing the Development Plan are monitored. If significant negative effects are identified, appropriate actions should be taken to mitigate the effects and to avoid the likelihood of these effects continuing. SEA was undertaken with respect to the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 and a monitoring report prepared. Regard has been had to the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage March 2022, Section 28 'Strategic Environmental Assessment- Guidelines for Regional Assemblies and Planning Authorities'.

1.2 Context Strategic Overview and Vision

Since the adoption by the Elected Members of the Fingal Development Plan in 2023, Fingal has continued to experience population growth and overall increased levels of development. Significant progress has been made towards the implementation of the Objectives contained within the Development Plan. This Progress Report will examine in detail the Objectives contained within each Chapter of the Development Plan, responding to the key policy objectives arising from each and providing at the start of each Chapter, an overview of the progress and achievements to date in a visual format. Below provides an overview of some of the more significant changes in planning context which have occurred since the adoption of the Development Plan.

Planning Policy and Legislative Changes since the Adoption of the Plan

Planning and Development Act 2024

The Planning and Development Act 2024 was signed into law by President Higgins on the 17th October 2024. The Act comprises 26 Parts and introduces significant changes to the planning system in Ireland, including in relation to the making of land use plans and introduces a new ten year life for Development Plans. The Act seeks to consolidate existing legislation and ensure that all land use plans reside within an overarching planning hierarchy including the National Planning Framework.

Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlements Guidelines for Planning Authorities January 2024.

Introduced following the adoption of the Fingal Development Plan, the Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlements Guidelines (January 2024) set out policy and guidance in relation to the planning and development of urban settlements, with a focus on residential development and the creation of sustainable and compact settlements. The Guidelines, published on the 15th January 2024, replace the 'Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2009'. The Guidelines provide support for the achievement of higher densities for own door housing schemes by providing inter alia, for a range of densities responding to settlement size, flexibility in residential design standards, innovation in housing design and house types. In terms of application, the SPPRs contained within the Guidelines will supersede any conflicting provisions in current Development Plans and therefore must be applied by planning authorities when assessing applications in accordance with the provisions of Section 34(2)(ba) of the Act.

Revised National Planning Framework

The Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 was informed by the policy objectives of the National Planning Framework (NPF) and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) of the Eastern and Midland Regional Authority (EMRA), including its Metropolitan Area Spatial Plan (MASP). In June 2023, the process of undertaking the First Revision of the NPF commenced and the government published a Draft Revision of the NPF in July 2024 with the final updated NPF to be published in mid-2025. The draft revised framework retains the original NPF focus on a more balanced distribution of growth across all of Ireland's regions. It is also envisaged that the NPF

will increase the overall national housing target in line with increased population growth across the country as shown by the results of the 2022 Census.

Fingal 2022 Census of Population

The results of the 2022 Census of Population were published following the adoption of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029. In a national context, the results of the most recent census of population show that the total number of people living in Ireland is now 5,149,139, an increase of ca. 8% on the 2016 Census. The population of Dublin has increased over this period from 1.35m to 1.46m an increase of ca. 7.5%, just below the national rate of growth for this period. The population growth in Fingal as recorded during this period exceeded both the county and national level with the total population increasing by 11.65% from 296,020 in 2016 to 330,506 in 2022. This population growth is in line with projected growth over this period as provided for in the Development Plan and the strategic objectives and policy arising were framed within the context of such growth levels. The 2022 Census of Population is examined in further detail under Section 2, Planning for Growth, Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy.

Development Plan Strategic Vision and Cross Cutting Themes

The Plan is underpinned by a strategic vision intended to guide the sustainable future growth of the county. The Strategic Vision was prepared having regard to the National Strategic Outcomes of the National Planning Framework, the Regional Strategic Outcomes of the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy, the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the Fingal Corporate Plan and the aspirations of the people and stakeholders of Fingal. A draft Schedule of Amendments to the First Revision to the National Planning Framework has been published by the government, however, a final revised NPF is awaited. The Plan's Strategic Vision remains consistent with the Regional Strategic Outcomes of the RSES, with UN Sustainable Development Goals and the Fingal Corporate Plan. The Strategic Vision of the Plan, supported by the cross-cutting themes of Climate Action, Healthy Placemaking and Sustainable Development, Social Inclusion, High Quality Design and Resilience- continues to guide and shape the future sustainable growth of Fingal ensuring healthy placemaking, building cohesive and sustainable communities and protecting cultural, natural and built environment.

Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029- Strategic Vision

Fingal will embrace healthy placemaking and economic prosperity through building cohesive and sustainable communities, where our cultural, natural and built environment is protected.

Fingal will continue to be a County of distinctive environmental, historical and cultural assets and local communities, with sustainable development fostering a high-quality of life for those who live, work and visit here. A sustainable future for the County will be based on the interdependence of the themes of economic growth, social progress and environmental quality with the aim of increasing the County's self-reliance and resilience.

This Plan will ensure the continued growth of the County in a sustainable way and ensure the County continues to develop as a series of well-served, well-connected towns, villages and communities and a low carbon economy. In working to deliver all of this, we are committed to engaging with stakeholders, including local communities and residents to develop better solutions to the complex challenges we face and provide an improved quality of life for all.

Chapter 2 of the Progress Report will provide further detail in relation to Core Strategy Monitoring, Settlement Strategy, Residential Development in Fingal, Analysis of residential Indicators and Housing Need Demand Assessment.

1.3 Fingal Development Plan Thematic Chapters

The report is broken down into chapter headings set out below. Each chapter contains a table setting out all objectives as they appear in the Development Plan with associated commentary as to the status of the Objective and the progress made to date with respect to its fulfilment. In a number of instances, and given its specific function, the delivery of a particular Objective may be recurring - for example in instances where a Policy Objective is undertaken through the Development Management process. Each chapter commences with a short introduction setting out the range of projects and programmes of work – both large and small, undertaken by the local authority (and in conjunction with other agencies) over the two-year period since the adoption of the Development Plan

- Chapter 2: Planning for Growth, Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy
- Chapter 3: Sustainable Placemaking and Quality Homes
- Chapter 4: Community Infrastructure and Open Space
- Chapter 5: Climate Action
- Chapter 6: Connectivity and Movement
- Chapter 7: Employment and Economy
- Chapter 8: Dublin Airport
- Chapter 9: Green Infrastructure and Natural Heritage
- Chapter 10: Heritage, Culture and Arts
- Chapter 11: Infrastructure and Utilities
- Chapter 12: Implementation and Monitoring
- Chapter 13: Land Use Zoning
- Chapter 14: Development Management Standards
- Appendices
- Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Monitoring.

1.4 Conclusions and Next Steps

The Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 came into effect on the 5th April 2023. This Progress Report addresses the requirements of Section 15(2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, (as amended), which requires that the Chief Executive of a planning authority shall, not more than 2 years after the making of a development plan, give a report to the Members of the authority on the progress achieved in securing the Objectives referred to in subsection (1). This report is provided to the Elected Members in fulfilment of this requirement.

Published under Section 28 of the Act, Development Plan Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2022, requires that a Baseline report for a subsequent Development Plan be published as an evidence base for commencing the review procedures, not later than 4 years after the adoption of the original plan. The report will assess the performance of the current Development Plan in

achieving its Objectives and it is envisaged that this Two Year Progress Report and monitoring information will provide important inputs to the baseline data.

The enactment of the Planning and Development Act 2024 has made significant changes to plan making, including to Development Plans which will have a lifespan of ten years. Fingal County Council will comply with all requirements of the updated legislation and any forthcoming Guidelines issued by the Minister in the preparation of the forthcoming 2029-2039 Fingal Development Plan.

It is clear from this Progress Report, that the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 which has been in place for a period of two years out of a total life space of six, is securing the Objectives set out therein. The Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department will continue to implement and advance these objectives for the remaining four-year life of the Plan.

2. PLANNING FOR GROWTH CORE STRATEGY SETTLEMENT STRATEGY



2. Planning for Growth, Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy

2.1 Introduction

The requirement for a Core Strategy as part of the Development Plan is described in Section 10 (2A) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). The role of the Core Strategy is to ensure that there is sufficient zoned and serviced land to cater for future housing demand over the plan period.

The Core Strategy sets out a spatial settlement strategy for the County, which is consistent with the Housing Strategy, the National Planning Framework (NPF), the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES), Specific Planning Policy Requirements (SPPRs) required under Section 28 Guidelines and takes account of policies of the Minister in relation to national and regional population targets.

2.2 Core Strategy Housing Requirement

The Fingal Development Plan Core Strategy includes housing requirement figures derived from the 2020 Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) document '*Housing Supply Target Methodology for Development Planning*', December 2020.

In turn, this document had regard to the population and associated housing demand figures set out in the National Planning Framework (NPF) as well as to research carried out by the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI).

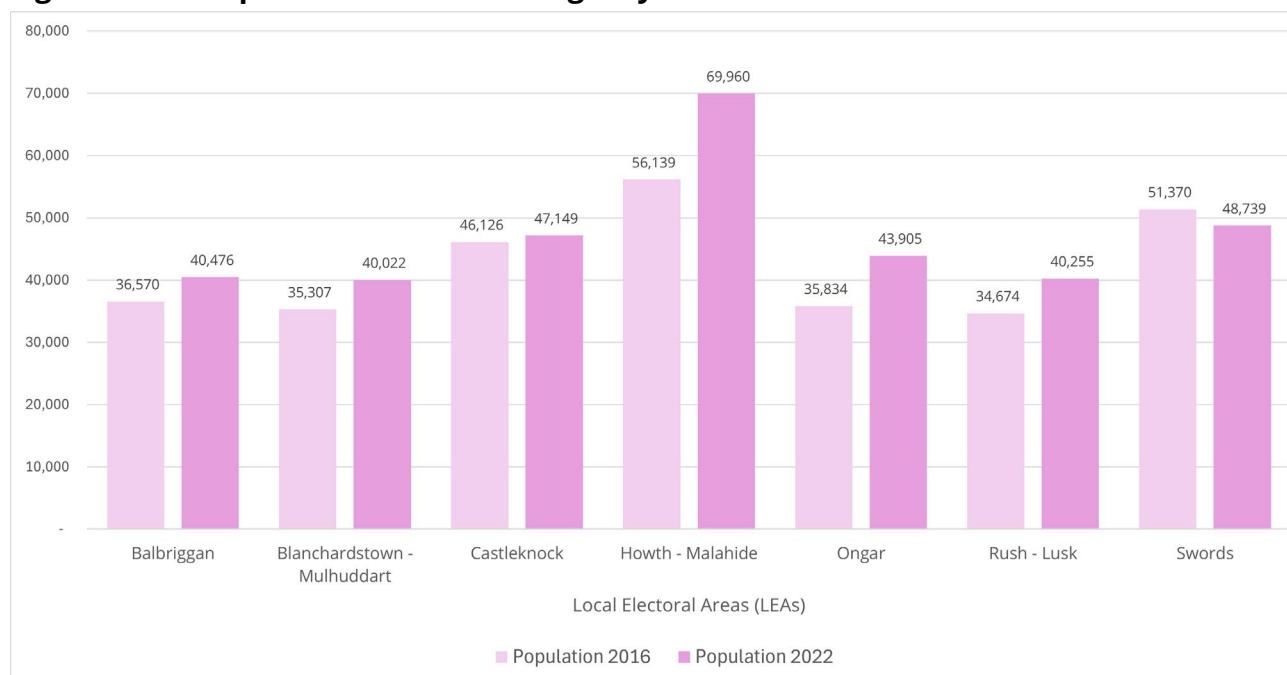
In June 2023, government gave approval to commence the process of undertaking the First Revision of the NPF. In addition, further to Census 2022, the Department engaged ESRI to update its previous projections relating to population growth to 2040, based on demographic and econometric modelling and having regard to the results of Census 2022 and other factors.

Subsequently, the government published a Draft Revision of the NPF in July 2024 with the final updated NPF to be published in mid-2025. The draft revised framework retains the original NPF focus on a more balanced distribution of growth across all of Ireland's regions. It is also envisaged that the NPF will increase the overall national housing target in line with increased population growth across the country as shown by the results of the 2022 Census.

2.3 Population Growth

In the national context, the results of the 2022 Census show that the total number of people living in Ireland is now 5,149,139, an increase of ca. 8% on the 2016 Census, while Dublin's population increased from 1.35m to 1.46m an increase of ca. 7.5%.

As shown in Figure 2-1 below, population growth in Fingal during this period exceeded both the county and national level with the total population increasing by 11.65% from 296,020 in 2016 to 330,506 in 2022. As illustrated in the figure below, this level of growth was reflected across the majority of Fingal's 7 Local Electoral Areas.

Figure 2-1: Population Growth in Fingal by LEA 2016-2022

Table 2-1: Population Growth in Fingal by LEA 2016-2022

<i>Local Electoral Areas (LEAs)</i>	<i>Population 2016</i>	<i>Population 2022</i>	<i>Population Change</i>	<i>% Change</i>
Balbriggan	36,570	40,476	3,906	10.68%
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart	35,307	40,022	4,715	13.35%
Castleknock	46,126	47,149	1,023	2.22%
Howth-Malahide	56,139	69,960	13,821	24.62%
Ongar	35,834	43,905	8,071	22.52%
Rush-Lusk	34,674	40,255	5,581	16.10%
Swords	51,370	48,739	-2,631	-5.12%
Total	296,020	330,506	34,486	11.65%

Source: CSO (2023) Summary Census Results

With regard to the projected population levels contained in the Fingal Development Plan Core Strategy, it can be seen that the growth estimates used were generally in line with the reported figures from Census 2022. As shown below, Table 2.14 'Core Strategy' of the Development Plan estimated a population of 329,289 for 2023, which is only marginally lower than the reported Census figures.

Table 2-2: Core Strategy Population Estimates

	Total Population	Increase over 2016	Annual Increase
CSO 2022	330,506	34,486	5,747
Core Strategy Estimate for 2023	329,289	33,269	5,544

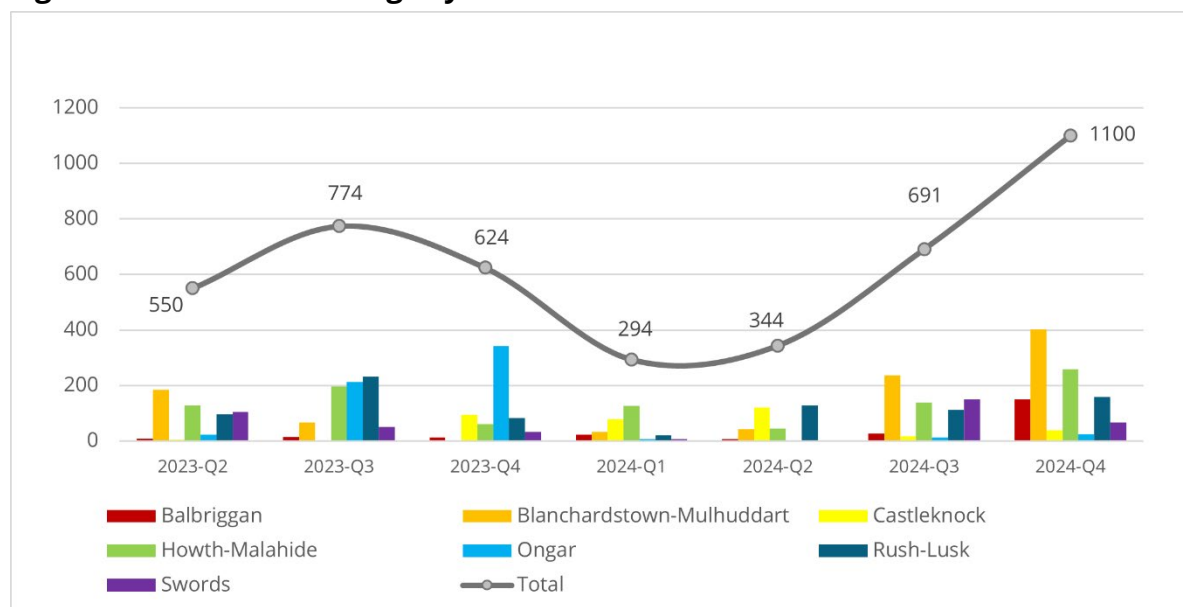
Source: CSO (2023) Summary Census Results, FCC County Development Plan, Table 2-14

2.4 Core Strategy Housing Demand and Delivery

As outlined previously, the Fingal Development Plan Core Strategy was prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Section 28 Guidelines 'Housing Supply Target Methodology for Development Planning'. On the basis of this methodology a total projected housing demand of 16,425 new housing units was identified for the County as a whole.

The most recent CSO figures for housing delivery by Local Electoral Area (LEA) indicate that between the start of Q2 2023 and the end of Q4 2024, a total of 4,377 units have been completed in Fingal. This equates to an annual completion rate of ca. 2,500 per year which is broadly in line with the Core Strategy housing demand figure set out in Table 2.14 of the Development Plan.

Figure 2-2: New Dwellings by Local Election Area



Source: CSO (2023) <https://data.cso.ie/table/NDA05>

Table 2-3: New Dwellings by Local Election Area

LEA	2023-Q2	2023-Q3	2023-Q4	2024-Q1	2024-Q2	2024-Q3	2024-Q4	Total
Balbriggan	9	14	12	23	7	26	151	242
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart	185	66	1	32	43	236	403	966
Castleknock	4	1	94	78	121	16	38	352
Howth-Malahide	129	196	60	127	44	138	259	953
Ongar	22	213	342	7	0	12	24	620
Rush-Lusk	96	233	82	20	128	113	159	831
Swords	105	51	33	7	1	150	66	413
Total	550	774	624	294	344	691	1,100	4,377

Source: CSO (2023) <https://data.cso.ie/table/NDA05>

In terms of the overall mix of types of housing being delivered, Figure 2.2 indicates that scheme houses make up the majority of new units provided (59%), followed by apartments (37%), with a limited number of one-off dwellings (4%). Figure 2.2 also shows that in more recent quarters,

the number of scheme houses have increased as the overall supply of new apartments being provided has levelled off.

Figure 2-3: New Dwellings by Housing Type



The overall trend shown in Figure 2-2 is borne out in the results of the Housing Supply Taskforce Returns which provide information on the planning and development status of residential developments of over 10 units for each of the four Dublin Local Authorities.

The Housing Taskforce Returns differ from the CSO figures in that they provide a detailed, rolling quarter by quarter snapshot of ongoing residential planning and construction activity across the Dublin Region. This information is based on an analysis of submitted planning applications as well as regular site visits.

Figures 2-3 to Figure 2-5 set out the principal Housing Taskforce figures for Fingal for Q2 2023 when the Fingal Development Plan was adopted to Q3-2024 which is the last quarter for which figures have been made available.

Figure 2-4: Housing Taskforce Returns – Units Commenced and Under Construction

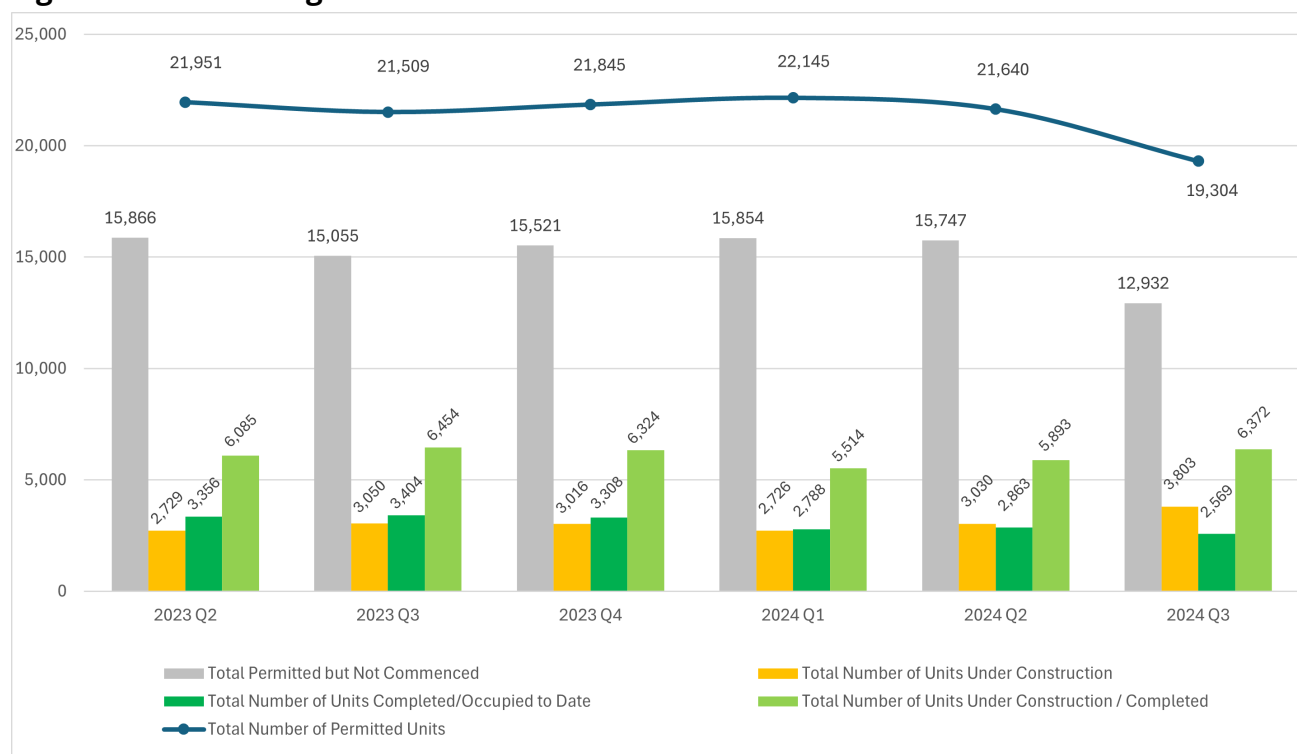


Figure 2-4 shows sustained levels of units under construction and under construction or completed during the life of the Development Plan to date. It also indicates a more recent decline in the number of units which have been permitted but have not yet commenced.

Figures 2-5 and 2-6 below provide information as to planning applications which have been permitted, and which are currently being applied for through the Development Management process. These figures show that the sustained levels of planning activity up to the start of 2024 has started to decline over the last two quarters reported on by the Housing Taskforce.

Figure 2-5: Housing Taskforce Returns – Units Permitted by Type

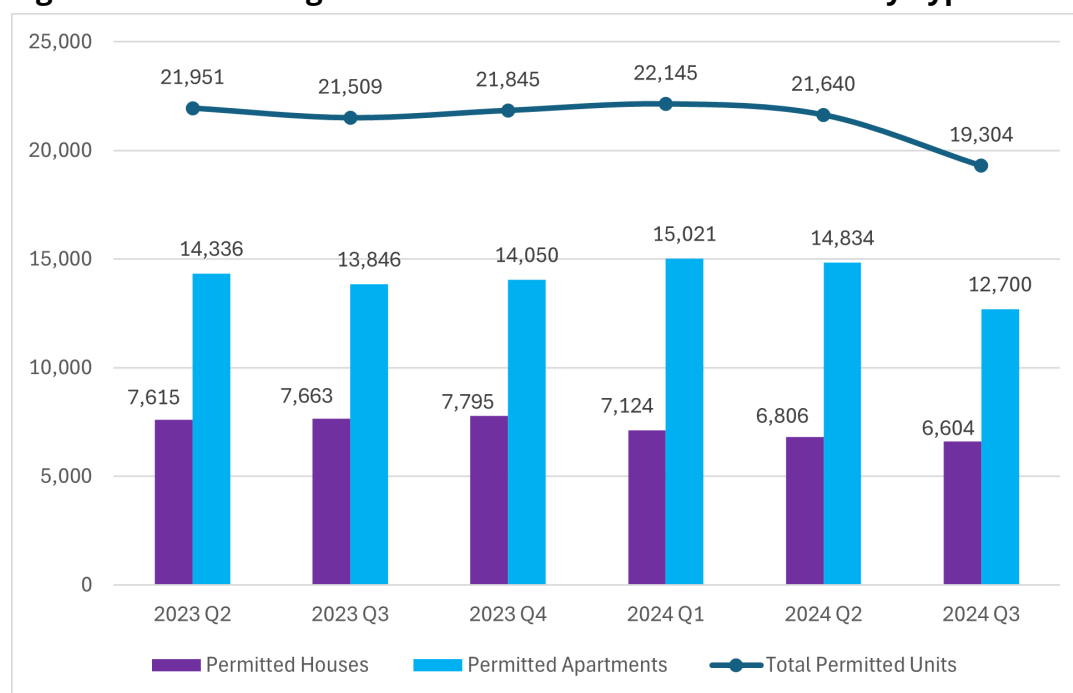
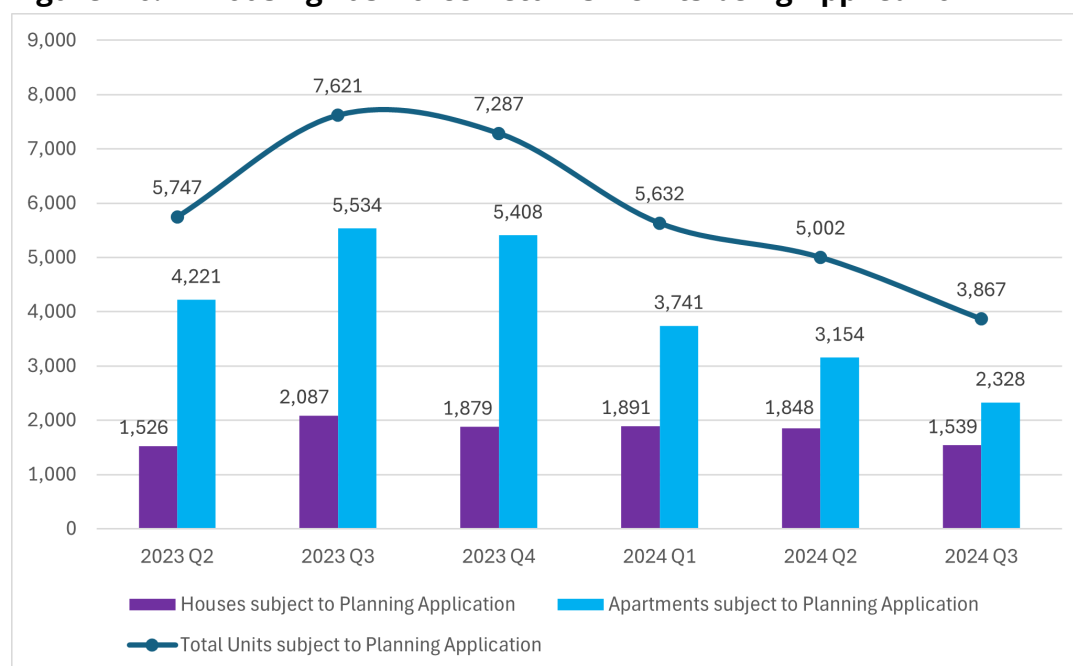


Figure 2-6: Housing Taskforce Returns – Units being Applied For



2.5 Zoned Land

Table 2.12 of the Fingal Development Plan which sets out the potential capacity of zoned lands in Fingal indicates that there is zoned capacity for approximately 41,500 units on approximately 1,250 hectares of developable lands within the lifetime of the Development Plan.

It should be noted that this total includes the strategic development lands at Dunsink and Lissenhall which together have the potential to deliver ca. 14,000 units beyond the 6 year life of the Plan. When these lands are excluded, as of the date of adoption of the Development Plan in April 2023, there was an estimated capacity for 27,615 units on 867.5 hectares.

It is clear therefore that there is currently a sufficient area of lands zoned for residential use in Fingal. While additional applications for development on residentially zoned land have been submitted to the Council since the adoption of the Plan, these applications amount to significantly less than excess capacity outlined above.

It is clear therefore that there is currently a sufficient area of lands zoned for employment uses in Fingal. While additional large-scale applications for employment related uses have been submitted to the Council since the adoption of the Plan (as outlined in the following section), these applications amount to significantly less than the level of undeveloped employment generated lands previously identified.

2.6 Ongoing Monitoring of Planning Applications

In addition to collating up-to-date information on the planning and development of residential schemes of over 10 units for the purposes of the Housing Taskforce Returns, Fingal County Council maintains a database of all planning applications submitted, granted and refused since the coming into force of the current Development Plan in April 2023.

The database includes details of over 450 no. applications for residential development as well as over 580no. applications for a range of other development types including commercial, industrial, retail, warehousing and logistics, community, education and sports related uses.

The following section of the Progress Report provides an overview of planning permissions granted during the life of the Development Plan having regard to the Core Strategy monitoring indicators as set out in Chapter 10 'Plan Implementation, Monitoring and Reporting' of the Development Plan Guidelines for Local Authorities published by the DHLGH in 2022.

With regard to the residential indicators set out in the Guidelines, an analysis of the granted applications in this database (as of the end of January 2025) shows that:

- Of the 294 granted residential planning applications recorded in the database, 227 (77.2%) were for development in Built Urban Areas (BUA) as defined by the CSO;
- The breakdown of unit size by number of bedrooms was as follows:
 - 22% for 1 bed units
 - 37% for 2 bed
 - 31% for 3 bed and
 - 9% for 4+ bed dwellings

- According to the database, a total of 65 houses were granted permission on lands zoned RU – Rural, GB – Greenbelt, HA – High Amenity and RC- Rural Cluster.

With regard to non-residential development, records indicate a total of 582 no. applications classified according to 28 no. different categories ranging from agri-business to medical-related uses, to waste management. The overall floor areas recorded is derived from the planning application form submitted with each application.

It is noted that the Development Plan Guidelines' requirements are to record data relating to the total application area (in m²) for business and employment uses, which is further divided into four category indicators namely, office, industrial, retailing and logistics. The following tables draw upon database records to identify significant applications granted for each of these categories.

Table 2-4: Granted Applications for Office Development (including Medical Uses)

OFFICE DEVELOPMENT		
Location	Description	Area (m²)
Swords Business Campus,	Change of use of existing two storey building from office to health and well -being clinic.	2,175
Sports Surgery Clinic, Santry, D11	Extension to the existing Sports Surgery Clinic comprising c. 6,365sq.m accommodated in 4 storeys plus plant room	6,365
Hollywell Distributor Road, Swords,	Healthcare Facility across three storeys over a lower ground floor level car park	4,426
Corduff Primary Care Centre, D15	Construction of a part one and part three storey extension to the rear of existing Primary Care Centre	2,150
Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown, D15	New 3 storey extension to existing hospital buildings at Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown	1,690
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT		
College Business and Technology Park, D15	Expansion of the existing Biopharmaceutical Manufacturing Campus, located at, Dublin 15	23,049
Staffordstown Business Park, Turvey	Industrial buildings with ancillary office and staff facility space	18,792
Damastown, Mulhuddart, D15	Medical devices manufacturing facility with associated ancillary warehousing and office/administration block	16,882
Cruiserath Road, Mulhuddart	Biopharmaceutical Development and Manufacturing Building and the refurbishment and extension of an existing Laboratory,	12,944
Horizon Logistics Park, Swords	Light industrial unit, including ancillary office use / visitor centre / staff facilities / reception areas	10,209
RETAILING		
Hollywoodrath, Dublin 15	Local Centre facility providing a primary retail unit with convenience, comparison floorspace storage, staff facilities etc	5,151
North City Business Park, North Road, D11	Motor sales showroom with ancillary offices, staff and customer facilities and service garage / workshop	4,725
Main Street North, Hansfield SDZ	A neighbourhood centre, with inter alia, convenience supermarket, community and new public realm spaces	2,521
Oakwood Medical Centre, Clonsilla, D15	3 storey building with 2 convenience retail units at ground floor and medical centre at 2nd and 3rd floor with car parking to rear.	1,128
WAREHOUSING		
Northwest of M2-M3 Link Rd, Cherryhound	12 no. logistics/warehouse buildings, associated yard areas, trailer and truck parking, ancillary facilities	164,256
Dublin Airport Logistics Park	Central warehouse and logistics distribution centre with ancillary office and welfare area	26,966
Horizon Logistics Park, Silloge, Swords	Light industrial warehouse, ancillary welfare, reception and office space	14,805
Carey House, Swords Road, Co. Dublin	13 warehousing units with ancillary office space within 5 2-storey blocks and other ancillary services	11,102
Huntstown Business Park, Cappagh Road	2 Light Industrial/Warehouse/Distribution units with two-storey ancillary offices	7,484

2.7 Plan Programme (LAP, Framework Plans, Masterplans)

The Council will continue to pursue active land management measures provided for under legislation, to ensure that land hoarding is discouraged, and the development potential of zoned lands is realised through available mechanisms and initiatives, including through central or other funding. Fingal has employed a number of policy responses to facilitate housing development, namely the adoption of Local Area Plans and Masterplans across the County.

LAPs and Masterplans provide a framework for the development of zoned lands. These set out Fingal's priorities for growth and provide a development framework and phasing arrangements to ensure the delivery of required social and physical infrastructure in an appropriate manner. In addition, the preparation of these Plans has involved significant local consultation and the engagement of Elected Members.

A commitment was given in the Development Plan to prepare a number of new LAPs, Masterplans and Framework Plans. To date, there has been significant progress in this regard. The implementation of this programme of plans primarily through the Strategic Policy Unit and Project Delivery work programmes and projects. The tables below provide further information in relation to active land management plans.

Table 2-5: Local Area Plans identified in the Fingal Development Plan

Local Area Plans		Progress to date/Update
Swords	LAP 8.B	To be commenced. Background data gathering underway.
Flemington	LAP 4.B	Adopted in December 2024
Coolquay	LAP 3.B	To be commenced.
Balscadden	LAP 4.A	To be commenced.
Ballymadun	LAP 3.A	To be commenced.

Table 2-6: Masterplans identified in the Fingal Development Plan

Masterplans		Progress to date/Update
Garristown	MP 2.B	To be commenced.
Oldtown	MP 3.A	To be commenced.
Rowlestown	MP 3.C	To be commenced.
Balrothery East	MP 4.B	To be commenced.
Old School House, Clonsilla	MP 13.A	Baseline investigation completed. Master planning phase underway.
Ballyboghil	MP 3.B	To be commenced.
Naul	MP 2.A	To be commenced.
Kilbarrack Industrial Estate	MP 10.A	To be commenced.

Table 2-7: Framework Plans identified in the Fingal Development Plan

Framework Plans		Progress to date/Update
Baldoyle	FP 10.D	To be commenced.
Baldoyle Industrial Estate	FP 10.A	To be commenced.
Blanchardstown Village	FP 13.B	To be commenced.
Blanchardstown Town Centre	FP 13.A	To be commenced.
Castleknock	FP 13.D	To be commenced.
Coolmine Industrial Estate	FP 13.E	To be commenced.
Clonsilla	FP 13.C	Draft Clonsilla Framework Plan on public display until 14.02.2025
Dubber (Horizon Business Park)	FP 11.A	To be commenced.
Dublin Enterprise Zone	FP 12.B	To be commenced.
Donabate	FP 7.A	Donabate Framework Plan adopted in March 2024.
Folkstown Little	FP 4.B	Draft Stephenstown (FP 4.A) and Folkstown Little (FP 4.B) Framework Plans published in Q4 2024, with stakeholder engagement and public information sessions held in Q4 2024. The CE's Report is being compiled.
Lusk	FP 6.A	To be commenced.
Kilshane	FP 12.A	To be commenced.
Portmarnock	FP 9.B	To be commenced.
Northwood	FP 11.B	To be commenced.
Howth	FP 10.C	To be commenced.
Stephenstown	FP 4.A	Draft Stephenstown (FP 4.A) and Folkstown Little (FP 4.B) Framework Plans published in Q4 2024, with stakeholder engagement and public information sessions held in Q4 2024. The CE's Report is being compiled.
Sutton Cross	FP 10.B	To be commenced.
Whitestown	FP 6.C	To be commenced.
Jamestown Business Park	FP 11.C	To be commenced.
Portrane, including The Burrow	FP 7.B	To be commenced.

Work is also ongoing in relation to the preparation of a local statutory plan for the Long-Term Strategic Reserve lands at Dunsink under Objective CSO31 of the Development Plan.

2.8 Vacant Sites Levy and Residential Zoned Land Tax

There are 5 no. sites currently on the Vacant Sites Register.

The Annual RZLT map for 2025 was published on the 31st January 2025 and the Annual Draft RZLT Map for 2026 was published on the 1st February 2025. An opportunity is provided for landowners to make submissions to the 2025 Annual RZLT map to re-zone lands where a business currently occupies the site. Submissions may be received up to the 1st April 2025. Submissions to the Draft Annual RZLT map 2026 must also be made up to the 1st April 2025.

2.9 Housing Strategy

Under Section 95(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), the Chief Executive is required to include a review of the progress achieved in implementing the Housing Strategy in the Two Year Progress report on the Development Plan.

As the overall housing demand targets set out in the Development Plan Core Strategy were prepared in conjunction with and having regard to the Housing Strategy, it is considered that this aspect of the Housing Strategy has been addressed in the previous sections of this report.

With regard to the provision of social and affordable housing by the Council, Table 2-7 below sets out the overall number of homes delivered in the two years since the adoption of the current Development Plan. It should be noted that Fingal County Council is on course to exceed its current four year target for the provision of social and affordable housing.

Table 2-8: Granted Applications for Office Development (including Medical Uses)

Category	2023	2024
New Build and Leasing of Social Homes	460	468
Acquisition of Social Homes	233	142
Delivery of Affordable Homes	111	79

Housing Assistance Payments (HAP), a form of social; housing support provided by local authorities resulted in a total number of tenancies for 2023 of 337 and 287 for 2024.

2.10 Chapter 2 – Objectives and Progress

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective CSO1 – Sufficient Zoned Land Ensure that sufficient zoned land is available to satisfy the housing and population requirements of the County, as set out under the Ministerial Guidelines for Housing Supply and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy, over the lifetime of the Plan.	Significant baseline data undertaken to inform the Development Plan. Sufficient lands zoned to meet requirements. Council will await any forthcoming updates of NPF, RSES and Ministerial guidance in this matter.
Objective CSO2 – Monitoring Process for Housing Delivery Implement a robust monitoring process for all housing delivery including the performance of large-scale housing developments (Schemes for 100 units+) for each town, village and urban settlement within the County to allow for ongoing assessment of delivery targets whilst ensuring overdevelopment does not occur in any particular area and to ensure that the delivery of necessary infrastructure is provided in a timely manner with the delivery of housing to ensure the sustainability of communities.	Ongoing. As outlined in this chapter, the Council continuously monitors the delivery of housing units across Fingal as well as applications and grants of permission for new residential units.
Objective CSO3 – Delivery of Housing Units Provide for flexibility in achieving the housing supply targets and meeting housing demand, the Council will consider the re-distribution of housing and population figures within each settlement. In this regard, where a site greater than 0.25ha has the potential to exceed the allocation for a particular settlement as set out under Table 2.14, the applicant must demonstrate to the Planning Authority that the necessary social and physical infrastructure {including active travel infrastructure, accessibility to both current and planned public transport services} is in place or can be provided as part of the application to accommodate the proposed development. The Council will monitor the delivery of housing units to ensure general compliance with the Core Strategy and housing supply targets for the County and to inform the redistribution potential outlined above.	Ongoing. As outlined previously in this chapter, the Council continuously monitors the delivery of housing units across Fingal as well as applications and grants of permission for new residential units.
Objective CSO4 – Database of Sites Maintain and further expand the database of greenfield, brownfield and infill sites as part of the active land management process.	Ongoing
Objective CSO5 – Database for Residential Zoned Land Create and maintain a database of land zoned for residential development that has not yet been	Ongoing. In addition, RZLT identifies lands in scope for tax which is zoned and capable of development.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
developed including, where available, information on why this land has not been developed so as to inform future zoning and de-zoning decisions.	
Objective CSO6 – Phased Development Ensure the phased development of new housing areas in tandem with the delivery of physical and social infrastructure provision as identified within Local Area Plans or Masterplans, as informed by assessments carried out by the Planning Authority.	Ongoing through Development Management, including through the LRD process informed by provisions set out under statutory and non-statutory plans
Objective CSO7 – Enabling Infrastructure Identify and support the provision of key enabling infrastructure at strategic sites in Fingal County to facilitate their release for development in response to the current housing crisis.	Fingal Co. Co. continues to work with numerous State agencies in the provision of enabling infrastructure at strategic sites.
Objective CSO8 – Protection of Long-Term Strategic Reserve Protect the long-term strategic reserve land banks for potential future residential growth and to restrict development except for reasonable intensification of, extensions to and improvement of premises within these areas, subject to normal planning criteria.	Ongoing through the Development Management process. Long term strategic reserve land banks continue to be protected.
Objective CSO9 – SEA and AA for Local Area Plans Local Area Plans will be subject to Strategic Environmental Assessments as appropriate and Screening for Appropriate Assessment.	Ongoing through the statutory plan-making process.
Objective CSO10 – AA and SEA of Masterplans Masterplans will be subject to Strategic Environmental Assessments as appropriate and Screening for Appropriate Assessment.	Ongoing through the non-statutory plan-making process.
Objective CSO11 – Masterplan for the Old School House, Clonsilla Master Plan for the Old School House, Clonsilla, to be completed within two years from the commencement of the Development Plan.	Preparation has commenced with significant background research and baseline data gathering completed. Design considerations arising from DART+ West rail expansion and proposed Royal Canal greenway projects are being considered.
Objective CSO12 – AA and SEA for Framework Plans Framework Plans will be subject to Strategic Environmental Assessments as appropriate and Screening for Appropriate Assessment.	Ongoing as part of non-statutory plan-making process.
Objective CSO13 – High Intensity Employment Uses Focus high intensity employment generating uses around high-capacity public transport nodes.	Ongoing through Development Management and plan-making processes. National planning guidance related to Transport Orientated Development observed.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective CSO14 – Space Extensive Enterprises Ensure that, insofar as possible, space extensive enterprise is located on appropriately zoned lands which are outside the M50 and which do not compromise labour intensive opportunity on zoned lands adjacent to public transport.	Observed through the Development Management process and pre-planning.
Objective CSO15 – Mixed Use Employment Support mixed use employment activities in our urban areas in accordance with the settlement and retail hierarchies.	Continues to be implemented.
Objective CSO16 – Database of Employment Lands Monitor and further develop the database of employment lands within the County.	Ongoing.
Objective CSO17 – Mixture of House Types Promote high quality residential development which meets the needs of all stages of the life cycle through an appropriate mix of house type and local amenities.	Ongoing through Development Management process and further to Ministerial Guidelines under S28 of the Planning and Development Act.
Objective CSO18 – Infill Spaces on FCC Owned Lands (Residential) Where feasible, that infill spaces on residential zoned lands in the ownership of Fingal County Council, are used to build social houses to increase our housing stock.	Ongoing through the Council's housing delivery programmes.
Objective CSO19 – Tree Lined Approaches Retain existing tree-lined approaches to all towns and villages to preserve their special character.	Ongoing.
Objective CSO20 – Network of Pathways/Cycleways Develop a comprehensive network of signed pedestrian and cycleways linking residential areas to one another, to the village centres, schools, recreational hubs and railway stations.	Ongoing through the Active Travel Strategy and via the Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department programme. [Refer to Chapter 6]
Objective CSO21 – Promotion of Higher Densities Promote higher densities (50+ units per hectare) at appropriate locations in urban built up areas subject to meeting qualitative standards at appropriate locations with particular reference to urban centres and/or in proximity to high-capacity public transport nodes while demonstrating compliance with all relevant Section 28 Ministerial Guidelines.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process and through the implementation of Ministerial Guidelines including ' <i>Sustainable Residential Development and Compact Settlements Guidelines for Planning Authorities</i> ' 2024
Objective CSO22 – Sensitive Redevelopment of Key Sites Encourage the sensitive redevelopment of key sites within the Dublin City and Suburbs area for	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process and through the implementation of Ministerial Guidelines including ' <i>Sustainable Residential</i>

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
mixed use which includes an appropriate residential component to enhance the viability and vitality of existing urban villages.	<i>Development and Compact Settlements Guidelines for Planning Authorities' 2024</i>
Objective CSO23 – Town Centre Regeneration Continue to develop a strategic approach to town centre regeneration through Town Centre First: A Policy Approach for Irish Towns within settlements forming part of the Dublin City and Suburbs Area by utilising existing buildings and unused lands for new development, promoting residential occupancy and providing a mix of uses within these areas, including cultural and community uses and residential uses, as appropriate.	Ongoing through the Town Centre First – A Policy Approach for Irish Towns initiative.
Objective CSO24 – Blanchardstown Town Centre and DEZ Promote Blanchardstown Town Centre as an integral component in the promotion and development of the Dublin Enterprise Zone.	Ongoing
Objective CSO25 – Optimising Existing Local Heritage Resources and Public Amenities Require that new development in the urban settlements of the Dublin City and Suburbs area optimises existing local heritage resources and public amenities, while protecting the character and biodiversity of the villages.	Ongoing
Objective CSO26 – High Quality, Sustainable and Inclusive Development Promote development which incorporates a high quality, sustainable and inclusive approach to proposals in the Dublin City and Suburbs Area, which are supported by sustainable means of travel and which create locally distinctive neighbourhoods and positively contribute to the existing built and natural heritage.	Ongoing
Objective CSO27 – Promote and Enhance existing ACAs Continue to promote and enhance the existing ACAs within our urban villages and protect their historic characters.	Ongoing – (Refer to Chapter 10 for further details)
Objective CSO28 – Improved Sense of Identity Develop enhanced community identities throughout Fingal through the improvement of social, cultural, community and residential amenities. Support the development of an improved sense of identity for the areas within Dublin City and Suburbs, including improvements to signage, landscaping and physical	Development of enhanced community identity initiatives through the improvement of social, cultural, community and residential amenities is ongoing. Examples include delivery of Meakestown and Baldoyle Community Centres.

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appearance and through the promotion of mixed uses, including residential, in our urban villages.	
Objective CSO29 – LAPs, Masterplans and Frameworks Plans for Dublin City and Suburbs As set out in Tables 2.15, 2.16, 2.17, 2.18 and 2.19 - Implement existing Local Area Plans and Masterplans within Dublin City and Suburbs - Prepare and implement Local Area Plans for identified areas - Prepare and implement Masterplans for identified areas - Prepare and implement Framework Plans for identified areas within the Dublin City and Suburbs area.	Council continues to implement the provisions of existing statutory LAPs and non-statutory plans e.g. Masterplans and will prepare and implement a programme of Local Area Plans, Masterplans and Framework Plans as set out in Chapter 2 Table 2.16, 2.28 and 2.19.
Objective CSO30 – Intensive Population and Employment Uses The Plan will promote more intensive population and employment uses focussing on good community, civic and school facilities, good quality streets and spaces whereby existing and new neighbourhoods are knitted together alongside essential infrastructure and amenities that are required to develop sustainable communities and employment within the key urban centres, consistent with RPO 4.3	Ongoing implementation of Objective CSO30 through the Development Management process; through the implementation of extant LAPs and Masterplans and through the preparation and adoption of a programme of Local Area Plans, Masterplans and Framework Plans set out in Chapter 2 Tables 2.16, 2.18 and 2.19.
Objective CSO31 – Dunsink Prepare a local statutory plan for the Long Term Strategic Reserve lands at Dunsink during the lifetime of this Development Plan, in consultation with the relevant stakeholders, including an infrastructural audit with costings and implementation strategy to enable sustainable regeneration and development of the area that is cognisant of, and sensitive to the significant historic buildings within the area including the nationally important architectural heritage site of Dunsink Observatory. This plan shall include Dunsink Observatory lands and the provision of a Planetarium.	The local authority will undertake preparation of a statutory plan for the long-term strategic reserve lands at Dunsink in line with Table 2.16 of the Development Plan. The preparation of the plan will be undertaken in consultation with key stakeholders and include all necessary elements, including infrastructural audit to ensure the sustainable regeneration of the lands, taking into consideration its important historical heritage.
Objective CSO32 – Designation of Dunsink Observatory Support the designation of Dunsink Observatory as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.	Fingal County Council is supportive of Dunsink Observatory in seeking UNESCO World Heritage status
Objective CSO33 – Multi-Functional Green Infrastructure Corridor Develop multi-functional green infrastructure corridor between Dunsink and Tolka Valley Park.	Ongoing as part of the preparation of a statutory plan for the long-term strategic reserve lands at Dunsink.

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Objective CSO34 – Belcamp Consider a limited quantum of development on the Belcamp lands to facilitate the rehabilitation and preservation of Belcamp House. A design brief including the quantum and location of any such development, which shall not prejudice any future road requirements, shall be agreed with the Planning Authority prior to a planning application being lodged. Not more than 50% of any residential units permitted shall be sold or occupied pending the full re-instatement of Belcamp House to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority.	To be progressed through the Development Management process.
Objective CSO35 – Ongar Enhance and promote all existing greenspaces in Ongar by providing sensitive and appropriate leisure infrastructure within the boundary of the greenspace.	Ongoing
Objective CSO36 – Feasibility Study – Howth Tram/Funiculars Carry out a feasibility study to examine the potential for the reinstatement of a tram or funiculars from Howth DART station to Howth Summit.	To be commenced.
Objective CSO37 – High Quality Services Encourage a range and quality of retail, commercial, civic, cultural, leisure, community and other services commensurate with the role of Swords Town Centre as a Key Town.	Ongoing through the Development Management process, Sustainable Swords Strategy and through a future Local Area Plan for Swords.
Objective CSO38 – Swords Main Street Retain the Main Street as the core of the town centre, protect and enhance its character and ensure that any future new commercial and retail development reinforces its role by promoting the development of active ground floor uses and limiting the expansion of certain non-retail and inactive street frontages including financial institutions, betting offices, public houses and take aways/fast food outlets.	Ongoing through the Sustainable Swords Strategy and in the delivery of Swords Cultural Quarter which will significantly enhance north Main Street and North Street. Through the Development Management process, the local authority continues to assess appropriateness of proposals for ground floor uses/changes of use along Swords Main Street.
Objective CSO39 – Sustainable Swords Project Support and promote the implementation of key recommendations arising from the Sustainable Swords' project including the implementation of the Swords Cultural Quarter.	Ongoing through the implementation of recommendations arising from the Sustainable Swords Strategy. Development has commenced in respect of the Swords Cultural Quarter
Objective CSO40 – Public Engagement and Sustainable Swords Support new forms of public engagement in the preparation of the Sustainable Swords project, with a view to building strong public interest, understanding and buy-in for the recommendations of the project.	The local authority is committed to supporting all appropriate forms of public engagement in seeking the input of all members of society to plans and projects including Sustainable Swords

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective CSO41 – Regeneration and Infill Opportunities Support the regeneration of underused town centre lands along with the planned and sequential infill opportunities to provide for high density and people intensive uses in accessible locations that are accessible to high quality transport, existing and planned, and to support the preparation of a statutory land use plan for the strategic landbank at Lissenhall for the longer-term development of Swords.	Ongoing through the Development Management process and through the local authority programme of works.
Objective CSO42 – Enhanced Urban Environment Facilitate the strategic regeneration of Swords to build on the resilience of the local economy and provide for an enhanced urban environment with a particular focus on the development of Swords Civic Centre and Cultural Centre, the delivery of the conservation plan for Swords Castle, and the delivery of an enhanced public realm in the town centre and to promote recreational and amenity uses in accordance with a healthy placemaking strategy.	Ongoing
Objective CSO43 – Swords – Dublin Airport Support Swords-Dublin Airport as a key location for airport related economic development and employment provision linked to the protection and enhancement of access to Dublin Airport lands including the delivery of MetroLink.	Ongoing through the Development Management process.
Objective CSO44 – LAPs, Masterplans and Framework Plan for Swords As set out in Tables 2.15, 2.16, 2.17, 2.18 and 2.19: - Implement existing Local Area Plans and Masterplans within Swords. - Prepare and implement Local Area Plans for identified areas. - Prepare and implement Masterplans for identified areas. - Prepare and implement Frameworks for identified areas within Swords.	Ongoing over the life of the Development Plan.
Objective CSO45 – LAPs and Framework Plans for Donabate -Implement the existing Local Area Plan within Donabate. -Prepare and implement a Framework Plan over the life of the Plan to guide and inform future development and to include measures to improve and promoted the public realm of the village. -Promote and support the provision of a sewage mains connections for Corballis/Balcarrick residents.	The provisions of the Donabate LAP continue to be implemented. Fingal County Council prepared a Framework Plan for Donabate in 2024. The roll out of wastewater infrastructure is a matter for Uisce Eireann. Fingal Co. Co. will work proactively with all State agencies, including Uisce Eireann in the delivery of network improvements/extensions within the county.

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Objective CSO46 – Donabate Town Centre Channel and concentrate the development of additional commercial, social, community and civic facilities within Donabate town centre and promote high quality urban design in such development.	Ongoing through the Development Management process with guidance provided through the Donabate Framework Plan and by the Town Regeneration office.
Objective CSO47 – Donabate Peninsula Develop a continuous network of signed pathways and cycleways as appropriate, around Donabate Peninsula linking Portrane and Donabate to Malahide and Rush via the Rogerstown and Malahide Estuaries whilst ensuring the protection of designated sites and avoiding any routing along the northern boundary of Malahide Inner Estuary by virtue of its ecological sensitivity.	First phase of the Ballymastone Recreational Hub including a section of the Greenway route will be completed in Q1 2025. Another section of the Greenway will be constructed as part of Phase 2 of the Recreational Hub commencing Q2 2025 and completed in Q1 2026. HSE has granted the Council a license to reconstruct the Cliff Walk from the Ballymastone section to Portrane via the St. Ita's lands and planning for this work is being advanced having regard to the relevant environmental constraints.
Objective CSO48 – Pedestrian and Cycleways in Donabate Provide for a comprehensive network of pedestrian and cycle ways linking residential areas to one another, to the town centre, schools, the recreational campus at Ballymastone and the railway station.	First phase of the Ballymastone Recreational Hub including a section of the Greenway route will be completed in Q1 2025. Another section of the Greenway will be constructed as part of Phase 2 of the Recreational Hub commencing Q2 2025 and completed in Q1 2026. HSE has granted the Council a license to reconstruct the Cliff Walk from the Ballymastone section to Portrane via the St. Ita's lands and planning for this work is being advanced having regard to the relevant environmental constraints.
Objective CSO49 – Corballis/Balcarrick – Sewage Mains Connections Promote and support the provision of a sewage mains connections for Corballis/Balcarrick residents.	The roll out of wastewater infrastructure within Fingal is a matter for Uisce Eireann. The Local Authority will continue to work with all State agencies, including Uisce Eireann, in the delivery of necessary civil infrastructure improvements.
Objective CSO50 – Active Travel Connections Between Donabate-Rogerstown Park and Lusk-Rush Investigate all options in looking at the delivery of active travel connections between Donabate-Rogerstown Park and Lusk-Rush.	The Rush to Lusk Walking and Cycling Scheme aims to deliver a high quality, safe and attractive pedestrian and cycle network (ca. 3km) between the towns and to improve connectivity to the local Rush/Lusk train station, schools and tourist attractions. A brief is being developed for the appointment of consultants. Masterplan for the Rogerstown Park (former Balleally Landfill) has been

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	prepared with related link from the park to Rush Lusk Train Station and to Lusk. Next phase is subject to approval of the park development plans by the EPA in line with the requirements of the Aftercare/Management plan for the Former Balleally Landfill.
Objective CSO51 – Support Growth of Self-Sustaining Towns Proactively support and promote high quality services, social infrastructure, facilities, tourism offer, appropriate retail mix, and economic activity within Self-Sustaining Towns to meet the needs of existing and future growth in line with the scale and function of these towns within the Fingal Settlement Hierarchy.	Ongoing through the Development Management process and through the delivery of statutory and non-statutory plans.
Objective CSO52 – Safe and Convenient Road, Pedestrian and Cycle Systems Ensure all Self-Sustaining towns benefit from safe and convenient road, pedestrian and cycle systems which promote permeability, accessibility, and connectivity between existing and new developments.	Ongoing in line with the Active Travel Strategy, Transportation Schemes and through Plan implementation.
Objective CSO53 – LAPs, Masterplans and Framework Plans for Self-Sustaining Towns As set out in Tables 2.15, 2.16, 2.17, 2.18 and 2.19: -Implement existing Local Area Plans and Masterplans within Self-Sustaining towns. -Prepare and implement Local Area Plans for identified areas. -Prepare and implement Frameworks for identified areas.	Council continues to implement the provisions of existing statutory LAPs and non-statutory plans such as Masterplans and will prepare and implement a programme of LAP's, Masterplans and Framework Plans as set out in Chapter 2 Table 2.16, 2.28 and 2.19.
Objective CSO54 – Tree-Lined Approach Retain existing tree-lined approaches to all towns and villages in order to preserve their special character.	Ongoing – Through the Development Management process.
Objective CSO55 – Development and Growth of Balbriggan and Skerries Promote and facilitate the development and growth of Balbriggan and Skerries as primary service, social, cultural and local tourist centres in north Fingal.	Ongoing – Through the Development Management process.
Objective CSO56 – ‘Our Balbriggan’ Continue to implement, promote, and support the ‘Our Balbriggan’ Rejuvenation Plan.	Ongoing
Objective CSO57 – Harbours, Beaches Seashores – Balbriggan, Skerries and Rush Preserve and improve access to the harbours, beaches and seashores of Balbriggan, Skerries	Ongoing – Through the works of the Operations Department.

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and Rush, while protecting environmental resources including water, biodiversity, and landscape sensitivities.	
Objective CSO58 – Rush as a Vibrant Town Facilitate the development of Rush as a vibrant town and retain its market gardening tradition.	Ongoing – Through the Development Management process and through the implementation of the Rush Framework Plan.
Objective CSO59 – Historic Core of Lusk Protect and conserve the special character of the historic core of Lusk including the area of archaeological notification in the centre of the town having regard to the physical and social character of the core area particularly in the vicinity of St. MacCullin's Church and Main Street, and to promote a conservation-led approach to the consolidation and redevelopment of the town core.	Ongoing – Through the Development Management process.
Objective CSO60 – Monastic Site and St. MacCullin's Church Maintain the valued distinctive views of the monastic site and St. MacCullin's Church from all approach roads into Lusk, from significant areas of open space and from surrounding areas.	Ongoing – Through the Development Management Process.
Objective CSO61 – Hedgerows in Lusk Retain the traditional hedgerow boundary treatment characteristic of Lusk, the protection and enhancement of existing boundary hedgerows and trees shall be required save where limited removal is necessary for the provision of access and promote the planting of hedgerows and trees using native species within new developments.	Ongoing – Through the Development Management Process.
Objective CSO62 – Maintenance of Distinct Physical Separation – Lusk, Rush and Malahide Ensure that existing and future development within the settlements of Lusk, Rush and Malahide is consolidated within well-defined town boundaries to maintain their distinct physical separation.	Ongoing – Through the Development Management Process.
Objective CSO63 – Pedestrianised Core – Malahide Continue to promote and facilitate the recently implemented pedestrianised core of New Street, Malahide.	Fingal are continuing to engage with consultants to progress the design for the Public Realm Upgrades to a Pedestrianised New Street.
Objective CSO64 – Local Transport Plan Rush Prepare a Local Transport Plan to inform the future transportation needs of Rush. This may include the feasibility of providing a Distributor Road to the west of Rush.	To be commenced.

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Objective CSO65 – Sluice River – Portmarnock Protect and manage the flood plain of the Sluice River to the south of Portmarnock and ensure that its integrity as a natural habitat is maintained; and investigate the potential of a riverside walkway.	Action 11 of the Fingal Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030 seeks to address this objective. This action to be commenced during the lifetime of the Plan.
Objective CSO66 – Mitigation Measures Ensure that the mitigation measures as set out in the Portmarnock South and Baldoyle Stapolin LAPs (and other LAPs as necessary) will continue to be implemented and managed in accordance with the requirements of the LAPs or where a LAP is no longer in place, in accordance with the following measures if not already implemented:	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process for the residentially zoned lands and through the implementation of the Racecourse Park Development Plan. The Park development works will commence in 2025.
Objective CSO67 – LAPs, Masterplans and Framework Plans for Towns and Villages As set out in Tables 2.15, 2.16, 2.17, 2.18 and 2.19: - Implement existing Local Area Plans and Masterplans within the Towns and Villages. - Prepare and implement Local Area Plans for identified areas. - Prepare and implement Masterplans for identified areas. - Prepare and implement Frameworks for identified areas.	In Progress.
Objective CSO68 – Rural Villages Manage the development of Rural Villages within the RV boundaries and strengthen and consolidate their built form providing a suitable range of housing as an alternative to housing in the open countryside.	Ongoing – Through the Development Management process.
Objective CSO69 – Scale of New Housing Developments in Towns and Villages Ensure that the scale of new housing developments within Towns and Villages both individually and cumulatively, shall generally be in proportion to the pattern and grain of existing development.	Ongoing – Through the Development Management process.
Objective CSO70 – Historic Towns and Village Centres Protect and enhance the unique physical character of historic town and village centres.	Ongoing – Through the Development Management process.
Objective CSO71 – Commercial and Community Facilities Facilitate and encourage improved town and village facilities both commercial and community to meet the needs of expanding towns and villages.	Ongoing – Through the Development Management process.
Objective CSO72 – Compact, Organic and Sequential Development of Towns and Villages	Ongoing – Through the Development Management process.

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The scale of new residential schemes within Towns and Villages shall be in proportion to the pattern and grain of existing development with a focus on delivering compact growth and providing for the organic and sequential development of the settlement. Infill and brownfield development shall have regard to the existing town or village character and create or strengthen a sense of identity and distinctiveness for the settlement.	
Objective CS073 – Commercial Development in Towns and Villages New commercial development in Towns and Villages shall generally only be located within the core area and shall contribute positively to character of the settlement.	Ongoing – Through the Development Management process.
Objective CS074 – Feasibility Study for St. Ita’s Hospital Lands Actively support the implementation of the objectives laid down in the Feasibility Study for St. Ita’s Hospital Lands completed in November 2013, or any update or revised version thereof including specifically those relating to: - The ongoing development of modern psychiatric health care and ancillary facilities (including the National Forensic Mental Health Service Hospital) within St. Ita’s, - The reuse of the Protected Structures for appropriate uses together with the ongoing future maintenance and management of these structures, - The ongoing maintenance and management of the Demesne landscape including the trees and woodland which are an intrinsic part of this unique landscape, and - The maintenance and provision for an appropriate level of public accessibility through the site.	Updated Feasibility Report to be commenced 2025.
Objective CS075 – Protected Structures at St. Ita’s Hospital Complex and Demesne Promote the use or reuse of all the Protected Structures at St. Ita’s Hospital complex and demesne in Portrane as a priority for Fingal County Council. Notwithstanding the use class ‘HA’ Zoning matrix, appropriate uses within the Protected Structures and within the ancillary land areas within the complex including uses which also relate to and are consistent with the historic use of the overall historic complex will be actively promoted and allowed to proceed subject to appropriate consent where such activities will secure viable sustainable re use of the complex into the future and which will provide for the	Ongoing – Through the Development Management process.

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proper conservation and sustainable development of St. Ita's.	
Objective CS076 – St. Ita's Forum of Engagement Establish a long term Forum of Engagement, the primary objective of which would be to facilitate the active and progressive bringing back into public and other usages of the Victorian Hospital Buildings, at St. Ita's Hospital at Portrane.	The update of the 2013 Feasibility Study will incorporate stakeholder engagement.
Objective CS077 – Rural Generated Housing Direct rural generated housing demand to Villages and Rural Clusters in the first instance and to ensure that individual houses in the open countryside are only permitted where the applicant can demonstrate compliance with the criteria for rural housing set down in Chapter 3 Sustainable Placemaking and Quality Homes and in Chapter 14 Development Management Standards.	Ongoing -Implemented through the Development Management process.
Objective CS078 – Re-Use and Rehabilitation of Existing Housing Stock Encourage re-use and rehabilitation of existing housing stock in rural areas in preference to newbuild and actively promote the protection of traditional rural buildings.	Ongoing - Implemented through the Development Management process.
Objective CS079 – Promotion of Attractive and Vibrant Villages Promote attractive and vibrant villages ensuring their sustainable expansion and development at a level appropriate to and integrated with the existing village while meeting the socio-economic and civic aspirations of the community and affording maximum environmental protection.	Ongoing - Implemented through the Development Management process.
Objective CS080 – LAPs and Masterplans for Rural Towns and Villages As set out in Tables 2.15, 2.16, 2.17 and 2.18: - Implement existing Local Area Plans within Fingal's Rural Towns and Villages. - Prepare and implement Masterplans Plans for identified areas.	Ongoing
Objective CS081 – Rural Settlement Strategy Implement the Rural Settlement Strategy contained in Chapter 3 Sustainable Placemaking and Quality Homes and associated Development Management Standards set out in Chapter 14.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process and through the implementation of Objectives contained within Chapter 3 and Chapter 14.

3. SUSTAINABLE PLACEMAKING AND QUALITY HOMES



3. Sustainable Placemaking and Quality Homes

3.1 Introduction

The Development Plan under Chapter 3 sets out the Council's strategy to guide successful placemaking and ensure quality housing within Fingal over the lifetime of the Plan. The concept of placemaking and the provision of quality homes are not mutually exclusive and the success of both in providing for sustainable, resilient communities is very much interdependent. One cannot be successful without the other.

Fingal Co. Co. has in the first two years of this Development Plan brought a renewed focus to the delivery of high-quality public realms in towns and villages across Fingal and has sought to support established and growing communities in the delivery of high quality recreational and community infrastructure.

Progress continues on the delivery of the Swords Cultural Quarter and the town rejuvenation works under 'Our Balbriggan'.

Fingal continues to progress the delivery of 14 no. recreational hubs strategically located in parks and open spaces across Fingal. The Ward River Valley Park in Swords, Porterstown Park in Castleknock and Bremore Park in Balbriggan have opened, and work is underway on a €10m recreational hub in Donabate.

In addition, Meakestown Community Centre Fingal's newest Community Centre was officially opened in November 2024. The immediate area also includes a public park, playgrounds, and the 'Bloom' community garden. Development commenced on Baldoyle Community Centre in June 2024 and Fingal County Council acquired St. Margarets Parish Hall in 2023. Refurbishment works have completed.



Meakestown Community Centre

3.2 Housing Delivery by Fingal County Council

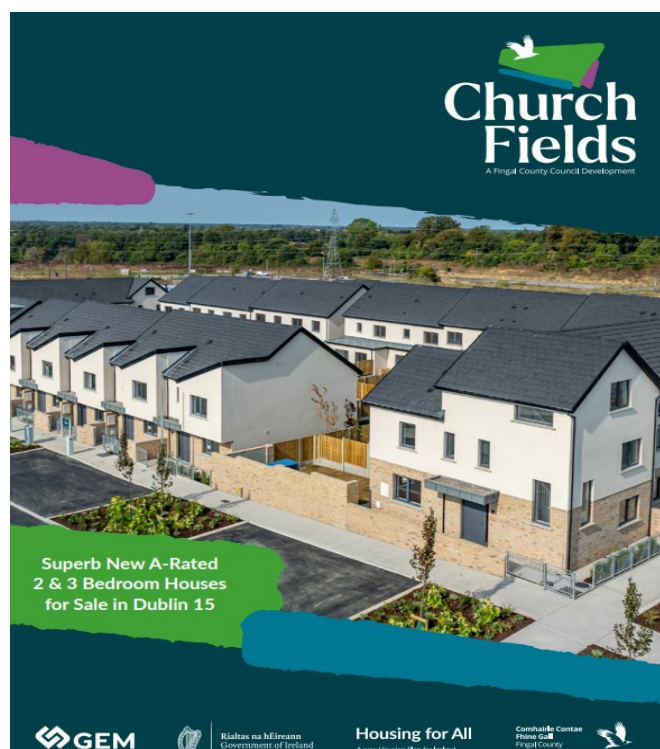
Fingal County Council continues to deliver mixed tenure housing on the Council's own lands and through partnerships with developers and stakeholders through turn-key arrangements as well as through the Part V process. The Council also continues to work with Approved Housing Bodies to meet its housing commitments and to provide Age Friendly Housing opportunities to meet specific needs. Such delivery will continue over the remaining period of the Plan. Some examples of housing delivery in Fingal are set out as follows:



Monastery Court Lusk- development of a new passive residential development incorporating Age-Friendly design elements. 5no. two bedroom apartments with communal landscaped courtyard .



Kilhedge Gardens Age Friendly residential scheme of 31 no. single storey homes delivered through direct build by Tuath and Fingal Co. co. owned lands and funded by the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage via Capital Assistance Scheme, a funding mechanism for the delivery of homes for priority groups such as older persons.

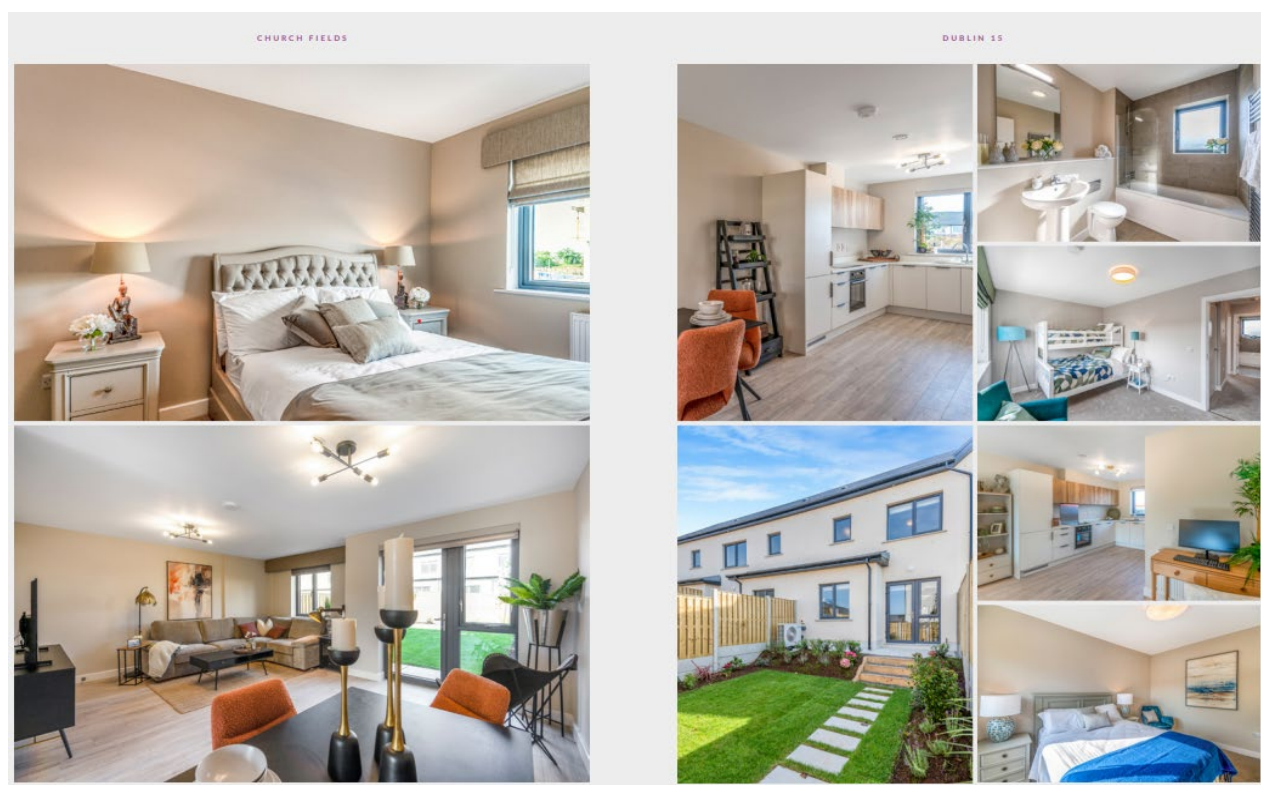


Churchfields Dublin 15

Commencement on the latest phase of the ChurchFields Master Plan will deliver a diverse mix of 180 no. affordable purchase homes, 80 no. cost-rental homes, and 40no. social homes.

The overall Churchfields development will deliver 1,000 new properties in total. In addition to the residential units, the project will also include the construction of a crèche, local community facilities, retail units, and extensive public green spaces. This aligns with Fingal's commitment to providing high-quality, affordable housing across the county with supporting infrastructure.

GEM Construction Limited are leading on the delivery of the homes of the Phase 3A site at Mulhuddart, with the first tranche of homes expected to be ready in 2025. These homes will incorporate the most up to date methods of sustainability from the outset, achieving a BER of A2 and Near Zero Energy Building Standard with the intention of reducing embodied carbon in keeping with the Governments 2030 Climate Action Plan.



3.3 Bringing Vacant Homes Back to Life

Fingal County Council is carrying out the restoration of a number of existing dwellings at St Ita's Portrane. The scheme comprising 14no. 100-year-old derelict cottages will be brought back into use under a €4 million restoration scheme from Fingal County Council.



Vacant Homes Action Plan 2022-2026



Montage Images below show the pre and post rehabilitation works



3.4 Local Area Plans, Framework Plans and Masterplans

To facilitate housing development, the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 includes a programme of Local Area Plans, Framework Plans and Masterplans, to be prepared within the lifetime of the Development Plan and as set out in Chapter 2 Planning for Growth. These land - use plans will provide a framework to ensure the timely delivery of residential development in tandem with social and physical infrastructure, in areas prioritised for growth and development within the County.

The preparation of these land use plans will involve local consultation and the engagement of Elected Members and other relevant stakeholders. To date, there has been significant progress in advancing the programme of plans, primarily through the Strategic Policy Unit and Project Delivery work programmes and projects. Progress to date is shown in Tables 2.5, 2.6 and 2.7 outlined in Chapter 2 of this report.

Chapter 3 – Objectives and Progress

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective SPQHO1 – Sustainable Communities Ensure that proposed residential development contributes to the creation of sustainable communities and accords with the Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas, DEHLG 2009 (and any superseding document) and companion Urban Design Manual – A Best Practice Guide, DEHLG 2009 and the Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets (DMURS) (as revised).	The Local Authority continues to implement national Guidelines issued under Section 28 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and seeks to ensure the creation of high-quality residential development and sustainable communities across Fingal.
Objective SPQHO2 – Key Principles Support development which enhances the quality of the built environment, promotes public health, and supports the development of sustainable, resilient communities. In particular development which supports the following key principles will be supported: - Demonstrates compliance with the Guiding Principles for the creation of healthy and attractive places as set out in Healthy Placemaking, Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) 2019–2031. - Promotes the development of healthy and attractive places to live, work, socialise and recreate through the delivery of high-quality public realms and open spaces which encourage physical activity and support wellbeing. - Is inclusive of all members of society, all genders, non-binary or none, irrespective of age, or levels of mobility. - Advocates a universal design approach and is socially inclusive. - Prioritise sustainable, active transport modes by e.g. providing safe cycle lanes and by facilitating public transport services in conjunction with State agencies to meet the needs of the community and to provide access to local services. - Encourages the development of car free neighbourhoods and streets, where appropriate. - Contributes to our climate goals.	Key Principles contained within Objective SPQHO2 continue to be implemented in support of development across Fingal which enhances the quality of the built environment, promotes public health, and supports the development of sustainable, resilient communities. The implementation of this objective is ongoing through associated Development Management Objectives and in the roll out of Framework Plans, Master Plans and Local Area Plans.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective SPQHO3 – Building Height Strategy and Density Study Prepare a Building Height Strategy and Density Study for the larger urban centres of the County.	To be progressed during the lifetime of the Plan
Objective SPQHO4 – Public Realm Strategies Prepare Public Realm Strategies, where appropriate, liaising closely with residents and other relevant stakeholders.	Progressing as part of LAP's, Masterplans and Framework Plans and as part of Council schemes progressed under the Planning Act and via An Bord Pleanála consent process.
Objective SPQHO5 – Amenity of Town and Village Centres Enhance the amenity of existing town and village centres, minimising clutter and proliferation of street furniture and provide guidance on public realm design, including wirescape, shopfront design, street furniture, climate resilient and pollinator friendly planting, signage and the adequate provision of bins and recycling options.	Ongoing through Plan preparation and through initiatives being undertaken by the Town Regeneration Office.
Objective SPQHO6 – Universal Design Approach Promote and facilitate a Universal Design for all developments.	Ongoing progression through both the Development Management process and through the preparation of statutory and non-statutory plans, masterplans and framework plans.
Objective SPQHO7 – Vibrant Town and Village Centres Support measures required to create vibrant town and village centres with high quality public realms.	Ongoing progression through both the Development Management process and through the preparation of statutory and non-statutory plans, masterplans and framework plans.
Objective SPQHO8 – Our Balbriggan and Sustainable Swords Support the objectives arising from Our Balbriggan and the Sustainable Swords Strategy.	Ongoing through the implementation of recommendations arising from the 'Our Balbriggan' and the 'Sustainable Swords Strategy'
Objective SPQHO9 – Consolidated Residential Development Consolidate within the existing urban footprint, by ensuring of 50% of all new homes within or contiguous to the built-up area of Dublin City and Suburbs and 30% of all new homes are targeted within the existing built-up areas to achieve compact growth of urban settlements, as advocated by the RSES.	Ongoing

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective SPQHO10 – New Residential Development Focus new residential development on appropriately zoned lands within the County, within appropriate locations proximate to existing settlement centres where infrastructural capacity is readily available, and along existing or proposed high quality public transport corridors and active travel infrastructure in a phased manner, alongside the delivery of appropriate physical and social infrastructure. Active travel options should also be considered while liaising with the National Transport Authority and Transport Infrastructure Ireland to ensure public transport options to and from new developments to local amenities such as shops and libraries.	Ongoing through the Development Management process and TOD.
Objective SPQHO11 – Housing Need Ensure that adequate and appropriate housing is available to meet the needs of people of all incomes and needs including marginalised groups within our communities, including but not limited to, Traveller households, older persons, people with disabilities, and the homeless, through an appropriate mix of unit types, typologies and tenures provided in appropriate locations and in a manner appropriate to specific needs.	Ongoing. E.g. Traveller Accommodation Programme 2025-2029 is at Draft stage.
Objective SPQHO12 – Fingal Settlement Strategy Ensure that all proposals for residential development accord with the Fingal Settlement Strategy and are consistent with Fingal's identified hierarchy of settlement centres.	Ongoing as part of the Development Management process and through the implementation of the Fingal Settlement Strategy
Objective SPQHO13 – Key Enabling Infrastructure Identify and support the provision of key enabling infrastructure at strategic sites in Fingal to facilitate their release for development in a timely manner.	Ongoing through identification of necessary enabling infrastructure in the plan-making process and through the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective SPQHO14 – Cooperation with Stakeholders The Council will work in cooperation and collaborate with key stakeholders including the DHLGH and the Dublin Housing Supply Co-Ordination Task Force (or any successor) to respond to the current supply challenges in the Dublin region. The Council will also support ‘Active Land Management’ using appropriate Exchequer funding to ensure the delivery of accessible social and affordable housing in a variety of size and tenure across Fingal County Council lands alongside open space, community and/or educational facilities, where required.	Fingal County Council continue to deliver Social, Affordable and Cost Rental housing at scale and pace throughout Fingal to meet the needs of the residents. In 2023 and 2024 1,429 social homes were delivered through all available mechanisms. In addition, 550 affordable homes have been brought to the market and these continue to have families moving in. Looking forward, we are continuing to build on this success with almost 1,000 homes on-site, or being brought through design, planning and tender for future delivery
Objective SPQHO15 – Preparation of Local Area Plans Prepare Local Area Plans for areas designated on Development Plan maps in co-operation with relevant stakeholders, and actively secure the implementation of these plans and the achievement of the specific objectives indicated.	Ongoing.
Objective SPQHO16 – Implementation of Local Area Plans, Masterplans and Framework Plans Implement existing Local Area Plans, Masterplans and Framework Plans for areas designated on Development Plan maps in co-operation with relevant stakeholders, and actively seek the achievement of the specific objectives within.	Ongoing through the implementation of Local Areas Plans, Framework Plans and Masterplans.
Objective SPQHO17 – Preparation of Framework Plans Prepare Framework Plans where outlined in Chapter 2, liaising closely with landowners, developers Elected Members and other relevant stakeholders (which may include local community and voluntary organisations (e.g. Residents’ Associations and Tidy Towns groups). These documents shall indicate the broad development parameters for each site and take cognisance of permitted developments and any potential environmental impacts.	Ongoing through the preparation of Local Areas Plans, Framework Plans and Masterplans.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective SPQHO18 – Age Friendly Principles Support the needs of older people within the community with reference to Housing, Mobility and Public Realm having regard to Age Friendly Principles and Guidelines for the Planning Authority 2021 and the Fingal Age Friendly Strategy 2018–2023.	Ongoing in collaboration with the Community Department.
Objective SPQHO19 – Range of Housing Options for Older People Promote a range of housing options within Fingal to cater for the housing needs and care requirements of older people. This includes independent and assisted living options and to support and promote the provision of specific purpose-built accommodation, including retirement villages, ‘right-sizing’ housing options and measures to ensure housing is adaptable to enable older people to continue living in their homes or in a home more suited to their needs. All LAPs and Masterplans will be assessed for suitability to provide housing for older people. Where there is an identified need or local demand, the appropriate housing option(s) will be included in the plan.	Ongoing through the implementation of Local Areas Plans, Framework Plans and Masterplans and through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO20 – Dementia Issues in the Built Environment Promote and encourage schemes which promote innovative ways of addressing dementia friendly issues in the built environment, such as the provision of community managed gardens.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO21 – Adapting Homes and Intergenerational Living Fingal County Council will work in partnership with Approved Housing Bodies and other organisations to assist homeowners adapting their homes in a way that meets the needs of an ageing population and will promote initiatives to assist in intergenerational living.	Ongoing through continued engagement with relevant agencies and stakeholders and through the implementation of the Development Management Process.
Objective SPQHO22 – Accessible Housing Fingal County Council recognises the importance of social inclusion and aims to make 30% of social housing should be fully accessible and built with a universal design approach which will mean that	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process. A minimum of 30% of all stock being delivered is built with a universal design approach. Examples include

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
the property will be flexible and changed as needed over the course of the occupants lifetime.	Monastery Court in Luck and Boden Court Swords.
Objective SPQHO23 – Emergency Accommodation Facilitate and support Tusla Child and Family Agency, the Health Service Executive and other service providers and State agencies in the provision of specific emergency or other forms of accommodation within Fingal.	Ongoing
Objective SPQHO24 – Inclusive Emergency Accommodation Facilitate and support relevant agencies in the development of emergency accommodation for families and homeless people of all genders, that is socially inclusive and focused in areas close to facilities and public transport.	Ongoing
Objective SPQHO25 – Istanbul Convention Proactively facilitate and support Túsla, the Child and Family Agency, service providers and other relevant agencies in the provision of a domestic violence refuge in the County and work towards the realisation of one refuge space for every 10,000 people, as per the recommendation of the Istanbul Convention, particularly when initiating planning on larger regeneration lands.	Using the CAS model, Fingal Co. Co. have supported Aoibhneas to deliver a domestic refuge. A property has been acquired and designs planned in advance of the planning process.
Objective SPQHO26 – Student Accommodation Support the provision of on-campus accommodation and consider applications for the provision of student accommodation off-campus having regard to: • The location and accessibility to Educational Facilities and the proximity to existing or planned public transport corridors, cycle and pedestrian routes and green routes. • The potential impact on existing residential amenities. • The level and quality of on-site facilities, including storage facilities, waste management, cycle parking, leisure facilities, car parking and amenity. • The architectural quality of the design and internal layouts should take cognisance of the	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
need for flexibility for future possible changes of use. “ The number of similar facilities existing in the area. Development proposals for purpose-built student accommodation will be assessed against the criteria set out in Chapter 14 Development Management Standards.	
Objective SPQHO27 – Location of Care Facilities Require that residential care homes, retirement homes, nursing homes, retirement villages and sheltered accommodation be located in towns and villages for reasons of sustainability, accessibility, social inclusion, and proximity to the availability of services, except where a demonstrated need to locate in a rural environment because of the nature of the care required can be clearly established.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO28 – Character of Area and Compatibility with Care Facility Uses Consider the existing (and anticipated) character of the area in which a proposed residential care home, retirement home, nursing home or sheltered accommodation is to be located and the compatibility of the use to such an area.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO29 – High Standard of Care Facilities Ensure that proposals for care homes, retirement homes, nursing homes, retirement villages and sheltered housing provide for a range of social and care facilities for the use of residents and that such schemes provide for appropriate levels of accessible green outdoor space, finished to a high standard and available for use by residents.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO30 – Rainwater Harvesting Ensure residential new builds include the provision of infrastructure for the harvesting of rainwater where it is feasible and cost-effective.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process. SuDS is a fundamental part of all planning permissions as a means of delivering multiple objectives relating to flood risk, climate change, amenity and biodiversity, particularly where availability of space is limited.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
	Fingal County Council has published 'A Household Guide to Sustainable Drainage' (SuDS) towards managing rainfall more naturally in Fingal.
Objective SPQHO31 – Variety of Housing Types Encourage the creation of attractive, mixed use and sustainable residential communities which contain a wide variety of housing and apartment types, sizes, tenures and typologies in accordance with the Fingal Housing Strategy, the HNDA with supporting community facilities, amenities and services.	Ongoing through the implementation of Local Areas Plans, Framework Plans and Masterplans and through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO32 – Property Management Promote efficient and effective property management to ensure the satisfactory security, maintenance and upkeep of communal areas.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO33 – New Residential Development and Energy Efficiency Ensure new residential development incorporates energy efficiency measures and promotes innovative renewable energy opportunities, for example by passive solar design, natural ventilation, and vegetation (green roofs etc) on buildings and makes most effective and sustainable use of water, aggregates and other resources.	For example, Fingal has introduced a Green Roof Policy as part of the Fingal Development Plan. The potential of green and blue roofs has been recognised as a means of delivering against multiple policy objectives relating to flood risk, climate change, amenity and biodiversity, particularly where availability of space is limited. In this regard, the Water Planning Division is currently working on a new guideline for Green/ Blue Roofs in new Developments.
Objective SPQHO34 – Integration of Residential Development Encourage higher residential densities where appropriate ensuring proposals provide for high quality design and ensure a balance between the protection of existing residential amenities and the established character of the surrounding area with a target minimum amount of 15% (except in cases where the developer can demonstrate that this is not possible, in which case the 12% to 15% range will apply) amount of green space, tree coverage and public space associated with every residential area.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO35 – Private Open Space Require that all private open spaces for houses and apartments/duplexes including balconies, patios, roof gardens and rear gardens are designed in accordance with the qualitative and	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
quantitative standards set out set out in Chapter 14 Development Management Standards.	
Objective SPQHO36 – Public open Space Public open space provision in new residential developments must comply with the quantitative and qualitative standards set out in Chapter 14 Development Management Standards.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO37 – Residential Consolidation and Sustainable Intensification Promote residential consolidation and sustainable intensification at appropriate locations, through the consolidation and rejuvenation of infill/brown-field development opportunities in line with the principles of compact growth and consolidation to meet the future housing needs of Fingal.	Ongoing through the implementation of Local Areas Plans, Framework Plans and Masterplans and through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO38 – Residential Development at Sustainable Densities Promote residential development at sustainable densities throughout Fingal in accordance with the Core Strategy, particularly on vacant and/or under-utilised sites having regard to the need to ensure high standards of urban design, architectural quality and integration with the character of the surrounding area.	Ongoing through the implementation of Local Areas Plans, Framework Plans and Masterplans and through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO39 – New Infill Development New infill development shall respect the height and massing of existing residential units. Infill development shall retain the physical character of the area including features such as boundary walls, pillars, gates/gateways, trees, landscaping, and fencing or railings.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO40 – Development of Corner or Wide Garden Sites Favourably consider proposals providing for the development of corner or wide garden sites within the curtilage of existing dwellings in established residential areas subject to the achievement of prescribed standards and safeguards set out in Chapter 14 Development Management Standards.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO41 – Refurbishment and Refitting of Existing Buildings Promote measures to reduce vacancy and underuse of existing building stock and to support	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
the refurbishment and retrofitting of existing buildings.	
Objective SPQHO42 – Development of Underutilised Infill, Corner and Backland Sites Encourage and promote the development of underutilised infill, corner and backland sites in existing residential areas subject to the character of the area and environment being protected.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO43 – Contemporary and Innovative Design Solutions Promote the use of contemporary and innovative design solutions subject to design respecting the character and architectural heritage of the area.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO44 – Retention, Retrofitting and Retention of Existing Dwellings The Council will encourage the retention and retrofitting of structurally sound, habitable dwellings in good condition as opposed to demolition and replacement and will also encourage the retention of existing houses, such as cottages, that, while not Protected Structures or located within an ACA, do have their own merit and/or contribute beneficially to the area in terms of visual amenity, character or accommodation type.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO45 – Domestic Extensions Encourage sensitively designed extensions to existing dwellings which do not negatively impact on the environment or on adjoining properties or area.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO46 – Family Flats Ensure family flats: - Are for a member of the family with a demonstrated need. - When no longer required for the identified family member, are incorporated as part of the main unit on site. - Do not exceed 75 sq m in floor area. - Comply with the design criteria for extensions, as above.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO47 – Vacant Sites Levy Implement the Vacant Sites Levy for all vacant development sites in the County and update and	Ongoing implementation.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
make available a Register of Vacant Sites, as per the requirements of the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015, or any superseding Act.	Final 2025 RZLT Map and Draft 2026 RZLT Map have been published and are available for inspection.
Objective SPQHO48 – Urban Regeneration and Development Fund The Council will continue to identify and secure funding including from the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund to promote the sustainable regeneration and development of key areas identified for renewal within the County.	Ongoing.
Objective SPQHO49 – Publicly Owned Land and the LDA Continue to work in partnership with the Land Development Agency to make more effective use of publicly owned land to accelerate regeneration and meet the projected housing needs over the lifetime of the plan to provide a stable sustainable supply of housing.	Ongoing – Through continued engagement with relevant agencies and stakeholders and through the Development Management Process.
Objective SPQHO50 – Rural Community Ensure the vitality and regeneration of rural communities by facilitating those with a genuine rural generated housing need to live within their rural community.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO51 – Promote agriculture and landscape value of the rural area Recognise and promote the agricultural and landscape value of the rural area and prohibit the development of urban generated housing in the open countryside.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO52 – Re-use of existing rural building stock Encourage the re-use and adaptation of the existing rural residential building stock and other building types.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO53 – Ribbon Development In areas which are subject to either the RU, GB, or HA zoning objective, presume against development which would contribute to or intensify existing ribbon development as defined by Sustainable Rural Housing, Guidelines for Planning Authorities, 2005. A relaxation may be considered where permission is sought on the grounds of meeting the housing needs of the	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
owner of land which adjoins an existing house of a member of his/her immediate family where it is clearly demonstrated that no other suitable site is available.	
Objective SPQHO54 – Vehicular entrances Presume against the opening up of a new additional vehicular entrance into the site of any proposed house, unless necessary in the interest of safety or because no viable alternative exists.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO55 – Preservation of roadside hedging and trees Require that the provision of safe access to a new house be designed so that it avoids the need to remove long or significant stretches of roadside hedging and trees. Where this is not possible, an alternative site or access should be identified.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO56 – Rural Villages Facilitate appropriate development within Rural Villages subject to compliance with the following: i. The scale of new residential development shall be in proportion to the pattern and grain of the existing settlement and shall be located within the defined development boundary. ii. Encourage and promote compact growth within Rural Villages including infill, brownfield development together with redevelopment of derelict/underutilised properties. iii. All development shall enhance the existing village character and create or strengthen a sense of identity and distinctiveness for the settlement. iv. New commercial development should be centrally located within the village and contribute positively to the streetscape and public realm. v. Encourage new community and social facilities in conjunction with residential development.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO57 – Village Framework Plans Prepare Village Framework Plans to guide and inform development within Rural Villages as prescribed.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO58 – Serviced Sites Consider the use of serviced sites for residential development within the boundaries of Rural Villages and in accordance with LAP requirements	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
(where applicable) subject to the availability of services, environmental considerations and the achievement of high-quality cohesive design.	
Objective SPQHO59 – Cultural Heritage features Preserve, protect and enhance the natural, built and cultural heritage features of Rural Villages.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO60 – Existing Building Stock in Rural Villages Encourage the re-use and adaptation of the existing building stock within the Rural Villages.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO61 – Rural Village Services Promote the provision of essential services within Rural Villages to serve the local community including childcare, social infrastructure, employment and retailing services, health, recreation and leisure amenities.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO62 – School Provision Work collaboratively with the Department of Education in identifying demand and meeting increased school place requirements in Rural Villages.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO63 – Care Homes, Health Service Clinics and Education in Rural Villages Promote suitable uses, including care homes, health service clinics, and educational centres, within areas zoned RV, to a scale appropriate to ensure the proper planning and sustainable development of each village.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO64 – Enterprise in Rural Villages Promote the provision of suitable, appropriately sized enterprises within rural villages to minimise the need for commuting.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO65 – Rural Clusters Encourage consolidation of rural housing within existing Rural Clusters which will cater for rural generated housing demand, as an alternative to housing in the open countryside, and encourage the reuse of existing buildings within the cluster over any new development.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective SPQHO66 – On site Treatment Systems Ensure that the requirements set out by the Council in the Development Management Standards Chapter 14 for on-site treatment systems are strictly complied with, or with the requirements as may be amended by future national legislation or guidance.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO67 – Character and Role of the Rural Cluster Permit only development within the Rural Clusters which has regard to the existing character and role of the cluster within the wider rural area, with particular care being taken that clusters do not compete with villages in the services they provide or the role and function they play within their rural area.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO68 – Appropriate Development within Rural Clusters Ensure that proposals for new dwellings do not compromise the development potential of adjoining sites by means of on-site layout and house design and both vehicular and pedestrian access. All sites must provide sustainable drainage infrastructure.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO69 – Vehicular Entrances Minimise the number of new entrances to sites within a rural cluster with a preference for sharing accesses with existing dwellings or using existing entrances. New entrances will only be considered where the potential for sharing is not possible. Any removal of hedgerows, trees and walls or other distinctive boundary treatment required to accommodate sight lines must be limited in extent and must be replaced with the same type of boundary. The use of native species for replacement planting shall be used where appropriate.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO70 – Home-Based Economic Activity in Rural Clusters Allow for small scale home-based economic activity and local services at a level commensurate	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
with the size, scale, and character of the Rural Cluster.	
Objective SPQHO71 – Maximum Number of Dwellings under Rural Zonings Provide that the maximum number of dwellings permitted under any of the rural zonings will be less any additional house which has been granted planning permission to a family member since 19th October 1999.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO72 – Maximum Number of Incremental Houses in RU Zoned Areas Permit a maximum number of two incremental houses for those who meet the relevant criteria set out in this chapter and Chapter 14 within areas with zoning objective RU plus one house for a person with exceptional health circumstances plus one where exceptional farming circumstances prevail.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO73 – Maximum Number of Incremental Houses in HA or GB Zoned Areas Permit a maximum number of one incremental house for those who meet the relevant criteria set out in this chapter and Chapter 14 within areas with the zoning objective HA or GB plus one house for a person with exceptional health circumstances.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO74 – Houses in HA Zoned Areas Permit houses in areas with zoning objective HA, only to those who have a defined essential housing need based on their involvement in farming or exceptional health circumstances.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO75 – Houses Granted Permission in RU, HA or GB Zoned Areas Require that any house which is granted planning permission in areas with the zoning objective, RU, HA, or GB will be subject to an occupancy requirement whereby the house must be first occupied as a place of permanent residence by the applicant and/or members of his/ her immediate family for a minimum period of seven years.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective SPQHO76 – Additional Dwellings per Farm Family Permit up to two additional dwellings per farm family in areas with the zoning objective, RU, and one additional dwelling per farm family within areas with the zoning objective GB or HA, where the applicant demonstrates their direct participation in running the family farm and is considered to have a demonstrated need related to the working of the farm to reside on the family farm.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO77 – Members of Family Actively Involved in Running of Family Farm In exceptional circumstances in the RU zoning where two members of the family (excluding the occupier of the family farm) are actively engaged in the running of the family farm, permission may be considered for both. Documentation in support of an application must reflect the requirements set out under Chapter 14 Development Management Standards.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO78 – Primary Residence Criteria Demonstrate that any proposed dwelling is for use as the applicant's primary residence and the proposed dwelling will be located on a farm where the applicant's family currently resides.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO79 – Consideration of Additional House on a Fragmented Farm Allow for consideration of any additional house, in the case of a fragmented farm, to be located on an area of the farm not physically connected to the main portion of the farm, and which area has been in the applicant family's ownership and part of the overall active farm holding for at least three years prior to the date of application.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO80 – Family Farm Criteria Demonstrate that the farm has been a working and actively managed farm in the ownership of the applicant's family for a minimum of three years preceding the date of the application for planning permission. The applicant will be required to demonstrate full compliance with all	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
relevant standards set out in Chapter 14 Development Management Standards. In particular, the applicant will be required to demonstrate the following in relation to their working of the family farm: i. The applicant is a member of a family which operates a farm within the rural area of Fingal, and is actively engaged in farming the family farm. Verifiable documentary evidence (such as dated and stamped Land Registry Documentation) showing details of the farm ownership, details of the family relationship with the farm owner, and the nature of the applicant's involvement in farming the family farm will be required. ii. The farm on which the application for planning permission for a rural house has been submitted has been a working and actively-managed farm in the ownership of the applicant's family for a minimum of three years preceding the date of the application for planning permission. iii. The location of the family home on the existing farm. iv. The location of all other houses on the family farm which have been granted planning permission since the 19th October 1999. Submission details will include the date of grant of planning permission and the Council's file Register Reference under which any Planning Permissions were granted. v. The family farm has been a working farm for the preceding three years. The criteria which are considered to constitute a working farm and the size thresholds for various types of farms are set out below. The minimum threshold area of a farm excludes the area of the farm occupied by the farm yard and farm buildings, the area of the existing family home and its curtilage, and the area of the site of the proposed dwelling. vi. Documentary evidence that the applicant resides on a working family farm within the planning application.	
Objective SPQHO81 – RU and GB lands Permit new rural dwellings in areas which have zoning objectives RU or GB on suitable sites where	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
the applicant meets the criteria set out in Table 3.5.	
Objective SPQH082 – Rural Settlement Strategy and Airport Noise Zone A Apply the provisions of the Rural Settlement Strategy, only with regard to ‘New Housing for Farming Families’ as set out within this Chapter, within the Airport Noise Zone A, and subject to the following restrictions: - Under no circumstances shall any dwelling be permitted within the predicted 69dB LAeq 16 hours noise contour. - Comprehensive noise insulation shall be required for any house permitted under this objective. - Any planning application shall be accompanied by a noise assessment report produced by an independent specialist in noise assessment which shall specify all proposed noise mitigation measures together with a declaration of acceptance of the applicant with regard to the result of the noise acceptance report.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQH083 – Rural Settlement Strategy within Five Kilometres Outside Noise Zone A Apply the provisions of the Rural Settlement Strategy as it applies to ‘New Housing for the Rural Community other than for those who are actively engaged in farming’ for rural community members located within Noise Zone A on suitable sites located within five kilometres outside Noise Zone A. For those living to the east of the M1, only suitable sites located to the east of the M1 will be considered, and for those living to the west of the M1, only suitable sites located to the west of the M1 will be considered.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective SPQHO84 – Compliance with Development Management Standards in Rural Areas Applications for dwellings in rural areas of Fingal will be required to demonstrate compliance with layout and design criteria set out in Chapter 14 Development Management Standards including the carrying out of an analysis/feasibility study of the proposed site and of the impact of the proposed house on the surrounding landscape in support of applications for planning permission.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO85 – Visual Impact Statement for Applications in GB or HA Zoned Areas Ensure that any planning application for a house within an area which has a Greenbelt or High Amenity zoning objective is accompanied by a comprehensive Visual Impact Statement.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO86 – High Amenity Zoned Land between the Sea and the Coast Require that no new houses are permitted on High Amenity zoned lands which are located between the sea and the coast except in such cases indicated in Objective SPQHO87.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO87 – Alternative Site for a New House Consider a suitable alternative site for a new house, in the case of applicants who comply with the Settlement Strategy for houses in the countryside and whose existing family farm is located entirely between the coast and the road, and where no opportunities exist to convert existing/vernacular farm buildings as a new dwelling or to extend the existing house.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO88 – Development of Coastal Sites Ensure that the development of any coastal site through the extension or replacement of existing buildings or development of any new buildings is of an appropriate size, scale and architectural quality and that it does not detract from the visual amenity of the area or impact negatively on the natural or built heritage.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective SPQHO89 – Proximity to the Family Home Encourage new dwellings in the rural area to be sited at a location in close proximity to the family home where the drainage conditions can safely accommodate the cumulative impact of such clustering and where such clustering will not have a negative impact on the amenities of the original house. Where this arrangement is clearly demonstrated not to be available, permit the new dwelling to be located on an alternative site which is within two kilometres from the family home, or, where the applicant has land zoned HA within 2km from the family home and this arrangement is demonstrated not to be available to build, and the applicant has land zoned RU on lands within 3.5km of the family home, permit the new dwelling to be located on the RU zoned site which is within 3.5km of the family home, or, in the case of applications made under Objective SPQHO83 within five kilometres outside Noise Zone A and subject to the East / West of the M1 stipulation.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO90 – Entrances and Front Boundary Treatment Ensure that the design of entrances and front boundary treatment is sensitive to the rural setting. In this regard, block walls and ornamental features will be discouraged, and native hedging will be utilised where appropriate.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO91 – Retention of Hedgerows and Other Distinctive Boundary Treatments Ensure the retention of hedgerows and other distinctive boundary treatments in rural areas. Where removal of a hedgerow, stone wall or other distinctive boundary treatment is unavoidable, provision of the same type of boundary/provision of agreed species of similar length will be required within the site.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective SPQHO92 – Applications for Houses within the South Shore Area Consider planning applications for a house located within the South Shore area of Rush from persons who have been resident for a minimum of ten years within the South Shore area or within the development boundary of Rush or within one kilometre by road of either of these areas, subject to sustainable planning and consideration of climate change impacts.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO93 – Applications for Houses in the South Shore Area from Relatives of Residents Consider planning applications for a house located within the South Shore area of Rush from a mother, father, son or daughter of a resident who qualifies under Objective SPQHO92 and subject to sustainable planning and consideration of climate change impacts.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO94 – Occupancy Requirement for House in the South Shore Area Require that any house which is granted planning permission in the South Shore area will be subject to an occupancy requirement whereby the house must be first occupied as a place of permanent residence by the applicant and/or members of his/her immediate family for a minimum period of seven years.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO95 – Flooding and Coastal Erosion in the South Shore Area Require that an applicant for a house in the South Shore area demonstrates, to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority, that the site is not and will not be subject to flooding or erosion in line with national climate change predictions.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO96 – Ecological Integrity of Sites in the South Shore Area Require that an applicant demonstrates that the impact of any proposed house will not adversely affect, either directly or indirectly, the ecological integrity of any European site.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.

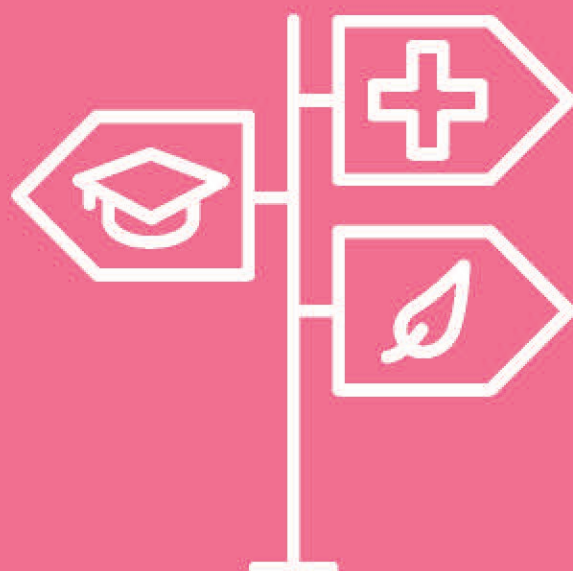
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective SPQHO97 – Connection to the Public Sewer on Sites in the South Shore Area Allow for new houses within the South Shore area, subject to normal sustainable planning criteria and in line with climate change impacts, which have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority that they cannot connect to a public sewer within a reasonable period of time, on suitably sized sites and subject to the requirements of the EPA Code of Practice.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO98 – Seasonal Worker/Temporary Worker Accommodation Use of land associated with a farm for seasonal / temporary workers will be considered subject to the following requirements and demonstrate the following: - The farm is a working and actively managed farm with a minimum size of 25 hectares. - There is an essential need for the amount and type of accommodation, and this cannot be met anywhere else. The onus is on the farmer/employer to demonstrate this. - The accommodation is for use by the workers associated with the farm only and shall not be for sale or rental independent of the farm. - New on-site residential accommodation for seasonal farm workers shall be designed in an innovative, cohesive and purpose-built manner resulting in a high standard of quality accommodation whilst minimising visual impacts on the surrounding rural area. In this regard, new purpose-built on-site accommodation shall be single storey only. - A viable landholding can facilitate up to a maximum of 200 seasonal workers. - New purpose-built accommodation shall be provided in the form of a maximum 26 bed space unit. - No bedroom shall accommodate more than 2 persons. - Each unit shall provide: - Accommodation and open space provision sufficient to provide an adequate level of comfort and amenity for occupants.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
- Room sizes in accordance with minimum Development Plan standards. Shared kitchen, living and dining room based on a minimum 4 sq. per bed space in the unit, in addition to any circulation space. - Each bedroom, or at a maximum, each pair of two bedrooms shall have an individual dedicated bathroom facility with shower, toilet and basin. Communal facilities below this standard shall not be permitted. - p Appropriate indoor and outdoor communal and recreational facilities at a combined level of 5-7 sq.m per bedspace. These facilities shall be provided prior to occupation. - Communal facilities and services shall be provided for and include laundry and refuse facilities. These facilities shall be provided prior to occupation. - Compliance with Building and Fire Regulations. - That Residential Accommodation for Seasonal Workers should be in line with Health and Safety at Work guidelines and accommodation and facilities should be appropriate to support the needs of the workers. - Transport arrangements to allow workers ease of access to nearby towns and villages, each worker will be provided with a working bicycle or electric bicycle or shared mobility scheme and one of the following: - Footpaths linking the development to the nearest town or village, - Footpaths linking the development to the nearest public transport link, - Provision of a private shuttle bus or car for transport to the nearest town or village. - Design, height, scale and finishes shall have regard to the landscape context. - Existing trees and hedgerows shall be maintained in so far as possible and new planting shall be of native species. - A Landscape Plan shall accompany applications for new purpose-built accommodation. - Sufficient drainage and wastewater infrastructural capacity to serve the development.	

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
- Sufficient access and car-parking arrangements to serve the development.	
Objective SPQHO99 – HA Zoning Seasonal worker accommodation will not be permitted within the HA zoning.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO100 – Replacement of Chalets and Seaside Huts Proposals to replace or convert existing coastal chalets and seaside huts by dwellings which can be resided in all the year round will only be considered in exceptional circumstances and where all Development Management Standards set out in Chapter 14 in relation to such applications are complied with.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO101 – Strengthening of Greenbelt Lands Strengthen greenbelt lands by identifying opportunities for infill development and consolidation within existing towns to reduce the need to zone additional greenfield lands and ensure the preservation of strategic greenbelts between our towns and villages.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO102 – Development within the Greenbelts Promote development within the Greenbelts which has a demonstrated need for such a location, and which protects and promotes the permanency of the Greenbelt, and the open and rural character of the area.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.
Objective SPQHO103 – Retention of Vernacular Buildings Retain, appreciate and revitalise appropriately the vernacular buildings of Fingal by deterring the replacement of good quality vernacular buildings with modern structures and by protecting and promoting the sympathetic maintenance, adaptation and re-use of vernacular buildings where they contribute to the character of the rural area.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective SPQHO104 – Protection of Vernacular Buildings Discourage the demolition or replacement of vernacular rural buildings and encourage their sensitive restoration and/or conversion where they contribute to the character of the area.	Ongoing implementation through the Development Management process.

4. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPEN SPACE



4. Community Infrastructure and Open Space

4.1 Introduction

This chapter sets out the policy context which guides community infrastructure and open space provision within Fingal. The provision and access to locally based community infrastructure and essential services, which are central to health and wellbeing, are vital for communities to thrive, to engender a sense of place, ensure social inclusion and build resilience. In 2024, Fingal County Council's Community Development Department, in conjunction with other departments played a pivotal role in fostering connections, supporting local initiatives, and improving the overall well-being of communities across Fingal.



Through compact growth and in line with the Core Strategy, the provision of key social infrastructure such as quality childcare, education and health services will be provided at locations where most required in accordance with NSO 10 of the NPF.

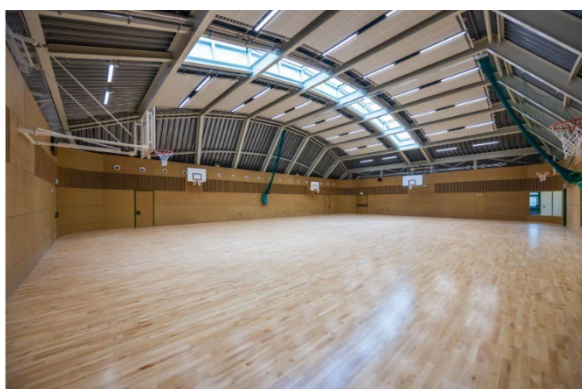
The Council continues to provide a diverse network of attractive, sustainably managed open spaces to enhance communities and continues to contribute to the creation of a more socially inclusive, equal and culturally diverse society by providing appropriate community infrastructure, quality public realm and by improving access to information and resources.

4.2 Community Centres/Facilities

Fingal Co. Co. continues to support the work of both Council and non-Council owned community centres in recognising their important role in everyday life. The Council now owns 20 no.

community centres throughout Fingal and supports 37 no. community centres under the Community Facilities Management Support unit, including the Council owned centres.

Fingal's newest Community Centre in Meakstown was officially opened in November 2024. The immediate area also includes a public park, playgrounds, and the 'Bloom' community garden. The Changing Places facility is also available in Meakstown Community Centre. Changing Places facilities are life changing and designed to support people in the community and those who care for them to have access to public toilet facilities that meet more complex needs.



Development commenced on Baldoyle Community Centre in June 2024. When complete, the centre will prioritise sustainability and accessibility. The design will feature a green roof and raingarden to promote biodiversity and ecology, and the circular design will minimise visual disruption to the surrounding area. Ample bike parking is to be provided to encourage the use of sustainable transport. Accessible parking and electric vehicle charging points will also be available. The central sports hall will have three courts, and the overall complex will benefit from four multi-purpose community rooms as well as externally accessible sports rooms for use by clubs such as Baldoyle United FC, Na Dubh Ghall GAA Club and Suttonians Rugby Football Club who use pitches in Racecourse Park.

Fingal County Council acquired St. Margarets Parish Hall in 2023. Refurbishment works have completed.

Programme funding 2025-2027 is focused on improvement works to older community centres and conditioning surveys to a number of centres to facilitate and inform future Capital Programmes.

In September 2024 the Rush Multipurpose Youth Facility (RMYF) reopened following a refurbishment to the site at Millbank. This upgraded facility will serve as a vital hub for the

community, providing much needed spaces for community groups to engage in a variety of activities, meetings and development programs. With a focus on fostering a positive and inclusive environment. The refurbishment project was primarily funded by Fingal County Council, having invested just over €1m to help develop the facility. Additional funding was supplied by the LEADER Programme and the RMYF. Ongoing support and funding are provided by Fingal County Council's Community Development Office.



March 2024 saw the opening of a new facility in Millennium Park specifically aimed at providing a quality safe space for teenagers and young adults. Fingal County Council is also re-developing the historic Arboretum. The aim of the upgrade project at Millennium Park is to deliver an attractive and dynamic place for teenagers and young adults to socialise and to engage in a range of unstructured physical activity. The space contains the first purpose-built competitive parkour facility in the country, a custom-made seating structure, chess tables, a music post and climbing poles.



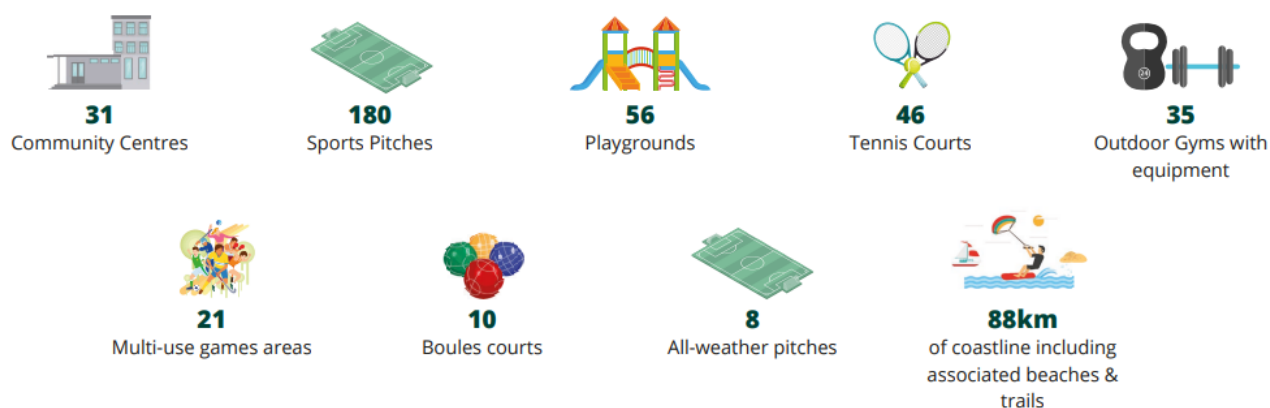
4.3 Recreation and Sports Facilities

With a focus on sustainable and inclusive practices, the Council is committed to making Fingal an exemplary region for sports and physical activity in Ireland. In this regard, Fingal has made remarkable strides in enhancing its community infrastructure, particularly when it comes to delivering state-of-the-art Recreational Hubs. Having already opened new in-demand facilities in Balbriggan, Porterstown Park, and Swords, work is now underway in the heart of the Donabate-Portrane peninsula on an extensive hub that will offer a full sized floodlit all-weather GAA pitch which incorporates two full-sized all-weather soccer pitches, a floodlit eight-lane all-weather

athletics track, bleacher seating, a skatepark, playground, and associated infrastructure which will cater to a wide spectrum of interests and age groups across the community.

There are a wide range of facilities and spaces for sport and physical activity across the Fingal County Council area. The following are operated and maintained by Fingal County Council.

Figure 4-1: Facilities and Spaces for Sport and Physical Activity in Fingal



In 2024, Fingal County Council unveiled a new initiative that aims to transform the sports landscape in Fingal, enhancing participation and access for residents and using sport to help tackle social issues and build communities. The *'Active, Together. Local Sport and Physical Activity Plan 2024 – 2029'* lays out a strategic framework focused on six key commitments: prioritising sports and physical activity; improving accessibility for everyone; raising the profile and visibility of sports activities; emphasising outdoor participation; enhancing quality facilities; and fostering stakeholder collaboration.

Stemming from the objectives of the aforementioned *'Active, Together. Local Sport and Physical Activity Plan 2024 – 2029'*, Fingal hosted its first gathering of the *Fingal Sports Awards*, which sought to celebrate local heroes across the county. This event brought together stakeholders from across the Public and Private sectors to commemorate the most dedicated members of many of sports clubs across Fingal and announced the winners of titles such as the *Green Club of the Year*, *Sports for All Club of the Year* and *Club of the Year* awards. There were over eighty winners, and more than twenty clubs taking part in the ceremony.

More than 2000 hectares of public open space are available in Fingal and 180 grass pitches are currently allocated to sports clubs. Community centres also offer opportunities for people of all ages to undertake physical activities including Yoga, Pilates, table tennis and gym-based exercise. Fingal is home to the National Sports Campus, a world class facility which continues to expand under its specific land use zoning objective introduced under the Development Plan.

Overall, 170 no. sport and activity groups and clubs are currently registered in the County.

Along with operating a number of sports hubs, the Council employs a team of sports officers who provide support to community groups, clubs, schools and business groups. This includes supporting activities such as cricket, hockey, tennis, rugby and swimming. The sports team proactively targets all areas in Fingal, particularly areas of disadvantage and population growth

to support key groups such as new communities, people with disabilities, LGBTQI+, women and families to become more active.

Initiatives run by Fingal encourage participation regardless of age or ability, with programmes such as the 'Corduff Children's Sports Hub', 'Men on the Move', 'Football for All' and the 'Balbriggan Beach Festival' providing a fun environment for people to get involved in physical activity. The Council also helps to train and develops programmes for sports volunteers, staff and those working at every level in the delivery of sport.

Fingal has established the country's only 'Football and Fitness' Transition Year course which is run in partnership with the FAI. Students taking part are given an opportunity to sample full-time football training while also fulfilling their educational requirements and obtaining qualifications in coaching and fitness training and football. After several years of a successful programme being run for TY boys - which has seen a large number of graduates gain full-time scholarships, first team contracts in the League of Ireland, professional contracts abroad and represent Ireland at the international level – 2024 also saw the first ever group of TY girls in Ireland graduate.

In addition, Fingal County Council welcomed the announcement in July 2024 that the Government is to explore a bid to host the Open Championship and the AIG Women's Open at Portmarnock Golf Club.

4.4 Facilities for older people

The Council continues to play a role in achieving Age-Friendly communities across Fingal. Fingal's Age Friendly programme supports citizens to prepare for ageing by paying increased attention to the environmental, economic and social factors which influence the health and well-being of older adults. By embedding Age Friendly in organisational policies, Fingal County Council works to provide walkable streets, housing and transportation options, access to key services and opportunities for older people to participate in community activities.

Fingal County Council is currently preparing an updated Age Friendly Strategy.

Development completed in 2024 at Kilhedge Gardens Lusk provided an Age-Friendly housing scheme providing 31 no. new single-story homes. The development – delivered through direct build by Tuath on land owned by Fingal County Council – comprises 18 no. two-bedroom and 13 no. one-bedroom homes, with a communal facility area for residents. The new homes were funded by the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage via the Capital Assistance Scheme, a funding mechanism for the delivery of homes for priority groups such as older persons.

4.5 Educational facilities

The demand for school places and new schools continues to grow in Fingal. School facilities play a key role in their respective communities and can be a determining factor as to why people chose to live in a certain area. Fingal is home to a wide range of both primary and post-primary schools and Fingal County Council continues to work collaboratively with the Department of Education in relation to the identification of schools and associated facilities. Under the

Memorandum of Agreement, Fingal County Council makes land in its ownership available at a reduced cost to the Department of Education and in return, the Department in co-operation with the local authority, provide investment in enhanced sports, community and recreational facilities for schools being provided throughout the County.

Fingal County Council will continue to work closely with the Department of Education in this regard.

4.6 Libraries

Fingal currently operates 10no. library branches, a mobile library and housebound service, as well as a Local Studies and Archives service. In March 2024, a new 5-year Plan for Fingal libraries was launched – the Fingal Library Service Development Plan 2024-2029. This Plan demonstrates that libraries in Fingal are not just buildings with books, but rather community hubs in which people can enjoy and experience events and activities, including talks and workshops on topics as diverse as healthy living, skills for life, environmental awareness and local history.

After a year of extensive works, the Carnegie Free Library in Swords was officially re-opened in February 2024, marking a key advancement in the extensive Swords Cultural Quarter project currently underway by Fingal County Council.

The building, originally established in 1908 and recognised as a Protected Structure, will now function as a dynamic centre for community and arts-related activities. It features a new two-story extension which will enhance accessibility and services.

The significant renovation of the site, located on North Street, was made possible thanks to a grant from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The Southern Regional Assembly helped secure €1.5m under the Southern and Eastern Regional Operational Programme for the Swords Castle Cultural and Civic Quarter Project. This grant, together with match funding from Fingal County Council has facilitated much of the conservation and improvement works carried out at Swords Castle and North Street over the past seven years. The comprehensive refurbishment, aims to provide versatile workspaces and a creative hub for diverse community and arts events, including rehearsals and performances.

Funding was received from the Chief Executive Initiative Scheme to pilot a Book Bike. This is a mobile library on an electric cargo bike that will attend events in Fingal to promote the library services and resources. In collaboration with the Active Travel Department, the electric cargo bike has been sourced from Bleeper Bike.

4.7 Burial Grounds

The Council manages and maintains 36 no. burial grounds in Fingal. The Architects Department appointed a contractor in August 2024 to carry out works on the Kellystown Graveyard capital project. Works are continuing on this project.

4.8 Open Space

The progress made in implementing open space and recreational activities within Fingal is reinforced by the ongoing projects of the Parks and Green Infrastructure Division in conjunction

with the other departments. Examples at strategic level include the continued development of Bremore Regional Park in Balbriggan and the enhancement of the Regional Parks at Malahide, Newbridge and Ardgillan Demesnes and Shackleton Mills in Dublin 15, as well as the delivery of numerous Recreational Sports Hubs.

2023 saw the opening of Rathmore Park in Lusk. The 7.5 Hectare (20 Acre) Town Park is located on the Rathmore Road and within walking and cycling reach of the centre of Lusk and close to residential areas and local schools making it highly accessible. The park has been carefully planned in collaboration with Fingal County Council and developed in combination with housing and community infrastructure. Ownership of the site has recently transferred to the Council as a public park. It showcases “green Infrastructure planning” and development management by the Council and is located to take advantage of public transport and active travel links. The park benefits from specially planned sustainable urban drainage SuDS areas and a climate resilient design.

Additionally, the park features a high-quality playground as well as a play trail, two full-sized grass sports pitches, a jogging/sprint track, seating, extensive areas of tree planting and wildflower meadows. It has amenities attractive to all ages and will appeal to local sports clubs and people involved in both formal and informal outdoor activities.



The Council applied to An Bord Pleanála in 2024 for a new Recreational Sports Hub at Rathmore Park and permission was granted for this development in December 2024.



The Parks and Green Infrastructure Division carried out an Audit of Play Facilities in Fingal in 2023. The audit indicates that Fingal is well served in relation to accessibility standards for play provision. The audit identifies a small number of gaps for retrospective play provision in Loughshinny, Portrane, Oldtown, Hartstown Park, Hazelbury Park, Dunsoughly. It was recognised that additional play provision can also be provided at a modest scale within housing estates (LAPs) through the Operational Works Programme.

The table below outlines the play asset list inspected as part of regular playground inspections:

Table 4-1: Number of Outdoor Recreational Assets across Fingal by Category

Play-ground	Mini Play Area	Fitness equipment	Calis-thenics	Skate Park	Park-our	Multi-Use Game Area MUGA	Agility Trail	BMX	TEQ Ball	Tables Tennis	Chess
71	3	41	19	4	2	31	10	1	2	2	2

Fingal County Council currently maintains 71no. playgrounds and 3 no. mini play areas across the County. There are ongoing projects to further expand playgrounds in the form of Part 8 developments such as in Portrane, Hazelbury Park and Hartstown Park, (with expected completion target dates of Q2/3 2025).

Many of Fingal's open spaces provide areas for fitness equipment, calisthenics and MUGAs. Outdoor recreational space is also provided in the form of Agility Trails, Skate Parks, Parkour areas and for sports such as Chess, Table Tennis and TEQ Ball amongst others.

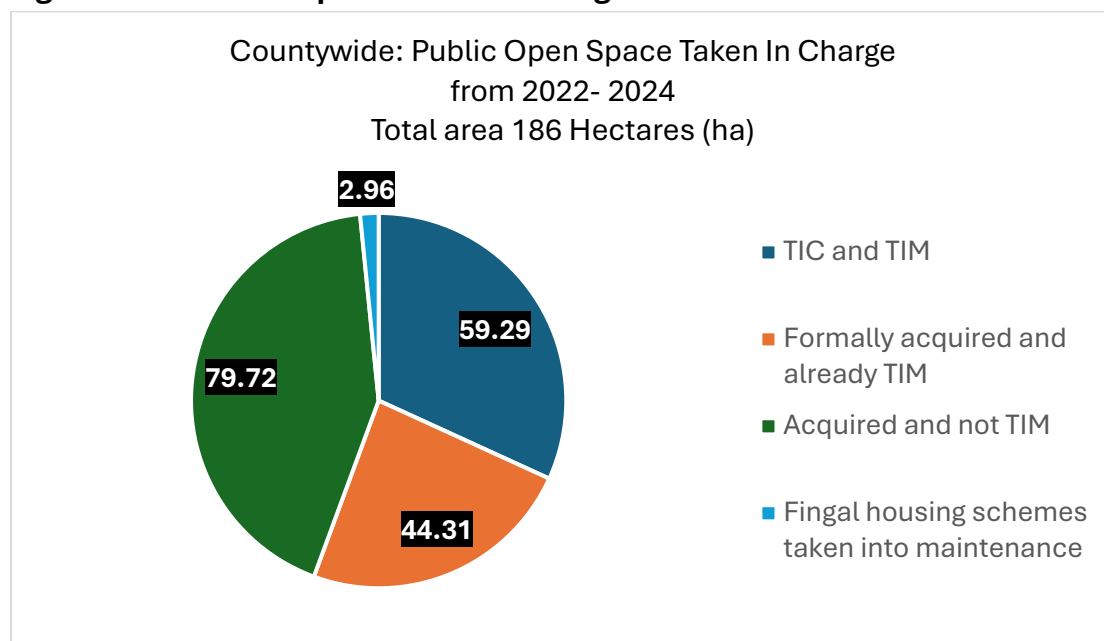
In addition to the assets listed above, Fingal County Council also maintains:

- 180 no. Public Sports Pitches allocated to Fingal Sports Clubs on an annual basis within Fingal public open spaces.
- Publicly accessible Boules Courts in 6 no. locations (Malahide Demesne, Newbridge Demesne, Santry Demesne, Skerries Town Park, Bayside & Kenure Woods Rush)
- Publicly accessible Tennis Courts in 8no. locations (Swords, Lusk, Balrothery, Holywell, Malahide, Skerries, Howth St Catherines Park)

4.9 Land Taken in Charge (TIC) and Taken into Maintenance (TIM)

Overall, 186 no. hectares of lands has been Taken in Charge (TIC) and Taken into Maintenance (TIM) through means of Land Acquisition, Deed of Dedication or taken in charge by Building Control between 2022-2024. Of those 186 hectares, 124.25 were TIC and TIM in 2024.

Figure 4-2: Public Space Taken in Charge



Chapter 4 – Objectives and Progress

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective CIOSO1 - Community Facilities and Social Infrastructure Audit Support the preparation of a Fingal cross-departmental community facilities and social infrastructure audit of the County.	It is anticipated that this audit will be progressed in Q2/Q3 2025.
Objective CIOSO2 - Community Centres Support the provision of new community centres and facilitate the refurbishment and extension of facilities where there is a need for such works. Such facilities shall be accessible by a range of travel modes with an emphasis on walking, cycling and public transport use, while providing appropriate car parking facilities to meet anticipated demand of non-local visitors to the centre.	The Council will continue to support this objective. Meakstown Community Centre – opened in November 2024 and St. Margarets Parish Hall has recently completed a refurbishment. Baldoyle Community Centre will be completed and opened in 2025. Programme funding 2025-2027 is focused on improvement works to older community centres and conditioning surveys to a number of centres to facilitate and inform future Capital Programmes.
Objective CIOSO3- Community Infrastructure Guidelines Comply with the aims, objectives and principles in relation to community infrastructure as outlined in the Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas and the accompanying Urban Design Manual – A Best Practice Guide and any amendment thereof.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. In addition, the Council implements Objective DMS078 – <i>Community and Social Infrastructure Audit</i> which requires developments of more than 50 units to provide an assessment of community and social infrastructure locally; identify any existing shortcomings and assess whether additional facilities to cater for the proposed development are required.
Objective CIOSO4 - Vacant Commercial Units To identify vacant commercial units and encourage their transition to potential community infrastructure.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in conjunction with the Community Development Department where required.
Objective CIOSO5 - Residential Developments and Community Facilities Ensure proposals for large scale residential developments include a community facility, unless it can be established that the needs of the new residents can be adequately served within existing or committed community facilities in the area.	Ongoing – Through the LRD Process and Objective DMS078.
Objective CIOSO6 – Existing Community Infrastructure	Ongoing

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Resist the loss of existing social and community facilities such as community centres and youth clubs or any sports facilities including playing fields, unless satisfactory alternatives are available.	
Objective CIOSO7 – Community Infrastructure and Local Amenity Ensure that proposals do not have a detrimental effect on local amenity by way of traffic, parking, noise or loss of privacy of adjacent residents.	Ongoing- Through the Development Management Process. Large Scale Residential Developments are required to include an Infrastructure Audit (See objective DMSO78)
Objective CIOSO8 - Community Hall at Naul A new Community Hall centrally located be provided to service the needs of the people of the village of Naul.	At present, Programme funding 2025-2027 is focused on improvement works to older community centres and conditioning surveys to facilitate and inform future Capital Programmes.
Objective CIOSO9 - Community Hall at Ballyboughal A new Community Hall centrally located be provided to serve the needs of the people of the village of Ballyboughal.	At present, Programme funding 2025-2027 is focused on improvement works to older community centres and conditioning surveys to a number of centres to facilitate and inform future Capital Programmes.
Objective CIOSO10 - Flexibility in Design Ensure community facilities are flexible in their design and promote optimum usage, for users of all age and abilities.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. The newly constructed Meakstown Community Centre includes Changing Places facilities which is an invaluable resource for those with disabilities who need assistance with personal care.
Objective CIOSO11 - Clustering Community Facilities Promote the clustering of accessible community, recreational and open space facilities, with community facilities being located in local centres or combined with school facilities as appropriate.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process in conjunction with relevant internal departments and other stakeholders.
Objective CIOSO12 - Sports and Recreation Facilities Audit Support the preparation of further sports and recreation facilities audit for the County, in accordance with the National Sports Policy 2018–2027.	The Active Travel Department is currently preparing this document which is at draft stage.
Objective CIOSO13 - Active Recreational Hubs and Multi-Use Games Areas Promote the development of high-quality and multi-functional recreational facilities throughout Fingal, including Active Recreational Hubs and	Fingal continues to provide these much-needed facilities. Having already opened new facilities in Balbriggan, Porterstown Park, and Swords, work is now underway in the Donabate-Portrane peninsula to provide a recreational hub providing

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Multi-Use Games Areas to meet existing and future community needs, in accordance with the National Sports Policy 2018–2027.	a full sized floodlit all-weather GAA pitch which incorporates two full-sized all-weather soccer pitches, a floodlit eight-lane all-weather athletics track, bleacher seating, a skatepark, playground, and associated infrastructure. Rathmore Recreational Hib in Lusk has recently received planning permission which will be an invaluable addition to Rathmore Park and the community of Lusk.
Objective CIOSO14 - Fingal Sports Office Vision Statement 2019–2021 Support the strategic goals of the Fingal Sports Office Vision Statement 2019–2021, or any superseding sports strategy for the County	<i>Active, Together. Local Sport and Physical Activity Plan 2024 – 2029</i> was published in 2024 and the Council will continue to support the goals and objectives detailed therein.
Objective CIOSO15 - Healthy Ireland and the National Physical Activity Plan Promote public health policy including Healthy Ireland and the National Physical Activity Plan in line with NPO 26 of the NPF and RPO 9.16 of the RSES.	The Council continues to support this initiative.
Objective CIOSO16 - National Sports Campus Zoning (NSC) Facilitate the provision of sporting facilities and associated infrastructure in accordance with the National Sports Campus zoning (NSC), incorporating appropriate office, administration, training, accommodation and other associated and ancillary development.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process
Objective CIOSO17 - Educational Infrastructure Encourage the continued use and possible intensification of existing educational infrastructure where appropriate. Facilitate the development of new schools, the re-development of existing schools and extensions planned as part of the Government’s School Building Programme.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process
Objective CIOSO18 - Sites for Primary and Secondary Schools Identify sites for primary and secondary schools in consultation with the Department of Education based on future population growth projections and in accordance with the Core Strategy and Settlement Hierarchy.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and through the preparation of Masterplans and Local Area Plans. Lands are identified for the provision of schools by the Department of Education throughout the County, illustrated on the Development Plan maps.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
	Fingal County Council continues to work closely with all State Education providers including the Department of Education.
Objective CIOSO19 - Additional Schools Facilitate the development of additional schools, including Gaelscoileanna and Gaelcholáistí, at both primary and secondary level in a timely manner in partnership with the Department of Education and Skills and/or other bodies	Fingal County Council will continue to work closely with the Department of Education to support the delivery of Objective CIOSO19
Objective CIOSO20 - Design of Schools Require new schools and other education centres to meet the Council's standards regarding quality of design with an emphasis on contemporary design, landscaping and vehicular movement and vehicular parking. Design of schools and other educational centres should also take account of sustainable building practices, water and energy conservation as well as air quality and climate change. Such standards are to be considered and demonstrated in any application for an educational centre.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective CIOSO21 - Multiple Usage of School Buildings Promote and encourage the multiple usage of school buildings and associated infrastructure so that school facilities are also available for use by the local community after school hours.	The Council will continue to promote such usage of school buildings, through pre-planning and the Development Management process.
Objective CIOSO22 - School Streets Principles Require new schools to be designed in accordance with 'School Streets' principles incorporating traffic free, clean air zones around schools either permanently or on a time controlled basis coinciding with school opening and closing times wherever possible.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective CIOSO23 - Higher Education Promote and facilitate the development of existing and new third and higher-level education centres where practicable and in proximity to public transport.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective CIOSO24 - Existing and New Further Education Centres Promote and facilitate the development of existing and new further education centres where	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
practicable and in proximity to public transport, particularly in areas of high socio-economic disadvantage.	
Objective CIO25 - Healthcare Facilities Support and facilitate the development of health centres, hospitals, clinics and primary care centres where new communities are proposed and in towns, villages and local centres, with good accessibility for all.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and through continued regular consultation with the Health Service Executive and other key stakeholders on the planning and delivery of critical social and community infrastructure in the County.
Objective CIO26 - Primary Care Centre Swords Encourage and facilitate the delivery of a primary care centre for Swords.	The Council will assess any such proposal through the Development Management process and through consultation with key stakeholders.
Objective CIO27 - Optimum Childcare Locations Encourage the provision of childcare facilities in appropriate locations, including residential areas, town and local centres, areas of employment and areas close to public transport nodes. Encourage the co-location of childcare facilities and community facilities where appropriate, such as community centres and schools, with an emphasis on community and not for profit childcare facilities where appropriate.	The Council will continue to encourage the provision of appropriately located childcare services and will continue to assess proposals for residential or other types of mixed-use developments which aim to co-locate facilities in accordance with the current guidelines, or any subsequent versions, or as outlined in specified LAPs, Masterplans or SDZs for the provision of childcare facilities. The Council, through Development Management will assess the proposal in consultation with Fingal County Childcare Committee. Childcare facilities are operating in 18 no. Council supported community centres. The community office sits on a not-for-profit community childcare subcommittee, Fingal Children & Young People Services Committee (FCYPSC). The purpose of this is to explore opportunities to increase not-for-profit community childcare in Fingal.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective CIOSO28 - Childcare Facilities and New Development Require the provision of appropriate childcare facilities as an essential part of new residential and mixed-use developments in accordance with the provisions of the Childcare Facilities Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2001 or any superseding Guidelines, or as required by the Planning Authority. Such facilities should be provided in a timely manner and be an integral part of the development proposal.	The Council will continue to assess proposals for residential development or other types of mixed-use developments, including community centres or others which aim to co-locate facilities, in accordance with the current guidelines, or any subsequent versions, or as outlined in specified LAPs, Masterplans or SDZs for the provision of onsite childcare facilities.
Objective CIOSO29 - Community-Based Childcare Promote the establishment of community-based, non-profit, childcare in future Fingal community facilities.	The community office sits on a not-for-profit community childcare subcommittee, Fingal Children & Young People Services Committee (FCYPSC). The purpose of this is to explore opportunities to increase not-for-profit community childcare in Fingal.
Objective CIOSO30 - Fingal Libraries Development Plan Support the development of the County's library services and the implementation of key objectives, as set out in the Fingal Libraries Development Plan 2018–2023 or any superseding document.	The Fingal Library Service Development Plan 2024 – 2029 was adopted in 2024 and the Council will continue to support the objectives of same.
Objective CIOSO31 - Places of Worship Facilitate the development of additional places of worship through the designation and/or zoning of lands for such community requirements and examine locating places of worship within shared community facilities.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective CIOSO32 - Appropriate Locations for Places of Worship Encourage and facilitate the development of places of worship in appropriate locations in urban centres or within existing community facilities and proximate to residential communities.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective CIOSO33 - Burial Grounds and Local Amenity Facilitate the development of extended and additional burial grounds, including green graveyards/ natural burial grounds in Fingal, bearing in mind the needs of multi-faith and non-	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. An extension to Balgriffin cemetery was completed in 2024.

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religious communities, subject to traffic, noise and environmental considerations.	
Objective CIOS034 - Future Burial Requirements Facilitate the future burial requirements of the County including the provision of Columbarium walls where possible, within existing and regional graveyards.	The Council will continue to support this objective through interdepartmental consultation and stakeholder engagement.
Objective CIOS035 - Fire Stations Continue to support the provision of a modern and efficient fire service as required and in conjunction with Dublin City Council.	The Council will continue to support this objective.
Objective CIOS036 - Variety of Open Space Provide a wide variety of resiliently designed, sustainably managed and accessible public open spaces, including allotments, community gardens, parklands and sporting facilities, on a hierarchical basis throughout the County in order to achieve a choice of open space facilities. Best practice Green Infrastructure Guidelines should be used to determine the location and type of open spaces to be provided.	The Council continues to provide these facilities throughout the County through multi-departmental co-operation and stakeholder engagement, e.g. new public park at Rathmore, Lusk. The associated Recreational Hub has recently received planning permission from An Bord Pleanála.
Objective CIOS037 - Increase Allotment Spaces Increase the number of allotment spaces throughout the county during the lifetime of the Development Plan.	Fingal County Council has approximately 900 no. allotments at four sites; Balbriggan, Skerries, Turvey in Donabate and Powerstown, Dublin 15. A review of the Allotments Policy was carried out in September-October 2022 and 2024.
Objective CIOS038 - Public Open Space Provision Require a minimum public open space provision of 2.5 hectares per 1000 population. For the purposes of this calculation, public open space requirements are to be based on residential units with an agreed occupancy rate of 3.5 persons in the case of dwellings with three or more bedrooms and 1.5 persons in the case of dwellings with two or fewer bedrooms	Ongoing, as part of the Development Management process.
Objective CIOS039 - Clustering of Active Recreational Open Space Facilities Ensure coherent clustering of active recreational open space facilities into a recreational hub arrangement unless a more practicable solution is demonstrated.	The Council continues to support the clustering of community facilities and services. Having already opened new facilities in Balbriggan, Porterstown Park, and Swords, work is now underway in the heart of the Donabate-Portrane peninsula on an extensive hub that will offer a full sized floodlit

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
	all-weather GAA pitch which incorporates two full sized all-weather soccer pitches, a floodlit eight-lane all-weather athletics track, bleacher seating, a skatepark, playground, and associated infrastructure. Rathmore Recreational Hub in Lusk has recently received planning permission and will be an invaluable addition to Rathmore Park and the community of Lusk.
Objective CIOSO40 - Intensive Recreational / Amenity Facilities Require that intensive recreational/amenity facilities be agreed with and given in ownership to the Council. The Council may directly manage these facilities and may grant management licences and/ or sporting leases in respect of the operation of these facilities, and uses shall be consistent with the provisions of any deed of dedication to which the lands are subject. In areas which are subject to Local Area Plans, the general policy will be decided in the first place at Local Area Plan level, rather than when considering individual planning applications.	This is an ongoing endeavour of the Council and will continue in a proactive manner and on a case-by-case basis.
Objective CIOSO41 - Accessible and Safe Open Space Ensure public open space is accessible and safety is prioritised by incorporating passive surveillance.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in conjunction with the advice of the Parks and Green Infrastructure Department.
Objective CIOSO42 - Accessible Toilet and Changing Places Facilities Support the provision of fully accessible toilet facilities for all ages and abilities including changing places facilities in Regional Parks.	Millenium Park, Newbridge, Ardgillan and Santry Demesnes have benefited from the installation of new bespoke toilets blocks which incorporate new design features and are excellent examples of sustainable construction. The new toilet buildings are designed differently from previous installations. Instead of separate ladies and gents' rooms, the new buildings incorporate five direct entry unisex toilets with full disability and baby changing specifications in each toilet. There is also a separate fully specified and fitted 'Changing Places' toilet room.
Objective CIOSO43 - Exceptional Circumstances for Certain Facilities Consider in exceptional circumstances particularly desirable open space/ recreation/ amenity facilities which do not comply with the	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management Process and in conjunction with the advice of the Parks and Green Infrastructure Department.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
foregoing provisions, but only with the specific approval of the Council.	
Objective CIOSO44 - Playgrounds Facilitate the provision of appropriately scaled children's playground facilities within new and existing residential development in line with the Council's Play Policy.	Playgrounds at Portrane, Hazelbury Park and Hartstown Park are currently being prepared for the Part 8 planning process. Target date for completion of process Q2/3 2025.
Objective CIOSO45 - Feasibility Studies Carry out appropriate feasibility studies and ensure the locating of sites to increase the alternative play and recreational facilities, within the county's townlands by 25%, throughout the lifetime of this Plan.	The Council has procured a consultant to assist in preparing the County Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) under the guidance of the County Outdoor Recreation Committee and consultation with stakeholders and the public is commencing.
Objective CIOSO46 - Multi-Functional Buildings Encourage the development of multi-functional buildings which are not used exclusively by any one group.	The local authority will continue to encourage multi-functional use where appropriate.
Objective CIOSO47 - Intensive Recreational / Amenity Facilities Allow recreational/amenity facilities (indoor or outdoor) of a more intensive nature to be provided in tandem with larger developments in place of the open space requirement, within a specified timeframe. Such provision shall be at the sole discretion of the Planning Authority. Such facilities shall either be on site or located within the open space 'accessibility from homes' specified in Table 4.2.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in conjunction with the advice of the Parks and Green Infrastructure Department.
Objective CIOSO48 - Use of Intensive Recreational / Amenity Facilities Ensure intensive recreational/amenity facilities are not used exclusively by any one group or sporting code.	The Council will continue to encourage this objective through the Development Management process and in conjunction with the advice of the Parks and Green Infrastructure Department.
Objective CIOSO49 – Smaller Developments and Open Space Require an equivalent financial contribution in lieu of open space provision in smaller developments where the open space generated by the development would be so small as not to be viable.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in conjunction with the advice of the Parks and Green Infrastructure Department.
Objective CIOSO50 - Monetary Value of Specific Intensive Facilities	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in conjunction with the

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Require the monetary value of specific intensive facilities to be equal to or greater than the full cost of the open space they replace, inclusive of the development costs of such open space.	advice of the Parks and Green Infrastructure Department.
Objective CIOSO51 - Permeability Ensure permeability and connections between public open spaces including connections between new and existing spaces, in consultation with residents.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in conjunction with the advice of the Parks and Green Infrastructure Department.
Objective CIOSO52 - Trees Protect, preserve and ensure the effective management of trees and groups of trees.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in conjunction with the advice of the Parks and Green Infrastructure Department.
Objective CIOSO53 - Open Space and Privacy Ensure all areas of private open space have an adequate level of privacy for residents through the minimisation of overlooking and the provision of screening arrangements.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in conjunction with the advice of the Parks and Green Infrastructure Department.
Objective CIOSO54 - Pets and Wildlife Ensure that all animals including pets and wildlife are adequately catered for and protected in parks and open spaces.	The Council continues to support this objective wherever possible through the Development Management process and in all relevant Council-led development processes.

5. CLIMATE ACTION



5. Climate Action

The Fingal Development Plan is underpinned by the principles of sustainable development, climate change adaptation, social inclusion, high-quality design and contains adaptation and mitigation measures and actions to address climate change. Fingal County Council has prioritised the promotion of active travel as part of an ongoing commitment to Climate Action with the creation of the Environment, Climate Action and Active Travel Department which has responsibility for mobility planning and the delivery of the NTA's Cycle Network within the County.



Fingal County Council continues to develop a network of high-quality greenways as part of a wider sustainable transport infrastructure programme. This sustainable infrastructure will improve quality of life for residents and increase the number of people choosing to cycle and walk, thereby reducing dependency on private car use and lowering carbon emissions, improving air quality levels and reducing congestion.

A new Climate Action Plan for Fingal was launched in March 2024 and outlines innovative climate adaptation and mitigation actions which the Council intends to take over the next five-years as it strives to make the county a more climate resilient region.

The 2024-2029 Plan, which demonstrates Fingal's continued commitment to climate action, includes six key theme areas, namely: Energy & Buildings; Transport; Flood Resilience; Nature Based Solutions; Circular Economy & Resource Management; and Community Engagement. This is aligned to the Government's National Climate Objective, which seeks to pursue and achieve, by no later than the end of 2050, the transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy.

The Plan sets out how Fingal County Council will be responsible for enhancing climate resilience, increasing energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, across its own assets, services and infrastructure, whilst also demonstrating its broader role of 'influencing,' 'coordinating' and 'facilitating' and 'advocating' for climate action across society.

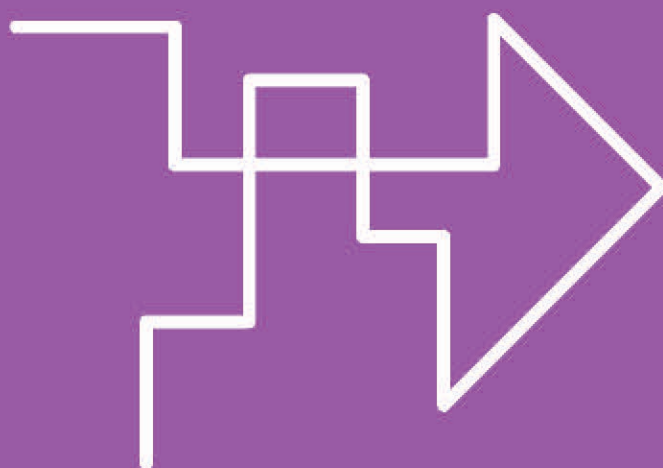
In the area of 'Community Engagement', 25no. Fingal-based community groups and organisations signed contracts to receive grant funding to a value of €1,127,000 to facilitate Climate Action Projects in the county. The Community Climate Action Grant is administered by Fingal County Council Environment, Climate Action and Sports Department. Through the

Community Climate Action Programme, over 100 no. projects in community settings will shortly commence and include measures such as replacing windows, doors, installing Solar PV LEDs and installing insulation to reduce emissions and improve efficiency. This fund will enable community groups to expand Climate Action objectives through increased recycling and circular economy initiatives, community garden expansions and promotion of biodiversity.

Chapter 5 – Objectives and Progress

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective CAO1 - Climate Action Legislation Consider a variation of the Plan to align with amended/new climate action legislation.	The Council will consider this if and when required.
Objective CAO2 - Fingal County Council Climate Change Action Plan Implement Fingal County Council's Climate Change Action Plan 2019–2024 in consultation and partnership with stakeholders including the Dublin Metropolitan Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) and Codema.	Fingal County Council's Climate Action Plan 2024–2029 sets out mitigation and adaptation measures, to create a low carbon and climate resilient County. The Council will continue to implement the Plan.
Objective CAO3 - Quantification of Greenhouse Gases Support the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) in identifying a robust method for quantifying the relative GHG impacts of alternative spatial planning policies as part of the European Union ESPON 'QGasSP' research programme.	Ongoing- Fingal will support EMRA in fulfilment of this Objective.
Objective CAO4 - District Heating Systems Identify suitable location(s) for the delivery of district heating systems within the plan area.	Ongoing.

6. CONNECTIVITY AND MOVEMENT



6. Connectivity and Movement

6.1 Introduction

Connectivity and movement are vital components of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029. Influenced by national and regional policy, the Development Plan aims to promote modal shift to more sustainable modes of transportation such as bus, rail, and active travel, while ensuring the protection of its strategic transport corridors as well as the further delivery and maintenance of the road network to serve the county.

Since the adoption of the Fingal Development Plan in 2023, Fingal County Council has made significant progress to advance more sustainable and environmentally focused growth and mobility in order to fulfil relevant Development Plan objectives.

The Council is continuously striving to increase active travel options as well as working with public transport providers to reduce reliance on the private car. Significant progress has been made in the roll out of active travel projects to facilitate increased levels of walking and cycling across Fingal. Measures also continue to expand the public realm and allocate more space for pedestrians and cyclists as well as enhancing connecting and permeability in existing areas.

Fingal County Council has also been successful in securing funding and establishing partnership arrangements with relevant stakeholders such as the National Transport Authority (NTA) to deliver new and enhanced walking and cycling infrastructure. The Council has been allocated €20m in funding from The National Transport Authority for the ongoing delivery of active travel schemes in 2025.

Fingal County Council's three-year Capital Programme 2025-2027 allocates significant investment in projects within Fingal which will facilitate cyclists, pedestrians, bus movement and improve traffic flows generally.

6.2 Active Travel

The Council's Environment, Climate Action Active Travel and Sports Department, in partnership with the NTA continues, to facilitate the planning, design and delivery of active travel projects throughout Fingal, including, retrofitting measures to improve connectivity and permeability in existing towns and villages. This also includes the Safe Routes to Schools Programme.

The Capital Programme for 2025-2027 allocates significant funding of c. €82m to this Department to advance active travel infrastructure.

The following are some of the examples of active travel projects progressed:

Protected Cycleways

Two protected cycle lane schemes were completed in 2024 by the Active Travel Unit, delivering 4.875km of protected cycle lanes at 2no. locations, namely St Cronans/Brackenstown Road Swords and the R132 from Blakes Cross to Quickpenny Lane. A further 80m was delivered in Northwood Santry at a local level. A number of other schemes are in detailed design with construction due in Dublin 15 and Swords in 2025.

Towns and Villages Permeability and Connectivity

The Active Travel Unit continues to receive requests for permeability and connectivity improvements from stakeholders across the County. These requests are being recorded in detail for evaluation through a multi-criteria analysis. The projects are then reviewed across the departments to identify if an appropriate means of delivery can be established. Several projects identified through this process are being developed through the design phases for execution.

Safe Routes to School

As part of the 'Safe Routes to School' programme, nine schools had 'Safe Routes to School' treatments delivered in 2023 and 2024. Consultant engineers have been commissioned to progress design concepts for schools in round 2 of the scheme.

Fingal County Council has also commenced works on a trial 'Quiet Streets Initiative' aimed at enhancing community living and promoting active travel. The initiative will identify three separate locations where filtered permeability measures will be implemented. This trial is designed to reduce vehicular traffic on residential streets, creating safer and more accessible spaces for walking, cycling, and other active travel modes. By reclaiming road space for the community, the scheme seeks to foster a stronger sense of neighbourhood and improve the overall quality of life for residents.

Strategic Planning

The Active Travel Unit continues to provide input into planning and policy frameworks at a local, regional and national level. Active Travel considerations will continue to be a requirement of future planning permissions where new developments will provide appropriate space for walking and cycling and provide connectivity and permeability to adjoining neighbourhoods.



St. Cronan's Active Travel scheme



Ladyswell National School, Mulhuddart - Safe Routes to School Scheme

6.3 Greenways – High Quality Pedestrian/Cycle Routes

The Planning and Strategic infrastructure Department continues to advance a number of Greenways and high-quality pedestrian/cycle routes since the adoption of the Development Plan. The following are project updates in accordance with Table 6.1 of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029:

Table 6-1: Greenways/High Quality Cycling and Walking Routes

Greenways/High Quality Cycling and Walking Routes	Brief Description	Status
Fingal Coastal Way (Donabate–Balbriggan)	The Fingal Coastal Way Greenway will extend from Newbridge Demesne in Donabate to the Fingal boundary, north of Balbriggan. The overall length of the scheme will be approximately 32km.	Phase 2 Route Option Selection is nearing completion. The next stage is preliminary design.
Broadmeadow Way (Malahide–Donabate)	The Broadmeadow Greenway will connect Malahide Demesne and Newbridge Demesne and will form part of the Fingal Coastal Way.	The installation of the main estuary bridge is complete. Tender competitions are complete for a number of sub-elements of the project with work contracts to take place in 2025. The project is expected to be complete in 2026.
Sutton to Malahide	The Sutton to Malahide Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme is a proposed cycling and walking route	The preliminary design drawings are being finalised. The recently published Cycle Design Manual has led to improvements being incorporated into

Greenways/High Quality Cycling and Walking Routes	Brief Description	Status
	which will serve Sutton, Baldoyle, Portmarnock and Malahide.	the overall scheme design including revised layouts for crossings and bus stops to comply with the new standards. Draft CPO, EIAR and NIS documents are being prepared for the submission to An Bord Pleanála in Q3 2025.
Royal Canal	The Royal Canal Urban Greenway scheme will provide a high-quality urban greenway to facilitate leisure and commuter pedestrian and cycling trips along the 8km section between the 12th Lock to the Fingal County boundary at Leixlip. The proposed Royal Canal Urban Greenway scheme will connect into the existing Greenway at the 12 th Lock. It will form a key strategic part of the GDA Cycle Network and the Galway-Dublin Greenway. The route is also envisaged to become a key part of the local transport network that will allow people living along the route to travel in their area in a healthy, sustainable, and safe manner.	The project is currently at preliminary design stage and requires the need to hold additional meetings with all the relevant key stakeholders to agree a revised design in line with the new Cycling Design Manual. Landowner searches and land referencing are ongoing. Following completion of the preliminary design, all the required documents including the Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be prepared for a planning application to An Bord Pleanála which is envisaged to be later in 2025.
Royal Canal-Grand Canal Loop	This proposed connecting link would connect both canals.	Feasibility report on route options is being completed.
Ward River Valley and Broadmeadow River Valley	Greenway/Active Travel infrastructure provided as part of the Park Development Plan for the Ward River Valley Park.	The Parks Development Plan is at an advanced stage of preparation incorporating a new north/south Walking Cycling bridge crossing of the Ward Valley (Brackenstown Bridge). Restoration of previously open routes ongoing. It is envisaged that plans for statutory approval to An Bord Pleanála will be lodged end of 2025.
Tolka Valley	Greenway/Active Travel infrastructure being provided as part of the Park Development Plan for the Tolka Valley Regional Park which will run from the Meath border with Fingal to Pelletstown in the Dublin City Council Area.	Scoping/Mapping exercise underway to prepare for the engagement of an Integrated Design Team (IDT) to prepare the Park Development Plan for the park including Greenway/Active travel infrastructure. Planning work will commence 2025.

Greenways/High Quality Cycling and Walking Routes	Brief Description	Status
Hamilton Way	The Hamilton Way is a proposed pedestrian and cycle route that follows the route of the Hamilton Walk that would link Dunsink Observatory to the Royal Canal.	To be examined as part of the preparation of the statutory plan for Dunsink.
Lusk/Rush (via Rogerstown Park)	Masterplan for the Rogerstown Park (former Balleally Landfill) has been prepared along with related link from the park to Rush Lusk Train Station and the town of Lusk.	Next phase of planning for this route is subject to approval of the park development plans by the Environmental Protection Agency in line with the requirements of the Aftercare/Management plan for the Former Balleally Landfill.
Donabate to Portrane Village (via Ballymastone and Cliff Walk)	Greenway/Active Travel Link from Donabate to Portrane via the Ballymastone Recreational Hub and realigned Cliff Walk between Corballis GC and Portrane.	First phase of the Ballymastone Recreational Hub including a section of the Greenway route will be completed in Q1 2025. Another section of the Greenway will be constructed as part of Phase 2 of the Recreational Hub commencing Q2 2025 and completed in Q1 2026. HSE has granted the Council a license to reconstruct the Cliff Walk from the Ballymastone section to Portrane via the St. Ita's lands and planning for this work is being advanced having regard to the relevant environmental constraints.
Racecourse Park (Baldoyle)	A link section of Greenway is included in the approved Racecourse Park Development Plan between the existing Baldoyle/Portmarnock Greenway and the DCC lands to the west of the Railway line at Clongriffin.	The Council will appoint an Integrated Design Team in Q1 2025 to prepare the tender for the Park Development Works (including the Greenway) which it is planned to progress over the Summer months in 2025.
Millpond Park	This Greenway/Active Travel route will link the southern end of the Harry Reynolds Road with the R132/Quay Street Junction in the centre of Balbriggan via the Millpond Park.	Detailed design for a link section of the route adjoining the R132/Quay Street Junction is in preparation having regard to the challenging and localised topographical and environmental considerations. When planning is approved for this technically difficult section of the route, the remainder will be developed as part of a park improvement project.

Greenways/High Quality Cycling and Walking Routes	Brief Description	Status
Drumnigh Road to Kinsealy	Forms part of the Kinsealy to Portmarnock Walking and Cycling Scheme	Non statutory public consultation recently completed for the emerging preferred route.



Broadmeadow Way Project showing the installation of the main estuary bridge.



Visual of the Sutton to Malahide Pedestrian and Cycle Scheme

6.4 Strategic Public Transport Projects

The expansion of rail and bus usage and availability is a key feature in many objectives of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029. The local authority continues to engage and collaborate with the key transport providers including the TII, the NTA and Irish Rail to advance strategic public transport projects in line with the NTA's GDA Transport Strategy 2022-2042. Since the adoption of the Development Plan, significant progress has been made on a number of the strategic public transport projects which will benefit Fingal. The local authority continues to engage with these projects through the various planning, design and construction stages.

Table 6-2: Strategic Transport Projects

Project	Brief Description	Status
MetroLink	MetroLink will comprise a high-capacity, high-frequency, modern and efficient metro railway running from Swords to Charlemont. The alignment will link Dublin Airport, Irish Rail, DART, Dublin Bus and LUAS services and create a fully integrated public transport network for the Greater Dublin Area (GDA).	At Public Consultation stage on information submitted during the MetroLink Oral Hearing. Fingal continues to engage with the process. A submission was made to the most recent stage of the process.
LUAS Finglas	Luas Finglas an extension of the Luas Green Line, running from Broombridge to Charlestown in Fingal, through Tolka Valley and Finglas village.	At Public Consultation Stage of Railway Order Application by TII. Fingal continues to engage with the process. A submission was made to ABP for the most recent stage of the process.

DART + Coastal North	The DART+ Coastal North Project will provide an extension of the existing electrified rail network from Malahide to Drogheda MacBride stations and will provide the infrastructure to facilitate an increase to the rail capacity on the Northern Line between Dublin City Centre and Drogheda MacBride Station, including the Howth Branch.	Railway Order with An Bord Pleanála for consideration. The Council continues to engage with the process. A submission was made to the most recent stage of the Public Consultation process.
Dart + West	DART+ West is seeking to modernise and optimise the existing railway between Maynooth and M3 Parkway to Connolly Station and the proposed Spencer Dock Station. The project involves track works, electrification and certain interventions to remove constraints.	Permitted by An Bord Pleanála with conditions. Depot element near Maynooth not granted. Fingal engaged at all stages of the process and will continue to engage through detailed design and construction phases. Construction expected in 2027-2030
BusConnects	As part of the BusConnects Scheme, a number of new routes are proposed in Fingal, with the aim to provide more frequent and efficient networks and increased bus services. Core bus corridors are also proposed along key routes, with high-quality bus lanes, segregated cycle lands and high-quality bus shelters.	Finglas/ Ballymun, Clongriffin, Swords, and Blanchardstown schemes granted planning with conditions by ABP in 2024. Finglas/Ballymun and Clongriffin advanced to design and built stage contract in Q3/Q4 2024.

6.5 Transportation Schemes

The Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department continues to facilitate the planning, design and delivery of a significant number of transportation schemes. Some recent examples of projects completed or at advanced stage of planning and design within the Swords, Donabate and Dublin 15 areas include the following:

Swords Transport Projects

The Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department recently appointed Transportation Consulting Engineers to work collaboratively with the local authority on the delivery of a range of schemes in Swords and Kinsaley. In particular, the recommendations of the Sustainable Swords Strategy will inform the development of a number of new urban realms, walking and cycling projects over the coming years including the upgrade of Swords Main St. cycling and walking connections on the Malahide Road, the Swords Western Distributor Road and a new high-quality walking and cycling bridge connection over the Ward River Valley as part of the wider regional park proposal. Procurement of a multi-disciplinary consultant for Swords Main Street

to progress the Main Street through statutory planning is complete and works on the design is due to begin. Detailed design works for the public realm element of the Swords Cultural Quarter (SCQ) is progressing. This will be followed by procurement of a works contractor and construction of the public realm of the SCQ.

Projects co-ordination is ongoing with various departments of Fingal County Council and relevant stakeholders in relation to an overview of all projects which may be on site over the next 5 years in Swords and include an examination of mitigation measures that may be required to facilitate the various projects.

R132 Connectivity Project

Consultation with the National Transport Authority (NTA) and with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII), regarding the connection with MetroLink is ongoing with monthly meetings. Detailed Design Stage is underway and progressing as programmed. A 2-year construction timeframe is envisaged to complete the project.

Donabate Transport Projects

Work is progressing on the early phase development of Donabate Transport Projects, which comprise a number of major projects with the objective of improving transport and active travel infrastructure and road safety on the Donabate-Portrane peninsula.

The projects include:

Phase 2 of the Donabate Distributor Road project, to improve access to Donabate and Portrane from the M1-Lissenhall Interchange for all road users, particularly vulnerable road users such as pedestrians and cyclists;

Blakes Cross Junction Upgrade, to provide a safer junction layout to cater for both motorised traffic and active travel modes of transport such as walking and cycling;

A study of the M1-Lissenhall Interchange, in collaboration with Transport Infrastructure Ireland, to assess all technical and operational traffic issues associated with this strategic motorway junction; and

7 no. Active Travel Routes which encompass a number of related local projects which aim to increase local connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists.

Data-gathering and concept development stages of the Donabate Transport Projects continue and include topographical and ecological surveys of relevant areas of Donabate. Fingal County Council, working in collaboration with Transport Infrastructure Ireland, has completed a traffic study of the M1-Lissenhall Interchange. Separately, a number of potential options have been identified for both Phase 2 of the Donabate Distributor Road and the Blakes Cross Junction Upgrade. These options are currently being assessed using multi criteria analysis to determine the preferred route alignment and the preferred junction layout. Further stages of work, relating to environmental assessment, planning consent, etc. will follow on in 2025 and in subsequent years, as appropriate.

Donabate Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge

This bridge will provide connectivity and integration of development lands with Donabate Train Station, Donabate Village and Newbridge Demesne. Support structures to take the weight of the bridge have been constructed on either side of the railway. Bridge beams, spanning over the railway and the concrete deck are in place. Temporary working platforms and edge protection railings have been installed to allow works to be carried out on the bridge with the minimum number of further railway possessions. The permanent parapets, made up of Kalwall panels, are due to be installed in the coming weeks with ancillary works such drainage and public lighting to follow. Works on the bridge are expected to be completed in March 2025.



Donabate Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge under Construction

Portmarnock Railway Bridge Improvement Works

Improvement works to existing overpass railway bridge OBB21 will facilitate a safe and direct active travel route from Drumnigh Manor to Portmarnock Train Station and beyond via a new linear park which runs north-south, parallel to the railway track within the Saint Marnock's Bay Development. The detailed design drawings are currently being reviewed by Irish Rail which will form the basis for a Bridge Agreement. Once all the legal agreements are in place, the next stage is construction.

Pedestrian and Cycling Bridge at Granard Bridge Castleknock

The first contract as part of this framework will be to undertake phases 2 to 4 for a new pedestrian and cycling bridge at Granard Bridge Castleknock Road which will cross the Dublin Maynooth railway and Royal Canal, adjacent 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 safety 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.

This project design will allow for a much-needed pedestrian and cycling link from the new Bridge north to the Roselawn Road/Castleknock Road junction and south to the Laurel Lodge Road/Castleknock Road junction. No alternations are proposed to these existing junctions only to tie into the existing junction's infrastructure.

Clonsilla-Damastown Cycle Route

Fingal County Council continues to progress the Clonsilla-Damastown Cycle Route project brief and tender documentation to undertake phases 2 to 4 for the Clonsilla-Damastown Cycle Route are currently being finalised for tender under the Single Party Framework for Engineering Consultancy Services for pedestrian and cycling route projects in the Dublin 15 Area.

Snugborough Interchange Upgrade

The Snugborough Interchange upgrade at road level was completed and became operational in July 2024. The active travel element through the underpasses was completed in November 2024. The upgrade provides for new bus lanes and cycleways at the interchange and is part of the new bus quality corridor from the city to the Blanchardstown Centre.



Snugborough Interchange Upgrade - Underpass.

Churchfields Link Road and Cycle Scheme

Churchfields Road and Cycle Scheme was completed in 2024 and is undergoing snagging. This scheme will underpin the development of significant housing and green infrastructure in Mulhuddart and will provide a strong link between the existing community and the schools campus. Churchfields Link Road includes Ireland's first cycle friendly 'Dutch style' roundabout opened to the public in August 2023.



Churchfields Link Road with 'Dutch style' roundabout

Ongar Barnhill Road

Bam Civil Ltd. constructed the new bridge over the railway line during 2024. Road surfacing is continuing during Q1 2025 along the length of the scheme. Installation of ducting, watermain, sub-base, kerbs and footpaths will continue during Q1. It is intended that traffic will be diverted onto some of the new Barberstown Lane South early in 2025 following surfacing works. This new high quality transportation corridor will significantly improve accessibility in this fast-growing area of Dublin 15. The overall scheme is expected to be completed in Q2 2025.



Ongar Barnhill Road Construction showing bridge over railway -December 2024.

Kellystown Road

This road will service the Kellystown Local Area Plan lands. It is intended that this scheme is to be advanced to planning via a Part 8 process during 2025. Some of eastern part of route is being delivered through planning consents in Kellystown LAP. Irish Rail/ CIE have planning permission with conditions from ABP for Dart+ West. The project includes a bridge over the canal and railway at Barberstown level crossing.

N3 to Clonee Bus Priority and Active Travel

A design for bus priority along the N3 and active travel links across the N3 is being examined by consultants. This is a TII funded project in collaboration with Meath County Council. The focus is on the N3 between Junction 3 and Junction 4b. Route options are being considered.

Consultancy Framework for Dublin 15 Walking and Cycling Projects

The Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department recently signed a Single Party Framework for Engineering Consultancy Services for Pedestrian and Cycling Route Projects in the Dublin 15 Area for Walking and Cycling Projects.

Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cycle Route

This scheme seeks to improve connectivity within the town of Balbriggan and to serve its growing population with a healthy, climate friendly alternative way to travel locally. It will link 6 no. schools and key attractions in the area and provide an alternative to travel by car in the town. This scheme is substantially complete.



Harry Reynolds Road Pedestrian and Cycle Route - *Substantially Complete – Jan 2025*

Rush to Lusk Walking & Cycling Route

The aim of the proposed 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. A brief is being developed for the appointment of a consultant.

The following are project updates in accordance with Table 6.3 Transportation Schemes of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029.

Table 6-3: Transportation Schemes

Scheme	Progress to Date
N2 Upgrade Rath to Kilmoon	The project team are currently awaiting TII approval to proceed to the next phase of the process – Phase 3 Design and Environmental Evaluation.
Cappagh Road – Dunsink Lane	To be commenced.
Balbriggan Ring Road R122 to R132	Development Management lead LRD0006/S3, Flemington LAP, LRD0048/S3E Refused and currently under appeal.
Stockhole Lane Upgrade	To be commenced.
Castlelands Link to R127	LDA, Irish Rail and Fingal are progressing a bridge agreement for the bridge element of these works. The bridge will be constructed by the LDA and taken into the ownership of the local authority.
Sillogue Bridge Link	Complete, existing bridge link to be upgraded.
Skerries Southern Relief Road – R128 to Railway Line	To be commenced.
St Margaret's Bypass to Northern Parallel Road	To be commenced.
R126 Donabate – Lissenhall	Phase 2 of the Donabate Distributor Road. Consultant appointed for Phase 1-2 (Options Selection Stage)
Cappagh Road – Huntstown R135 Link	To be commenced.
Swords Outer Relief Road	To be commenced.
Dunsink Lane – Abbotstown Link	To be commenced.
Swords Western Distributor Road	At Contract Award Stage for Phase 1-2 (Options Selection Stage)
N3 Upgrade M50 – Clonee	Route options for Bus priority along N3 and active travel crossing N3 between Junctions 3 and 4b being examined. Public engagement likely in Q2 2025
Fosterstown Link Road	Largely Developer lead at LRD Pre-planning stage. Tie in with Bus Connects at Pinnock Hill. This is at concept development stage.
N3 Castaheany Interchange Upgrade	Route options for Bus priority along N3 and active travel crossing N3 between Junctions 3 and 4b being examined. Public engagement likely in Q2 2025
R106 Malahide–Swords Road Upgrade	To be commenced.

Scheme	Progress to Date
Kellystown Road	Preliminary design being advanced. Planning application via part 8 expected in Q3/Q4 2025
R123 Moyne Road realignment	To be commenced.
Kilshane Cross Upgrade	To be commenced.
R107 Malahide Road/Clare Hall Bypass	To be commenced.
Cappaghfinn Road	To be commenced.
R107 Malahide Road Upgrade	To be commenced.
Barrysparks Link Road	Developer lead. At Pre-Planning stage.
Station Road, Portmarnock and Drumnigh Road Junction	Station Road /Strand Road Junction complete. Station Road/Drumnigh Road junction forms part of the Kinsealy to Portmarnock Walking and Cycling Route. Non-statutory public consultation recently completed for the emerging preferred route
East West Distributor Road: Stockhole Lane to Cherryhound	To be commenced.
East-West Distributor Road: Malahide Road to Stockhole Lane	To be commenced.
Toberburr Road Upgrade	Developer lead. At Pre-Planning stage
Naul Road Upgrade (M1 Junction 6 exit to the roundabout on the R122)	To be commenced.

Protection of Strategic Transport Corridors

Fingal County Council continues to protect the capacity and efficiency of its strategic air, road and rail corridors in collaboration with relevant stakeholders. For example, the Dublin Airport Local Area Plan adopted in January 2020 continues to accommodate the future sustainable growth and development of the airport lands while also facilitating the efficient and effective operation of airport facilities. Fingal County Council continues to work with the relevant transport providers including the TII and NTA to protect and enhance the surface access to the Airport, in accordance with relevant Development Plan objectives, including the continued implementation of the recommendations of the South Fingal Transport Study 2019.

6.6 Regional/Local Roads

Fingal County Council's three-year Capital Programme 2025-2027, provides for increased investment of €8.4m in improvement works to approximately 20km of the Regional Roads, ensuring that the County's roads are better adapted and more resilient to predicted climate changes and the allocation of road space promoting the modal shift to cycling and walking.

6.7 Supporting Mobility Initiatives

Eight pilot schemes were implemented in 2024 by the Council to promote sustainable mobility. These schemes include eCargo Bikes, Tandem Cycling, Older Adult Cycling Lessons, Children's Cycling Lessons, Science and Cycling Camps and staff eBike loans.

Chapter 6 – Objectives and Progress

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective CMO1 – Transition to Sustainable Modes Work with the NTA, TII and other transport agencies in facilitating the integrated set of transport objectives for the County as set out in this Plan, in line with National and Regional policy including the NTA's GDA Transport Strategy and any subsequent plan to encourage modal shift towards more sustainable modes of transport and patterns of commuting to reduce reliance on the private car.	Ongoing – Through continued engagement with the relevant transport providers and stakeholders.
Objective CMO2 – Modal Shift Work with the NTA to develop mode share targets for the County to achieve and monitor a transition to more sustainable modes including walking, cycling and public transport, during the lifetime of this Plan. This includes providing targeted infrastructure in the most appropriate locations and prioritising development at the most accessible locations in order to achieve the appropriate levels of integration and sustainable transport provision.	Fingal County Council continues to integrate land use and transportation to achieve sustainable development through the progression of a number of Local Area Plans, Framework Plans and Masterplans in line with national and regional policy objectives, including those of the National Transport Authority's (NTA) Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2022-2042. Current land use policy has developed in anticipation of planned strategic public transport investments which will directly benefit Fingal such as MetroLink, BusConnects, LUAS expansion and the DART+ programme. The Council continues to progress the delivery of walking and cycling infrastructure in collaboration with the NTA. See Table 6.1, Active Travel and Transportation Schemes sections of this report for progress update. The Council endeavours to meet the NTA's GDA Transport Strategy mode share targets through the Development Management Process and in particular, within significant developments.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective CMO3 – Integration of Public Transport and Development Support and facilitate high-density, mixed-use development and trip intensive uses along public transport corridors and to ensure the integration of high-quality permeability links and public realm in conjunction with the delivery of public transport services through plan frameworks to generate and reinforce sustainable patterns of compact growth and development in the County.	Fingal County Council continues to integrate land use and transportation to achieve sustainable development through the progression of a number of Local Area Plans, Framework Plans and Masterplans in line with national and regional policy objectives, including those of the National Transport Authority's (NTA) Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2022-2042. Current land use policy has developed in anticipation of planned strategic public transport investments which will directly benefit Fingal such as MetroLink, BusConnects, LUAS expansion and the DART+ programme.
Objective CMO4 – Local Transport Plan for Balbriggan Prepare a Local Transport Plan for Balbriggan, in consultation with the NTA and other relevant stakeholders.	As part of 'Our Balbriggan, the 'Active Travel Strategy and Transport Plan for Balbriggan 2024-2024 was published.
Objective CMO5 – Local Transport Plan for the Blanchardstown Centre Prepare a Local Transport Plan for the Blanchardstown Centre, in consultation with the NTA, TII and other relevant stakeholders.	To be commenced.
Objective CMO6 – Improvements to the Pedestrian and Cyclist Environment Maintain and improve the pedestrian and cyclist environment and promote the development of a network of pedestrian/cycle routes which link residential areas with schools, employment, recreational destinations and public transport stops to create a pedestrian/cyclist environment that is safe, accessible to all in accordance with best accessibility practice.	Fingal County Council continues to progress an ambitious programme of Greenway and high-quality pedestrian and cycle routes projects as set out in Table 6.1 of the Development Plan in conjunction with relevant agencies and stakeholders. See Table 6.1 for progress updates. Progress on additional walking and cycling projects currently carried out by the Transportation Section of the Council are set out under the

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
	section Transportation Schemes within Chapter 6 of this report. The Council's Environment, Climate Action Active Travel and Sports Department, in partnership with the NTA continues, to facilitate the planning, design and delivery of Active Travel projects throughout the County including, retrofitting measures to improve connectivity and permeability in existing towns and villages areas, as well as the Safe Routes to Schools Scheme. See Active Travel Section within Chapter 6 of this report for updates.
Objective CMO7 - Integration of Active Travel with Public Transport Work with the relevant transport providers, agencies and stakeholders to facilitate the integration of active travel (walking/cycling etc.) with public transport, ensuring ease of access for all.	Ongoing. Fingal County Council continues to engage in the planning, design and construction phases of strategic public transport schemes with the relevant transport providers, to ensure the integration of active travel with public transport infrastructure.
Objective CMO8 - Active Travel Strategy Prepare an Active Travel Strategy to encourage active travel and modal shift to sustainable transport modes.	The Active Travel Strategy for Fingal was formally adopted on 12th June 2023 at the Full Council meeting. This document is now used to encourage active travel and modal shift to sustainable transport modes.
Objective CMO9 – Active Travel Audits Carry out active travel audits in towns and villages in collaboration with local communities and other relevant stakeholders to inform improvements to the public realm and the pedestrian and cycling network.	Ongoing – Through the work of the Active Travel Unit. Active Travel Plans are currently being prepared for Skerries and Balrothery, with a significant emphasis on improvements to the public

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
	realm. Public consultations have taken place in this regard with submissions now being considered for inclusion as part of these plans.
Objective CMO10 – Bicycle Parking Provide publicly accessible high-quality cycle parking spaces, both standard bicycle spaces and nonstandard for adapted and cargo bikes, in town and village centres and key destinations and near the entrance to all publicly accessible buildings as required.	Ongoing – A further 82no. bicycle parking stands were installed across Fingal in 2024 with space for 164 no. bikes. 30 no. Toast Racks and 34no. Scooter Racks were delivered to schools, clubs and community centres in 2024.
Objective CMO11 – Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Support the provision of walking and cycling infrastructure, including bike parking, bike repair and support services, to increase footfall and economic activity in town and village centres while reducing emissions and improving quality of life.	Fingal County Council continues to progress an ambitious programme of Greenway and high-quality pedestrian, and cycle routes projects as set out in Table 6.1 of the Development Plan in conjunction with relevant agencies and stakeholders. See Table 6.1 for progress updates. Progress on additional walking and cycling projects currently carried out by the Transportation Section of the Council are set out under the section Transportation Schemes within Chapter 6 of this report. The Council's Environment, Climate Action Active Travel and Sports Department, in partnership with the NTA continues, to facilitate the planning, design and delivery of Active Travel projects throughout the County including, retrofitting measures to improve connectivity and permeability in existing towns and villages areas, as well as the Safe Routes to Schools Scheme. See Active Travel section within

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
	Chapter 6 of this report for progress updates.
Objective CMO12 – Walking and Cycling and Green Infrastructure Network Ensure that new walking and cycling routes are designed, insofar as possible, to function as links in the County's green infrastructure network and that adequate replacement and additional planting of native species and pollinators is provided and that SuDS approaches are used to treat surface water run-off.	Ongoing- Through the planning, design and implementation of walking and cycling infrastructural projects.
Objective CMO13 – Walking and Cycling Network and Tourist Trail Support the formulation and delivery of integrated pedestrian/cycle network plans which connect adjacent communities providing linkages to all modes of transport which will provide links to all destinations of the County creating the nucleus of a slow tourist trail.	Fingal County Council continues to progress an ambitious programme of Greenway and high-quality pedestrian, and cycle routes projects as set out in Table 6.1 of the Development Plan in conjunction with relevant agencies and stakeholders. See Table 6.1 for progress updates. Progress on additional walking and cycling projects currently carried out by the Transportation Section of the Council are set out under the section Transportation Schemes within Chapter 6 of this report. The Council's Environment, Climate Action Active Travel and Sports Department, in partnership with the NTA continues, to facilitate the planning, design and delivery of Active Travel projects throughout the County including, retrofitting measures to improve connectivity and permeability in existing towns and villages areas, as well as the Safe Routes to Schools Scheme. See Active Travel section within Chapter 6 of this 2 year progress report for progress updates.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective CMO14 – Mapping of Public Rights of Way Identify further Public Rights of Way during the lifetime of the Development Plan and to update the 'Public Rights of Way' mapping.	Ongoing
Objective CMO15 – Engagement towards Improved Access The Local Authority will continue to engage with landowners, public bodies, adjoining Local Authorities and state agencies to improve access to publicly owned lands and to investigate opportunities for additional permissive access paths wherever possible and appropriate.	Ongoing
Objective CMO16 – Public Realm and Development Encourage and facilitate the delivery of high-quality public realm in tandem with new developments throughout the County through the Development Management process and the retrospective provision in existing developments, including the provision of a pedestrianised core in town centres where appropriate.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process. The reassignment or reallocation of existing road space is a core principle of all work being carried out in the Active Travel unit. Active Travel Plans are currently being prepared for Skerries and Balrothery, with a significant emphasis on improvements to the public realm and reallocation of existing road space. Public consultations have taken place in this regard with submissions now being considered for inclusion as part of these plans.
Objective CMO17 – Existing Street Space and Active Travel Review the potential for reassignment of existing street space for active travel modes within village and town centres across the County where appropriate during the lifetime of this Plan.	The re-assignment or re-allocation of existing road space is a core principle of all work being carried out in the Active Travel unit. Active Travel Plans are currently being prepared for Skerries and Balrothery, with a significant emphasis on improvements to the public realm and reallocation of existing road space. Public consultations have taken place in this regard with submissions now being considered for

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
	inclusion as part of these plans. Fingal County Council has commenced works on a trial Quiet Streets Initiative aimed at enhancing community living and promoting active travel. The initiative will identify 3 separate locations across the county where filtered permeability measures will be implemented. This trial is designed to reduce vehicular traffic on residential streets, creating safer and more accessible spaces for walking, cycling, and other active travel modes. By reclaiming road space for the community, the scheme seeks to foster a stronger sense of neighbourhood and improve the overall quality of life for residents.
Objective CMO18 – Circulation Plans and Low Traffic Zones Work with NTA, TII and adjoining Local Authorities to plan for motor vehicle routing/ impermeability to create low traffic zones and encourage modal shift for short trips from cars, active travel and public transport along the lines of the Ghent circulation plan and Low Traffic Neighbourhoods in London.	Fingal County Council's Active Travel Unit has commenced work on a trial 'Quiet Streets Initiative' aimed at enhancing community living and promoting active travel. The initiative will identify 3no. separate locations across the county where filtered permeability measures will be implemented. This trial is designed to reduce vehicular traffic on residential streets, creating safer and more accessible spaces for walking, cycling, and other active travel modes. By reclaiming road space for the community, the scheme seeks to foster a stronger sense of neighbourhood and improve the overall quality of life for residents.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective CMO19 – Optimising Accessibility for All Support and facilitate improvements to the pedestrian and cycle network and public realm that prioritise the removal of barriers to active movement, to improve connectivity and permeability and optimise accessibility for all users.	Ongoing – As part of the work being carried out by the Active Travel Unit.
Objective CMO20 – Signal Control and Pedestrians Minimise wait times at signalised pedestrian crossings in order to prioritise pedestrian usage. Except in exceptional circumstances, either Green Person Authority or ‘on demand’ green for pedestrians shall be provided on all stand-alone (‘mid-block’) pedestrian crossings within the lifetime of this Plan.	To be progressed within the lifetime of the Plan.
Objective CMO21 – Wayfinding Support the delivery of way-finding systems with an emphasis around highly trafficked urban areas and routes between public transport interchanges and visitor attractions.	Ongoing, as part of the work carried out by the Operations Department and within the planning, design and implementation of greenway and high- quality walking and cycling infrastructural projects.

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Objective CMO22 – Safe Routes to School Measures Promote walking and cycling for school trips by implementing the following measures: - Identifying school sites that are as close as possible to the communities they serve. - Ensuring new schools are designed with an emphasis on active travel and facilitation of same. - Ensuring that adequate and secure bicycle storage is provided within schools. - Prioritising school routes for permeability projects including the potential for shorter and safer routes to schools by the removal of physical barriers to active movement and provision and enhancement of pedestrian and cycle ways. - Supporting the use of a range of physical measures to provide improved safety for pedestrians and cyclists at and close to schools, including the implementation of the Safe Routes to School Programme. - Ensuring that suitable access points are provided to school sites for pedestrians and cyclists.	Safe Routes to School Round 1 - works are complete at 9 no. schools throughout Fingal as part of Round 1 of this programme. Measures include new dropped kerbs and tactile paving outside school entrance gate and at crossing points on route to the school. Other measures include new road markings, road signs, traffic calming measures, surface colour variations, new crossing points, junction tightening, installation of pencil bollards, and landscaping. Safe Routes to School Round 2 - Engagement with schools has taken place and delivery plans have been prepared by An Taisce. Design is now underway for 5 no. schools as part of Round 2 of the programme. Outside of the official SRTS programme, schools in the vicinity of individual active travel projects have had similar treatments with another 7no. delivered by Q1 2025. Schools in the vicinity of future active travel projects will be considered for front of school treatments.
Objective CMO23 – Enabling Public Transport Projects Support the delivery of key sustainable transport projects including MetroLink, BusConnects, DART+ and LUAS expansion programme so as to provide an integrated public transport network with efficient interchange between transport modes to serve needs of the County and the mid-east region in collaboration with the NTA, TII and Irish Rail and other relevant stakeholders.	Ongoing – Through continued engagement with relevant transport providers and stakeholders at the planning, design and construction stages of strategic public transport projects.
Objective CMO24 – NTA Strategy Support NTA and other stakeholders in implementing the NTA Strategy including MetroLink, BusConnects, DART +, LUAS and the GDA Cycle Network.	Ongoing – Through continued engagement with the NTA and other relevant transport providers and stakeholders at the planning, design and

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	construction stages of strategic public transport and cycling infrastructural projects.
Objective CMO25 – Level Crossings and Public Transport Schemes Ensure that appropriate measures are put in place to mitigate the impacts of level crossing closures on the Maynooth rail line including protection measures for public transport and increased priority for cycling and walking.	The permitted Irish Rail Dart + West Scheme includes alternative active travel infrastructure at proposed level crossing closures.
Objective CMO26 – Orbital Public Transport Undertake a feasibility study for the progression of an orbital public transport route linking the Dublin–Belfast rail line, Swords, Dublin Airport, Finglas, Blanchardstown and surrounding areas along the route, during the lifetime of the Plan in consultation with the NTA and other stakeholders.	This forms part of the NTA's BusConnects Network Services and in particular the N8 Route which connects Clongriffin Dart Station to Dublin Airport and onto Blanchardstown Centre.
Objective CMO27 – Public Transport Routes Work with the NTA and other relevant national transport agencies to establish future public transport routes that will support the County's medium to long term development, including orbital routes to provide connectivity between key urban centres and outer suburban areas.	Ongoing. Through continued engagement with the NTA and other relevant transport providers and stakeholders and in particular through the roll out of BusConnects Network Services.
Objective CMO28 – Bus Connectivity Work with relevant national transport agencies to create bus connectivity between Dublin 15, including the Blanchardstown Centre and Dublin Airport/Swords.	Ongoing. Through continued engagement with the NTA and other relevant transport providers and stakeholders and in particular through the roll out of BusConnects Network Services.
Objective CMO29 – Integration of Public Transport Services and Development Work with the NTA, TII and other relevant national transport agencies to optimise accessibility to public transport, increase catchment and maximise permeability through the creation of high-quality walking and cycling routes linking to public transport stops.	Ongoing – Through continued engagement with the NTA and other relevant transport providers and relevant stakeholders at the planning, design and construction stages of strategic public transport and cycling infrastructural projects.
Objective CMO30 – Cycling and Walking Links Avail of the opportunities provided by any public transport infrastructure works to improve and provide new cycling and walking links, including crossings of motorways and major roads	Ongoing – Through continued engagement with the NTA and other relevant transport providers and relevant stakeholders at the planning,

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which currently represent major permeability barriers to active travel especially in South Fingal.	design and construction stages of strategic public transport and cycling infrastructural projects.
Objective CMO31 – South Fingal Transport Study Implement the recommendations of the South Fingal Transport Study 2019 in consultation with the relevant stakeholders.	Ongoing
Objective CMO32 –Car Parking Standards Implement appropriate car parking standards for a range of land-use types, where provision is based on factors such as site location, level of public transport accessibility and impact of parking provision on local amenity.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective CMO33 – Accessible Car Parking Promote appropriate parking arrangements for specific user requirements in town and district centres, public transport nodes and other destinations.	Ongoing – Through the works carried out by the Operations Department of the Council and as part of the Development Management Process.
Objective CMO34 – Dublin Airport and MetroLink Promote and facilitate the development of MetroLink, connecting Swords to the Airport and on to the City Centre.	Ongoing – Through continued engagement with the relevant transport providers and stakeholders at the planning, design and construction stages of strategic public transport projects including MetroLink.
Objective CMO35 – Management of Road Network Work with the TII and other relevant national transport agencies, to protect and enhance the capacity of national routes, to minimise the impacts on the management of the broader network and to support the economic competitiveness of the County.	Ongoing
Objective CMO36 – Strategic Roads Network Maintain and protect the safety, capacity and efficiency of National roads and associated junctions in accordance with the Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2012, the Trans-European Networks (TEN-T) Regulations and with regard to other relevant national and regional policy documents, as required.	Ongoing
Objective CMO37 – National Transport Agencies Work with the TII and NTA and other relevant national transport agencies to protect capacity and deliver improvements of the strategic road network and junction upgrades where necessary in line with National and Regional policy objectives.	Ongoing

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective CMO38 – M50 Demand Management Study Facilitate the implementation of the demand management measures in the M50 Demand Management Study, as required.	To be commenced. The Council will engage with the relevant agencies subject to the Transport State Authorities commencing the implementation of the study.
Objective CMO39a – N2 Scheme Support and facilitate the TII, NTA and Meath County Council in the planning and delivery of an N2 Scheme north of Ashbourne aimed at addressing road safety issues and facilitating significantly enhanced levels of active travel and public transport measures along the route corridor.	Ongoing
Objective CMO39b – N3 Scheme Support and facilitate the TII and Meath County Council in the planning and delivery of the N3 Upgrade between the M50 and Clonee.	Ongoing
Objective CMO39c – M3 and M4 Schemes Support and facilitate the TII, NTA, Meath County Council and Kildare County Council in the planning and delivery of a new link between the M3 and M4. Any such link must not run through the suburban areas of Fingal, Liffey Valley SAAO or St. Catherine's Park.	The Council will engage with the relevant agencies in due course.
Objective CMO40 – Management of Regional and Local Road Network Improve, manage and maintain the strategic regional and local road network in the County, in a manner which safeguards the strategic function of the road network.	Ongoing
Objective CMO41 – Transportation Schemes Seek to implement the transportation schemes indicated in Table 6.3.	Ongoing. Refer to Table 6.3 in this report.
Objective CMO42 – Road and Street Proposals and Environmental Protection Work with the relevant national transport agencies to ensure that all road and street network proposals have regard to pertaining environmental conditions and sensitivities including biodiversity, protected habitats and species and incorporate appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures as part of any environmental assessments.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management process and through the planning, design and construction phases of transportation infrastructural projects.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective CMO43 – Roads and Street Proposals and Green Infrastructure Ensure that all new roads and streets are designed to enhance insofar as feasible, the County's Green Infrastructure network by ensuring adequate replacement and additional planting of native species and pollinators and to ensure that approaches are used to treat surface water run-off.	Ongoing – As part of the planning, design and construction phases of infrastructural projects.
Objective CMO44 – Roads and Street Proposals and Nature-Based Solutions Incorporate sustainable drainage features and wildlife crossings including bridges and underpasses into the designs for new road infrastructure and where possible, incorporation of such measures into the existing road network.	Ongoing – As part of the planning, design and construction phases of infrastructural projects.
Objective CMO45 – Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets Design new streets and roads within urban areas in accordance with the principles, approaches and standards contained within DMURS. -Junctions will be designed with corner radi that reduce pedestrian crossing distances to the minimum allowable by DMURS wherever possible. -The narrowest carriageway widths allowable by DMURS will be the default standard in Fingal wherever possible.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective CMO46 – Speed Limits and Traffic Calmed Areas Expand the 30kph speed limits and traffic calmed areas at appropriate locations throughout the County including in towns and village areas where appropriate and to all residential developments and at schools.	Ongoing – As part of the works carried out by the Operations Department. The Operations Department intend to commence the Countywide Speed Limit Review in 2025 on foot of the National Speed Limit Implementation Plan.
Objective CMO47 – Road Safety and Rural Roads Prioritise safety on rural roads and junctions, while having regard to the protection of biodiversity, Green Infrastructure and rural character present in roadside trees, hedgerows and banks.	Ongoing- As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective CMO48 – Roads and Streets and Green Infrastructure New roads and streets to incorporate green Infrastructure elements such as sustainable drainage infrastructure, planting of native trees, hedgerows and pollinator species in medians and on roadside verges, as appropriate to the location.	Ongoing – As part of the planning, design and construction phases of infrastructural projects and as part of the Development Management Process.
Objective CMO49 – Management of Freight Movements	To be commenced.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Implement appropriate measures to manage freight movements and deliveries in town and village centre areas.	
Objective CMO50 – Services/Logistics Strategy Prepare a Servicing/Logistics Strategy for the County in collaboration with relevant stakeholders to ensure the continued viability and economic competitiveness of the County.	To be commenced.
Objective CMO51 – Delivery Service Plans Require the preparation of Delivery Service Plans for all new major developments where applicable.	To be commenced.

7. EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMY



7. Employment and Economy

7.1 Introduction

Fingal has a strong economic base, and the Council has and continues to support this important sector. Fingal is home to a wide range of key economic sectors, including retail, tourism, aviation, manufacturing, agricultural and agri-food, ICT and financial services, healthcare and pharmaceutical, marine and rural economic activity. A key strategy for future economic development includes appropriately locating intensive employment uses adjacent to public transport networks and where appropriate, residential developments, encouraging existing economic clusters and developing new clustering opportunities and rejuvenating existing business and industrial parks, land and buildings.

Fingal's economy benefits from a broad sectoral mix of businesses; from large international focused industries such as life sciences and aviation, to more localised sectors in retail and hospitality. It is evident that businesses of all sizes in the county require supports of some form in order to thrive, with certain sectors needing specific interventions to spur further expansion. Fingal's towns, villages, rural and coastal areas are all vital to the current and future economic performance of the county.

Looking to take advantage of its strategic position on the Dublin-Belfast corridor, its strong transport connections and as home to a broad mix of key sectors, in September 2024, Fingal unveiled its plan to ensure the long-term economic resilience and sustainability of the county and highlight itself as a key driver of growth in Ireland. The new strategy emphasizes a balanced approach to economic development, leveraging Fingal's strategic advantages and focusing on sustainability, inclusivity, and resilience. The strategy aims to support business in Fingal to grow and thrive in a sustainable way, with a strong emphasis on working with business to implement sustainable business practices, aligning with best European and global practices and working in parallel with the Council's Climate Change Action Plan. It builds on the socio-economic profile which was prepared as part of the process for Fingal County Council's Local Economic and Community Plan 2023-2028 and outlines the actions that need to be taken to support the local economy over the next 15 years.

7.2 Fingal Skills Strategy

The Council has completed work updating the Fingal Skills Strategy and the Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy 2024 - 2029 was adopted by the Council on 11th November 2024. The Fingal Skills Strategy Implementation Group meets quarterly and has established sectoral sub-groups in Construction, Transport & Logistics, Green Skills and Services. The Fingal Skills Strategy support a feedback mechanism between education and industry.

Fingal is collaboration with education/training partners and sectoral industry representatives on the Fingal Skills Strategy to promote the range of apprenticeships / traineeships etc. Through the Council's social media platforms, the 'Xplore Your Future TY Expo' and is launching a new schools competition in 2025 to encourage young people into careers in the Construction and Transport and Logistics Sectors.

7.3 Enterprise Centres

All three Enterprise Centres have space available to start-up businesses and businesses / individuals who wish to avail of remote working options and facilities.

The Future Fingal Economic Development Strategy builds on the socio-economic profile prepared as part of the Fingal LECP process and sets out a vision, key opportunities and actions to support the local economy to 2040. The official launch of Future Fingal: An Economic Development Strategy took place in September 2024. To align with Future Fingal: An Economic Development Strategy work is also ongoing on the development of a Marketing Plan for Fingal in consultation with key stakeholders.

7.4 Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor

The Future Fingal Economic Development Strategy emphasises the advantages provided by the strategic location of Fingal. The EETCD is working in collaboration with the other Dublin Local Authorities on the DUBLIN Placebrand and Marketing Plan which commences Q1 2025 and was launched at the Pendulum Summit in Dublin in January 2025. Fingal County Council's Feasibility Study for the development of regional innovation/enterprise hubs along the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor has been completed. EETCD is engaging on an ongoing basis with other Dublin local authorities and on a wider regional and cross-border basis through the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor (DBEC) Partnership to drive investment in the region.

7.5 LECP

Fingal County Council unveiled a new Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP), (February 2024) presenting an energetic and forward-looking framework for one of Ireland's most rapidly expanding areas. This plan is the result of collaborative efforts involving local communities, individuals, businesses, organisations, and other significant contributors throughout the county, all aiming to steer Fingal towards a flourishing future. Building on the positive developments of the initial LECP launched in 2016, this latest iteration looks to maintain momentum but also introduces significant enhancements. It also serves as an important checkpoint to review targets from that initial plan and the measures that were in place to reach them. The new LECP outlines 15 ambitious, yet attainable, high-level objectives for the upcoming six years. The undertaking cannot be achieved by the Council alone however, with collaboration across all stakeholders the key to realising the broader vision for the county's future.

7.6 Business grants

In 2024, Fingal County Council paid over €11m to over 2,800 no. businesses across the county under the Increased Cost of Business (ICOB) Grant. The Grant was introduced by the Government as part of Budget 2024 and was a support measure of small and medium sized business. Fingal County Council managed the roll-out of the grant to qualifying businesses and contacted all ratepayers in the county to inform them of the Grant and invite eligible businesses to register online for the once-off payment.

The grant was worth up to €5,000 for eligible businesses and there was an additional top up grant of up to another €5,000 for hospitality and retail businesses. Fingal County Council made

4,382 no. payments totalling over €11m to over 2,800no. business. Approximately 45% of all ratepayers in Fingal received a grant payment and 92.79% of all grant applications met the eligibility criteria set by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment.

The Local Enhancement Programme 2024, funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development, has allocated €220,842.98 to support community groups and organisations within the Fingal administrative area.

In March 2024 the Council received an allocation of €1,538,573 in respect of the Community Recognition Fund (CRF) 2024. The funding will support capital projects which will be delivered over the time period 2025/2026. The fund is targeted to invest in those communities, villages and towns where the highest level of new arrivals are located and where a clear need for investment is identified.

7.7 Food sector

The FINGAL Food & Drink Policy 2024-2029 was launched in July 2024. Fingal boasts a thriving food and drink sector encompassing diverse culinary traditions, local producers and a flourishing hospitality sector. Recognising the ongoing importance of fostering a long term, sustainable and thriving food sector, the policy was developed following an extensive process of consultation and research. Along with a focus on sustainability, the new policy will look at helping support businesses and economic growth, develop greater food tourism experiences, engage the community on the benefits of their local food provenance, celebrate Fingal's horticultural history and celebrate culinary excellence across the county.

7.8 Tourism

Fingal is hugely diverse in population and geography, and tourism is no different. With long sandy beaches, rugged coastline, stunning heritage properties, ancient castles, majestic gardens, a wide range of arts and cultural venues offering a yearlong programme of events, indoor and outdoor sport and leisure activities, combined with a thriving hospitality sector encompassing diverse culinary traditions, and local producers, there is truly something for everyone in Fingal. 2024 saw the launch of the Fingal Tourism Strategy 2024-2029.

Tourism is one of Fingal's most important economic drivers. The sector plays a key role in Fingal's rural and urban local economies and accounts for a significant amount of employment characterised by large numbers of SMEs, with 800 no. businesses providing accommodation and catering services. Guest accommodation supports an estimated 3,000 no. full time job equivalents and the catering sector provides a further 2,000 no. jobs. Through Dublin Airport, Fingal also provides the primary national link between Ireland and international tourists.

The Tourism Strategy 2024-2029 builds on the Fingal Tourism Strategy 2015-2018 and it outlines a roadmap for Fingal to realise its tourism potential in order to gain maximum sustainable, economic and social benefit in the coming years. It presents a compelling strategic vision, objectives and goals, growth targets, and high-level implementation roadmap from which detailed action plans will be developed over its lifetime.

Fingal possess an abundance of natural landscapes including 88km of coastline, blue-flag beaches, cliff walks and rivers. There are approximately 1,300 heritage sites in Fingal on both public and private land. Sites including castles, tombs and mills. Outdoor and indoor activities from golf courses, greenways, blueways, gardens, water activities, museums, and shopping centres. Fingal has a strong food producing, food, and drink offering. with establishments including cafes, restaurants, bars, pubs and cookery schools. Fingal festivals include Flavour of Fingal, The Irish Maritime Festival and recently Tradfest. There are events/ concerts also held in Malahide Castle.

Newbridge House and Farm has won the Best Leisure/Tourism Service award at the Fingal Business Awards 2024.



7.9 Rural Economy

Rural Fingal is well placed to sustain its population and its services, to promote its communities and its tourism product, to protect its built and natural environment and to diversify in terms of local enterprise, tourism and employment.

Fingal LEO and Fingal Leader Partnership encourage and support local enterprise in small towns, villages and rural businesses zones across the county by providing business supports.

7.10 Agriculture

Agriculture has been and remains a mainstay of the Fingal economy. The sector is a vital employer and has scope to further expand over the coming years. Climate change will play an influential role, and adaptation will be required in order to fully maximise opportunities which agri-food and food tourism present. The sector can also benefit from localism to the benefit of local producers and the environment, in alignment with the new Fingal Food & Drink Policy 2024 – 2029.

7.11 Financial Services

Financial Services is an established sector in Fingal and plays a key role in the local economy. To further grow the sector, Fingal should exploit opportunities relating to Fintech by combining its existing financial services and ICT strengths. This is particularly the case given that Fintech globally is expected to become a \$1.5 trillion industry by 2030.

Chapter 7 – Objectives and Progress

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective EEO1 - Implementation of Land Use Management Plans Implement the existing Local Area Plans and Masterplans and prepare appropriate land use management plans within the lifetime of the Plan for strategically important General Employment, High Technology, Metro and Rail Economic Corridor, Warehouse and Distribution and Food Park zoned lands in collaboration with key stakeholders, relevant agencies and sectoral representatives.	The Future Fingal Economic Development Strategy identifies the activation of economically zoned lands as a significant priority in the county. The Economic Development and Property Services Sections engage on an ongoing basis with key stakeholders, relevant agencies and sectoral representatives to implement existing Local Area Plans and Masterplans. Preparation is ongoing in relation to a Framework Plan for Stephenstown and Folkstown Little which is anticipated to be brought to Council in early 2025.
Objective EEO2 - Dublin as Primary Gateway Ensure that Fingal plays a pivotal role in the promotion of Dublin as the primary Gateway in the Eastern and Midlands Region through engaging and collaborating with the other Dublin Local Authorities and the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly.	The Future Fingal Economic Development Strategy emphasises the advantages provided by the strategic location of Fingal. The local authority engages on an ongoing basis with other Dublin Local Authorities and on a wider regional and cross-border basis through the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor (DBEC) Partnership. Fingal works in collaboration with the other Dublin Local Authorities on the DUBLIN Placebrand and Marketing Plan which commences Q1 2025 and was launched at the Pendulum Summit in Dublin in January 2025. The local authority maintains a strong working relationship with EMRA through its participation in European Projects under the URBACT and Interreg funding programmes. Fingal LCDC also engaged in 2023 with EMRA for input into the Fingal Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) 2023 – 2028 which was approved by the Council Members in January 2024.
Objective EEO3 - Quality Supporting Infrastructure and a Sequential Approach Require that proposals for economic development are served by quality supporting infrastructure with sufficient capacity. A sequential approach may be used for assessing economic developments to ensure their appropriate and sustainable delivery.	The Future Fingal Economic Development Strategy identifies the need for infrastructural development in capitalising on Fingal's strategic position.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective EEO4 - Space Extensive Uses Ensure that space extensive uses are located within appropriate locations which do not compromise labour intensive opportunities on zoned lands, adjacent to public transport nodes or within existing built-up compact growth areas.	Ongoing through the Development Management process.
Objective EEO5 - Enterprise Start-up Hubs Support the establishment of Enterprise Start-up Hubs in Fingal to promote and support local enterprise.	The Council has 3 Enterprise Centres at Drinan, Swords, Balbriggan and Blanchardstown which provide, meeting and office space and various business support services for entrepreneurs and remote workers in the local communities. In 2024 the Council restructured the operational and governance models of the Enterprise Centres for greater efficiency and effectiveness, including the provision of more business support and business outreach services in the local community at these locations and taking a proactive approach to the management of the space to ensure that businesses move on as they mature to ensure there is space available for new start-ups.
Objective EEO6 - Regeneration of Obsolete/Underutilised Buildings and Lands Promote the regeneration of obsolete and/ or underutilised buildings and lands that could yield economic benefits, with appropriate uses and subject to the proper planning and development of the area.	The removal of dereliction has been prioritised since the adoption of the Development Plan with activity increasing significantly. A review of derelict sites within the county is ongoing incorporating all historic sites and proactively identifying new derelict sites. As of January 1st, 2025, there were 12no. properties listed on the Derelict Sites Register with consequent levy demands issued amounting to €499,247.
Objective EEO7 - Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor Engage and collaborate with adjoining Local Authorities and regional assemblies, as appropriate, to promote the continued economic development of the Dublin-Belfast Economic Corridor.	The Council, in partnership with Belfast City Council, successfully secured Shared Island funding for a feasibility study on Innovation Hubs in the DBEC region in 2023 and is seeking an appropriate funding stream to implement the feasibility study's recommendations. The Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor Summit 2025: Shaping a Cross Border Investment Corridor is scheduled for 27th February 2025 in Belfast.
Objective EEO8 - Dublin Enterprise Zone	The local authority has been working in collaboration with key stakeholders in the Dublin

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Support the continued investment in, and management and promotion of the Dublin15 Enterprise Zone in collaboration with key stakeholders, relevant agencies and sectoral representatives.	Enterprise Zone (DEZ) to identify and progress public realm enhancement works and has engaged with various stakeholders seeking to invest in the DEZ and develop new business opportunities. Fingal liaises closely with IDA in respect of potential development opportunities and ongoing management of College Business & Technology Park.
Objective EEO9 - Economic Growth of Core Area Support economic growth within the Core Area through strengthening and promoting the importance of Balbriggan as the major urban centre and having regard to its strategic location on the Dublin–Belfast Economic Corridor and directing appropriately scaled growth opportunities into the other urban centres in the area.	The Council is currently preparing Framework Plans for the future development of the area. The Council is leading an EU Urbact Project ‘EcoCore’ and a network of 9 no. European small cities which is focused on advancing the green industrial transition and sustainable economic development of industrial land along strategic transport corridors. An Urbact Local Stakeholder (ULG) has been established as part of this project with national, regional and local stakeholders co-creating an Integrated Action Plan for the area and overseeing the delivery of pilot test actions such as the development of an Investment Guide for the area, the delivery of a Sustainability Briefing for Business in collaboration with Fingal and Balbriggan Chambers and videos with existing business to promote the area and to promote the sustainability journeys of those businesses.
Objective EEO10 - Economic Growth within the Core Area Ensure that towns, villages and other locations within the Core Area follow policies of directional development to ensure that the required economies of scale are achieved in specific centres such as Balbriggan, and that other lower tier towns and villages perform to their economic strengths and competitive advantages such as Skerries and Rush for tourism and marine activities.	Fingal Co. Co. liaises with towns & villages to promote local economic development in partnership with Fingal LEADER Partnership through the Dublin Rural LEADER Programme and with the Town Regeneration Team to implement a Town Centre First approach to development. A Town Centre First Plan has been completed in Lusk with plans and health check studies in progress for Rush, Donabate, Ballyboughal, Skerries, Balrothery and further areas to be advanced. The EETCD continues to work with Let’s Play Rush to promote the town’s status as a playful town which commenced as an Urbact Project 3 years ago, with the Council, Elected Members and local stakeholders collaborating to leverage funding and run an annual programme of events which

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
	raises the town's profile and drives footfall in the town centre. The Council's Tourism Strategy and the County Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) which is currently in development and due for completion in Q1 2025 will contribute to a coherent approach to the development of tourism, marine and general water-based propositions in the county.
Objective EEO11 - Economic Growth of Metropolitan Area Ensure that towns, villages and other locations within the Metropolitan Area pursue development policies of consolidation, and maximise their economic strengths and competitive advantages such as tourism and marine sectoral activities in Malahide and Howth, while the lands within the southern part of the County maximise their economic potential through the strong functional linkages to the M50 and the lands to the north of the County maximise their economic potential through strong links to the M1 and the wider regional and national road network.	A marketing strategy for the county under the Future Fingal: Economic Development Strategy is being developed to maximise the economic strengths and competitive advantages of the county. It is anticipated that the marketing strategy will be complete in Q1 2025. In Q1 2025 Fingal is participating in the launch of the DUBLIN place-brand in collaboration with the other Dublin local authorities.
Objective EEO12 - Supporting Existing Clusters Support existing successful clusters in Fingal, such as those in the ICT, pharmaceutical, aviation and agri-food sectors, and promote new and emerging clustering opportunities across all economic sectors within the County.	The Council's Future Fingal Economic Development Strategy and Future Fingal Skills Strategy sets out objectives to support existing successful clusters in the county.
Objective EEO13 - High Technology Lands Encourage the development of corporate offices and knowledge based enterprise in the County on High Technology zoned lands and work with key stakeholders, relevant agencies and sectoral representatives to achieve such development.	Ongoing.
Objective EEO14 - Permeability in General Employment Lands Encourage high quality sustainable design, permeability and pedestrian and/ or cyclist friendly environments within general employment zoned areas.	The local authority continues to progress the preparation of the Stephenstown and Folkstown Little Framework Plans and is ensuring the incorporation of high-quality sustainable design, permeability and a pedestrian/cyclist friendly

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
	environment in the General Employment zoned area of Balbriggan.
Objective EEO15 - Metro and Rail Economic Corridor Lands Protect the integrity of the Metro and Rail Economic Corridor from inappropriate forms of development and optimise development potential in a sustainable and phased manner.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO16- Design Proposals on MRE Zoned Lands Ensure high quality urban design proposals within the Metro and Rail Economic Corridor Zoning, incorporating exemplary public spaces, contemporary architecture and sustainable places within a green landscape setting.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO17 – Warehouse and Distribution Lands Encourage large-scale distribution activities to locate within areas zoned WD.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO18 – Office Development Ensure that a broad range of office accommodation, in terms of size, scale, format and arrangements, is provided for to adequately respond to enterprise requirements in different economic sectors.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO19 – Office Development Standards Ensure that proposals for office development demonstrate regard to the relevant development standards	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO20 – Regeneration of Business Parks and Industrial Estates Identify business parks and industrial estates that are in need of regeneration and revitalisation in line with sustainable measures and engage with all relevant stakeholders and interested parties to encourage their regeneration and revitalisation	Capital Budget provides for upgrade works for Industrial/ Business Parks. In 2024 improvement works were identified and completed in Baldoyle Industrial Estate. There is ongoing engagement with stakeholders in the Dublin Enterprise Zone to develop a programme of improvement works in the area.
Objective EEO21 – Provision of Local Support Facilities	The Council's 3 Enterprise Centres provide remote working, podcasting, meeting and office space for

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Encourage the provision of Local Support Facilities to serve the needs of the employees within major employment areas.	entrepreneurs and remote workers in the local communities. In 2024 the Council restructured the operational and governance models of the Enterprise Centres for greater efficiency and effectiveness, including the provision of more business support and business outreach services in the local community.
Objective EEO22 – Home Based Economic Activity Support the provision of home-based economic activity that is subordinate to the main residential use of a dwelling and that does not cause injury to the amenities of the area.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO23 – Remote Working Support the Making Remote Work – National Remote Work Strategy and the provision of appropriate IT infrastructure and facilities that enable a better life-work balance enabling people to live near their place of work.	The Council's 3 Enterprise Centres are part of the national Connected Hubs network, providing facilities for remote working in local communities. A number of Broadband Connection Points (BCPs) were installed across the county as part of the Connected Hubs Call under Town & Village Renewal Funding stream.
Objective EEO24 – Educational Investment and Third Level Institutions Support continued educational investment in the County and promote collaboration between third level institutions located within and outside of Fingal and a range of industrial sectors.	The Council is working in collaboration with third level institutions through the Fingal Skills Strategy and the Urbact EcoCore Project. TUDublin is represented on the Fingal LCDC. EETCD works with DCU under the MoU on Sustainability between FCC/DCU and daa and with the DCU Access Programme to place students for work experience in economic development.
Objective EEO25 – Synergies between Education, Technology and Industry Facilitate and promote synergies between education, technology and industry.	The Fingal Skills Strategy Implementation Group meets quarterly and has established sectoral sub-groups in Construction, Transport & Logistics, Green Skills and Services. The Fingal Skills Strategy support a feedback mechanism between education and industry. The Council is participating in the Interreg SKYLA Project focuses on promoting skills for the twin transition and as part of this project reviewed and incorporated best practice from European partners into the Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy 2024 – 2029. Relationships built through

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
	the Fingal Skills Strategy have led to collaboration on a number of Erasmus project proposals and the highly successful delivery of the Xplore Your Future TY Expo in The Helix in 2023 and 2024. The Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy 2024 – 2029 outlines a number of ambitious objectives to facilitate and promote collaboration with education, technology and industry.
Objective EEO26 – Craft Apprenticeship Schemes Promote and facilitate Council run craft apprenticeship schemes, working with SOLAS, for the main trades, including plumbing, electricians, painting/ decorating, stonecutting/stonemasonry, carpentry/joinery, brick and stone laying, pipefitting, plastering, scaffolding, in particular given the scarcity of skilled tradesmen and women employed by this Council.	The local authority is working in collaboration with SOLAS on the Future Fingal: Fingal Skills Strategy, particularly in the area of forecasting the future skills needs of the county. Fingal Co. Co. is working in collaboration with education/training partners and sectoral industry representatives on the Fingal Skills Strategy to promote the range of apprenticeships/traineeships etc. Through the Council's social media platforms, the Xplore Your Future TY Expo and is launching a new schools competition in 2025 to encourage young people into careers in the Construction and Transport & Logistics Sectors.
Objective EEO27- Sustainable Approach to Enterprise and Employment Ensure that a sustainable approach is taken to enterprise development and employment creation across all sectors of the Fingal economy in accordance with the Green Economy national frameworks relevant to each sector.	The local authority is in the process of developing the Sustainable Fingal Initiative, which was an action delivered under the previous Climate Action Plan, into the Sustainable Fingal Strategy in 2025. The Strategy shall seek to promote sustainable economic development in the business/industrial sectors and advance the Green Transition. The Fingal Skills Strategy Implementation Group has established a Green Skills Subgroup to promote green skills training and is actively participating in the Interreg SKYLA Project which focuses on promoting skills development for the green transition. The Council's Economic Development Strategy has Sustainability as a key opportunity for the county and Fingal is advancing delivering of objectives under this theme including the development of the Sustainable Fingal Strategy. The Council developed the EcoCore Project concept to access Urbact Funding to develop a

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
	sustainable economic development approach to the industrial lands in Balbriggan. In Q4 2024 EETCD in partnership with Smart Balbriggan and the IT Department ran a successful Hackathon on the Circular Economy in Balbriggan. The EcoCore project has also co-created with relevant stakeholders an Investment Guide for Balbriggan to promote a sustainable development approach to industrial development in the area and promote the circular economy. The Council has signed the Circular Cities Declaration to promote the circular economy in Fingal and has a profile on the Circular Cities website detailing actions taken by the Council to promote the circular economy. The Council participated in an EUI City to City Exchange with the City of Nokia in Finland in 2024/2025 to learn about the municipality's approach to the circular economy, learning from best practice in the development of Nokia ECO3 Innovation Park.
Objective EEO28 – Collaboration on Green Approaches to Economic Development Engage with all relevant government stakeholders, enterprise agencies and sectoral representatives in pursuing 'green' approaches to economic development, and actively collaborate with key industry and educational bodies to promote Fingal based initiatives across the economic sectors.	EETCD is engaging with a range of stakeholders to promote the circular economy, advance the Green Transition and promote sustainable economic development with the delivery of a range of actions in collaboration with relevant key stakeholders under the Council's Future Fingal Economic Development Strategy; the Fingal Local Economic & Community Plan; Future Fingal Skills Strategy; commitments under the Council's Circular Cities Declaration; Tourism Strategy; Food & Drink Policy; LEADER Programme and the development of the Sustainable Fingal Strategy.
Objective EEO29 – Green Economy Initiatives Support and resource Green Economy initiatives, such as the Green Way project as a showcase that such initiatives are operational in the Fingal area.	EETCD has delivered the following green economy actions: - Collaboration with DCU/daa to identify sustainability projects with a number of funding applications lodged - Leading the Urbact EcoCore Project on sustainable economic development and a network of 9 small cities

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
	- Sustainability Business Briefing during Climate Action Week in September 2024 in Balbriggan in collaboration with Fingal & Balbriggan Chambers - Participation in Malahide Chamber Sustainability Business Briefing in September 2024 - Development of 2 no. video case studies on business sustainability journeys - Circular Economy Hackathon in November 2024 in Balbriggan - EUI City to City Exchange with Nokia, Finland on circular economy - Development of Sustainable Fingal Strategy (in progress) - Liaison with various stakeholders on renewable energy projects in 2024 - Support Smart Balbriggan on green initiatives - Engagement with Trinity College's Academy of the Near Future on STEM for secondary level students in county in collaboration with IT Department and to support Smart Balbriggan Promotion of green skills training with various education/training stakeholders under Fingal Skills Strategy.
Objective EEO30 – The Green Economy Support the growth of the 'green economy' including renewable energy, retrofitting, and electric vehicles and charging infrastructure, supporting the transition towards a circular economy in compliance with national policy and legislation.	EETCD is actively liaising with various stakeholders on renewable energy projects ranging from wind, solar, hydrogen to district heating. The Council is also: -Co-ordinating reporting under the Council's commitments under the Circular Cities Declaration and is actively engaging with businesses to promote the circular economy. -Supporting the growth of the 'green economy' and promoting the incorporation of green skills into education/training programmes via the Fingal Skills Strategy. -Working in partnership with key stakeholders regarding EV charging infrastructure in the county and to promote infrastructure for the circular economy.
Objective EEO31 – Green Economy Initiatives Support the growth of business in the green and circular economy and the initiatives within the	EETCD meets regularly with IDA in respect of the economic growth of the county.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
IDA strategy Driving Recovery and Sustainable Growth, or any superseding document, including through the accelerated roll-out of the National Broadband Plan.	IDA is also represented on the Urbact Local Committee (ULG) of the Urbact EcoCore Project in Balbriggan.
Objective EEO32 – Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan Support the Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan 2024 in this Plan.	The Council will continue support this plan.
Objective EEO33 – Evening/Night-Time Economy Support and facilitate evening / night-time economy uses that contribute to the vitality of towns and villages, ensuring the creation of a safe, balanced and socially inclusive evening / night-time economy.	The Future Fingal Economic Development Strategy, Objective 3.1 Vibrant Places, Support rejuvenation across all geographic areas of Fingal through collaboration and the implementation of innovative and targeted solutions which boost economic activity. This will include initiatives to support retail, local supply chains and the night-time economy.
Objective EEO34 – Diversification of Evening/Night-Time Economy Support uses that would result in the diversification of the evening and night-time economy in towns and villages where there is no negative impact on the amenity of adjacent residential uses through noise disturbance or cumulative impact in terms of other night-time uses in the immediate area.	The Council will continue to support such uses and through the development management process will strive to ensure that negative impacts are avoided.
Objective EEO35 – Range of Industrial/Manufacturing Units Ensure that a range of industrial and/ or manufacturing units, in terms of size, scale, format and arrangements, is provided for to adequately respond to enterprise requirements in different economic sectors.	EETCD has a range of small-scale units available to start-ups and businesses in its 3 Enterprise Centres and is engaging with the managers of industrial estates across the county to promote economic development in Fingal.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective EEO36 – Needs of Enterprises and Bespoke Building Facilities Proactively respond to the needs of enterprises undertaking pharmaceutical, data centre, food production and logistics activities that require bespoke building facilities to meet their specific manufacturing requirements.	The Council actively engages with representatives from a range of sectors to identify existing and future requirements. As an action arising from the Future Fingal Economic Development Strategy, an Economic Forum for the county will be established in 2025 to promote communication between the Council and key economic stakeholders.
Objective EEO37 – Development Standards for Industrial/Manufacturing Buildings Ensure that proposals for industrial and/ or manufacturing buildings demonstrate regard to the relevant development standards.	Ongoing - as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO38 – ICT, Financial and Banking Sector Promote the growth of the ICT and financial and banking sector in Fingal by facilitating the conditions conducive to such development including the creation of high quality physical environments offering a range of building and office accommodation types, supported through the provision of the necessary services and public transport infrastructure.	The Future Fingal Economic Development Strategy identifies financial Services as an established sector with a key role in the local economy. EETCD is seeking to sustain and grow the sector through the Economic Forum.
Objective EEO39 – Economic Potential of ICT, Financial and Banking Sectors Engage and collaborate with key stakeholders, relevant agencies, and sectoral representatives to develop the ICT and financial and banking sectors in Fingal and to ensure that the economic potential of the sectors are secured for the benefit of the local economy, and national economy.	The Future Fingal Economic Development Strategy identifies financial Services as an established sector with a key role in the local economy. EETCD is seeking to engage and collaborate with key stakeholders to sustain and grow the sector through the Economic Forum.
Objective EEO40 – Growth of ICT, Financial and Banking Sectors Promote the growth of the ICT, financial and banking sector in Fingal by making the County an attractive location to live and recognise the growing importance of placemaking, strong communities, and amenities as a key driver of investment.	The local authority is working in collaboration with the other Dublin Local Authorities on the DUBLIN Place brand and Marketing Plan which commences Q1 2025 and was launched at the Pendulum Summit in Dublin in January 2025 to market the county and drive investment. As an action under the Future Fingal Economic Development Strategy the local authority is

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	preparing Marketing Plans to promote the county both as an investment and tourism location. The local authority is also engaging on an ongoing basis with other Dublin Local Authorities and on a wider regional and cross-border basis through the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor (DBEC) Partnership to drive investment in the region.
Objective EEO41 – Marine Sector Support the existing diverse nature of the marine sector in Fingal, and identify and promote sustainable growth opportunities, while protecting European sites. This shall be achieved through engagement and partnership with the relevant agencies, sectoral representatives and local communities.	Fingal Co. Co is engaging with various stakeholders to support the ongoing development of the marine sector in the county.
Objective EEO42 – Marine Sectors Development and Environmental Issues Ensure that proposals for economic development associated with the marine sector are cognisant of the sensitivities of many of Fingal's coastal locations and that relevant environmental issues are appropriately considered.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management Process.
Objective EEO43 – Feasibility Study of the Fingal Coastline Undertake a feasibility study of the Fingal coastline to identify potential sites to accommodate marina development relevant to recreational pursuits and requirements. As part of the study the impact on the receiving marine environment, including the coastline, will be assessed and Screening for Appropriate Assessment and SEA undertaken.	A Marine & Coastal Management SPC has been established with a remit in respect of marine strategy in the Fingal area including coastal recreation & leisure and the blue economy. The development of a Fingal County Outdoor Recreation Strategy (CORP), funded by DRCD, commenced in Q4 2024. The Fingal CORP is anticipated to be complete in Q2 2025, with the local authority working in partnership with ECAAT in respect of delivery.
Objective EEO44 – Economic Potential of the Tourism Sector Engage and collaborate with key stakeholders, relevant agencies, sectoral representatives and local communities to develop the tourism sector in Fingal and to ensure that the economic potential of the tourism sector is secured for the benefit of the local economy.	The Fingal Tourism Strategy and the Fingal Food & Drink Policy were launched in 2024 and as part of the implementation of these, the local authority is currently engaged in creating a collaboration framework with internal, local, national, and international tourism, food & drink stakeholders.

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Objective EEO45 – Tourism and Economic Growth Promote and facilitate tourism as one of the key economic pillars of the County's economy and a major generator of employment and to support the provision of necessary significant increase in facilities such as hotels, aparthotels, tourist hostels, cafes and restaurants, visitor attractions, including those for children	The Fingal Tourism Strategy and the Fingal Food & Drink Policy were launched in 2024 and as part of the implementation of these Fingal Co. Co. is currently engaged in defining and managing the approach for a countywide audit of tourism and food & drink assets which will enable continuous assessment of the Fingal tourism offering, planning for continuous product improvement and tracking of investments that position Fingal as a competitive tourism destination in all areas of the product and experience portfolio (accommodation, business tourism, outdoor activities, culture and heritage, leisure and recreation).
Objective EEO46 – Tourist Related Facilities Direct the provision of tourist related facilities, such as information offices and cultural centres, into town and village locations to support and strengthen the existing economic infrastructure of such centres.	A review of existing tourist information offices has been initiated to assess the performance of these facilities and inform the planning for provision of such facilities as are required for the duration of the current Fingal Tourism Strategy.
Objective EEO47 – Conservation and Protection Ensure the economic benefits associated with promoting the County's natural, cultural and built heritage are balanced with due consideration for their conservation and protection.	The Fingal Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) includes the theme 'Rich Arts, Culture & Heritage - Promote and protect our arts and heritage, and embrace cultural diversity in the county.'
Objective EEO48 – Events and Concerts Support events and concerts at suitable locations within Fingal subject to the appropriate licensing arrangements, in consultation with affected stakeholders such as community groups, local businesses and residents in the immediate area where feasible and practical, and to protect and safeguard the amenities of the area and the natural and built heritage.	Fingal County Council Events Unit is recognised nationally as an exemplar of best practice in running and supporting a huge range of events numbering in excess of 100 events / festivals across Fingal. In 2025 the first Fingal Events Strategy will be launched and will support the continued delivery of this objective.
Objective EEO49 – Rural-Based Tourism Promote opportunities for enterprise and employment creation in rural-based tourism where it can be demonstrated that the resultant development will not have a negative impact on the receiving rural environment.	EETCD provides individual liaison with businesses referred by LEO or Teagasc regarding tourism opportunities. The Fingal Tourism Strategy includes a strategic objective to deliver 'Dispersed Growth' across the county including rural locations.

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Objective EEO50 – Supporting Cycling and Walking Groups Support cycling/walking groups and local communities to develop cycling and walking trails and quiet ways in towns and villages, connecting towns and villages both for the enjoyment of local people and as an attractor for visitors to the area, promoting local economic development.	EETCD is co-ordinating the development of a County Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) for Fingal, funded by DRCD and anticipated for completion in Q1 2025. EETCD co-ordinates funding under the ORIS funding stream to support outdoor recreation in the county, including walking, cycling and water-based activities.
Objective EEO51 – Integrated Tourism Complexes Facilitate, where appropriate, (those complexes as listed in 7.5.2.1 Abbeyville, Dunsoghly Castle, Roganstown, Tyrrelstown House, Hampton Demesne, Beech Park House), the conversion of former demesnes and estates and their outbuildings into integrated tourist, leisure and recreational complex type developments subject to architectural conservation best practice and proper planning and sustainable development, having regard to protecting the demesne type landscape and existing natural features, and providing improved pedestrian access, where appropriate.	The Council in partnership with Failte Ireland have drafted a Visitor Attraction Strategy for the County which includes a documented evaluation and decision-making process to consider the suitability of such opportunities for integrated tourist, leisure and recreational complex type developments.
Objective EEO52 – Sustainable Tourism Initiatives Support sustainable tourism initiatives which develop the tourist potential of the rural area while recognising and enhancing the quality and values of the rural area.	The Fingal Food Network has expanded in size in the last year, and has now developed a ‘farm to fork’ and ‘farm visit’ approach to the networking of the food sector. EETCD provides individual liaison with businesses referred by LEO or Teagasc regarding the tourism opportunities at present and coming in the future.
Objective EEO53 – Recreation in the Natural Landscape Support recreational pursuits which promote the use of natural landscape features in a way which does not detract or cause undue damage to the features upon which any such proposed initiatives rely. Where the proposed pursuit involves land use changes either within or adjacent to European sites, proposals will be subject to Screening for Appropriate Assessment.	EETCD is co-ordinating the development of a County Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) for Fingal, funded by DRCD and anticipated for completion in Q1 2025. EETCD co-ordinates funding under the ORIS funding stream to support outdoor recreation in the county, including walking, cycling and water-based activities.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective EEO54 – Safe Walking and Cycling Promote informal recreation, particularly walking and cycling, through the development and expansion of a network of safe walking and cycling trails that provides access to rural landscapes, scenic uplands, riverine and coastal features and within towns and villages and their environs. Such routes can link with existing way marked trails, Slí na Slainte walks and parts of the Green Infrastructure Network and other local resources, such as existing or new rights of way.	EETCD is co-ordinating the development of a County Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) for Fingal, funded by DRCD and anticipated for completion in Q1 2025. EETCD co-ordinates funding under the ORIS funding stream to support outdoor recreation in the county, including walking, cycling and water-based activities. EETCD is promoting outdoor activity through the Healthy Fingal Initiative, co-ordinated through Fingal LCDC.
Objective EEO55 – New Fencing for lands open to or used by the public during the ten years preceding The following criteria will be used when assessing planning applications for new fencing in relation to lands open to or used by the public during the ten years preceding. Such fencing is not exempted development in accordance with Art. 9(1)(A)(x) of the Planning and Development Regulations. " Such fencing in upland or amenity areas shall conform to the best agricultural practice. " The nature of the material to be used, the height of the fence and in the case of a wire fence, the type of wire to be used will be taken into account. " Stiles or gates at appropriate places may be required.	EETCD has regard to these requirements when fencing of open space or public lands in use arises.
Objective EEO56 – Tourism in Rural Villages Maximise the tourism potential of the rural villages by facilitating the provision of visitor services and accommodation, the promotion of new environmentally sustainable tourism products and co-operate with the relevant bodies in the marketing and promotion of tourism in the area.	The Fingal Tourism Strategy includes a strategic objective to deliver 'Dispersed Growth' across the county including rural locations.
Objective EEO57 – Seamus Ennis Arts Centre Promote the extension and development of the Seamus Ennis Arts Centre, to incorporate a purpose built theatre/performance venue and ancillary facilities	Ongoing- Procurement of an integrated design team to assess and make recommendations in relation is underway.

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Objective EEO58 – Bed and Breakfast or Guest House Accommodation Support proposed extensions to existing dwellings, within areas which have zoning objectives, RU, GB, HA, RV, or RC, which provide for bed and breakfast or guest house accommodation where the size, design, surface water management and foul drainage arrangements for the proposed development does not erode the rural quality and character of the surrounding area.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management Process.
Objective EEO59 – Campsites Support the development of appropriately located and sensitively designed campsites, with required ancillary facilities, as an alternative form of accommodation for visitors to the County.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management Process.
Objective EEO60 – Campsites adjacent to Settlements Any campsite adjacent to settlements shall, in terms of scale, layout and design, have regard to the existing character of the village and residential amenity. A detailed hard and soft landscaping plan shall be submitted for camp site applications.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management Process.
Objective EEO61 – Provision of Space for Small Scale Employment Encourage and support local enterprise within Fingal's small towns, villages and rural business zones by facilitating the provision of space for small scale employment including office development.	Fingal LEO and Fingal Leader Partnership encourage and support local enterprise in small towns, villages and rural businesses zones across the county by providing business supports. The Council engages with stakeholders on space requirements to inform their decisions about investing in these locations around the county and refers developers for preplanning meetings as appropriate.
Objective EEO62 – Re-use of Vacant and Under-utilised Buildings within Rural Villages Encourage the re-use of vacant and under-utilised buildings within Rural Villages as remote working hubs and/or accommodation for small and medium sized enterprises.	The re-use of vacant and under-utilised buildings in rural villages is being encouraged through the Council's Town Centre First approach, for example in Lusk, Rush and Donabate and through the Town & Village Renewal Scheme and Connected Hub Scheme.

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Objective EEO63 –Sustainable Agricultural Practices Encourage the development of environmentally sustainable agricultural practices, to ensure that development does not impinge on the visual amenity of the countryside and that watercourses, wildlife habitats and areas of ecological importance are protected from the threat of pollution.	EETCD is examining Council owned con-acre lands which are licenced annually to identify any lands suitable for a pilot project for sustainable agricultural practices in partnership with relevant stakeholders.
Objective EEO64 – Sustainable Horticultural Practices Support and facilitate the development of environmentally sustainable horticultural practices.	The Council is promoting sustainable horticultural practices through the Food & Drink Policy and will be engaging with stakeholders to identify any skills requirements in this area in 2025. EETCD is also engaging with stakeholders to explore sustainable horticultural practices in future development in the food production sector in the county.
Objective EEO65 – Licensed Country Markets Support the licensed operation of local country markets at suitable locations in Towns and Rural Villages	The Future Fingal Economic Development recognises the importance of the agri-food sector in Fingal and support development of farmers markets and linkages with Fingal towns and villages.
Objective EEO66 – Forestry Facilitate the sustainable development of forestry provided that it is in harmony with the surrounding landscape, that no significant adverse impacts are caused to natural waters, wildlife habitats, or conservation areas and that it does not have a significant adverse visual impact on the local landscape and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria.	The Council will collaborate with the relevant stakeholders in this regard.
Objective EEO67 – Sustainable Forest Development Support the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine in implementing sustainable forest development in line with National policy guidance.	The Council will collaborate with the relevant stakeholders in this regard.
Objective EEO68 – Protection and Enhancement of Native Woodlands	The Council will collaborate with the relevant stakeholders in this regard.

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Support the protection and enhancement of existing native woodlands and where appropriate, the conversion of coniferous forest to native woodlands with a focus on opportunities for habitat linkage and wider eco-services.	
Objective EEO69 – Access to Forestry Encourage access to forestry for walking routes, biking trails and other non-noise generating recreational activities.	The Council will collaborate with the relevant stakeholders in this regard.
Objective EEO70 – Renewable and Alternative Energy Facilitate and encourage the development of the alternative energy sector, in line with a Local Renewable Energy Strategy, and work with the relevant agencies to support the development of alternative forms of energy where such developments do not negatively impact upon the environmental quality, and visual, residential or rural amenity of the area.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in consultation with the relevant stakeholders.
Objective EEO71 – Vacant and Under-Utilised Buildings Encourage the re-use of vacant and under-utilised buildings within Rural Villages as accommodation for small and medium sized enterprises.	The re-use of vacant and under-utilised buildings in rural villages is being encouraged through the Council's Town Centre First approach for example in Lusk, Rush and Donabate.
Objective EEO72 – Home-Based Economic Activities Permit home-based economic activities in existing dwellings, where by virtue of their nature and scale, the activities can be accommodated such that the proposed activity does not impact in an excessively negative way on: i. The operation of agriculture or horticulture farms in the vicinity, ii. The rural ecology and landscape of the area, iii. Any adjacent residential use, iv. The primary use of the dwelling as a residence.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management Process.
Objective EEO73 – Broadband	The Council will continue to support this initiative, and a number of Broadband Connection Points

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Support and facilitate the expansion and rollout of high-speed broadband services within rural areas	(BCPs) were installed across the county as part of the Connected Hubs Call under Town & Village Renewal Funding stream.
Objective EE074 – Avoidance of Adverse Impacts on the Environment, Residential and Visual Amenities Ensure that proposals for extraction and land reclamation avoid significant adverse impacts on the environment, residential amenities and the visual amenity of the area through environmental assessment, mitigation and appropriate provision for the restoration of the landscape.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management Process.
Objective EE075 – Mineral Extraction and Land Reclamation Prohibit mineral extraction and land reclamation along the coast, particularly in proximity to estuaries, except in exceptional circumstances, where it can be demonstrated that there will be no significant adverse impact on the environment, visual amenity, heritage or the conservation objectives of European Sites.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management Process and in consultation with other Council Department where required.
Objective EE076 – Prohibit Removal of Beach Material Prohibit the removal of beach material, aggregates, sand and gravel, including the removal of material from sand dune ecosystems.	The Council will monitor this and take the necessary steps where required.

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Objective EEO77 – Preserve and Protect Coastal Wetlands, Coastal Habitats and Estuarine Marshes Preserve and protect coastal wetlands, coastal habitats, and estuarine marsh lands in coastal areas from inappropriate development, including land reclamation. Any proposals for land reclamation in coastal areas shall be subject to Screening for Appropriate Assessment and to an assessment of impacts on any such wetlands, coastal habitats, and estuarine marsh lands and its impacts on coastal processes including erosion, deposition, accretion and flooding particularly in light of climate change.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management Process and in consultation with other Council Department where required.
Objective EEO78 – Protection of Agricultural Lands Support and facilitate the protection of agricultural lands in the County, ensuring that new development does not irreversibly harm or compromise the commercial viability of existing agricultural land.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management Process and in consultation with other Council Department where required.
Objective EEO79 – Support and Facilitate Horticultural Development Support and facilitate horticultural development in Fingal encouraging the establishment/ expansion of new enterprises where appropriate.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management Process and in consultation with other Council Department where required.
Objective EEO80 – Support and Facilitate Agribusiness Growth Support and facilitate the growth of agribusiness in Fingal and encourage agribusiness and support services which are directly related to the local horticultural or agricultural sectors in RB and FP zoned areas.	The Future Fingal Economic Development recognises the importance of the agri-food sector in Fingal. The sector is listed in the Strategy as a priority in the category Sustain & Grow as a sector with the scope to enable (potentially significant) incremental growth and as a sector which should be cultivated and nurtured to support future economic expansion. EETCD will support the sector through the Food & Drink Policy, LEADER Programme and the Sustainable Fingal Strategy.
Objective EEO81 – Direct and Encourage Agribusiness to Appropriate Locations Direct and encourage agribusiness which relies primarily on imported food and produce into	Ongoing – Through the implementation of the Development Management Process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
areas which have adequate road infrastructure, and which are appropriately zoned.	
Objective EEO82 – Support and Encourage the Equine Industry Support and encourage the development and expansion of the equine industry in the County, including supporting equine related activities of an appropriate size and at suitable locations.	EETCD has engaged with various stakeholders in the equine industry over the last 2 years regarding their plans for the development of equine related activities in the county.
Objective EEO83 – Develop and Promote the Agri-food Sector Engage and collaborate with key stakeholders, relevant agencies, sectoral representatives and local communities to develop the agri-food sector in Fingal and the new Fingal Food Policy, to promote and showcase the agri-food sector, including supporting events such as the Flavours of Fingal, and to ensure that the potential of the sector is secured for the benefit of local communities, the environment, the local economy, and national economy.	Fingal Co. Co. is actively engaging and collaborating with key stakeholders through the Food & Drink Policy to promote and showcase the agri-food sector. July 2024 - a new Fingal Food & Drink Policy which looks to create a sustainable and vibrant food community in the County, celebrating local food provenance and positioning Fingal as a premier culinary <i>tourism destination</i>.
Objective EEO84 – Balance Economic Benefits of Agri-food Sector with Protection of the Rural Environment Ensure the economic benefits associated with promoting the County's agri-food sector are balanced with due consideration for the conservation and protection of the rural environment.	EETCD encourages a sustainable and balanced approach to development of rural Fingal through the LEADER Programme and Town & Village Renewal Scheme.
Objective EEO85 – Creation of High Quality Built Environments to Facilitate Growth Promote the growth of the agri-food sector in Fingal by responding to the varying needs and requirements of the different components within the sector and by creating high quality built environments offering a range of building sizes and formats, supported by the targeted provision of necessary infrastructure.	EETCD will engage with the agri-food sector on sectoral requirements in the implementation of the Food & Drink Policy. BASE Enterprise Centre and Drinan Enterprise Centre both have high quality food units of varying sizes all of which are currently occupied by food businesses.
Objective EEO86 – Farm Diversification Promote farm diversification where:	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.

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- the proposal is related directly either to the agricultural operation engaged upon on the farm or the rural nature of the area. - The use is compatible with the existing road infrastructure in the area. - it does not unacceptably impact on the landscape, environment and character of the area.	
Objective EEO87 – Promote Sensitive Re-use and Adaptation of Farm Buildings Promote the sensitive re-use and adaptation of existing farm buildings for farm diversification. Where a new building is necessary, it shall be sited, where practical, in or adjacent to the existing group of farm buildings and shall relate to existing buildings and the surrounding countryside in terms of design, siting, and materials.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO88 – Support Teagasc and Other Farming / Local Bodies Support and facilitate the work of Teagasc and other farming / local bodies within the County in the promotion of the rural economy, including agriculture development, rural diversification, tourism adaptation and in the development of new initiatives to support farming.	EETCD is supporting the work of Teagasc & other farming/local bodies in partnership with Fingal LEADER Partnership under the Dublin Rural LEADER Programme. The implementation of objectives under the Fingal Tourism Strategy and Food & Drink Policy & Fingal Skills Strategy also support this work.
Objective EEO89 – Fingal Retail Hierarchy Require that new significant retail development be primarily directed to the higher Levels in the Fingal Retail Hierarchy and specifically to the core retail areas identified for these centres. Only in exceptional circumstances (where the Planning Authority is satisfied that there are no sites or potential sites available either within the core retail area or on-the-edge of the core, and that the proposed retail development is necessary to serve the needs of the area) will proposed retail developments that are located outside of these centres and/ or the core retail areas of these centres be positively considered.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.

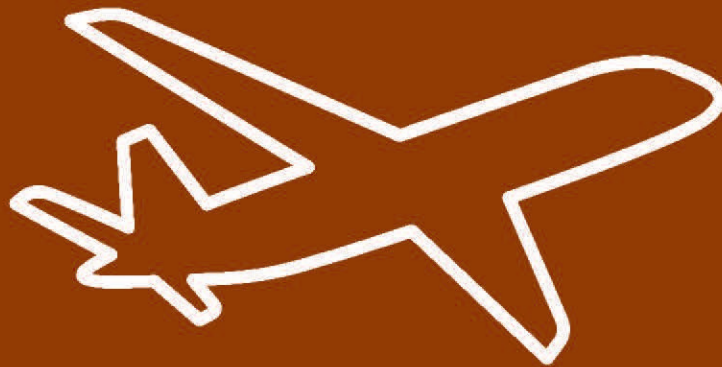
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective EE090 – New Retail Development Ensure that applications for new retail development are consistent with the retail policies of the Development Plan, in particular with the Fingal Retail Hierarchy, and are assessed in accordance with the requirements of the Guidelines for Planning Authorities: Retail Planning, including, where appropriate, the application of the Sequential Approach, and requirements for retail impact assessments and transport impact assessments for retail developments which due to their scale and/ or location may impact on the vitality and viability of major town, town, local and village centres, while having regard to the impact such directions/ developments may have on the existing businesses operating within the area.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EE091 – Level 2 Centres Develop and promote Swords and Blanchardstown as sustainable, vibrant and prosperous Major Town Centres operating at the highest retail Level within the Fingal Retail Hierarchy, and to further strengthen, improve and diversify the retailing performance of Swords and Blanchardstown within a regional context.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EE092 – Facilitate improvements to the retail offer and function in Level 2 Centres Facilitate improvements to the quantum and quality of retail offer and function in Swords and Blanchardstown, and ensure their sustainable development by consolidating, intensifying and enhancing their existing core retail areas, and by directing new retail opportunities into the core retail areas identified for each.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EE093 – Level 3 Centres Ensure the development of Balbriggan, Malahide, Skerries and Charlestown, as sustainable, vibrant and prosperous Town Centres performing at a high retail level within the Fingal Retail Hierarchy to meet the retailing needs of and offer sufficient retail choice to their local populations and catchment populations.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.

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Objective EEO94 – Retail Offer and Function in Level 3 Centres Facilitate appropriately scaled improvements to the quantum and quality of retail offer and function in Balbriggan, Malahide, Skerries and Charlestown and ensure their sustainable development by consolidating, intensifying and enhancing their existing core retail areas, and by directing new retail opportunities into the core retail areas identified for each.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO95 – Ensure Sufficient Retail Offer in Level 3 Town Centres Ensure that the Level 3 Town Centres have a retail offer that is sufficient in terms of scale, type, and range without adversely impacting on or diverting trade from the higher order retailing locations.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO96 – Level 4 Centres Ensure the development of Level 4 Centres as sustainable, vibrant and prosperous Small Towns, Village Centres and Local Centres performing at a level within the Fingal Retail Hierarchy to meet the retailing needs of immediate local populations and catchment populations.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO97 – Retail Provision in Level 4 Centres Where a gap in the retail provision of a Level 4 Centre is identified and established, facilitate appropriately scaled improvements to the retail offer and function in Level 4 Centres and ensure their sustainable development by enhancing the existing Centre for each and directing new retail opportunities into the Centres.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO98 – Ensure Sufficient Retail Offer in Level 4 Towns and Centres Ensure that the Level 4 Small Towns, Village Centres and Local Centres have a retail offer that is sufficient in terms of scale, type, and range without adversely impacting on or diverting trade from the higher order retailing locations.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective EEO99 – Level 5 Centres Ensure the development of Level 5 Centres as sustainable, vibrant and prosperous Local Shops and Small Villages performing at a level within the Fingal Retail Hierarchy to meet the retailing needs of immediate local populations and catchment populations.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO100 – Retail Provision in Level 5 Centres Where a gap in the retail provision of a Level 5 Centre is identified and established, facilitate appropriately scaled improvements to the retail offer and function of Level 5 Centres and ensure their sustainable development by enhancing the existing Centre for each and directing new retail opportunities into the Centres.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO101 – Retail Offer in Level 5 Local Shops and Small Villages Ensure that the Level 5 Local Shops and Small Villages have a retail offer that is sufficient in terms of scale, type, and range without adversely impacting on or diverting trade from the higher order retailing locations.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO102 – Ensure retailing remains as the Core Function of Centres Maintain and strengthen the vitality, viability and regeneration of the County's Major Town, Town, Local and Village Centres by providing for civic, leisure, cultural and tourism attractions while ensuring that retailing remains a core function of these centres.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO103 – Use of Vacant Floor Space and Refurbishment and Replacement of Obsolete Units Promote the use of vacant floor space in our major town centres, town centres, local centres and villages and support proposals for refurbishment and replacement of obsolete buildings/units within these centres	This is ongoing through the Development Management process and the re-use of vacant and under-utilised buildings in rural villages is being encouraged through the Council's Town Centre First approach, for example in Lusk, Rush and Donabate and through the Town & Village Renewal Scheme and Connected Hub Scheme.

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Objective EEO104 – Non-Retail Uses Control the provision of non-retail uses, especially at ground floor level, in the main streets of towns and villages, shopping centres and local centres to ensure that injury is not caused to the amenities of these streets and centres through the loss of retail opportunities.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO105 – Prevent Over-Supply of Specific Uses / Outlets Prevent an over-supply or dominance of fast food outlets, takeaways, off licences, adult shops, gaming arcades and betting offices in the main streets of towns and villages, shopping centres and local centres to ensure that injury is not caused to the amenities of these streets and centres through the loss of retail opportunities.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO106 – Retail Warehousing and Retail Parks Direct demand for new retail warehousing and/ or retail parks into the Major Town Centre ‘MC’ zoned lands of the Level 2 higher order retailing locations and into the Retail Warehousing ‘RW’ zoning, preferably, in the first instance, to consolidate the existing clusters of retail warehouses and/ or retail parks.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective EEO107 – Applications for New Retail Warehousing and Retail Parks Ensure that applications for new retail warehousing and/ or retail parks are consistent with the requirements of the Guidelines for Planning Authorities: Retail Planning, including, where appropriate, the application of the Sequential Approach, and requirements for retail impact assessments and transport impact assessments for retail developments which due to their scale and/ or location may impact on the vitality and viability of existing retail parks.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.

8. DUBLIN AIRPORT



8. Dublin Airport

Dublin Airport is of vital importance to the Irish economy and acts as the principal international gateway for trade, inward investment and tourism. Dublin Airport is nationally significant due to its employment base, passenger throughput and air freight services and it remains the primary economic hub in Fingal.

The Dublin Airport LAP 2020 sets out a framework to facilitate the future development, operation and safeguarding of Dublin Airport. In line with the land-use planning policy of the Dublin Airport LAP 2020, the increase in the connectivity offered by Dublin Airport, is contingent on:

- Continued protection of the core transport function of the Airport,
- Enhanced land-side access to Dublin Airport, particularly through public transport provision such as MetroLink and BusConnects,
- Implementation of the recommendations of the South Fingal Transport Study 2019, and
- Careful land use management of land-side areas to focus on the current and future needs of the Airport as key infrastructure for National and Regional development.

Fingal County Council continues to engage and collaborate with relevant stakeholders towards the achievement of objectives relevant to Dublin Airport.



8.1 Chapter 8 – Objectives and Progress

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective DAO1 – Safeguarding Dublin Airport Facilitate the operation and future development of Dublin Airport, in line with Government policy and the Dublin Airport Local Area Plan 2020, or any subsequent LAP or extension of same, recognising its role in the provision of air transport, both passenger and freight.	Ongoing - As part of the implementation of Dublin Airport LAP 2020 and the Development Management Process.
Objective DAO2 – Safeguarding the Current and Future Requirements of Dublin Airport Safeguard the current and future operational, safety, technical and developmental requirements of Dublin Airport and provide for its ongoing development in accordance with the Dublin Airport Local Area Plan 2020, or any subsequent LAP or extension of same, having regard to both the environmental impact on local communities and the economic impact on businesses within the area.	Ongoing – As part of the implementation of Dublin Airport LAP 2020, the Development Management Process and through the implementation of the South Fingal Transport Study 2019.
Objective DAO3 – Secondary Hub Engage and collaborate with key stakeholders, relevant agencies and sectoral representatives to ensure that Dublin Airport is developed and promoted as a secondary hub to capitalise on the associated wider economic benefits for Fingal and the wider region.	Ongoing. As part of the implementation of Dublin Airport LAP 2020, the Development Management Process and through continued engagement with relevant stakeholders.
Objective DAO4 – Aviation Infrastructure and Facilities Ensure that the required infrastructure and facilities are provided at Dublin Airport so that the aviation sector can develop further and operate to its maximum sustainable potential, whilst taking into account the impact on local residential areas, and any negative impact such proposed developments may have on the sustainability of similar existing developments in the surrounding area, and the impact on the environment, including the climate.	Ongoing – As part of the implementation of Dublin Airport LAP 2020, the Development Management Process and through the implementation of the South Fingal Transport Study 2019.
Objective DAO5 – Augmentation and Improvement of Terminal Facilities Facilitate the on-going augmentation and improvement of terminal facilities at Dublin Airport.	Ongoing – As part of the implementation of Dublin Airport LAP 2020 and the Development Management Process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective DAO6 – Supply of Car Parking at Dublin Airport Control the supply of car parking at the Airport so as to maximize as far as is practical the use of public transport and sustainable transport modes (walking / cycling) by workers and passengers and to secure the efficient use of land and safeguard the strategic function of the adjacent road network.	Ongoing – As part of the implementation of Dublin Airport LAP 2020 and the Development Management Process.
Objective DAO7 – Integrated Public Transport Network serving Dublin Airport Require and facilitate the provision of an integrated public transport network to serve Dublin Airport.	Ongoing through continued engagement with relevant transport providers and the implementation of the recommendations of the South Fingal Transport Study 2019. Approval on the 19th of June 2024 by An Bord Pleanála under HA06D.317121 for BusConnects Swords to City Centre Bus Corridor Scheme.
Objective DAO8 – Surface Access Needs Protect and enhance the transportation capacity required to provide for the surface access needs of the Airport.	Ongoing through the implementation of the Dublin Airport Local Area Plan 2020, the Development Management Process and the implementation of the recommendations of the South Fingal Transport Study 2019. All relevant planning applications are referred to Transportation Planning Section for comment.
Objective DAO9 – Maintain and Protect Accessibility to the Airport Maintain and protect accessibility to the Airport as a priority.	Ongoing through the implementation of the Dublin Airport Local Area Plan 2020, the Development Management Process and the implementation of the recommendations of the South Fingal Transport Study 2019. All relevant planning applications are referred to Transportation Planning Section for comment.
Objective DAO10 – Employment Opportunities for Fingal Residents Engage with and support the daa and other employment providers in aviation uses associated with Dublin Airport to create quality and easily accessible employment opportunities for Fingal residents.	Ongoing
Objective DAO11 – Requirement for Noise Insulation Strictly control inappropriate development and require noise insulation where appropriate in accordance with Table 8.1 above within Noise Zone B and Noise Zone C and where necessary in Assessment Zone D, and actively resist new provision for residential development and other noise sensitive uses within Noise Zone A, as	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.

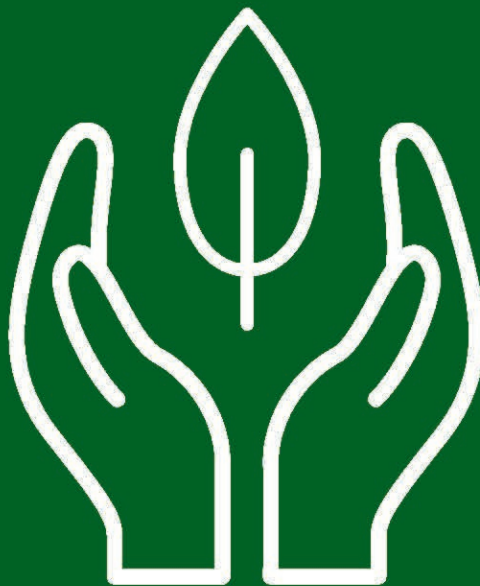
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
shown on the Development Plan maps, while recognising the housing needs of established families farming in the zone. To accept that time based operational restrictions on usage of the runways are not unreasonable to minimise the adverse impact of noise on existing housing within the inner and outer noise zone.	
Objective DAO12 – Noise Zones and New Housing for Farming Families Notwithstanding Objective DAO11, apply the provisions with regard to New Housing for Farming Families only, as set out in Chapter 3 Sustainable Placemaking and Quality Homes, within the Inner Noise Zone subject to the following restrictions: -Under no circumstances shall any dwelling be permitted within the predicted 69 dB LAeq 16 hours noise contour, -Comprehensive noise insulation shall be required for any house permitted under this objective, -Any planning application shall be accompanied by a noise assessment report produced by a specialist in noise assessment which shall specify all proposed noise mitigation measures together with a declaration of acceptance of the applicant with regard to the result of the noise assessment report.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process and implementation of the Rural Settlement Policy as per the Development Plan.
Objective DAO13 – Aircraft Operations and Noise Ensure that aircraft-related development and operation procedures proposed and existing at the Airport consider the requirements of the Aircraft Noise Regulations, the Noise Abatement Objective (NAO) for Dublin Airport, the Noise Action Plan, Health Issues and all measures necessary to mitigate against the potential negative impact of noise from aircraft operations (such as engine testing, taxiing, taking off and landing), on existing established residential communities, while not placing unreasonable, but allowing reasonable restrictions on airport development to prevent detrimental effects on local communities, taking into account the EU Regulation 598/2014 (or any future superseding EU regulation applicable) having regard to the ‘Balanced Approach’ and the involvement of	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
communities in ensuring a collaborative approach to mitigating against noise pollution.	
Objective DAO14 – Aircraft Movements and Development Restrict development which would give rise to conflicts with aircraft movements on environmental or safety grounds on lands in the vicinity of the Airport and on the main flight paths serving the Airport, and in particular restrict residential development in areas likely to be affected by levels of noise inappropriate to residential use.	Airport Noise Zones/ Ongoing through the Development Management Process
Objective DAO15 – Ongoing Review of Operation of Noise Zones Review the operation of the Noise Zones on an ongoing basis in line with the most up to date legislative frameworks in the area, the ongoing programme of noise monitoring in the vicinity of the Airport flight paths, and the availability of improved noise forecasts.	Ongoing
Objective DAO16 – Introduction of a Noise Quota System To encourage and promote the introduction of a noise quota system at Dublin Airport to encourage Airlines to use quieter aircraft so as to prevent and reduce, where necessary, on a prioritised basis the effects due to long term exposure to aircraft noise.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective DAO17 – Crosswind Runway Restrict the Crosswind Runway to essential occasional use on completion of the second east-west runway. ‘Essential’ use shall be interpreted as use when required by international regulations for safety reasons.	Through Development Management Process. Cond No. 3 of North runway permission F04A/1755 restricts to essential occasional use on completion of the new runway.
Objective DAO18 – Safety Promote appropriate land use patterns in the vicinity of the flight paths serving the Airport, having regard to the precautionary principle, based on existing and anticipated environmental and safety impacts of aircraft movements.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process/Airport Noise Zones
Objective DAO19 – Review of Public Safety Zones Support the review of Public Safety Zones associated with Dublin Airport and implement the policies to be determined by the Government in relation to these Public Safety Zones.	Ongoing

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective DAO20 – Irish Aviation Authority Publications Take into account relevant publications issued by the Irish Aviation Authority in respect of the operations of and development in and around Dublin Airport.	Ongoing
Objective DAO21 – Irish Aviation Authority Advice Continue to take account of the advice of the Irish Aviation Authority with regard to the effects of any development proposals on the safety of aircraft or the safe and efficient navigation thereof. To refer planning applications for any proposals that may be developed in the environs of the Airport to the Irish Aviation Authority and daa in accordance with the Obstacle Limitation Requirements of Regulation (EU) No 139 / 2014 (EASA Certification Specifications), previously required under ICAO Annex 14, and which are depicted on the aerodrome operator's map.	Ongoing
Objective DAO22 – Weston Aerodrome Have regard to the safety and environmental impacts of aircraft movements associated with Weston Aerodrome in the assessment of any relevant development proposal.	Ongoing
Objective DAO23 – Public Stakeholder Forums Continue to participate in the Dublin Airport Stakeholders Forum, St. Margaret's Community Liaison Group and other public stakeholder forums involving representatives from Local Authorities, airport operators, community and other stakeholders, providing a forum for discussion of environmental, community and other issues.	Ongoing
Objective DAO24 – Housing Development and Dublin Airport Noise Zones Restrict housing development in order to minimise the potential for future conflict between Airport operations and the environmental conditions for residents, in accordance with the Dublin Airport Noise Zones 2019.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective DAO25 – Improvements and Extensions to Existing Properties Permit improvement and extensions to existing properties in the area where it can be demonstrated that such works do not represent significant intensification of development, and that appropriate consideration of potential noise impacts are incorporated within the proposals.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective DAO26 – Development within Dublin LAP Lands Ensure that all development within the Dublin Airport Local Area Plan lands will be of a high standard of design and sustainability, to reflect the prestigious nature of an international gateway airport, and its location adjacent to Dublin City.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process and implementation of the Dublin Airport LAP 2020 and associated Dublin Airport Architectural Design Framework.

9. GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND NATURAL HERITAGE



9. Green Infrastructure and Natural Heritage

9.1 Introduction

The Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 acknowledges the importance of protecting the county's natural environment, biodiversity and ecosystems. The Plan includes various objectives for the protection and enhancement of our natural environment and its rich and diverse biodiversity as well the development of a green infrastructure network for the county.

The Development Plan acknowledges that maintaining and protecting the County's natural environment and its biodiversity and advancing a green infrastructure network, plays a key role in climate adaptation and mitigation. The multi-faceted nature of green infrastructure is co-ordinated through five distinct themes with associated objectives in the Development Plan. These include:

- Biodiversity
- Parks Open Space and Recreation
- Sustainable Water Management
- Archaeological and Heritage Landscapes
- Landscape

Since the adoption of the Development Plan, the Council's Biodiversity Officer, Parks and Green Infrastructure Division and Heritage Office continue to implement various plans and projects, to fulfil relevant Development Plan objectives relating to these themes.

9.2 Fingal Biodiversity Plan 2023-2029



The Fingal Biodiversity Plan 2023-2029 was published in 2023.

A Biodiversity Forum was set up to oversee the implementation of this Plan. This forum comprises various Departments and external stakeholders such as IFI, NPWS, Birdwatch Ireland, Fingal Beekeepers, Golden Eagle Trust and others.

The Plan contains 100 actions of which 60 are prioritised for implementation between 2023 and 2027.

A Biodiversity Team was established in the Parks and Green Infrastructure Division which currently comprises 6 no. staff responsible for the coordination of the implementation of the prioritised actions.

Examples of Biodiversity Actions ongoing include:

- Weir removal and fish pass construction in the Ward River to improve fish migration.

- Wildfire Management including goat grazing on Howth.
- Wetland Restoration in St Ita's Donabate/Portrane.
- Wetland Restoration and Rewilding in Turvey Nature Park.
- Little Tern Bird Conservation Project at Portrane Beach in conjunction with Birdwatch Ireland.
- Completion of rare Irish Farm breeds collection in Newbridge Farm.



Weir Removal River Ward



Wildfire Management including goat grazing on Howth.



Wetland Restoration in St Ita's Donabate/Portrane.

The Council continues to implement biodiversity projects with support funding, provided primarily through the Local Biodiversity Action Plan fund and the Council's Capital Plan 2025-2027.

The Biodiversity Officer also continues to raise public awareness of the importance of biodiversity, through environmental educational activities, such as guided biodiversity walks. Engagement also occurs with the 22 no. Tidy Towns groups within Fingal to progress biodiversity projects at local level.

The Council promoted a wide range of events for National Biodiversity Week in 2024.

9.3 Parks, Open Space and Recreation

The progress made in implementing open space and recreational activities within the county is reinforced by the ongoing projects of the Parks and Green Infrastructure Division and as detailed in Chapter 4 of this report. Examples at strategic level include the continued development of Bremore Regional Park in Balbriggan and the enhancement of the Regional Parks at Malahide, Newbridge and Ardgillan Demesnes and Shackleton Mills in Dublin 15 as well as the delivery of Recreational Sports Hubs across Fingal.



Artist impression of Rathmore Recreational Sports Hub, Lusk -To commence 2025



Artist impression of Corduff Park Upgrade – At Detailed Design Stage.

Works continue across Council Departments to support and facilitate strategic green infrastructure corridors in Fingal. Notable progress on delivery of these corridors is set out in Table 6.1 of this report. These include the Fingal Coastal Way, the Broadmeadow Greenway, The Royal Canal Urban Greenway, Ward River Valley and Broadmeadow River Valley, providing continuous green links along the coast, canals and between regional parks.

9.4 Sustainable Water Management



Fingal County Council's SuDS guidance document was published in parallel with the preparation of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029.

SuDS measures are required to be incorporated into all new development either directly or through conditions.

In 2024, Fingal County Council published a 'A Household Guide to Sustainable Drainage' (SuDS) towards managing rainfall more naturally in Fingal.

9.5 Archaeological and Heritage Landscapes

The progress made in protecting, enhancing and promoting the Archaeological and Heritage Landscapes of the County is reinforced by the ongoing work carried out by the Council's Heritage Officer and as detailed in Chapter 10 of this report. Examples include the publication of the Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030, excavations at Drumanagh Promontory Fort, exhibitions, a series of seminars and public events as well as input of archaeological expertise into land-use plans and cross-department Council projects and the Development Management process.

9.6 Landscape

All planning proposals are assessed against the relevant landscape character provisions of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 in conjunction with the requirement for a Landscape Assessment and Screening for Appropriate Assessments for developments and specifically within sensitive landscape areas through the Development Management Process.

Implementation of Howth SAAO Operational Plan continues and the adoption of a new Operational Plan for Liffey Valley SAAO is pending.

In line with the Council's remit and in collaboration with relevant national agencies, Fingal County Council continues to protect vulnerable coastal areas and infrastructure where possible using

nature-based solutions in response to coastal change. Examples include, Velvet Strand – Portmarnock and Burrow Beach – Portrane.

The Dublin Bay Biosphere is managed by the Dublin Bay Biosphere Partnership, which includes Fingal County Council. Fingal is committed to the ongoing implementation of the Biosphere Work Programme.



Howth SAAO area

Chapter 9 – Objectives and Progress

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective GINHO1 – Urban Greening Plans Develop and implement Urban Greening Plans for Balbriggan, Swords and the wider Dublin 15 area within the lifetime of the Development Plan.	Action 42 of the Fingal Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030 addresses this objective. Scheduled to commence 2027.
Objective GINHO2 – Fragmentation Reduce fragmentation and enhance the resilience of Fingal's green infrastructure network by strengthening ecological links between urban areas, Natura 2000 sites, proposed Natural Heritage Areas, parks and open spaces and the wider regional network by connecting all new developments into the wider green infrastructure network.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process, Local Area Plans, Framework Plans, Masterplans through the planning and design of Multifunctional Green infrastructural projects.
Objective GINHO3 – Biodiversity in Open Space Make provision for biodiversity within public open space and include water sensitive design and management measures (including SuDS) as part of a sustainable approach to open space design and management.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process, Local Area Plans, Framework Plan and Masterplan through the planning and design of Multi-functional Green Infrastructural projects. Actions 29, 30, 31 and 35 of the Fingal Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030 addresses this objective.
Objective GINHO4 – Green Infrastructure and Development Resist development that would fragment or prejudice the County's strategic green infrastructure network.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINHO5 – Pollinator Plan Continue to support the provisions of the National Pollinator Plan 2021-2025 through the management and monitoring of the County's pollinator protection sites and through the promotion of additional pollinator sites during the lifetime of this Development Plan.	Action 38 of Fingal Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030 addresses this objective, and the implementation of this action is ongoing.
Objective GINHO6 – Agriculture and Horticulture Identify and map the important agricultural and horticultural lands in the County for future food security purposes and protect these lands from development.	To be commenced during the lifetime of the Plan.
Objective GINHO7 – Provision of Open Space Provide a range of accessible new parks, open spaces and recreational facilities accommodating a wide variety of uses (both passive and active), use intensities and interests.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process and preparation of Local Area Plans, Masterplans, Framework Plans. The three- year Capital Programme includes a number of projects that contribute significantly to the provision of additional open space and recreational facilities within the County.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective GINHO8 – Routes Provide attractive and safe routes linking parks and open spaces and other related features such as cultural sites and heritage assets as an integral part of green infrastructure provision, where appropriate and feasible.	Ongoing - Through the planning and design and implementation of Greenways and Multifunctional Green Infrastructural Projects. Ongoing collaboration between Council Departments including Environment- Active Travel and Transportation regarding such projects.
Objective GINHO9 – Greenways and Net Gain Ensure that all greenway developments have a biodiversity net gain. Nature conservation and opportunities for biodiversity enhancement will be a key part of these infrastructure projects and nature conservation will be considered throughout the lifetime of the project and into the future, following project completion.	Ongoing- Through the planning, design and implementation of Greenway Infrastructural Projects.
Objective GINHO10 – Food Production Identify and provide opportunities for Fingal residents to engage in food production through allotments, community gardens and the provision of food foraging areas in new parks and green infrastructure proposals where appropriate.	Ongoing – Through the implementation of Fingal’s Allotment Strategy. The Council continues to maintain 800 public allotments and extend the number of community gardens, in response to local demand in the County. Examples include Rush and Ward River Valley/Knocksedan and Lanesborough.
Objective GINHO11 – Donabate Turvey Nature Reserve That Fingal County Council in the lifetime of this Development Plan provides for the development of a wildlife, education and rehabilitation centre within the Turvey Nature Reserve, Turvey Donabate.	The former Turvey Depot has been cleared, and design consultants will be appointed in Q1 2025.
Objective GINHO12 – Green Infrastructure Requirements Ensure the provision of new green infrastructure addresses the requirements of functional flood storage, the sustainable management of coastal erosion, and links with provision for biodiversity, Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) and provision for parks and open space wherever possible and appropriate.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process and incorporation of multifunctional green infrastructure in projects funded by the Capital Programme.
Objective GINHO13 – Wetlands Seek the creation of new wetlands and/or enhancement of existing wetlands through provision for Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) where appropriate.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process. Incorporates multifunctional green infrastructure such as wetlands in projects funded by the Capital Programme. Examples include Ward River Valley Regional Park, Corballis -Donabate, Racecourse Park- Baldoyle and St. Ita’s – Portrane.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective GINHO14 – Green Roofs Seek the provision of green roofs and green walls as an integrated part of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) and which provide benefits for biodiversity, wherever possible.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process. The potential of green and blue roofs has been recognised by Fingal as a means of delivering against multiple policy objectives relating to flood risk, climate change, amenity and biodiversity, particularly where availability of space is limited. In this regard, Water Services Forward Planning is currently working on a new guideline for Green/ Blue Roofs in new developments.
Objective GINHO15 – SuDS Limit surface water run-off from new developments through the use of appropriate Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) using nature-based solutions and ensure that SuDS is integrated into all new development in the County.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process. SuDS is a fundamental part of all planning permissions as a means of delivering against multiple policy objectives relating to flood risk, climate change, amenity and biodiversity, particularly where availability of space is limited. Fingal County Council has also published <i>'A Household Guide to Sustainable Drainage' (SuDS)</i> towards managing rainfall more naturally in Fingal.
Objective GINHO16 – Coastal Ensure the green infrastructure strategy for Fingal protects the County's natural coastal defences, such as beaches, sand dunes, salt marshes and estuary lands, and promotes the use of soft engineering techniques as an alternative to hard coastal defence works wherever possible.	Ongoing – In line with the Council's remit and in collaboration with relevant national agencies, Fingal continues to protect vulnerable coastal areas and infrastructure where possible using nature-based solutions in response to coastal change. Examples include Velvet Strand – Portmarnock and Burrow Beach – Portrane.
Objective GINHO17 – Fingal Heritage Plan Protect, conserve and enhance landscape, natural, cultural and built heritage features, and support the objectives and actions of the Fingal Heritage Plan.	Ongoing – Through the implementation of the Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030 and as part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINHO18 – Heritage Landscape Ensure, wherever possible and appropriate, that elements of the archaeological and heritage landscape are fully integrated into proposals for new developments at the project design stage.	Ongoing – As part of the preparation of Local Area Plans, Framework Plan and Masterplans and through the Development Management Process. Relevant planning applications are referred to the Heritage and Conservation Officers for comment. Engagement with both the Heritage and Conservation Officers occur in the context of the preparation of the various land use plans.
Objective GINHO19 – Green Networks Create an integrated and coherent green infrastructure for the County by requiring the	Ongoing – As part of the preparation of Local Area Plans, Framework Plan and Masterplans, the Development Management Process and through

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
retention of substantial networks of green space in urban, urban fringe and adjacent countryside areas to serve the needs of communities now and in the future including the need to adapt to and mitigate climate change.	the planning and design of multifunctional Green Infrastructural Projects.
Objective GINHO20 – Green Infrastructure and Recreation Where new residential development is proposed, seek, where appropriate to maximise the use and potential of existing parks, open spaces and recreational provision, by upgrading and improving the play and recreational capacity of these existing facilities through development contributions in lieu of new open space or play provision.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINHO21 – Integration of Green Infrastructure Avoid the fragmentation of green spaces in site design and to link green spaces /greening elements to existing adjacent green infrastructure / the public realm where feasible and to provide for ecological functions.	Ongoing – As part of the preparation of Local Area Plans, Framework Plan and Masterplans, the Development Management Process and through the planning and design of multi-functional Green Infrastructural Projects.
Objective GINHO22 – Network Fragmentation Resist development that would fragment or prejudice the County's strategic green infrastructure network.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINHO23 – Policies Support and implement The Forest of Fingal-A Tree Strategy for Fingal, Keeping it Green – An Open Space Strategy for Fingal and Space for Play – A Play Policy for Fingal during the lifetime of the Development Plan.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process and through the Capital Programme 2025-2027. e.g, retrospective provision of play facilities in line with the completed countywide Play Audit and the development of several Recreational Hubs throughout Fingal, e.g. Ballymastone-Donabate, Rathmore-Lusk, Bremore- Balbriggan.
Objective GINHO24 – Allotment Strategy Continue to respond to the demand for Public Allotments and Community Gardens in the County in line with Fingal's adopted Allotment Strategy.	Ongoing – Through the implementation of the Fingal Allotment's Strategy. The Council continues to maintain 800 public allotments and extend the number of community gardens in response to local demand. Examples include Rush and Ward River Valley/Knocksedan and Lanesborough.
Objective GINHO25 – Reintroduction Programmes Promote reintroduction programmes. Reintroduction programmes are an important part of rewilding and increasing biodiversity in the County.	Action 52 of the Fingal Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030 seeks to reintroduce Osprey into Fingal. The Council is currently awaiting the results of the Osprey reintroduction programme by the NPWS in Wexford and this will inform any reintroduction programme in Fingal. Action 57 of the Fingal

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
	Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030 seeks to reintroduce oysters into the Fingal coast. Oysters have been reintroduced into Malahide Estuary by UCD and this project will be expanded along the Fingal Coast in 2025.
Objective GINHO26 – Re-wilding Continue to promote and support re-wilding and pollinator initiatives within the County.	Ongoing – A rewilding project has commenced in Turvey Nature Park Donabate.
Objective GINHO27 – National Parks and Wildlife Service Support the National Parks and Wildlife Service, in the maintenance and achievement of favourable conservation status for the habitats and species in Fingal by taking full account of the requirements of the Habitats and Birds Directives, in the performance of its functions.	Ongoing – As part of the preparation of Local Area Plans, Framework Plan and Masterplans, the Development Management Process and through the planning and design of Infrastructural Projects.
Objective GINHO28 – Protection of Natural Heritage Areas Ensure that development does not have a significant adverse impact on proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs), Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs), Statutory Nature Reserves, Refuges for Fauna, Habitat Directive Annex I sites and Annex II species contained therein, and on rare and threatened species including those protected by law and their habitats.	Ongoing – As part of the preparation of Local Area Plans, Framework Plan and Masterplans, the Development Management Process and through the planning and design of Infrastructural Projects.
Objective GINHO29 – Biodiversity and Open Space Ensure that the management of the Council's open spaces and parks is pollinator-friendly, provides more opportunities for biodiversity, and is carried out without the use of pesticides where possible.	Ongoing- Implementation of several actions of the Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030 in collaboration with local stakeholders such as Tidy Towns Groups. Actions 37 to 41 of the Fingal Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030 seeks to enhance biodiversity in open spaces. Actions 38 and 40 are ongoing. Action 39 has commenced and Action 41 will commence in 2025.
Objective GINHO30 – Infrastructure and Net Biodiversity Gain All greenway and infrastructure projects are to have a net biodiversity gain and this principle shall be incorporated from the start of the project.	Ongoing - through the planning and design of Multifunctional Green Infrastructural Projects to achieve net biodiversity gain.
Objective GINHO31 – Invasive Species Continue the control programs of invasive species with all relevant stakeholders and landowners to control the key invasive species.	Action 26 of the Fingal Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030 addresses this objective. Control programmes are ongoing for Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed, Himalayan Balsam, Cherry

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
	Laurel, Snowberry, Rhododendron, Sea Buckthorn and Mink.
Objective GINHO32 – Development and Invasive Species Ensure that proposals for development do not lead to the spread or introduction of invasive species. If developments are proposed on sites where invasive species are or were previously present, the applications will be required to submit a control and management program for the particular invasive species as part of the planning process and to comply with the provisions of European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 and EU Regulations 1143/2014.	Ongoing. As part of the Development Management Process. Developers are requested to submit Invasive Species Management Plans where invasive species are known to be present.
Objective GINHO33 – Annex I and Annex II Ensure that development does not have a significant adverse impact on proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHAs), Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs), Statutory Nature Reserves, Refuges for Fauna, Habitat Directive Annex I sites and Annex II species contained therein, and on rare and threatened species including those protected by law and their habitats.	Ongoing – As part of the preparation of Local Area Plans, Framework Plan and Masterplans, the Development Management Process and through the planning and design of Multi-Functional Green Infrastructural Projects.
Objective GINHO34 – Ecological Management Plans Develop Ecological Management Plans for the Rogerstown, Malahide and Baldoyle Estuaries focusing on their ecological protection and that of their surrounding buffer zones.	Actions 1, 5 and 10 of the Fingal Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030 addresses this objective. To be commenced in 2025. Implementation of Racecourse Park Development Plan (part of the buffer zone of Baldoyle Estuary) to commence in 2025.
Objective GINHO35 – Appropriate Assessment In accordance with Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland, Guidance for Planning Authorities 2010, any plans or projects that are likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to a screening for Appropriate Assessment unless they are directly connected with or necessary to the management of a Natura 2000 site.	Ongoing – As part of the preparation of Local Area Plans, Framework Plan and Masterplans, the Development Management Process and through the planning and design of Multi- Functional Green Infrastructural Projects.
Objective GINHO36 – Biodiversity Gain in Farmland Promote biodiversity gain by allocating a proportion of Council owned land currently leased for farming for the purposes of rewilding	To be commenced within the lifetime of the Plan.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
and biodiversity initiatives over the lifetime of this Plan.	
Objective GINHO37 – Nature Development Areas Maintain and/or enhance the biodiversity of the Nature Development Areas indicated on the Green Infrastructure maps.	Ongoing. Examples includes the preparation of a Biodiversity Management Plan for the Howth Golf Club and Beaverstown Golf Club – Donabate and an Ecological Management Plan for Newbridge Demesne.
Objective GINHO38 – Demonstration Sites Develop a demonstration site for each Nature Development Area.	To be commenced during the lifetime of the Plan.
Objective GINHO39 – Ecological Corridor Guidance Develop Design Guidance document for ecological corridors.	To be commenced during the lifetime of the Plan.
Objective GINHO40 – Ecological Assessments Protect the ecological functions and integrity of the corridors indicated on the Plan Green Infrastructure maps. An ecological assessment may be required for any proposed development likely to have a significant impact on habitats and species of interest in an ecological corridor or stepping-stone.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINHO41 – Protection of Rivers Protect rivers, streams and other watercourses and maintain them in an open state capable of providing suitable habitat for fauna and flora, including fish.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINHO42 – Inland Fisheries Take full account of Inland Fisheries Guidelines on the Protection of Fisheries during Construction works in and adjacent to Waters 2016 and Planning for Water Courses in the Urban Environment 2020 when undertaking, approving or authorising development or works which may impact on rivers, streams and canals and their associated habitats and species.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINHO43 – Streamside Riparian Zone Remove existing revetments and/or gabion baskets along river and streams and restore a minimum of 10m of natural streamside riparian zone, where possible. If existing hard bank structures cannot be removed, provide instream river rehabilitation works in consultation with Inland Fisheries Ireland to improve the overall habitat quality of the river.	Rock armour removed from Ward River. Other restoration sites to be identified during the lifetime of the Plan,

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective GINHO44 – Setback of New Surface Water Drainage Outfalls Set back new surface water drainage outfalls from the main river channel on the landward edge of the floodplain or a designed wetland feature to cater for water quality improvement before the surface discharges into the river.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINHO45 – Hedgerow Categorisation Develop a ‘Hedgerow Categorisation and Management Appraisal Tool’ and associated appropriate planning and management requirements for Development Management purposes to ensure a sustainable future for retained hedgerows in the context of new developments.	This objective is addressed through Action 30 of the Fingal Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030 and the guidance document is now at Draft Stage.
Objective GINHO46 – Tree Removal Ensure adequate justification for tree removal in new developments and open space management and require documentation and recording of the reasons where tree felling is proposed and avoid removal of trees without justification.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINHO47 – Woodland Development Schemes Promote and support woodland development schemes by identifying suitable areas to establish and enhance woodlands for biodiversity, climate change and recreational purposes in partnership with local communities in line with the adopted Forest of Fingal-A Tree Strategy for Fingal.	Ongoing- As part of the Development Management Process. Taking in charge of 2 no. woodland areas in Q2 2025, Belcamp, Balgriffin – Woodland management and rejuvenation and Thormanby Woods, Howth-Wet woodland restoration. Woodland Development Scheme submitted to the Forest Service for Council owned lands at the Nevitt.
Objective GINHO48 – Wildlife Act and Roads Act The Council shall comply with the requirements set out in the Wildlife Act and Roads Act in the context of its maintenance programmes and housing, recreational and infrastructure developments.	Ongoing – As part of the preparation of Local Area Plans, Framework Plan and Masterplans, the Development Management Process and through the planning and design of Housing and Multi-functional Green Infrastructural Projects.
Objective GINHO49 – Tree Preservation Order Review Review Tree Preservation Orders within the County and maintain the conservation value of trees and groups of trees that are the subject of any Tree Preservation Order.	To be commenced within the lifetime of the Plan. Subject to a forthcoming cross Departmental approach.
Objective GINHO50 – Tree Preservation Orders Consider the use of Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) to protect important trees, groups of trees or woodlands.	Ongoing- As part of Development Management Process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective GINH051 – Protection of Shellfish Waters Protect the quality of designated shellfish waters off the Fingal coast.	Ongoing
Objective GINH052 – Protection of Geological Site Protect and enhance the geological and geomorphological heritage of the County Geological Sites listed in Table 9.2. and indicated on Green Infrastructure Maps.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINH053 – Access to Geological Sites Protect and promote safe and sustainable public access to County Geological Sites where appropriate and feasible subject to the requirements of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive.	Ongoing
Objective GINH054 – Soils Reduce land take, soil sealing and loss of natural soils in urban and rural areas.	Ongoing- As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINH055 – Protection of Skylines Protect skylines and ridgelines from development.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINH056 – Visual Impact Assessments Require any necessary assessments, including visual impact assessments, to be prepared prior to approving development in highly sensitive areas.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINH057 – Development and Landscape Ensure development reflects and, where possible, reinforces the distinctiveness and sense of place of the landscape character types, including the retention of important features or characteristics, taking into account the various elements which contribute to their distinctiveness such as geology and landform, habitats, scenic quality, settlement pattern, historic heritage, local vernacular heritage, land-use and tranquillity.	Ongoing – As part of the preparation of Local Area Plans, Framework Plan and Masterplans, the Development Management Process and through the planning and design of Infrastructural Projects.
Objective GINH058 – Sensitive Areas Resist development such as houses, forestry, masts, extractive operations, landfills, caravan parks, and campsites, and large agricultural/horticulture units which would interfere with the character of highly sensitive areas or with a view or prospect of special amenity value, which it is necessary to preserve.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective GINHO59 – Development and Sensitive Areas Ensure that new development does not impinge in any significant way on the character, integrity and distinctiveness of highly sensitive areas and does not detract from the scenic value of the area. New development in highly sensitive areas shall not be permitted if it: - Causes unacceptable visual harm. - Introduces incongruous landscape elements. - Causes the disturbance or loss of (i) landscape elements that contribute to local distinctiveness, (ii) historic elements that contribute significantly to landscape character and quality such as field or road patterns, (iii) vegetation which is a characteristic of that landscape type and (iv) the visual condition of landscape elements.	Ongoing – As part of the preparation of Local Area Plans, Framework Plan and Masterplans, the Development Management Process and through the planning and design of Infrastructural Projects.
Objective GINHO60 – Protection of Views and Prospects Protect views and prospects that contribute to the character of the landscape, particularly those identified in the Development Plan, from inappropriate development.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINHO61 – Landscape/Visual Assessment Require a Landscape/Visual Assessment to accompany all planning applications for significant proposals that are likely to affect views and prospects.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINHO62 – Review and Update Views and Prospects Review and update the views and prospects outlined the Development Plan in line with the policy as set out in Section 9.6.15 – Views and Prospects.	To be commenced within the lifetime of the Plan. Subject to a forthcoming cross Departmental approach.
Objective GINHO63 – SAAOs Prioritise Rogerstown, Malahide and Baldoyle Estuaries for Special Amenity Area Orders.	This objective shall be addressed through the implementation of Actions 1,5, and 10 of the Fingal Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030.
Objective GINHO64 – SAAO Management Committees Re-establish in a timely manner the management committee for the Liffey Valley Special Amenity Area with an annual programme of quarterly meetings in partnership with South Dublin County Council on an ongoing basis, develop a five year works programme as part of	The first meeting of the Liffey Valley SAAO Committee convened jointly with South Dublin Co. Co. took place at the end of January 2025. The work of the Committee will focus on the Liffey Valley Regional Park Project which includes Shackleton’s Mills and adjacent lands.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
the implementation plan for the SAAO and explore the possibility of extending the Liffey Valley Special Amenity Area north to the Westmanstown Road (R121), Porterstown Road, Carpenterstown Road and Tower Road.	
Objective GINHO65 – SAAO Management Plans Implement the Management Plans and work programmes for the Special Amenity Areas and review them as necessary in consultation with all relevant stakeholders.	Ongoing – Implementation of Howth SAAO Operational Plan and pending the adoption of a new Operational Plan for Liffey Valley SAAO.
Objective GINHO66 – Liffey Valley Regional Park Study To carry out a study for the lands that comprise Liffey Valley inclusive of the Special Area Amenity Order (SAAO), Shackleton’s Mill and adjacent lands so as to investigate and determine viable and appropriate uses to support and facilitate the development of a Regional Park (Liffey Valley Park) including a Greenway (Liffey Valley Greenway), with particular emphasis on enhancing the recreation, amenity value and accessibility of the area, in accordance with the Council’s published document Towards a Liffey Valley Park 2007. This new Regional Park will serve the needs of existing communities of Clonsilla, Hansfield and Ongar as well as the wider Greater Dublin area. The study will be carried out in consultation with the surrounding Local Authorities, State Agencies, existing landowners, sectoral, community and commercial interests.	The first meeting of the Liffey Valley SAAO Committee convened jointly with South Dublin is took place in January 2025. The work of the Committee will focus on the Liffey Valley Regional Park Project which includes Shackleton’s Mills and adjacent lands.
Objective GINHO67 – Development and High Amenity Areas Ensure that development reflects and reinforces the distinctiveness and sense of place of High Amenity areas, including the retention of important features or characteristics, taking into account the various elements which contribute to its distinctiveness such as geology and landform, habitats, scenic quality, settlement pattern, historic heritage, local vernacular heritage, land-use and tranquillity.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINHO68 – Coastal Erosion Where coastal erosion is considered a threat to existing properties, explore the technical and economic feasibility of coastal adaptation and coastal retreat management options.	Fingal continues to engage with the OPW and the Department in relation to implementation of the recommendations from the Report of the Inter-Departmental Group on National Coastal Change Management Strategy.

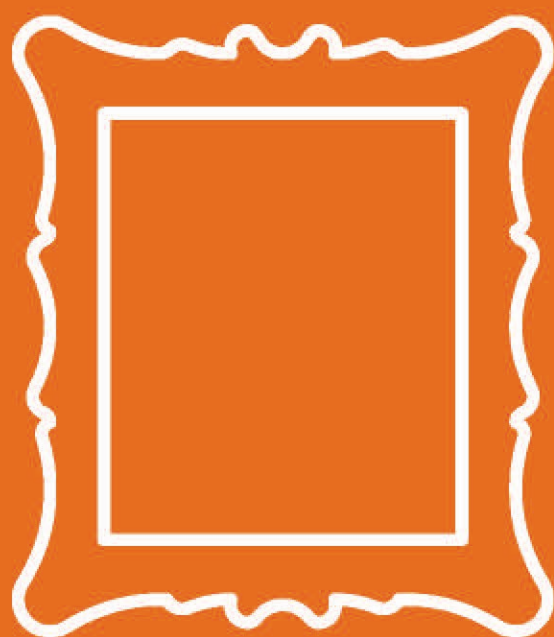
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective GINHO69 – Coastal Defence Works Employ soft engineering techniques as an alternative to hard coastal defence works, wherever possible.	Ongoing – In line with the Council's remit and in collaboration with relevant national agencies, Fingal continues to protect vulnerable coastal areas and infrastructure where possible using nature-based solutions in response to coastal change. Examples include Velvet Strand – Portmarnock and Burrow Beach – Portrane.
Objective GINHO70 – Identification of Coastal Protection Works Identify, prioritise and implement necessary coastal protection works subject to the availability of resources, whilst ensuring a high level of protection for natural habitats and features, and ensure due regard is paid to visual and other environmental considerations in the design of any such coastal protection works.	The Coastal Flood Risk Erosion Management Plan (CFERM) has been prepared for the Burrow Portrane which is currently the most vulnerable section of coastline in Fingal. An application for a Maritime Area Consent (MAC) was made during Summer 2024 and a response is awaited from the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA). If this MAC is approved, an application for planning permission for the scheme will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála.
Objective GINHO71 – Erosion Risk Management Undertake erosion risk management studies for high-risk areas so that the long-term erosion risks to property can be clearly identified long before the risk may be expected to occur.	The recently published “Report of the Inter-Departmental Group on National Coastal Change” outlines recommendations for the management of coastal change over the short, medium, and longer terms. It is the Council's understanding that the government intends developing national policy/legislation on coastal change based on these recommendations. The Council will be better placed to respond to these matters in the context of evolving national policy.
Objective GINHO72 – Coastal Erosion Policy Develop a coastal erosion policy for Fingal based on best international practice to outline how the Council will deal with existing properties at risk of erosion and how future coastal erosion problems will be managed having regard to national climate change legislation, mitigation and adaptation policies, and the need to protect the environment.	The recently published “Report of the Inter-Departmental Group on National Coastal Change” outlines recommendations for the management of coastal change over the short, medium, and longer term. It is the Council's understanding that the government intends developing national policy/legislation on coastal change based on these recommendations. The Council will be better placed to respond to these matters in the context of evolving national policy.
Objective GINHO73 – New Development and the Coast Prevent inappropriate development along the coast, particularly on the seaward side of coastal roads. New development for which a coastal location is required shall, wherever possible, be accommodated within existing developed areas.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process and through the planning and design of Local Area Plans, Framework Plans and Masterplans.
Objective GINHO74 – Pattern of Coastal Development	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process and through the planning

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Strictly control the nature and pattern of development within coastal areas and ensure that it is designed and landscaped to the highest standards and sited appropriately so as not to detract from the visual amenity of the area. Development shall be prohibited where the development poses a significant or potential threat to coastal habitats or features, and/or where the development is likely to result in altered patterns of erosion or deposition elsewhere along the coast.	and design of Local Area Plans, Framework Plans and Masterplans and Multi-functional Green Infrastructural projects.
Objective GINH075 – Prohibition of Coastal Development Prohibit development along the coast outside existing urban areas where such development could not be adequately safeguarded over the lifetime of the development without the need to construct additional coastal defences.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINH076 – Development and Risk of Coastal Erosion Prohibit new development outside urban areas within the areas indicated on Green Infrastructure maps, which are within 100m of coastline at risk from coastal erosion, unless it can be objectively established based on the best scientific information available at the time of the application, that the likelihood of erosion at a specific location is minimal taking into account, inter alia, any impacts of the proposed development on erosion, or deposition.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINH077 – National Marine Planning Framework Comply with the policies and objectives of the National Marine Planning Framework as it relates to the area between the mean high-water mark and the near shore with respect to the planning and resource management of the marine area.	Ongoing

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective GINHO78 – Coastal Way Plan and develop the Fingal Coastal Way from north of Balbriggan to Kilbarrack taking full account of the need to protect the natural and cultural heritage of the coast and the need to avoid significant adverse impacts on European Sites, other protected areas and species protected by law.	Phase 2 Route Option Selection is nearing completion. The next stage is preliminary design.
Objective GINHO79 – Coastal Access and Appropriate Assessment Ensure that there is appropriate public access to the coast including the provision of coastal walkways and cycleways, while taking full account of the need to conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the coast and the need to avoid significant adverse impacts on European Sites and species protected by law, through Screening for Appropriate Assessment, and examine the designation of traditional walking routes thereto as public rights of way.	Ongoing – As part of the planning and design of strategic Greenway Infrastructural Projects.
Objective GINHO80 – Appropriate Leisure Facilities Encourage the development of facilities for maritime fishing and leisure developments where the siting of such installations and their supporting infrastructure will not have a significant adverse impact on the natural or cultural heritage or detract from the visual amenity and environmental quality and stability of an area, or public access to beaches.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective GINHO81 – Protection of Beaches Protect beaches, and bathing areas as valuable local amenities and as a tourism resource and support the maintenance, protection and improvement of access to them.	Ongoing – Through the works of the Council's Operations Department in accordance with the Council's remit.
Objective GINHO82 – Protection of Bathing Waters Protect bathing waters, including those listed in the Water Framework Directive Register of Protected Areas for the Eastern River Basin District, at Sutton, Portmarnock, Malahide, Donabate, Portrane, Rush, Loughshinny, Skerries and Balbriggan in order that they meet the required bathing water standards and implement the findings and recommendations of the Quality of Bathing Water in Ireland reports as published.	Ongoing Under European and Irish law, Irish local authorities must identify bathing waters each year so that these areas can be monitored to ensure they meet stringent microbiological water quality standards

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective GINHO83 – Dublin Bay Biosphere Nature Conservation Strategy Support the implementation of the Dublin Bay Biosphere Nature Conservation Strategy, the Education and Awareness strategy and any other programs developed during lifetime of this Plan.	Ongoing. Fingal is a key partner in the Dublin Bay Biosphere partnership.

10. HERITAGE, CULTURE AND ARTS



10. Heritage, Culture and Arts

10.1 Introduction

The Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 recognises the importance of identifying, valuing, safeguarding and promoting archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage through appropriate protection, management, enhancement and promotion objectives of the Development Plan.

The County's Heritage, Conservation, Irish Language and Arts Offices are involved in a number of heritage, conservation, culture and arts projects within the County that have either been completed or commenced since the adoption of the Development Plan. The Council has administered various schemes for grant funding for heritage and conservation projects and continues to secure funding to carry out significant conservation, interpretation, conservation management and culture and arts projects within the county.

Examples of the work carried out by the Heritage Office since the adoption of the Development Plan is detailed in the first section of this chapter followed by the Conservation, Arts and Irish Language Office.

10.2 Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030

The Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030 was launched on the 01 March 2024 by Fingal Mayor, Cllr. Adrian Henchy and Minister Darragh O'Brien T.D. in Malahide Castle. Approved by the Fingal Heritage Forum and accepted at the December 2023 County Council meeting it is available to download at <https://www.fingal.ie/FingalHeritagePlan2024-2030>



Implementation of the Heritage Plan is ongoing. Projects, publications, events etc. undertaken fulfil objectives of the Fingal Heritage Plan, Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029, Fingal Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 and the Heritage Council Strategic Plan 2023-2028.

10.3 Heritage Projects:

Digging Drumanagh 2024

An important element of the Digging Drumanagh project is post-excavation, which was the focus of this project for 2024. Digging Drumanagh also features as the Archaeology Ireland Heritage

Guide No. 107, written by the Heritage Officer. Copies are freely available from Rush Library, or directly from the Heritage Officer.



Fingal Oral Heritage Audit

Fingal's first audit of oral heritage recordings has been completed. A total of 676 no. recording items were identified, consisting of both long and short form interviews and recordings, with an estimated 750 no. interviewees from the Fingal area. The report can be downloaded from <https://www.fingal.ie/HeritageandConservation/fingal-audit-oral-heritage-recordings>

Fingal Traditional Skills

In order to highlight traditional skills and expertise across Fingal, a Traditional Skills Courtyard was developed for the Flavors of Fingal County Show which was held on 29th-30th June 2024. This involved the Heritage Officer working with the DHLGH and Fingal's Conservation Office to identify traditional skills practitioners and all the attendant administration. Practitioners were a mix of traditional building and craft skills as well as a Fingal Heritage and Conservation tent, which included the Heritage Officer and Conservation Officer as well as a Blas: Fingal's Food Heritage stand and representatives from the National Built Heritage Service in another tent.



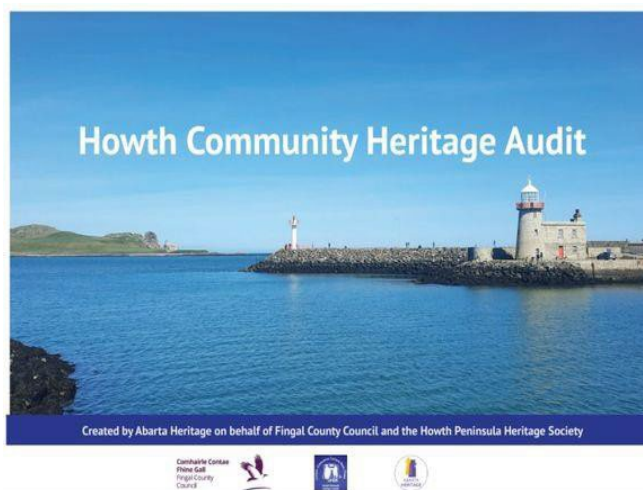
Blas: Fingal's Food Heritage 2024

Phase 2 of the project which explores, records and shares traditions, attitudes, beliefs, and practices around food in Fingal is focused on providing resources to primary school teachers. Access links: <https://www.fingal.ie/blas-fingals-food-heritage>

Fingal Gravestone Recording



Two, two-day training sessions in gravestone recording took place. The first was in Mulhuddart graveyard on 17th and 18th May 2024 and the second took place in St Margaret's graveyard on 16th and 17th August 2024. John Tierney from Irish Historic Graves <https://historicgraves.com/> demonstrated the systematic approach and non-impactful techniques that communities will use to record the history of the people buried in their local graveyard. The online record of the historic graves in each area then forms part of a national resource.

Howth Community Heritage Audit

Abarta Heritage were commissioned by Fingal Heritage Office to work with members of Howth Peninsula Heritage Society to undertake an audit of the built, natural and cultural heritage of Howth. Over one hundred sites were researched and narrowed down to 21 no. key points of interest that were visited and evaluated by the project team. The Howth Community Heritage Audit was launched on 24th September 2024. The results of this evaluation and key recommendations from the audit can be found in this report <https://www.fingal.ie/.../howth-community-heritage-audit.pdf>.

Digital Heritage Projects

Accessible Heritage is a strategic objective of the Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030. This includes the digital context and the use of innovative technologies. The Heritage Officer has worked with the Digital Officer to produce 3D tours of Malahide Demesne Church.



Fingal Heritage Network

Fingal Heritage Network brings together seventeen heritage groups from around the County to work together and pool information and resources. Monthly meetings were held throughout the year. The Network collectively undertook Heritage Night 2024, an annual Heritage Week event, and contributed to the Fingal Heritage Network Booklet 2024.

Heritage Forum

The Heritage Forum contributed to the Heritage Plan process and are instrumental in its implementation. Following the 2024 elections, the Forum has been in the process of being reconstituted with the first meeting of the new Heritage Forum in January 2025.

National Heritage Week



National Heritage Week 2024 with the theme Connections, Routes and Networks took place between 17th-25th August 2024. In Fingal, there were just over 50 in-person events from bat walks in Baldoyle to WWI blimps in Malahide, including a Blas Food Heritage Event at Skerries Mills. Friends of Clonmethan were the Dublin-Fingal County Award 2024 winners with their community heritage event.

Book Launch

The Fingal Heritage Network Booklet 2024 was launched by Deputy Mayor Cllr. JK Onumereh at the annual Fingal Heritage Network Heritage Night. The booklet which highlights the work of the historical societies and heritage groups across the county is available from the societies themselves, local libraries and the Fingal Heritage Office.

10.4 Community Monuments Fund 2024

The Heritage Officer administers the Community Monument Fund in Fingal for the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Five archaeological monuments received a total of €405,639.75 in funding in 2024 towards conservation works. These include:

- Stream 1: St Columba's Towers Swords, -Lanistown Castle, -Balrothery Tower House
- Stream 2: *St Douloughs Church and Graveyard*, -*St Fintan's Church & Graveyard*

10.5 Steering Groups

Meeting of steering groups range from monthly to quarterly.

- Archaeology NI 2030, Engagement & Outreach working Group
- Climate Change Adaptation Sectoral Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage Planning Team
- Fingal Sites & Monuments at Risk Group
- Fingal Creative & Cultural team
- Fingal Commemorations sub group



10.6 Planning Files

Consultee reports were undertaken for:

- 98 Planning Permissions
- 20 LRDs
- 30 Compliances

10.7 Naming of Developments

A total of 39 no. reports for compliance with naming conditions were requested from the Heritage Officer in 2024. Process includes liaison with local historical societies, Placename Commission, research, and evaluation.

10.8 Architectural Heritage

Since the adoption of the Development Plan, the programme for the production of Conservation Plans for Council Owned Heritage Properties continues with two due for publication in 2025. The recommendations of the Fingal Thatch Survey 2022 are being implemented by the Conservation Office. The Conservation Office operates several conservation grant schemes to assist owners

with works to repair and safeguard the architectural heritage of Fingal. These schemes include the Stitch in Time Grant, Built Heritage Investment Scheme, Built Heritage Investment Scheme (Thatch Stream) and the Historic Structures Fund.

Many of the objectives relating to the Record of Protected Structures, Architectural Conservation Areas, Designed Landscapes and Historic Building Stock are achieved through the ongoing day-to-day Development Management process, specifically engaging in pre-planning consultations, commenting on planning applications and issuing Section 57 Declarations.

The Architectural Conservation Office also continues to respond to architectural conservation queries from owners and the general public on Protected Structures, Architectural Conservation Areas, and other built heritage assets and provides in-house architectural conservation expertise to Council staff on projects or policy documents that may impact on the built heritage of the county.

The Public Buildings and Conservation Team of the Architects Department continues to oversee construction projects that relate to council owned heritage properties/protected structures.

10.9 Heritage Properties

Malahide Castle – The significant item in the costs for the Capital Programme relates to structural works to the roof, and conservation works to the windows. There is an upgrade of the boiler room in the Visitors Centre ongoing. On completion of these projects energy costs and carbon emissions will reduce for both buildings over time.

Bremore Castle – The development of Bremore Castle is nearing completion with park spaces being landscaped and the ground floor open to the public. The next phase will see the appointment of an Integrated Design Team to progress the internal and accessibility works needed to cover fire safety, accessibility and in particular, compliance with Part M Building Regulations.

Ardgillan Castle – A sum of €518k has been included in the 2025-2027 Capital Programme for continuing conservation works at the castle including, in sequence, publication of the conservation plan, works on internal rooms and outbuildings.

Skerries Mills & Red Barn – With enabling works started at the end of 2023, the redevelopment of the Red Barn will be completed in 2025 enhancing the offering at Skerries Mills and providing revenue generating opportunity.

Skerries Martello Tower – A design team has been appointed to deliver on the brief of a multi-functional space. The majority of works will be complete in 2025 and €1.2 million is allowed for in the capital programme.

Guinness Bridge – The conservation works required to secure the Guinness Bridge were completed in 2024. Future phases of work will require feasibility studies to assess how and whether the bridge can be developed as an asset. This work is being undertaken in collaboration with South Dublin County Council.

Swords Castle –Conservation plan works continue bringing some accessibility to the Knights and Squires Quarters, for which €434k has been allowed for in the Capital Programme. The project to date has been part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund, Urban Centre Development Scheme. October 20024 saw the commencement of Swords Cultural Quarter (SCQ) with the centre scheduled to open in 2027.

Shackleton Mills – A sum of €270k has been included in the 2025-2027 Capital Programme for conservation and stabilisation of the main building, including repairs and renovations to roof and windows.

Howth Martello Tower – An estimated cost of €70k has been included over the life of the programme to cover costs associated with essential repairs to the Martello Tower. An engineering assessment of the structure is required as a first step.

Malahide Demesne Properties – A sum of €575k has been included in the 2025-2027 Capital Programme for gradually upgrading and restoring the various properties, with a priority for uses that will support the tourism and amenity use of the Demesne.

Newbridge House & Farm – The redevelopment of Newbridge House & Farm will continue during 2025- 2027. With the roof works complete in 2023, attention will turn to upgrading of mechanical and electrical services to the house and development of the courtyard buildings.

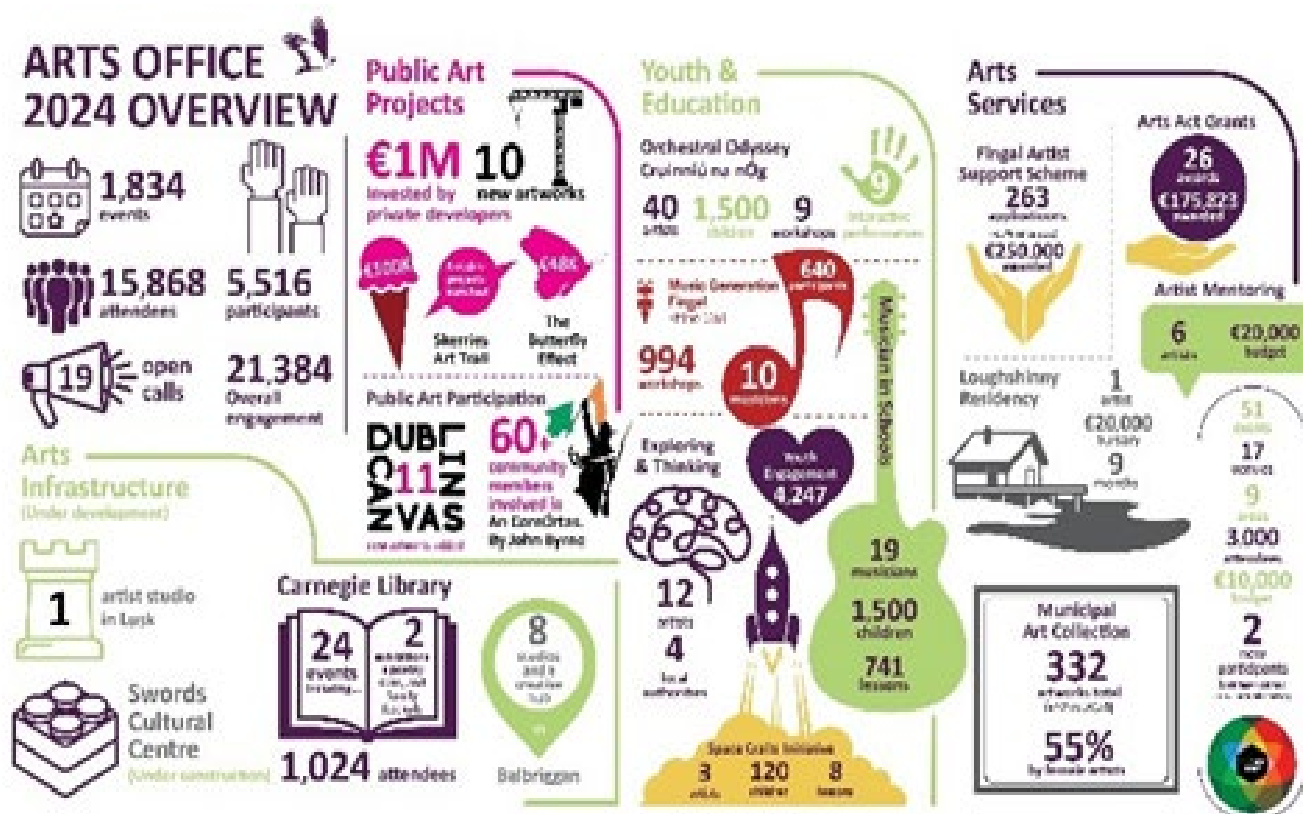
10.10 Arts

10.11 The Fingal Arts Plan 2019 – 2025

The Fingal Arts Plan 2019 – 2025 is the overarching strategy for Arts Development in the County. It offers an opportunity for people to engage, invigorate and renew their interest in the arts, and to help create an environment where people are willing to be challenged and have their lives enriched through participation in the arts. The Arts Office continues to engage with the Arts Council and through the 8-year Framework Agreement with the City and County Managers Association (CCMA). Fingal Arts Office will negotiate a new Framework Agreement in Q4 2025.

10.12 Arts Services

Key aspects of the Arts Service in 2024 is highlighted in the infographic below. This includes 1,834 events, featuring 5,516 participants and 15,868 attendees' amounting to an impressive overall engagement of 21,384.



Other key highlights in 2024 include:

- Following the launch of Carnegie Library in early 2024, the Arts Office delivered 24no. events with 1,024 in attendance.
- €1 million investment in Public Art with 10 new artworks including the launch of the Skerries Art Trail and The Butterfly Effect at the Snugborough Road Interchange.
- 4,247 young people were engaged through the Youth and Education programme via initiatives such as Musician in Residence, Youth Dance, Orchestral Odyssey for Cruinniú na nÓg, Exploring & Thinking and Music Generation Fingal.
- The Fingal Artist Support Scheme saw a 57% increase in the number of applications since 2022 and awarded €250,000 to professional Fingal artists in 2024.

The Arts Office continues to advance the Arts within the County. Priorities for 2025 will focus on building audience and artistic capacity in key geographic areas to support the Council's capital and social investment in Swords and Balbriggan, while maintaining the vibrancy of arts provision in Dublin 15 and other areas. The Arts Office will seek to ensure that its work reaches people within new and established communities, of all ages, abilities and backgrounds, and, as appropriate, to have a focus on children and young people, older people and professional artists.

10.13 Artist's Studios

A sum of €200k has been included in the 2025-2027 Capital Programme for the fit-out of artist studios in the County. Working collaboratively with the 'Our Balbriggan' team, the development of 2-4 Dublin Street, Balbriggan will continue and will include eight artists' studios, a

community gallery, training, and workshop spaces. This will be a creative hub to foster artistic activity within the local community.



Visual of 2-4 Dublin St, Balbriggan

A residential artist studio has been successfully completed at Barrack Lane, Lusk as part of a new 10-dwelling development. The studio will launch in Q4 2025.

10.14 Creative Places Balbriggan

A successful application was made to the Arts Council seeking funding of €440,000 over three years, under the Creative Places programme to provide local people access to the arts in their own community. The Creative Places Coordinator was appointed in January 2024 as an addition to the Fingal Arts Office team. Preparation of a cogent plan for Creative Places Balbriggan informed by a meaningful process of stakeholder engagement will take place over Q1 & Q2 2025, ensuring robust foundation processes.

10.15 Public Art

Public Art in Fingal aligns with the commitment made in the Development Plan that sees the potential of art as an asset which supports communities, placemaking and Fingal's unique identity. It also aligns with the National Public Art Scheme and capital development. In Q1 2025, a new Public Art Policy will be presented to Council for approval following an extensive research and consultation phase which has included feedback from National specialists in the field from the OPW and The Arts Council. The Public Art Policy 2025 – 2027 sets out to streamline procedures and principles on how we commission Public Art in Fingal and will be accompanied by a countywide strategy.



John Byrne, An Comórtas, 2024, Fingal County Council, Public Art Programme

10.16 Existing Arts infrastructure

The Arts Office will continue to support Draíocht as it works towards its 25-year anniversary in 2026. A provision of €1.5m has been made in the 2025-2027 Capital Programme for the redevelopment of the Seamus Ennis Cultural Centre including neighboring lands and outbuildings. Studies will be undertaken in early 2025 to take account of the Naul Village Park Development, condition reports of the existing buildings and a feasibility study to follow. Any progress on the redevelopment will be subject to the identification of funding.

10.17 Youth and Education

Fingal's Youth and Education Programme includes a suite of actions to support the well-being and development of children and young people. It includes the first regional arts partnership for early childhood in Dublin, and a strategic framework to expand the reach of Music Generation into Special Education and Child and Youth services. In 2025, a comprehensive review of spaces dedicated to youth arts activity in Fingal will be conducted to ensure young people have the resources they need to engage in arts and cultural activities. The pilot phase of a new youth dance programme for children in primary schools will be launched. This is informed by research and youth engagement to ensure the programme is relevant and responsive to local needs.

10.18 Funding Schemes, Bursaries and Awards

The Arts Office will continue to support professional Fingal artists through a series of awards and opportunities with partner organizations. Funding will continue to be offered to the community under the 2003 Arts Act Grant Scheme with a budget allocation of €225,000 in 2025.

Professional artists will continue to be supported through the Fingal Artists' Support Scheme. This scheme offers professional artists the opportunity to apply for an award to support travel and professional development opportunities, a residency, or towards the development of work. There is a budget allocation of €250,000 in 2025.

10.19 Creative Ireland

The Creative Ireland Fingal Programme 2024 saw the roll out of many successful initiatives, events and projects across the county to connect people, creativity and wellbeing. As part of our Shared Island Initiative, 'Unforgettable Voices - Sharing Songs' in collaboration with Community Arts Partnership, Belfast, the Forget-Me-Nots choir is continuing to develop the connection with the 'This Is Me' choir based in Larne. Creative Fingal has secured funding to continue the weekly Silver Lining Virtual Music Appreciation Sessions enabling the groups in both locations to stay connected and build friendships.

10.20 Irish Language

Fingal County Council continues to promote the Coiste Gaeilge and the use of Irish by providing training for staff and Councillors and Gaeltacht scholarships for students as well as the promotion of Seachtain na Gaeilge. The Irish language is promoted at events such as Flavours of Fingal and Tradfest and events are organised by the Council for Seachtain na Gaeilge and an Irish Networking event.

Chapter 10 – Objectives and Progress

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective HCAO1 – Preservation-in-situ Favour the preservation in situ or at a minimum preservation by record, of archaeological sites, monuments, features or objects in their settings. In securing such preservation the Council will have regard to the advice and recommendations of the National Monuments Service of the Department of the Housing, Local Government and Heritage.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. Relevant planning applications are referred to the Heritage Officer/Archaeologist for comment.
Objective HCAO2 – Protection of RMPs/SMRs Protect all archaeological sites and monuments, underwater archaeology, and archaeological objects, which are listed in the Record of Monuments and Places, Wreck Inventory of Ireland and all sites and features of archaeological and historic interest discovered subsequent to the publication of the Record of Monuments and Places, and to seek their preservation in situ (or at a minimum, preservation by record) through the planning process.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. Relevant planning applications are referred to the Heritage Officer/Archaeologist for comment.
Objective HCAO3 – Management of Archaeological Resource Encourage and promote the appropriate management and maintenance of the County's archaeological heritage, including historical burial grounds and underwater cultural heritage in accordance with conservation principles and best practice guidelines.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. Relevant planning applications are referred to the Heritage Officer/Archaeologist for comment.
Objective HCAO4 – Industrial or Military Heritage Secure the preservation in-situ of significant examples of industrial or military heritage.	Ongoing – Advice is sought as part of the Development Management process.
Objective HCAO5 – Community Monuments Fund Support the implementation of the Community Monuments Fund in order to ensure the monitoring and adaptation of archaeological monuments and mitigate against damage caused by climate change.	Ongoing. Five projects received a total of €405,639.75 in CMF funding in 2024. Five projects received a total of €473,971 in CMF funding in 2023- https://www.fingal.ie/community-monuments-fund-0
Objective HCAO6 – Climate Change and the Archaeological Resource	Ongoing-Heritage Officer is a member of the Climate Change Adaptation Sectoral Plan for Built

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Co-operate with other agencies in the investigation of climate change on archaeological sites and monuments and to develop suitable adaptation measures to strengthen resilience and reduce the vulnerability of archaeological heritage in line with the National Climate Change Sectoral Adaptation Plan for Built and Archaeological Heritage 2019.	and Archaeological Heritage Planning Team and participates and presents to working groups.
Objective HCA07- Archaeology and Development Design Ensure archaeological remains are identified and fully considered at the very earliest stages of the development process, that schemes are designed to avoid impacting on the archaeological heritage	Ongoing – Archaeological advice is sought at pre-planning stages for major infrastructural projects such as the Coastal Way, Dublin Airport, Ward Valley Regional Park etc. Advice is sought as part of the development management process.
Objective HCA08 – Archaeological Impact Assessment Require that proposals for linear development over one kilometre in length; proposals for development involving ground clearance of more than half a hectare; or developments in proximity to areas with a density of known archaeological monuments and history of discovery; to include an Archaeological Impact Assessment and refer such applications to the relevant Prescribed Bodies.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. All relevant planning applications are referred to the Heritage officer/ Archaeologist for comment. Ongoing liaison with Statutory Authorities as appropriate.
Objective HCA09 – Archaeology in the Landscape Ensure that in general development will not be permitted which would result in the removal of archaeological monuments with above ground features, protected wrecks and that this will be especially the case in relation to archaeological monuments which form significant features in the landscape.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. Relevant planning applications are referred to the Heritage Officer/Archaeologist for comment.
Objective HCA010 – Context of Archaeological Monuments Ensure that development within the vicinity of a Recorded Monument or Zone of Archaeological Notification does not seriously detract from the setting of the feature and is sited and designed appropriately.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. Relevant planning applications are referred to the Heritage Officer/Archaeologist for comment.
Objective HCA011 – Impacts of large-scale development	Ongoing – Archaeological advice is sought at preplanning stages for major infrastructural projects. All relevant planning applications are

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Ensure that proposals for large scale developments and infrastructure projects consider the impacts on the archaeological heritage and seek to avoid them.	referred to the Heritage officer/ Archaeologist for comment. Ongoing liaison with Statutory Authorities as appropriate.
Objective HCAO12 – Coastal and Maritime Heritage Co-operate with other agencies in the assessment of the potential for climate change to impact on coastal, riverine, inter-tidal and sub-tidal sites and their environments including shipwreck sites.	Ongoing – through the Development Management process and through the implementation of policies and objectives contained within the Fingal Climate Change Action Plan 2024-2029.
Objective HCAO13 – Findings of Archaeological Activity Encourage reference to or incorporation of significant archaeological finds into development schemes, where appropriate and sensitively designed, through layout, in situ and virtual presentation of archaeological finds and by using historic place names and the Irish language where appropriate.	Ongoing – identification of archaeological monuments within open space and the raising of public awareness of sub-surface archaeological remains through interpretation projects. Ongoing cross departmental liaison regarding update of open spaces taken in charge, etc.
Objective HCAO14 – Archaeology in Open Space Retain and manage appropriately archaeological monuments within open space areas in or beside developments, ensuring that such monuments are subject to an appropriate conservation management plan, are presented appropriately and are not left vulnerable, whether in the immediate or longer term, to dangers to their physical integrity or possibility of loss of amenity.	Ongoing- as part of the Development Management process.
Objective HCAO15 – Best Practice Promote best practice for archaeological excavation by ensuring that they are undertaken according to best practice as outlined by the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, The National Museum of Ireland and the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. Relevant planning applications are referred to the Heritage Officer/Archaeologist for comment.
Objective HCAO16 – Conservation Plans Manage the archaeological sites and monuments that Fingal County Council owns or is responsible for according to best practice and according to Conservation Plans where they exist.	Ongoing. The cross-departmental Sites & Monuments at Risk group has identified a number of archaeological monuments for survey and conservation works which have been supported by the Community Monuments Fund- https://www.fingal.ie/community-monuments-fund-0

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	Drumanagh Conservation & Management Plan continues to be implemented.
Objective HCAO17 – Dissemination Ensure the public dissemination of the findings of licenced archaeological activity in Fingal through the Dublin County Archaeological GIS project, publications, public lectures and events to promote awareness of, and access to, Fingal's archaeological inheritance and foster high quality community archaeology.	Ongoing through the implementation of the Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030. For example, Heritage Officer delivered talks to 29th EAA Annual Meeting, Belfast; Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland, Spring Conference; Roman Finds Group-New Research on Finds from the edges of Roman Britain and beyond; Trinity College Dublin Archaeology Society and Loughshinny & Rush Historical Society in 2023. For projects see https://www.fingal.ie/heritage-and-conservation
Objective HCAO18 – Public Awareness Raise public awareness of the cultural heritage and improve legibility by providing appropriate interpretation in areas, sites, villages, and buildings of archaeological and historic significance.	Ongoing-Implementation of the Fingal Heritage Signage & Heritage Trails Guidance; Through the implementation of policies and objectives of the Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030 and undertaking of heritage audits and interpretation plans e.g. https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2024-09/howth-community-heritage-audit.pdf
Objective HCAO19 – Community Archaeology Strategy Continue to implement the findings of the Community Archaeology Strategy for Fingal.	Ongoing supporting local community archaeology groups; delivery of annual community archaeology programme, including Digging Drumanagh https://www.fingal.ie/digging-drumanagh
Objective HCAO20 – Cultural Tourism Support the growth of cultural tourism in the County, including the potential for niche heritage-based tourism products by facilitating the development of heritage events, infrastructure such as heritage trails, walkways and cycleways etc. and activities such as community excavation.	Ongoing expert input in order to support and progress the development of a trails and cycleways throughout the County including e.g. St Patrick's Way- and Art Trail, Skerries. https://www.fingal.ie/st-patricks-way-and-art-trail-skerries
Objective HCAO21 – Climate Change Promote awareness and the appropriate adaptation of Ireland's built and archaeological heritage to deal with the effects of climate change.	Ongoing-Citizen science project Fingal Heritage X Climate continues to raise public awareness and participation - https://www.fingal.ie/fingal-heritage-x-climate
Objective HCAO22 – Record of Protected Structures Review the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) to assess current entries and to add structures of special architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest as appropriate.	The next full review of the RPS will coincide with the review of the Development Plan, unless an exceptional circumstance arises that merits changes to the RPS outside of this timeline.

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Objective HCAO23 – Expansion of Record of Protected Structures Expand the RPS to include structures of industrial, maritime, vernacular and twentieth century heritage where they are of sufficient significance and complete the assessment of the few remaining Ministerial Recommendations from the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) Survey of Fingal.	The next full review of the RPS will coincide with the review of the Development Plan, unless an exceptional circumstance arises that merits changes to the RPS outside of this timeline. The assessment of the remaining NIAH recommendations has been partially implemented.
Objective HCAO24 – Alteration and Development of Protected Structures and ACAs Require proposals for any development, modification, alteration, extension or energy retrofitting affecting a Protected Structure and/or its setting or a building that contributes to the character of an ACA are sensitively sited and designed, are compatible with the special character, and are appropriate in terms of the proposed scale, mass, height, density, architectural treatment, layout, materials, impact on architectural or historic features.	Ongoing – as part of the development management process. Relevant planning applications are referred to the Conservation Office for comment.
Objective HCAO25 – Architectural Heritage Impact Statement Require an Architectural Heritage Impact Statement as part of the planning documentation for development that has the potential to affect the relationship between the Protected Structure and any complex of adjoining associated buildings, designed landscape features, or designed views or vistas from or to the structure. This particularly relates to large landholdings such as country estates, institutional complexes, and industrial sites where groups of structures have a functional connection or historical relationship with the principal building.	Ongoing – implemented as part of the required documentation for planning applications that relate to designated architectural heritage.
Objective HCAO26 – Use of Protected Structures Where required to support active use or facilitate suitable adaptive re-use of Protected Structures the Council may in certain circumstances consider the relaxation of site zoning restrictions to secure the preservation and conservation of the Protected Structure where the use proposed is compatible with the existing structure. This will	Ongoing – as part of the development management process. Relevant planning applications are referred to the Conservation Office for comment.

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only be permitted where the development is consistent with conservation policies and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.	
Objective HCAO27 – Protected Structures within Larger Developments Where permission is being sought for a development in which works to the Protected Structure are one element of a larger proposal, the Council will seek for the repair and refurbishment of the Protected Structure to be contained and completed within the first phase.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. Relevant planning applications are referred to the Conservation Office for comment.
Objective HCAO28 – Conservation Plans for Protected Structures Demonstrate best practice in relation to the management, care and maintenance of Protected Structures by continuing the programme of commissioning Conservation Plans for the principal heritage properties in the Council's ownership (several of which are also ACAs), implement the policies and actions of these Conservation Plans where they exist, and ensure the Plans are used by all sections of the Council to inform and direct the design of interventions within the heritage properties, both to buildings and landscapes.	Ongoing – Two Conservation Plans for Council owned heritage properties are due for publication in 2025.
Objective HCAO29 – Protected Structures Audit Carry out an audit and assess the condition of all Protected Structures within the Council's ownership and pilot a management/maintenance plan as a template for these structures.	Ongoing – through works programmes for Council owned historic buildings and heritage properties.
Objective HCAO30 – Retrofitting Pilot Project Demonstrate best practice on energy retrofitting of historic buildings through a pilot project using suitable case studies to improve comfort levels and reduce energy consumption for the occupier.	Energy assessments are now the norm for all Council building projects. National guidance has issued on improving the energy performance of traditional buildings and case studies identified nationwide. A specific pilot project in Fingal is no longer required.
Objective HCAO31 – Protection of Designed Landscapes Identify the historic designed landscapes of significance in the County and determine the appropriate mechanism to ensure their future protection. Several of the most significant are	Ongoing - The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage has carried out an assessment of the historic gardens/landscapes of County Dublin (including Fingal). The Garden Survey can be viewed on the NIAH website. ACA designation has already been assigned to the most significant

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already designated, as Architectural Conservation Areas.	demesnes. The majority of the other sites have Protected Structures at their core.
Objective HCA032 – Designed Landscape Appraisal Require that proposals for development within historic designed landscapes include a Designed Landscape Appraisal (including an ecological assessment) as part of the planning documentation to fully consider the potential impacts of the proposal. The appraisal should be carried out prior to the initial design of any development, in order that this evaluation to inform the design which must be sensitive to and respect the built heritage elements and green space values of the site.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. Relevant planning applications are referred to the Conservation Office for comment.
Objective HCA033 – Conservation Plans Continue the programme of commissioning Conservation Plans for the principal heritage properties in the Council's ownership that contain historic designed landscapes.	Ongoing – Two Conservation Plans for Council owned heritage properties are due for publication in 2025.
Objective HCA034 – Perimeter of Phoenix Park Ensure that development within Fingal along the perimeter of the Phoenix Park adheres to the Office of Public Works' (OPW), Phoenix Park Conservation Management Plan, does not have a detrimental impact on the Park, does not damage any of the built elements along its boundary, or interrupt any important vistas into or out of it.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. Relevant planning applications are referred to the Conservation Office for comment.
Objective HCA035 – Appropriate Maintenance, Repair and Re-use Advocate for and support appropriate maintenance, repair, re-use and sensitive retrofitting of the architectural heritage, vernacular buildings and the older building stock of the County, whether protected or not, to deliver the Council's sustainable development policy.	Ongoing – the Conservation grant schemes are utilised to support appropriate maintenance and repair of the architectural heritage.
Objective HCA036 – Extensions to Vernacular Dwellings Require that the size, scale, design, form, layout and materials of extensions to vernacular dwellings or conversions of historic outbuildings take direction from the historic building stock of Fingal and are in keeping and sympathetic with the existing structure.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. Relevant planning applications are referred to the Conservation Office for comment.

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Objective HCAO37 – Thatched Buildings Audit Audit and map the historic thatched buildings of Fingal and devise measures to assist their continued survival.	Complete. https://www.fingal.ie/fingal-thatch-project-and-report The recommendations set out in the Fingal Thatch Survey 2022 to assist the survival of the thatched buildings of Fingal are being implemented on an ongoing basis through grants and advice provided by the Conservation Office.
Objective HCAO38 – Infill Development Support the development of sustainable backland and infill development that is appropriate in scale and character to historic town and village centres, that transitions appropriately, accommodates surviving structures where appropriate and retains the historic streetscape form.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. Relevant planning applications are referred to the Conservation Office for comment.
Objective HCAO39 – Character of Historic Townscapes Maintain and enhance the character and quality of historic townscapes or streetscapes by seeking those interventions to the exteriors of existing buildings are appropriately detailed and use good quality materials. Original finishes/fabric should be retained or replicated.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. Relevant planning applications are referred to the Conservation Office for comment.
Objective HCAO40 – Public Realm Works Require that public realm works, proposed infrastructural and public utility works do not remove historic street furniture such as limestone or granite kerbs, cobblestones, cast-iron post boxes, water pumps, milestones and historic street-lamp standards, except where an exceptional need has been clearly established.	Ongoing – the Audit of Historic Street Elements under Objective HCAO43 that is scheduled for 2025 subject to receipt of grant funding will assist with the implementation of HCAO40.
Objective HCAO41 – Modern Street Furniture Sensitively design, locate and rationalise modern street furniture and elements such as utility boxes, cables, bins, bike racks, poles, wires, antenna and signage. Defunct or obsolete telephone boxes/kiosks should be removed rather than replaced.	Ongoing
Objective HCAO42 – Undergrounding Cables Underground cables and wires in historic urban environments or designated sites, such as SAAO's and ACAs, where appropriate, and where it does not detrimentally impact on other elements of heritage e.g. archaeology, natural heritage.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in conjunction with the relevant utility stakeholders.

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Objective HCAO43 – Historic Street Elements Audit Commission a study to map historic street furniture, stone setts, historic kerbing and historic pavers/ flags, and associated features in the public realm, to be protected, conserved or reintroduced.	Audit scheduled for 2025 subject to receipt of grant funding.
Objective HCAO44 – Fingal industrial Heritage Survey Update and publish the Fingal Industrial Heritage Survey to outline the history of the development of industry in the County and use it to identify significant industrial heritage structures that should be added to the Record of Protected Structure or industrial heritage complexes that should be designated as Architectural Conservation Areas.	To be commenced, within the lifetime of the Development Plan.
Objective HCAO45 – Development and Industrial Heritage Utilise the information provided within the Fingal Industrial Heritage Survey when assessing development proposals for surviving industrial heritage sites.	Ongoing – as part of the development management process.
Objective HCAO46 – Preservation of Industrial Heritage Secure the preservation in-situ of significant examples of industrial, military and nautical heritage that form part of our post-medieval archaeological heritage, and examples of which may date from periods up to and including the 20th century.	Ongoing
Objective HCAO47 – Historic Harbours Ensure that repairs and new insertions to the historic harbours, piers and quays are appropriate in the materials used and, in the design, and scale of any new structures or equipment.	Ongoing – as part of the development management process for harbours or piers in private ownership. For those in Council ownership the Conservation Office is available to advise the relevant department/section proposing the works.
Objective HCAO48 – Historic Bridges Seek the retention and appropriate repair/maintenance of the historic road and rail bridges of the County whether Protected Structures or not.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process for bridges in private or State ownership. For those in Council ownership the Conservation Office is available to advise the relevant department/section proposing the works.

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Objective HCAO49 – Royal Canal Protect and enhance the built and natural heritage of the Royal Canal and ensure that development along it or within its vicinity is sensitively designed and does not have a detrimental effect on the character of the Canal, its built elements and its natural heritage values. Works to the built fabric of Royal Canal should have regard to the Waterways Ireland’s Heritage Plan and Guidelines for Conservation of the Built Heritage – Repair and maintenance of heritage structures on the inland waterways of Ireland 2015.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. Relevant planning applications are referred to the Conservation Office for comment.
Objective HCAO50 – Climate Change Mitigation Utilise the data provided by the Fingal Cultural Heritage and Climate Change Risk Assessment 2021 to address or mitigate, where possible, the potential Climate Change impacts identified. Where managed loss is the most appropriate option to ensure the site or structure is fully recorded and the data retained by the Council.	Ongoing – through the Development Management process and through the implementation of policies and objectives contained within the Fingal Climate Change Action Plan 2024-2029.
Objective HCAO51 – Adaptation Strategies Develop resilience and adaptation strategies for the built and archaeological heritage in the Council’s ownership.	Ongoing – through the implementation of policies and objectives contained within the Fingal Climate Change Action Plan 2024-2029.
Objective HCAO52 – Risk Management Pilot Pilot a disaster risk management plan for a Council owned heritage property to serve as a template for other historic buildings in the Council’s ownership.	Project ongoing.
Objective HCAO53 – Tourism Promote the tourism potential of Fingal’s cultural heritage and improve legibility by providing guidance for appropriate interpretation in line with the Fingal Heritage Signage and Trails Guidance 2021.	Ongoing-Implementation of the Fingal Heritage Signage & Heritage Trails Guidance; Through the implementation of policies and objectives of the Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030 and undertaking of heritage audits and interpretation plans e.g. https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2024-09/howth-community-heritage-audit.pdf
Objective HCAO54 – Understanding of the Heritage Resource Promote and enhance the understanding of the archaeological and architectural heritage of Fingal through the development of cultural tourism products, talks, exhibitions and publications.	Ongoing-Implementation through the implementation of policies and objectives of the Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030; National Heritage Week; Supporting the Fingal Heritage Network and undertaking of heritage projects e.g. Digital heritage projects; Blas: Fingal’s Food Heritage; Fingal Oral Heritage Audit; Fingal Legacies of

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digital access through interactive maps, videos, virtual exhibitions, and podcasts.	Conflict 1914-1945. See https://www.fingal.ie/heritage-and-conservation
Objective HCA055 - Universal Access Accommodate and improve universal access to Council owned archaeological and architectural heritage sites open to the general public, where possible. Ensure the archaeological and architectural heritage significance of the site is taken into account when providing such access and is not damaged or compromised.	Ongoing removal of physical, social and cultural barriers, resulting in improved access for all.
Objective HCA056 - Engagement Seek to work with all relevant stakeholders to promote equality of access to and engagement with arts and cultural services.	Ongoing The Arts Office is committed to enhancing the cultural and artistic life of the County through annual subvention to Art Centre's, Draíocht and the Seamus Ennis Cultural Centre. Through the Arts Act funding Scheme, funding is offered to individuals, community groups, and organizations engaged in arts and cultural activities in line with Section 6 of the 2003 Arts Act. The Fingal Artists' Support Scheme offers professional artists the opportunity to apply for an award to support travel and professional development opportunities, a residency, or towards the development of work. In 2024 Fingal Arts Office consulted with young people aged 10 – 20 years to better understand youth dance activity in Fingal and to explore the development of a new contemporary dance programme. Following an analysis of a range of perspectives, insights and ideas gathered via a countywide study, the arts office will now work with the Dublin Youth Dance Company to pilot a programme that suits the needs and ambitions of young people in the county. The Public Art Programme in Fingal is committed to bringing artists and communities together to develop projects which are often focused on, arts and health, identity, place and diversity with special consideration to accessibility and engagement.
Objective HCA057 - Arts and Culture Infrastructure Policy Develop an Arts and Culture Infrastructure policy document for Fingal that informs the preparation	The Fingal Arts Plan 2019 – 2025 is the overarching strategy for Arts Development in the County. It is a strategic response to addressing the needs of arts development in Fingal. It offers

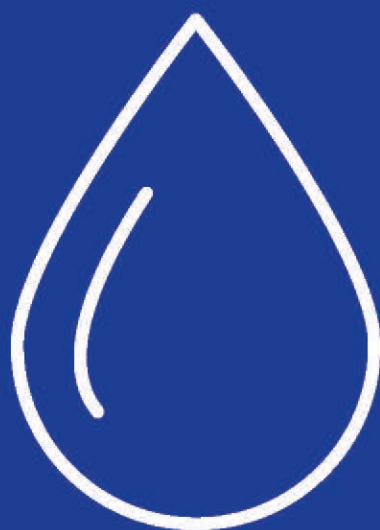
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of audits, use of vacant spaces and toolkits for provision of cultural and arts facilities.	an opportunity for people to become engaged with, and to invigorate and renew their interest in, the arts, and to help create an environment where people are willing to be challenged and have their lives enriched through participation in the arts. The four Strategic Goals include: 1. Making Space for Art 2. Connecting People and Ideas 3. Enabling Excellence 4. Developing Our Capacity Public Art Policy 2025 – 2027 sets out to streamline procedures and principles on how we commission Public Art in Fingal and will be accompanied by a countywide strategy which will be brought to Council in Q1 2025.
Objective HCA058 – Swords Castle Cultural Quarter Support the enhancement of the identity, cultural and tourism development of Swords by protecting, conserving and enhancing the historic site of Swords Castle and its environs and the improvement of public and civic facilities and spaces of Swords Town Centre through the delivery of the Swords Cultural Quarter.	Ongoing – work has commenced on site on the Swords Cultural Centre. The centre is scheduled to open in 2027.
Objective HCA059 – Cultural Assets Ensure that regeneration contributes to the cultural assets of the community with new spaces provided at street level in larger regeneration projects that will accommodate and provide for new local cultural uses.	Ongoing - as part of the development management process for privately owned lands. Provided for within Council led development.
Objective HCA060 – Cultural Spaces Develop the range of cultural spaces and facilities in tandem with new housing developments to meet the needs of an increased population within Fingal.	Ongoing - as part of the Development Management process for privately owned lands. Provided for within council led development.
Objective HCA061 – Temporary Cultural Provision Facilitate the temporary use of underused sites or buildings for artistic or cultural provision. Where applications are made seeking to demolish or replace a cultural space/use, the development must re-accommodate the same or increased volume of space/use or a similar use within the	Ongoing 2024 saw the refurbishment of The Carnegie Library Building, a key element in the Swords Cultural Quarter, providing a versatile space for artists and communities. Fingal Arts Office launched The Carnegie Library Programme 2024, marking the opening of this significant cultural venue in Swords.

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redevelopment. Cultural uses include theatres, cinemas, artist studios, performance spaces, music venues, nightclubs, studios and dance space.	In March 2023, Fingal Arts Office supported Ardgillan Castle to establish the Ardgillan Gallery. Based in the castle basement, it is a contemporary artistic space dedicated to hosting exhibitions, artist talks, workshops and events. The Arts Offices' continued support of the Gallery demonstrates a strong commitment to preserving and enhancing cultural spaces, ensuring that artistic and cultural activities continue to thrive within the community.
Objective HCAO62 – Irish Language Facilities Highlight the profile of the Irish language in the urban and rural environment and support the Irish language by facilitating the provision of Irish language facilities and activities.	Ongoing. Fingal County Council continues to highlight the profile of the Irish language through bilingual advertising, social media and website and facilitates and hosts Irish language events in our Community and Arts Centres and Libraries.
Objective HCAO63 – Naming of Residential Schemes Ensure that the naming of mixed residential and mixed-use schemes reflect local history, folklore and/or place names and are stated in the Irish language.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and compliance procedures for naming and numbering of new developments.
Objective HCAO64 – Townland Names Encourage the use and promotion of historical and current townland names in the urban and rural environment in both the Irish and English languages, with a view to supporting the provision of townlands' place names markers/signage.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and compliance procedures for naming and numbering of new developments.
Objective HCAO65 – Shopfronts Actively support the use of the Irish language on shopfronts.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective HCAO66 – Promotion of Irish Language Promote Irish language and traditional culture in Fingal and support events celebrating Irish as a living language and our cultural heritage.	Ongoing. The Irish language is promoted at events such as Flavours of Fingal and Tradfest and events are organised by the Council for Seachtain na Gaeilge and an Irish Networking event.
Objective HCAO67 – Irish Language Supports Continue to promote the established Coiste Gaeilge Comhairle Fhine Gall, a Fingal County Irish Language Committee, which encourages the use of the Irish language, the development of Seachtain na Gaeilge and promotes the use of Gaeilge on shop fronts.	Ongoing. Fingal County Council continues to promote the Coiste Gaeilge and the use of Irish by providing training for staff and Councillors and Gaeltacht scholarships for students as well as the promotion of Seachtain na Gaeilge. The promotion of the use of Gaeilge on shopfronts continues through the Development Management Process.

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Objective HCAO68 – Environment for Multi-Culturalism Establish an environment for promoting cross cultural awareness, racial harmony, mutual understanding and appreciation of all religious and ethnic traditions within the County, including development of public spaces with cross-cultural appeal and relevance.	Ongoing Compliance across all Departments with Public Sector Duty Act 2014 to promote equality, prevent discrimination and protect the human rights of their employees, customers, service users, and everyone affected by their policies and plans. Fingal County Council employed an Integration Officer in 2024 highlighting its commitment to inclusivity and progress throughout Fingal's communities.
Objective HCAO69 – Migrant Integrations and Social Cohesion Strategy Implement the actions identified in Fingal's Migrant Integration and Social Cohesion Strategy 2019–2024 or any subsequent strategies.	Ongoing Fingal County Council employed an Integration Officer in 2024 highlighting its commitment to inclusivity and progress throughout Fingal's communities. Evaluation of the current strategy is taking place in Q1 & 2 2025. New Council integration Strategy will be developed in line with the National Integration Strategy due in Q3 2025.
Objective HCAO70 – Artist's Spaces Develop and provide spaces for artist studios within Fingal and avail of opportunities for utilising underused buildings and local buildings with heritage value, to promote the expansion of cultural uses within existing spaces and communities, for artistic and cultural purposes.	Ongoing 2-4 Dublin St, Balbriggan, is set to become a vibrant new Creative Hub. This project will include eight artists' studios, a community gallery, training and workshop spaces, fostering artistic activity within the local community. The project is currently in the detailed design stage, with a tender anticipated in mid-2025. A residential artist studio has been successfully completed as part of a new 10-dwelling development on Barrack Lane, Lusk. Designed and delivered by the Fingal Architects Department, this initiative demonstrates the commitment to integrating cultural uses into new spaces, supporting artists to revitalize local communities.
Objective HCAO71 – Inclusivity Support greater inclusivity as part of the cultural experience by supporting adaptation to existing facilities and support initiatives and investments in arts and cultural spaces that aim to promote increased cultural engagement for minority groups, people with disabilities, young people,	Ongoing In 2024 Swords Music Hub was launched with significant interest in available classes and associated instrument bank from local young people. In collaboration with Foroige, a new Rhapsody Programme is reaching young people in two locations - Phibblestown and Tyrrelstown. A new project with Danu Community Special

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socially excluded, members of the Travelling community and LGBTQ+ community members.	School, which caters for children aged 5-18 years with profound special needs began, alongside the expansion of work in Oberstown Detention Centre. Music Generation Fingal is a partnership formed between Fingal Arts Office, Dublin & Dun Laoghaire Education & Training Board and Music Generation Ireland. www.musicgenerationfingal.ie A successful application was made to the Arts Council seeking funding of €440,000 over three years, under the Creative Places Programme to provide local people access to the arts in their own community. Creative Places funding allows towns build local arts programmes for the benefit of all, building on existing cultural strengths and enabling local artists to lead a programme rooted in socially engaged practice and community development. The award was made to Balbriggan, the Creative Places funding will ensure sustained and vibrant cultural activity can continue to grow in Balbriggan. St Patrick's Way Arts Trail, a sculpture trail developed in Skerries featuring works by five Irish Artists and funded with support from Failte Ireland's Destination Towns Scheme. This includes a social story developed in partnership with Skerries Autism Friendly Town and designed to enhance the experience of the new walking route for all users and this is an activity that is aimed to be expanded as part of communication of art programmes to specific communities.

11. INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES



11. Infrastructure and Utilities

11.1 Introduction

Fingal is committed to providing and delivering infrastructural services within its statutory remit, which will enhance the quality of the County's environment and facilitate sustainable economic development and housing. The availability of infrastructure such as water, wastewater, surface water drainage, energy and telecommunication networks will play a key role in securing economic investment. The provision of an adequate supply of water and wastewater facilities is crucial to facilitate and sustain the growth of Fingal and the greater Dublin area. Uisce Éireann (UÉ) has responsibility for the provision of water/ wastewater infrastructure and Fingal will continue to work with UÉ and the Regional Assembly to ensure that UÉ's Investment Plan fully aligns with Fingal's Settlement Strategy.

Surface water management and flood prevention remain the responsibility of the Local Authorities and the OPW and Fingal County Council will continue to protect and enhance the County's floodplains, wetlands and coastal areas supporting approaches to manage surface water that take account of water quantity (flooding), water quality (pollution), biodiversity (wildlife and plants) and amenity (Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS)).

The Greater Dublin Drainage Plan is acknowledged as being another critical piece of national infrastructure and will secure the long-term sustainable growth of Fingal and the Greater Dublin Area. The GDDP will assist Fingal County Council in delivering on its ambitious plans for the future development of the County, not just in terms of local spatial planning policy, but in also supporting the consolidation of the Metropolitan area, sustainable population growth, economic prosperity and continued confidence for investors in the long term. Following a judicial review , the GDDP application is now being considered by An Bord Pleanála. As part of the overall GDD Project consenting process, Uisce Éireann applied to the EPA for a WWDL for the proposed catchment, the North Dublin Agglomeration, that will be served by the project. This is a key component needed to deliver the GDD Project. This WWDL will cover the discharge of treated effluent at the proposed discharge location, 1 km north-east of Ireland's Eye, along with assessment of the existing network, including stormwater and emergency overflows.

11.2 Water and wastewater

The sustainable management of water is provided for through capital investment in water services provision under the UÉ Water Services Strategic Plan (WSSP) 2015 and related Capital Investment Plans and Programmes. The provision of an adequate supply of water and wastewater facilities is crucial to facilitate and sustain the growth of Fingal and the greater Dublin area and we will continue to work with UÉ and the Regional Assembly to ensure that UÉ's Investment Plan fully aligns with Fingal's Settlement Strategy.

Uisce Éireann is proposing the Water Supply Project Eastern and Midlands Region to provide a new supply to address the projected need for drinking water and increase the reliability of supplies in the Eastern and Midlands Region. The Proposed Project consists of an abstraction from Parteen Basin on the Lower River Shannon in County Tipperary, a new 172km pipeline, five associated infrastructure sites, a Flow Control Valve and other ancillary infrastructure to treat

the raw water to drinking water standard and transfer it to a new reservoir at Peamount in County Dublin. Fingal will continue to support Uisce Éireann's strategic water service projects and infrastructure improvements and engage with them to facilitate projects that deliver the water services infrastructure necessary to support Fingal's settlement hierarchy, sustainable growth and mitigation and adaptation to climate change in line with national and regional policy.

11.3 Surface Water and Flood Risk Management

Surface water management and flood prevention remain the responsibility of the Local Authorities and the Office of Public Works (OPW). Approaches to manage surface water that take account of water quantity (flooding), water quality (pollution), biodiversity (wildlife and plants) and amenity are collectively referred to as SuDS. The increased use of SuDS helps control the rate of surface water run-off, thereby, reducing the volume of rainfall being discharged to our drainage systems and potential for overflows and localised flooding.

Fingal County Council will continue to actively encourage and promote the use of green solutions such as swales, tree pits, green roofs, downpipe planters, ponds and wetlands for drainage, which minimise negative environmental impacts resulting from development.

Fingal County Council have been proactive in this regard and published a SuDS guidance document in parallel with the preparation of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029. Water Services Division is currently working on a new guideline for Green/ Blue Roofs in new Developments. SuDS measures are required to be incorporated into all new development either directly or through conditions and this is evident in the update provided for the objectives below. In addition, in 2024, Fingal County Council published a '*A Household Guide to Sustainable Drainage (SuDS) towards managing rainfall more naturally in Fingal*'.

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage also published *Nature Based Management of Urban Rainwater and Urban Surface Water Discharges, A National Strategy 2024* and *Rainwater Management Plans, Guidance for Local Authorities 2024*.

These nature-based solutions (NbS) (above) are designed primarily to take in rainwater runoff, store the rainwater or "slow the flow" and, in doing so, remove many of the pollutants before allowing the treated runoff back into the drainage system. While this is their primary role, they are also planted and landscaped appropriately and contribute towards a more pleasant urban environment which can be used to prioritise pedestrians, cyclists and other active and sustainable travel modes.

In recognition of these multiple benefits, this strategy has been divided into a number of areas of activity and policy each of which can, through taking specified measures, promote and support the proposed approach. These include proposed actions in Planning for nature-based solutions, Climate Adaptation, Water Services, Roads & Transportation, and Funding.

The strategy also proposes measures to highlight and deliver on the multiple benefits of the proposed approach to nature-based management of urban rainwater in areas such as public health and wellbeing as well as climate adaptation and the environment.

Rainwater Management Plans are intended to integrate spatial planning and rainwater management across urban land uses including roads, streets, open spaces, recreational areas, public realm, public and private lands. Effective rainwater management reduces the likelihood and severity of flooding, captures contaminants carried by rainwater runoff and can provide opportunities for enhanced amenity and biodiversity. Rainwater management can promote groundwater recharge and help deliver sustainable water supply.

Fingal County Council will take account of both aforementioned documents during the Development Management process.

With regard to flood risk management, Fingal will continue to work in close partnership with the OPW on implementing the remaining projects under both FEMFRAMS and CFRAMS as well as minor non-catchment based projects.

11.4 Water Quality

The Council currently monitors 10no. identified beaches in Fingal for water quality.

11.5 Public Lighting

In June 2024, the successful completion of Ireland's most extensive public lighting replacement project to date took place, as Fingal County Council installed its last two energy-saving LEDs across its network of roads, residential areas and public spaces.

The final milestone was reached by the Council along the picturesque Coast Road in Malahide and means there have now been 35,315 environmentally friendly LEDs installed to replace their energy-guzzling counterparts throughout the county. With this accomplishment, Fingal has confirmed its commitment to sustainability and energy efficiency.

11.6 Waste

A key component of Fingal's waste management policy is the development and delivery of a comprehensive education and awareness campaign and Fingal County Council now employs an Environmental Educational Officer to promote Environmental Awareness Programmes within the County.

The Council continues to promote home composting through awareness programmes. For example, Fingal funds the Composting for Schools Programme, offering schools hands-on support to enhance sustainability. The programme includes online workshops, a site visit for tailored planning, and assistance with implementation. Schools receive a €250 voucher for bins, tools, and supplies for composting, recycling, gardening, or biodiversity projects.

An Taisce, in co-operation with the Local Authorities, run the national Green Schools 9-flag program. There are 145 no. schools in Fingal registered as active in the An Taisce Green Schools Program. Fingal County Council assists schools by providing information and support.

Another programme run by the Council includes 'Picker Pals', an initiative whereby primary schools 1st- 2nd classes can sign up to receive a take-home pack, which is sponsored by Fingal County Council. There are 87no. classrooms across Fingal on the Picker Pals Programme. These

classrooms in Fingal will join over 1,100 classrooms across the country who will all be working together to make the world better doing their bit to clean up litter in their local areas.

Fingal will continue to promote more sustainable and localised approaches to litter and waste management and continues to manage a network of bring centres together with civic amenity sites and bottle banks for the recycling of a range of household and commercial waste streams outside of current private kerbside collection systems. There are currently 59no. bring bank locations in the Fingal area, making it easy for you to recycle, no matter where you live.

11.7 Energy

The Council will continue to promote more energy efficient development through the location of housing and employment along public transport corridors, where people can choose to use less energy intensive public transport, rather than being dependent on the car.

Fingal will also continue to support energy utility providers, businesses and local community groups in their efforts to reinforce and strengthen existing utility infrastructure, transmission / distribution networks and community funded energy generation projects and will support new infrastructure projects and technologies with particular emphasis on renewable, alternative, and decentralised energy sources, and those which are less carbon intensive. The Council will work in partnership with existing service providers to facilitate required enhancement and upgrading of existing infrastructure and networks and support the safeguarding of strategic energy corridors from encroachment by other development that could compromise the delivery of energy networks.

Chapter 11 – Objectives and Progress

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective IUO1 – Water Conservation Measures Promote the sustainable use of water and water conservation and demand management measures in new and existing developments within the County, to promote water conservation by all water users.	Ongoing – as part of the development management process. As well as encouraging sustainable environmental infrastructure to be provided in new developments through the Development Management process, external stakeholders such as Uisce Éireann, are formal consultees and can again influence the delivery of key infrastructure through the statutory planning process.
Objective IUO2 – Water Safety Plans Protect both ground and surface water resources and work with Uisce Éireann to develop and implement Water Safety Plans to protect sources of public water supply and their contributing catchment and to reduce leakage in accordance with any future Regional Water Conservation Strategy.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in conjunction with Uisce Éireann.
Objective IUO3 – Water Services Infrastructure Ensure that all new developments in areas served by a public foul sewerage network connect to the public sewerage system and comply with the requirements of the Uisce Éireann Foul Sewer specification (where applicable).	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in conjunction with Uisce Éireann.
Objective IUO4 – Separate Foul and Surface Water Drainage Systems Require all new development to provide separate foul and surface water drainage systems and to prohibit the connection of surface water outflows to the foul drainage network where separation systems are available, and vice versa (foul to surface), where separation systems are available.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in conjunction with Uisce Éireann.
Objective IUO5 – Protection of Water and Drainage Infrastructure Work in conjunction with Uisce Éireann to protect existing water and drainage infrastructure by protecting existing wayleaves and buffer zones around public water service infrastructure.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in conjunction with Uisce Éireann.
Objective IUO6 – Buffer Zones around Wastewater Treatment Plants Establish a buffer zone around all wastewater treatment plants suitable to the size and operation of each plant. The buffer zone should not be less than 100m from the odour producing units.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in conjunction with Uisce Éireann.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective IU07 – Buffer Zones around Pumping Stations Establish an appropriate buffer zone around all pumping stations suitable to the size and operation of each station. The buffer zone should be a minimum 35 metres – 50 metres from the noise/odour producing part of the pumping station to avoid nuisance from odour and noise. For small scale developments (less than 15 houses) a smaller buffer zone may be agreed with the Planning Authority.	This criteria is applied during the Development Management process.
Objective IU08 – Taking in Charge of Private Drainage Infrastructure Require that all new surface water infrastructure within public or private developments be constructed in accordance with the standards set out within the Greater Dublin Regional Code of Practice for Drainage Works, as amended, irrespective of the management and maintenance regime proposed for the development or whether or not the development is intended to be taken in charge, in full or in part (i.e. infrastructure shall be designed to taking in charge standards).	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective IU09 – Surface Water Drainage Systems Maintain and enhance existing surface water drainage systems in the County and to require SuDS in new developments where appropriate, as set out in the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study (Vol 2: New Development) / Greater Dublin Regional Code of Practice for Drainage Works)	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective IU010 – SuDS – Nature-Based Solutions SuDS shall incorporate nature-based solutions and have regard to the objectives set out in Fingal's Guidance Document – Green/ Blue Infrastructure for Development, as amended (Appendix 11) and Nature Based Solutions to the Management of Rainwater and Surface Water Runoff in Urban Areas, Water Sensitive Urban Design Best Practice Interim Guidance Document (November 2021, DHLGH).	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. In addition, Fingal have produced 'A Householder's Guide to Sustainable Drainage (SuDS) – Managing rainfall more naturally in Fingal' which provides easy to use guidance to integrate SuDS features into homes to catch rainwater and allowing the occupants to play an active part in making Fingal more climate resilient.
Objective IU011 – SuDS in New Developments SuDS shall be incorporated into all parts of a development (open spaces, roads, footpaths, private areas), and have regard to the FCC SuDs	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.

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Guidance Document – Green/ Blue Infrastructure for Development, as amended (Appendix 11), and shall ensure: “ That the design of SuDS enhances the quality of open spaces and when included as part of any open space provision, it must contribute in a significant and positive way to the design and quality of the open space. ” Open space areas shall not be dominated by SuDS features. ” Underground tanked systems, whether concrete or plastic, are the least favoured means for surface water management and shall only be used when green solutions have proven not feasible. See also Appendix 11 (SuDS Guidance Document), and Chapter 14 Development Management Standards (Section 14.20.3 SuDS).	
Objective IUO12 – Green Roofs Require the use of Green Roofs particularly on apartment, commercial, leisure and educational buildings as part of the overall surface water management strategy for each development, where appropriate.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. In addition, Fingal County Council has introduced a Green Roof Policy as part of the Fingal Development Plan 2023 – 2029. The potential of green and blue roofs has been recognised as a means of delivering against multiple policy objectives relating to flood risk, climate change, amenity and biodiversity, particularly where availability of space is limited. In this regard, the Water Planning Division is currently working on a new guideline for Green/ Blue Roofs in new Developments.
Objective IUO13 – Surface Water Run-Off Require that all surface water run-off from new / extended domestic driveways, repaired/ replacement driveways and vehicular entrances (where such development is not exempted from the requirement to obtain planning permission) is managed using SuDS, ensuring no increase in surface water discharges to the public drainage network.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process. In addition, Fingal has produced ‘A Householder’s Guide to Sustainable Drainage (SuDS) – Managing rainfall more naturally in Fingal’ which provides easy to use guidance to integrate SuDS features into homes.
Objective IUO14 – Buffer Zones for Riparian Corridors Implement policies relating to the buffer zones for riparian corridors and SuDS, having regard to Fingal’s SuDS Guidance document Green/ Blue Infrastructure for Development, as amended.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective IUO15 – Surface Water Management Plan	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.

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Require the preparation of a Surface Water Management Plan as part of all new developments which shall include the following: “ Identify and assess the existing surface water movements through the development before considering and developing a surface water management system using SuDS, having regard to our Fingal Guidance Document – Green/ Blue Infrastructure for Development, as amended (Appendix 11). ” Incorporate SuDS along the route of the water movement to enhance the water quality effects of nature-based systems at the different stages – Treatment Train approach from source to discharge.	In addition, Surface Water Management Plans are prepared for Local Area Plans, Masterplans and Framework Plans throughout the county.
Objective IUO16 – OPW Flood Risk Management Guidelines Have regard to the OPW Flood Risk Management Guidelines 2009, as revised by Circular PL 2/2014, when assessing planning applications and in the preparation of statutory and non-statutory plans and to require site specific flood risk assessments to be considered for all new developments within the County. All development must prepare a Stage 1 Flood Risk Analysis and if the flooding risk is not screened out, they must prepare a Site-Specific Flood Risk Assessment (SSFRA) for the development, where appropriate.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective IUO17 –Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Implement and comply fully with the recommendations of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared as part of the Fingal Development Plan 2023–2029.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective IUO18 – SFRA Recommendations All Flood Risk Assessments must comply with the recommendations from the SFRA report.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective IUO19 – Medium Range Future Scenario Climate Change Predictions Surface water designs must include ‘Medium Range Future Scenario Climate Change Predictions’.	These are included as part of development proposals and are assessed through the Development Management process.
Objective IUO20 – Tolka River Flood Study Maps Prepare a flood map using data from both the River Tolka Flood Study extents and recently	This project has been completed and the flood maps for the Tolka were included in the sFRA maps for the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029.

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provided National Indicative Fluvial Mapping as well as site specific modelling to ensure the most up-to-date flood maps for Tolka River are available, within 1 year of making this Development Plan.	
Objective IUO21 – Precautionary Principle in OPW Guidelines Require all developments in the County to be designed and constructed in accordance with the ‘Precautionary Principle’ as detailed in the OPW Guidelines and to minimise the flood risk in Fingal from all potential sources of flooding as far as is practicable, including coastal, pluvial, fluvial, reservoirs and dams, and the piped water system.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective IUO22 – Flood Alleviation Measures Support and facilitate the provision of new or upgrading of existing flood alleviation measures where appropriate.	There continues to be on going examination in this regard and Fingal will continue to actively support same.
Objective IUO23 – Protection of Rivers, Streams and Watercourses Ensure that where flood protection or alleviation works take place that the natural and cultural heritage of rivers, streams and watercourses are protected and enhanced to the greatest extent possible.	The Council continue to ensure this through the Development Management process and in all relevant Council-led development processes.
Objective IUO24 – Cross-Boundary Flood Management Work with neighbouring Local Authorities when developing cross-boundary flood management work programmes and when considering cross-boundary development.	Ongoing, where required.
Objective IUO25 – River Basin Management Plans Maintain, improve and enhance the environmental and ecological quality of our surface waters, groundwater and aquifers by implementing the EU Water Framework Directive through the relevant programme of measures set out in the River Basin Management Plans and to take into consideration the River Basin Management Plan and Programme of Measures when considering new development proposals.	Fingal County Council has adopted a Catchment Based Approach in implementing all objectives as set out in the EU Water framework Directive and associated River Basin Management Plans. Development is approved only where such developments pose no pressure to the water quality objectives as set out in the relevant River Basin Management Plans.
Objective IUO26 – Riparian Corridors Establish riparian corridors free from new development along all significant watercourses	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.

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and streams in the County: " Ensure a minimum 10m wide riparian buffer strip measured from the top of the bank either side of all watercourses. This minimum 10m wide riparian buffer strip applies to lands within development boundaries– i.e. within designated settlement boundaries (as per Fingal County Council's Settlement Hierarchy set out in Chapter 2, Planning for Growth, Table 2.20). " A minimum 48m wide riparian buffer strip is required in all other areas outside of development boundaries. " Where lands encompass urban and rural areas, a transitional approach from the urban riparian requirements to the rural riparian requirements may be appropriate and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. " Notwithstanding the above, cognisance must be taken of Flood Zone A and B, as outlined in the SFRA. See also Chapter 14 Development Management Standards (Section 14.20.5 Riparian Corridors) and the SFRA.	
Objective IUO27 – De-culverting of Watercourses Promote de-culverting to restore watercourses to their natural environmental state.	Encouraged as part of the development management process.
Objective IUO28 – Eastern Midlands Region Waste Management Plan Implement the provisions of the Eastern Midlands Region Waste Management Plan 2015–2021 or any subsequent Waste Management Plan applicable within the lifetime of the Development Plan. All prospective developments in the County will be expected to take account of the provisions of the Regional Waste Management Plan and adhere to the requirements of that Plan.	A new national plan has been adopted replacing the regional waste management plan.
Objective IUO29 – Sustainable Waste Recovery And Disposal Provide for, promote and facilitate high quality sustainable waste recovery and disposal infrastructure/technology in keeping with the EU waste hierarchy, national legislation and regional waste management policy to adequately cater for Fingal's growing population.	Proposals for waste recovery and disposal infrastructure/technology are assessed through the Development Management process. This is ongoing.

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Objective IU030 – Hazardous Waste Adhere to the recommendations of the National Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2014–2020 and any subsequent plan, and to co-operate with the EPA and other agencies in the planning, organisation and supervision of the disposal of hazardous waste streams, including hazardous waste identified during construction and demolition projects. To continue to promote the use of clean technology and minimisation of hazardous waste production in all development within the County.	A new National Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2021-2027 is in place and Fingal will adhere to this and continue to promote the use of clean technology and minimisation of hazardous waste production in all development through the Development Management process.
Objective IU031 – Network of Bring Infrastructure Provide for and maintain the network of bring infrastructure within the County (i.e recycling centres, civic amenity facilities, bring banks) to facilitate the recycling and recovery of hazardous and nonhazardous municipal wastes and ensure the provision of adequately sized public recycling facilities in accessible locations throughout the County.	There are currently 59no. bring bank locations in the Fingal area, including 2no. recycling centres. The Council will continue to support these facilities and provide new ones where required.
Objective IU032 – Bring Bank Facilities Seek to identify suitable sites for new bring bank facilities to ensure that developing settlements have ease of access to such facilities over the Plan period, subject to funding and resources available.	The Council will continue to support these facilities and provide new ones where required.
Objective IU033 – Home Composting Continue to promote home composting and explore the potential for composting in rural areas and promote the development of composting (digester) plants for organic solid waste at appropriate locations within the County. Continue to promote developments to manage food waste in accordance with the requirements of the Waste Management (Food Waste) Regulations.	The local authority continues to promote home composting through awareness programmes. Development proposals for composting, management of food waste and other composing facilities are assessed through the Development Management process.

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Objective IU034 – Waste Management in New Developments Require the provision of appropriate, well designed, accessible space to support the storage, separation and collection of as many waste and recycling streams as possible in all new commercial and residential developments within the County. See also Chapter 14, Development Management Standards (Section 14.20.12: Waste Management).	The adequacy of waste facilities to cater for developments is assessed through the Development Management process and is an ongoing function of the local authority.
Objective IU035 – Education and Awareness Continue to raise environmental awareness of waste prevention and minimisation and reduction in illegal dumping through the continuation of Council based initiatives, with particular emphasis placed on the involvement of local schools, community organisations, individual households and businesses.	Fingal County Council, in association with State agencies such as An Taisce continues to raise environmental awareness of waste prevention and minimisation in the local community including in local schools.
Objective IU036 – Partnership Approach Continue to develop the Council's partnership approach with the Tidy Towns Associations, community groups, farming organisations, trade unions, the business community, the local media, sporting organisations, tourism bodies and Gardai in the support and fostering of anti-litter initiatives within the County.	Ongoing
Objective IU037 – Restrictions on Development in proximity of a Seveso Site Have regard to the provision of the Major Accident Directive (Seveso III) (European Council Directive 2012/18/EU) and impose restrictions in consultation with the HSA, on developments abutting or within proximity of a Seveso site. The extent of restrictions on development will be dependent on the type of risk present and the quantity and form of the dangerous substance present or likely to be present.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective IU038 – Location of New Seveso Development Permit new Seveso development only in low-risk locations away from vulnerable residential, retail and commercial development.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective IU039 – Extensions to Seveso Sites Prohibit new extensions to long-established Seveso sites where they are a non-conforming	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.

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use and where they pose an unacceptable accident risk to the public.	
Objective IUO40 – Adjacent Uses – Seveso Sites In areas where Seveso sites exist in appropriate locations with low population densities, ensure that proposed uses in adjacent sites do not compromise the potential for expansion of the existing Seveso use and in particular the exclusion of developments with the potential to attract large numbers of the public.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective IUO41 – Storage of Seveso Substances Attach to any grant of permission for new warehouses or similar industrial buildings, a condition to exclude use/storage of SEVESO substances (or require a separate planning permission for it).	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective IUO42 – HSA Consultation Distances for new Seveso Sites Have regard to the advice of the HSA when proposals for new Seveso sites are considered and for all planning applications within the consultation distances stated in Table 14.27: List of Seveso / COMAH Sites (Chapter 14 Development Management Standards).	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective IUO43 – Seveso Risk Assessment Require developers to submit a detailed Consequence and Risk Assessment with all Environmental Impact Statements and/or legislative licence applications for all Seveso sites.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective IUO44 – Energy Utilities Support the development of enhanced electricity and gas supplies, and associated transmission and distribution networks, to serve the existing and future needs of the County, and to facilitate new transmission infrastructure projects and technologies.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in conjunction with the relevant utility stakeholders.

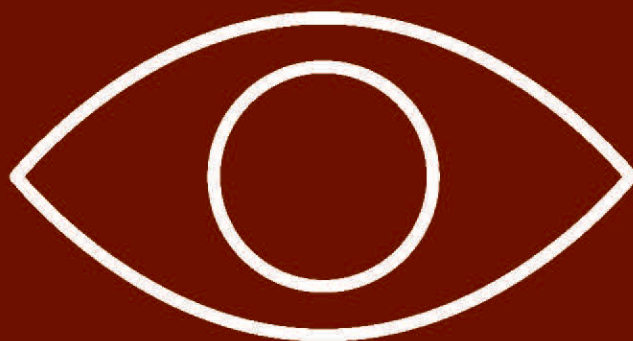
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective IUO45 – Undergrounding of Utility Infrastructure Require that the location of local utility services such as electricity, telephone and television cables be located underground wherever possible, and to promote the undergrounding of existing overhead cables and associated equipment, where possible, in the interests of visual amenity and improved public realm.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in conjunction with the relevant utility stakeholders.
Objective IUO46 – Energy Efficiency of Buildings Encourage the adaptability of buildings over time and seek to improve the energy efficiency of new and existing building stock including the retro-fitting of energy efficient measures and promote the use of energy efficiency and conservation in the design and development of all new buildings in the County, in accordance with relevant building regulations, national policy and guidance and the targets of Fingal's Climate Change Action Plan.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process, including the pre-planning process and in conjunction with the relevant stakeholders.
Objective IUO47 – Smart Grids and Smart Cities Action Plan Support the roll-out of the Smart Grids and Smart Cities Action Plan 2013 in order to enable new connections, grid balancing, energy management and micro grid development.	Fingal will continue to support the roll-out of the National Smart Grid Plan enabling new connections, grid balancing, energy management and micro grid development.
Objective IUO48 – High-quality ICT Network and Appropriate Telecommunications Infrastructure Promote and facilitate the provision of a high-quality ICT network and appropriate telecommunications infrastructure in accordance with the Fingal Digital Strategy 2020–23 (and any subsequent plan), and to support broadband connectivity and other innovative and advancing technologies within the County, whilst protecting the amenities of urban and rural areas.	Fingal is committed to the continued development and improvement of the County's digital infrastructure and services and access to free public Wi-Fi in our major town centres and villages.
Objective IUO49 – Digital Inclusion Promote digital inclusion and improve digital equality. Facilitate access to free high-speed connectivity in public buildings and facilitate the rollout of Community Broadband Connection Points (BCPS).	The Council will continue to support this initiative, and a number of Broadband Connection Points (BCPs) were installed across the County as part of the Connected Hubs Call under Town & Village Renewal Funding stream.
Objective IUO50 – Smart Districts/Smart Places Support the development of Smart	Fingal is in the process of developing the Sustainable Fingal Initiative, which was an action delivered under the previous Climate Action Plan,

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Districts/Smart Places to enhance socio-economic development.	into the Sustainable Fingal Strategy in 2025. The Strategy shall seek to promote sustainable economic development in the business/industrial sectors and advance the Green Transition.
Objective IU051 – Digital Hubs and Co-working Spaces Facilitate the development of digital hubs and co-working spaces at appropriate locations, including towns and rural villages.	The Council's 3 Enterprise Centres are part of the national Connected Hubs network, providing facilities for remote working in local communities. A number of Broadband Connection Points (BCPs) were installed across the County as part of the Connected Hubs Call under Town & Village Renewal Funding stream.
Objective IU052 – Telecommunications Infrastructure Ensure that applications made in relation to the provision of overground telecommunications infrastructure, including planning applications and Section 254 licence applications, take into consideration and demonstrate compliance with the Guidance on the Potential Location of Overground Telecommunications Infrastructure on Public Roads 2015.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process and in conjunction with the relevant telecommunications stakeholders.
Objective IU053 – High-quality Design of Telecommunications Infrastructure Ensure a high-quality design of masts, towers, antennae and other such telecommunications infrastructure in the interests of visual amenity and the protection of sensitive landscapes in the County.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process in conjunction with the relevant telecommunications stakeholders.
Objective IU054 – Sharing and Co-location Of Digital Connectivity Infrastructure Support the appropriate use of existing assets (i.e. lighting, street furniture etc) for the deployment of telecoms equipment and to encourage the sharing and co-location of digital connectivity infrastructure in the interests of visual amenity and protection of the built heritage.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process in conjunction with the relevant telecommunications stakeholders.
Objective IU055 – Ducting Support greater coordination in the delivery of telecoms/ digital connectivity infrastructure and use of underground ducting asset space.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process in conjunction with the relevant telecommunications stakeholders.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective IUO56 – Open Access Connectivity Arrangements Require all new developments to provide open access connectivity arrangements directly to the individual premises to enable service provider competition and consumer choice.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process in conjunction with the relevant telecommunications stakeholders.
Objective IUO57 – Sensor and Telecommunication Register of Council Assets Support the development of a mapped IoT sensor and telecommunication register of Council assets and make the data available through the Fingal Open Data Portal.	Will be progressed over the lifetime of the Plan.
Objective IUO58 – Air Quality Monitoring Monitor, pro-actively manage and improve air quality in the County through integrated land use and spatial planning measures to avoid, mitigate and minimise unacceptable levels of air pollution in accordance with national and EU policy Directives on air quality and, where appropriate, promote compliance with established targets.	Ongoing as appropriate. The local authority continues to work with national agencies such as the EPA in this regard.
Objective IUO59 – Air Quality Monitoring Network Continue to work with the Dublin Local Authorities and relevant agencies in the collection of local air quality data through the EPA's air quality monitoring network, to maintain good air quality in the County.	Ongoing as appropriate. The local authority continues to work with national agencies such as the EPA and neighbouring authorities in this regard.
Objective IUO60 – Dublin Regional Air Quality Management Plan Implement the recommendations of the Dublin Regional Air Quality Management Plan (and any subsequent Plan) and to implement the relevant spatial planning recommendations and actions of the Dublin Agglomeration Environmental Noise Action Plan 2018–2023 or any superseding action plan.	Dublin Region Air Quality Plan 2021 was prepared by Fingal County Council, Dublin City Council, South Dublin County Council and Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective IUO61 – Implementation of Noise Plans Implement the relevant spatial planning recommendations and actions of the Dublin Agglomeration Environmental Noise Action Plan 2018–2023 and the Noise Action Plan for Dublin Airport 2019–2023 (or any subsequent plan), working in conjunction with relevant statutory agencies.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective IUO62 – Noise Sensitive Developments Consider the location, design and construction of noise sensitive developments, to ensure they are protected from major noise sources, where practical, and to support and facilitate the monitoring and enforcement by Fingal's Environmental Health Department of noise reduction measures in areas experiencing excess noise.	The impact of proposed development on noise sensitive locations and uses is considered through the Development Management process and appropriate conditions to mitigate, as necessary, attached where permission is under consideration.
Objective IUO63 – Noise Exposure Maps Developments for noise sensitive uses shall have regard to the noise exposure maps contained within the Fingal Noise Action Plan 2018 – 2023 or any supplementary mapping prepared by Fingal County Council, and developers shall be required to produce a noise impact assessment and mitigation plans, where necessary, for any new noise sensitive development within these areas.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective IUO64 – Design of Lighting Schemes Require that the design of lighting schemes minimises the incidence of light spillage or pollution into the surrounding environment and new schemes shall ensure that there is no unacceptable adverse impact on neighbouring development, visual amenity and biodiversity in the surrounding areas.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.
Objective IUO65 – Lighting: New Developments Require that new developments are appropriately lit and that all public and external lighting in new residential and commercial developments use highly energy efficient luminaires, with the use of energy saving strategies (such as dimming in line with nationally agreed tariffs) encouraged.	Ongoing – as part of the Development Management process.

12. IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING



12. Implementation and Monitoring

As stated in Chapter 12 'Implementation and Monitoring' of the Fingal Development Plan, the implementation and delivery of Objectives contained within the Fingal County Council it is a key objective of the Council, and it is acknowledged that this requires a concerted range of actions by the entire organisation in order to ensure that the policies and objectives of the Plan are fully implemented.

The chapter states that a key mechanism for the implementation and monitoring of policies and objectives of the Plan is through the Development Management process, which includes information regarding the number of planning applications, units permitted and constructed etc.

Having regard to the above, as outlined in Chapter 2 of this Two year Progress Report, Fingal County Council undertakes continuous monitoring of all planning applications as they progress through the Development Management process and in the case of residential development in particular, tracks the outcome of granted applications through to the completion of residential units on the ground.

Chapter 12 of the Development Plan also states that during the implementation phase, proactive measures will be taken to enable the delivery of the housing targets outlined in the Core Strategy, and refers to active land management measures as key means to implement the Plan. Local Area Plans, Masterplans and Framework Plans will provide a further range of mechanisms to secure active land management.

As referenced in Chapter 1 of this report Fingal County Council undertakes active land management through the local level plan-making process and as outlined in Chapter 2, the Council is currently actively implementing the requirements of the relevant legislation relating to vacant sites and the Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT).

Finally, Chapter 12 of the Development Plan also lists relevant policies and objectives in each Chapter of the Plan which are subject to ongoing monitoring by the various Council Departments. It should be noted that details as to how these objectives are being implemented are presented in the detailed 'Objectives and Progress' tables at the end of each chapter of this report.

13. LAND USE ZONING



13. Land Use Zoning

This chapter sets out the general land-use and zoning policies and objectives of the plan. It provides an explanation of the land use categories and the zoning objectives that apply to them. The zoning policies and objectives have been derived from the Core Strategy. It should be noted that the land use objectives in this chapter are not actionable objectives, but guiding principles informing the land use zone therein.

With regard to the progress of the current Development Plan in relation to zoning, there have been no Variations to the land use zoning chapter since the adoption of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029.

13.1 Chapter 13 – Objectives and Progress

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE	PROGRESS
Objective ZO1 – Zoning Objectives and Vision Secure the implementation of the zoning objective and vision applied to each area of the County.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective ZO2 – Transitional Zonal Areas Have regard to development in adjoining zones, in particular, more environmentally sensitive zones, in assessing development proposals for lands in the vicinity of zoning boundaries.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective ZO3 – Non-Conforming Uses Generally, permit reasonable intensification of extensions to and improvement of premises accommodating non-conforming uses, subject to normal planning criteria.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.
Objective ZO4 – Ancillary Uses Ensure that developments ancillary to the parent use of a site are considered on their merits.	Ongoing – As part of the Development Management Process.

14. DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT STANDARDS



14. Development Management Standards

The implementation of the Development Standards contained within Chapter 14 of the Development Plan are monitored on an on-going basis through the development management process.

It should be noted that these are standards against which applications are assessed and not actionable objectives, but guiding principles informing the land use zone therein. Therefore, no further details are required.

15. APPENDICES

Appendix 1	Housing Strategy
Appendix 2	Implementation of Ministerial Guidelines
Appendix 3	Policy Context
Appendix 4	Infrastructure Capacity Assessment
Appendix 5	Record Of Protected Structures and ACAs
Appendix 6	Recorded Monuments/Sites and Monuments Record
Appendix 7	Technical Guidance Notes
Appendix 8	Map Based Local Objectives
Appendix 9	2016 Dublin Bay Biosphere Reserve Map
Appendix 10	List of Townlands to which Zone D applies
Appendix 11	FCC SuDS Guidance Document – Green/ Blue Infrastructure for Development
Appendix 12	Acronyms

15. Appendices

The Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 had the following 12 appendices:

- Appendix 1: Housing Strategy
- Appendix 2: Implementation of Ministerial Guidelines
- Appendix 3: Policy Context
- Appendix 4: Infrastructure Capacity Assessment
- Appendix 5: Record of Protected Structures and ACAs
- Appendix 6: Recorded Monuments / Sites and Monuments Record
- Appendix 7: Technical Guidance Notes
- Appendix 8: Map Based Local Objectives
- Appendix 9: 2016 Dublin Bay Biosphere Reserve Map
- Appendix 10: List of Townlands to which Zone D Applies
- Appendix 11: FCC SuDS Guidance Document – Green / Blue Infrastructure for Development
- Appendix 12: Acronyms

The Housing Strategy has been addressed in Chapter 2 of this Report and the issue of infrastructure and utilities has been addressed in Chapter 11. With regard to the policy context and ministerial guidelines, Fingal County Council has regard to all current relevant planning policy in place as well as to the requirements of existing Planning and Development Acts and Regulations.

The Record of Protected Structure and Recorded Monuments has not had any additions or deletions since the adoption of the Development Plan. It is intended that this list will be reviewed within the lifetime of the Development Plan.

The map-based local objectives which are listed in Appendix 8 are not individually assessed in this report. However, the policy context within which they are set is directly addressed through the objectives in the Written Statement and through the progress review carried out as part of the progress report.

The other appendices to the Development Plan can be seen to be for information purposes or for the purposes of providing additional detail in relation to Development Management requirements.

16. STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SEA) MONITORING



**Brady Shipman
Martin.**

**Built.
Environment.**

Technical Note:	Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 – Two Year Progress Report 2025: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Monitoring
Client:	Fingal County Council
Author:	Brady Shipman Martin
Report date:	06 February 2025

1.0 Introduction

The Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 (came into effect on 05 April 2023) was accompanied by a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) (in accordance with Directive 2001/42/EC) prepared by Brady Shipman Martin. This technical report sets out the SEA monitoring undertaken in the first two years of the lifetime of the Plan.

The SEA included a ‘Monitoring Programme’ to monitor the implementation of the Plan and any implications on the environment so as to ensure that the environment is not adversely affected. This is a requirement under Article 10 of the SEA Directive, which states that monitoring must be carried out of the significant environmental effects directly related to the implementation of the Plan ‘*in order to, inter alia, identify at an early-stage unforeseen adverse effects and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action.*’ If significant negative effects are identified, appropriate actions should be taken / put in place to mitigate the effects and to avoid the likelihood of these effects continuing.

The Monitoring Programme had set a series of indicators and targets based on the Strategic Environmental Objectives (SEOs) set within the SEA, derived from knowledge of the existing environmental issues within the Plan area and also from legislation, guidelines and higher-level Plans.

In summary, this note has not identified any significant negative effects on the environment as a result of the implementation of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029. Therefore, it can be concluded that no remedial action is necessary for the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029.



**Brady Shipman
Martin.**
**Built.
Environment.**

Table 1 SEA Monitoring Progress

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets										
1. Biodiversity (Flora & Fauna)												
Maintain or enhance status of European Sites	Condition of European Sites	Natura 2000 is a European network of important ecological sites. The network is made up of Special Protection Areas (SPAs), established under the EU Birds Directive (79/409/EEC), and SACs, established under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC). The Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 (came into effect on 05 April 2023) was accompanied by an Appropriate Assessment (AA). The Appropriate Assessment of the Plan and its proposed policies and objectives were informed by a Natura Impact Report (NIR) that accompanies this Plan. It has been objectively concluded in the NIR, following an examination, analysis and evaluation of the relevant information, including in particular the nature of the predicted impacts associated with the Plan that it will not adversely affect the integrity of any European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. At Section 1.10.2 of the development plan, it is outlined that land use plans and development proposals will only be adopted / granted permission if they will not have a significant effect on a European Site either individually or in combination with existing and/or proposed plans or projects, or where they might have such a significant effect the planning authority will carry out an appropriate assessment. The Natura Impact Report (NIR) for the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 identified 27no. European sites (13no. Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and 14 no. Special Protection Areas (SPAs)), as falling within the potential Zone of Influence of the FCC administrative boundary. They are as follows: <table><tr><td>1. Malahide Estuary SAC [000205]</td><td>15. Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC [003000]</td></tr><tr><td>2. Malahide Estuary SPA [004025]</td><td>16. North Dublin Bay SAC [000206]</td></tr><tr><td>3. Rogerstown Estuary SAC [000208]</td><td>17. North Bull Island SPA [004006]</td></tr><tr><td>4. Rogerstown Estuary SPA [004015]</td><td>18. Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC [001398]</td></tr><tr><td>5. Baldoyle Bay SAC [000199]</td><td>19. River Nanny Estuary and Shore SPA [004158]</td></tr></table>	1. Malahide Estuary SAC [000205]	15. Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC [003000]	2. Malahide Estuary SPA [004025]	16. North Dublin Bay SAC [000206]	3. Rogerstown Estuary SAC [000208]	17. North Bull Island SPA [004006]	4. Rogerstown Estuary SPA [004015]	18. Rye Water Valley/Carton SAC [001398]	5. Baldoyle Bay SAC [000199]	19. River Nanny Estuary and Shore SPA [004158]
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5. Baldoyle Bay SAC [000199]	19. River Nanny Estuary and Shore SPA [004158]											

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets	
		6. Baldoyle Bay SPA [004016] 7. Howth Head SAC [000202] 8. Howth Head Coast SPA [004113] 9. Ireland's Eye SAC [002193] 10. Ireland's Eye SPA [004117] 11. Lambay Island SAC [000204] 12. Lambay Island SPA [004069] 13. Skerries Islands SPA [004122] 14. Rockabill SPA [004006]	20. South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA [004024] 21. South Dublin Bay SAC [000210] 22. Boyne Coast and Estuary SAC [001957] 23. Dalkey Islands SPA [004172] 24. Boyne Estuary SPA [004172] 25. River Boyne and Blackwater SAC [002299] 26. River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA [004232] 27. Codling Fault Zone SAC [001957]
		Since the adoption of the Fingal Development Plan on 5 April 2023, the North-West Irish Sea SPA (site code 004236) was designated under the EU Birds Directive on 13 July 2023. This SPA extends offshore along the coasts of counties Louth, Meath and Dublin and is also deemed to fall within the potential Zone of Influence of the Plan area. Every site in the Natura 2000 Network is accompanied by a standard data form that is updated regularly. Data included in the Standard Data Forms (SDFs) for each Natura 2000 site can be accessed on the European Commission website. This form provides information on the condition of the site and its management e.g. its name, location, area coverage, map, ecological data on the species / habitat, a description of the site, the threats, pressures and activities, ownership and site management. The conservation objectives of Natura 2000 sites which fall within the potential Zone of Influence of the FCC administrative boundary have been updated on the National Parks and Wildlife Services (NPWS) website. These are detailed below. For the following SPAs, the First-Order Site Conservation Objectives have been replaced by Site-Specific Conservation Objectives: 1. Howth Head SPA (29 October 2024) 2. Ireland's Eye SPA (12 November 2024) 3. Lambay Island SPA (19 November 2024)	

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
		4. Skerries Island SPA (19 November 2024) 5. Dalkey Islands SPA (29 October 2024) 6. River Boyne and Blackwater SPA (02 July 2024) For the following SACs, the Site-specific Conservation Objectives Version 1 have been replaced by Site-Specific Conservation Objectives Version 2: 1. Lambay Island SAC, Site -Specific Conservation Objectives – Version 2 (17 December 2024) 2. Codling Fault Zone SAC, Site -Specific Conservation Objectives – Version 2 (14 January 2025) The Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030 contains actions to implement masterplan for Rogerstown Inner & Outer Estuary, Malahide Estuary SAC & SPA, Baldoyle Bay SAC & SPA, management plan for Howth Head SAC & SPA, beach management practices of FCC in context of management of SAC's and SPA's.
Improve / update knowledge on features / sites of biodiversity value within the county	Number and nature of baseline studies / surveys commissioned / completed for biodiversity	The Fingal Biodiversity Plan 2023-2029 contains 100 actions of which 60 are prioritised for implementation between 2023 and 2027. A Biodiversity Team was established in the Parks and Green Infrastructure Division which currently comprises 6 no. staff responsible for the coordination of the implementation of the prioritised actions. Examples of actions ongoing include, 26, 29, 30, 31, 35, 38, 39, 42, 52 and 57. Projects of Biodiversity Actions ongoing include: • Weir removal and fish pass construction in the Ward River to improve fish migration. • Wildfire Management including goat grazing on Howth. • Wetland Restoration in St Ita's Donabate/Portrane. • Wetland Restoration and Rewilding in Turvey Nature Park. • Little Tern Bird Conservation Project at Portane Beach in conjunction with Birdwatch Ireland. • Completion of rare Irish Farm breeds collection in Newbridge Farm.
All local level land use plans to include an ecosystem services approach and green / blue	Number of spatial plans that have incorporated ecosystem services content, mapping	As set out within the RSES, the term 'green and blue infrastructure' can be broadly defined as a strategically planned network of high quality natural and semi-natural areas, designed and managed to deliver a wide range of ecosystem services and protect biodiversity in both rural and urban settings. As outlined in the Fingal Development Plan, the overarching benefit of the provision of a multi-functional green and blue network is the opportunity to contribute to

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
infrastructure provisions and as a minimum, to have regard to the required targets in relation to the conservation of European sites, other nature conservation sites, ecological networks, and protected species	and policy to protect / promote ecosystem services when their relevant plans are either drafted or revised	urban sustainability and climate resilience while increasing access to nature and providing a good quality of life for people. The current operational local land use plans - Donabate LAP 2016 (extended to 2026), Rivermeade LAP 2018, Barnhill LAP 2019, Kinsaley LAP 2019, Kellystown LAP 2021, Lissenhall East Local Area Plan 2023, Swords Masterplans 2019, Castlelands Masterplan 2021 - prioritise green/ blue infrastructure and contain GI elements. More recent land use plans by Fingal County Council are urban design led and a green & blue infrastructure / ecosystem services approach is used (including water sensitive urban design and sustainable management measures) as a structuring element in defining the urban structure. All development proposals will be required to demonstrate conformity with the guidance provided within Fingal County Council's Green/Blue Infrastructure for Development Guidance Note (December 2020). This approach will assist with reducing and managing run-off from new developments to the surface water drainage network where possible, reduce the risk of downstream floods and improve water quality. This approach is evident in the following adopted and proposed plans: <u>Flemington Local Area Plan (LAP) 2024</u> The Flemington LAP provides a framework for the future development of the identified lands within northern Balbriggan while assisting with the provision of new housing located in a locality that already includes existing residential communities. The LAP proposes a variety of public open spaces and areas for recreation as well as addressing climate action. The LAP seeks to promote a modal shift in relation to how people move around the Flemington area with a focus on utilising active modes of travel especially for short journeys. The design of the new built environment will be encouraged to implement green and blue design solutions where possible to include, but not limited to, active travel routes, green roofs, green walls and water harvesting. In terms of green infrastructure, the individual character areas will provide a range of green and public spaces that will support nature-based solutions for the new residential and community development brought forward. The design of future proposals must incorporate nature-based solutions that can both protect and enhance biodiversity and, in turn, produce environmental benefits within the new urban environment. This can include sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS), areas of urban greening, retaining mature trees and hedgerow where possible and new planting schemes. The identification and delivery of the appropriate green and blue infrastructure will also play a key role in the promotion of biodiversity on the LAP lands and in healthy placemaking.

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
		<u>Donabate Framework Plan 2024</u> The Donabate Framework Plan 2024 guides future development within Donabate town centre area and aims to incorporate green infrastructure, street trees and planting in a planned manner, in order to improve the quality of the environment, serve ecological function from reducing stormwater runoff, remove air pollution and provide a cooling effect. <u>Draft Clonsilla Framework Plan 2025</u> The Draft Clonsilla Framework Plan 2025 will guide future development of Clonsilla to encourage economic, social and cultural development and provide an attractive, high-quality environment for existing and future residents. Clonsilla's most valued assets is its relationship with nature, specifically the biodiversity sustained by the Royal Canal. It is this connection with the Canal that presents an opportunity to both better integrate the public realm and support the natural environment. Other opportunities exist within the village centre, with its historic tree stands and elements of the former estate landscape. The Public Realm Strategy requires that new development respects and protects the natural environment and its rich biodiversity, integrates natural assets and seeks to reduce unnecessary infrastructure and the overuse of resources. Environmental sustainability is further promoted through the appropriate use of materials and the designation of potential biodiversity spaces. Such measures will also enable Clonsilla to positively respond to the challenges presented by climate change <u>Draft Stephenstown and Folkstown Little Framework Plan</u> The Draft Stephenstown and Folkstown Little Framework Plan ensures Stephenstown and Folkstown Little zoned lands are developed in a coordinated and sustainable manner, balancing economic growth with environmental protection and community well-being, ensuring that development aligns with national, local and regional planning policies. The Plan seeks to protect and enhance important landscape features and biodiversity. Integrating existing green and blue networks, and enhancing these networks through a landscape strategy, which can facilitate employment delivery while protecting natural assets, is at the heart of the Framework Plan. Environmental sustainability is promoted, through an open spaces and green corridors network, integrating sustainable drainage systems in accordance with Fingal Development Plan policy. It seeks to preserve and protect existing key natural features such as the Bracken River, historic drains, and mature woodland areas and key hedgerows where possible, within the Framework Plan Lands to maintain ecological diversity and enhance the overall landscape character of the area. It will incorporate and

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
		enhance greening along existing and proposed movement corridors in the form of tree planting, low level shrubs or grass to create a quality landscaped environment. The Framework Plan seeks to implement sustainable design practices such as stormwater management systems and permeable paving to minimize environmental impact and enhance the overall ecological integrity of the Framework Plan lands, in line with the requirements of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029.
Screen for and undertake SEA and AA as relevant for plans and projects arising from Development	Number of new plans subject to SEA and / or AA	The Flemington Local Area Plan (LAP) 2024, Donabate Framework Plan 2024, Draft Stephenstown and Folkstown Little Framework Plan and Draft Clonsilla Framework Plan 2025 were all screened for both Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA). The Strategic Environmental Assessment was undertaken in accordance with the Planning and Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004 & 2011 and Appropriate Assessment was undertaken in accordance with Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive European Union Directive 92/43/EEC, and <i>European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (as amended)</i>¹ (the “Birds and Natural Habitats Regulations”) and the <i>Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended)</i> (the “Planning Acts”). The screenings concluded that both SEA and a Stage 2 AA were not required. SEA & AA screening determinations for all three Plans have been prepared and published on the FCC website.
Complete and implement Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan 2018-2023	Performance on achieving actions in adopted Biodiversity Action Plan	Ongoing. The Fingal Biodiversity Plan 2023-2029 was adopted in 2023 and contains 100 actions of which 60 are prioritised for implementation between 2023 and 2027. A Biodiversity Team was established in the Parks and Green Infrastructure Division which currently comprises 6 no. staff responsible for the coordination of the implementation of the prioritised actions. Examples of actions ongoing include, 26, 29, 30, 31, 35, 38, 39, 42, 52 and 57.
Develop and Implement Green Infrastructure Strategy / Roll out of Ecosystem Services	Progress on: - No. of projects commenced - SuDS projects/ retrofitting	The Fingal Biodiversity Plan 2023-2029 contains 100 actions of which 60 are prioritised for implementation between 2023 and 2027. A Biodiversity Team was established in the Parks and Green Infrastructure Division which currently comprises 6 no. staff responsible for the coordination of the implementation of the prioritised actions. Examples of actions ongoing include, 26, 29, 30, 31, 35, 38, 39, 42, 52 and 57. Projects of Biodiversity Actions ongoing include: • Weir removal and fish pass construction in the Ward River to improve fish migration.

¹ SI No. 477 of 2011, SI No. 293 of 2021

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
approach for the County	- River restoration - other flagship projects	• Wildfire Management including goat grazing on Howth. • Wetland Restoration in St Ita's Donabate/Portrane. • Wetland Restoration and Rewilding in Turvey Nature Park. • Little Tern Bird Conservation Project at Portane Beach in conjunction with Birdwatch Ireland. • Completion of rare Irish Farm breeds collection in Newbridge Farm. Ongoing projects of the Parks and Green Infrastructure Division include the continued development of Bremore Regional Park in Balbriggan and the enhancement of the Regional Parks at Malahide, Newbridge and Ardgillan Demesnes and Shackleton Mills in Dublin 15 as well as the delivery of Recreational Sports Hubs across Fingal. Works continue across Council Departments to support and facilitate strategic green infrastructure corridors in Fingal. These include the Fingal Coastal Way, the Broadmeadow Greenway, The Royal Canal Urban Greenway, Ward River Valley and Broadmeadow River Valley, providing continuous green links along the coast, canals and between regional parks. Fingal County Council continues to actively encourage and promote the use of green solutions such as swales, tree pits, green roofs, downpipe planters, ponds and wetlands for drainage, which minimise negative environmental impacts resulting from development. The local authority has been proactive in this regard and has published a SuDS guidance document in parallel with the preparation of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029. Water Services Division is currently working on a new guideline for Green/ Blue Roofs in new Developments. SuDS measures are required to be incorporated into all new development either directly or through conditions. In 2024, Fingal County Council published a '<i>A Household Guide to Sustainable Drainage (SuDS) towards managing rainfall more naturally in Fingal</i>', which provides easy to use guidance to integrate SuDS features into homes to catch rainwater and allowing the occupants to play an active part in making Fingal more climate resilient. River restoration and removal of fish migration barriers are priority actions in the Fingal Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030. The River restoration project on the Ward River, Balheary Swords is currently ongoing.

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
Managing Invasive Species in the County	Implementing/ Achieving actions/ targets of the Invasive Species Plan	Action 26 of the Fingal Biodiversity Plan 2023-2030 addresses this objective. Control programmes are ongoing for Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed, Himalayan Balsam, Cherry Laurel, Snowberry, Rhododendron, Sea Buckthorn and Mink.
2. Population and Human Health (PHH)		
Improving the Attractiveness / Viability of and pedestrian activity in major town centres	Pedestrian Footfall Counts in major town centres	Fingal County Council has also commenced works on a trial ‘Quiet Streets Initiative’ aimed at enhancing community living and promoting active travel. The initiative will identify three separate locations where filtered permeability measures will be implemented. This trial is designed to reduce vehicular traffic on residential streets, creating safer and more accessible spaces for walking, cycling, and other active travel modes. By reclaiming road space for the community, the scheme seeks to foster a stronger sense of neighbourhood and improve the overall quality of life for residents The Council’s Environment, Climate Action Active Travel and Sports Department, in partnership with the NTA continues, to facilitate the planning, design and delivery of active travel projects throughout Fingal, including, retrofitting measures to improve connectivity and permeability in existing towns and villages. This also includes the Safe Routes to Schools Programme. Baseline analysis incorporates pedestrian and cycle movements where appropriate. Consultants have been engaged to develop Active Travel Plans for Balrothery and Skerries. The aim of these plans is to identify improvements which can be made in towns and villages creating safer and more accessible spaces for walking, cycling, and other active travel modes. The Capital Programme for 2025-2027 allocates significant funding of c. €82m to this Department to advance active travel infrastructure.

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets																								
Deliver / Sustain Economic Growth and Development	Population, labour force participation and unemployment data	<u>Population</u> The preliminary population census was last published by Central Statistics Office (CSO) in 2022 with final data published in September 2023. Fingal County Council’s population in 2022 was recorded as 330,506, which was an increase of 11.6% from the 2016 census that recorded the population at 296,020. <u>Labour Force Participation & Unemployment</u> In 2022, FCC recorded 155,063 people at work, which was a 15.7% increase from the 133,971 people recorded at work in 2016. FCC recorded 10,751 unemployed people (both long-term & short-term) in 2022 which was a decrease of 20.7% from the 2016 census which recorded 13,565 unemployed individuals. The labour force survey (Q3 2024) recorded 876,200 individuals in labour force (aged 15 years and over) for the entire Dublin region which was an increase of 4.3% from the 840,400 individuals recorded in (Q4 2023). The unemployed persons (aged 15 years and over) recorded in Q3 2024 were 42,800 which was an increase of 7.8% from the Q4 2023 data which recorded 39,700 individuals.																								
Healthy Placemaking	Increase in the proportion of people reporting regular cycling / walking to school and work above 2016 CSO figures	The table below represents the number of people in County Fingal who reported regular cycling / walking to school and work under the 2016 and 2022 census. The data represents an increase in individuals using active travel. <table><tr><th>Mode of Travel</th><th>Travelling to Work (2016)</th><th>Travelling to School/ College (2016)</th><th>Total 2016 Census</th><th>Travelling to Work (2022)</th><th>Travelling to School/ College (2022)</th><th>Total 2022 Census</th><th>Total Increase</th></tr><tr><td>On foot</td><td>7,087</td><td>23,536</td><td>30, 623</td><td>7,282</td><td>29,714</td><td>36, 997</td><td>+20.8%</td></tr><tr><td>Bicycle</td><td>3,351</td><td>2,253</td><td>5,604</td><td>3,614</td><td>4,072</td><td>7, 686</td><td>+37.2%</td></tr></table>	Mode of Travel	Travelling to Work (2016)	Travelling to School/ College (2016)	Total 2016 Census	Travelling to Work (2022)	Travelling to School/ College (2022)	Total 2022 Census	Total Increase	On foot	7,087	23,536	30, 623	7,282	29,714	36, 997	+20.8%	Bicycle	3,351	2,253	5,604	3,614	4,072	7, 686	+37.2%
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	Land use plans to include specific	<u>Flemington Local Area Plan (LAP) 2024</u>																								

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
	reference / measures in relation to human health (e.g. measures for reduction in fossil fuel use in homes and transport, improve access to and provision of sports and recreation and amenity facilities, etc.)	The Flemington LAP focuses on developing the lands in a manner that promotes long term sustainability, minimises carbon emissions, promotes sustainable use of water and water conservation and good quality amenity spaces. The development plan aligns with the Fingal County Council Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 and also the national Climate Action Plan 2024. The Plan supports an active travel spine that runs through the centre of the character area to ensure connectivity. The Plan proposes a hierarchy of open space and recreational areas that will be multi-functional for the purposes of socialising, congregational space, formal and informal play, landscaping, movement, sustainable urban drainage etc. <u>Donabate Framework Plan 2024</u> The Donabate Framework Plan provides for a high-quality public realm strategy to design spaces for people, promote environmental sustainability and enable connectivity, accessibility and movement. The Plan seeks to make a contribution to improving connectivity within and through the Village and will support future initiatives to address the issue in the wider Donabate/Portrane area. <u>Draft Clonsilla Framework Plan 2025</u> The Plan provides an overall approach that responds to the linear nature of Clonsilla and the challenges this presents in terms of the delivery of a coherent and legible public realm. The Public Realm Strategy within the Plan aims to guide the enhancement, development and management of the public realm in Clonsilla, improving legibility, character and identity and delivering an integrated and permeable Clonsilla through linkages. The strategy also considers how public realm improvements can support other initiatives such as improving human health and wellbeing and promoting biodiversity, specifically in the context of the key projects set out in the Plan. <u>Draft Stephenstown and Folkstown Little Framework Plan</u> The Framework Plan promotes active travel, pedestrian connectivity, accessibility and ease of movement, to, from and through the Plan lands, coupled with a clear hierarchy of routes facilitating employment generating industry operations, in a safe and secure manner. The Plan promotes upgrade of existing roads, junctions, and connections, to align with sustainable movement principles, while setting out how active travel measures can be integrated with the existing infrastructure where feasible, meeting national, regional and local policy objectives.

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets																																																															
	HIQA Health Data	The CSO publishes an annual Irish Health Survey (every 4 years) with the last being in 2019. The survey provides (self-reported) data and insights on various aspects of health in Ireland / Dublin. There has been no update to this data since the adoption of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029. Health In Ireland Key Trends 2023 were published by Department of Health in February 2024. This is a national report reporting key trends throughout the entire state. Ireland has the highest self-perceived health status in the EU, with 80.0% of people rating their health as good or very good.																																																															
Growth of Population in Areas Targeted for Growth & Development (Core Strategy)	Population growth data for county EDs	The table below provides population change data for electoral divisions (EDs) based on the 2016 and 2022 census data. <table><tr><th>Electoral Division (ED)</th><th>2016 Census</th><th>2022 Census</th><th colspan="2">Population change between 2016 and 2022</th></tr><tr><td>Balbriggan Rural</td><td>16,495</td><td>19,347</td><td colspan="2">2852</td></tr><tr><td>Balbriggan Urban</td><td>8,116</td><td>8,102</td><td colspan="2">-14</td></tr><tr><td>Balscadden</td><td>707</td><td>743</td><td colspan="2">36</td></tr><tr><td>Hollywood (Dublin)</td><td>1,397</td><td>1,476</td><td colspan="2">79</td></tr><tr><td>Garristown</td><td>1,628</td><td>1,801</td><td colspan="2">173</td></tr><tr><td>Skerries</td><td>8,501</td><td>8,880</td><td colspan="2">379</td></tr><tr><td>Holmpatrick</td><td>3,458</td><td>4,147</td><td colspan="2">689</td></tr><tr><td>Lusk</td><td>9,623</td><td>10,774</td><td colspan="2">1151</td></tr><tr><td>Rush</td><td>9,921</td><td>11,116</td><td colspan="2">1195</td></tr><tr><td>Ballyboghil</td><td>1,162</td><td>1,629</td><td colspan="2">467</td></tr><tr><td>Clonmethan</td><td>837</td><td>933</td><td colspan="2">96</td></tr></table>				Electoral Division (ED)	2016 Census	2022 Census	Population change between 2016 and 2022		Balbriggan Rural	16,495	19,347	2852		Balbriggan Urban	8,116	8,102	-14		Balscadden	707	743	36		Hollywood (Dublin)	1,397	1,476	79		Garristown	1,628	1,801	173		Skerries	8,501	8,880	379		Holmpatrick	3,458	4,147	689		Lusk	9,623	10,774	1151		Rush	9,921	11,116	1195		Ballyboghil	1,162	1,629	467		Clonmethan	837	933	96	
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Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets			
		Kilsallaghan	2,263	2,406	143
		Dubber	7,372	8,931	1559
		The Ward	9,602	13,289	3687
		Blanchardstown- Tyrrelstown	3,257	3,343	86
		Blanchardstown- Mulhuddart	4,123	4,219	96
		Blanchardstown- Corduff	3,871	3,689	-182
		Blanchardstown- Abbotstown	6,195	6,551	356
		Blanchardstown- Blakestown	38,894	43,905	5011
		Blanchardstown- Coolmine	11,320	11,271	-49
		Blanchardstown- Roselawn	1,688	1,647	-41
		Blanchardstown- Delwood	5,153	5,144	-9
		Castleknock-Park	5,329	6,355	1026
		Castleknock-Knockmaroon	19,027	20,967	1940
		Lucan North	1,436	1,765	329
		Airport	5,018	6,152	1134
		Turnapin	1,700	1,730	30
		Balgriffin	3,113	5,544	2431
		Kinsaley	9,621	11,470	1849
		Baldoyle	7,524	8,096	572

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets			
		Sutton	5,680	5,789	109
		Howth	8,294	8,399	105
		Portmarnock South	3,621	4,729	1108
		Portmarnock North	4,109	4,048	-61
		Malahide East	7,429	8,406	977
		Malahide West	6,149	6,014	-135
		Swords Seatown	7,003	7,465	462
		Swords Village	2,674	2,786	112
		Swords Forrest	15,153	15,926	773
		Swords Glasmore	7,711	7,674	-37
		Swords Lissenhall	10,447	12,065	1618
		Donabate	9,399	11,783	2384
3. Soils & Geology (SF)					
To achieve 50% growth in built-up area	Increase proportion of development of brownfield county/ suburban lands	Of the 294 granted residential planning applications recorded in the planning applications database referred to in Chapter 2 of this Two-Year Progress report, 227 (77.2%) were for development in Built Urban Areas (BUA) as defined by the CSO.			
Dispose of contaminated material in compliance with EPA	No. of incidences of non-compliant contamination breaches	Ongoing monitoring.			

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
guidance and waste management requirements		
Proactively manage and prevent soil sealing / permeability	No. of SuDS retrofitting projects / initiatives Introduction of SuDS in new development areas.	Fingal County Council continues to actively encourage and promote the use of green solutions such as swales, tree pits, green roofs, downpipe planters, ponds and wetlands for drainage, which minimise negative environmental impacts resulting from development. The local authority has been proactive in this regard and has published a SuDS guidance document in parallel with the preparation of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029. Water Services Division is currently working on a new guideline for Green/ Blue Roofs in new Developments. SuDS measures are required to be incorporated into all new development either directly or through conditions. In 2024, Fingal County Council published a '<i>A Household Guide to Sustainable Drainage (SuDS) towards managing rainfall more naturally in Fingal</i>', which provides easy to use guidance to integrate SuDS features into homes to catch rainwater and allowing the occupants to play an active part in making Fingal more climate resilient.
4. Water Quality and Flooding (WQ&F)		
Maintain / improve the status of surface water bodies in accordance with WFD requirements	Change of status of water bodies Findings of reporting on the monitoring programme for the WFD	The Water Framework Directive commits member states to preventing deterioration and achieving at least good status in rivers, lakes, estuaries, coastal and ground waters by 2027 and to ensure the long-term sustainable use of water. EPA last published the WFD waterbody monitoring data for 2016-2021 and there has been no update to this data. As of February 2025, there has been no change of status of waterbodies within the administrative boundary of Fingal County Council since what was reported as part of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029. Ongoing monitoring.

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
	Implementation of the objectives of the second cycle of the River Basin Management Plan by 2021 (and objectives as relevant)	Fingal County Council has adopted a Catchment Based Approach in implementing all objectives as set out in the EU Water framework Directive and associated River Basin Management Plans. Development is approved only where such developments pose no pressure to the water quality objectives as set out in the relevant River Basin Management Plans. With regard to flood risk management, Fingal will continue to work in close partnership with the OPW on implementing the remaining projects under both FEMFRAMS and CFRAMS as well as minor non-catchment based projects.
	Water quality monitoring to enable WFD water body status classification	Ongoing monitoring.
	Completion of river catchment projects	Ongoing monitoring.
	Reduction in wastewater emissions per person per annum	Ongoing monitoring.
	Changes in water quality before and after implementation of river catchment projects	Ongoing monitoring.

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
To Manage Fingal's Flood Risk through Provision and Upgrading of Flood Alleviation Assets	Progress on implementation of listed flood projects	The Coastal Flood Risk Erosion Management Plan (CFERM) has been prepared for the Burrow Portrane which is currently the most vulnerable section of coastline in Fingal. An application for a Maritime Area Consent (MAC) was made during Summer 2024 and a response is awaited from the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA). If this MAC is approved, an application for planning permission for the scheme will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála. The recently published "Report of the Inter-Departmental Group on National Coastal Change" outlines recommendations for the management of coastal change over the short, medium, and longer term. It is the Council's understanding that the government intends developing national policy/legislation on coastal change based on these recommendations. The Council will be better placed to respond to these matters in the context of evolving national policy.
Minimise/ manage developments in areas at risk of flooding	Planning application compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan SFRA	As part of the preparation of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029, the county has been subject to Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) (refer to the standalone document). Chapter 5 (Climate Action) and Chapter 11 (Infrastructure and Utilities) of Volume 1, of the Written Statement of the CDP, outlines policies and objectives relating to flood management. Planning applications submitted to the Council demonstrate a high level of compliance with the requirements of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA). The Flood Defence Project Team / Drainage Division continue to apply the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment in the Development Plan as well as changes in flooding policies and new river corridors policies to all proposed new developments in the county, including assessing all proposed new developments for flood risk. When required, flood management conditions are attached to a grant of planning permission to ensure compliance with the SFRA or development plan flood management policy.
	Preparation of SWMPs	Chapter 11 (Infrastructure and Utilities) sets out the requirement for the preparation of a Surface Water Management Plan as part of new development proposals (Objective IUO15). <i>Objective IUO15 – Surface Water Management Plan</i> <i>Require the preparation of a Surface Water Management Plan as part of all new developments which shall include the following:</i> - <i>Identify and assess the existing surface water movements through the development before considering and developing a surface water management system using SuDS, having regard to our Fingal Guidance Document – Green/ Blue Infrastructure for Development, as amended (Appendix 11).</i>

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
		- <i>Incorporate SuDS along the route of the water movement to enhance the water quality effects of nature-based systems at the different stages – Treatment Train approach from source to discharge.</i> The Council's Drainage Division has indicated that, in response to this policy, site specific Surface Water Management Plans are being prepared by applicants and are being submitted with planning applications in accordance with the requirements set out in Appendix 11 of the Development Plan (FCC SUDS Guidance Document – Green/Blue Infrastructure for Development).
	Number of incidences of flooding of existing and new development	Ongoing monitoring.
5. Air Quality (AQ) and Climate (CC)		
Improvement in Air Quality	Preparation of the Air Quality Management Plan for Dublin Agglomeration (2021+)	Fingal County Council has a legal requirement to monitor pollutants in accordance with the provisions of the Air Quality Standards Regulations 2011 (CAFÉ Directive). The Regulations outline the requirements for monitoring specified pollutants, and the target values for each pollutant. For the purposes of air quality assessment and management in Ireland, the country is divided into a number of zones, one of which is Agglomeration A - the Dublin Conurbation. This consists of the functional areas of Dublin City Council, South Dublin County Council, Dun Laoghaire – Rathdown County Council and most of Fingal County Council. In 2019 there was breach of the nitrogen dioxide/NO₂ limit (of an annual mean of 40 micrograms per meter cubed not to be exceeded) at the Saint John's Roads West site, Dublin 8. The level recorded was 43 ug/m³. This necessitated writing the Air Quality Management Plan by the four Dublin authorities. The plan has been completed and has been submitted to the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications and EU Commission. Annual progress reports are provided to the EPA. The Air Quality Management Plan is available on the Fingal County Council's website at the following link: https://www.fingal.ie/council/service/air-quality-monitoring

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets															
	Number of applications referred to Air Quality Monitoring and Noise Control Unit re: compliance with noise/ air quality policy	Ongoing monitoring.															
	Proportion of journeys made by private fossil fuel-based car compared to 2016 National Travel Survey levels.	Ongoing monitoring.															
	Changes in NOx, SOx, PM10 and PM2.5 as part of Ambient Air Quality Monitoring	Air quality monitoring in Ireland is managed by the Environmental Protection Agency under the Ambient Air Monitoring Programme. There are 3 ambient air monitoring stations in Fingal. These are located in Blanchardstown, Swords and Dublin Airport. Real time air quality results are available at the link below: https://www.fingal.ie/council/service/air-quality-monitoring <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">Blanchardstown</th></tr> <tr> <th>Air Quality Parameter</th><th>2024</th><th>2023</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>NOx</td><td>30.92 µg/m³</td><td>25.5 µg/m³</td></tr> <tr> <td>PM₁₀</td><td>15.74 µg/m³</td><td>13.33 µg/m³</td></tr> <tr> <td>PM_{2.5}</td><td>10.19 µg/m³</td><td>7.13 µg/m³</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Blanchardstown			Air Quality Parameter	2024	2023	NOx	30.92 µg/m ³	25.5 µg/m ³	PM ₁₀	15.74 µg/m ³	13.33 µg/m ³	PM _{2.5}	10.19 µg/m ³	7.13 µg/m ³
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Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets			
		Swords			
		Air Quality Parameter	2024	2023	
		NO ₂	9.68 µg/m ³	10.5 µg/m ³	
		PM ₁₀	10.27 µg/m ³	-	
		PM _{2.5}	6.35 µg/m ³	-	
		Dublin Airport			
		Air Quality Parameter	2024	2023	
		NO ₂	18.8 µg/m ³	20.24 µg/m ³	
		SO ₂	1.24 µg/m ³	5.17 µg/m ³	
		PM ₁₀	11.8 µg/m ³	11.80 µg/m ³	
		PM _{2.5}	12.46 µg/m ³	6.02 µg/m ³	
		Limit values of CAFE Directive 2008/50/EC			
		Pollutant	Limit Value Objective	Averaging Period	Limit Value µg/m ³
		NO ₂	Protection of human health	Calendar Year	40
		SO ₂	Protection of vegetation	Calendar Year	20
		PM ₁₀	Protection of human health	Calendar Year	40
		PM _{2.5} – Stage 1	Protection of human health	Calendar Year	25
		PM _{2.5} – Stage 2	Protection of human health	Calendar Year	20

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
		As shown in tables above the annual concentrations of pollutants recorded within the Fingal are within the limit values of CAFE Directive 2008/50/EC. Monitoring results are forwarded to the EPA and then reported nationally to the EU. The levels of pollutants are monitored to determine improvement in air quality in Dublin. In addition to monitoring, the EPA operates an Air Quality Index for Health (AQIH). This index is a scale which from runs from 1 to 10 and tells you what the air quality currently is like at the station nearest you and whether or not this might affect your health. A reading of one to three inclusive means that the air quality is good, and a reading of 10 means the air quality is very poor. Dublin's air quality status is currently classed as generally 'good'.
Maintain/ Improve Acoustic Quality in the County	Preparation of Noise Maps in compliance with the EU Environmental Noise Directive (2021+)	The Environmental Noise Directive (END) and the European Communities (Environmental Noise) Regulations 2018 to 2021 require the preparation of Strategic Noise Maps and Noise Action Plans every 5 years. Noise Maps relate to noise emitted by road traffic, rail traffic, air traffic and sites of industrial activity. A strategic noise map is a graphical representation of the predicted situation with regards to noise in a particular area and from particular noise sources, with different colours representing different noise levels in decibels [dB(A)]. The strategic noise maps are generated using noise modelling, which are the product of assimilating a collection of digital datasets. Strategic noise maps have been prepared for Round 4 (2022), representing the annual average situation during 2021. These maps are available on EPA's web viewer- https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/ The Noise Action Plans must include actions and measures to address priorities which may be identified by the exceedance of relevant noise limits set by the Environment Protection Agency (EPA). The Strategic Noise Maps for Dublin were published in March 2023 and the Dublin Agglomeration Noise Action Plan 2024-2028 was published in July 2024. These can be viewed at the following link: https://www.dublincity.ie/sites/default/files/2024-08/13354a-20-r014-04-f08-dublin-agglomerationnoise-action-plan_compressed.pdf
	Number of applications referred to Air Quality Monitoring and	Ongoing as and when required.

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
	Noise Control Unit re: compliance with noise/ air quality policy	
Compliance with CO ₂ emission reduction targets	Number of applications submitted with Climate Action Energy Statements	Ongoing – Monitoring is being undertaken as part of the planning application monitoring database referred to in Chapter 2 of the two year baseline report.
	Number of applications for District Heating Enabled Development	Ongoing – monitoring is being undertaken as part of the planning application monitoring database referred to in Chapter 2 of the two year baseline report.
	Number of Decarbonisation Zones established	Fingal Co. Co.is actively liaising with various stakeholders on renewable energy projects ranging from wind, solar, hydrogen to district heating. Fingal Co. Co is taking a sustainable development approach to its industrial landbank in Balbriggan through the Urbact EcoCore Project and aligning with the designation of Balbriggan as a Decarbonising Zone. Fingal Co. Co is co-ordinating reporting under the Council’s commitments under the Circular Cities Declaration and is actively engaging with businesses to promote the circular economy. Fingal Co. Co is supporting the growth of the ‘green economy’ and promoting the incorporation of green skills into education/training programmes via the Fingal Skills Strategy. Fingal Co. Co is working in partnership with key stakeholders regarding EV charging infrastructure in the county and to promote infrastructure for the circular economy.

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
	Number of EV charging points installed	Ongoing. Fingal Co. Co is working in partnership with key stakeholders regarding EV charging infrastructure in the county and to promote infrastructure for the circular economy.
Implement FCC Climate Action Plan	Positive process on specified actions	Fingal County Council has prioritised the implementation of the Climate Action Plan with the creation of the Environment, Climate Action and Active Travel Department which has responsibility for mobility planning and the delivery of the NTA's Cycle Network within the County
6. Cultural Heritage (CH)		
Protecting Built Heritage	Number of additions / deletions / amendments to RPS	The Record of Protected Structure and Recorded Monuments has not had any additions or deletions since the adoption of the Development Plan. It is intended that this list will be reviewed within the lifetime of the Development Plan.
	No. ACA's adopted	The list of ACAs has not had any additions or deletions since the adoption of the Development Plan. It is intended that this list will be reviewed within the lifetime of the Development Plan.
	No's of Buildings at Risk files opened / closed	Ongoing – the identification of buildings at risk is carried out on an ongoing basis.
Protection/ Promotion of Culture	Implementation of Fingal's Culture and Creativity Strategy / public engagement	Ongoing – please refer to https://www.fingal.ie/fingals-culture-and-creativity-strategy-2023-2027
7. Landscape & Visual (LV)		
Improvement in the public realm and	Number of public realm improvement projects	Progressing as part of LAPs, Masterplans and Framework Plans and as part of Council schemes progressed under the Planning Act and via An Bord Pleanála consent process. Some examples are as below:

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
visual quality of the county.		- Fingal are continuing to engage with consultants to progress the design for the Public Realm Upgrades to a Pedestrianised New Street, Malahide. - Detailed design works for the public realm element of the Swords Cultural Quarter (SCQ) is progressing. - Active Travel Plans are currently being prepared for Skerries and Balrothery, with a significant emphasis on improvements to the public realm. - Main Street North, Hansfield SDZ : neighbourhood centre, with inter alia, convenience supermarket, community and new public realm spaces The local authority has also been working in collaboration with key stakeholders in the Dublin Enterprise Zone (DEZ) to identify and progress public realm enhancement works and has engaged with various stakeholders seeking to invest in the DEZ and develop new business opportunities. Fingal liaises closely with IDA in respect of potential development opportunities and ongoing management of College Business & Technology Park.
	New Tree Planting, including Street tree planting	Ongoing – please refer to ‘Forest of Fingal’ A Tree Strategy for Fingal (https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2022-03/forest-of-fingal_-_a-tree-strategy-for-fingal_2022-2032.pdf)
Protection of County’s Landscapes	Park / Open Space Enhancement Projects	Fingal continues development of Bremore Regional Park in Balbriggan and the enhancement of the Regional Parks at Malahide Newbridge and Ardgillan Demesnes and Shackleton Mills in Dublin 15, as well as the delivery of numerous Recreational Sports Hubs. 2023 saw the opening of Rathmore Park in Lusk. The 7.5 Hectare (20 Acre) Town Park is located on the Rathmore Road and within walking and cycling reach of the centre of Lusk and close to residential areas and local schools making it very accessible to the local community. The Council applied to An Bord Pleanála in 2024 for a new Recreational Sports Hub at Rathmore Park and permission was granted for this development in December 2024. Fingal County Council currently maintains 71no. playgrounds and 3 no. mini play areas across the County. There are ongoing projects to further expand playgrounds in the form of Part 8 developments such as in Portrane, Hazelbury Park and Hartstown Park, (with expected completion target dates of Q2/3 2025).

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
		Many of Fingal’s open spaces provide areas for fitness equipment, calisthenics and MUGAs scattered across the county. Outdoor recreational space is also provided in the form of Agility Trails, Skate Parks, Parkour areas and for sports such as Chess, Table Tennis and TEQ Ball amongst others. In addition to the assets listed above Fingal County Council also currently maintains: • 180 no. Public Sports Pitches allocated to Fingal Sports Clubs on an annual basis within Fingal public open spaces. • Publicly accessible Boules Courts in 6no. locations (Malahide Demesne, Newbridge Demesne, Santry Demesne, Skerries Town Park, Bayside & Kenure Woods Rush) • Publicly accessible Tennis Courts in 8no. locations (Swords, Lusk, Balrothery, Holywell, Malahide, Skerries, Howth St Catherines Park)
	Historic Landscape Enhancement Restoration Projects (e.g. historic squares)	The progress made in protecting, enhancing and promoting the Archaeological and Heritage Landscapes of the County is reinforced by the ongoing work carried out by the Council’s Heritage Officer. Examples include the publication of the Fingal Heritage Plan 2024-2030, excavations at Drumanagh Promontory Fort, exhibitions, a series of seminars and public events as well as input of archaeological expertise into land-use plans and cross-department Council projects and the Development Management process. Progress undertaken on heritage restoration projects includes as below: Malahide Castle – The significant item in the costs for the Capital Programme relates to structural works to the roof, and conservation works to the windows. There is an upgrade of the boiler room in the Visitors Centre ongoing. On completion of these projects energy costs and carbon emissions will reduce for both buildings over time. Bremore Castle – The development of Bremore Castle is nearing completion with park spaces being landscaped and the ground floor open to the public. The next phase will see the appointment of an Integrated Design Team to progress the internal and accessibility works needed to cover fire safety, accessibility - in particular compliance with Part M Building Regulations. Ardgillan Castle – A sum of €518k has been included in the 2025-2027 Capital Programme for continuing conservation works at the castle including, in sequence, publication of the conservation plan, works on internal rooms and outbuildings.

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
		Skerries Mills & Red Barn – With enabling works started at the end of 2023, the redevelopment of the Red Barn will be completed in 2025 enhancing the offering at Skerries Mills and providing revenue generating opportunity. Skerries Martello Tower – A design team has been appointed to deliver on the brief of a multi-functional space. The majority of works will be complete in 2025 and €1.2 million is allowed for this in the capital programme. Guinness Bridge – The conservation works required to secure the Guinness Bridge were completed in 2024. Future phases of work will require feasibility studies to assess how and whether the bridge can be developed as an asset. This work is being undertaken in collaboration with South Dublin County Council. Swords Castle –Conservation plan works continue bringing some accessibility to the Knights and Squires Quarters, for which €434k has been allowed for in the Capital Programme. The project to date has been part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund, Urban Centre Development Scheme. October 20024 saw the commencement of Swords Cultural Quarter (SCQ) with the centre scheduled to open in 2027. Shackleton Mills – A sum of €270k has been included in the 2025-2027 Capital Programme for conservation and stabilisation of the main building, including repairs and renovations to roof and windows. Howth Martello Tower – An estimated cost of €70k has been included over the life of the programme to cover costs associated with essential repairs to the Martello Tower. An engineering assessment of the structure is required as a first step. Malahide Demesne Properties – A sum of €575k has been included in the 2025-2027 Capital Programme for gradually upgrading and restoring the various properties, with a priority for uses that will support the tourism and amenity use of the Demesne. Newbridge House & Farm – The redevelopment of Newbridge House & Farm will continue during 2025- 2027. With the roof works complete in 2023 attention will turn to upgrading of mechanical and electrical services to the house and development of the courtyard buildings.

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
8. Material Assets (MA)		
Protect and Provide for our Critical Infrastructure	No. of critical infrastructure projects	The roll out of wastewater infrastructure within Fingal is a matter for Uisce Eireann. The Local Authority will continue to work with all state agencies, including Uisce Eireann, in the delivery of necessary civil infrastructure improvements.
	No. of incidences of loss / poor service / impact on assets (potable water, wastewater management, flooding monitoring)	The roll out of wastewater infrastructure within Fingal is a matter for Uisce Eireann. The Local Authority will continue to work with all state agencies, including Uisce Eireann, in the delivery of necessary civil infrastructure improvements
Increase in provision of public reuse and recycling facilities	Pilot Projects – composting / waste management	A key component of Fingal's waste management policy is the development and delivery of a comprehensive education and awareness campaign and Fingal County Council now employs an Environmental Educational Officer to promote Environmental Awareness Programmes within the County. The Council continues to promote home composting through awareness programmes. For example, Fingal funds the Composting for Schools Programme, offering schools hands-on support to enhance sustainability. The programme includes online workshops, a site visit for tailored planning, and assistance with implementation. Schools receive a €250 voucher for bins, tools, and supplies for composting, recycling, gardening, or biodiversity projects. An Taisce, in co-operation with the Local Authorities, run the national Green Schools 9-flag program. There are 145 no. schools in Fingal registered as active in the An Taisce Green Schools Program. Fingal County Council assists schools by providing information and support. Another programme run by the Council includes 'Picker Pals', an initiative whereby primary schools 1st- 2nd classes can sign up to receive a take-home pack, which is sponsored by Fingal County Council. There are 87no. classrooms across Fingal on the Picker Pals Programme. These classrooms in Fingal will join over 1,100 classrooms across the country who will all be working together to make the world better doing their bit to clean up litter in their local areas.

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets
		Fingal will continue to promote more sustainable and localised approaches to litter and waste management and continues to manage a network of bring centres together with civic amenity sites and bottle banks for the recycling of a range of household and commercial waste streams outside of current private kerbside collection systems. There are currently 59no. bring bank locations in the Fingal area, making it easy for you to recycle, no matter where you live.
	Percentage increase in number of registered FCC facilities	Ongoing monitoring of percentage increase.
Reduce pressure on waste-water system in the county	FCC SuDS projects	Ongoing monitoring of progress.
	Enhancement projects (e.g. addressing combined sewers)	Ongoing monitoring of progress.
	Drainage Action Plans	Ongoing monitoring of progress.
Sustainable Transport	Modal shifts to more sustainable modes	FCC continues to integrate land use and transportation to achieve sustainable development through the progression of a number of Local Area Plans, Framework Plans and Masterplans in line with national and regional policy objectives, including those of the National Transport Authority's (NTA) Transport Strategy for the Greater Dublin Area 2022-2042. Current land use policy has developed in anticipation of planned strategic public transport investments which will directly benefit Fingal such as MetroLink, BusConnects, LUAS expansion and the DART+ programme. FCC continues to progress the delivery of walking and cycling infrastructure in collaboration with the NTA. FCC endeavours to meet the NTA's GDA Transport Strategy mode share targets through the Development Management Process and in particular, within significant developments. Active Travel Plans are currently being prepared for Skerries and Balrothery, with a significant emphasis on improvements to the public realm. Public consultations have taken place in this regard with submissions now being considered for inclusion as part of these plans.

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets			
		Fingal County Council has commenced works on a trial Quiet Streets Initiative aimed at enhancing community living and promoting active travel. The initiative will identify 3 separate locations across the county where filtered permeability measures will be implemented. This trial is designed to reduce vehicular traffic on residential streets, creating safer and more accessible spaces for walking, cycling, and other active travel modes. By reclaiming road space for the community, the scheme seeks to foster a stronger sense of neighbourhood and improve the overall quality of life for residents. Safe Routes to School Round 1 - works are complete at 9 no. schools throughout Fingal as part of Round 1 of this programme. Measures include new dropped kerbs and tactile paving outside the school entrance gate and at crossing points on route to the school. Other measures include new road markings, road signs, traffic calming measures, surface colour variations, new crossing points, junction tightening, installation of pencil bollards, and landscaping. Safe Routes to School Round 2 – Engagement with schools has taken place and delivery plans have been prepared by An Taisce. Design is now underway for 5 no. schools as part of Round 2 of the programme. Outside of the official SRTS programme, schools in the vicinity of individual active travel projects have had similar treatments with another 7no. delivered by Q1 2025. Schools in the vicinity of future active travel projects			
	New public transport infrastructure	The expansion of rail and bus usage and availability is a key feature in many objectives of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029. The local authority continues to engage and collaborate with the key transport providers including the TII, the NTA and Irish Rail to advance strategic public transport projects in line with the NTA's GDA Transport Strategy 2022-2042. Since the adoption of the Development Plan, significant progress has been made on a number of the strategic public transport projects that will benefit Fingal. The local authority continues to engage with these projects through the various planning, design and construction stages. <table><tr><th>Project</th><th>Status</th></tr><tr><td>MetroLink</td><td>At Public consultation Stage on information submitted during the MetroLink Oral Hearing. Fingal continues to engage with the process. A submission was made to the most recent stage of the process</td></tr></table>	Project	Status	MetroLink
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Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets	
		LUAS Finglas	At Public consultation Stage of Railway Order Application by TII. Fingal continues to engage with the process. A submission was made to ABP for the most recent stage of the process.
		DART + Coastal North	Railway Order with An Bord Pleanála for consideration. FCC continues to engage with the process. A submission was made to the most recent stage of the Public Consultation process.
		Dart + West	Permitted by An Bord Pleanála with conditions. Depot element near Maynooth not granted. Fingal engaged at all stages of the process and will continue to engage through detailed design and construction phases. Construction expected in 2027-2030
		BusConnects	Finglas/ Ballymun, Clongriffin, Swords, and Blanchardstown schemes granted planning with conditions by ABP in 2024. Finglas / Ballymun and Clongriffin advanced to design and built stage contract in Q3/Q4 2024.
	Cycle infrastructure	Ongoing – A further 82no. bicycle parking stands were installed across Fingal in 2024 with space for 164 no. bikes. 30 no. Toast Racks and 34no. Scooter Racks were delivered to schools, clubs and community centres in 2024. For details of greenways / high quality cycling and walking routes please refer to Table 6-1 in Chapter 6 of the Two Year Progress report.	
Increase provision of parks and green links	New parks / upgraded parks	Fingal continues development of Bremore Regional Park in Balbriggan and the enhancement of the Regional Parks at Malahide Newbridge and Ardgillan Demesnes and Shackleton Mills in Dublin 15, as well as the delivery of numerous Recreational Sports Hubs. 2023 saw the opening of Rathmore Park in Lusk. The 7.5 Hectare (20 Acre) Town Park is located on the Rathmore Road and within walking and cycling reach of the centre of Lusk and close to residential areas and local schools making it very accessible to the local community. The Council applied to An Bord Pleanála in 2024 for a new Recreational Sports Hub at Rathmore Park and permission was granted for this development in December 2024.	

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets								
		Fingal County Council currently maintains 71no. playgrounds and 3 no. mini play areas across the County. There are ongoing projects to further expand playgrounds in the form of Part 8 developments such as in Portrane, Hazelbury Park and Hartstown Park, (with expected completion target dates of Q2/3 2025). Many of Fingal’s open spaces provide areas for fitness equipment, calisthenics and MUGAs scattered across the county. Outdoor recreational space is also provided in the form of Agility Trails, Skate Parks, Parkour areas and for sports such as Chess, Table Tennis and TEQ Ball amongst others. In addition to the assets listed above Fingal County Council also currently maintains: • 180 no. Public Sports Pitches allocated to Fingal Sports Clubs on an annual basis within Fingal public open spaces. • Publicly accessible Boules Courts in 6no. locations (Malahide Demesne, Newbridge Demesne, Santry Demesne, Skerries Town Park, Bayside & Kenure Woods Rush) • Publicly accessible Tennis Courts in 8no. locations (Swords, Lusk, Balrothery, Holywell, Malahide, Skerries, Howth St Catherines Park)								
	New green route cycle paths	The Planning and Strategic infrastructure Department continues to advance a number of Greenways and high-quality pedestrian/cycle routes within the county since the adoption of the Development Pan. The following are project updates in accordance with Table 6.1 of the Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029: <table><tr><th>Greenways/High Quality Cycling and Walking Routes</th><th>Status</th></tr><tr><td>Fingal Coastal Way (Donabate–Balbriggan)</td><td>Phase 2 Route Option Selection is nearing completion. The next stage is preliminary design.</td></tr><tr><td>Broadmeadow Way (Malahide–Donabate)</td><td>The installation of the main estuary bridge is complete. Tender competitions are complete for a number of sub-elements of the project with work contracts to take place in 2025. The project is expected to be complete in 2026.</td></tr><tr><td>Sutton to Malahide</td><td>The preliminary design drawings are being finalised. The recently published Cycle Design Manual has led to improvements being incorporated into the overall scheme</td></tr></table>	Greenways/High Quality Cycling and Walking Routes	Status	Fingal Coastal Way (Donabate–Balbriggan)	Phase 2 Route Option Selection is nearing completion. The next stage is preliminary design.	Broadmeadow Way (Malahide–Donabate)	The installation of the main estuary bridge is complete. Tender competitions are complete for a number of sub-elements of the project with work contracts to take place in 2025. The project is expected to be complete in 2026.	Sutton to Malahide	The preliminary design drawings are being finalised. The recently published Cycle Design Manual has led to improvements being incorporated into the overall scheme
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Sutton to Malahide	The preliminary design drawings are being finalised. The recently published Cycle Design Manual has led to improvements being incorporated into the overall scheme									

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets	
			design including revised layouts for crossings and bus stops to comply with the new standards. Draft CPO, EIAR and NIS documents are being prepared for the submission to An Bord Pleanála in Q3 2025.
		Royal Canal	The project is currently at preliminary design stage and requires the need to hold additional meetings with all the relevant key stakeholders to agree a revised design in line with the new Cycling Design Manual. Landowner searches and land referencing are ongoing. Following completion of the preliminary design, all the required documents including the Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be prepared for a planning application to An Bord Pleanála which is envisaged to be later in 2025.
		Royal Canal-Grand Canal Loop	Feasibility report on route options being completed
		Ward River Valley and Broadmeadow River Valley	The Parks Development Plan is at an advanced stage of preparation incorporating a new north/south Walking Cycling bridge crossing of the Ward Valley (Brackenstown Bridge). Restoration of previously open routes ongoing. It is envisaged that plans for statutory approval to An Bord Pleanála will be lodged end of 2025.
		Tolka Valley	Scoping/Mapping exercise underway to prepare for the engagement of an Integrated Design Team (IDT) to prepare the Park Development Plan for the park including Greenway/Active travel infrastructure. Planning work will commence 2025.
		Hamilton Way	To be examined as part of the preparation of the statutory plan for Dunsink.
		Lusk/Rush (via Rogerstown Park)	Next phase of planning for this route is subject to approval of the park development plans by the Environmental Protection Agency in line with the requirements of the Aftercare/Management plan for the Former Balleally Landfill.

Target	Indicator	Monitoring of Targets	
		Donabate to Portrane Village (via Ballymastone and Cliff Walk)	First phase of the Ballymastone Recreational Hub including a section of the Greenway route will be completed in Q1 2025. Another section of the Greenway will be constructed as part of Phase 2 of the Recreational Hub commencing Q2 2025 and completed in Q1 2026. HSE has granted the Council a license to reconstruct the Cliff Walk from the Ballymastone section to Portrane via the St. Ita's lands and planning for this work is being advanced having regard to the relevant environmental constraints.
		Racecourse Park (Baldoyle)	FCC will appoint an Integrated Design Team in Q1 2025 to prepare the tender for the Park Development Works (including the Greenway) which it is planned to progress over the Summer months in 2025.
		Millpond Park	Detailed design for a link section of the route adjoining the R132/Quay Street Junction is in preparation having regard to the challenging and localized topographical and environmental considerations. When planning is approved for this technically difficult section of the route, the remainder will be developed as part of a park improvement project.
		Drumnigh Road to Kinsealy	Non statutory public consultation recently completed for the emerging preferred route.
Integration of new designated development areas with critical infrastructure	Infrastructure upgrades as part of LAPs/ Masterplans /Framework Plans / Urban Plans	Ongoing – implemented as part of Development Management process on lands within local plan area.	



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Environment.**

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