

Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall

Oifig Riarthóir na gCruinnithe,
Aras an Chontae,
Leifear.

7ú Feabhra, 2023

Fógra Cruinnithe

Beidh Cruinniú de Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall ar siúl **De Máirt, 14ú Feabhra 2023 ag 11.30 r.n. in Ionad Serbhísí Pobail, Bhaile Dhún na nGall.**

DO GACH BHALL DEN CEANTAR BARDAS DÚN NA nGALL

A Chara,

Iarrtar ort bheith i lathair ag an gcruinniú seo Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall. Tá Clar an Cruinnithe le seo.

Mise, le meas

Padraig O'Sirin
Riarthóir Cruinnithe

Municipal District of Donegal

Office of Meetings Administrator,
County House,
Lifford.

7th February 2023

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal will be held on **Tuesday 14th February 2023 at 11.30 am in the Donegal Public Services Centre.**

TO EACH MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to attend this meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal. The Agenda is attached.

Yours sincerely,

Pauric Sheerin
Meetings Administrator

AGENDA

1. Consideration of Minutes of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 10th January 2023.
2. Consideration of the Minutes of the Roads Workshop held on the 09th January 2023.
3. **Update Reports from Council Services:**
 - 3.1 Housing & Corporate Services
 - 3.2 Roads & Transportation
 - 3.3 Economic Development, Information Systems and Emergency Services
 - 3.4 Environment Services
 - 3.5 Community Development
 - 3.6 Planning Services

Motions

4. Cllr Tom Conaghan
“That this MD calls for additional policing resources for Donegal Town to assist with speed limit and other traffic enforcement matters”.
5. Cllr Michéal Naughton
“That this MD call on the planning section of Donegal County Council to develop a local area plan for Rossnowlagh?”
6. Cllr Michael McMahon
“That this MD have a discussion with regards to the Belleek / Ballyshannon / Rossnowlagh / Bundoran Greenway/Walkway to determine what progress has been made if any; and see what can be done to bring it on further”.

Questions

7. Cllr Tom Conaghan
“Can additional CCTV be installed, with additional Garda presence, in Donegal Town as a deterrent to anti-social behaviour, such as we had during the last weekend of January 2023.”
8. Cllr Tom Conaghan
“Can I please get an update on the proposed re-location of the recycling banks in Donegal Town?”

9. Cllr Michéal Naughton

“Can I get a list of all the land available for housing development that the council owns in this Municipal District?”.

10. Date of Next Meeting(s) / Workshop(s)

- MD Meeting on Tuesday the 14th March 2023 at 11.30 am in the Peter Kennedy Chamber (as per standing orders)

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL
HELD AT 11.30 AM ON TUESDAY THE 10TH JANUARY 2023 IN THE PETER
KENNEDY CHAMBER, DONEGAL PUBLIC SERVICE CENTRE**

MDD/001/23 MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr Niamh Kennedy, Cathaoirleach
Cllr Michéal Naughton
Cllr Noel Jordan
Cllr Tom Conaghan
Cllr Barry Sweeny
Cllr Michael McMahon

MDD/002/23 OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Garry Martin, Director Designate, Municipal District of Donegal
Mr. Pauric Sheerin, Area Manager, Municipal District of Donegal
Mr. Mark Sweeney, A/Area Manager, Roads/Transportation
Ms. Aideen Quinn, A/Executive Planner, Planning
Ms. Tara Quinn, Executive Architect, Housing Capital
Mr. Paddy Doherty, Divisional Manager, Community Development
Mr. Ciaran Martin, Senior Economic Development Officer, Economic
Development
Mr. Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer, Environment Section
Mr. Enda Monaghan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate
Services
Ms. Caroline Britton, A/Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services

MDD/003/23 VOTES OF SYMPATHY

- The late Harry Quinn, Ballybrillaghan, Frosses, former employee of the Area Roads Office.
- The late Peter Pringle, Galway, father of Deputy Thomas Pringle.
- The late Willie Doherty, Umlagh, Carrigart father of our former colleague Bridie Mc Brearty.
- The late Tanya Dunne (née O'Shea), Stracomer View, Bundoran
- The late Anna Murray, Biliary, Pettigo.
- The late Joseph Devenney, Cormullin, Laghey.
- The late Michael Quinn, Corlea, Ballyshannon.
- The late Thomas McGowan, Portnason, Ballyshannon.
- The late Sean Boyle, Creevy, Ballyshannon.
- The late Hugh Feehily, Tranquilla Lodge, West End, Bundoran.
- The late Brendan Devine, St Colm's Terrace, East End, Bundoran.
- The late Nora O'Rourke, Dernacross, Garrison, Co Fermanagh.

MDD/004/23 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 13TH DECEMBER 2022

On the proposal of Cllr Jordan, seconded by Cllr Naughton the Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 13th December 2022 were confirmed.

MDD/005/23 HOUSING & CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

CORPORATE SERVICES

Follow up Issues from previous meeting

Mr Sheerin provided an update on the follow up issues from the previous meeting:-

- a) The letters of sympathy issued to family members.
- b) Correspondence issued to the Department of Social Protection regarding the Community Welfare Officer position and a copy of the response was circulated to the Members.
- c) Correspondence regarding medical cards issued to the HSE and the Minister of Health.
- d) The Housing Capital Report was circulated.
- e) The Section 183 request for the disposal of No 12 St Benildus Avenue, Ballyshannon will be placed on the Agenda of the Plenary Council meeting.

HOUSING SERVICES

Progress reports on Casual Vacancies, Grants, Loans, Tenant Purchase Scheme 2016, HAP Tenancies, Housing Need, Housing Capital, Approved Housing Bodies Development, and Lease & Repair Scheme

The Members noted the update reports. Mr Sheerin highlighted the reduction in the number of casual vacancies and submitted that keys for an additional five properties are expected to be returned in the coming weeks. These properties are located in Killybegs, Frosses, Ballyshannon, Dunkineely and Donegal Town. It was also highlighted that there has been a slight reduction in the number of Housing for Older People grant applications received during 2022, however, the Housing Adaptation and Mobility grants applications remain on a par with the previous year.

Mr Sheerin informed the Members that the income eligibility band threshold for social housing support in Donegal has been revised from €25,000 to €30,000 for one adult from the 1st January 2023. For larger households the threshold is slightly increased on a pro-rata basis. Mr Sheerin further informed Members that applications received during the period 18th November 2021 to the 31st December 2022 will be reviewed in the context of the new criteria and emphasised that there

is little room for discretion if a household exceeds the income eligibility threshold, however, some discretion can be applied in relation to once off payments or certain benefits paid for a defined period. Mr Sheerin agreed to circulate a copy of the revised circular to the Members.

HOUSING CAPITAL

Ms T Quinn referred to the Housing Capital Report and informed the Members that the Bundoran Phase I project is currently out for tender with a return date of the 20th January 2023. The SI at Largymore has Part VIII approval and the appointment of consultants is ongoing. Site investigation works are taking place on the Fintra Road site in Killybegs and the housing project in Laghey is currently with the Department for approval. The turnkey acquisitions are ongoing and an offer has been accepted for a parcel of land in Ballyshannon.

A number of comments / queries were dealt with as follows:-

Housing

Cllr Sweeny and Cllr Naughton welcomed the reduction in the casual vacancy numbers and the additional properties that will become available in due course for allocation. Cllr Sweeny also welcomed the acceptance of the offer for the parcel of land in Ballyshannon and noted that a planning application has recently been submitted for forty-eight houses in the Ballyshannon area.

Mr Sheerin submitted that since COVID the Housing Office has been in a position to source funding from the Department to refurbish casual vacancies and noted that the new development proposed for Ballyshannon has the potential to provide an additional nine social housing units under the Part V process.

Drumacrin, Bundoran (Phase 1)

Cllr Naughton sought an update on the link road development for the Drumacrin Phase 1 project. Mr Sheerin advised that the Senior Engineer is continuing to hold discussions with various landowners and these discussions are in the context of the Development Plan for Bundoran. Ms T Quinn agreed to seek an update from the Senior Engineer.

Expressions of Interest – Land/Property

Cllr Naughton noted that there is a need for social housing support for five households in the Pettigo area and was aware three expression of interests were submitted for lands that may be suitable for social housing purposes. Cllr Naughton submitted that there is a significant housing need throughout the county and small towns like Pettigo that have existing infrastructure such as a school and community centre should be considered for social housing development.

Cllr Kennedy submitted that it would be beneficial for the Members to be made aware of the expressions of interest received.

Mr Sheerin advised that a number of expressions of interest were received for the smaller towns within the Donegal MD and these will be reviewed in due course in the context of geographical spread and the housing need within these areas. Mr Sheerin anticipated a Workshop will be organised in due course and was aware of one expression of interest for Pettigo. Mr Sheerin agreed to follow up with the Housing Capital Section dealing with land acquisitions in relation to the number of expressions of interest received for Pettigo.

MDD/006/22 ROADS / TRANSPORTATION SERVICES REPORT

2023 Roadworks Programme Status Report

It is expected the funding announcement for the 2023 Roadworks Programme will be made in advance of the next MD meeting scheduled to take place on the 14th February 2023. Therefore, in order to obtain the Members approval to proceed with the agreed 2023 Programme at the next MD meeting, a Workshop was scheduled to take place on Thursday the 9th February 2023 at 10am.

Follow up Issues from the previous meeting

Mr Sweeney had provided an update on the follow up issues from the previous meeting, as circulated by e-mail, that dealt with the following matters: -

Arrangements for the Roads Workshop at 10am on Monday the 9th January 2023.

This workshop took place to discuss the: -

- Reallocation of footpath repair funding.
- 2023 Housing Estate funding.
- Winter Maintenance.

On the proposal of Cllr Sweeny, seconded by Cllr Naughton, the reallocation of the footpath repair funding was agreed.

On the proposal of Cllr Jordan, seconded by Cllr Sweeny, the 2023 Housing Estate funding was agreed.

Provide an allocation of €1,000 to the Bundoran Tidy Towns Committee.

This payment will be processed upon receipt of an invoice.

Convey the Members comments regarding the commendable work carried out by the Winter Maintenance Team.

This message was conveyed to the winter maintenance teams on 19th December 2022.

Investigate if a grit heap could be left within the vicinity of Rarooey Road.

Grit heaps have been left along the Rarooey road at locations where it is safe to do so.

Seek an update from Road Design on the Killybegs One-Way System Project.

The site meeting took place on the 6th January 2023 between Cllr Kennedy and Road Design to give an update on the project.

Forward an acknowledgement to Adrian Gardner of Airtricity.

This message was forwarded to Airtricity on 14th December 2022.

Seek an update on the Killybegs Walkability Audit.

An email was sent to Charles Sweeney on 21st December 2022.

Seek an update on the Glencolmcille Folk Village Car Park project.

An email was sent to the Community Development Capital Projects Team on 21st December looking for an update.

Investigate the trees located on the Donegal side of the approach road into Killybegs.

Hedgecutting works will recommence this week and the Area Office has arranged for these trees to cut back in January 2023.

Section 183 request for the disposal of land at Inver Glebe to Clive & Geraldine Vance to be placed on the Agenda of the forthcoming Plenary Council meeting.

This has been arranged.

As per response to motion – Inver to Killybegs Road.

An email was sent to the DOS on 21st December 2022 asking for this Motion to be referred to the Department of Transport. The Members were advised that the relevant sections of the Council are liaising on a Business Case to have this road included in the National Development Plan.

A number of comments / queries were dealt with as follows:-

Lighting

Cllr McMahan and Cllr Naughton submitted that a high volume of lights are not working properly within the MD, particularly outside Donegal Town and under the bridge on the Bundoran to Kinlough Road. Cllr McMahan wished to acknowledge the work carried out by Frank Gilmartin, however, noted that it wasn't appropriate for one person to cover the entire county. Cllr McMahan submitted that the contract with Airtricity has expired and Enevero is now responsible for

the lighting; he proposed holding a meeting with the executive of Enerveo to discuss the ongoing lighting issues, including the lack of supply of LED bulbs. Cllr Naughton queried if a contact number could be provided to report faulty lights.

Mr Sweeney advised that there is a fault on the N56 line just outside Donegal Town and works are ongoing to identify the source of the fault. As Road Design is responsible for the management of public lighting, Mr Sweeney agreed to refer the issue to this Section. Mr Sweeney submitted that a project is ongoing to replace sodium bulbs with new LED lights and, in the meantime, if a sodium light is not working, as an interim measure a previously used sodium bulb is utilized until such time as the LED lighting is erected. Mr Sweeney agreed to forward the Members the website link to report faulty lights and to ascertain if Airtricity is no longer responsible for the repair of faulty public lighting.

Tree Surgery

Cllr Sweeny welcomed the recommencement of hedge cutting and hoped to see progression on the tree cutting/trimming in Ballyshannon prior to the 1st March 2023. Cllr Naughton noted that there were outstanding sections along the Pettigo Road to be completed. Mr Sweeney advised that this topic will be discussed next week at the Internal Roads Meeting.

One Way System – West Rock, Ballyshannon

Cllr Sweeny queried if a temporary solution, such as simple signage and road markings could be considered for a one-way system at the West Rock in Ballyshannon. Mr Sweeney advised that these works do not fall under the Active Travel remit and agreed to follow up with the Road Design Section with a view to preparing drawings for Part VIII approval

TII Funding For Clyghore Cross Roads

Cllr Sweeney advised that a request for advanced funding to address flooding issues at the Clyghore cross roads on the N3 was discussed with the TII at the last meeting when a delegation from the Council met with the TII before Christmas and he asked if there had been any feedback from the TII regarding this request. Mr Sweeney agreed to follow up on this matter with the TII and advise the Members at the next meeting.

Active Travel

Cllr Naughton sought the inclusion of Active Travel projects on the agenda for the Roads Workshop scheduled to take place on the 9th February 2023. Mr Sweeney advised the Active Travel Status Report has now been combined and agreed to place this topic on the Roads Workshop Agenda.

Piers

Cllr Jordan and Cllr Kennedy noted significant damage occurred to the Cassan Sound and Creevy Pier during a recent storm and Cllr Jordan agreed to forward pictures to the Roads Area Manager for further submission to the Marine Section. Mr Sweeney agreed to forward the pictures to the Marine Engineer.

MDD/007/23 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFORMATION SYSTEMS & EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT

Mr C Martin was in attendance to represent the Economic Development, Information systems and Emergency Services Directorate. Members noted the update reports circulated with the agenda dealing with the following:-

1. Economic Development
 - a. Economic Development Unit
 - b. Tourism Marketing Unit
 - c. Strategic Funding Unit
 - d. Trail Gazers Bid Project
 - e. Donegal Diaspora Unit
2. Local Enterprise Office
3. Emergency Services: Fire Service

Mr C Martin provided the Members with an update on the Donegal Diamond – Outdoor Public Space Scheme, the Bundoran Oceanside Project, the BuyDonegal Project and advised that as part of the Atlantic Economic Corridor Project, two Donegal based film projects will be launched during 2023, namely ‘Moving West’ and ‘Donegal More to Life’. Mr C Martin noted that the Tourism Unit will be participating in the forthcoming Holiday World Show scheduled to take place in Dublin on the 27th to 29th January 2023. In conclusion, Mr C Martin wished to thank the Members for their recent support for the proposed Section 183’s, which it is anticipated in due course, assist in the expansion of two businesses in the south of the county.

A number of comments / queries were dealt with as follows:-

Outdoor Space Schemes & Donegal Masterplan

Cllr Naughton sought the arrangement of a Workshop to discuss the Donegal Diamond Project and the completion of the Masterplan. In response to a query in relation to contract timelines for the Bundoran Oceanside Project, Mr C Martin agreed to seek clarification on the proposed construction phases for the Donegal Town and Bundoran Outdoor Space Schemes as well as bringing forward the suggestion to hold a Workshop. In terms of the Donegal Masterplan, Mr C Martin also agreed to seek an update regarding the possible need for a Foreshore Licence as he was aware this process feeds into the final Masterplan.

Ukraine Enterprise Crisis Scheme

Cllr Naughton noted the Ukraine Enterprise Crisis Scheme which has been set up to assist vulnerable firms with increased energy costs. Cllr Naughton submitted that accommodation providers have received no payments from the International Protection Accommodation Service (IPAS) during the last quarter of 2022 and these establishments are also frustrated at the introduction of the proposed daily fee of €10 that requires direct collection; Cllr Naughton suggested going forward establishments will be reluctant to sign new contracts if the current issues are not resolved.

Cllr McMahon concurred with Cllr Naughton's comments and noted that services are currently stretched due to the volume of refugees arriving into the county. Both Cllr McMahon and Cllr Sweeny highlighted the importance of our tourism industry and believed a wider discussion was required in terms of more suitable accommodation. In response to a query raised by Cllr McMahon, it was confirmed Ms A Doherty has been appointed as the Ukrainian Response Co-ordinator.

Cllr Kennedy advised that as Chairperson of the LCDCC, she will be relaying the comments raised at the next Community Forum meeting and suggested arranging a Workshop to discuss further.

Mr C Martin agreed to relay the comments raised to the relevant section within the Council.

Tullan Strand

Cllr McMahon sought an update on the Tullan Strand project and suggested a workshop be arranged to discuss same. Mr G Martin agreed to speak to the Community & Planning Section.

Shared Island Projects

Cllr Sweeny welcomed the allocation of funding under the Shared Island Projects and the appointment of the Project Manager for the Slí Cholmcille and the RegTech Projects and suggested the Slí Cholmcille route be extended to include the parish of Drumholme. It was agreed to pass on the suggestion regarding the inclusion of Drumholme to the newly appointed Project Manager, Deirdre Harte.

Donegal Film Office

Cllr Sweeny wished to convey his thanks to the Film Office and noted the significant benefits obtained from hosting film production companies within our county, despite accommodation challenges and poor broadband in some areas. He welcomed the current filming that is ongoing in the town of Ballyshannon and hoped the final version will reap positive rewards for the locality.

Fire Stations

Cllr McMahon expressed his dismay at the lack of progress in terms of the Ballyshannon and Bundoran Fire Stations and Cllr Naughton suggested a Workshop take place with the Members, Management and two Fire Officers from each Fire Station as agreed at a previous Workshop. Mr G Martin agreed to arrange a Workshop and suggested extending an invitation to the Chief Executive to also attend. Mr G Martin further advised the issues raised by the Fire Officers have been relayed in a report to the Department and it was not appropriate to address the feedback from staff in such a forum. Mr G Martin agreed that a separate mechanism or forum could be agreed to ensure that staff feedback was facilitated and acknowledged.

The Members agreed to arrange a separate meeting with the Fire Officers.

Promotion of the County

Cllr Kennedy welcomed the reintroduction of attendance at the Holiday World Show and queried if the 'Remote Working' marketing includes details of a wide range of offerings such as outdoor activities as well as the schools, medical centres etc. Mr C Martin confirmed there is a holistic outlook to the remote working strategy and advised funding in the region of €150,000 will be available this year.

MDD/008/23 ENVIRONMENT SERVICES REPORT

Ms S Bogan presented the report for the Environment Section, as circulated with the Agenda highlighting with the following matters:-

- Waste & Litter Management
 - Christmas Campaigns
 - 2023 Recycle your 'Natural' Christmas Tree for Free
- Environment Section
 - Solid Fuel Regulations 2022

Ms Bogan advised that sixteen locations throughout the county are accepting natural Christmas trees for recycling from the 6th to the 28th January 2023.

In terms of the follow ups from the previous meeting:-

- It was agreed to hold a Workshop to discuss waste litter issues on Thursday the 9th February 2023 at 10am; the Roads agenda will form the latter half of this Workshop.
- A site meeting has taken place regarding the relocation of the Donegal Town Bottle Banks and discussions are ongoing with the relevant parties.
- The showering facilities at Murvagh are nearing completion.

MDD/009/23 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING SERVICES

Community Development

Mr. Paddy Doherty, Divisional Manager, Community Development was in attendance to represent Community Development.

Members noted the update reports for the Community Development Section, as circulated with the Agenda dealing with the following matters:-

- Town & Village Renewal – Donegal MD
 - Donegal Town
 - Glencolmcille
 - Carrick
 - Bruckless
- Clár 2022 – Donegal MD
 - Termon Complex, Pettigo
 - Leitir Corn Mill River Walk, Kilcar
- Playground Maintenance
- Walks & Trails
- Sliabh Liag Development Project
- Leader/RDP Programme Update
- Community Funding Opportunities

Mr Doherty advised that the Development Fund Initiative (DFI) 2023 and the Community Support Fund 2022 are currently inviting applications with €120,000 available in the Donegal MD to support projects under the DFI Scheme. In terms of the next Leader Programme, the Council is currently working on the Local Development Strategy and it is expected €7.7m will be available for allocation under the PEACE + Programme.

A Rural Funding Workshop was scheduled to take place on Tuesday the 7th February 2023 at 10am.

A number of comments were noted as follows;

Local Economic Community Plan (LECP)

Cllr Kennedy referred to the previously adopted LECP, whereby members of the public were afforded the opportunity to feed into the Plan and queried if this was possible for the forthcoming plan. Mr Doherty advised that work has commenced on the new LECP and it is expected consultants will be appointed to prepare the Socio-Economic Statement which will contain high level goals. It is expected the LECP will be adopted before the year end, following the relevant public consultation periods.

Planning Services

Ms Aideen Quinn presented the Planning Service Reports as circulated with the Agenda dealing with the following: -

- Development Applications
- Enforcement
- Q1 2023 Planning Clinics
 - 13th January 2023
 - 27th January 2023
- Capital Projects Delivery Unit
- Regeneration & Development Team Report

Ms A Quinn advised a Casual Trading Workshop will be arranged in due course and the Capital Projects Delivery Team are progressing the Killybegs 2040 Project. Ms A Quinn further advised the Planning Office has received three separate planning applications for the construction of 200 units (combined) as well as an application for an extension to the Lough Eske Hotel; these applications are all currently under assessment.

A number of comments were noted as follows;

Ballyshannon Workhouse

Cllr Sweeny highlighted the importance of carrying out restoration works to the Ballyshannon Workhouse building and suggested further consideration should be given to identifying a suitable pathway to utilise the building and create an attraction for the town of Ballyshannon. Cllr Sweeny noted that the centre section of the building is in poor repair and as an interim measure, suggested a request for conversation / heritage funding be made to carry out remedial works. Ms Quinn submitted that sections of the Planning Act grants local authorities permission to apply for funding to carry out emergency works to specific buildings and suggested an Internal Steering Group could be set up to consider various options for this building.

Camper Vans

Cllr McMahon queried if a suitable solution could be achieved for the management of camper vans in Bundoran. Ms A Quinn referred to the recently completed Camper Van Study and advised that it is expected the draft Bundoran Local Area Plan will be out for consultation towards the end of Quarter 1, 2023 which will grant the public the opportunity to consider further. Ms Quinn noted that the Planning Office welcomes planning applications for the development of Camper Van sites.

MDD/010/23 Date of Next Meeting / Workshops

- Rural Funding Workshop on Tuesday the 7th February 2023 at 10am.
- Environment & Roads Workshop on Thursday the 9th February 2023 at 10am in the Peter Kennedy Chamber.
- MD Meeting on Tuesday the 14th February 2023 at 11.30 am in the Peter Kennedy Chamber (as per standing orders).

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Area Manager
Municipal District of Donegal

Cathaoirleach
Municipal District of Donegal

Donegal Municipal District

Roads & Transportation Workshop

Date: 9th January 2023

Time: 10:00am

Venue: Donegal PSC - Council Chamber

Present: Cllr Sweeney, Cllr Naughton, Cllr Kennedy,
Cllr Conaghan, Cllr McMahon. Cllr Jordan.
Mark Sweeney.

Topic discussed:

- 1. 2023 Council Estates Funding**
- 2. Footpath Repair Funding – Adjustment to previously agreed allocations.**
- 3. Winter maintenance**

1. 2023 Council Estate Funding

The members were advised that a further €70,000.00 is being made available for council Estates in 2023 and following a brief discussion the Members agreed to allocate this funding as follows:

- €20,000.00 to upgrade the back lane at Bay View terrace in Mountcharles
- €50,000.00 to commence the works on upgrading the back lanes at Cluain Barron Estate in Ballyshannon.

2. Footpath Repair Funding – Adjustment to previously agreed allocations

In response to a request by the Members at the Donegal MD meeting held 26th October 2022 to provide a cost estimate to fully complete the footpath repair works in Bridgetown the Members were advised that a budget of €20,000.00 is needed for these works.

The members were also advised that a budget of €6,000.00 has already been allocated to footpath repair works in Bridgetown so a further €14,000.00 will need to be reallocated from other previously agreed footpath repair works budgets within the same RSS area.

Following a short discussion, the Members agreed to the following reallocation so that the footpath repair works in Bridgetown can be fully completed:

- Reduce the footpath repair budget in Donegal Town by €10,000.00

- Reduce the footpath repair budget in Laghey by €4,000.00

3. Winter maintenance

Further to the recent extended spell of cold weather during the first two weeks in December 2022, the members advised that they had received numerous calls to grit roads that were not on the Winter Maintenance programme. In particular, the following roads were mentioned:

- L1125-1 & 2 Carrick to Meenaneary road – 5.75km
- L1085-1 & 2 Carrick to Teelin road – 4.55km
- L6695-1 & 6075-1 Rarooey – 1.97km
- L2365-1 Cashelard road – 2.15km
- L2295-1, L2285-1 & I2275-1 Rossnowlagh Area - 4.5km

The Members were advised that the Winter maintenance plan was last reviewed in 2021 and that we do not have the capacity to grit roads over and above what has been resourced.

The location of grit heaps was also discussed, and the members were shown the location of the grit heaps that have been detailed on the Council's winter ready webpage. These locations have been carefully selected as it is safe for the public to pull in to collect grit. It was also explained that in addition to these locations the area teams also deposit grit at known difficult locations such as steep inclines for locals using these roads to spread themselves. These locations are not shown on the web page as they are not suitable for the public to be directed towards to collect grit.

The Members were advised if they want another location to be considered for a grit heap to advise of the location and we will assess it to see if it is a suitable location for grit to be stored and added to the web page.

Minutes compiled by: Mark Sweeney A/SEE Roads & Transportation Office,
Donegal Municipal District.

This concluded the business of the Workshop.

Area Manager

Municipal District of Donegal

Cathaoirleach

Municipal District of Donegal



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

Municipal District of Donegal

14th February 2023

Housing & Corporate

REPORT

1. Casual Vacancies
2. Housing Grants
3. Housing Loans
4. TP Applications
5. HAP Tenancies
6. Household Need by Location
7. Housing Capital Report
8. Approved Housing Bodies Developments
9. Lease & Repair Scheme Summary

Casual Vacancies

Area	BED	Dwelling Vacated	Comment
Bundoran	3	Tenant deceased on the 25/08/2022	Tender Document Stage
Ballyshannon	3	Keys returned 08/07/2019	Tender documents to be prepared
Donegal Town	3	Keys returned 09/01/2023	Tender Document Stage
Dunkineely	3	25/08/2017	Tender documents to be prepared
Dunkineely	3	15/12/2017	Tender documents to be prepared
Frosses	1	Keys returned 24/01/2023	Assessment Stage
Killybegs	1	Tenant deceased - keys returned 23/05/2022	Assessment Complete
Killybegs	2	Keys returned 20/01/2023	Contractor on Site

Position as at 2nd February 2023

HOUSING GRANTS

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED \ INVALID	FURTHER INFO	PENDING
HO	2022	89	69	6	7	7
HO	2023	3	0	0	2	1

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED \ INVALID	REAPPLIED UNDER HM GRANT	FURTHER INFO.	REF. TO OT	REF. To ENGINEER	PEN
HD	2022	47	23	5	1	3	9	0	
HD	2023	3	1	0	0	0	2	0	

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED \ INVALID	REAPPLIED UNDER HD GRANT	REF. TO OT	FURTHER INFO	PENDING
HM	2022	42	32	3	5	1	1	0
HM	2023	4	0	0	0	0	1	3

HOUSING LOANS

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED	PENDING	Further information
Housing Loans	2021	13	0	2	11	0	0
Housing Loans	2022	7	1	0	4	2	0
Housing Loans	2023	0	0	0	0	0	0

Tenant Purchase Applications 2021 - 2023

Year	No. of Apps Received	Incomplete Returned	Open Applications	Refused/ Not Eligible	Offer letters Issued	Completed
2021	14	0	6	2	6	2
2022	9	0	8	1	0	0
2023	5	0	5	0	0	0

HAP/PRD	
HAP Tenancies	
Municipal District	Number
Donegal	212
Letterkenny	707
Glenties	102
Stranorlar	263
Inishowen	432
Sub Total	1716
Tenancies Closed	2606
Overall Total	4322
Updated 03/02/2023	

Housing Need by Location

Municipal District		Waiting List (Net Need)	Transfer List	Total Gross Need
Donegal		154	222	376
	Ballintra	5	6	11
	Ballyshannon	26	52	78
	Bruckless	7	1	8
	Bundoran	31	62	93
	Carrick	1	0	1
	Donegal	59	63	122
	Drimarone	1	0	1
	Dunkineely	2	4	6
	Frosses	1	2	3
	Glencolmcille	4	0	4
	Kilcar	2	3	5
	Killybegs	8	17	25
	Laghey	1	4	5
	Mountcharles	3	6	9
	Pettigo	3	2	5
	Total	154	222	376
Updated 03/02/2023				

**Housing Capital Update Report
Donegal Municipal District Meeting
February 2023**

1. Social Housing Developments – Construction Schemes

Donegal County Council is currently progressing the following social housing developments within the Donegal Municipal District:

Location	Status	No. of Units
Construction Stage		
Railway Park, Donegal Town (Phase 3)	Construction works ongoing. Due for completion August 2023. All buildings are currently at wallplate/roof level.	24
Design / Tender Stage		
Drumacrin, Bundoran Phase 1	Tenders returned on 20 th January 2023. Evaluation panel being selected to undertake assessment including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1: Compliance check 2: Suitability assessment 3: Tender evaluation Following the assessment of tenders, a tender report will be prepared and an application will be forwarded to the Department for approval to appoint a contractor. Anticipated start date on site June / July 2023.	42
Largymore, Kilcar (SI)	Part 8 approved. Appointment of consultants ongoing to undertake detailed design. Anticipated that project will proceed to tender in Q2 2023 with construction start date in Q3 2023.	1

Preliminary Design Stage (No of units subject to change)		
New Row, Fintra Road, Killybegs	Trial holes due to be carried out in advance of a Stage 1 funding application to the Department.	17
Laghey	Preliminary Design Stage. Efforts being made to maximise the potential of delivering housing in advance of finalising site layout.	4
Total		88

2. House Acquisition Programme & Buy & Renew Programme

The Council is close to completing the acquisition of 2 no. properties at Claredon Drive, Donegal Town. The properties are being acquired under the Buy & Renew Programme and will require significant improvement works in advance of letting. The Council has secured funding from the department to carry out these works. This acquisition will see 2 no. long-term vacant properties brought back into productive use for social housing purposes. Significant works will be required to the properties following the completion of the contract stage and in advance of letting.

3. Social Housing through Turnkey Acquisition

Donegal County Council's turnkey acquisition process is continuing throughout the county. This competitive dialogue procurement process will result in a major capital investment in social housing and initial projects have now been completed under this process. This is a very effective mechanism enabling the Council to feed into the design of the proposal so as to ensure that the end product is suitable for the needs of social housing tenants. Proposals are subject to meeting the requirements of the procurement process, planning, departmental approval and contract.

Construction works to the approved turnkey development at Brookfield, Donegal Town are ongoing. The development will provide a total of 38 social housing units as follows: Phases 1 & 2 of the development containing 22 units are complete. Phase 3 of the development is progressing and will provide an additional 16 families/tenants with new homes.

Stage 4 approval has also been obtained from the Department for a turnkey development at Rockview, Ballyshannon. The development is substantially complete and will add 5 no. 2 bedroom bungalows to the Council's housing stock.

In addition, Council officials are continuing to dialogue with Developers in relation to an additional valid proposal for Donegal Town for 35 units and Members will be fully informed of these proposals upon receipt of final departmental approval.

4. Lands / Property for Social Housing Purposes

The Council is planning to develop further projects on existing landbank in various locations throughout the county. Preliminary designs are underway for a number of these sites and are informed by the pertaining approved social housing need at local level.

In parallel with the construction and turnkey programmes outlined above, the Council is actively pursuing the acquisition of lands suitable for housing purposes, in towns and villages where there is currently not a social housing solution available / shortfall.

In addition to the current expression of interest advertisement on the Councils' website for parcels of land, derelict sites / buildings with the potential to deliver social housing, the Council is also separately identifying parcels of land with social housing potential in areas of need.

A number of suitable parcels of land have been identified across the Donegal MD and engagement / negotiations are ongoing directly with landowners / agents to acquire these lands. In this regard the Council has currently 1 offer accepted, subject to contract, in Ballyshannon.

Approved Housing Bodies Developments - Donegal Municipal District

Funding Programme	Scheme / Project Name	No of Units	Approved Housing Body	Current Status
CAS Construction	Drumrooske, Donegal Town	10	Oaklee	Construction works complete

Repair & Lease Scheme Summary

Applications						
MD	Received	No. of Units	Awaiting assessment	Rejected	Progressing	Total
Inishowen	24	27	7	17	0	24
Donegal	17	41	0	17	0	17
Glenties	19	19	1	18	0	19
Letterkenny	25	32	0	25	0	25
Stranorlar	23	71	10	13	0	23
Total	108	190	18	90	0	108
Updated 01/02/2023						

**Donegal Municipal District
2023 Roadworks Programme
Status Report -14th February 2023**

Donegal MD footpath repair & public lighting infill works

3 Year Programme

Footpath Works										
RSS Area	Location	Year 1 Budget 2018	Year 2 Budget 2019	Year 3 Budget 2020	Overall Total Amount	Spent to date Year 1 2018	Spent to date Year 2 2019	Spent to date Year 3 2020	Overall total spent	Remaining balance
14	Mountcharles	€5,729.00	€16,600.00	€24,350.00	€46,679.00	€5,729.00	€6,608.59	€0.00	€12,337.59	€34,341.41
	Dunkineely			€23,432.00	€23,432.00			€9,650.00	€9,650.00	€13,782.00
	Frosses		€16,600.00	€23,432.00	€40,032.00		€2,759.75	€0.00	€2,759.75	€37,272.25
15	Killybegs	€15,568.00	€16,600.00	€50,000.00	€82,168.00	€15,575.78	€16,600.00	€19,828.72	€52,004.50	€30,163.50
	Kilcar			€3,200.00	€3,200.00			€0.00	€0.00	€3,200.00
	Glencolumbkille		€8,300.00	€16,314.00	€24,614.00		€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€24,614.00
	Carrick		€8,300.00	€1,700.00	€10,000.00		€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€10,000.00
16	Ballintra			€11,214.00	€11,214.00			€11,214.00	€11,214.00	€0.00
	Ballyshannon	€95,244.00	€16,600.00	€35,000.00	€146,844.00	€79,716.00	€10,375.66	€30,966.14	€121,057.80	€25,786.20
	Bundoran		€16,600.00	€25,000.00	€41,600.00		€16,600.00	€25,000.00	€41,600.00	€0.00
17	Donegal Town	€32,897.00	€16,600.00	€47,214.00	€96,711.00	€21,522.68	€17,500.00	€0.00	€39,022.68	€57,688.32
	Laghey		€8,300.00	€8,000.00	€16,300.00		€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€16,300.00
	Bridgetown			€6,000.00	€6,000.00			€0.00	€0.00	€6,000.00
	Pettigo		€8,300.00	€10,000.00	€18,300.00		€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€18,300.00
Totals		€149,438.00	€132,800.00	€284,856.00	€567,094.00				€289,646.32	€277,447.68

DMD 2022 Footpath Repair works

RSS Area	Location	Budget 2022	Overall spent	Remaining balance
14	Ardaghey Area	€6,346.67	€0.00	€6,346.67
15	Killybegs Area	€17,246.37	€0.00	€17,246.37
16	Ballyshannon Area	€105,492.62	€0.00	€105,492.62
17	Donegal Area	€36,424.34	€0.00	€36,424.34

Public Lighting Infill Works

Area	Location	Description	Total Cost	Status	Total Spent	Remaining balance
14	Drimark, Donegal Town	Infill lighting - 7 additional lights at Drimark on Local	€10,871.00	Completed	€27,662.46	-€541.46
	Mountcharles	Lower End Mountcharles –	€6,750.00	Completed		
	Mill Park Hotel, Doonan	Proposed lighting from Doonan Roundabout to	€9,500.00	Completed		
15	Kilcar	Lighting improvement	€10,650.00	Completed	€11,181.57	€18,193.43
	Killybegs	Old Fintra Rd near Glenlee	€18,725.00	Yet to commence		
16	Ballyshannon	Rossnowlagh Link Road.	€30,000.00	Completed	€25,864.00	€4,136.00
17	Killymard, Donegal Town	Extend existing public lighting past the school and	€11,600.00	Completed	€26,025.48	€18,074.52
	Tirconnail Street & Castle Street, Donegal Town	Infill lighting needed along the public road at Tirconnail Street on local	€10,000.00	Yet to commence		
	Killymard, Donegal Town	Killymard Church to Drumrooske Housing	€22,500.00	Completed		
Total amount			€130,596.00		€90,733.51	€39,862.49

Donegal Municipal District							
2023 Drainage Grant							
County Budget							
Donegal MD %							
Donegal MD Budget							
Area	% of Budget	Budget	Description of Works	Road No.	Estimated Cost €	Area totals	Status
14	23.58%						
			To be agreed when funding is announced				
15	24.58%						
16	24.70%						
17	27.15%						
		€0.00	TOTAL		€0.00		

Donegal MD Active Travel Projects

Jan	Project Name	Project Description	Project Band	Current Phase	Phase 6 Construction Date planned	DCC Comments
DL/21/0002	Proposed Footpath between the Niall Moore National School & Foresters Hall carpark Killybegs	Construct a footpath leading from a drop off carpark to the main entrance of the Niall Moore National School	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q4 2021	Works completed - Final Close out report issued to NTA
DL/21/0008a	Ballyshannon, Bishop Street	Provision of footpath on (L-2465-1)	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 3 - Preliminary Design	Q3 2024	TOBINS Consultant Engineers appointed , preliminary design ongoing, one-way system required,
DL/21/0008b	Donegal Town, Killybegs Road	Provision of infill section of footpath on the Killybegs Road (R925)	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 4 - Planning and Stat Approvals	Q3 2024	TOBINS Consultant Engineers, NIS required, planning and CPO 2023
DL/21/0008b	Donegal Town, Lough Eske Road	Provision of infill section of footpath on the Lough Eske Road (L-1915-2)	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 5 - Detailed Design and Tender	Q1 2024	TOBINS Consultant Engineers, detail design and land purchase ongoing
DL/21/0008c	Killybegs, Church Road	Construction of infill section of footpath, drainage and public lighting on Church Road (LP1315-1)	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 6 - Construction	Q3 2022	Construction works ongoing,
DL/21/0008d	Kilcar	Proposed footpath extension to Kilcar National School (R263-8)	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q4 2021	Works complete - Final Close out report to be issued to NTA
DL/21/0008e	Kilcar	Proposed footpath extension past local church to nearby car park (R263-8)	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q3 2022	Works completed - final close out report required 2023
DL/21/0008f	Donegal Town, Old Golf Course Road	Design associated with the construction of an infill section of footpath on the Old Golf Course Road (L-2155-1) linking a large residential area to the school,town centre etc.	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 5 - Detailed Design and Tender	Q2 2024	TOBINS appointed, detail design and land purchase ongoing
DL/21/0008g	Bundoran	Construction of an infill section of footpath along the L-2575-1 to link the Crest of the Wave housing estate to the existing public footpath.	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q3 2022	Works completed - final close out report required 2023
DL/21/0009a	Glencolumbcille	Proposed footpath improvement works in Glencolumbcille (R263)	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q2 2022	Works completed - final close out report required 2023
DL/21/0009b	Carrick	Proposed footpath improvement works in Carrick (R263 & L1125)	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q4 2021	Works completed - final close out report required 2023
DL/21/0023	Safe to Schools Programme - Scoil Aodh Rua & Nualla	Safe to Schools Programme	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	Q1 2023	Green Schools to undertake delivery plan in Q2 2023 to allow Prelim design to commence
DL/21/0024a	TOWNPARKS BALLYSHANNON PED CROSS	Low Cost Junction Tightening / Pedestrian Crossing Schemes	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 6 - Construction	Q3 2021	Works ongoing.
DL/21/0024b	BUNDORAN TOWN PED CROSSING LIGHTS UPGRADE	Low Cost Junction Tightening / Pedestrian Crossing Schemes	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q3 2021	Works completed - final close out report required 2023
DL/21/0024c	ROCK RD BALLYSHANNON, PED CROSSING	Low Cost Junction Tightening / Pedestrian Crossing Schemes	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q3 2021	Works completed - final close out report required 2023
DL/21/0024d	COLLEGE ST BALLYSHANNON, PED CROSSING	Low Cost Junction Tightening / Pedestrian Crossing Schemes	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q3 2021	Works completed - final close out report required 2023
DL/22/0001	Cycle Parking Donegal Town MD	Installation of bike parking facilities.	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q2 2022	Works completed - final close out report required 2023
DL/22/0002	Donegal Town One Way system	It is proposed to introduce a One-Way System onto Tírchonailí Street, Castle Street, Water Street and New Row within Donegal Town. The scheme will provide crossing points, new wider footpaths, widening of existing footpaths, landscaped pedestrian refuge islands, traffic calming.	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 5 - Detailed Design and Tender	Q3 2023	TOBINS Consultant Engineers, detail design ongoing. Contractor to be appointed Q1 2023, site supervision required
DL/22/0005	Ballyshannon to Bundoran Active Travel Scheme	Old N15 (now R267) Bundoran to Ballyshannon Cycling Greyway	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 3 - Preliminary Design	Q1 2024	TOBINS Consultant Engineers appointed , preliminary design ongoing, Part 8 Planning 2023
DL/22/0006	Pettigo National School Footpath (R232)	Upgrade of existing substandard footpath including undermining of the existing footpath. There is a school located on one side and the local church is located on the town side. A solution in line with DMURS to include for the provision of a footpath and traffic calming would be beneficial to this section of road and also to the areas amenities.	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 5 - Detailed Design and Tender	Q2 2023	TOBINS Consultant Engineers, detail design & land acquisition ongoing. Construction 2023
DL/22/0003	Laghey Village (Old Laghey Road) Footpath	Infill section of footpath on the Old Laghey Road, Laghey including a footbridge across the river to link the Riverbank Avenue housing estate to the existing footpath leading to the nearby national school. Consultant appointment and inception report	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	Q4 2025	Options to be considered to deliver footpath link in 2023
DL/22/0014	Malinmore Footpath , Glencolumbcille	Glencolumbcille - provision of a footpath along the R263 West of Glencolumbcille in the direction of the Folk Village.	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 5 - Detailed Design and Tender	Q4 2025	TOBINS Consultant Engineers, detail design ongoing.

Donegal MD Community Involvement Schemes 2023

Project Number	RSS Area	Road Number	Road Name	Length of work (m)	Total Area of work	Overall Cost of work	% LC	LC	WIL	Budget	Status
			To be agreed when funding is announced								
										€0.00	

Donegal MD

2023 LIS Priority List -

2023 Budget

To be agreed when funding is announced

DMD %

18.6715%

DMD Budget

Total

RSS Area	Location	Percentage of budget	Budget	Priority	LIS No	PSCI Rating	Townland	Engineers cost estimate	Notes	Status
14	Ardaghey	44.73%	€0.00							
15	Killybegs	27.64%	€0.00							
16	Ballyshannon	9.82%	€0.00							
17	Laghey	17.82%	€0.00							
								Total		€0.00
								Budget		€0.00
								Balance		€0.00

2023 Specific improvement Grant

MD	Road Number	Location	Description	LA Allocation	Status
Donegal		Yet to be announced			



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services Directorate

Donegal Municipal District Report February 2023

Content

1. Economic Development

1.1 Economic Development Unit

1.2 Tourism Marketing Unit

1.3 Trail Gazers Bid Project

1.4 Strategic Funding Unit

1.5 Donegal Diaspora Unit

2. Local Enterprise Office

3. Emergency Services: Fire Service

1. Division: Economic Development

1.1 Economic Development Unit

Project / Activity Report

Title	Economic Development Unit
Donegal MD	<p>Ballyshannon Vision Project: The pilot initiative to support and empower the capacity of key stakeholders has now concluded and three specific focus project areas have emerged with group leaders and areas of work mapped out. The 'Town Teams' will be supported by the Business Concierge Service and other Council services as appropriate to develop their specific project areas with a total of 16 volunteers involved. A follow-up progress meeting is scheduled for February 2023.</p> <p>Killybegs Marine Cluster: Work with the Killybegs Marine Cluster is ongoing and the group recently supported a new pilot schools programme via the Alpha Innovation Centre and a publicity campaign highlighting opportunities in the blue economy.</p>
Countywide	<p>Relocation Marketing Campaign: A relocation marketing campaign to attract talent nationally and from overseas will kick off w/c Jan 30th supported by two showreel videos and testimonials from those who have relocated, to encourage people to #MoveToDonegal. This campaign includes a videos aimed showcasing Donegal as the ideal place for a work-life balance an career opportunities, with press feature testimonials on those who have made the move to Donegal including Niamh Mc Laughlin (Donegal Women's GAA), Iain Miller (Unique Ascent), Jacqueline Glackin (Author), Shaun Murrin (Engineer). All informaiton on the campaign including these elements are available on: https://donegal.ie/move</p> <p>The Economic Development Unit would be delighted if the Councillors could support the campaign by liking and sharing the video and content we are sharing across social media.</p>

Property Solutions: The team is progressing 12 property solution opportunities across the county. These are queries relating to the purchase of council owned lands for Economic Development purposes.

Caravan, Camping and Campervan Study: recommendations from the Caravan, Camping and Campervan study are being implemented along with internal and external stakeholders. This includes a review of Aire de Service locations, grant support for overnight facilities and the updating of marketing information for the sector. Partners are currently reviewing work completed in 2022 and planning for 2023.

Remote Working Strategy: The first Donegal Hubs Forum meeting took place in 2023 online on the 18th of January with a new Cathaoirleach Míchéal Ó Duibhir from Gteic@Gaoth Dobhair.

#BuyDonegal 2022: #BuyDonegal 2022 has concluded supporting over 350 businesses to showcase Donegal business to a global audience. The campaign reached 7.5 million across social media with 97% of businesses, who provided campaign feedback, stated a willingness to participate in a future such campaign.

InvestDonegal Communications Update: Latest key stats for the InvestDonegal LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram and web accounts are as follows;

	Impressions (last 28 days)	Total Followers
Linked In	57,300	4,481 (+58)
Twitter	12,242	2,697 (+255)
Instagram	4,551	3,718 (+58)
Facebook	154,189	1,833 (+28)
Donegal.ie	3.6K Web Users (4 weeks 29 Dec – 26 Jan)	

4 News Items Published

Shared Island: Donegal County Council were awarded funding for a series of new innovative projects under the Irish Government's Shared Island Local Authority Development Funding Scheme and will be working in

partnership with Derry City and Strabane District Council and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council in the coming year. The Economic Development Unit will be leading out on four projects and are currently scoping requirements for feasibility assessment and governance structures, in preparation for procurement of consultants in early 2023.

- **The North West Regulatory Tech Cluster project** is a proposal to develop an all-island national institute in Regulatory Technology ('RegTech') in the North West. DCC will work with Derry City and Strabane District Council, Catalyst, ATU and other partners to develop campuses in both Letterkenny and Derry. A project manager for two Shared Island projects (Slí Cholmille and RegTech) was appointed on 5th December 2022 to drive the process forward. An industry engagement took place on 1 February to help shape the project with 31 participants.
- **Innovation Plaza** to develop cross-border enterprise opportunities in sectors such as renewable energy, advanced manufacturing & engineering and agri-food. Initial project scoping has been carried out which will lead into preparation for procurement of consultants in early February 2023.
- **Regenerative Tourism** involving engagement with the region's place, past and people, seeking to attract high-yield environmentally conscious visitors. DCC are working with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. The project scoping requirements for feasibility assessment and governance structures are currently underway in preparation for procurement of consultants in early February 2023.
- **Slí Cholmille Project** is a proposed 250 km pilgrimage route linking key Colmille related sites across Donegal and Derry, with the ambition to link across NI to Scotland. DCC will work with Derry City & Strabane District Council and Slí Cholmille CLG to undertake the feasibility assessment which will include route development, identification of capital investment, costings and designs as well as an economic appraisal and business case

North West City Region: Donegal County Council continue to work in partnership with Derry City and Strabane District Council on a number of key projects for supporting and stimulating Inward Investment in the region.

- **Inward Investment Strategy:** both councils are finalising the development of pitch propositions focusing on key investment sectors. These propositions will

	<p>form the basis of future promotion of the region for inward investment and will articulate the competitive strengths and opportunities in the region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Talent Solutions: both councils are working with Abodoo to develop a mapping platform to demonstrate the range of skills in the region to help attract FDI to the Northwest of Ireland. Both Councils are currently working with key stakeholders to identify how best to target employers and employees to engage with online surveys. ▪ Communications: The EDU continue to collaborate with DCSDC on promoting the North West City Region for investment and business opportunities including via LinkedIn and Twitter platforms. This work will tie into the Inward Investment Strategy in the coming year, with a current focus on the Talent Solutions survey. Both Councils conducted joint communications to promote the Investment Event held in Dublin and are working as part of the proposition development for future events. <p>You can follow respective LinkedIn and Twitter Platforms : @NorthWestCityRegionIreland</p> <p>Atlantic Economic Corridor: The Donegal County Council are working with Local Authority partners along the western coast to progress mutually beneficial projects and initiatives around economic development.</p> <p>The EDU are currently working with the WDC to ensure complementarity between the Councils Relocation Campaign and the WDCs “More to Life” campaign, which are both promoting Donegal as a relocation option for the diaspora and those interested in moving to the Western Seaboard.</p> <p>Concierge Service: The EDU are available to support existing businesses, potential business start-ups or businesses looking to relocate or wishing to expand and who need advice on accessing a wide range of Council services and supports including broadband connectivity. Please contact the EDU by email economicdevelopment@donegalcoco.ie.</p>
Contact Person	<p>Ciaran Martin - ciaran.martin@donegalcoco.ie (086) 8261760</p> <p>Rosita Mahony – rosita.mahony@donegalcoco.ie (087) 2510128</p>

1.2 Tourism Marketing Unit

Project / Activity Report

Donegal MD	<p>Bundoran Marketing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finalising marketing plan 2023.• Ongoing weekly podcast production delivered every Friday.• Compilation and distribution of monthly email newsletter.• Review of 2022 marketing activities completed.• Preparing to exhibit at Holiday World Show 27th-29th January at RDS Dublin. <p>Bundoran Tourist Office:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tourist Office open 4 days a week (Thu-Sun)• Currently one TÚS employee working. <p>Website and Social Media:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintaining a social media presence for the town on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Scheduling of content to direct social media users to the website to increase traffic.• Creation of website content and updating of event/music listings.• Users of discoverbundoran.com up 41% Jan 1st – Dec 31st v 2021, Page views up 49% on same period & Sessions up 45% on same period.• Website users and page views: 2021 (Jan-Dec) - Users 96,654 - Page Views 207,219 2022 (Jan-Dec) - Users 136,240 - Page Views 308,589• The webcam remained the most viewed page on the site accounting for 13% of all pageviews in 2022. This was followed by event listings/what's on <p>Waterworld: Preparing marketing plan for 2023 season.</p> <p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working with DCC team on Bundoran Oceanside project/Public Toilets.• Continuing to work on various elements of the Tourism Masterplan with Failte Ireland.• Working with Failte Ireland on finalising other elements of Oceanside project above.• Attended Tourism Ireland marketing launch on January 16th
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Inishowen MD

Night-Time Economy Pilot Advisor: Buncrana will benefit from a new advisor to help develop a sustainable night-time economy in the town as part of a new pilot scheme.

As part of this a new Night-Time Advisor will be appointed for a two-year period. The post will be funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (DTCAGSM) and the Department. The post will be finalised and advertised in the coming months.

Countywide

Online & social media updates – Go Visit Donegal

End of Year Stats Report for the govisitdonegal.com website and social media is being prepared. Information will be provided at the next MD meeting.

Year to Date Stats - 1st January until 2023

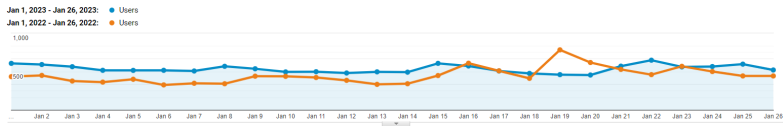
Social media performs strongly in January across all our social platforms.

Website traffic 1st – 26th January vs the same period in 2022

	YTD	Performance vs same period in 2022
Page Views	34,264	+18.8%
Users	13,000	+19.3%

Social media performs strongly in January across all our social platforms.










Website traffic 1st – 26th January vs the same period in 2022



Currently we are encouraging potential visitors to start planning their holiday and choose Donegal as their unforgettable destination in 2023.

Website views by country: (Traffic came from 92 countries in total)

Top 10 Countries (1st-26th January 2023):

	Country	Users	% Users
1.	 Ireland	5,511	42.14%
2.	 United Kingdom	4,209	32.19%
3.	 United States	1,502	11.49%
4.	 China	266	2.03%
5.	 Germany	198	1.51%
6.	 Canada	189	1.45%
7.	 Australia	159	1.22%
8.	(not set)	126	0.96%
9.	 France	125	0.96%
10.	 Netherlands	104	0.80%

Tourism Brochure 2023: A new 64 page, A5 tourism brochure has been designed for 2023. 10,000 copies of this brochure have been printed and will be distributed across the county. The brochures will be distributed to several tourism partners including Donegal, Derry, Belfast and Ireland West airports, tourist offices in the North West, ferry ports and main tourist attractions/visitor centres across the county.

A flipbook has been created on the govisitdonegal.com website. Brochures are a very valuable tool and allows for easy demonstrations of the county and its visitor attractions.

Holiday World 2023: Donegal's wealth of tourist attractions has been brought to the attention of thousands of people who visited the Holiday World Shows in the RDS in Dublin from the 27th to 29th January. Donegal Tourism hosted a 'Donegal Street' of stands.

Over 20 tourism sector representatives attended the show to promote their respective areas. The stand was well designed with professional imagery of our most iconic attractions such as Sliabh Liag, Fanad Lighthouse and Malin Head.

Having a wide variety of representatives from across the county ensured that visitors could find the information they needed about specific areas with local knowledge and expertise on hand to advise.

TBEX: Patti Hosking from TBEX in the USA visited Donegal in December with a view to Donegal being a potential host to this worldwide conference (online content creators/bloggers/influencers) in Donegal.

As a result of a successful assessment of the counties amenities a formal bid is not being compiled and a decision will be reached in the coming months.

Donegal Airport Marketing Collaboration: The Tourism Unit continues to support Donegal Airport to promote the Go Visit Donegal brand through an advertising campaign at the airport. This campaign will run from January – December 2023 and include:

- An online banner on the Donegal airport website creating brand awareness and generating click-throughs to the website govisitdonegal.com.
- 2no. 4m x 1m lightboxes. (One in waiting area and another luggage claim) for 12 months.

Tourism Seminar: The annual Donegal tourism seminar will be held on Thursday, March 30, location TBC.

This year's seminar theme is 'Emerging Trends and Opportunities in Tourism'. This industry event is a unique opportunity to come together, learn, and network. Key speakers are currently being secured and a save the date has been distributed to tourism trade throughout the county.

TIDE Project: A six-month extension has been awarded on the project with additional outputs to continue to develop the experiences which includes models of the ship Saldanha.

Information panels for sites at Fanad, Dunree and Greencastle were installed in December.

Donegal Tourism Marketing Campaign: Donegal County Council invited suitably qualified service providers, through etenders, to tender for the design, development and delivery of a marketing campaign for Spring and Autumn 2023.

The tender is currently advertised on the etenders platform from 4th January 2023 – 3rd February 2023. A successful company will be appointed in the coming weeks.

	<p>North West City Region: The tourism unit continue to collaborate with DCSDC on promoting the North West City Region. Staff from both council areas are working to deliver a targeted tourism marketing campaign.</p> <p>A Spring marketing campaign is in planning to promote and position the North West Region of Derry ~ Londonderry and Donegal as a ‘must-see’ short break destination of choice for the domestic market of NI and ROI during 2023.</p>
Contact Person	<p>Sarah Nolan Acting Head of Tourism sarahnolan@donegalcoco.ie 087 2691977</p>

1.3 1.3 Trail Gazers Bid Project

Project / Activity Report

Activity / Project Title	Trail Gazers Bid Project
Activity / Project Description	‘To quantify the return to the local economy for every euro invested in walks and recreational trail infrastructure ‘
Budget	€2.6 M
Progress to date within quarter* - inclusive of current status	<p>In 2018, Donegal County Councils Research & Policy Unit successfully led an application to the Atlantic Area Programme under objective 4.2 ‘Enhancing natural and cultural assets to stimulate economic development’.</p> <p>This transnational project is managed by the Research & Policy Unit (Lead Partner), working with 9 different partners located across Ireland, UK, France, Spain and Portugal.</p> <p>The project sets out to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantify the impact of key strategic investments in walks and recreational trail infrastructure can have on stimulating rural

communities, using sensors data, counters, surveys of users, businesses, communities etc.

- Develop and trial a range of practical initiatives and interventions such as business to consumer initiatives, digital marketing tools etc to enhance the return.
- Work with communities, businesses and other key stakeholders in the area to develop community plans and initiatives around the site.
- Develop a range of community trail ambassadors to champion the sites as catalysts for the development of rural economies.
- Our site for research purposes is Inch Levels and post project completion it is likely that key learning and methodology can be applied to other sites in the county and region through an extensive capitalisation programme.

SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS

Website: www.trailgazers.eu

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TrailgazersB

Twitter: twitter.com/hashtag/TrailGazers

Instagram: www.instagram.com/trail.gazers

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/trailgazers>

#TrailGazers

PROGRESS

- Work has commenced on Trail Gazers final project reporting and claim (project end date for administration purposes 31st March 2023).
- Trail Gazers is delighted to have been successful with a Slaintecare Application (end of December) in order to carry out some of the recommendations raised following our accessibility audit. Procurement will commence shortly to address some of the issues raised.

	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trail Gazers Toolkit – The Legacy has now been completed and will be available on our website for any groups or organisations to use in relation to their trails. This toolkit can be adapted to inform policy makers with a framework that identifies the required levels of investment, programming and management required to assist trails to become more economically and socially driven, thus increasing and attracting more visitors to trails.
<p>Project Targets for the next quarterly* reporting period</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch Project Toolkit. Final project claim and reports. Final infrastructural works to be carried out under our Slaintecare application.
<p>Contact Person</p>	<p>Mary McBride</p> <p>marymcbride@donegalcoco.ie</p>

1.4 Strategic Funding Unit

Project / Activity Report

<p>Title</p>	<p>Strategic Funding Unit – exploring EU and National Funding Opportunities that support the objectives set out in the Donegal County Council Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024</p>
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<p>Countywide</p>	<p>SFU Webinars & E-mail Newsletter: The SFU is working on a communications plan for 2023, which will incorporate a series of webinars and a monthly e-mail newsletter sharing information on EU and National funding opportunities.</p> <p>TOURBO Tourism Project Success: SFU in collaboration with the Tourism Unit has been successful in joining an Interreg Europe transnational consortium led by Seville Chamber of Commerce, to deliver the TOURBO project which will boost the transition pathway of MSMEs (Micro Small & Medium Size Enterprises) in tourism with green and digital transformation known as the ‘Twin Transition’. The project will include analysis of the tourism sector in terms of green and digital skills/capabilities, training for MSME’s, pilot actions such as new technology trials and knowledge/expertise exchanges.</p> <p>SFU and Local Authority Funding Strategy 2023: The SFU is working with the <i>North West Regional Assembly</i> on developing a Local Authority Funding Strategy 2023 as a guide to maximising opportunities arising from the current EU funding programme period of 2021 – 2027.</p> <p>YOUTHopia- Generating Perspectives for Cohesion: Following the launch of the "YOUTHopia- Generating Perspectives for Cohesion" project, Donegal County Council will be working on a proposal to host a ‘future fair’, an event showcasing the opportunities in the North West for young people including skills and education, employment and entrepreneurship. The European Year of Skills will be 2023. This project will also include a 4-day training workshop in June 2023 where young people can participate in a training programme in media and communication skills delivered by international media agency Café Babel.</p> <p>Enterprise Week 2023 – YOUTHopia Webinar: As part of the YOUTHopia project, the SFU will be hosting a webinar in March 2023 as part of Enterprise Week themed around youth opportunities in the North West City Region in terms of skills and education, employment and entrepreneurship promoting the area as an innovative ecosystem where young people have opportunities to forge fulfilling careers and lifestyles.</p>
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	<p>Exploration of EU Funding Opportunities with the North West Tertiary Education Cluster (NWTEC): The SFU continues to liaise with representatives of the NWTEC to discuss potential collaboration on EU funding opportunities including engagement in the YOUTHopia project in 2023.</p> <p>FLAG Board: The SFU will represent the Council on the FLAG Board. A meeting is planned for Friday 27th January to assess project applications under the Brexit Blue Economy Enterprise Development Scheme.</p> <p>Project Partnership & Development: The SFU is exploring a number of project opportunities under the Atlantic Area Programme and is liaising with Council staff and other potential partners on project concepts related to air quality, green infrastructure, fishing sector ecosystem innovation and tourism.</p> <p>Other areas of work include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Funding Programme Reviews • Participation in project scoping meetings with potential partners • Participation in EU network meetings such as CPMR, AER etc. • Funding Needs Analysis of Council Divisions • Regular Strategic Funding Newsletters
<p>Donegal MD</p>	<p>Donegal Diamond – Outdoor Public Space Scheme: Tender assessment will take place in Jan/Feb 2023 with a view to appointing a construction company in Feb 2023. Once the construction company is appointed the timescale for the works to be completed will be determined and communicated locally. The SFU is engaging with local community groups in relation to elements such as seating, planters, trees etc.</p> <p>Donegal Town Pier and Diamond Masterplan: The Masterplan for both the Pier and the Diamond is well developed. Further consultation will take place once work on the Diamond is completed. The SFU is liaising with the RRDF team on the development of a potential category II application, which would cover element such as feasibility studies, planning, foreshore licensing, detailed design etc.</p> <p>Fáilte Ireland Local Authority Weatherproofing & Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Scheme – Bundoran Oceanside: Capital works tendering is ongoing with a view to appointing a construction company in January</p>

	<p>2023 and commencing work by February 2023. The aim is to complete the project by May 2023. This will be followed by a launch event. Bundoran lettering is in production and will be installed at the promenade on the main beach in early March 2023.</p> <p>Minor Tourism Related Grant Scheme Application: The Strategic Funding Unit has been successful in applying to the Minor Tourism Related Grants Scheme to refurbish the promenade at the Thrupenny Pool in Bundoran. Capital works procurement is underway.</p>
Contact Person	<p>Joy Harron Acting Senior Staff Officer Mobile: +353 (87) 0619360 E-mail: joyharron@donegalcoco.ie</p>

1.5 Donegal Diaspora Unit

Project / Activity Report

Title	Donegal Diaspora Unit
Countywide	<p>Tip O’Neill Irish Diaspora Awards 2023: A consultation exercise with the O’Neill family has been completed for the Tip O’Neill Irish Diaspora Awards 2023. A provisional date of 16th September 2023 has been agreed upon, with procurement to commence in early 2023. The first Tip O’Neill Committee Meeting of 2023 is scheduled for Friday, 3rd February.</p> <p>Donegal Connect 2023 / 2024: Plans for 2023 have already commenced and dates are hoped to be agreed upon, in conjunction with the Tip O’Neill Irish Diaspora Awards, over the coming weeks. A funding application for the Global Irish Festival Series 2024 is also due for submission in Q1 2023.</p> <p>Donegal Diaspora Website / Social Media: A communications plan on the use of the Diaspora website and associated Diaspora social media channels is currently taking place. <i>Donegal Diaspora social media statistics as of 30/01/2023 are as follows:</i></p> <p>LinkedIn – 1,138 (up 15) connections</p>

	<p>Twitter – 4,009 (up 1) followers</p> <p>Facebook – 5,535 (down 215) followers (due to Bot removal)</p> <p>Instagram – 270 (up 8) followers</p> <p>Scottish Diaspora: A meeting was held between the Diaspora Officer, Packie Bonner and the Tourism Ireland representative in Scotland in January 2023 with the aim of establishing a strong Diaspora network within key Scottish cities such as Glasgow, Edinburgh and Dundee. Further meetings are scheduled for planned collaborations in 2023.</p> <p>Relocation Campaign: The Relocation Campaign ‘Donegal is Calling’ was launched on January 30th. There is a strong focus on encouraging members of our Diaspora to consider a return home to Donegal, whilst also encouraging others considering relocation here. Leveraging existing Diaspora networks will be key for disseminating messaging. The campaign is scheduled to run until May 2023.</p>
Contact Person	<p>Eoin Leonard Diaspora Officer Mobile: +353 (87) 360 5678 E-mail: eleonard@donegalcoco.ie</p>

2. Division: Local Enterprise Office

Project / Activity Report

Activity / Project Title	The Local Enterprise Office (LEO)
Role and Remit	<p>The Local Enterprise Offices is positioned nationally as the “<i>First Stop Shop</i>” for anyone seeking information and support on starting or growing a business in Ireland. The Local Enterprise Office Donegal provides advice, information and support to those starting up or growing their business in Donegal. Grant is potentially available for businesses that meet the eligibility criteria.</p> <p>Further information available here - localenterprise.ie/donegal Contact number: 074-9160735</p>

Outline of Work

General Overview – Highlights:

Summary of January 2023 Outputs:

- Grant Aid –
 - Next EVAC meeting taking place on 23/2/2023
- Trading Online Vouchers – 3 Businesses approved support to a value of €6,698
- Mentoring YTD – 4 Businesses have received this support
- Training – 34 Business Attendees YTD.
- Student Enterprise Programme – The latest programme began in September for this academic year. 769 Donegal students are participating in 15 schools.

Upcoming Programmes:

Scale-X Accelerator

Scale-X Accelerator is an 11-week Accelerator Programme which is targeted at start up entrepreneurs with the potential for fast. The programme focuses on giving you a deep understanding of the metrics that can drive your success, the skills to build financial models that stand up to investor scrutiny, and industry engagement and mentorship that give you valuable insights to adapt your business model to create the perfect fit.

Who is eligible?

- Any founder(s) with ambitions to grow their business globally.
- A potential spin-out from an existing firm or third level institution
- A commitment to grow your business from Donegal, no matter where in the world you live right now.
- The programme is open to residents of County Donegal

Further Info:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Donegal/Training-Events/SCALE-X/>

The programme is **FREE** and will begin in April 2023.

National Enterprise Awards

Silver Strand Ropes, based in Moville, was chosen prior to Christmas to represent Donegal at the National Enterprise Awards to be held in the Mansion House in Dublin on 1st June, 2023. The National Enterprise Awards is a national competition open to any LEO that has availed of Measure 1 / other grant aid supports or completed a LEAN programme in 2022.

Award categories include the following:

- **Export**
- **Innovation**
- **Start-Up**
- **One to Watch**
- **Green & Sustainability**

Enterprise Week

The 2023 Enterprise Week is taking place on 6th to 10th March and this year the theme is “Be Inspired” with events taking place throughout the County. Enterprise Week will be officially launched on 17th February, 2023.

Ongoing Programmes:

Digital Start

YTD – 4 Donegal LEO Clients receiving this support

The objective of the pilot of Digital Start is to help businesses prepare and implement a plan for the adoption of digital tools and techniques across the business.

Digitalisation supports competitiveness, productivity, and value creation and covers five main areas:

1. Data processing and analysis (i.e. gathering customer trends, values insights)
2. Cloud computing (i.e. moving software/data to the cloud for accessibility)

3. Cybersecurity (i.e. protecting records, information, IP and data from attacks)

4. Internet of Things (software/technology connectivity)

5. Industry 4.0 (i.e. process automation in manufacturing facilities and utilisation of AI)

Digital Start provides strategic intervention for businesses to work for FREE with third party consultants worth up to €4,500 to:

- assist them identify where they are on their digital business journey,
- develop a digital adaptation plan based on their identified need,
- implement their digital adaptation plan.

Green for Micro

This is a FREE programme that helps small businesses take the first step towards becoming more sustainable, giving them access to a green consultant worth up to €2,500 who will show them small changes that can have a big impact on their company.

Developing a 'greener' policy can offer many benefits to businesses, including:

- Increased cost savings
- Improved resource efficiency (for example: using less energy, water, and materials)
- Reduced environmental footprint and greenhouse gas emissions
- Opportunities for higher and additional value on products and services
- Increased access to customers, improved corporate image and reputation.
- Increased resilience to climate change impacts.

Lean For Micro

LEAN provides strategic intervention for businesses to work with third party consultants worth up to €4,500 (Client contribution €200). It is designed to encourage clients to adopt Lean business principles in their organisations to increase performance and competitiveness. Lean is for

all companies, regardless of sector – it is not just for manufacturing companies.

Lean tools and techniques address competitiveness issues within their businesses by building the capability of their people to identify problems, improve operations and create a more innovative organisation. In a nutshell, Lean is about doing things quicker, better and saving costs. Lean strives to remove waste and to continually improve a company.

Ongoing Cluster Development Programmes:

Food Coast Donegal

The Food Coast Donegal is an initiative facilitated by the LEO to support, celebrate and grow the Donegal Food Sector.

- 40 certified members.
- Just under 200 network members.

Current activities:

- The Food Coast Strategy Review is close to completion and should be finalised in February.
- 10 Donegal food and drink producers are travelling on 19th February, 2023, to St Joseph's University in Philadelphia for a week long programme in Food Marketing where they will have the opportunity to attend executive lectures and field trips.

Creative Coast Donegal

Creative Coast Donegal's aim is to support the building of a strong creative and digital economy in Donegal with businesses that are robust, confident, financially viable, and collaboration-friendly, all impacting positively on the local economy in terms of job creation, as well as being pro-active and competitive on an international stage.

There are currently 204 members of the Creative Coast Donegal network. These members are creative business owners throughout Donegal from various sectors within the Creative industry.

The LEO Donegal and external consultants are in the final stages of developing a 3-year action plan for the creative industry in Donegal.

Donegal Engineering Cluster

The ambition of the ***Donegal Engineering Cluster*** is to expand, strengthen and enhance the existing engineering group in Donegal by,

- Facilitating inter-firm knowledge sharing and enhance learning.
- Increasing market knowledge within the cluster.
- Identifying new opportunities for the sector in the county through co-operation and collaboration among cluster partners.
- Enhancing the skills and innovation capabilities of the engineering firms through training, peer learning and management development.
- Enhancing the attractiveness of the sector as a potential source for future employment opportunities and business start-ups.
- Developing collaborative opportunities into meaningful outcomes and outputs for cluster members.
- Promoting the cluster as a centre of engineering excellence both nationally and internationally.

The Donegal Engineering Cluster Executive, Maura Toner, who was appointed in September, 2022, on a 3-year contract, is continuing to engage with engineers and other stakeholders to assess the opportunities for the sector and their current challenges. A needs analysis which will be circulated in the coming weeks.

Upcoming Activities:

- 4 week Start Your Own Business Programme – Online – 7th February
- Trading Online Voucher Workshop – 8th February
- Information Session Scale X Accelerator programme - 8th February

All bookings can be made here:

	<p>https://www.localenterprise.ie/Donegal/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/</p> <p><u>Donegal Stories:</u> Website highlighting the businesses of Donegal that have been supported by the LEO. https://donegalstories.ie/</p> <p><u>Emergency Humanitarian Scheme to Small Businesses affected by the Explosion in Creeslough.</u></p> <p>The local Enterprise Office continues to support the Red Cross with the scheme to provide Emergency Humanitarian Support to Small Businesses affected by the Explosion in Creeslough. The Scheme closed for applications on 13 January 2023.</p> <p>This scheme provides an ex-gratia emergency humanitarian support contribution towards business losses as a result of the explosion in Creeslough on 7th October and the subsequent road closure. The scheme targeted at small businesses (up to 20 employees) and will have two stages:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The first stage provided a single once-off contribution towards the damage or other losses of up to a maximum of €5,000. 2. For the businesses which incurred significant losses above €5,000, the second stage will provide a means to seek further support. However, this will be a more lengthy process requiring a more detailed assessment. The total level of support available for both stages combined will generally not exceed €20,000. However, claims in excess of the overall cap will be considered exceptionally on a case-by-case basis, subject to availability of overall budget for the scheme. <p>To date, 22 businesses have received €96,740 in support under the first stage of the Scheme. 6 Businesses have also sought support under the second stage of the Scheme and these applications will be evaluated over the coming weeks.</p>
Contact Person	<p>Brenda Hegarty, Head of Enterprise</p> <p>Local Enterprise Office 074 9160735 Brenda.Hegarty@leo.donegalcoco.ie</p>

3. Emergency Services: Fire Service

Project / Activity Report

Fire Service Monthly MD Report (December)

Activity	Number of: (December)*		Total for year	
<u>Fire Service Operations</u>				
Fire Brigade incidents within County Donegal**:	87		827	
Mobilisations (by Donegal Fire Service Brigades)**:	98		935	
Mobilisations into Donegal (by NI Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS))**:	12		93	
<u>Operational Activity Breakdown December 2022</u>				
	Turnouts		Incidents in County	
	Fires	Special Services	Fires	Special Services
Donegal Fire Service	49	49	38	39
Northern Ireland Fire Service	5	7	3	7
Sub Total	54	56	41	46
Total	110		87	
<u>Fire Prevention</u>				
Fire Safety Certificate applications received:	6		173	
Fire Safety Certificates waiting to be assessed:	46		N/A	
Fire Safety Certificate applications assessed by Fire Officer and waiting for Further Information from Applicant / Agent:	63		N/A	


Fire Safety Certificate decisions made:	9	116
Applications for Dangerous Substance Licences received:	0	9
Dangerous Substance Licences issued:	0	3
Form of notice received under the Explosives Act, 1875:	5	50
Inspections and Auditing carried out (Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003, Annual Licensing, DSA 1972, Explosive Stores, Pyrotechnics, BCA 1992 & 2007):	7	204
Fire Safety Complaints received:	4	23
Fire Safety Complaints dealt with:	3	19
During Performance Inspections carried out:	0	4
Fire Safety awareness presentations delivered:	0	79

*** Current data only available up to end of December 2022.**




ENVIRONMENT REPORT – February '23

WASTE AND LITTER MANAGEMENT

Activity / Project Title	Businesses in Donegal Town to join the “Green Hub” pilot initiative from Donegal County Council and MyWaste.
Project Description/A ctivity	<p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>Donegal Town has been selected as one of 6 pilot towns nationally and the only one in County Donegal to become a “Green Hub”. This is a pilot initiative delivered by MyWaste and Donegal County Council.</p> <p>The Council is collaborating with the Donegal ETB, the Donegal Local Enterprise Office with support from the Donegal Community Chamber and the Donegal Town Business Focus group.</p> <p>The pilot aims to help businesses to maximise the segregation of the business waste and have a positive engagement with staff by utilising the MyWaste Business resources available from https://www.mywaste.ie/business/. These resources are available to order free of charge and include information posters, information stickers for bins, video animations and testimonials.</p> <p>Over the 6 next months, Donegal County Council will work with local businesses and organisations to incorporate the use of these resources into their business. The Council is collaborating with the Donegal ETB and the Donegal LEO office both of which have a number of programmes and courses available for businesses.</p> <p>Donegal Town Green Hub Pilot Launch - Save the Date: A breakfast launch of this initiative will take place on 28th February 8.00am – 9.30am in The Abbey Hotel, Donegal Town.</p> <p>We look forward to working with local businesses and organisations on making this exciting initiative a success.</p>
Contact Person	Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer sbogan@donegalcoco.ie

WATER QUALITY

Activity / Project Title	Public Service Announcements (PSA's)
Description/ Activity	<p>Donegal County Council would like to remind farmers to follow good agricultural practice for the land spreading of slurry from the 1st February. Farmers & contractors should pay attention to the weather forecast & not apply slurry or digestate to land which is waterlogged, flooded, likely to flood or if rain is forecast within 48 hours. Avoid spreading within 5 metres of any drain or 25 metres from a well, spring or borehole used for drinking water. As of this year, all pig slurry must be applied using low emission slurry spreading equipment.</p>
	
Contact Person	Joe Ferry joe.ferry@donegalcoco.ie

Activity / Project Title	Septic tanks - National Inspection Plan
Description/ Activity	<p>The septic tank inspection programme for 2023 will commence shortly, with 107 inspections across the county planned for this year. All homeowners are asked to check the condition of their systems and organise for basic maintenance & desludging to be carried out.</p> <p>Septic tanks registered prior to the date as set down in the regulations, (1st February 2013) are eligible for the grant funding to repair faulty systems.</p> <p>The next round of inspections will be carried out in September in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letterkenny MD – Glashagh Lower catchment in March/April • Inishowen MD –Crana catchment in March • Donegal MD – Mountcharles catchment in February • Glenties MD – Gweedore area in April/May
Contact Person	Joe Ferry joe.ferry@donegalcoco.ie



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

Municipal District of Donegal

14th February 2023

1. Town & Village Renewal – Donegal MD
 - Donegal Town
 - Glencolmcille
 - Carrick
 - Bruckless
2. Clár 2022 - Donegal MD
 - Termon Complex Pettigo
 - Leitir Corn Mill River Walk, Kilcar
3. Playground Maintenance
4. Walks & Trails
5. Sliabh Liag Development Project
6. Leader/RDP Programme Update
7. Community Funding Opportunities



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

Municipal District: Donegal

Activity / Project Update: February 2023

Activity / Project Title	2018 T&V Renewal – Donegal Town
Project Description/Activity	Enhancements & Development Works Works consists of: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Provision of a footpath2. Provision of lining trail markings / App3. Installation of interpretative panels / signage
Budget <i>(if applicable)</i>	€100,000 – Department of Rural & Community Development € 25,000 – Own Resources
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<u>Current Status:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A number of meetings have been held with Donegal Chamber of Commerce to finalise the details of the project including the options available to deliver the various elements of the project.• Letter of Offer has been issued out to Group, signed and returned.• Design of the proposed footpath is currently been progressed and will be tendered in Q1 of 2021.• Designs and procurements are underway for the other elements of the project.• Tender assessment complete, successful contractor to be appointed.• Following further consideration, it is now proposed that footpath proposal at this time be deferred pending future development of adjacent lands
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ongoing engagement with the Department in relation to the overall project and how it can be progressed
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Brian Keogh Executive Engineer Community, Development & Planning Services Tel: 074-9172569 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



Activity / Project Update: February 2023

Activity / Project Title	2019 T&V Renewal – Glencolmcille
Project Description/Activity	Enhancements & Development Works Works consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of a Town Plan• Upgrade existing footpaths• Provision of directional and interpretative signage• Provision of a bus shelter
Budget (if applicable)	€100,000 – Department of Rural & Community Development € 25,000 – Own Resources
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<u>Current Status:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A number of meetings have been held with the community group for the area to finalise the details of the project including the options available to deliver the various elements of the project.• Letter of Offer has been issued out to Group, signed and returned.• Designs of the proposed works are currently underway and will be presented to the community group.• The group have procured an architect/designer to progress the design and to prepare tender documents for a number of elements of the scheme.• Works designed and currently out to tender.• Tender evaluation report complete and successful contractor identified.• Site meeting with successful contractor.• Construction has commenced on site.• Construction work is substantially complete.• There are a few outstanding snags to be addressed.• The snags have been addressed and work is complete.• All signage has been ordered and installed by the group.• Works are substantially complete
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are snags to be closed out in the coming months
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Brian Keogh Executive Engineer Community, Development & Planning Services Tel: 074-9172569 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

Activity / Project Update: February 2023

Activity / Project Title	2020 T&V Renewal – Carrick
Project Description/Activity	Enhancements & Development Works Works consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reinstatement of the pedestrian bridge crossing the Glen River• Commission and prepare a Town Health Check• Commission and prepare a Regeneration Strategy to inform the sustainable development of the town and immediate surrounding area
Budget (if applicable)	€100,000 – Department of Rural & Community Development € 11,111 – Own Resources
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<u>Current Status:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A number of meetings have been held with the community group for the area to finalise the details of the project including the options available to deliver the various elements of the project.• Letter of Offer has been issued out to Group, signed and returned.• Designs of the proposed pedestrian bridge works are complete.• The group are have procured and appointed a contractor to complete the pedestrian bridge• Procurement documents prepared to appoint a consultant(s) to prepare a Town Health Check & a Regeneration Strategy of the town and surrounding area.• The pedestrian bridge crossing is complete.• Consultant appointed to prepare a Town Health Check & a Regeneration Strategy of the town and surrounding area.• Additional works to the river walk is now completed.• The Masterplan is at final stage and final draft will be issued by end of Q1, 2023
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Progress the Town Health Check & a Regeneration Strategy of the town and surrounding area and hope to be complete by end of Q1, 2023.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Brian Keogh Executive Engineer Community, Development & Planning Services Tel: 074-9172569 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



Activity / Project Update: February 2023

Activity / Project Title	2020 T&V Renewal – Bruckless
Project Description/Activity	<p>Enhancements & Development Works Works consists of: Landscaped garden park area with native trees, flowers, benches and pathways including the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Railway feature area • Area with outdoor gym equipment • Wheelchair accessible Sensory Garden • Wild meadow area • Small public grass area suitable for casual sports and games
Budget (if applicable)	<p>€100,000 – Department of Rural & Community Development € 11,111 – Own Resources</p>
<p>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</p> <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p>	<p><u>Current Status:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A number of meetings have been held with the community group for the area to finalise the details of the project including the options available to deliver the various elements of the project. • Letter of Offer has been issued out to Group, signed and returned. • The group had procured a design consultant to prepare contract documents to appoint a contractor to carry out the works on the proposed park. • Design work commenced and preparation of contract documents also commenced • Design of proposed park complete and approved by the community group. • Project is currently on E-tenders. 2 Contractors have submitted tenders and the tender report has been issued. • Contractor appointed. • Work has commenced on site and is progressing well and hope to be completed by the end of Q1, 2023
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works to be completed by the end of Q1, 2023.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	<p>Brian Keogh Executive Engineer Community, Development & Planning Services Tel: 074-9172569 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie</p>



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

Municipal District: Donegal

Activity / Project Update: February 2023

Activity / Project Title	2022 Clár – Termon Complex Pettigo
Project Description/Activity	Enhancements & Development Works Works consists of: Resurfacing of the MUGA Pitch, including the following works, <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excavate existing surfacing• Removing depleted existing sand substructure• Access and install drainage requirements• Install geotextile membrane• Lay subbase material• Install the synthetic turf surface• Install infill fibres• Apply line marking
Budget (if applicable)	€50,000 – Department of Rural & Community Development € 5,000 – Match Funding
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<u>Current Status:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Meeting was held with the community group for the area to finalise the details of the project including the options available to deliver the various elements of the project.• Tender Documentation shall be prepared for e-tenders in the coming weeks.
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Works to be commenced in Q2, 2023.
Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	Brian Keogh Executive Engineer Community, Development & Planning Services Tel: 074-9172569 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

Municipal District: Donegal

Activity / Project Update: February 2023

Activity / Project Title	2022 Clár – Leitir Corn Mill River Walk Kilcar
Project Description/Activity	Enhancements & Development Works Works consists of: Upgrade existing River Walk providing a wholly accessible path and associated infrastructure including the following, <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enhance the ground and edging on the existing path• Install lighting along the path.• Install seating• Signage and story boards.
Budget (if applicable)	€50,000 – Department of Rural & Community Development € 5,000 – Match Funding
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<u>Current Status:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Meeting was held with the community group for the area to finalise the details of the project including the options available to deliver the various elements of the project.• Tender Documentation shall be prepared for e-tenders in the coming weeks.
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Works to be commenced in Q2, 2023.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Brian Keogh Executive Engineer Community, Development & Planning Services Tel: 074-9172569 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



Activity / Project Update: February 2023

Activity / Project Title	PLAYGROUNDS MAINTENANCE 2022
Project Description/Activity	Annual maintenance of Playgrounds <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Glencolmcille.2. Mall Park, Ballyshannon.3. Mall Park Outdoor Gym, Ballyshannon.4. Waterworld Playground, Bundoran.5. Westend Playground, Bundoran6. St. John Bosco, Donegal Town7. Kilcar Playground.8. Killybegs Playground.9. Bruckless Playground
Budget (if applicable)	
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Works consists of:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Replacement of broken and damaged equipment.• Replace worn safety tiles and remove trip hazards.• Grease all equipment that contains bushes, bearings, shackles, etc.• Carry out repairs along edges of safety surfaces. <p><u>Current Status:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Successful tender appointed to carry out Annual Rospa Inspections.• Annual Rospa Inspection Reports have been completed with necessary repairs identified.• Quick quotes tender issued on e-tenders to procure Maintenance contractor for 2022 maintenance contract works.• Maintenance contractor appointed and repair works are currently underway across playgrounds.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Undertake playground repair works
Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	John Deeney Executive Engineer Community, Development & Planning Services Tel: 087 7197619 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie

	<p>Work on the tendering documents shall commence in the next quarter of 2022 to hopefully have ready to start on site early spring 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A recent meet with a group in Bundoran has highlighted the potential for some additional walks in the area. <p>Rossylongan</p> <p>Coillte are continuing with small elements of works around the Entrance and parking area. We will advance with the development of tender package to reinstate the existing trail surfaces including waymarkers and Map boards.</p> <p>A stage 1 screening report has to be complete prior to commence of any tender documents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<p>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Try to advance with purchase of counter units • Begin work on the tendering documents
<p>Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i></p>	<p>Darryl Connor (Outdoor Recreational Development Officer) 0873613811 dconnor@donegalcoco.ie</p>



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

Municipal District: Donegal

Activity / Project Update: February 2023

Activity / Project Title	Sliabh Liag Development Project
Project Description/Activity	The project has included the development of a Visitors Centre, Ranger Station and toilets, 2.5km of mountain paths works together with road improvement works from Carrick Village which represents a total investment of approx €5m
Budget (if applicable)	
Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status	<p>The visitors centre opened to the public in May 2019 following the official opening. An operations manager was appointed in March 2019 together with 3 support staff since the summer of 2019.</p> <p>Remedial works have been completed on site. The shuttle service operated from July 4th to October 2nd 2022 transporting almost 17,000 visitors to the viewing area</p>
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period	Further funding of €269k has recently been awarded in respect of further works to the mountain path. Tender documents are currently being prepared in respect of these works.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Paddy Doherty Community & Planning Services Station Island, Lifford



Activity / Project Update- February 2023

Activity / Project Title	Rural Development Programme/LEADER
Activity / Project Description	Donegal Local Community and Development Committee are the Local Action Group for County Donegal, with responsibility for the LEADER/Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 & Transitional LEADER Programme 2021-2022
Budget	€13,413,875 (Additional funding received 2019) <i>Note: Project costs €10,063,586, administration and animation costs €3,350,289</i>
Transitional Programme	1 st April 2021 – 31 st December 2022 €2,861,598 project costs € 953,866 for Administration & Animation.
Progress to date within the last two months-inclusive of current status	There are 4 Implementing Partners within the county; Donegal Local Development Company (DLDC), Inishowen Development Partnership (IDP), Údarás Na Gaeltachta and Comhar na nOileán, who are rolling out the LEADER Transitional programme on behalf of the LAG (Local Action Group). The LEADER Transitional programme is effective from 1st April 2021 and runs until 31 st December 2022. €45 million is allocated nationally for the Transitional Programme and €20 million from the EURI programme. 62 projects in Donegal are now approved by Pobal under the Transitional & EURI programmes and Letters of Offer have issued/are pending, granting LEADER funding to a value of €2,861,598.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly reporting period	The next LCDC/LAG meeting will be held on 15 th February 2023. LDCs will continue to engage with promoters on the ground however no new projects will be developed as all funding awarded to the Donegal LAG under the Transitional LEADER programme and EURI programme has been allocated. Donegal LCDC has submitted an expression of interest to DRCD to be the LAG for the new LEADER Programme 2023-2027.
Contact Person	Seamus Canning 074 9172597. seamusc@donegalcoco.ie



Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall Donegal County Council

COMMUNITY FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Donegal County Council and Donegal LCDC invite applications in respect of the following funding Programmes: -

Community Support Fund 2022

This Fund will support groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas as follows:

- With their non-pay running costs such as utility or other non-pay operating costs from July 2022- June 2023.
- Groups will also be able to use the funding to carry out necessary repairs and improvements to their facilities, purchase equipment for e.g. such as tables and chairs, tools and signage, laptops and printers, lawnmowers, canopies and training equipment etc.

Details of this fund are available at <http://www.donegalcoco.ie/fundingforyourgroup> or can be requested by email from lcdc@donegalcoco.ie or by phoning 087 3332193

The closing date for receipt of completed applications under this fund is 3.30pm on Thursday, 9th March 2023.

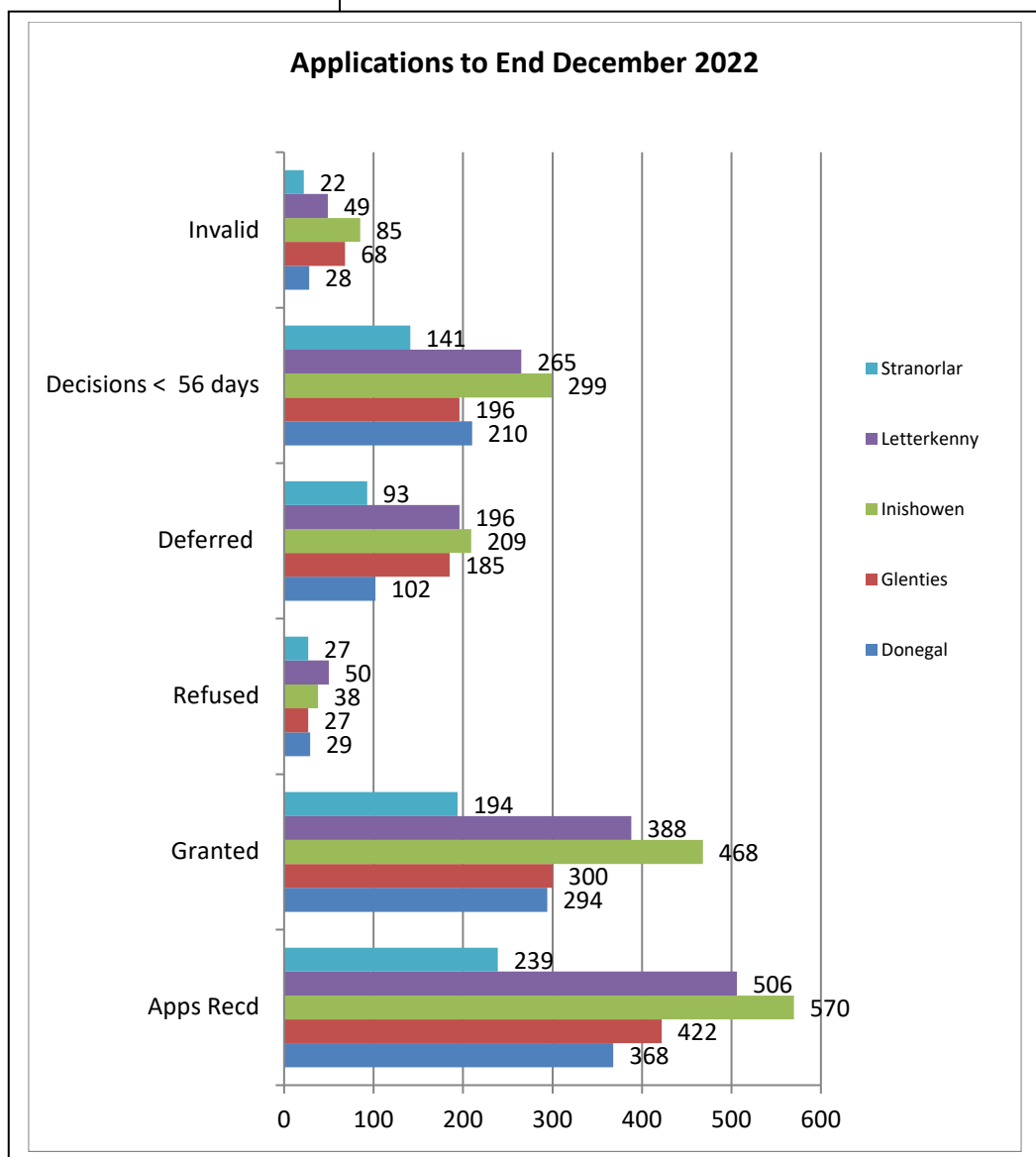


An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail
Department of Rural and
Community Development



Donegal MD Meeting
14th February 2023

Item	Update														
1 Development Applications															
(1) Statistics	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Donegal MD Totals Year to End December 2022</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Applications received</td> <td>368</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Granted</td> <td>294</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Refused</td> <td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deferred</td> <td>102</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Decided in under 2 months</td> <td>210</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Invalid</td> <td>28</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Donegal MD Totals Year to End December 2022		Applications received	368	Granted	294	Refused	29	Deferred	102	Decided in under 2 months	210	Invalid	28
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2	Enforcement									
		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="635 248 1034 322">Donegal MD</th> <th data-bbox="1034 248 1337 322">To end December 2022</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="635 322 1034 360">New Cases</td> <td data-bbox="1034 322 1337 360">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="635 360 1034 398">Closed Cases</td> <td data-bbox="1034 360 1337 398">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="635 398 1034 479">Outstanding cases on record since 2012</td> <td data-bbox="1034 398 1337 479">198</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Donegal MD	To end December 2022	New Cases	3	Closed Cases	0	Outstanding cases on record since 2012	198
Donegal MD	To end December 2022									
New Cases	3									
Closed Cases	0									
Outstanding cases on record since 2012	198									
3	Notes & Monthly Schedule	<p>Pre planning clinics are on a telephone call only basis (ring 074 9153900) between 9.00am and 12.30pm on the dates outlined below.</p> <p>The pre planning clinic calls will be taken by the Executive Planners and shall be for substantial applications only.</p> <p>Planning Clinics 2023: 23rd February 2023 9th March 2023 23rd March 2023 6th April 2023</p> <p>Please see website for further dates. http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/planning-clinics/</p>								
4	Casual Trading	No Report								
5	Regeneration Report	See Appendix B								
6	Building Control & Taking in Charge Community Development & Planning Services	No Report								
7	Capital Projects Delivery Unit	See Appendix A								
8	Central Planning Unit	No Report								
9	Conservation Report	No Report								
1	Further Information <i>Click on web links to access information.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly List of applications and decisions: http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/weeklyplanninglists/ • Planning service email (to be used in correspondence with the planning service): planning@donegalcoco.ie • Planning Webpage: www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/ • Planning Application Online Query – planning reference number required: www.donegalcdb.ie/eplan/internetenquiry/rpt_querybysurforrecloc.asp <p>File Retrieval Form – to be used for file retrieval and when requesting planning searches: www.donegalcoco.ie/media/donegalcountyc/planning/pdfs/fileretrieval/File%20Retrieval.pdf</p>								

Appendix A



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

CAPITAL PROJECTS DELIVERY UNIT

Community Development and Planning Services

Report to Donegal Municipal District Members: February 2023

Activity / Project Title	Killybegs 2040
Project Description/Activity	<p>Killybegs 2040 is a transformative town centre regeneration project which forms part of the longer-term regeneration strategy.</p> <p>The project elements are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The change of use, extension and modification of Island House (currently an existing derelict and vacant building) to provide a tourist information and reception centre, digital hub, public conveniences, café space, and all associated site development works. An extension is proposed at first and second floor levels and will include a glass viewing area.• Provision for a 1000 sq m civic space and alterations to road layout and car parking arrangements, including footpaths, open paved areas, planting, landscaping, public seating etc. The improved car parking and road layout will improve access to both Island House and the Civic Space to support overall regeneration plans.• Acquisition of key regeneration sites for the future delivery of appropriately located additional car parking and linkages between Main Street and Shore Road.
Budget	€5.4m
Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status	<p>Works are progressing on Island House. Demolition is complete and Piling operations are underway.</p> <p>Works on public realm have commenced, with drainage works underway.</p>

	Discussions in relation to land acquisition are progressing and the CPO for the 'Coal Yard' site and adjacent lands has been published.
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<p>It is anticipated that Piling works will be completed on Island House, with above deck construction works commenced.</p> <p>It is anticipated that works on public realm space will be progressing.</p>
Contact Person(s)	Michael Quigley, A/Executive Engineer Ardal McDermott, A/ Senior Executive Engineer

Appendix B



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council



Rialtas na
hÉireann
Government
of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

Regeneration & Development Team
Community Development & Planning Services

Report to February (2023) Municipal District Meetings

1.0 RURAL REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT FUND (RRDF)

1.1 EXISTING APPROVED CATEGORY 2 RRDF PROJECTS (2020)

1.1.1 Back to Ballyshannon – A transformational project to re-energise, re-imagine and sustain the social, cultural, historical, physical and economic fabric of Ballyshannon’s historic town centre.

Value: €247,500. (RRDF funding approved €185,625)

Update: Acquisition of the key regeneration site in Market Yard was completed by year end 2022. The Team now continues to work towards the publication of a planning scheme, so as to develop this project as a shovel ready capital project targeted for future Category 1 RRDF funding.

Further the public consultation period on the draft plans held in October-November 2022, the Team is continuing to engage with key stakeholders in relation to the feedback received. This includes the local Business Chamber, ESB and Bus Éireann. Good progress is being made in this regard and further arrangements will also be made for a further workshop with Members to update on this evolving consultation and design process.

1.1.2 Ramelton Historic Town Centre – A Restorative & Transformational Public Realm Scheme.

Value: €249,159 (RRDF funding approved €186,869)

Update: A Part 8 planning scheme for this project was published on Tuesday 1st February 2022 and a Chief Executives Report on the proposed development was brought before the Elected Members at a Plenary Meeting of the Council on Wednesday 6th April, 2022 and it was decided to proceed with the development as proposed.

Detailed design and a tender package is now being completed by the successful consultant BDP.

The Regeneration and Development Team completed the submission of a Category 1 capital funding application to the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund for the capital delivery of this project by the 12noon deadline on Friday 29th April 2022. The submitted project had a total project value of €7,949,868.

On 10th November 2022 the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys announced that €6.3m had been awarded under the Fourth Call for Category 1 Projects of the RRDF for the “Ramelton Re-Imagined” regeneration Project. This represents a full award of the RRDF funding sought. Work is now continuing to complete the Detailed Design and preparation of a Tender Package for this project, together with arrangements for handover to the Capital Project Delivery Unit for onward delivery.

1.2.2 **THIRD CALL FOR CATEGORY 2 PROJECTS UNDER THE RURAL REGENERATION & DEVELOPMENT FUND (RRDF)**

On 6th January 2022 the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys announced that €1.17m had been awarded under the Third Call for Category 2 Projects of the RRDF for the “Repowering Buncrana” regeneration Project.

Due diligence has been completed on this project and a formal letter of Offer together with an associated Funding Agreement was received on 10th May 2022. The Funding Agreement was subsequently accepted and formally returned to the Department on 18th May 2022. The project will now progress to procurement of the required consultancy services before commencement of the planning and statutory consents stages of this project enabled by the funding award.

The Elected Members of the Inishowen Municipal District were updated on the status of this project at workshop on Friday 27th January 2023. It is now intended to progress this project to tender in Q1 of 2023.

1.3 **FOURTH CALL FOR CATEGORY 1 PROJECTS (SHOVEL READY) UNDER THE RURAL REGENERATION & DEVELOPMENT FUND (RRDF)**

On 17th December 2021 the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD announced the fourth call for Category 1 applications to the €1 Billion Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF).

The closing date for the receipt of proposals was 12 noon on Friday 29th April 2022.

As described at Point 1.2.2. above the Ramelton Re-Imagined regeneration project, with a value of €7,949,868 was submitted under this call.

On 10th November 2022 the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys announced that €6.3m had been awarded under the Fourth Call for Category 1 Projects of the RRDF for the “Ramelton Re-Imagined” regeneration Project. Work will now continue to complete the Detailed Design and preparation of a Tender Package for this project, together with arrangements for handover to the Capital Project Delivery Unit for implementation on site.

1.4 REGENERATION STRATEGIES & PROJECT DEVELOPMENT WORK

The Regeneration & Development Team had undertaken with Members to progress Regeneration Strategies in a number of Tier 2 Strategic Towns as a part of our work programme. This work has been progressing through in house resources and capacities together with consultancy services. An update on this area of the work programme is provided hereinunder:

1.4.2 Ballybofey-Stranorlar Regeneration Strategy & Action Plan

The Ballybofey-Stranorlar Regeneration Strategy was endorsed by the Committee of BASICC, as project partners, on 7th February 2022 and subsequently endorsed by the Stranorlar-Lifford MD on 25th May 2022. The Strategy was launched 27th May 2022 and is available at [Donegal County Council \(donegalcoco.ie\)](http://DonegalCountyCouncil.donegalcoco.ie)

1.4.3 Ballyshannon Regeneration Strategy & Action Plan

The Ballyshannon Town Centre Regeneration Strategy & Action Plan was formally published, launched and circulated to Members on the 20th April 2022. The Strategy & Action Plan, and associated Town Centre Masterplan, is available to view/download online at www.donegalcoco.ie and at Council offices. The Strategy was commissioned and funded by Donegal County Council and its delivery was led by GM Design Associates with the support and input of the Council’s Regeneration and Development Team.

1.4.4 An Clochán Liath (Dungloe) Regeneration Strategy & Action Plan

The An Clochán Liath (Dungloe) Regeneration Strategy & Action Plan was formally published, launched and circulated to Members in September 2022. The Strategy & Action Plan, and associated Town Centre Masterplan, is available to view/download online at www.donegalcoco.ie and at Council offices. The Strategy was commissioned and funded by Donegal County Council and its delivery was led by GM Design Associates with the support and input of the Council’s Regeneration and Development Team.

1.4.5 Rathmullan RRDF Project Development work

A formal Part 8 planning scheme for this project was published on Thursday 24th November 2022. The project plans and particulars were available for inspection at County House, Lifford; Letterkenny Public Services Centre; Milford Public Services Centre and online at: www.donegalcoco.ie until Tuesday 3rd January 2022. Submissions or observations were required to be made in writing on or before 4:30pm on Wednesday 18th January 2022.

The project is a partnership with Rathmullan The Way Forward CLG. It is intended at the time of writing to bring this Part 8 before the Special Meeting of the Council on 13th February 2023 for consideration by Members and if successful to then position the project for application to future calls of the Rural Regeneration & Development Fund (RRDF) for category 1 (capital) projects.

The Members of the Letterkenny-Milford Municipal District will be updated on this project at workshop on Tuesday 7th February 2023.

1.4.6 Milford Town Centre First Plan

In late 2021 the Department of Rural and Community Development sought nominations for towns to be considered as part of the 1st Phase of the Town Centre Masterplan Initiative. Minister Heather Humphries TD subsequently announced that Milford was successful in securing €100,000 under the call. The Regeneration & Development Team is now leading on the delivery of a Town Centre First Masterplan for the Town.

In Q4 of 2022 tenders were sought for Architect Led Full Integrated Design Team, PSDP and Masterplanning Consultancy Services to prepare a Town Centre First Plan for Milford together with a statutory planning consent scheme for a selected priority project or projects which will emerge from the Town Centre First Plan. The date for the receipt of tenders closed on 7th December 2022 at 5pm.

One tender was received and the tender evaluation process is completed. At the time of writing arrangements are being made to formalize the award and launch arrangements for this project and to commence the first stage of public consultation exercises and engagements. It is anticipated that this will occur across the early weeks of February 2023.

Members of the Letterkenny-Milford MD were fully updated on this project at the workshop on Tuesday 17th January 2023.

2.0 URBAN REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT FUND (URDF)

2.1 Existing approved URDF project in Letterkenny (application submitted 2018; final approval to proceed received September 2019)

This first application secured €1.9m in URDF monies, match funded by €600,000 for three sub-projects, the detail and progress of which is set out below.

Note: Please refer to Capital Project Delivery Unit MD reporting for update as regards the public realm sub-project.

(i) Preparation of a Regeneration Strategy for Letterkenny Town Centre.

The Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy was officially launched on Monday 5th December 2022. This concludes the project to prepare Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy which now transitions into project specific development and implementation. The project website and all published documents are available at www.letterkenny2040.ie.

(ii) Acquisition of key town centre regeneration site.

The Donegal County Council (Letterkenny Strategic Urban Regeneration Site) CPO 2021 became operative on Tuesday 15th November 2022. Steps are at present being taken to serve Notices to Treat as soon as possible following an ongoing legal review of same. This will be followed by service of Notices to Enter without delay enabling Donegal County Council to take possession of the lands and enable the delivery of Phase 1 (Alpha/Beta) of the Strategic Urban Regeneration Site which was approved Part 8 planning consent at the Special Council meeting on 24th February 2022.

In addition, in collaboration with Housing, options are being explored as regards the business model for the residential component of the Concept Masterplan relating to the remainder of the strategic site (Phase 2). Further updates will be brought to the Letterkenny-Milford MD in this regard as this work develops.

2.2 Successful application to the Urban Regeneration & Development Fund (May 2020)

The Council's successful application to URDF Call 2, continues to progress through funding approval steps required under the Public Spending Code. This application entitled 'Letterkenny 2040 (Phase 1) 'Re-energise and Connect the Historic Town Centre' secured a provisional allocation of €13.6m match supported by match funding committed by the Council in the sum of €4.5m.

Specifically this new investment will help to advance five projects to varying stages as follows:

- The further enhancement of the Cathedral Quarter
- The re-purposing of the Courthouse

- Strategic land assembly towards:
 - Regeneration of Lower Main Street
 - Advancement of a Regional Transport Hub
 - Enhancement of ‘LK Green Connect,’ walking, cycling and parkland infrastructure.

In relation to requisite funding approval processes under the Public Spending Code, a **Preliminary Business Case** was submitted to DHLGH in **March 2022** and was approved on **11th August 2022**. This represents approval under **Decision Gate 1** in the project life cycle and ‘*approval in principle to Donegal County Council to proceed to Design, Planning & Procurement Strategy.*’ It also secured approval for funding uplift to take account of estimated increases as a result of inflation leading to total project value of €19.3m.

The current status of the project is that a Detailed Project Brief and Procurement Strategy was submitted to DHLGH on 29th July 2022 and remains under review and consideration by DHLGH. A verbal update obtained from DHLGH on Friday 3rd February 2023 confirmed that the next approval stage (Decision Gate 2) is imminent. Subject to receipt of DHLGH correspondence to that effect, this will secure pre-tender approval and approval to proceed. Thereafter each project will advance at varying paces dependent on nature, scale and complexity. The Regeneration & Development Team continue to engage on a regular basis with DHLGH to secure this approval stage as a critical and priority action.

A FUNDING APPROVAL PROCESS



Alongside the above activity, a number of steps are being taken to develop each sub-project further in so far as can be achieved in advance of pre-tender approval. The table below sets out this activity. In terms of next steps for 2023, priority will be placed on advancement of acquisition interests although this will also be dependent on pre-tender approval.

Sub-project	Immediate next steps
A: The Cathedral Quarter-Making a Creative District	See breakdown for each of the 3 elements
Creative Hub and Urban Parkland	<p>Site-specific design concept via LKY 2040 Regeneration Strategy commission is now complete and forms part of the final publication launched 5th December 2022.</p> <p>The Design Concept will inform the design process to prepare Part 8 proposed development or application to An Bord Pleanala, as appropriate, via procurement of architect led design and supervision team following pre-tender and tender approval by DHLGH.</p> <p>Engagement has been undertaken with Failte Irelands 'Tourism Office Network Team' and Letterkenny Chamber of Commerce in relation to the tourist office element of this project.</p> <p>Design concept is also informing acquisition processes. Landowner consultation RE acquisition pathways has already significantly progressed including formal processes to secure acquisition by agreement in relation to particular land/ property. Further progression is dependant on receipt of pre-tender approval by DHLGH.</p> <p>It is intended to commence topographical survey where landowners have given permission to do so.</p>
Market Square	<p>Donegal County Council approved a Part 8 proposed development in respect of 'Letterkenny 2040-Reimagined Market Square' at a Special Council meeting on 26th October 2022.</p> <p>The next step in the delivery of the project is dependent on receipt of pre-tender approval by DHLGH and will involve the procurement of an architect-led design team to progress Detailed Design stage, followed by procurement of Construction Contractor.</p> <p>Following receipt of pre-tender approval, this project will handover to the Capital Projects Delivery Unit with continued feed in from the Regeneration & Development Team as regards the design elements of the development.</p>
Church Lane Shared Surface Scheme	<p>This project will be packaged with the 'Creative Hub and Urban Parkland' as regards Architect-led design and supervision team and is dependent on receipt of pre-tender approval by DHLGH.</p> <p>Part 8 is already secured through the work of Roads & Transportation and will be reviewed as part of the overall design process package with specific consideration to accessibility/threshold treatment.</p>
B: Strategic acquisition in Lower Main Street	<p>Site-specific design concepts for a number of Lower Main Street locations via LKY 2040 Regeneration Strategy commission are now complete and form part of the final publication launched on 5th December 2022.</p> <p>Landowner consultation RE acquisition pathways has commenced including formal processes to secure acquisition by agreement in relation to particular land/ property. Further progression is dependant on receipt of pre-tender approval by DHLGH.</p> <p>Further engagement with Donegal Youth Service and Letterkenny Youth Club on future project development has also commenced inclusive of a meeting to agree collaboration in principle followed by site walk-around. The onward design of the project to Part 8 stage forms part of the future work programme of the Regeneration and</p>

Sub-project	Immediate next steps
	<p>Development Team to be advanced in Q3/Q4 of 2023 and subject to resources.</p> <p>In addition, the Regeneration Team is collaborating with Housing Design as regards a social housing scheme at Lower Main Street.</p>
C: Revival at the Courthouse	<p>Draft terms of reference are currently being prepared and reviewed for consultancy services to undertake a 'Product Identification/Visitor Experience Plan' to define the nature of proposed tourist attraction. The opening of tendering process in this regard is dependent on receipt of pre-tender approval by DHLGH.</p> <p>The Draft Terms of Reference include for engagement with Members at MD level and are being informed by ongoing consultation with Failte Ireland inclusive of 'Attractions Team' and 'Tourism Office Network' team. The target is to complete the preparation of the Terms of Reference in advance of and in readiness of approval to proceed to tendering by DHLGH in order to fast track this stage as soon as possible.</p> <p>The 'Product Identification/Visitor Experience Plan' will include for consideration of concept options and identification of the preferred story to be told, analysis of potential markets, competitor analysis, best practice examples, preliminary pricing, preliminary revenue projections, operational model (public or private).</p>
Sub-Project D: Enabling a Regional Transport Hub	<p>Preferred location for future Regional Transport Hub has emerged through the LK 2040 Regeneration Strategy process in the Pearse Road area. A Design Concept in respect of a future Transport Hub and its integration with LK Green Connect walking and cycling infrastructure and a new civic space is now complete and forms part of the LKY 2040 Regeneration Strategy launched on 5th December 2022. This work has assisted in connecting with potential landowners affected.</p> <p>The Design Concept will inform acquisition processes and landowner consultation will now formally commence. Further progression is dependent on receipt of pre-tender approval by DHLGH.</p> <p>The Team continue to work to engage with Bus Eireann following an initial meeting in March 2022 and informal engagement in December 2022. In addition, steps are being taken to collaborate with NTA in this regard and to consider the potential funding mechanism that may be available to take the project beyond a land acquisition stage as per the provisional URDF allocation and to move into design stages.</p>
Sub- project E: LK Green Connect	<p>Through the LKY 2040 Regeneration Strategy commission, a Design Concept in respect of LK Green Connect is now complete. The Design Concept integrates LK Green Connect with an urban wetland concept, future transport hub and new civic space. The Design Concept will inform engagement with landowners to progress acquisition interests supported under URDF as regards LK Green Connect.</p> <p>In addition, further phases of LK Green Connect will be advanced as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Early design work using in-house resources has commenced (January 2023) on Part 8 proposed development in respect of Phase 2 to link LK Green Connect walking and cycling infrastructure at Phase 1 (currently under construction) to Pearse Road. This would in due course secure Phase 2 to shovel ready status. Given the early stage in the design process, the timeline for publication of the Part 8 is yet to be

Sub-project	Immediate next steps
	<p>confirmed and is subject to capacity of staff resources across both URDF and RRDF programmes. The preferred scenario is to publish a part 8 by Q3 2023. Workshops at MD level will be arranged as this project develops.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="778 389 1481 904">2. Publication of a Part 8 proposed development in respect of the 'Cultural Corridor' section of LK Green Connect is progressing and is at an advanced state of readiness for presentation to Letterkenny MD workshop in February/March 2023. Part 8 is being prepared with the support of Pasparakis Friel Architects appointed to provide Part 8 drawings while the Regeneration and Development Team will manage and lead all other elements of the Part 8 process including AA and EIA screening and Roads related elements of the project. This also includes consultation with the Cultural Partners (An Grianan Theatre, the Regional Cultural Centre and Donegal County Museum) and will provide for a long-term public realm scheme at the front of An Grianan Theatre and also for enhancements to the Boxing Club lane. In parallel, focussed efforts are being made as regards lease agreement in relation to Letterkenny Tennis Club which is targeted to be closed out prior to publication of Part 8 proposed development. <li data-bbox="778 909 1481 1068">3. Engagement with landowners has commenced as regards land acquisition interests necessary for the Cultural Corridor section of LK Green Connect and as supported under URDF and will be further advanced with greater certainty following Part 8 publication and following receipt of pre-tender approval by DHLGH.

2.3 URDF Call 3 launched

On Monday 30th January 2023, Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien TD, published the new Vacant Homes Action Plan and also launched a new €150 million funding available under the URDF for local authorities to tackle vacancy and dereliction to support the plan.

Limited information is currently available in relation to the parameters and terms of Call 3 and further information is expected at Regional workshops and at an online plenary workshop for Local Authority staff on 15th February 2023. The information known to date in relation to the scheme is outlined below:

- Not a traditional URDF call or a competitive process as per previous calls.
- 3rd round to operate as a dedicated revolving fund to tackle long term vacant and derelict buildings and sites
- Allocations will be determined following regional workshops
- Eligibility criteria and parameters will be determined following engagement with local authority sector
- **Fund will cover (i) acquisition costs and (ii) any civil or design works which may be required to de-risk or improve the site/building to make it more attractive for reuse, development by others or onward sale.**
- Fund will replenish with proceeds received from end use/user
- **3rd call should not be seen as another social/affordable housing programme.** It is intended to address vacant/derelict buildings that

are problematic but which may not be viable for social housing schemes

- Where LA has identified a site or building for social/affordable housing, funding should be sought using existing funding programmes run by the Departments Housing Divisions.
- The revolving fund should only be used for a social/affordable housing projects where it was not originally earmarked for such use but where that ultimately becomes the preferred use.
- 4th call will be made available later in 2023 focused on pipeline projects that have emerged from masterplanning exercises carried out under calls 1 and 2 and to support settlements that have not yet received the level of funding required for their status under NPF.

The next steps are that 3 appendices must be completed and returned by Friday 10th March. Thereafter regional workshops will be organized during late March/ early April 2023. The requested information to be returned to URDF by 10th March is:

1. Updates on call 1 and 2 funded projects
2. Details on the number and type of long term and/or derelict buildings/sites in LK which may be suitable for activation under the revolving fund. Provide yield in residential numbers. Submit the value of revolving fund that should be considered.
3. Review previous staffing submission.

Following regional workshops, DHLGH advise that Local Authorities will be notified on final eligibility criteria, reporting requirements and funding allocation in Q2 2023.

Following the online plenary meeting, it is proposed to explore the potential of Call 3 further with Members by means of MD workshop.

2.4 'The Eat Out' Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Project, Letterkenny

A Chief Executives Report in relation to the consultation process on the 'Eat Out,' Letterkenny was considered at the Plenary Council meeting on 28th November 2022 at which time Donegal County Council decided to approve the proposed development in accordance with plans and particulars published 15th September 2022.

This project is being progressed to site by Community Development with a significant level of input from the Regeneration & Development Team continuing. The Paul Hogarth Company has been appointed to progress the next stage of Detailed Design leading to delivery on site. A site meeting to commence this stage took place in Monday 23rd January 2023. Target timeline for completion of this project is end of Q2 2023.

2.5 Other

The Regeneration and Development Team continue to engage in other regeneration related work areas and support other sections of Donegal County Council as required and across a number of other activities.

Regeneration & Development Team
February 2023



Donegal Municipal District - 14th February 2023 Motions

Agenda Item No.4

Office Ref:DLMD-2023-01005

Submitted By: Cllr. Tom Conaghan

Assigned To: Community

Motion "That this MD calls for additional policing resources for Donegal Town to assist with speed limit and other traffic enforcement matters."

Signed Off By: PADDY DOHERTY

Response: This matter can be raised through the Joint Policing Committee

Agenda Item No.5

Office Ref:DLMD-2023-01001

Submitted By: Cllr. Michael Naughton

Assigned To: Planning

Motion "That this MD call on the planning section of Donegal County Council to develop a local area plan for Rossnowlagh? "

Signed Off By: LIAM WARD

Response: Donegal County Council has an extensive policy work programme for the 2023-2025 period to deliver on, including the current local area plan commitments and the review of the County Development Plan. Over the period in question, when taken against the staffing resources and approved budgets available to undertake such statutory commitments, it will not be possible to undertake consideration of other proposals for local area plans at this time.

Agenda Item No.6

Office Ref:DLMD-2023-01006

Submitted By: Cllr. Michael McMahon

Assigned To: Road Design

Motion "That this MD have a discussion with regards to the Belleek / Ballyshannon / Rossnowlagh / Bundoran Greenway/Walkway to determine what progress has been made if any; and see what can be done to bring it on further. "

Signed Off By: MARK SWEENEY

Response: Ballyshannon to Belleek has been identified as one of twenty one potential Greenway projects in the Council County Development Plan 2018-2024. Greenways are cycleways segregated from road infrastructure that cater for people walking and cycling mainly in a recreational environment with an emphasis on a high quality experience for the users of the facility. Greenways offer huge benefits and opportunities in attracting tourism to local areas, and indeed provide support to the physical and mental health and wellbeing of those who use them, both local communities and tourist alike. At this time Donegal County Council is progressing a number of Greenway projects, equating to circa €250M euro in construction costs. These projects are being funded by Transport Infrastructure Ireland and said projects must follow robust and detailed project development guidelines and project appraisal guidelines with approvals required from both TII and DPER on each stage of progression. Such large scale Greenways projects developed under this funding mechanism must be approved for funding on an annual basis by TII. The delivery period for these TII funded strategic Greenways is circa 7 to 8 years per project. It is understood that the Erne Atlantic Greenway Group have developed a feasibility study for a Greenway that includes this route and representations have been made to the council with respect to that. The group have been requested to submit the feasibility study to the Council's Greenways team and when resources permit, it will be reviewed and considered to see if it meets the criteria for TII Greenways funding or if an alternative cross border funding mechanism for said project is available. However not all active travel or pedestrian/cycling facilities need to be of greenways standard (strategic greenways costs are currently circa €700,000 per km to deliver) and that other smaller scale or alternative infrastructure can deliver on local needs. Consideration may be given to other trails/walks funding streams as an alternative avenue to provide active travel infrastructure locally in a much shorter timeframe. In addition, the proposed National Cycle Network which is currently being developed by TII is proposing to connect Sligo to Donegal Town will likely provide further active travel connections between Ballyshannon and Bundoran.

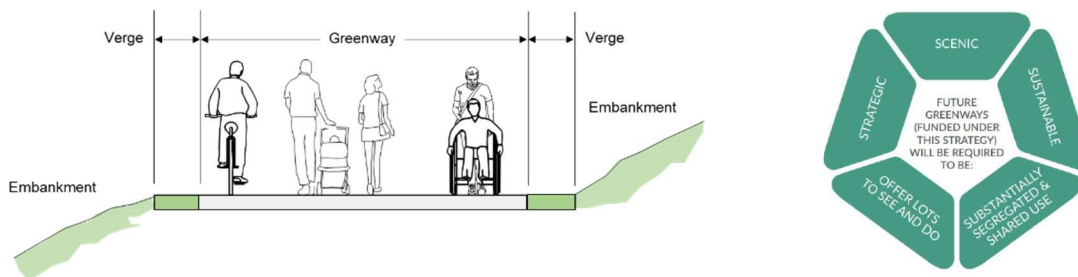
Appendix 1

Motion

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Response

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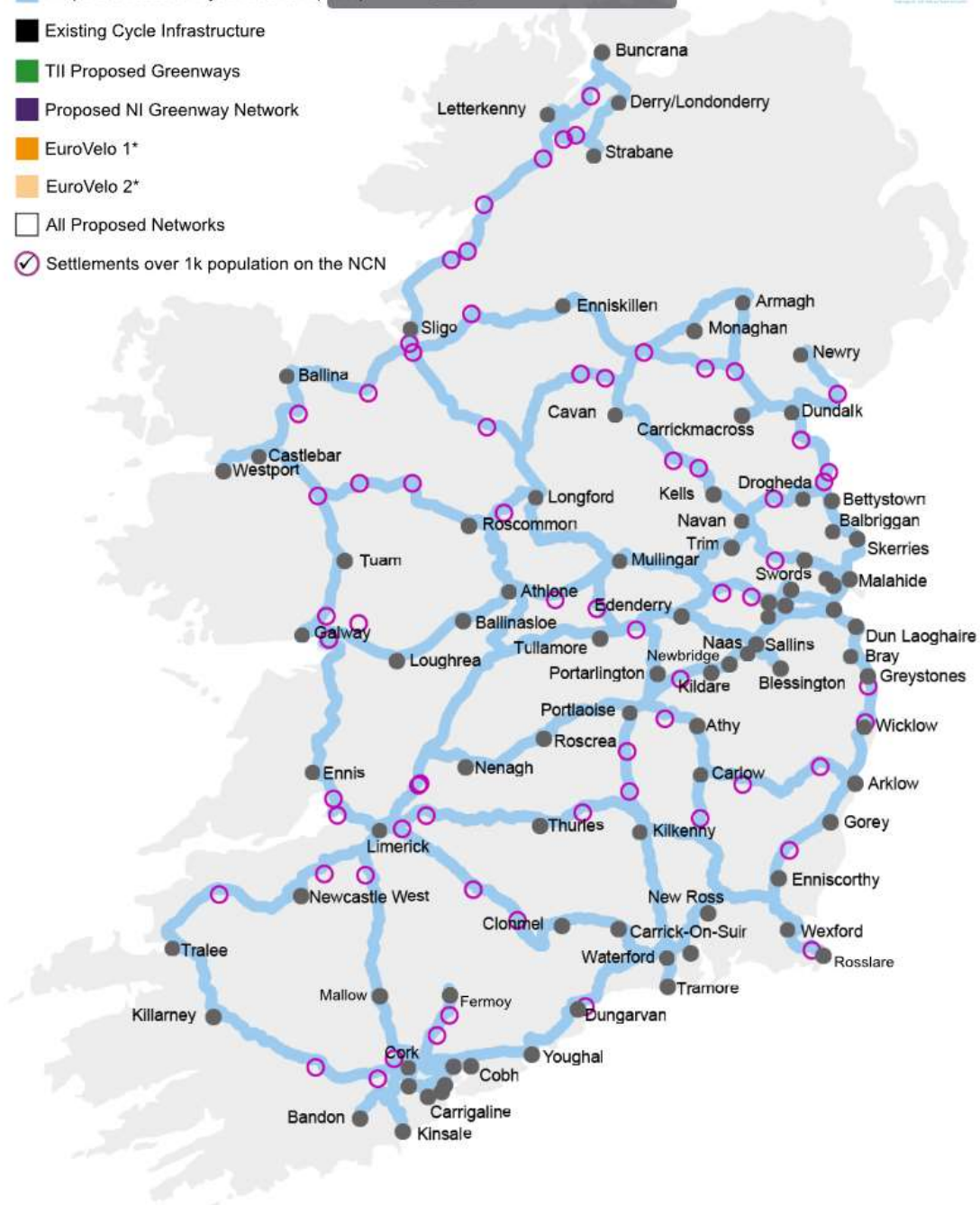
Interactive Map - Click the boxes in the key to see them on the map

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- Proposed National Cycle Network (NCN)
- Existing Cycle Infrastructure
- TII Proposed Greenways
- Proposed NI Greenway Network
- EuroVelo 1*
- EuroVelo 2*
- All Proposed Networks
- Settlements over 1k population on the NCN





Donegal Municipal District - 14th February 2023 Questions

Agenda Item No.7

Office Ref:DLMD-2023-01003

Submitted By: Cllr. Tom Conaghan**Assigned To:** Community**Question** "Can additional CCTV be installed, with additional Garda presence, in Donegal Town as a deterrent to anti-social behaviour, such as we had during the last weekend of January 2023."**Signed Off By:** PADDY DOHERTY**Response:** A request can be made through the JPC in relation to this request. Furthermore the community-based CCTV grant aid scheme supports communities and local authorities who wish to install and maintain CCTV security systems in their area to increase public safety and to deter illegal or anti-social behaviour. The maximum grant available for each CCTV system is €45,000. Any proposed community CCTV system must: - be approved by the local Joint Policing Committee - have the authorisation of the Garda Commissioner - have the prior support of the relevant local authority which must also undertake to act as data controller Applications may only be made to this grant aid scheme after a proposed system meets these statutory requirements. An Garda Síochána has provided details on the technical specifications required for CCTV systems seeking Garda authorisation

Agenda Item No.8

Office Ref:DLMD-2023-01004

Submitted By: Cllr. Tom Conaghan**Assigned To:** Environment**Question** "Can I please get an update on the proposed re-location of the recycling banks in Donegal Town?"**Signed Off By:** SEAMUS HOPKINS**Response:** Options are still being explored in the vicinity of the existing bottle bank location and it is hoped a final agreement with all stakeholders can be reached as soon as possible.

Agenda Item No.9

Office Ref:DLMD-2023-01002

Submitted By: Cllr. Michael Naughton**Assigned To:** Housing**Question** " Can I get a list of all the land available for housing development that the council owns in this Municipal District?"**Signed Off By:** PAURIC SHEERIN**Response:** Members will be aware (from information provided at workshops at both Plenary and Municipal District level) of the comprehensive Housing Delivery Action Plan in place and the Council's social housing construction targets for the coming years. To achieve these targets, the Council is carrying out assessments on all landbank that is currently in the Council's ownership in each town and village in the Municipal District. In some cases, lands that are in the Council's ownership may be residual remaining lands from previous social housing developments, where additional units may now be constructed if the lands are deemed suitable. Examples of this are evident in towns such as Ballintra, Dunkineely, Kilcar, Glencolumcille. Lands which have been purchased in recent years are also part of the programme and the Council are seeking to increase this landbank in all locations through the Expression of Interest process which is ongoing. It is envisaged that further workshops will be held to give the Members a very detailed picture of the updated housing need figures in each town and village and details of the proposed projects to meet these needs and the targets set out in the Housing Delivery Action Plan.