Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

Dréacht - Tuarascáil Bhliantúil 2014

Draft Annual Report 2014



fingal.ie

Contents

Mayor's Introduction

Message from the Chief Executive

Fingal County Council Electoral Map

Corporate Affairs Department

Architects' Department

Housing Department

Community, Culture & Sports Division

Economic Development Services

Environment and Water Services Department

Finance Department

Human Resources Department

Information Technology Department

Law Department

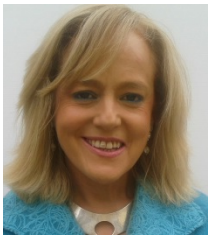
Libraries Division

Operations Department

Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department

Appendix

Mayor's Introduction



The Annual Report gives us the opportunity to reflect on the activities and achievements of Fingal County Council during the year 2014. I have had the unique privilege of being an official with Fingal County Council, and being elected in 2004, 2009 and 2014. I am now honoured to hold the office of Mayor, and to represent Fingal as its first citizen.

During my term I have had the pleasure of attending a number of significant events for the County. In June 2014 I attended the official opening of the Royal Canal Towpath (Ashtown to Castleknock). In July, I attended the official opening of new Tourism office, in Howth and had the privilege of launching the Swords Castle Conservation Plan in September, whilst also officiating at the Fingal Enterprise Awards in October.

On 3rd November I met with a delegation from Chengdu, China, where we visited Fingal's Drinan Enterprise Centre in Swords. During the month I also attended the signing ceremony for the Dublin Declaration on Age Friendly Cities and Communities in Europe. Later in November it was a pleasure to launch the Dunsink Horse Club Calendar.

To celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Fingal County Council a Business & Community Network Event which held in Farmleigh, which brought together Leaders from both sectors and which was a great success.

There are many more events and openings over which I had the pleasure of officiating during my term. As I look forward I am sure that Fingal will continue to develop and grow over the coming years. I would like to thank my fellow Councilors in Fingal County Council for their invaluable support during my term as Mayor of Fingal, and also to thank my Deputy Mayor, Cllr Ted Leddy. I wish to thank Peter Caulfield, Interim County Manager, and in particular I must express my gratitude to the Chief Executive, Mr. Paul Reid for the valuable guidance and support he has given me. Finally to all our Council staff both indoor and outdoor for all their hard work in representing the people of Fingal and delivering a wide range of services. And to all the people who contribute to the economic, social, cultural and sporting life of our County, building communities and making Fingal a great place to live and work in, I acknowledge the value of your contribution.

Mags Murray
Mayor

Message from the Chief Executive



2014 proved to be another year of change in Fingal County Council. I was appointed as County Manager in April 2014 and subsequently as Chief Executive. I would like to thank Mr. Peter Caulfield, who was acting as County Manager, for his support in the transition process.

The Local Government Act 2014 set out a very ambitious agenda of reforms. Local Govern a strengthened role in developing economic and community plans. In Fingal we have embraced this opportunity. With the elected members we have engaged in a continuous and extensive engagement process with a wide range of stakeholders to support economic growth in Fingal.

In 2014 there has been continuous and strong macroeconomic indicators demonstrating that the economy has returned to growth. We are also experiencing positive indications in Fingal, with increased construction activity across the County and an increase in the level of planning applications.

Fingal is well placed to progress now based on these improving economic conditions. We have a young, diverse and well educated population with a good business community providing employment across a wide range of sectors. We also have many great resources in the County that can help to distinguish us so that we can lead the way in economic growth, social development and tourism.

To support this, the Council agreed one of the most progressive budgets we have been able to put together in a number of years. This focused our investment in three key areas.

1. Strengthening the services that we deliver to the citizens of Fingal;
2. An increased investment and focus on Housing;
3. Stimulating economic and tourism activity through investments in some of our key strategic assets and heritage sites.

The Fingal Local Enterprise Office (LEO) officially opened in May and forms part of a national network that will be the frontline in delivering business growth and jobs, providing direct support to everyone with a good business idea. During 2014 the Fingal Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) was established and work commenced on Fingal Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) which sets out over a six year period objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic and community development of the Fingal area.

In Fingal we recognise the scale of the housing problem and we welcome the Social Housing Strategy 2020 to tackle emergency and short term homelessness.
In 2014 Fingal County Council celebrated twenty years as a local authority with a number of events including 20th Anniversary Arts Showcase and Business & Community Networking Event. Other events held through the year included Swords 1014 Viking Exhibition, Blanchardstown Spring Break Music Festival, Fingal Enterprise Week, St Patrick's Day Festival, Giro d'Italia, Fingal 10K Road Race and the Mayor's Economic Conference .

We launched the Swords Castle Conservation Plan and, the Swords Castle Cultural Quarter Masterplan. The Council Chamber was re-designed to accommodate the additional Councillors. Fingal newest library also opened at Donabate Portrane Community and Leisure Centre.

Preparations are underway for the Fingal Development Plan with the current plan being in effect now for almost four years. The Planning Department as part of Construction 2020 Dublin Housing Supply and

Coordination Task Force worked with various agencies to respond to the short-term housing market requirements. Sustainable transport projects included Ongar Castaheaney Cycle Network that was completed in 2014, design work continued during 2014 to develop new sustainable transport schemes including Dublin 15 Priority Cycle routes, Swords to Sutton Cycle route, Royal Canal Greenway and public transport improvements from Swords to the Dublin City.

The above is just a brief snapshot of some of the activities in the past year.

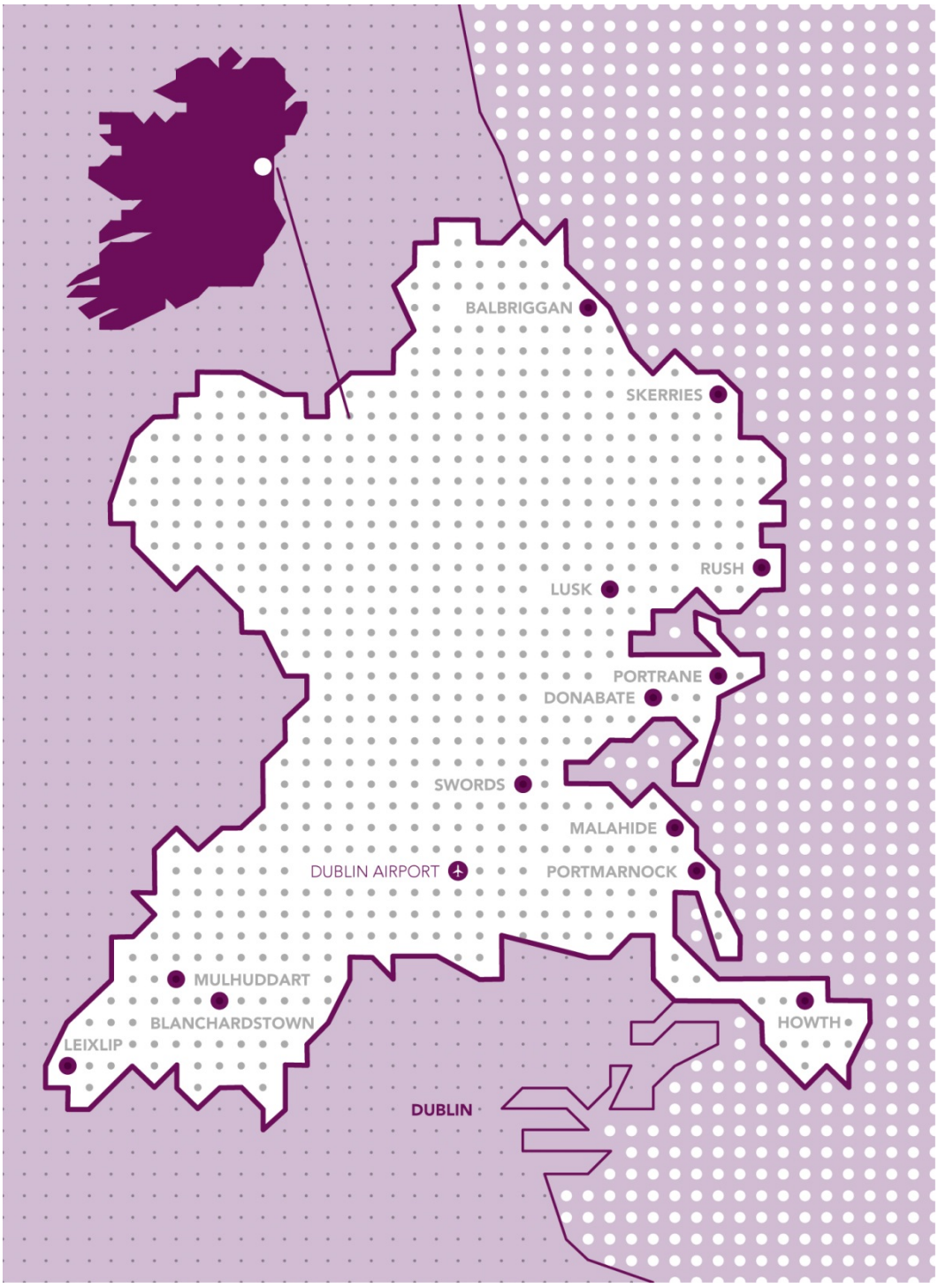
In 2014 with the enactment of the Local Government Reform Act Balbriggan Town Council ceased to exist and I would like to acknowledge the work of the Balbriggan Town Councilors and staff of the Town Council for all they have done over the years.

In 2014, we said farewell to some Councillors and welcomed some newly elected public representatives following the Local and European Elections in May which increased the membership of Councillors from 24 to 40. I would like to thank the Mayor, Councillor Mags Murray and her predecessor Councillor Kieran Dennison and each of the Members of the Council for their co-operation and support on so many issues during 2014. I look forward to a continuation of this co-operation in 2015.

I would like to pay a special tribute to all Council staff for their commitment and enthusiasm in the delivery of services to the people of Fingal. I look forward to us all working together for the future of Fingal in 2015.

Paul Reid
Chief Executive

Fingal County Council Electoral Map



FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL - ELECTED MEMBERS
Position prior to Local Elections held on 23rd May 2014
(January – June 2014)

Mayor



Kieran Dennison
January – June 2014

Deputy Mayor



Joan Maher
January – June 2014

BALBRIGGAN ELECTORAL AREA

Ken Farrell, (Labour), 4 The Drive, Orlynn Park, Lusk, Co. Dublin
Mobile: 087-7551927 E-mail: ken.farrell@fingalcoco.ie

David O'Connor, (Non Party), "Meadowlands", Ballyboughal, Co. Dublin.
Tel: 8433691 (H) Mobile: 087 6803860
E-Mail: davidj.oconnor@fingalcoco.ie

Tom O'Leary, (Fine Gael), 4 Haven House, Thomas Hand Street, Skerries, Co. Dublin
Tel. No. 8905022 E-mail: tom.oleary@fingalcoco.ie

Ciaran Byrne, (Labour), 41 South Strand, Skerries, Co. Dublin.
Tel: 8491179 (H) Mobile: 087 2273060**,** Fax: 8495361
E-Mail: ciaran.byrne@fingalcoco.ie

Grainne Maguire, (Non Party)
90 Drogheda Street, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin Tel. No. Mobile 087 9436650
E-Mail : 1grainnemaguire@gmail.com

SWORDS ELECTORAL AREA

Gerry McGuire (Labour), 1 The Strand, Donabate, Co. Dublin.
Tel: 8436014, Mobile: 087 2381980 E-mail: gerry.mcguire@fingalcoco.ie

Tom Kelleher (Labour), Kilsallaghan, Co Dublin.
Mobile: 087 2837165 E-Mail: tom.kelleher@fingalcoco.ie
Darragh Butler, (Fianna Fáil), 17 Highfield Close, Swords, Co Dublin
Mobile: 087 9595378 E-Mail: darragh.butler@fingalcoco.ie

Anne Devitt, (Non Party), Lispopple, Swords, Co. Dublin.
Tel: 8409728 (H) Mobile: 086 8123435
E-Mail: anne.devitt@fingalcoco.ie

Eugene Coppinger (Socialist Party), 46 Forest Walk, Rivervalley, Swords, Co. Dublin
Mobile: 087 2327412 Email: eugene.coppinger@fingalcoco.ie

HOWTH/MALAHIDE ELECTORAL AREA
Cian O'Callaghan (Non party), 5 Campbell Court, Main Street, Howth, Dublin 13.
Mobile: 086 2866631 E-mail: Cian.ocallaghan@fingalcoco.ie

Eoghan O'Brien, (Fianna Fáil), 7 Seabury View, Malahide, Co. Dublin
Mobile: 086 8580562 E-mail:eoghan.obrien@fingalcoco.ie

Joan Maher, (Fine Gael), 19 Bayside Square East, Sutton, Dublin 13.
Tel: 8324840(H), Fax: 8324840 (H) Mobile: 087 2837169
E-Mail: joan.maher@fingalcoco.ie

Anthony Lavin, (Fine Gael), 28 Chalfont Road. Malahide, Co. Dublin.
Mobile: 087 9931329 E-Mail: anthony.lavin@fingalcoco.ie

Judy Dunne, (Labour), 21 Wendell Avenue, Portmarnock, Co. Dublin.
Mobile: 087 6178557 E-Mail : Judy.dunne@fingalcoco.ie

MULHUDDART ELECTORAL AREA
Ruth Coppinger, (Socialist Party), 159 Castlecurragh Heath, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15.
Tel : 8116174 Mobile: 087 6730187E-Mail: ruth.coppinger@fingalcoco.ie

Kieran Dennison, (Fine Gael), 1 Fernleigh Grange, Castleknock, Dublin 15.
Mobile: 087 2595949 E-mail: kierandennison@gmail.com

David McGuinness, (Fianna Fáil), 1 Beechfield Heights, Clonee, Dublin 15.
Mobile: 087 6415403 E-mail: dmcguinn@tcd.ie

Michael O'Donovan, (Labour), 70 Delwood Drive, Dublin 15
Tel: 8220030 (O) Mobile: 087 2207798
E-Mail: michael.odonovan@fingalcoco.ie

Mary McCamley, (Labour), 147, Castlecurragh Vale, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15.
Mobile : 087 6501441 E-Mail: mary.mccamley@fingalcoco.ie

CASTLEKNOCK ELECTORAL AREA
Eithne Loftus, (Fine Gael), 6 Deerpark Avenue, Castleknock, Dublin 15.
Mobile: 087 6223419 E-Mail: eithne.loftus@fingalcoco.ie

Mags Murray, (Fianna Fáil), 13 Lohunda Close, Parkview, Clonsilla, D. 15.
Mobile 086 0651419 E-Mail: mags.murray@fingalcoco.ie

Matthew Waine, (Socialist Party), 58 Woodview Grove, Blanchardstown, D. 15
Mobile: 087-6684616 E-Mail: mattwaine@gmail.com

John Walsh, (Labour),10 Ashleigh Court,Blanchardstown,Dublin 15.
Mobile : 087 6486228 E-Mail **:** john.walsh@fingalcoco.ie

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

AREA COMMITTEES

Balbriggan/Swords	Members of Balbriggan & Swords Electoral Areas & Cathaoirleach of Balbriggan Town Council
Castleknock/Mulhuddart	Members of Castleknock & Mulhuddart Electoral Areas
Howth/Malahide	Members of Howth/Malahide Electoral Area

ORGANISATION & PROCEDURE COMMITTEE

(All Members of Fingal County Council are Members of this Committee)

CORPORATE POLICY GROUP

Kieran Dennison (Mayor) – January 2014 – June 2014
Mags Murray (Chairperson) Transportation Strategic Policy Committee
Tom Kelleher (Chairperson) Planning & Development Strategic Policy Committee
Eithne Loftus (Chairperson) Environment Strategic Policy Committee
David O'Connor (Chairperson) Community & General Strategic Policy Committee
Ruth Coppinger (Chairperson) Housing Strategic Policy Committee

MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY AND GENERAL STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Councillors
David O'Connor (Chairperson)
Darragh Butler
Judy Dunne
Anne Devitt
John Walsh
Mary McCamley
Cian O'Callaghan
Matthew Waine
Non Councilllor Members
Frank Snowe
Padraig McMahon
Brendan Sherlock
Paul Holden
Myles Caulfield
Clodagh O'Donovan
Joseph Kuye

MEMBERS OF ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Councillors
Eithne Loftus (Chairperson)
Judy Dunne
Eugene Coppinger
Kieran Dennison
Anthony Lavin
John Walsh
Gerry McGuire
Grainne Maguire
David O'Connor
Eoghan O'Brien

Non Councillor Members

Olive Byrne
Valerie Henderson
David Rogers
Maire O'Brien
Stephen Malone
Ms. Terry Cummins

MEMBERS OF HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Councillors
Ruth Coppinger (Chairperson)
Eugene Coppinger
Kieran Dennison
Ken Farrell
Joan Maher
Mary McCamley
Gerry McGuire
David McGuinness
Cian O'Callaghan
Michael O'Donovan

Non Councillor Members
Andrew McCann
Sylvester Greally
Paula Kenny
Roderick O'Gorman
Howard Mahony

MEMBERS OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Councillors
Tom Kelleher, (Chairperson)
Ciarán Byrne
Anne Devitt
Anthony Lavin
Joan Maher
David McGuinness
Mags Murray
Michael O'Donovan
Tom O'Leary
Matthew Waine

Non Councillor Members
Rory Bannon
Terry Kelleher
Kieran O'Neill
Terry Cummins
Ciaran Corcoran
Brian McKeon
Terry Kelleher

MEMBERS OF TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Councillors

Mags Murray (Chairperson),
Darragh Butler
Ciarán Byrne
Ruth Coppinger
Ken Farrell
Tom Kelleher
Eithne Loftus
Eoghan O'Brien
Tom O'Leary
Grainne Maguire

Non Councillor Members
Rory Bannon
Brendan Doorley
Raymond Ryan
Paddy Kavanagh
Jean Fay Brady
Cathal Boland
Tom O'Malley

COUNCILLOR MEMBERSHIP OF OTHER BODIES

MEMBERS OF BLANCHARDSTOWN COMMUNITY FORUM
Councillors
Eithne Loftus
Mary McCamley

MEMBERS OF SWORDS COMMUNITY POLICING FORUM
Councillors
Darragh Butler
Ann Devitt
Gerry McGuire

AUDIT COMMITTEE
Councillors
Judy Dunne
Ciaran Byrne
Joan Maher

Non-Councillors
Dr. Philip Byrne
Sean Carey
Joe Harford
Ashley Connolly

COUNTY DUBLIN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Councillors
Ken Farrell
David McGuinness
Joan Maher

Gerry McGuire
Michael O'Donovan

Non-Councillors
Deirdre Doherty Ryan
Don Tipping
Pat Ward
Liz Kelly

ASSOCIATION OF CITY AND COUNTY COUNCILS

Councillors
Eithne Loftus
Tom Kelleher
Michael O'Donovan

DUBLIN REGIONAL AUTHORITY

Councillors
John Walsh
Grainne Maguire
Anne Devitt
Ciarán Byrne
Judy Dunne

SOUTHERN AND EASTERN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

Councillors
Ciarán Byrne
Anne Devitt

FINGAL COUNTY ENTERPRISE BOARD

Councillors
Judy Dunne
Kieran Dennison
Gerry McGuire
Grainne Maguire

IRISH PUBLIC BODIES MUTUAL INSURANCES LIMITED

Councillor
Mags Murray

LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERS ASSOCIATION

Councillor
Mags Murray (Chairperson)

FINGAL TOURISM LIMITED

Councillors
Kieran Dennison (Mayor) – January 2014 – June 2014
Tom O'Leary

NORTH DUBLIN DEVELOPMENT COALITION (NORDUBCO)

Councillors

Kieran Dennison (Mayor) – January 2014 – June 2014
Anne Devitt

FINGAL LEADER PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Councillors
Gerry McGuire
Ciaran Byrne
Anne Devitt

DUBLIN EMPLOYMENT PACT – STRATEGIC POLICY GROUP

Councillor
Michael O'Donovan

BLANCHARDSTOWN AREA PARTNERSHIP

Councillors
Kieran Dennison
John Walsh
Matthew Waine

LOCAL TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Councillors
Anne Devitt
Eugene Coppinger
Cian O'Callaghan

BLANCHARDSTOWN DRUG TASK FORCE

Councillors
Mary McCamley
David McGuinness

JOINT FINGAL AND SOUTH DUBLIN LIFFEY VALLEY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mayor: Kieran Dennison (Mayor) – January 2014 – June 2014

Castleknock Electoral Area:
Councillors
John Walsh
Mags Murray
Matthew Waine
Eithne Loftus
Mulhuddart Electoral Area:
Councillors
Ruth Coppinger
Michael O'Donovan
David McGuinness
Mary McCamley

NATIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Councillor
Ciarán Byrne

BALLEALLY LANDFILL LIAISON COMMITTEE

Councillors
Ken Farrell
Grainne Maguire
Anne Devitt
Gerry McGuire

COUNTY HERITAGE FORUM

Councillors
David O'Connor
Judy Dunne
Kieran Dennison
Grainne Maguire
Mags Murray

NORTH FRINGE AREA FORUM

Councillors
Cian O'Callaghan
Joan Maher
Judy Dunne
Eoghan O'Brien

REGION HEALTH FORUM DUBLIN AND NORTH EAST

Councillors
Grainne Maguire
Mags Murray
Eithne Loftus
Gerry McGuire
Anne Devitt
Kieran Dennison

HANSFIELD SDZ STEERING GROUP

Councillors
Ruth Coppinger
Michael O'Donovan
Mary McCamley
David McGuinness
Kieran Dennison

FINGAL INTEGRATED TRANSPORT GROUP

Councillor
Mags Murray

JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE

Councillors
Kieran Dennison (Mayor) – January 2014 – June 2014
Mags Murray
John Walsh
David O'Connor

Eithne Loftus
Matthew Waine
Michael O'Donovan
Mary McCamley
Judy Dunne
Anthony Lavin
Eugene Coppinger

FINGAL SPORTS PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE
Councillors
Anne Devitt
Eoghan O'Brien
David O'Connor

DRINAN ENTERPRISE CENTRE
Councillors
Gerry McGuire
Anthony Lavin

EDGE CITIES NETWORK
Councillor
Joan Maher

BALBRIGGAN COMMUNITY POLICING FORUM
Councillor
Ciarán Byrne

DRAÍOCHT
Councillor
John Walsh

DUBLIN NORTH-EAST DRUGS TASK FORCE
Councillor
Cian O'Callaghan

AIRPORT REGIONS CONFERENCE (ARC)
Councillor
Ciaran Byrne

NUCLEAR FREE LOCAL AUTHORITY
Councillor
Michael O'Donovan

LES RENCONTRES
Councillor
Tom Kelleher

GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF DCU
Councillor
Ciaran Byrne

BLANCHARDSTOWN COMMUNITY POLICING FORUM
Councillors
Mary McCamley
Mags Murray

MALAHIDE CASTLE & GARDENS LTD
Councillor
Anthony Lavin

MONITORING BOARD FOR INTERREG IVc PROJECT
Councillor
Tom Kelleher

BALBRIGGAN PUBLIC REALM IMPLEMENTATION GROUP
Councillor
Ciaran Byrne

Position Post Local Elections held on 23rd May 2014 (June – December 2014)



New Council June 2014



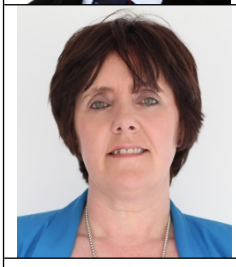
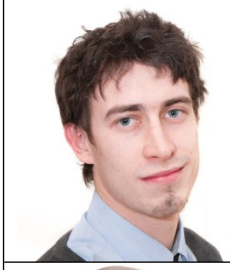
Mags Murray - Mayor
June 2014 – December 2014



Ted Leddy – Deputy Mayor
June 2014 – December 2014

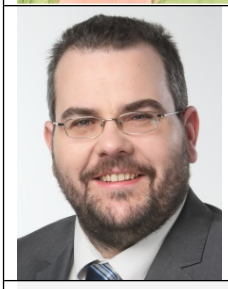
BALBRIGGAN ELECTORAL AREA

	Ken Farrell, (Labour), 4 The Drive, Orlynn Park, Lusk, Co. Dublin Mobile: 087 7551927 E-mail: ken.farrell@cllrs.fingal.ie
	Tony Murphy, (Non Party), 30 Drogheda Street, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin Mobile: 086 2772030 E-Mail: tony.murphy@cllrs.fingal.ie
	David O'Connor, (Non Party), "Meadowlands", Ballyboughal, Co. Dublin Mobile: 087 68038600 E-Mail: davidj.oconnor@cllrs.fingal.ie

	Malachy Quinn, (Sinn Féin), 44 Castleland, Parkview, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin Mobile : 087 6727637 E-Mail: malachy.quinn@cllrs.fingal.ie
	Graínne Maguire, (Non-Party), 90 Drogheda Street, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin Mobile: 087 9436650 E-Mail: grainne.maguire@cllrs.fingal.ie
	Brian Dennehy, (Fianna Fáil), 85 Channel Road, Rush, Co. Dublin Mobile: 085 2298201 E-Mail: brian.dennehy@cllrs.fingal.ie
	Barry Martin, (People before Profit Alliance) 15 Kenure Lawns, Rush, Co. Dublin Mobile: 087 1387216 E-Mail: barry.martin@cllrs.fingal.ie
	J.P. Browne, (Fine Gael), 36 Hillside Gardens, Skerries, Co. Dublin Mobile: 087 3819045 E-Mail: jp.browne@cllrs.fingal.ie

SWORDS ELECTORAL AREA

	Philip Lynam, (Sinn Féin), 2 Rynella, Weavers Row, Clonsilla, Dublin 15 Mobile: 085-1259902 E-mail: philip.lynam@cllrs.fingal.ie
	Darragh Butler, (Fianna Fáil), 17 Highfield Close, Swords, Co Dublin Mobile: 087 9595378 E-Mail: darragh.butler@cllrs.fingal.ie
	Adrian Henchy, (Fianna Fáil), 3 Somerton Road, Portrane, Donabate, Co. Dublin Mobile: 087 6814485 E-Mail: adrian.henchy@cllrs.fingal.ie
	Joe Newman (Non Party), 21 Hilltown Close, River Valley, Swords, Co. Dublin Mobile: 087 2457729 E-mail: joe.newman@cllrs.fingal.ie

	Eugene Coppinger, (AAA), 46 Forest Walk, Rivervalley, Swords, Co. Dublin Mobile: 087 2327412 E-mail: eugene.coppinger@cllrs.fingal.ie
	Anne Devitt, (Non Party) Balcultry Road, Rolestown, Swords, Co. Dublin Tel: 8409728 (H) Mobile: 086 8123435 E-Mail: anne.devitt@cllrs.fingal.ie
	Paul Mulville (Non Party), The Burrow, Portrane, Co. Dublin Mobile: 086 3787395 E-Mail: paul.mulville@cllrs.fingal.ie
	Justin Sinnott, (Non Party), 256 Parklands, Northwood, Santry, Dublin 9 Mobile: 086 8426545 E-mail: justin.sinnott@cllrs.fingal.ie
	Duncan Smith, (Labour), 8 Castleview Close, Swords, Co. Dublin Mobile: 087 9862686 E-mail: duncan.smith@cllrs.fingal.ie

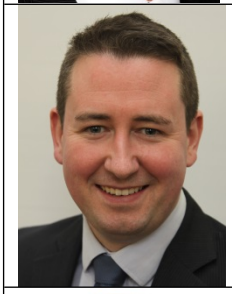
HOWTH/MALAHIDE ELECTORAL AREA

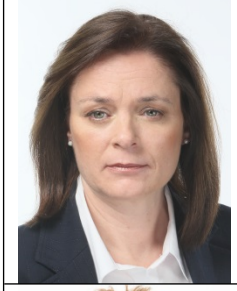
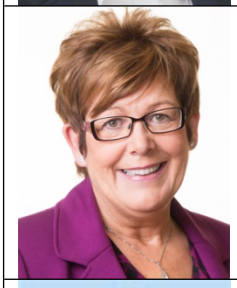
	Cian O'Callaghan (Non Party), 5 Campbell Court, Main Street, Howth, Co. Dublin Mobile: 086 2866631 E-mail: cian.ocallaghan@cllrs.fingal.ie

	
	Eoghan O'Brien, (Fianna Fáil), 7 Seabury View, Malahide, Co. Dublin Mobile: 086 8580562 E-mail: eoghan.obrien@cllrs.fingal.ie
	Daire Ní Laoi, (Sinn Féin), 'Ros Nuala' Bóthar Chill Roc, Binn Éadair, Co. Átha Cliath Mobile: 086 3977719 E-Mail: daire.nilaoi@cllrs.fingal.ie
	Jimmy Guerin, (Non Party), 27 Thormanby Lawns, Howth, Co. Dublin Mobile: 086 0143346 E-mail: jimmy.guerin@cllrs.fingal.ie
	Anthony Lavin, (Fine Gael), 28 Chalfont Road, Malahide, Co. Dublin Mobile: 087 9931329/087 7906651 E-mail: anthony.lavin@cllrs.fingal.ie
	Brian McDonagh, (Labour), 4 St. Samsons Court, Balgriffin, Co. Dublin Mobile: 086 3858979 E-Mail: brian.mcdonagh@cllrs.fingal.ie

	David Healy, (Green Party), 54 Evora Park, Howth, Co. Dublin Mobile: 087 6178852 E-mail: david.healy@cllrs.fingal.ie
	Keith Redmond, (Fine Gael), 10 Howth Road, Sutton Cross, Dublin 13 Mobile: 086 6992689 E-Mail: keith.redmond@cllrs.fingal.ie

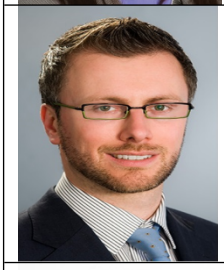
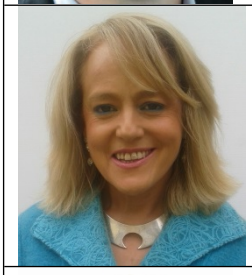
MULHUDDART ELECTORAL AREA

	**Paul Donnelly,** (Sinn Féin), 7 Lohunda Court, Clonsilla, Dublin 15 Mobile: 087 1341514 Phone: 01 8066899 E-Mail: paul.donnelly@cllrs.fingal.ie
	**David McGuinness,** (Fianna Fáil), 1 Beechfield Heights, Clonee, Dublin 15 Mobile: 087 6415403 E-mail: david.mcguinness@cllrs.fingal.ie
	**Edmond Lukusa,** (Sinn Féin), 200 Avondale Park, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15 Mobile: 087 2966969 E-Mail: edmond.lukusa@cllrs.fingal.ie

	**Annette Hughes,** (AAA), 15 Cherryfield Close, Clonsilla, Dublin 15 Mobile: 086 2677033 E-Mail: annette.hughes@cllrs.fingal.ie
	**Kieran Dennison,** (Fine Gael), 1 Fernleigh Grange, Castleknock, Dublin 15 Mobile: 087 2595949 E-mail: kieran.dennison@cllrs.fingal.ie
	**Lorna Nolan**, (Non Party), 32 Pinebrook Glen, Clonsilla, Dublin 15 Mobile: 087 9048885 E-mail: lorna.nolan@cllrs.fingal.ie
	**Mary McCamley,** (Labour), 147 Castlecurragh Vale, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15 Mobile: 087 6501441 E-Mail: mary.mccamley@cllrs.fingal.ie
	**Matthew Waine**, (AAA), 58 Woodview Grove, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15 Mobile: 087 6684616 E-Mail: matthew.waine@cllrs.fingal.ie

CASTLEKNOCK ELECTORAL AREA

	**Jack Chambers**, (Fianna Fáil), (Local Office) Laurel Lodge S.C. Castleknock, Dublin 15 Mobile: 086 4177335 E-Mail: jack.chambers@cllrs.fingal.ie

	**Natalie Treacy,** (Sinn Féin) 9 Pinebrook Glen, Mulhuddart, Dublin 15 Mobile: 085 1285493 E-Mail: natalie.treacy@cllrs.fingal.ie
	**Roderic O'Gorman**, (Green Party), 1 Avon Lodge, The Plaza, Main Street, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15 Mobile: 087 4179777 E-mail: roderic.ogorman@cllrs.fingal.ie
	**Eithne Loftus,** (Fine Gael), 6 Deerpark Avenue, Castleknock, Dublin 15 Mobile: 087 6223419 E-Mail: eithne.loftus@cllrs.fingal.ie
	**Ted Leddy**, (Fine Gael), 42 Kavanagh Hall, Collegewood, Castleknock, Dublin 15 Mobile: 087 3276630 E-Mail: ted.leddy@cllrs.fingal.ie
	**Mags Murray,** (Fianna Fáil), 13 Lohunda Close, Parkview, Clonsilla, Dublin 15 Mobile: 086 0651419 E-Mail: mags.murray@cllrs.fingal.ie
	**Sandra Kavanagh**, (AAA) 5 Sheepmore Grove, Blakestown, Dublin 15 Mobile: 087 2635695 E-mail: sandra.kavanagh@cllrs.fingal.ie

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

AREA COMMITTEES

Balbriggan/Swords	Members of Balbriggan and Swords Electoral Areas Area Chairperson – Councillor Grainne Maguire
Castleknock/Mulhuddart	Members of Castleknock and Mulhuddart Electoral Areas Area Chairperson – Councillor Eithne Loftus
Howth/Malahide	Members of Howth/Malahide Electoral Area Area Chairperson – Councillor Anthony Lavin

ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURE COMMITTEE

All Members of Fingal County Council are Members of this Committee

CORPORATE POLICY GROUP

Kieran Dennison (Mayor) - January 2014– June 2014
Mags Murray (Mayor) – June 2014 – December 2014
Arts, Culture, Heritage and Community Strategic Policy Committee
Anne Devitt (Chairperson)
Transportation Strategic Policy Committee
Eoghan O'Brien (Chairperson)
Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee
Kieran Dennison (Chairperson)
Housing Strategic Policy Committee
Ken Farrell (Chairperson)
Water and Environmental Services Strategic Policy Committee
Paul Donnelly (Chairperson)
Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee
Cian O'Callaghan (Chairperson)

MEMBERS OF ARTS, CULTURE, HERITAGE AND COMMUNITY STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Councillors
Anne Devitt (Chairperson)
Joe Newman
Adrian Henchy
Mary McCamley
J.P. Browne
Daire Ní Laoi

MEMBERS OF TRANSPORTATION STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Councillors
Eoghan O'Brien (Chairperson)
Darragh Butler
Ted Leddy
Roderic O'Gorman
Annette Hughes
Natalie Treacy

MEMBERS OF HOUSING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Councillors

Ken Farrell (Chairperson)
Duncan Smith
Adrian Henchy
Paul Mulville
Barry Martin
Malachy Quinn
Kieran Dennison
Matt Waine
Lorna Nolan
Sandra Kavanagh

MEMBERS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENTERPRISE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Councillors
Kieran Dennison (Chairperson)
Keith Redmond
Anthony Lavin
Tony Murphy
Lorna Nolan
Edmond Lukusa
Jimmy Guerin
Mags Murray
David McGuinness
Jack Chambers

Non Council Member
Eric Fleming

MEMBERS OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Councillors
Paul Donnelly (Chairperson)
Natalie Treacy
Anne Devitt
Mary McCamley
Eugene Coppinger
Eithne Loftus

MEMBERS OF PLANNING AND STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE POLICY COMMITTEE

Councillors
Cian O'Callaghan (Chairperson)
David Healy
Brian Dennehy
Brian McDonagh
Justin Sinnott
Philip Lynam
Gráinne Maguire
David O'Connor

Non Council Member
Deirdre Fox

COUNCILLOR MEMBERSHIP OF OTHER BODIES

MEMBERS OF BLANCHARDSTOWN COMMUNITY FORUM

Councillors
Mary McCamley
Jack Chambers

MALAHIDE CASTLE AND GARDENS LTD.

Councillors
Eoghan O'Brien
Anthony Lavin

MEMBER OF GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF DCU

Councillor
Keith Redmond

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Councillors
Jack Chambers
Kieran Dennison
Cian O'Callaghan

BLANCHARDSTOWN DRUG TASK FORCE

Councillors
Ted Leddy
Annette Hughes

DUBLIN & DUNLAOIRE EDUCATION & TRAINING BOARD

Councillors
Ken Farrell
Eithne Loftus
Mags Murray
Roderic O'Gorman
Justin Sinnott

AILG ASSOCIATION OF IRISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Councillors
Darragh Butler
Eithne Loftus
Gráinne Maguire
Daire Ní Laoi
Mary McCamley

The following Members are also Members of:

STANDING POLICY COUNCIL OF THE A.I.L.G

Councillors
Gráinne Maguire
Eithne Loftus
Daire Ní Laoi

SOUTHERN AND EASTERN REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

Councillors

Kieran Dennison
David Healy
Brian McDonagh

IRISH PUBLIC BODIES MUTUAL INSURANCES LIMITED

Councillor
Anthony Lavin

LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERS ASSOCIATION

Councillor
Mags Murray (Chairperson)

FINGAL TOURISM LIMITED

Councillors
Mags Murray
Kieran Dennison

LOCAL TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Councillors
Eugene Coppinger
Ted Leddy
Lorna Nolan

JOINT FINGAL AND SOUTH DUBLIN LIFFEY VALLEY MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mayor: Kieran Dennison (Mayor) – January 2014 – June 2014
Mags Murray (Mayor) – June 2014 – December 2014

All Councillors from Castleknock and Mulhuddart Electoral Areas

MULHUDDART ELECTORAL AREA:

Councillors
Kieran Dennison
Paul Donnelly
Annette Hughes
Edmond Lukusa
Mary McCamley
David McGuinness
Lorna Nolan
Matthew Waine

CASTLEKNOCK ELECTORAL AREA:

Councillors
Jack Chambers
Sandra Kavanagh
Ted Leddy
Eithne Loftus
Mags Murray
Roderic O'Gorman
Natalie Tracey

BALLEALLY LANDFILL LIAISON COMMITTEE

Councillors
Brian Dennehy
Ken Farrell
Barry Martin

COUNTY HERITAGE FORUM
Councillors
Mags Murray
David Healy
Ted Leddy
Eithne Loftus
Dáire Ní Laoi

NORTH FRINGE AREA FORUM
Councillors
Brian McDonagh
David Healy
Cian O'Callaghan
Keith Redmond

REGIONAL HEALTH FORUM DUBLIN AND NORTH EAST
Councillors
Adrian Henchy
Jack Chambers
Eithne Loftus
Lorna Nolan
Kieran Dennison
Mary McCamley

DRINAN ENTERPRISE CENTRE
Councillors
Eoghan O'Brien
Anthony Lavin

EDGE CITIES NETWORK
Councillor
David McGuinness

AIRPORT REGIONS CONFERENCE (ARC)
Councillor
Anne Devitt

NORDUBCO
Councillors
Mags Murray
Anne Devitt

NUCLEAR FREE LOCAL AUTHORITIES SECRETARIAT (NFLA)
Councillor
Eithne Loftus

DRAÍOCHT
Councillors
Natalie Treacy
Mary McCamley

JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE
Councillors
J.P. Browne
Gráinne Maguire
Malachy Quinn
Adrian Henchy
Paul Mulville
Anthony Lavin
Jimmy Guerin
Jack Chambers
Mags Murray
Eithne Loftus
Roderic O'Gorman
Natalie Treacy
Annette Hughes
Kieran Dennison
Mary McCamley

FINGAL LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (LCDC)
Councillors
Tony Murphy
Duncan Smith
Natalie Treacy

BALBRIGGAN TOWN COUNCIL
Balbriggan Town Council (Town Commissioners as it was prior to 2002) has a long history of service as a Local Authority, which began in 1860. The Town Hall, Civic Offices and Library were re-developed during 2005-2006 as part of the successful Urban Renewal Scheme for the town centre together with the re-design of Georges Square. The Town Council provided civic leadership for the people of Balbriggan

representing their concerns and needs with Fingal County Council and Government Departments and promoted the town as a good place to live, work and visit.

The town boundary was extended in February 2009 to reflect the growth of the town and the population today is over 20,000.

The Public Realm Plan *"The Heart of Balbriggan"* was published in 2012 and one of the actions in the Plan was to produce a strategy for Railway Street. A public consultation process commenced in 2012 and the "*Railway Street, a new beginning*" document was published in November 2012. Work continued in 2013 to promote Railway Street as an historic place in Balbriggan.

In 2014 under the Local Government Reform Act the Town Council ceased to exist. The former town council office is being retained as a local area office and the establishment of a Community Liaison Committee for Balbriggan, comprising of local Councillors and representatives from local interest groups and businesses demonstrates Fingal County Council's commitment to Balbriggan.

Successful events run previously by the Town Council will continue to be organised by Fingal County Council –the St. Patrick's Day parade, the Christmas Lights Festival and the long running Town Awards which were held in December 2014.

The members of Balbriggan Town Council 2009 – 2014 were:

Peadar O'Kelly, Cathaoirleach
Monica Harford
Frank Snowe
Grainne Kilmurry
Sean Brown
Grainne Maguire, Leas-Cathaoirleach
Larry Dunne
Terry Kelleher
Dermot Murray

The staff of Balbriggan Town Council in 2014 were;

Ide de Bairtiseil, Town Manager; Brian Murray, Town Clerk; Maureen Finn, Margaret Wilde and Rosemary Moonan.

NUMBER OF COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD IN 2014

Full Council	15
Balbriggan/Swords (Services A) Area Committee	10
Balbriggan/Swords (Services B) Area Committee	11
Castleknock/Mulhuddart (Services A) Area Committee	9
Castleknock/Mulhuddart (Services B) Area Committee	10
Howth/Malahide (Services A) Area Committee	10
Howth/Malahide (Services B) Area Committee	9
Joint Policing Committee	2
Strategic Policy Committees	6
Corporate Policy Group	7
Balbriggan Town Council	5

PAYMENTS MADE TO COUNCILLORS UNDER SECTION 142 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001

Total of Expenses paid to Members in respect of attendance at meetings of the County Council and its Committees	€223,054.34
Representational Payments Total	€563,559.65
Councillors/Town Councillors Gratuity Payments Total	€297,594.00
Strategic Policy Committee Chairpersons Allowance Total	€29,176.70
Mayors Allowance (January - May 2014)	€20,214.24
Mayors Allowance (June – December 2014)	€22,301.14
Deputy Mayors Allowance (January – May 2014)	€7,066.80
Deputy Mayors Allowance (June – December 2014)	€3,236.15
Total of Expenses paid to members in respect of attendance at meetings of Balbriggan Town Council	€6,213.54

MEMBERS EXPENSES AND REPRESENTIONS AT CONFERENCES IN 2014

	Home	**Abroad**	**Total**
Travel & Subsistence	€9,759.85	€1,438.45	€11,198.30*
Fees	€4,739.35	None	€4,739.35*

***See Appendix 1**

BALBRIGGAN TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS EXPENSES AND REPRESENTIONS AT CONFERENCES IN 2014

Name of Conferences	Venue	Date	Councillors who attended	Travel & Subsistence & Expenses	Conference Fee	Total
LAMA Spring Seminar	Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan	31st Jan to 1st Feb 2014	M.Harford	€230.49	€150.00	€380.49
			G. Maguire	€192.91	€150.00	€342.91
AMAI Spring Seminar	Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran, Co. Donegal	14th & 15th Feb 2014	G. Maguire	€328.38	€200.00	€528.38
			P.O'Kelly	€383.62	€200.00	€583.62
			Total	**€1,135.40**	**€700.00**	**€1,835.40**

Corporate Affairs Department

This department comprises:

- Corporate Services Division
- Property Services Division
- Internal Audit Unit
- Events Unit
- Communications Unit
- Workplace Partnership

Higher Education Grants
All NEW Applications for Higher Education Grants for Academic year 2014/2015 are being processed by Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI). All RENEWAL Applications for Academic year 2014/2015 are being processed by Fingal County Council.

Number of Renewal Applications	217
Number of Renewal Grants Awarded	135
Total expenditure for 2014	€1,152,495

School Meals Scheme
Approximately 2,704 children in 10 Primary Schools in the Fingal area were catered for on a daily basis under this scheme. The Council administers the Scheme on behalf of the Department of Social Community and Family Affairs by funding the provision of the service and recouping 50% of the costs.

Register of Electors
The final Register of Electors for 2014/2015 was published on 01/02/2014
The total number of Electors on the final register was 177,655.

A draft register of electors for 2015/2016 was published on the 01/11/2014.
The total number of electors on draft register was 179,032.

Edited Register of Electors
The edited register of electors published on the 1st February 2014 contained 17,470 names.

Stock Control System
A computerised stock control system was rolled out to 2 of the 3 Operations Depots in 2014. This system will allow for centralised management of stock levels and improved procurement going forward.

Corporate Plan 2015 -2019
The Corporate Plan has been prepared involving consultation with internal and external stakeholders. It sets out the strategic direction for Fingal County Council for the next five years. This Plan, which is the governance framework for the Council, also provides for the delivery of Annual Reports to record details of progress in relation to the objectives outlined in the Corporate Plan and the delivery of our services between now and 2019.

PROPERTY SERVICES DIVISION

The Council's Property Services Division acquires and disposes of property on behalf of Fingal County Council and manages properties and lands owned by the Council.

Property Acquisition

Lands, properties and wayleaves are acquired for the various statutory purposes of the Council in one of the following ways:

- Agreement – The Property Acquisition Section continued in 2014 to progress the acquisition and disposal of school sites in accordance with Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Education and Skills and the County and City Managers Association. The Section also worked with the Office of Public Works in the provision of INTREO offices.
- Compulsory Purchase Order - Acquisitions in respect of Compulsory Purchase Orders continued in 2014.
- Motorway Order – Remaining acquisition in respect of Motorway Schemes continued in 2014.
- Deed of Waiver – Lands acquired from the Minister for Finance where companies have been dissolved.
- Deed of Dedication – Open Space acquired from developers.

Property Management

Holders of the Council's Property Register. Work on the new Property Interest Register continued in 2014.

Security and maintenance of Council lands/properties.

Letting of Council lands for tillage and grazing by con-acre agreements – approx. 836 acres let in 2014.

Caretaker's Agreements and Temporary Convenience lettings for properties and lands not required by the Council in the short term.

Collection of rents from the Council's residential shops.

Disposal of lands or properties/grant of wayleaves etc.

Lease of lands to Sporting Organisations and Utility Companies.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUESTS

Applications received/processed in	**2014**	**2013**	**2012**
Applications received	54	48	68
Decisions made	50	41	66
Applications on hand at 31 December	4	7	2

Nature of Information Sought	**2014**	**2013**	**2012**
Personal (to applicant)	16	14	24
Non-Personal	38	34	44
Mixed	0	0	0
Granted	34	27	35
Part-granted	13	8	19
Refused	5	6	13
Transferred	0	0	0
Withdrawn/Outside FOI	5	2	3

Appeals	**2014**	**2013**	**2012**
Appeals to Information Commissioner	0	0	0

Source of Requests	**2014**	**2013**	**2012**
Journalists	9	0	3
Business	7	16	17
Oireachtas/Local Authority members	0	0	1
Other/General Public	38	32	46
Staff	0	0	1

Ombudsman Complaints	**2014**	**2013**	**2012**
Complaints received during 201414	14	12	10
Complaints responded to	14	12	10

Subject of Complaints	**2014**	**2013**	**2012**
Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	1	1	0
Operations	1	0	1
Housing	5	8	3
Finance	2	0	0

Environment & Water Services	3	1	5
Community	1	0	0
Economic Development Services	0	0	0
Corporate Affairs	1	2	0
Libraries	0	0	0

Citizen Charter Complaints	**2014**	**2013**	**2012**
Complaints received	7	11	9
Complaints responded to	7	11	9

Subject of Complaints	**2014**	**2013**	**2012**
Planning & Strategic Infrastructure	1	0	0
Operations	3	1	0
Housing	1	6	1
Finance	0	1	0
Environment & Water Services	0	3	0
Community	0	0	0
Economic Development Services	0	0	0
Corporate Affairs	0	0	0
Libraries	2	0	0

INTERNAL AUDIT UNIT

During 2014, Internal Audit provided assurance to the Chief Executive on the existence, adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's Internal Control system. Internal Audit also assisted Departments through audits undertaken, by evaluating and reporting on the elements of the internal control systems, in addition to making recommendations for improvement where necessary. All these Reports included a "Risk Assessment" where appropriate.

2014, saw the establishment of the new Audit Committee by Fingal County Council. Under the newly enacted Local Government Reform Act 2014, and within a specific timeframe following polling day in May for the new Council. Section 59 of the Act provides for the establishment, and also sets out the statutory functions of Audit Committees, while Section 60 confers specific responsibility on audit committees to review the annual auditor's report and audited financial statement. Internal Audit, as part of its core activity continued to provide secretarial services to both the outgoing and the new Audit Committee. In regard to the new Audit Committee the Internal Audit Unit assisted in the provision of the induction programme and arrangements for training of the new members and facilitated in the preparation of the Audit Committee Charter and the Internal Audit Charter and Audit Committee meetings.

In addition Internal Audit:

- Completed a number of Special Investigations
- Continued to promote the concept of Risk Management
- Liaised with the Local Government Auditor
- Liaised with the Council's Audit Committee
- Promoted the concept of Value for Money and Efficiency initiatives
- Continued to emphasis the value of good Corporate Governance

EVENTS UNIT

The Events Unit promotes the Council to the wider community. Many community / voluntary groups approach the Council for advice / assistance to host events. Stemming from the Olympic Torch event, the

Events Unit was presented with the "Investor in Events Award" at the Event Industry Awards for continued investment in the Events Medium as a means of achieving business objectives.

We have a skilled team who work and liaise with a number of departments within the Council along with community groups, voluntary groups and statutory bodies to make events happen.

Corporately Fingal County Council had an input / role in over 400 events within Fingal in 2014.
The following is a flavour of some of these:











- St. Patrick's Day Festival's
- Flavours of Fingal- County Show
- Blanchardstown Spring Break Music Festival
- Dublin Bay Prawn Festival Howth
- Fingal 10K Road Race
- Giro d'Italia



- Fingal Legend's Adventure Race St Catherine's Park Dublin 15
- Swords 1014 Brian Boru Commemoration
- Powerchair Football
- Fingal Festival of Football



- International Cricket Match, Malahide
- Flavours of Fingal
- Autumn Jazz (Balbriggan)
- Swords/Balbriggan Christmas Lights





Swords Christmas Lights




Balbriggan Christmas Lights

SAFETY ADVISORY GROUP

Established at the end of 2011 Fingal's Safety Advisory Group (SAG) carries out the following:

- Provision of advice and support on crowd safety at events (in particular to community / voluntary groups)
- Makes recommendations on public safety at events
- Encourages event organisers to engage with the SAG
- Resourcing through education, guidance and good practice safer and more enjoyable mass gathering events

Follow the events unit on twitter@EVENTSinFingal

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

The Communications Office deals with local and national media queries, advertising, corporate pocket diary, website, social media and oversees corporate communications and internal communications on behalf of Fingal County Council. It advises staff on requirements as a public body under the Official Languages Act.

In 2014 the Communications Team issued press releases, news alerts, queries from local and national media and queries on Twitter and Facebook. 5 Staff newsletters (The Raven) were produced and distributed to all Council staff.

Use of corporate social media accounts has been developed to enhance and improve communication by the council, in particular at times of service disruption or extreme weather events i.e. water supply disruptions or flooding.

As part of the Council's Major Emergency Plan, Communications staff continue to fulfill the role of Media Liaison Officers for training and exercises to act on behalf of Fingal County Council in the event of a declared emergency, and in accordance with the National Framework.

The Communications Team continue to manage and review the implementation of the Fingal Brand.

The Communications Team continue to implement the Internal Communications strategy and action plan. As part of this information is shared with staff on thirteen Internal Staff Information Screens in canteens and break rooms throughout the Council, through a daily staff email message, through updates in the Comms Chat Community in Fingal Connections and through staff briefing sessions.

Fingal Local Authorities Irish Language Scheme

Fingal County Councils 2nd Irish Language Scheme 2015 to 2018 was prepared in accordance with the Official Languages Act 2003 and confirmed by the Minister at the end of 2014. The 2nd scheme is effective from February 2015.

During 2014 the Communications Office dealt with and responded to all queries from the Irish Language Commissioner.

WORKPLACE PARTNERSHIP

The Fingal Workplace Partnership Committee was engaged in the following projects and initiatives during 2014.

- Held the 4th Remembrance Ceremony for deceased Fingal Staff.
- Organised and managed events to help boost morale amongst staff which included Fingal County Council being represented in the Swords St. Patrick's Day Parade, designing and printing a staff calendar showcasing our staff at work helping to create a more positive image of Fingal County

Council.

- Organised competitions for staff to help improve morale in the organization.

- Organised the Health & Safety Week which incorporated a sponsored walk to raise funds to buy a mini bus for "Abhainn" a local unit in Swords which is part of the St. Michaels House charity. Arranged for Corporate Wellbeing Stands to be set up and organised Corporate Health Checks for staff. Also organised and held the Children's competitions and party.

- Organised and developed courses to provide training for outdoor staff to further their careers and help them progress to better paid jobs in the council.

- Organised and Co-ordinated the Transition Year Programme for Fingal County Council. Two one week projects were held in 2014.

- Supported and facilitated the work of local Workplace Partnership Groups.

- Supported the continuing production of the staff newsletter "The Raven".

The Committee also facilitated & supported Working Groups and Sub-Groups in the following Activities throughout 2014:

- Bereavement Working Group.
- Health and Safety.
- Staff Morale/Let's Make it Better
- Equality
- Further Education

Architects' Department

The Architects' Department provided architectural design, conservation, urban design and building procurement and quantity surveying services to all departments of the Council during 2014. The pattern of work has continued to change over the last year; with renewed emphasis on the provision of new social housing and continuing efforts to best use our existing housing stock, in line with government policy; work on public and community buildings; and work on a shared services basis for a number of local authorities.

PROJECTS

CIVIC BUILDINGS

County Hall

A number of projects were completed in the building in support of the core values and objectives in the Council's Corporate Plan:

1. The re-design of the Council Chamber to accommodate the additional Councillors subsequent to the Local Government Act changes and the Local elections of 2014. This involved an increase from 24 to 40 Councillors, the re-organisation of Press and official seating and new communication and projection facilities. This work was completed on time and on budget in November 2014.
2. The installation of new Local Enterprise Office facilities on the first floor
3. The installation of a Fingal Tourism office in the Ground floor Atrium.
4. The conduct of a consultation with staff and visitors in June 2014 about the potential to enhance the use, appearance and comfort of the entrance Atrium
5. The facilitation of the development of an office and training facilities for INTREO in the County Hall and Mainscourt building.



The new Council Chamber at County Hall

Swords Castle
The Council has developed long-term strategic objectives related to an area of Swords around Swords Castle. These objectives recognise the requirement to seek out a new direction for this part of Swords and to facilitate the delivery of a new social and cultural destination centred on Swords Castle and linking back to the retail heart of the town.
To this end several projects were initiated in 2014.

- Swords Castle Gatehouse Stabilisation Works & Excavation (Jan 2014 to mid-2014)

- Launch of Swords Castle Conservation Plan (Sept 2014)
- Swords Castle Cultural Quarter Masterplan
- Swords Castle Working Group and Swords Castle Steering Group

Schools Sites – Pilot projects – Enhanced facilities for Community usage
The Department continued to liaise with Community Recreation and Amenities Department dealing with post-completion issues of existing shared facilities and liaison in connection with 2 new facilities at Ardgillan Community College, Balbriggan and Luttrelstown Community College Dublin 15.

Malahide Castle
The Department oversaw the fire-safety upgrade of the second floor bedrooms in the castle and the fitting out of the rooms in authentic period style and completion of external lighting in the grounds and carpark. The refurbishment of the Steward's House was completed; and works on the refurbishment work of the North-East Gate Lodge tendered.

Donabate/ Portrane Library
This fit-out project was completed, on schedule in February 2014. The job won the "Fit-out of the Year" award for small public sector projects.

Devine's Cottage, Lusk
The Department obtained Part XI tenders for the alteration and extension of this house for use as a community facility; and Phase 1 was completed in 2014.

Depots
The Department continued to work with the Operations Department on the consolidation and re-organisation of the Council's services depot at Coolmine.

Drinan Sports Centre
Detailed design continued through 2014 and the project was tendered in November.

Ardgillan Castle
Tenders for a complete measured survey and condition report; and for a fire safety audit were sought and received in 2014. A project for the restoration of the large glasshouse on the rose garden was initiated.

Balgriffin Cemetery
Design work was started on this project in 2014, with a view to obtaining Part XI consent and tendering the project in 2015.

Newbridge Demesne
Design development took place on the reordering of visitor facilities at Newbridge House and Farm.re-organisation of the gift shop and tea rooms. Part XI planning consent will be sought for these works in 2015.

Howth Tourist Information Kiosk
This was opened to the public in July 2014.

Loughshinny Boathouse
A project for the restoration and fitting out of this historic structure for use by the life guard service and as an Artist's studio were completed in 2014.

Skerries Mills
A project for the provision of a new performance space was initiated in 2014.

HOUSING

The Architect's Department continued to offer professional services to the Housing Department in 2014.

New Build Schemes
The Department worked on the design and procurement of three housing schemes within the County in 2014:

1. A 14-house scheme at Cappagh Road, Dublin 11;
2. A 14-dwelling scheme at Glasmore Green, Swords;
3. A single house at St. Cronan's Avenue, Swords.

Development of the schemes from inception to acceptance of tenders was completed by the Department within the year 2014. Work on Glasmore Green was commenced on site in December. Work on the other two sites will commence in early 2015. Site feasibility work began on a number of further sites throughout the County, with the intention of developing these sites (some 200 dwellings) as part of the 2015 Housing Programme.

The Department advised and assisted with the development of two housing schemes: a 9-house scheme in Balrothery for North and East Housing Association; and a 9-house scheme, an extension of the St. Benedict's scheme in Malahide, for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. It is anticipated that work will start on site on these schemes in 2015.

A significant refurbishment scheme for the halting site at Moyne Park was designed and tendered during 2014.

Pyrite Remediation
The Architect's Department assessed pyrite remediation work at Corduff Park; and tendered this work for seven houses. Work on remediation of these infill houses will continue as they become available for repair.

Inspections
Advice continued to be given and inspections carried out for house purchases as requested by the Housing Department.

House adaptations, extensions and small works-
18 new accessible showers, 7 new and 1 replacement stair-lift installations and 5 external ramps were completed. One specially adapted extension was completed on site this year, with construction started on another 6. Tender documentation was prepared for a further 7 extensions.

Housing Maintenance
One of the most significant changes to housing maintenance within the council was the closure of the Watery Lane Housing Depot in April 2014; and the award of a contract for housing maintenance in the North County area to a private contractor.

The Department continued to manage the maintenance of the Council's stock of 4,476 council dwellings along with 92 Long Term Lease units; attending to just over 10,554 requests for repair (including requests from the Traveller Accommodation Unit), as well as scheduled external maintenance and repair to 668

dwellings; and heating maintenance to over 4000 dwellings. 212 vacant houses were repaired prior to re-letting in 2014 (This is an increase of 21% over 2013).

Energy Efficiency Works

The Architect's Department, together with the Housing Department carried out external insulation works to 24 dwellings and an apartment complex of 12 units.





External insulated render at Dublin Street Flats

In partnership with Airtricity Ltd. a boiler replacement programme was carried out of 69 houses targeting two estates in Blanchardstown & Swords.

In partnership with Bord Na Mona we carried out a window and boiler replacement programme of 12 houses for Traveller Group Housing.

An extensive Window and Door replacement programme was carried out of over 200 occupied dwellings in Blanchardstown and North County Dublin. The Council was granted in excess of € 1,200,000 for these works by the Dept. of Environment and Local Government.

Cavity and roof insulation upgrades were carried out in 108 houses including extraction of perished fibre insulation.

The Council's work in improving energy efficiency in 2014 led to an estimated energy saving of 2.8 Gigawatt/Hours for the year 2014.

CONSULTANCY SERVICES

The Architect's Department continued to provide architectural consultancy services in design development for access works and repairs to Ardee Castle for Louth County Council.

A 14-house scheme, the first phase of the regeneration of Aisling Park for Louth County Council was tendered in 2014, with work to commence on site in January 2015.

Scout Den at Portmarnock

The Architect's Department provided post-tender and contract administration services for this new building for Portmarnock Guide and Scout Troops. The building will be complete early in 2015.

Baldoyle Library
The department designed, procured and installed a combined study and shelving unit for young people.





Baldoyle Library study unit

QUANTITY SURVEYING, COST PLANNING AND COST CONTROL

The Quantity Surveying section of the Architect's Department provided a full range of cost advice and control services throughout 2014 including cost planning, construction procurement, contract administration, etc., associated with projects for a range of Council Departments. The range of work included new housing, relets, housing maintenance, housing energy efficiency upgrades, community and public building projects as set out here before in this report. In addition to this under the Government shared resources directive the Quantity Surveying Section and Department has undertaken works for other local authorities requiring similar services.

CONSERVATION

The Conservation Office within the Architects Dept. oversees projects and provides advice and reports that relate to architectural heritage matters.

Built Heritage Jobs Leverage Scheme 2014

The Conservation Officer administered, inspected and allocated the funding provided to Fingal under the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht's Built Heritage Jobs Leverage Scheme 2014. The scheme assisted the repair and conservation of Protected Structures and buildings within Architectural Conservation Areas that contribute to the character of the area. €127,061 in funding was allocated to 11 projects.



Examples of works funded under Built Heritage Jobs Leverage Scheme

Traditional Buildings Skills Training Scheme 2014

The Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DAHG) approached Fingal County Council to participate in a pilot project to develop and enhance skillsets in built heritage conservation. A training scheme on historic joinery was developed between the Architects, Operations and Human Resources Departments of Fingal County Council and the School of Trades, DIT Bolton Street which consisted of both theory classes on historic joinery and practical workshops. The participants were carpenters/joiners from the Construction Crew of the Operations Dept. The training sought to advance their existing knowledge and skills to enable them repair and restore the historic timber glasshouse in Ardgillan Demesne, work on which is due to commence in 2015. Part of the course was also attended by students and staff from DIT.



Review of the Record of Protected Structures

A major review of the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) commenced in 2014 to examine potential additions, deletions and amendments to the RPS. The review will entail an examination of almost 1,200 structures.

Planning & Strategic Infrastructure

The Conservation Officer reported on planning application files, including strategic infrastructure projects, pre-planning consultations, queries in relation to unauthorised development, and investigated endangerment and/or neglect of protected structures. wrote reports or verbally commented on 151 planning files and compliances and attended monthly Planning Files meetings. The Conservation Officer also dealt with numerous pre-planning consultations in the form of meetings, site visits, emails and phone calls. Cases and queries relating to unauthorized development, endangerment and/or neglect of Protected Structures were investigated. Architectural conservation advice was also provided on strategic infrastructure projects such as proposed cycling routes, bus routes, and signage schemes.

Tourism & Commemorations

Through the Conservation Officer, the Architects Department contributed to the drafting of Fingal County Council's strategies and policies on tourism and commemorations. The Conservation Officer is a member of the Tourism and Events Steering Group and took part in the consultation for the forthcoming Fingal Tourism Strategy. The Conservation Officer was also a member of the Commemorations Group that organised the Swords 1014 event and is a member of the new Commemorations Working Group established to look at potential events during the decade of centenaries.

PLANNING AND URBAN DESIGN

Public Realm Studies
The Department prepared further studies on the public realm in Malahide, including work on a booklet on colour and painting buildings; and a study and proposal for the Green.

Architectural Reports on Planning Applications-
The Department has written reports on architectural content in respect of planning applications for significant private developments being proposed in the County and taken part in pre planning meetings on request from the Planning Department.

OTHER SERVICES

As well as the above, the Department offered varied advice, procurement or management services; dealing with pyrite; way leave applications; and permissions to carry out alterations by tenants; The Department continued to provide out-of-hours dangerous building inspections and reports, as required, in 2014.

The Department also attended the Green Infrastructure Group; the Branding and Signage Group; the Planning Files Review Group: and the Fingal Pyrite Panel.

The Department also took up membership of a subgroup of the Building Control Management System steering group dealing with the application of the new building control regulations in the state sector.

Housing Department

HOUSING PROCUREMENT

Social housing procurement includes Long Term Leasing Scheme and the Rental Accommodation Scheme. To this end 722 RAS properties have been secured to date, 54 in 2014 together with 92 Long Term Leasing properties, 17 in 2014.

In addition the Council entered into agreements to purchase 30 housing units for social housing purposes during 2014.

UNSOLD AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Council continued to utilise the provision of Circular Letter AHS1 2009 which provides for the leasing of unsold affordable units to voluntary housing bodies, 272 of which are now occupied by families from the Council's housing list.

HOUSING ADAPTATION GRANTS SCHEME FOR OLDER PEOPLE AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY

There were 179 private grants approved totalling €2,025,999.

HOUSING STOCK

Rental

At 31st December 2014 the Council had 4,491 social properties and 92 long-term lease properties in its housing stock. The Rental income from these properties was €13,852,015.79. There are an additional 84 units of Traveller's housing stock and c. 96 Halting Site Bays with a Rental Income of €189,059.90.

Loans

At 31st December 2014, 1,700 live mortgage accounts yielded payment of €11,152,524.

ESTATE MANAGEMENT

€5.3m revenue expenditure was incurred on response maintenance and general upkeep of the Council' Housing Stock and estates and a further €1.1m revenue expenditure was incurred in respect of the Traveller's Accommodation Unit's response maintenance.

10,554 response maintenance requests were received during 2014.

In addition 3,979 boilers are part of the Council's Boiler Servicing Programme.

11 Tenant Induction Courses were held to assist tenants to settle into their new homes and communities.

The Estate Management Section attended 33 Residents Association meetings. Meetings held with An Garda Síochana on 10 occasions, concerning Community Policing and Estate Management issues.

719 allegations regarding Anti-Social Behaviour and breach of tenancy were received during 2014.

There are presently 7 excluding orders in place regarding anti-social individuals from Council tenancies and vacant possession of 4 anti-social tenancies was recovered.

Estate Improvement Works were completed in Ladyswell Park, Dromheath, Fortlawn, Whitechapel, Domville to deal with laneway issues and alleviate Anti-Social Behaviour at Anti-Social Behaviour black spots.

Garden maintenance and grass cutting dealt with in 455 dwellings (senior citizens and vulnerable tenants) under the grass cutting programme,

Capital expenditure of €6 m was incurred on planned maintenance programmes and other improvements as outlined below.

Pre-Let Repairs completed in 212 dwellings with grant funding from the DECLG to 163 dwellings in the amount of €1,938,780. The number of vacant dwellings was reduced by 70% in 2014 as a result of ongoing Business Process Improvements.

Central Heating installation and upgrading works carried out in 55 dwellings.

Painting and joinery works took place in 624 dwellings under the cyclical maintenance programme.

Windows and where necessary, doors, were replaced in 193 tenanted dwellings and 20 Traveller Accommodation Units under the window and door replacement programme.

Energy Efficiency Programme
Under the Building Fabric Upgrade Programme, wall insulation was upgraded in 146 tenanted dwellings.

External insulation works were carried out to 38 dwellings where the construction of the dwellings rendered them unsuitable for cavity wall insulation.

A central heating system upgrade programme was completed to 69 tenanted dwellings where the heating systems were approaching the end of the life cycle; part-funded by a grant from the SEAI.

ALLOCATIONS

A total of 366 dwellings were allocated in 2014 to applicants who had applied to Fingal County Council for Social Housing Support, as follows:

• Social Casual	163
• Purchases	45
• RAS	62
• Long Term Leasing	17
• Approved Housing Bodies	79
	366

TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION

The 2014 Annual Count of Traveller Families showed that a total of 456 families are resident in the County

The Traveller Accommodation Programme 2014 – 2018 and was approved by the Council in January 2014.

4 Group Houses were refurbished and 6 bays were refurbished.

20 Group Houses had window and doors upgrades.

In addition, Fingal County Council provided 42 units of accommodation to Travellers in 2014.

Indicator	2014	2013	2012
H: Housing			
H.1 Housing Vacancies			
Total Number of dwellings in local authority stock	4,491	4,482	4,478
Overall % of dwellings that are let	98.53%	96.9%	96.74%
Overall % of dwelling that are empty	1.47%	3.1%	3.26%
% of empty dwellings subject to major refurbishment schemes	4.5%	n/a	n/a
% of empty dwellings unavailable for letting	95.5%	83.5%	82.2%
% of empty dwelling available for letting	4.5%	16.5%	17.8%
H.2 Average time taken to re-let dwellings available for letting	17 days	23 days	35 days
H.3 Number of repairs completed as a percentage of the number of valid repair requests received	95%	91%	96%
H.4 Average time taken to inform applicants of Local authority's decision on applications for:			
The shared ownership housing scheme	n/a	n/a	n/a
Housing loan schemes	54 days	56 days	81 days
Local authority housing	30 days	30 days	30 days
H.5 Traveller Accommodation			
Total number of traveller families accommodated as a percentage of the targets set in the local traveler accommodation programme	106%	31%	40%

Rev: Revenue Collection			
Rev.1 House Rent			

a) Amount collected at year as a percentage of amount due:	88.97%	87.81%	87.28%
(b) Percentage of arrears			
- 4 – 6 weeks old	6.15%	5.28%	5.12%
- 6-12 weeks old	13.44%	14.59%	13.91%
- More than 12 weeks old	72.05%	75.45%	75.34%

Rev.2 Housing Loans			
(a) Amount collected at year as a percentage of amount due:	86.73%	88.45%	90.65%
(b) Percentage of arrears			
- 1 month old	4.61%	5.44%	6.46%
- 2-3 months old	2.53%	3.43%	4.94%
- More than 3 months	92.86%	91.13%	

Community, Culture & Sports Division

The activities and operational programmes of the Community, Sports and Arts Offices outlined below are closely interlinked as it is recognised that each of them is essentially involved in community development.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

The Division's Community Development Officers worked on a variety of programmes and supported a wide range of community organisations during 2014. A comprehensive support and advisory service was provided to voluntary community-based bodies throughout the County by a team of field staff who work in close liaison and help address the needs expressed by those groups. The 5 Units within the Community Office organised on a geographical basis were instrumental in the delivery of a number of programmes and activities in 2014. These units worked with 90 priority groups on a monthly basis.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The Units play a key role in supporting the development of local management and operational structures that oversee the day to day operation of Standalone Community Facilities and Shared Community Facilities. In 2014 we supported the completion and opening of the Youth and Community Facility in Rush. In addition the Community Officers have provided both Quality Management support under the KPI Audit Programme and Community Development and Community Usage supports under the First Steps Programme. Two of our facilities, Donabate and Portrane Community Centre and the Mountview and Fortlawn Community Campus achieved the highest standards under EIQA Quality Management Awards Scheme.

Staff of the standalone Community Facilities working with the Community Officers and the local Community Committees continued to deliver the First Steps programme and the Quality Management Programme in 2014. The Community Officers support and enable voluntary management committees of Community Centres to carry out their roles effectively. They provided information, mentoring, advice and models of good practice in various disciplines. The Units worked with all community facilities that avail of the Council's management assistance funding.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

The main focus of our Community Development work is in supporting and enabling community and voluntary groups in Fingal to effect change and combat social exclusion within their own communities. In 2014, the Units delivered supports such as training, information and mentoring services to over 120 voluntary and community groups. The Units delivered or commissioned 84 Community Education programmes involving 714 for participants in the area of committee skills, tenant induction, First Steps, basic English, healthy eating and kitchen gardening.

In 2014 during the development of the Fingal Community County Register, over 1,600 community groups were contacted, their details verified and updated on the system.
The Community Office took the lead in the development and delivery of Fingal's Public Participation Network, the Fingal Community Network (FCN). The FCN membership stands at 280 and membership is expected rise significantly in 2015.



In 2014 we worked with the Ethnic, Senior Citizens, Disability and Environment Networks. The networks were supported in the development and delivery of action plans for the year.

FUNDING

Funding Provided to Community and Voluntary Organisations in 2014 under the Activity and Summer Project Programme was €96,056.60.

In 2014, it is estimated that over 4,000 young people participated in funded Summer Projects.

19 Facilities received financial assistance from a total amount of €335,000 allocated to Management Assistance Funding.

A grant in the sum of €172,752 was allocated to Fingal County Council from the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport under its Sports Capital Programme in respect of Ongar Community Centre. The monies were allocated towards the artificial surface, floodlighting, equipment and fencing of the Ongar All Weather Pitch and €108,363 was drawn down by Fingal County Council during 2014. Work is ongoing on the final claim following completion of the programme.

AGE FRIENDLY

In Sept 2011, Fingal County Council and Fingal County Development Board signed the Dublin Declaration of Age Friendly Counties and Communities a World Health Organisations (WHO) Initiative. Fingal was the first Local Authority in the Dublin Region to become an Age Friendly County. As part of the process, older people throughout the county were consulted on matters of concern to them. In June 2012, an Age Friendly Strategy for the county was developed and launched by Minister for Health, James Reilly T.D.

Since then a number of actions have been undertaken in the county including:

- In 2014 The Community Development Office continued to support the Fingal Age Friendly Initiative by developing and delivering age appropriate initiatives such as Digitise the Nation, the Health, Fitness and Well Being Programmes, the Stretch and Relaxation Programme.
- In 2014, Beaumont Hospital and DAA undertook to complete the Age Friendly Institutions and Communities Programme with the support of the Fingal Age Friendly Alliance. Older people from Fingal have supported both organisations participating in Walkability Surveys and Consultation Sessions. Feedback from these sessions will be included in Age Friendly Action plans in the Airport and the Hospital.

- The Fingal Senior Citizen's Forum has been very proactive during this period. To address issues of social exclusion and isolation, they have hosted Tea Dances and Information Seminars and supported the establishment of Men's Sheds groups. The members were also first to voice their concerns to Irish Water and the Data Protection Commissioner and are keen to continue this work into 2015.



SPORTS OFFICE

The Sports Office was involved in a number of sports and physical activity programmes over the year and worked closely, and in parallel, with the Community Office and other Council Departments.

The Sports Office, which is part of the Irish Sports Council's network of Local Sports Partnerships, delivered 826 programmes to in excess of 61,000 participants, working with 580 clubs, organisations and schools. Some of the highlights were:

Sports Conditioning Programme (Sportscon)
Sportscon is a specialised training module developed for children of all ages and abilities. The aim of the programme is to improve children's basic movement skills through exercises and fun games. This helps to build confidence and self-esteem in the children. As with many of our sports programmes the intention is to leave a legacy behind, by training teachers and volunteers in the delivery of Sports Con allowing the programme to continue in many schools. During 2014, the programme was delivered in 25 primary schools some 4,108 pupils benefited from the programme. An additional 205 teachers from 16 schools participated in a specialised training workshop. 57 Community groups participated in the programme where 186 Volunteers and staff received training. A further 49 special need carers and volunteers receiving training in the delivery of Sports Con.

Sporting Facts
Sporting Facts is a sports and educational programme using Sports Con as the basis of all activity sessions alongside classroom modules consisting fun quizzes and competitions aimed at teaching primary school children the many benefits of sport, physical activity and healthy lifestyles. The programme was delivered in 31 schools to in excess of 4,000 children and 130 teachers participating in the programme.

In addition, we worked in partnership with the Libraries Department to deliver the Big Sports Quiz. This pilot programme aimed at two primary schools in Balbriggan combined participation in sports through Sporting Facts and Sports Con, while encouraging the children to read books. The author and illustrator visited both schools and met with the children. The programme culminated in the Big Sports Quiz where 90 children participated with both school awarded a trophy plus every child received a medal presented by the Mayor and the Chief Executive.



School & Youth Sport
During 2014, the Office organised and delivered a variety of sporting activities.

Soccer & Tag Rugby blitzes, indoor cricket leagues, top class throw competition (cricket). Primary School Athletics events, tennis programmes and a variety of sports school blitzes. In addition we introduced athletics in secondary schools including javelin and shot putt throwing. Another activity introduced was aimed at those who do not participate in team sports; SNAG (Starting New At Golf) introduced in schools give the pupils an opportunity to participate try out golf using brightly coloured easy to use equipment.



Late Night Soccer, which is run in partnership with the FAI and the Local Community Garda catered for 746 young people per week, in six venues. The programme is run between 9 – 11 pm on a Friday night gives young people (boys & girls) an opportunity to participate in positive pastimes.

A programme using sport as a means of introducing and assisting the transition for primary school pupils into secondary school was run in nine schools with 667 primary pupils and 30 secondary schools students acting as mentors and coaches to the younger children

Coach Education Programme
The Office ran a number of courses including Code of Ethics (child protection), Children's Officer, Emergency Skills (first aid) and supported a range of National Governing Bodies Coach/Referee Education courses and training for and up skilling volunteers. In partnership with Dublin City Council, South Dublin, DúnLaoghaire / Rathdown, Kildare and Wicklow Sports Partnerships we presented a Sport Seminar for Secondary School Teachers.

Fingal Fitness and Football Training Course
In conjunction with the FAI and Blanchardstown Area Partnership we are delivering this course, which is using sport and fitness as a means to assist unemployed people to seek employment or further education.

Activity Programmes
Activities run by the Office during 2014 included a number of older adult programmes including swim programmes, Nordic walking, Pitch and Putt with Fingal represented by a team in the Go for Life National Games in DCU in June.

The Sports Office held the Operation Transformation Walk in Ardgillan Demesne in January as part of the RTE television programme. Over 400 people joined the Mayor, Kieran Dennison on a very wet and miserable day.

Joint-funded Sports Specific Development
The Office co-funded 5 Football in the Community Development Officers with the F.A.I., 1 Rugby Development Officer with Leinster R.F.U., 1 part-time Tennis Development Officer in conjunction with Tennis Ireland, and a Cricket Development Officer with Leinster Cricket.

Women in Sport
Irish Sports Council jointly funded programmes in 2014 included a Camogie blitz, Gaelic 4 Girls, Ladies and Girls cricket, Cardio Tennis, Girls Festival of Football, Girls Football School Club Links to encourage girls to join local clubs. The clubs are encouraged and supported to form girls section(s)/teams. In addition woman and girls tag rugby and a number of girls only blitzes and competitions were run. We also presented a training session for primary school teachers to teach them the basic skills of tennis, football and cricket to encourage them to involve girls in the sport.

Disability Sports
As a result of the ongoing success of the Blind Golf programme commenced last year, Fingal was selected to hold the International Blind Golf Open. Over 30 top golfers from around the world with their families, caddies and supporters visited the area for the tournament. In addition the Sports Office delivered "Be Active Be Inclusive" training programme, which provided sports and physical activity training to carers and volunteers working with people with disabilities, a football programme in conjunction with HSE occupational therapists for adult men and continued support for powerchair sports.



Partnerships
The Office continues to rely on partnership with a myriad of agencies and organisations to deliver its programmes to the widest range of the community.

ARTS OFFICE

The role of Fingal County Council's Arts Office is to encourage, foster and support cultural activity within Fingal, through supporting the development of creative people and communities. The Arts have the power to enrich the quality of people's lives and the communities in which they live. This is achieved through the provision of broad based arts service which includes; grants and bursaries, educational programmes, public art commissions, the funding and support of two arts centres, and support to professional artists living in Fingal. The Arts office operates a policy based approach which has been informed through an in-depth consultation with all arts sectors in Fingal. In 2013 the Arts Office published the Council's second Fingal Arts Development Plan (2013-2017)

Arts Grants awarded under section 6 of the 2003 Arts Act
In 2014, a total of **€40,000** was awarded to Community Arts Festivals and Traditional Music Festivals, with **€53,000** awarded under the general arts grant scheme. A further **€649,300** was awarded direct to the Council's two Arts Centres, Draíocht and the Séamus Ennis Cultural Centre.

Arts & Cultural Centres
Fingal County Council continued to enhance the cultural life in Fingal and provide public access to the Arts through the ongoing development of its two Arts Centres.

Draíocht
Draíocht is a Dublin 15 multi-purpose arts venue and hosted 378 ticketed events in 2014 to which 37,293 people attended. Approximately 10,000 attended non ticketed events in 2014 which included Stagezone School dance & drama classes, exhibition visits, exhibition launches and school tours

The Séamus Ennis Arts Centre
The Séamus Ennis Art Centre is a multi-disciplined Arts Centre which showcases local, national and international quality musicians and artists. In 2014 the Centre had **129** ticketed events (Jan - Dec) these events included concerts, art/crafts & music workshops, cinema, festivals and talks & discussions. The Centre sold **4,361** tickets during the year.



Youth and Education
During 2014 the Arts Office commenced or continued a range of programmes under this theme. They included:

- **Artful Dodgers**: A programme delivered in partnership with the Fingal County Childcare Committee in 2 creches to 45 children and crèche staff. The programme included research by Trinity College into the arts for early years and the results of the research will be disseminated in 2015.
- **Studio Programme (Room 13):** Supporting the establishment of student run art studios in 2 primary schools with 2 artists.
- **Space Invaders:** A unique early childhood arts festival held in Farmleigh in July and attended by over 500 members of the public.
- **Multimedia Project:** In collaboration with Create and Draíocht a week long multi-media project for 14 – 16 year olds.
- **Youth Music Theatre:** The Dublin 15 Youth Theatre participated in a week of workshops with professional actors.



Arts and Health
Supported the establishment of a choir for people and families affected by dementia which was featured on a radio documentary on RTE.

Public Art
Resort Residency: 8 different artists engaging with local groups and residents during each of their week long stays at a local mobile home park.

Balbriggan African Women's Group Fashion Project: Working with the Balbriggan African Women's group to establish an initiative around traditional African dress.



Commissions +: Publication commissioned and completed which will add to the discussions on public art commissioning here and abroad.

New Initiatives

Artists Support Scheme: A new bursary which allows professional artists to avail of an award to help towards the development of their work and careers. 18 awards made.

Block T Graduate Award: Based on the assessment of open submissions invited from under and post graduate students graduating in 2014 the successful graduate was awarded a studio in Block T for one year with a solo exhibition at the year end.

Fingal Artists Network: The hosting of the first gathering of Fingal artists with a view to forming a support network.

Loughshinny Boathouse: In collaboration with colleagues in Operations and Architects the adaptation and fit out of the boathouse to jointly house lifeguards and also artist studio space.

Commissioned animation: As part of the communication strand for the 2013 – 17 Arts Plan an 80 second animation was commissioned to highlight the value of the Arts in day to day life in Fingal.

20th Anniversary Arts showcase: A major showcase of the work of the Arts Office which took place in Farmleigh in December where over 400 people enjoyed a selection of Arts Office projects and performances by a number of groups who had been supported over the years under the grants schemes.

Economic Development Services

The Economic Development Services Department supports the structured economic development of Fingal by planning for, initiating and managing projects that contribute positively to the county's ongoing economic development. It promotes job creation by working in partnership with local businesses, Chambers of Commerce, IDA and Enterprise Ireland. It promotes and assists co-ordination between the Fingal Local Community Development Committee, the Fingal Local Enterprise Office and third level institutions including the Institute of Technology Blanchardstown and Dublin City University.

Economic Planning, Marketing & Promotion of Fingal

In 2014 Fingal County Council launched a Business Promotion Grant scheme. The fund for the scheme is set at €100,000, €20,000 per electoral area. The grant can cover any initiative aimed at promoting, generating or sustaining business in an area such as:

- Initiatives to market or promote a business area or category
- Events that showcase products/services in an area
- Minor environmental improvements or initiatives in a district or area

Grants will be provided to initiatives that fulfil the following objectives:

- To help generate and sustain business activity by delivering tangible outputs such as increased footfall.
- To encourage businesses/retailers in an area to work collaboratively and collectively to promote and sustain business activity in their area.
- To encourage the Business Community to work with Fingal County Council and other public agencies.



Two other initiatives were developed to market and promote Balbriggan and Dublin 15 as areas for potential investment by multi-national companies and indigenous businesses. A website, infographic and video were developed for Balbriggan (www.balbriggan.ie). In addition a Steering Group, chaired by the Chief Executive, has been formed to develop and market a brand for the Dublin 15 Enterprise Zone. This Steering Group comprises representatives from national and local business agencies together with representatives from local businesses and multi-national companies in Dublin 15, the Institute of Technology, Blanchardstown and key members of the Council's staff.

Developing and Managing Industrial Parks

The Council continues to work with the business sector to develop Industrial Parks at Damastown, Cappogue, Stephenstown, College Business and Technology Park, Blanchardstown and Turvey. In 2014 Alexion Pharma International Trading, a subsidiary of Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc., announced its plans to expand its operations in Ireland following the acquisition, from Fingal County Council, of a new site in College Business Park. The Company expects that this expansion will create approximately 200 new jobs at Alexion as part of an investment of approximately €75 million in this new site over the next two years. In addition to the company jobs, up to 200 new construction jobs are also expected to be created as a result of this announcement.



Fingal Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP)

The establishment of the LCDC is in response to the Local Government Reform Act 2014, for the purposes of developing, coordinating and implementing a coherent and integrated approach to local and community development. The LCDC met 5 times in 2014 and will continue to meet regularly in 2105 to give effect to these legislative commitments.
The LCDC will be responsible for national funding programmes, the implementation in 2015 of the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) will support local strategies for communities and individuals, identifying and addressing social inclusion and equality issues and promoting access to life learning, employment, self-employment and creating social enterprise opportunities.

The 19 member LCDC has broad representation from public and private interests including business, local development, education, enterprise, agriculture and voluntary and local authority members. The LCDC in its responsibility for the preparation and implementation of the community element of the Local Economic & Community Plan will seek to ensure effectiveness, consistency, co-ordination and avoidance of duplication between publicly funded local and community development programmes.

Fingal Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)

The purpose of the LECP, as provided for in the Local Government Reform Act 2014, is to set out, for a six-year period, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic and community development of the Fingal area, both by itself directly and in partnership with other economic and community stakeholders. Work commenced on the formulation of the Plan in 2014 and an Advisory Steering Group was established with representatives from the LCDC and the Economic Development and Enterprise SPC to develop a socio-economic statement which will be the subject of a public consultation process in early 2015.

Flavours of Fingal County Show 2014

The Flavours of Fingal County Show was held on the 28th and 29th June in Newbridge House & Farm, Donabate. An estimated 30,000 people attended over the two days. There was a total of 75 exhibitors at the show and new attractions included a Learning Zone for children, which was an interactive zone with workshops and educational messages about farming and food.

The Walled Garden/Food Village hosted local food producers, cooking and floristry demonstrations. In the farm area there were sheep and cattle competitions, sheep dog trials, an equestrian show and a dog agility show. Other activities included face painting, the Big Dig (archaeological dig for children), bouncy castles and a weaving and spinning demonstration. This two day show was strongly supported by local businesses who participated in the event and who generously contributed funding support.

Tourism

Financial support by the Council to the administration and operation of Fingal Tourism continued in 2014. Additionally the Council supported Fingal Tourism through its membership on the board and participation in joint programmes of trade and consumer fairs, in store-promotions, targeted advertising, public relations and direct marketing campaigns and tourism guides (www.fingaldublin.ie). Fingal also supported 19 events through the Community Tourism Diaspora Initiative.

Links to Chengdu, China



Sam Dennigan Company staff, officials from the County Council and officials from Chengdu in the People's Republic of China

In November, 2014 officials from Chengdu in the People's Republic of China visited Fingal. The itinerary for the day included a visit to Fingal's Drinan Enterprise Centre, Swords and a visit to Sam Dennigan and Company. The delegation also received a presentation from Dr. Pól Mac Aonghusa, Senior Research Manager in IBM on collaboration with the Dublin Local Authorities and IBM in their Smarter Cities Technology Centre in Dublin. The final appointment of the day was with Dublin City University where the delegation received presentations on the Irish Centre for Cloud Computing and Commerce and DCU's Master's Degree Programme in Emergency Management.

Local Enterprise Office

Fingal's Local Enterprise Office (LEO Fingal) was officially opened in May by Richard Bruton, Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation and Mayor of Fingal Cllr. Kieran Dennison. The new Local Enterprise Office was established through the integration of the Fingal County Enterprise Board into the Economic Development Services Department of the Council. LEO Fingal is the 'First-stop-shop' for enterprise supports in the County.



Official Opening of the Local Enterprise Office Fingal

All of the services provided by the former County Enterprise Board continue to be offered to Fingal Enterprises and Start-ups by the new Local Enterprise Office together with new enhanced services such as the Online Trading Vouchers grant scheme which helps enterprises develop their e-commerce potential, improved access to Microfinance Ireland finance and the new "Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur" competition which promotes entrepreneurship among young people.

c

Launch of the Online Trading Voucher Grant Scheme at the official opening of the Local Enterprise Office Fingal

During the year LEO Fingal approved grant aid with total funding approved exceeding €815,000. As a result of this funding, 51 new jobs will be created initially rising to a potential 115 new jobs within the first 12 months. The ever popular Start Your Own Business Programme had 125 participants and 795 would-be-entrepreneurs and start-ups attended the weekly Business Advice Clinics.

The Local Enterprise Office also offers a mentoring service to pre-start-ups and existing businesses with 128 mentoring assignments approved during the year. In 2014 the Local Enterprise Office had high demand for Management Development Workshops. Ideas Generation Workshops, Business Briefings, E-commerce and Digital Marketing Training, and Core Management Development Programmes such as Accelerate, The Food Academy, Hi-start and Plato. The Local Enterprise Office also supports the Dublin Food Chain, Export Trade Missions and Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur competition among others.



Fingal Finalists attending the Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur Bootcamp in October

The Fingal Enterprise Week was held during October and is now recognised as the biggest and most successful Enterprise Week nationally. During Enterprise week, a comprehensive programme of activities including seminars, mentoring and workshops were held with record levels of attendance from entrepreneurs and pre-start-ups.



The launch of Fingal Enterprise Week 2014

The annual Fingal Enterprise Awards ceremony was held during Enterprise Week, where the achievements of Fingal's most dynamic new businesses were recognised.

The Fingal Student Enterprise Awards Programme had its most successful year to date with 1,809 students from 22 secondary schools and 348 students from 8 primary schools taking part. The annual awards ceremony was held during March where awards were presented across three different categories.



At the Fingal Student Enterprise Awards 2014

Fingal County Council has developed and continues to support three Enterprise Centres in the County. The management of these Enterprise Centres has been aligned into the Local Enterprise Office structure allowing a more joined-up and comprehensive offering to start-ups and growing businesses. Fingal's newest Centre, the Drinan Enterprise Centre in Swords was opened during 2010. Drinan, together with BASE in Mulhuddart and BEaT in Balbriggan provide start-up space and training facilities for businesses in these catchment areas. Over 75 businesses and around 300 jobs are currently supported in the three enterprise centres.



Drinan Enterprise Centre

Environment and Water Services Department

ENVIRONMENT DIVISION

Functions in this Division include waste management planning, waste regulation, monitoring and enforcement, water pollution, litter enforcement, air quality and noise pollution.

Recommended Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections (RMCEI) Plan

- The RMCEI Plan 2014 was implemented through the combined resources of the Environment Division to ensure the efficient monitoring and implementation of environmental legislation.

Waste Enforcement

- 23 Enforcement actions were initiated for breaches of the Waste Management Acts in 2014.
- 2 Waste Facility Permits were granted in 2014 for waste recovery facilities.
- 15 Waste Facility Permits were amended in 2014 due to new Regulations.
- 48 inspections of 19 registered self-compliers were carried out in conjunction with the Packaging Regulations 2014.
- Food Waste Regulations – 52 inspections.
- Waste Tyre Regulations – 7 inspections.
- WEEE Regulations - 475 premises registered with the European Recycling Platform (ERP).
- 50 compliance inspections carried out.

Litter Control

- 919 fines issued in 2014.
- 155 files were prepared for prosecution.



Air Quality Control

This is provided on an agency basis by the Health Service Executive (HSE) Environmental Health Officers (EHO's).

- The Primary Air Quality Station is situated in Blanchardstown, Dublin 15 measuring PM10 and NOx. Data is given in real time and forms part of the Regional Air Quality Monitoring Network.
- 102 inspections were carried out in 2014 under the Air Pollution Act (Marketing, Sale, Distribution and Burning of Specified Fuels) Regulations 2012.
- 56 Targeted inspections of coal sellers and distributors.
- 21 complaints from members of the public relating to burning of specified fuels investigated.

Noise Control

- 173 Complaints investigated by EHOs.

Control of Dogs & Horses

- 5,686 dog licenses issued 1517 issued online.
- 353 dogs seized and 36 surrendered to the Dog Pound in 2014.
- 206 horses impounded at the Council's pound in 2014.



Regional Dog Fouling Signage Launch 2014

Water Pollution Control

Fingal County Council is part of the Eastern River Basin District (ERBD). The primary objective is to achieve compliance with statutory obligations relating to waters as set out in the River Basin Management Plan under the Water Framework Directive (WFD).

Activities during 2014 included:

- Water quality monitoring of rivers and streams under the WFD (500 samples).
- Quarterly surface water monitoring of 17 statutory locations.
- Investigating and closing out of 24 water pollution incidents (rivers, bathing areas).

- Implementation of Bathing Water Regulations, including monitoring and reporting of water quality of identified bathing waters.
- Conducting 21 farm inspections and cross reporting any non-compliances.
- Monitoring of 73 Trade Effluent Discharge licences.
- Conducting 19 inspections of domestic waste water treatment systems in accordance with the EPA National Inspection Plan.

Waste Management Plan – Eastern Midlands Region

Following the establishment of the new waste planning regions, a new Plan was drafted for the Eastern Midlands Region. The Eastern-Midlands Region includes the local authorities: Dublin City, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal, South Dublin, Kildare, Louth, Laois, Longford, Meath, Offaly, Westmeath and Wicklow. The draft Plan was published for public consultation in November 2014.

WASTE INFRASTRUCTURE



Balleally Landfill
Balleally Landfill ceased the acceptance of waste in May 2012 after 40 years of operation. Soil is however still being accepted at the landfill for remediation and capping. Approximately 5,000 m^2 of the old landfill remains to be capped with engineered capping which comprises soil, drainage layer, geosynthetic clay layer, artificial bentonite layer and a gas collection layer.

Dunsink Landfill
Dunsink landfill continues in its aftercare phase i.e. environmental monitoring, leachate and landfill gas management. The generation of landfill gas continues to reduce. However, it is still sufficient to generate electricity economically.

Nevitt Historic Landfill
An Environmental Risk Assessment was completed during 2014. The report, which concludes that the site is of low risk to the surrounding environment, was submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency in July 2014. A remediation proposal based on Monitored Natural Attenuation was submitted to the Agency in December 2014.

Historic Landfills
Site investigation and Environmental Risk Assessment continued in Fancourt, Balbriggan during 2014. Site investigation and Environmental Risk Assessment commenced in Curkeen Quarry this year.

Dublin Waste to Energy Project
The project is a Public Private Partnership between Dublin City Council (acting on behalf of the four Dublin Local Authorities) and Dublin Waste to Energy Ltd.

The decision was made in September 2014 to proceed with the project. Construction works started in late 2014 and are expected to be complete in late 2017.

Recycling Centres, Bottle Banks and Clothes Banks

- The Council operates two recycling centres (Estuary & Coolmine); a network of 72 bottle banks throughout the county and 26 clothes banks (started July 2012).



Following a tender competition conducted in 2014, new 4-year Framework Agreements were entered into for the collection of the waste streams from Coolmine and Estuary Recycling Centres, resulting in new contracts and changeover of contractors collecting the waste from each site.

Waste Electronic and Electrical Equipment

- Implementation of the Waste Electronic & Electrical Equipment (WEEE) Regulations 2005 requires inspection of premises to ensure retailers are complying with the regulations and the acceptance of WEEE at Recycling Centres free of charge (Household WEEE only).
- There are 475 retail premises registered with European Recycling Platform for 2014.
- No retail premises registered with Fingal County Council in 2014.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

- The Council's "Adopt a Patch" initiative now has 91 groups involved countywide.
- Local Agenda 21 Environmental Partnership Fund - awarded a total of €35,000 in 2014 to 19 local environmental projects.
- Environmental Education Programmes continued in the Estuary and Coolmine Recycling Centres with 10 schools visiting in 2014.
- A Green Dog Walkers event was held in Skerries; and new signage installed countywide to raise awareness about dog fouling.
- Gum litter awareness events were held at Pavilions Shopping Centre, Swords and Blanchardstown Shopping Centre.
- Farm Hazardous Waste collection event held in Lusk in cooperation with the Department of Food and Agriculture, the EPA and Rilta Environmental Ltd, where 3,484kg hazardous waste, 13,098kg waste oil and 1,230kg of WEEE was collected.

ENVIRONMENT DIVISION PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	2014	2013	2012
No. Litter Wardens	6 (8 Mths)	4	6

	5 (4 Mths)		
No. Litter Fines issued	919	738	1158
No. Litter Fines Paid	436	322	424
Total Value Litter Fines Paid	67,720	51,842	66,545
Environmental Complaints	**2014**	**2013**	**2012**
Total Number of Complaints	1769	2161	2883
No. of complaints investigated	1769	2161	2883
No. of Enforcement Procedures Taken	178	93	101 (RMCEI Enf 2012 stats)
Waste Packaging Regulations (e.g. Packaging or Permit regs)	**2014**	**2013**	**2012**
No. Businesses members of Repak	64	65	400
No. Of Self Compliant Businesses	19	19	18
Complaints concerning water pollution	**2014**	**2013**	**2012**
Complaints/ Incidents received/ identified	28	29	46
No. investigated	32 (Incl. 4 from 2013)	37 (Incl. 2012 Carry over)	55
No. of complaints resolved with no further action required	24	24	32
No of(Section12) procedures taken	7	27	27
No. of prosecutions initiated	0	0	0
Prosecutions successfully concluded	0	0	0
Waste Management Resourses	**2014**	**2013**	**2012**
No. Civic Amenity	2	2	2
No. Bring Banks	72	73	73

Tonnage of Recyclables Collected	2014	2013	2012
Estuary Recycling Centre	5053	4426	4308
Coolmine Recycling Centre	3544	3084	3297
Glass from Bottle Banks	4637	4522	4567
Clothes from Clothes Banks	117	85	58
WEEE accepted at Recycling Centres	1178	1162	1202
WEEE collected from retailers by ERP**	1516	1399	1164
Total	16,045	14,678	14,596

WATER SERVICES

Under legislation enacted in December 2013, Irish Water, the national water utility, took over responsibility for the operation of public water services, including water treatment and supply and the provision of waste water (foul sewer) services to homes and businesses in January 2014. The Council will continue to provide water services on behalf of Irish Water in accordance with the 12 year Service Level Agreement (SLA), agreed protocols and a detailed Annual Service Plan (ASP).

WATER SUPPLY & WASTE WATER SERVICES

The provision of water supply and waste water services in the Fingal area will continue to operate on a "business as usual" basis. The main change for the consumer is that their interface is now directly with Irish Water. Matters relating to surface water remain the responsibility of the Council.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Leixlip Water Treatment Plant Stage 5 Expansion was opened in mid 2014. This treatment plant has now been expanded to meet future demand increasing the *guaranteed safe yield* of the plant from 148Ml/d to 215Ml/day. Leixlip Water Treatment plant is the 2nd largest water treatment plant in the country and now supplies approximately 30% of the Greater Dublin Region's drinking water requirements.

Fingal County Council will continue to administer capital projects in the Fingal area on behalf of Irish Water. In 2014, the following projects were advanced and are ongoing:

- Swords Waste Water Treatment Plant Expansion
- Dublin Road Pumping Station
- Cloghran Drainage Scheme

A number of other projects are being progressed through Irish Water as part of the Capital Investment Programme. Current projects at planning stage include:
Swords 30" Watermain Rehabilitation, Rush Road Pumping Station, Rush Foul Network, 9C Foul Sewer Duplication and Liffey Siphon Rehabilitation.

Finance Department

The Finance Department deals with the short and long term financing of the Council's operations both of a Revenue and Capital nature.

This involves:-

- monitoring and controlling income and expenditure in all areas
- arranging borrowing and leasing requirements
- treasury and cash flow management and
- ensuring that statutory and financial accounting principles are complied with.

The Council's revenue or day-to-day expenditure is defrayed from sources such as:-

- Commercial Rates
- Government Grants
- Housing Rents
- Planning application fees
- Non principal private residence charges

The amount of money available for capital or infrastructural developments is dependent on State Grants, borrowing and/or development levies.

The main functions of the Finance Department include:-

- Preparation of the Annual Budget
- Preparation of Annual Financial Statement
- Financial Management and Control
- Revenue Collection – commercial rates, entry year property levies, non-principal residence charge
- Payment of accounts
- Payroll administration
- Insurance and claims administration
- Cash Office operations

Prompt Payment of Accounts Act 1997

The Prompt Payment of Accounts Act 1997 and the European Communities (Late Payment in Commercial Transactions) Regulations 2002 aims to ensure that all Public Bodies and Contractors on public sector contracts pay amounts due to suppliers promptly. In the event of a payment not being made within a 30 day period from the date of receipt of their valid invoice, there is an obligation to pay an interest penalty.

In accordance with Government decision S29296 coupled with the National Recovery Plan and the EMU/IMF Programme of Support for Ireland, Fingal County Council operates the 15 day prompt payment rule.

Constant monitoring of the level and nature of outstanding invoices was conducted throughout the year and action was taken where appropriate to ensure that the Council met all prompt payment deadlines.

In the course of the year 2014 no interest penalties were incurred by the Council and 94.70% of invoices were paid within 15 days.

Performance Indicators

	2014	**2013**	**2012**
Commercial Rates (Amount collected as % of amount due)	92.00%	90.18%	83.13%
Commercial Water/Wastewater Charges (Amount collected as % of amount due)	70.28%	74.89%	69.52%

REVENUE ACCOUNT STATEMENT

(To be inserted)

CAPITAL ACCOUNT STATEMENT

(To be inserted)

Human Resources Department

The Human Resources Department continue to play a major role in collaboration with the services Directorates in a number of Organisational Restructuring projects designed to maintain efficiency and service delivery in the context of reducing staff numbers.

Considerable effort was also expended in recruiting persons under the Government's Gateway Labour Activation Scheme. At the end of 2014, 127 people were employed on various Gateway projects.

The Health and Safety Unit for the 4th consecutive year, received an award in the National Irish Safety Organisation's Annual Occupational Safety Awards, in recognition of our safety management work practices in service provision.

The Human Resources Department also received an outstanding achievement Training Award from the Irish Institute of Training and Development for our work in developing and implementing our 'Work Experience' programme for Transition Year students.

Staffing Resources
Fingal County Council employed 1251 staff (FTE) at year end 31/12/2014 as detailed in the following table:-

Administration	472
Professional	129
Technical	157
Craft	73
General Workers	420
Total	1251

RETIREES
36 people retired in 2014 from the Council.

Staff Training
248 Training courses were run in 2014 resulting in the provision of 2,556 Training Days to staff

27 employees availed of the Staff Education Scheme in 2014

Industrial Relations
The Council maintained its good industrial relations record.

Health & Safety
The following activities were carried out during 2014:
- 300 safety inspections
- 57 safety audits.

Performance Indicator

Corporate Health	Percentage of days lost to sickness absence was reduced to 4.11% (from 5.49% in 2013)

Information Technology Department

The Information Technology (IT) Department is responsible for the strategic use of information technologies in Fingal County Council to support business areas in delivering their objectives through improved efficiencies and effectiveness.

The provision of services to citizens, staff and elected public representatives is enabled through multiple channels such as front desks, mobile devices, Internet and using technologies such as GIS and Web 2.0. These digital technologies are enabling transformational change in the delivery of Fingal County Council services.

National Projects
Fingal County Council continued to lead on two national projects in 2014 –

- Building Control Management System (BCMS)

  In collaboration with the Local Government Management Agency (LGMA), phase 1 of the national online BCMS was successfully implemented on schedule to support the new Building Control Regulations. The system is a digital first, single national online portal built using Open Source technologies.

- Knowledge Management & Open Data

  The national Local Government Open Data website – http://data.localgov.ie – was implemented in partnership with the LGMA and used to publish the Local Election results from each Local Authority. The majority of Local Authorities published the results live to this website as they were announced.

In addition, Fingal County Council was appointed the pilot Local Authority for the upgrade of the Agresso Financial system across all Local Authorities.

In 2014, Ireland became a member of the international Open Government Partnership. Fingal County Council participated in this process and is represented on the national Public Bodies Working Group on Open Data.

Excellence in Local Government Award
Fingal County Council and the LGMA won the Joint Local Authority Initiative Award at the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2014 for the development and implementation of the national Building Control Management System.

Regional Projects
Work continued on the two regional projects –

- Libraries

  The Dublin Region Libraries Information Management System project became a national project in 2014. The specification and procurement of the system progressed in 2014 and will be implemented in the Dublin Local Authorities in 2015.

- ePlanning Portal

  Work progressed on the ePlanning Portal project which will enable online Plnnaing Applications for the Dublin Local Authorities when implemented in 2015.

In addition, the Dublin Local Authorities have increased their cooperation in the area of IT, most notably through shared procurement frameworks and shared procurements including the provision of IT services to Elected Members.

Fingal Projects
The IT Department successfully completed twenty-three projects in cooperation with the various Council Departments during 2014, including –

- Telephone System

The existing telephone system was completely replaced with a new digital Voice Over IP system.

- Windows 7 Upgrade

  A major project was undertaken to upgrade all staff computers to Windows 7 operating system and Office 2010 productivity software and was completed by the end of March 2014.

- Local Elections

  IT requirements and systems support were provided for the Local Election count.

- Councillors IT

  A managed IT service was implemented for Elected Members of the new Council.

- Council Meetings App

  The mod.gov app was launched providing access to Agendas and Minutes of Council meetings.

- Housing Reporting and Landlord Management

  New digital reporting services were implemented in Housing Department providing auto-generated reports and dashboards and enabling ad-hoc reporting. A module to enable Landlord management for RAS and Long Term Leasing was also implemented.

- GeoCode

  Geocoding of Voters Register, Rates, Housing & Library databases was substantially advanced which will enable assignment of Eircodes (new post codes) when introduced in 2015.

- Events Management

  An events system was implemented to publish details of Council, Tourism and Community events via the Council's website.

- Council Chamber

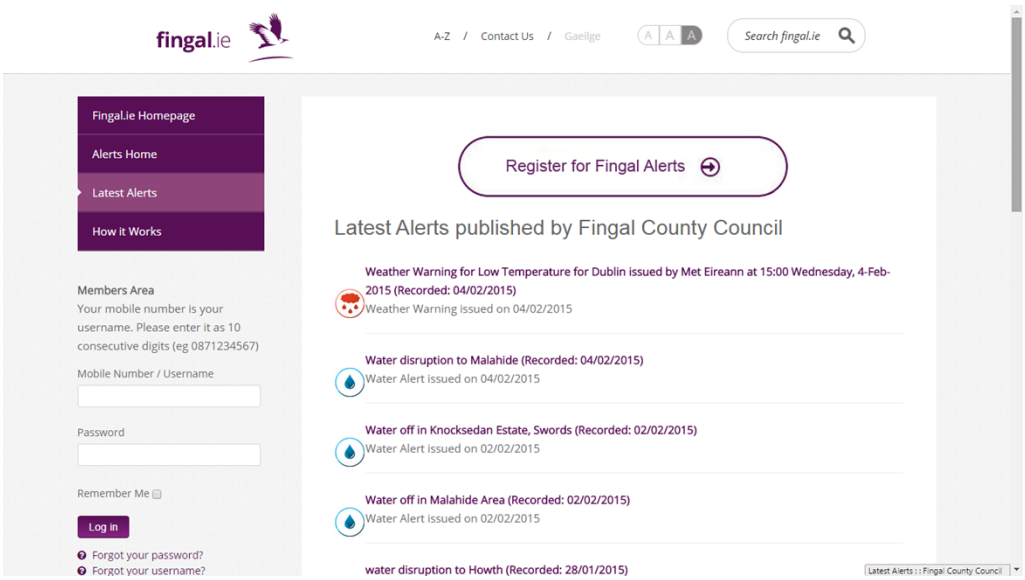
  The IT Department managed the technology upgrade for the re-vamped Council Chamber including Electronic Voting, advanced Delegate Microphone and sound system, High Definition webcasting, Wireless Presentations, enhanced WiFi, upgraded Projection & Visual Displays and Accessible Technologies.

- Councillors Representations

  An online system building on the work of South Dublin and Cork City Councils was implemented enabling Councillors to make representations and track their progress.

- Alerts and Notifications Service

  The Fingal Alerts service was launched on the Fingal.ie website to provide alerts and notifications to citizens – initially relating to Water and Weather events.

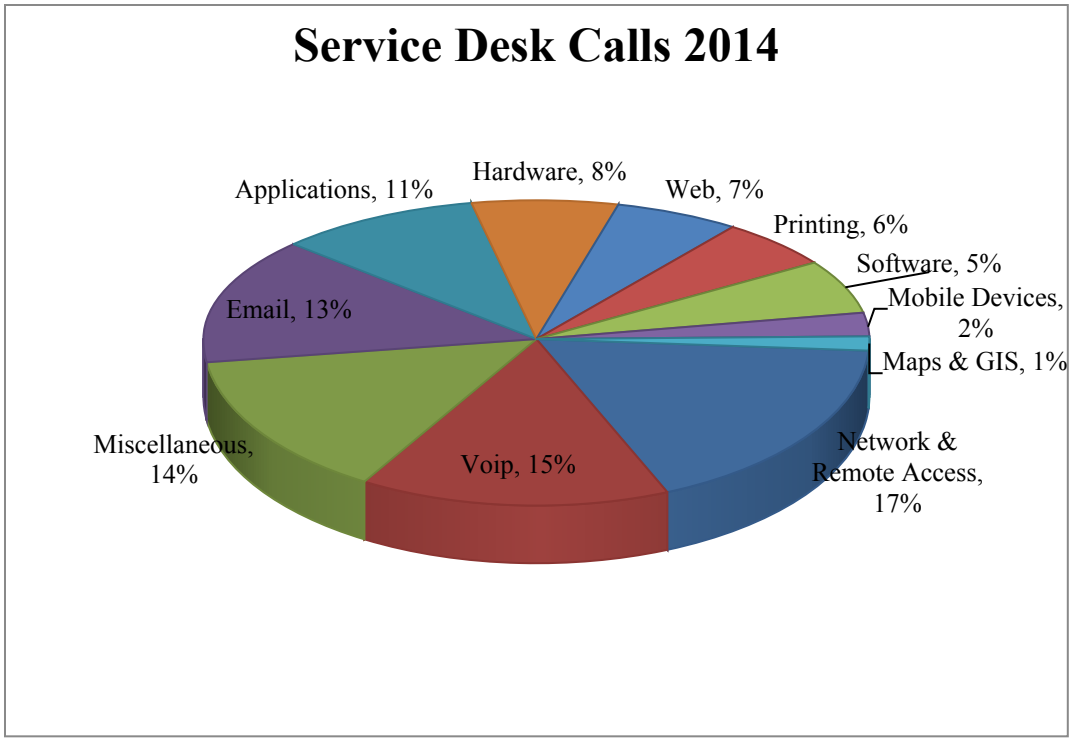


Fingal Alerts System

Service Desk

Calls logged to the IT Service Desk increased by 34% in 2014. The majority of these additional calls relate to the new Voice Over IP telephony system which was a new responsibility assigned to the IT Department in 2014.

Call Statistics	**2014**	**2013**	**2012**
Service Desk Calls Logged	6,290	4,684	4,276
Average calls per month	524	390	356
Average calls per day	17	13	11
Resolved with 24 hours	58%	44%	47%


Service Desk Calls 2014
Applications, 11%
Hardware, 8%
Web, 7%
Printing, 6%
Software, 5%
Mobile Devices, 2%
Maps & GIS, 1%
Email, 13%
Miscellaneous, 14%
Voip, 15%
Network & Remote Access, 17%

Law Department

The Law Department provides a comprehensive in-house legal service to the Chief Executive and all of the Council's Departments relating to the broad and varied range of statutory functions. These services include:-

- Consultations with client departments in relation to statutory functions
- Advising departments in relation to any issues arising from case law and the regulatory framework governing local authorities
- Providing training to Council Departments.
- Representing the Council at arbitrations and oral hearings
- Dealing with acquisitions and disposal of Council properties including
  - clubs and community centres agreements/licences
  - commercial leases of the Council's industrial sites
  - dedications of open spaces
  - equity buy outs
  - first registrations
  - loans and mortgages
  - shared ownerships
  - tenant purchases under the sales schemes
  - voluntary housing schemes
- Initiating and defending cases in the District, Circuit, High Court including the Commercial Court and the Supreme Court including
  - breaches of contract, contract law and procurement
  - disputes in relation to land,
  - debt collection including rates collection, judgments and judgment mortgages, injunctions,
  - employers liability claims
  - housing repossessions for non-payment of rent/mortgage and antisocial behaviour,
  - injunctions under section 160 Planning and Development Act
  - judicial review proceedings
  - District Court proceedings on a weekly basis in relation to matters such as litter offences, planning offences, control of dogs, air pollutions, intoxicating bye-laws, housing matters and rates summons
  - personal injury litigation
  - trespass and nuisance.

Review and upgrade of the department's case management system continued in 2014, which has proved an effective tool in the provision of legal services. In 2014, ongoing training was provided to staff who attended a broad range of courses in the areas of professional development, legal knowledge and I.T

Libraries Division

On 31st March 2014, Fingal's newest branch library opened to the public at the Donabate Portrane Community and Leisure Centre. Its setting is unique as the first co-located library within a community and leisure centre in Ireland. This Library brings to ten the number of branches in the Fingal library network, which also includes a Mobile and Housebound Service and a Local Studies and Archives Section. 1.15m people visited Fingal Libraries in 2014; just over 65% of the population of Fingal are registered members; and our average opening hours are the highest in the country at just under 45 hours per week.



Digital Services
Fingal Libraries has seen a 43.4% increase in the use of digital services since 2013 with almost 38,000 thousand transactions taking place in 2014. The addition of Library Press Display, an online eNewspaper/eMagazine facility where library members can log in using their library card and access over 3,000 titles from over 100 countries in 60 languages has proved very popular, with over 5,700 publications being accessed between June and December.

Innovation
Fingal Libraries continue to innovate and to improve services to the public. In December 2014 we became the first library authority in Ireland to launch an App, providing 24/7 access via mobile devices to all our services. Library users can check opening hours, search the catalogue, reserve items and read digital newspapers and magazines, all from the convenience of their mobile device. Self-service facilities for the public were upgraded and improved in Balbriggan, Blanchardstown, Malahide, Rush and Swords Libraries. A single library management system for public libraries is being introduced over the next two years. Fingal Libraries is part of the first implementation phase and will move to the new system in mid-2015.



Events Programme

Hundreds of events took place in 2014 in Fingal Libraries to inform, entertain and respond to the needs of the libraries' diverse membership. Event highlights included the Summer Reading Buzz, Battle of the Castle, introduction to coding classes for young people and the very popular Cake and Bake Club which proved to be an enormous hit with children and parents alike.

To commemorate the millennium of the Battle of Clontarf, Libraries held interactive talks and a poetry competition with a series of workshops in schools, culminating in an awards ceremony in the Council Chamber.

Libraries continue to collaborate on initiatives with existing and new partners including the Dunsink Horse Club Project with Parks, the Big Sports Quiz with the Sports Office and One City, One Book with Dublin UNESCO City of Literature.



Early Years Literacy Strategy
During 2014, library staff continued to implement and develop the 10 key actions as set out in Fingal County Libraries' Early Years Literacy Strategy: *The Youngest Ages Can Turn Pages.* These included information sessions for crèches and primary schools, the creation of tip sheets on listening and reading with children and a storytelling initiative in community crèches.



Communication
To showcase our events programme and the range of services we offer, we produced an informative and lively video entitled "Where books are just the beginning" which can be viewed on our website and on YouTube. We actively engage with our members through Facebook and Twitter and since April 2014 our weekly blog covers a wide range of topics from the top 10 football books to a brief history of paper and libraries.

Europe Direct
The Europe Direct Centre at Blanchardstown Library is a local link to Europe for the citizens of Fingal. The Centre hosts European themed events and provides information and advice to the public on all aspects of the EU, as well as providing a forum for engagement and interaction. In 2014, the Centre hosted 75 events including job seeking workshops and sessions on doing business in the EU. The Centre responded to over 2,000 queries in 2014 through e-mail, face-to-face and over the phone contact. The then Minister for European Affairs, Pascal Donohue and the Deputy Mayor of Fingal, Ted Leddy visited the Centre on Europe Day to launch information leaflets on travelling and shopping online within the EU. In January 2014 Blanchardstown Library also became a Eurodesk Centre providing free information on European matters to young people. This is the first time a public library has become part of the Eurodesk network.

Mobile Libraries and Housebound service
The 4 mobile vans travel throughout the County servicing schools, residential stops and traveller sites. The Housebound van calls to nursing homes and community care units. From time to time our mobile vans become storytelling buses as children from community crèches come on board for storytime sessions.

Local Studies and Archives
Development and expansion of collections continued in 2014, with particular emphasis given to the acquisition of materials to facilitate research into the historic events that led to the creation of the Irish Free State. Of particular interest is the 1916 Oral History Collection which includes contributions from relatives of the men from north County Dublin who participated in the 1916 Rising. A series of well attended commemorative lectures was also held in 2014.

The Archives Service produced an exhibition on *The Vikings in Fingal* to commemorate the millennium of the Battle of Clontarf. The exhibition toured branch libraries prior to being installed in Swords Castle Chapel in April during the weekend of the Viking Festival.

Letters from the Front in France and Flanders during the Great War, sent home to his family in Seafield, Donabate by Lt. Col. Richard Hely-Hutchinson, were used as the basis for an exhibition on *The Hely-Hutchinsons of Swords and the Great War*. The exhibition was featured in the *Irish Times* and extracts from the letters and related photographs appear monthly on the Council website.

The records of Balbriggan Town Commissioners/Council were transferred to the Archives. The re-binding programme for Council records continued, with the binding of all Registers of Electors for Fingal County Council 1994-2010 completed.

	2014	2013	2012
Items borrowed	1,022,975	1,077,122	1,192,968
Registered Members	179,869	157,403	160,308
Internet Usage hours	149,014	141,455	134,734
Website visits (*Home page only*)	59, 597	76,847	70,709
Website unique pageviews*	473,376	377,787	373,684
Average number of public opening Hours per week full time libraries	44.94	44.71	47.94
Average number of public opening hours per week part time libraries	24.5	27	23
Number of registered library members as a % of the local population (2011 census)	65.65%	57.45%	58.51%
Number of items issued per head of population (countywide) for			
(a) Books	2.91	2.94	3.15
(b) Other Items	0.82	0.99	1.20
(c) Total: Books plus other items	3.73	3.93	4.35
% of libraries that offer internet access to the public	100%	100%	100%
Number of Internet sessions provided per 1000 pop	545.84	516.25	493.53
Book Fund expenditure per capita	2.55	2.52	2.37
Visits by the public to Fingal Libraries	1,150,074	1,156,018	1,232,394

** Unique Pageviews are defined by Google Analytics as the number of sessions during which a page is viewed one or more times by the same user.*

Operations Department

The Operations Department is responsible for the general maintenance and improvement of regional and local roads, parks and public open spaces along with landscaping, tree maintenance and litter collection in all public areas in Fingal. It also includes responsibility for beaches, harbours and public conveniences.

In 2014 the Regional Parks of Malahide Demesne, Ardgillan Demesne, Newbridge Demesne, Santry Demesne and St. Catherine's Regional Park came under the control of the Operations Department.

TRANSPORTATION

Fingal County Council has responsibility for the management and movement of people, vehicles, animals and goods in a safe, efficient, economical manner from place to place within Fingal via the public road network system.

The main pieces of enabling legislation are:

- Roads Act 1993 - 2007
- Road Traffic Acts 1961 to 2008
- Local Government(Planning & Development) Acts 2000 – 2011

Transportation Process/Range of Services

A wide range of services are provided for the County of Fingal, including the improvement, maintenance and lighting of existing roads, the implementation of traffic management measures and the operation of a Road Safety Section and school warden service. The Department is also responsible for taking in charge new roads, temporary and permanent closures of roads, the making of bye-laws relating to roads and related areas (e.g. speed limits, parking places etc.)

TRAFFIC

A wide range of traffic control, traffic planning and traffic management issues are dealt with:

- Travel Demand Management, the basic principle of which is to promote sustainable alternatives to the use of the car, i.e. improved facilities for public transport, planning of walking and cycling networks, cycling and mobility management plans etc.
- Provision and maintenance of traffic signals
- Signing and road marking of road network.
- Improvements to walking and cycling networks, where the objective is to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety, ease traffic congestion, improve accessibility for mobility impaired road users, and effectively manage parking.
- Facilitating the improvements to the bus network in conjunction with the National Transport Authority (NTA)
- Smarter Travel is the Government policy for transport in Ireland. "Smarter Travel, "A Sustainable Transport Future, A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009 – 2020", Complemented by "Ireland's First National Cycle Policy Framework" The purpose of this project is to develop routes to promote sustainable modes of transport particularly cycling.
- Promote road safety

Traffic Elements in 2014	**Total (RMS remote monitoring system)**
Traffic Signals at junctions	102 (97 on RMS)
Pedestrian Signals	93 (89 on RMS)
Toucan Crossings	43 (42 on RMS)

Refurbishments to LED signals	2 Grange Rd Willie Nolan Rd. Dublin Rd Bayside Boulevard
School Warning Signals Zebra Crossings	40 22
Bus Gates Speed Readers/ vehicle activated signs	1 36

Sustainable Transport Projects

In 2014 the following projects were advanced:

- The Ongar Castaheaney Cycle Network was completed in February 2014. With particular emphasis on routes to schools, the scheme provides improvements to the walking and cycling infrastructure in this area of Blanchardstown. New pedestrian/toucan/Zebra signalised crossings were provided to improve safety Huntstown Ongar Castheany. 5 No toucans, 10 zebras
- Construction work was also completed on the 2.4km Royal Canal Greenway scheme. The scheme provided for the upgrading of the existing tow path along the canal between Ashtown and Castleknock 12th lock and included resurfacing, and provision of new public lighting and CCTV.
- Remedial works were carried out to traffic calming ramps at various locations throughout the county.
- The Holywell by pass was completed during 2014. This included footpaths and cyleways along with 2 no toucan crossings and 2 no zebras.
- Works to improve accessibility on the footpath network in Sutton near St Fintans NS were carried out.
- Design work continued during 2014 to develop new sustainable transport schemes including Dublin 15 Priority Cycle routes, Swords to Sutton Cycle route, Royal Canal Greenway(Castleknock to Maynooth) and public transport improvements from Swords to the Dublin City.
- At St Mochtas School Porterstown road Clonsilla footpath and pedestrian barrier improvements were made along with road marking and new school warning signals.
- In Balbriggan a ramp was installed to improve accessibility between Clonard Rise and Harry Reynolds Road.
- Various road safety schemes were progressed through the use of antiskid/signage/vehicle activated warning signage.

Speed Limits
New speed limit byelaws for local and regional roads in Fingal were prepared by Operations and passed by Council during 2014.

Pay and Display
The Pay and Display Schemes for the towns of Malahide, Balbriggan, Skerries, Swords, Rush and Clonsilla/Portersgate continued to operate effectively.

Road Maintenance
The Operations Department operating from Depots at Balbriggan, Swords and Coolmine undertook an extensive Programme of Works throughout 2014 comprising resurfacing, surface dressing, strengthening, drainage and flood relief works, remedying defects arising from wear and tear and pot-hole repairs on the county roads most in need of repair. Winter maintenance is a sophisticated and integral part of the operations programme, spanning from the beginning of November to the end of April. A system of Thermal Mapping has been undertaken on the main road network and based on readings from

strategically located weather stations along the routes, which is fed into the computer system, the local authority carries out precautionary salting/gritting accordingly.

Fleet Management and Plant Hire
The Fleet Management and Plant Hire Section (FMPH) manage the fleet and plant hire requirements for Fingal County Council. In 2014, FMPH managed a council owned fleet in excess of 380 vehicles and plant and processed 631 plant hire requests.

Public Lighting Section
During 2014, the Public Lighting Section managed the maintenance of over 30,000 lights throughout Fingal.

Road Safety
The Operations Department manages the School Warden Service. The total number of Wardens employed in 2014 was 123. Managing and maintaining the School Warden Service is an important aspect of the Road Safety Programme and this was delivered in 2014 by:

- Training, supervision and administration of Adult School Wardens
- Training and supervision of pupils involved in junior school warden service
- Maintenance and upkeep of school crossing paint markings
- Inspection and maintenance of school crossing street furniture and signage
- Ensuring all crossings comply with the legislative requirements and best practice

Road Safety in the County in 2014 continued through:

- Production of information/campaign materials, leaflets, armbands, rulers and pencils with the safety message
- Pedal Cyclist training course
- Educational talks in schools
- Junior school warden training course
- Road Safety Week, Walk to School Day
- Road Safe Road Show in Crowne Plaza Hotel for transition year students
- Promotion of the safe routes to schools and walking bus multi-agency approach
- Bike for your Breakfast mornings in schools
- Cycle events during Bike Week

ADMINISTRATION

The Administration Division services Area Committee Meetings for the Howth/Malahide, Castleknock/Mulhuddart and Balbriggan/Swords Areas on a monthly basis.

ENVIRONMENT

Beaches & Bathing Water

There are 48 kilometres of coastline in Fingal. There are 10 designated beaches providing a valuable recreational amenity in the County located at:

- Balbriggan, Skerries South, Loughshinny, Rush South, Portrane, Donabate, Malahide, Portmarnock, Sutton (Burrow Road) and Claremont, Howth.

35 lifeguards were employed at 10 beaches from June to end August 2014. In addition to carrying out beach cleaning and other maintenance regular monitoring of seawater samples was carried out to ensure compliance with Bathing Water Quality requirements

HARBOURS

The Operations Department manage and maintain a number of harbours and piers in the County at Balbriggan, Skerries, Rush, Loughshinny and Malahide Slipway.

BURIAL GROUNDS

There are 36 Burial Grounds operated and maintained by the Fingal County Council.

Public Conveniences
Maintenance of 14 public conveniences – 7 open year round and 7 open during the summer season.

PARKS

The Operations Department is responsible for the planning, management and maintenance of some 5000 acres (2000 Ha.) of public open space including Regional and neighbourhood parks in Fingal. The Department also manages a wide variety of sporting facilities across the County and provides extensive recreational and leisure opportunities for Fingal's residents and visitors:

- 900 allotments on sites in Blanchardstown, Donabate, Skerries and Balbriggan.
- 39 playgrounds in various locations throughout Fingal. Two new playgrounds at Thornleigh and Swords Manor were completed in 2014.
- A total of 168 pitches are maintained for a range of team sports including Hurling, Camogie, Hockey, Gaelic, Soccer, Rugby and American football.
- Dressing Room facilities are available at Malahide Demesne, St. Catherine's Regional Park, Millenium Park, Baldoyle and Ridgewood, Swords.
- 8 all-weather pitch facilities are available in Balbriggan, Skerries, Rivervalley, Balheary, Hartstown Park, Mulhuddart, Corduff, and Malahide.
- There are cricket grounds in Malahide Demesne, Town Park, Balbriggan, Porterstown and Lanesborough
- A grass athletics track is provided in Porterstown Park.
- There are 12 Multi Use Games Areas (MUGA) available across the County. These are small sided all weather facilities for soccer and basketball. A new MUGA in Swords was completed in 2014.
- 2 Skateparks are are located in Balheary, Swords and in Millenium Park, Blanchardstown.
- There are public tennis courts in Malahide, Holywell, Swords, Balrothery, Skerries, Lusk, Riverwood, and Carpenterstown.
- A Bowling Green administered by the Skerries Bowling Club is in operation in the Town Park, Skerries.
- 2 public golf courses, Corballis, Donabate and Elmgreen, Dublin 15, a Pitch & Putt and a Par 3 Golf Course at Malahide Demesne.
- Adult exercise equipment in 5 locations, Malahide Demesne, St. Catherine's Regional Park, Millennium Park, Dublin 15, Beechpark, Dublin 15 and Kenure Park, Rush. Adult exercise

equipment was provided in a further 5 locations in Swords, Balbriggan, Balbriggan, Skerries, Lusk and Hartstown in 2014.

In addition the Operations Department was actively involved in

- National Tree Week and National Tree Day events which were organised in March with the continued co-operation of local schools and the Tree Council of Ireland.
- The annual programme of tree and shrub planting, newly planted herbaceous areas, bulb planting and seasonal bedding and street tree planting and maintenance was also carried out.
- Providing convenient drop off points to facilitate Christmas Tree Recycling countywide.

Major Events

The Operations Department facilitated a wide range of events during 2014 including:

- Giro D'Italia
- The Pieta House Annual Walk
- Wonderfest
- Flavours of Fingal
- Funfest in Malahide
- RAS in Skerries and Cross in Ward River Valley, Swords.
- Athletics in Balheary, Swords.

Key Statistics

Road length by category:
Within the Fingal area there are 65km of National Roads including Motorways, 264km of Regional Roads and 1011km of Local Roads.

Service Indicators

No. of kilometres of local and regional Roads improved and maintained under the restoration Programme per annum	29.6km
No. of kilometres of local and regional	

Roads constructed under the specific Improvement grants scheme per annum 0km

Also dealt with:

	2014	2013	2012
Wayleave/ Communications Road Opening Licence Applications	418	439	385
Temporary Road Closure	39	19	36
Taking in Charge Certificate Applications	717	532	413
Abnormal Load Permit	380	350	313

Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The number of planning applications received was 1105 (of which 122 were declared invalid), including additional information submissions and extensions of duration applications. Valid applications increased by 20% over 2013. The Department also dealt with planning consultations with prospective applicants (and/or their agents) and responded to An Bord Pleanala appeals as required. The Department provides an integrated pre-planning service with a multi-disciplinary team of officers available as required.

STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE

During the course of the year, one Strategic Infrastructure Development Application (SID) was lodged with An Bord Pleanala for a proposed 170 bed National Forensic Mental Health Services Hospital, Portrane, Co. Dublin. No decision has been made by year end.

A decision was made by An Bord Pleanala during 2014 to approve a SID application, lodged in 2013 for the continuance of use of long term car park known as “Eastlands” at Stockhole, Cloghran, Tobberbunny and Dardistown Townlands, Dublin Airport, Co. Dublin.

BONDS & CONTRIBUTIONS

A sum of €14.6 million was collected under the Council's Section 48 Development Contribution Schemes in 2014. Payments and phased payment agreements are continuously agreed, monitored and reviewed. Where necessary, legal proceedings are instituted to recover/secure outstanding levies and 18 such cases were initiated in 2014 involving a sum of €700,000.

Judgements were secured from the courts in 7 cases with a total value of €119,334.

BUILDING CONTROL

A total of 176 applications for Fire Safety Certificates were received during 2014 including **119** Ordinary Fire Safety Certificates, **31** Fire Safety Certificates with 7 Day Notices**, 15** Revised Fire Safety Certificates and **11** Regularisation Certificates were also received.
132 applications for Disabled Access Certificates were also received.

A total of 487 valid Commencement Notices were submitted and Naming/Numbering Schemes were approved in respect of 30 Schemes/Projects.

COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2017-2023

Preparation of the Fingal Development Plan is one of the most important functions of the County Council. The current Plan, which was adopted in April 2011, has been in effect for almost four years. In March 2015 the review progress will formally begin in respect of the preparation of the 2017-2023 Development Plan. An Information booklet is being produced and will be delivered to every household in the County, as we engage with our citizens in shaping the county over the next plan period. Much of 2014 has been taken up with the preparatory work attached to the review process, as the department has commissioned consultants to assist in key areas, such as SEA/AA, IT, Communications, Climate Change, etc.. A draft plan will be produced by the Chief Executive in December 2015 and debated with the Elected Members during January - February 2016 before being placed on public display in February 2016.

FORWARD PLANNING

During 2014 considerable work was undertaken to complete and implement key planning objectives of the 2011-2017 Development Plan. The planning authority has delivered a series of Local Area Plans (LAPs) and non-statutory plans, studies and strategies to date as outlined below, advancing policies and implementation of our Green Infrastructure network (including the preparation of an Open Space Strategy, advancing Fingal pedestrian and cycle network, etc.), and significant progress in the review of the County's Record of Protected Structures. It is intended that in early 2015 many of the drafts of these plans, etc. will be placed on public display.

- Donabate LAP (RA)
- Kinsealy LAP (RV)
- A review and amendment to Hansfield SDZ is also underway.
- Dublin Airport LAP will also be reviewed during 2015.

The Planning Department, as part of the Construction 2020 Dublin Housing Supply and Co-ordination Task Force, worked with the NTA, NAMA, DOECLG, Dublin Regional Authority, Irish Water and the other Dublin Planning Authorities to respond to the short-term housing market requirements. The

Department has actively participated in data gathering, analysis and the development of a strategy to identify appropriate housing lands that can be delivered in the short-medium term and infrastructure necessary to enable its delivery.

VARIATIONS, STUDIES & PART VIIIS

A number of Variations to the Development Plan have been adopted during 2014:

- St Ita's, Portrane,
- Tyrellstown, D15
- Ballycoolin, D15
- Charlestown
- St Finian's, Swords

These (adopted and/or proposed) Variations predominantly relate to the planning authority's desire to respond effectively and quickly to socio-economic and community requirements of the area, particularly where there is an opportunity to enhance employment and/or services within the County.

The Dublin Airport Master Plan, whose preparatory work was largely undertaken during 2013 and continued through 2014, will be completed early 2015 and the review of the LAP for the airport commenced thereafter.

A review of the Record of Protected Structures commenced in 2014, and proposed Additions and Deletions to the Record of Protected Structures will be produced early 2015 for consultation.

Projects advanced during 2014 include Howth Public Realm Consultation, Royal Canal Greenway, Broadmeadow Way, Blanchardstown to Phoenix Park Cycleway, Sutton to Swords Cycle Way, etc.

OUTSIDE BODIES

In the course of the year the Council was represented by Planning Department staff on the following outside bodies:

- Airport Regions Conference (ARC), comprising local authorities of the European Union and the Accession States having major airports located in their area. Council membership on ARC which was held by Councillor Ciaran Byrne is now held by Councillor Anne Devitt, who over the last nine years has presided over ARC.
- QLAIR – Quality of Life in Airport Regions
- School Liaison Committee - Department of Education and Science
- North Fringe Development Forum – Dublin City Council and Fingal County Council.
- Archaeological Policy and Practice working group established by Department of Environment, Community and Local Government.
- Heritage Council Working Group.
- National Biodiversity Data Centre

- Regional Authority Technical Working Group
- Dublin Housing Task Force Steering & Working Group (2020 Strategy)
- Project Board for Department of environment "My Plan"
- National Transport Authority GDA Stakeholder Group.

During 2014, the Council also continued its work with our counterparts in twelve regions across Europe participating in a new Interreg IVC project, the Green Infrastructure Network or Green InfraNet, which brings together local and regional bodies from across Europe and is working to strengthen the development and implementation of green infrastructure across Europe by exchanging experience and by transferring good practice between regions.

TRANSPORTATION SECTION PLANNING

The Transportation Section manages the delivery of transportation capital infrastructural works, contributes also on transportation matters and assesses the transportation impacts of planning applications and local area plans.

Input is being made on an ongoing basis to the NTA North Dublin/Fingal Transport Study. Also to the the steering groups for the Bus Rapid Transit projects between Swords and the City Centre, and between Blanchardstown and UCD.

Work was completed on the Holywell Link Road during 2014.

Funding was received from the National Transport Authority to advance the design of the Broadmeadow Way trail between Malahide and Donabate.

The necessary Part 8 Approval has been obtained for the Back Road Bridge, Malahide.

WATER SERVICES SECTION PLANNING

The Water Services Section advises on the water, foul and surface water drainage requirements for all planning applications lodged, including requests for additional information. Since the 1st January, 2014, the section also advises Irish Water, as a statutory consultee, in relation to planning applications and general constraints in the water services networks. In addition, the section provides inputs into Local Area Plans, approves compliances with planning conditions, assesses and certifies offsets and inspects new on site waste water treatment systems for single houses. The section also provides guidance on Flood Risk Management.

Activities during 2014 included:

- Implementation of 'The Planning System and Flood Risk Management' Guidelines for Local Authorities November 2009
- Strategic Flood Risk Assessments (SFRAs) were prepared for Lusk, Kenure/Rush and Hacketstown/Skerries LAP lands.
- Implementation of the EPA "Code of Practice for Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems Serving Single Dwellings" (October 2009).

FINGAL HERITAGE PLAN

The Heritage Plan is a five year action plan which deals with all aspects of our heritage including our wildlife, coast and countryside, our architectural heritage, our archaeology, our local history and culture.

The second Fingal Heritage Plan was adopted by the Council in April 2012. The Plan contains 49 actions to be undertaken over a 6 year period led by the Council's Heritage Officer. A total of approximately €86,000 was spent by the Council on Heritage Plan projects in 2014. This included funding of €37,000 from The Heritage Council which the Council successfully competed for in 2014. Work was undertaken on a wide range of heritage projects including the following:

1. Field Monuments Advisor (FMA)

The ongoing objective of the Fingal FMA Scheme is to advise landowners on the care and management of archaeological monuments in their care. The Scheme is co-funded by The Heritage Council. The focus of the 2014 scheme was outreach to communities, raising awareness about heritage's contribution to tourism and site-visits to newly identified monuments. A total of 184 sites were located as part of the work undertaken. A conference entitled *Fingal's Heritage: Supporting Communities-Supporting Tourism* was held in October 2014. In addition a heritage-based tourism leaflet entitled *Exploring Fingal* was developed consisting of short descriptions of thirty-six heritage sites arranged in a circuit around the County.

2. Swords 1014 Viking Exhibition

As part of the Swords 1014 celebrations, an exhibition exploring Fingal's Viking heritage was held in the chapel in Swords Castle on 26th and 27th April. The exhibition was then on display in County Hall, Swords during May 2014 and in the Civic offices in Blanchardstown during May 2014.

3. Hidden Treasures

The Hidden Treasures Project involved working with local schools and youth groups in Dublin 15 to explore the area's heritage of over 90 archaeological sites. Participating schools and youth groups carried out a project on a monument in their area. . The overall winners were St. Philip's National School, Mountview with their project which looked at the history of Sir Thomas Luttrell of Luttrellstown Castle. The Project is managed by a partnership which includes Safer Blanchardstown, Fingal County Council Community Division, Fingal Libraries, Fingal County Council Heritage Office, The National Museum of Ireland and The Heritage Council.

4. Heritage Week

The Council supported a wide range of events during Heritage Week, and by advertising events taking place in the County on the Council's website and via the Fingal Heritage Twitter account @fingalheritage. A total of 58 events took place in Fingal during Heritage Week 2014.

5. Dublin Archaeology GIS Project

The project is being administered by Dublin City Council on behalf of the four Dublin authorities with funding support from The Heritage Council and the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. In 2014, 1100 licensed archaeological activity reports up to the year 2007 for County Dublin were digitally mapped. In addition over 1200 National Museum of Ireland Topographical files were scanned, reviewed and geo-referenced. Work to extend this project to include all records to the end of 2013 will take place in 2015.

6. Fingal Industrial Heritage Survey

The initial desktop phase of the Fingal Industrial Heritage Survey (FIHS) was carried out in 2010 and identified a total of 1159 industrial heritage sites in Fingal. The brief for the second phase of the survey in

2014 was to survey a portion of the extant sites in the county and to undertake field survey of these sites. Aerial mapping was used to identify these sites from the original desk survey. A total of 253 sites were field surveyed, all located east of the M1 motorway.

7. Swords Castle Conservation Plan

Swords Castle Conservation Plan was published and launched by the Mayor in September 2014. The Conservation Plan sets out Fingal County Council's policies and priorities in caring for this important National Monument and developing it as an amenity for the people and visitors of Fingal.

8. Howth BioBlitz 2014

Howth was one of four sites nationally chosen by the National Biodiversity Data Centre to host Ireland's BioBlitz 2014 which took place on 23 & 24 May. As part of this national event scientists gathered to survey and record the rich biodiversity of Howth Head and Ireland's Eye and to compete with other teams of scientists across Ireland at three other sites. Over the two days a total of 706 plant and animal species were recorded in Howth. As part of Bioblitz 2014 the Council also organized a series of free events to explore the rich wildlife of the area.

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Performance Indicators	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
New Applications Registered	1105 (122 invalid)	947 (114 invalid)	897 (74 invalid)	958 (102 invalid)	1192 (162 invalid)
Number of Applications Determined	914	766	849	905	1103
% of Grants	90%	90%	89%	88%	83%
% of Refusals	10%	10%	11%	12%	17%
% Determined within 2 months	72%	73%	73%	67%	70%
Number of A Applications Received	693 (72 invalid)	644 (86 invalid)	567 (56 invalid)	605 (72 invalid)	747 (118 invalid)
Number B Applications Received	412 (50 invalid)	303 (28 invalid)	330 (18 invalid)	353 (30 invalid)	445 (44 invalid)

Appendix 1

Name of Conferences	Venue	Date	Councillors who attended	Travel & Subsistence & Expenses	Conference Fee	Total
Ace Training '2014 European Elections Information Seminar'	Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth	3rd & 4th Jan 2014	T. O'Leary	€282.34	€100.00	€382.34
LAMA Spring Seminar	Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan	31st Jan to 1st Feb 2014	C. Byrne	€243.91	€150.00	€393.91
			G. McGuire	€266.91	€150.00	€416.91
			J. Maher	€280.24	€150.00	€430.24
			M. Murray	€287.87	€150.00	€437.87
Celtic Conferences 'Changes to Construction Tendering for Local Authorities'	Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery	31st Jan to 2nd Feb 2014	T. Kelleher	€622.28	€100.00	€722.28
Economic Impact of Airports (ARC)	Madrid	11th to 14th Feb 2014	C. Byrne	€ 311.98	€0.00	€311.98
AMAI Spring Seminar	Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran, Co. Donegal	14th & 15th Feb 2014	G. McGuire	€401.54	€200.00	€601.54
Ace Training 'Local Government Law Update: 2014'	Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth	21st to 23rd Feb 2014	T. O'Leary	€282.47	€100.00	€382.47
			A. Devitt	€326.86	€100.00	€426.86
Ace Training 'A Guide to EU Education Programmes'	Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth	28th Feb to 2nd March 2014	A. Devitt	€326.86	€100.00	€426.86
			K. Dennison	€277.30	€100.00	€377.30
Ace Training 'Dignity at Work A guide to Bullying & Harassment in the Workplace'	Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth	7th to 9th March 2014	T. O'Leary	€282.34	€100.00	€382.34

ACCA Annual Conference 2014	Slieve Russell Hotel, Cavan	6th & 7th March 2014	C. Byrne	€201.48	€130.00	€331.48
			J. Maher	€292.14	€130.00	€422.14
			G. McGuire		€130.00	€130.00
			E. Loftus	€259.43	€130.00	€389.43
			M. O Donovan		€130.00	€130.00
			A. Devitt	€264.98	€130.00	€394.98
			T. Kelleher	€274.71	€130.00	€404.71
NFLA All Ireland Forum	Newry	11th April 2014	C. Byrne	€ 119.10	€0.00	€119.10
MABS and the Insolvency Service of Ireland	Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery	11th to 13th April 2014	T Kelleher		€100.00	€100.00
Service Provision in Local Authorities	Old Connacht Hotel, Galway City	2nd to 3rd May 2014	A. Devitt	€373.02	€150.00	€523.02
			K. Dennison	€347.22	€150.00	€497.22
Retirement Entitlements & Taxation Benefits for Councillors	Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth	2nd to 4th May 2014	D. O Connor	€251.49	€100.00	€351.49
Local Government Arts Service	Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran, Co Donegal	30th to 31st May 2014	K. Dennison	€363.31	€120.00	€483.31
			A. Devitt	€384.78	€120.00	€504.78
Environment Ireland 2014	Croke Park, Dublin	11th September 2014	B. McDonagh	€0.00	€301.35	€301.35
ARC Getting d'Air	Brussels	13th to 15th October 2014	A. Devitt	€ 1,007.37	€0.00	€1,007.37
LAMA Autumn Training Seminar	Inishowen Gateway Hotel, Buncrana	17th to 18th October 2014	M. Murray		€180.00	€180.00
			K. Dennison	€508.82	€180.00	€688.82
AILG Training Seminars & Conference	AILG Housing Function Training , Cavan	21st October 2014	E. Loftus	€155.88		€155.88

			A. Devitt	€152.24		€152.24
AILG Training Seminars & Conference	AILG Housing Function Training, Athlone	23rd October 2014	K. Dennison	€179.51		€179.51
			J. Guerin			€0.00
			S. Kavanagh			€0.00
			T. Leddy			€0.00
			B. McDonagh			€0.00
			P. Mulville			€0.00
			L. Nolan			€0.00
			K. Redmond	€202.90		€202.90
			J. Newman	€179.92		€179.92
			A. Devitt			€0.00
AILG Training Seminars & Conference	AILG Annual Conference, Hotel Kilmore, Cavan	29th to 30th October 2014	K Dennison	€246.60	€100.00	€346.60
			A. Devitt		€100.00	€100.00
			G. Maguire	€234.62	€100.00	€334.62
			T. Murphy		€100.00	€100.00
			E. Loftus	€214.76	€100.00	€314.76
			D. O Connor	€258.02	€100.00	€358.02
AILG Training Seminars & Conference	AILG Training Seminar Planning, Trim	18th November 2014	K. Dennison	€76.97		€76.97
			A. Devitt	€79.21		€79.21
			J. Guerin			€0.00
			E. Loftus	€78.62		€78.62
			G. Maguire	€72.28		€72.28
			J. Newman	€63.48		€63.48
			K. Redmond	€97.88		€97.88
AILG Training Seminars & Conference	AILG Training Seminar Budget, Malahide	18th September 2014	E. Loftus	€59.84		€59.84

Talk Action "Engaging Communities on Energy and Climate Change"	The Macro Community Resource Centre Dublin 7	4th December 2014	D. Healy	€4.82	€328.00	€332.82
			Total	**€11,198.30**	**€4,739.35**	**€15,937.65**