

Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall

Oifig Riarthóir na gCruinnithe,
Aras an Chontae,
Leifear.

3ú Deireadh Fómhair 2023

Fógra Cruinnithe

Beidh Cruinniú de Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall ar siúl **De Máirt, 10ú Deireadh Fómhair 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

Linda Mac Cana
Riarthóir Cruinnithe

Municipal District of Donegal

Office of Meetings Administrator,
County House,
Lifford.

3rd October 2023

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal will be held on **Tuesday 10th October 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,

Linda McCann
Meetings Administrator

AGENDA

1. Consideration of Minutes of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 12th September 2023.
2. Consideration of the Minutes of the Corporate Workshop held on the 6th September 2023.
3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Roads Workshop held on the x 2023.
4. **Update Reports from Council Services:**
 - 4.1 Housing & Corporate Services
 - 4.2 Roads & Transportation
 - 4.3 Economic Development, Information Systems and Emergency Services
 - 4.4 Environment Services
 - 4.5 Community Development
 - 4.6 Planning Services

Motions

5. Cllr Niamh Kennedy
“That this MD contacts the Finance Minister and the Minister for Rural affairs to plead for assistance to small businesses on the streets in our towns; there is a major crisis which is going to have a huge impact on the survival of our towns. Town centre first, town and village renewal schemes, RRDF will be jeopardised by the lack of supports to tackle the many issues for people who are trying to provide a revitalisation of the streets, to create employment and to make our communities a viable place to live. VAT increases, the energy crisis, the new rates valuation, the increase to the minimum wage in rural areas which does not have a footfall due to the inflated hotel prices for visitors, the lack of accommodation for visitors and the increase in rents which people cannot afford, they now have no disposable income to support local businesses. If something isn't addressed very soon there will be multiple closures throughout the County”.
6. Cllr Michael McMahon
“That this MD look at speed ramps for the Bundoran Area, as soon as possible”.
7. Cllr Noel Jordan
“That this Municipal District calls on the relevant departments to address the road safety issues at Dunkineely National School”.
8. **Date of Next Meeting(s) / Workshop(s)**
 - MD Budget Meeting on Tuesday the 24th October 2023 at 10am in the Peter Kennedy Chamber
 - MD Meeting on Tuesday the 12th December 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 WEDNESDAY THE 12TH SEPTEMBER 2023 IN THE
PETER KENNEDY CHAMBER, DONEGAL PUBLIC SERVICE CENTRE**

MDD/107/23 MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MDD/108/23 OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Garry Martin, Director Designate, Municipal District of Donegal
Ms. Linda McCann, A/Area Manager, Municipal District of Donegal
Mr. Mark Sweeney, A/Area Manager, Roads/Transportation
Ms. Tara Quinn, Executive Architect, Housing Capital
Ms. Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer, Environment Section
Ms. Mary McBride, Executive Planner, Economic Development
Mr. Barney McLaughlin, Administrative Officer, Community Development
Mr. Enda Monaghan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services
Ms. Caroline Britton, Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services

MDD/109/23 APOLOGIES

Ms. Aideen Quinn, A/Executive Planner, Planning
Mr. Pauric Sheerin, Area Manager, Housing & Corporate Services

MDD/110/23 STANDING ORDERS

Cllr Conaghan welcomed all attendees and referred to Standing Order No. 64 which stipulates that recording of the meeting is prohibited.

MDD/111/23 VOTES OF SYMPATHY

- The late Eoin O'Moore, Wardtown, Ballyshannon
- The late Bishop Liam McDaid, Bundoran

**MDD/112/23 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 12TH JULY 2023**

On the proposal of Cllr Sweeny, seconded by Cllr Kennedy the Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 12th July 2023 were confirmed.

MDD/113/23 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE WORKSHOP OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 12TH JULY 2023

On the proposal of Cllr Jordan, seconded by Cllr Kennedy the Minutes of the Corporate Workshop of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 12th July 2023 were confirmed.

MDD/114/23 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ROADS WORKSHOP OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 25TH JULY 2023

On the proposal of Cllr Jordan, seconded by Cllr Sweeny the Minutes of the Roads Workshop of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 25th July 2023 were confirmed.

MDD/115/23 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ROADS WORKSHOP OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 10TH AUGUST 2023

On the proposal of Cllr McMahon, seconded by Cllr Sweeny the Minutes of the Roads Workshop of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 10th August 2023 were confirmed.

MDD/116/23 HOUSING & CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

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

Ms McCann advised that works to the existing casual vacancies is ongoing with the majority of the houses due to be completed by mid-October. The keys for the 16 units at Oak Meadows have been received and it is expected Letters of Offers will issue later in the week. Ms McCann also submitted that the contractor overseeing the energy retrofit project in Killybegs is making good progress.

On behalf of the Housing Capital Office, Ms Quinn submitted that the Phase 3 housing development at Railway Park is substantially complete, and it is expected the handover will take place in early October. The Phase 1 Drumacrin Project in Bundoran has progressed to Stage 4 and a request is currently with the Department to appoint the successful contractor. The SI in Kilcar is due to be tendered shortly and investigations are ongoing with the Fintra Road site in Killybegs. Ms Quinn further submitted that the design is currently being finalised with the Laghey site and contractual matters are being concluded with the 5 no. 2 bedroom turnkey properties at

Rockview in Ballyshannon. The proposed 35 no. turnkey units in Donegal Town is awaiting Departmental approval.

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

New Housing Developments

Cllr Jordan welcomed the completion of the additional 16 units at Oak Meadows and noted that these allocations will assist in reducing an element of the housing need within the Donegal Town area.

Cllr Kennedy noted the gross housing need of 27 for Killybegs and submitted that the construction of new housing developments should be expedited as the housing need figures are on an upward trajectory. Cllr Kennedy sought a report on how many houses have been purchased since the beginning of 2023.

Cllr Naughton also welcomed the completion of the 16 units at Oak Meadows and sought an update on the Laghey site. Cllr Naughton submitted that the expression of interest process in relation to suitable parcels of land for social housing development appears to be slow to move forward.

Cllr Sweeny welcomed the refurbishment of the long-term void in Ballyshannon and expressed his frustration at the delay in finalising the completion of the 5 no turnkey units in Ballyshannon and emphasised the importance of concluding the contractual matters as soon as possible. Cllr Sweeny sought an update on the negotiations in relation to the derelict site in the centre of Ballyshannon.

Ms McCann submitted that in order to reduce the housing need within this MD, along with the various housing developments proposed within the major towns, the Housing Office is also actively pursuing single acquisitions. Ms McCann agreed to provide details of the number of houses purchased since the beginning of 2023.

Ms Quinn acknowledged the timeframes in progressing projects and agreed to seek a detailed update on 5 no. units at Rockview in Ballyshannon as well as an update on the discussions taking place in relation to the derelict site in Ballyshannon. Ms Quinn advised that the Laghey site is complex and is aware that engagement is ongoing with the relevant landowners and will revert with comments following a meeting scheduled to take place this week.

Phase 1 Drumacrin, Bundoran

Cllr McMahon expressed his frustration in the delay in progressing the Bundoran housing development and emphasised the importance of ensuring a Traffic Management meeting takes place in advance of the construction works commencing. Ms Quinn submitted that she would feedback Cllr McMahon's comments to the Housing Capital Team and noted the importance of the Traffic Management meeting.

Croí Cónaithe Scheme

Cllr McMahon noted the benefits of the Croí Cónaithe scheme, however, submitted that some applicants are struggling financially to commence the works in advance of the grant payment. Cllr McMahon sought an update report from the Regeneration Unit.

Cllr Naughton submitted that a major time delay factor in processing these applications was awaiting the Engineers approval to proceed with the project.

Cllr Sweeny sought clarification in relation to the possibility of using the Croí Cónaithe letter of offer as security for funding from a number of financial institutions.

Ms McCann agreed to seek an update from the Regeneration Officer.

EERW Project

Cllr McMahon noted that a number of houses within the Gaelic Park Housing Estate in Bundoran required new windows and doors and queried when the energy retrofit works will take place in Bundoran. Ms McCann highlighted the benefits of the energy retrofit works and agreed to feedback Cllr McMahon's comments to the Engineer.

MDD/117/23 ROADS / TRANSPORTATION SERVICES REPORT

2023 Roadworks Programme Status Report

Members noted the reports on the Road Works Programme circulated with the agenda and Mr Sweeney advised that due to the recent spell of good weather the Roads Section have progressed a number of projects within Area 14.

Follow up Issues from the previous meeting

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

Mountcharles Road Safety Issue

Cllr Jordan has advised the area office of the location of the safety issue where two separate vehicular accidents have occurred on the N56 at the Glen Mountcharles in recent months. The Roads Office then contacted the Garda to see if they were able to provide a view on the cause of these accidents and they advised that the accidents happened in May and June 2023 and road conditions or road markings were not a contributing factor.

Conclude the High Road at Kilcar Take Over

Discussions are ongoing with the local Parish Council on taking the High Road in Kilcar in charge. Options are being considered to cover

the cost of surfacing works on this road in advance of taking it in charge process commencing.

Relay the points raised in relation to Teelin Pier & Harbour with the Marine Engineer

An email was sent to the Marine Engineer on 12th June 2023 outlining the points raised at the meeting in relation to Teelin Pier.

Active Travel Projects - Monitor the flashing lights within Dunkineely

This matter was referred to Road Central who manage the contractors who look after the maintenance of the school flashing lights on 20th June 2023. Road Central advised that the contractor is currently waiting on approval from the TII to upgrade these lights to include solar panels.

Arrange a meeting with a landowner to discuss the footpath repair works in Pettigo

The area office has met with the landowner and have commenced the process of drafting a sale agreement for the necessary lands to facilitate the proposed works.

Proceed with amendment to RI Programme 2023

The RI programme has been amended to reflect the agreed change.

Convey Members best wishes to Donal Murphy EE

This message was relayed to Donal Murphy on 12th June 2023

Other Items:

M Sweeney also submitted the following items by e-mail for consideration by the Members:-

New Area Engineer

I wish to advise the Members that Jonathon Mulhern has recently been appointed as the new Area Engineer as a replacement for Donal Murphy.

Dunkineely to Killaghtee

The National Roads Office have advised that they have secured funding to commence scoping works and survey works to assist in the possible development of an active travel project to help address the issues previously raised by the Members about pedestrians walking along this narrow section of the N56 National Secondary Route between Dunkineely and Killaghtee.

Also, as part of these scoping works, consideration will be given to extending the footpath out as far as the GAA pitch on the eastern side of the town that was also raised by the Members at a previous MD meeting.

Tullyleague Junction on the N15

The Road Safety Engineer and the National Road Office have reviewed the issue raised by the Members in relation to right turning vehicles off the N15 onto the Tullyleague road and have advised that all lining and signage is in line with current standards and there is no accident history at this location. They are, however, aware that the reported issue is still occurring despite the road layout being to standard. To resolve this issue consideration could be given to closing the junction off the N15 into Tullyleague as there are alternative access routes into the Tullyleague area. The Road Safety Engineer and the National Road Office also advised that the TII do intend to review the N15 between Donegal and Ballyshannon in the future but had no definitive date as to when this review will be carried out.

Donegal Town One Way System

The area office wishes to advise the Members that a contractor has been appointed to carry out the works associated with the implementation of the Donegal Town One Way System. Arrangements are currently being made to have a prestart meeting with the Contractor to discuss a start date and programme duration etc. Further information when known, will be provided on the Council Social media platforms to inform the public of the works.

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

N15 Road Safety Issues

Cllr Jordan noted that the removal of the right-hand turn lane has increased the risk of accidents at this junction and motorists wishing to turn right off the N15 at this junction are in fear of being rearended by other vehicles as the hard shoulder is being used as a climbing lane. Mr Sweeney advised that the TII will be carrying out a safety review on the N15 and will consider this junction along with the Tullyleague Junction but as noted above, had no definitive date as to when this review will be carried out.

Dunkineely

Cllr Jordan welcomed the scoping and survey works to address the road safety issues between Dunkineely and Killaghtee and also welcomed the review of the flashing lights at Dunkineely.

Cllr Kennedy queried who will be carrying out the scoping and surveying works for the proposed Active Travel application for the road between Dunkineely and Killaghtee and queried the proposed costs.

Cassan Sound Takeover

Cllr Jordan welcomed the High Road, Kilcar takeover and emphasized that the Cassan Sound road also requires taking over.

Mr Sweeney advised that work is ongoing in the background in relation to the Cassan Sound take over.

Bruckless Bus Shelter

In response to Cllr Kennedy's query in relation to the Bruckless Bus Shelter, Mr Sweeney advised that the NTA are reviewing the current list and will be speaking to the Area Offices about the works necessary at each of the locations they are willing to fund.

Teelin Pier

In response to Cllr Kennedy's query in relation road lining on Teelin Pier, Mr Sweeney agreed to follow up with the Marine Section.

Fintra Bridge

Cllr Kennedy sought an update on the Fintra Bridge Re-alignment Project. Mr Sweeney advised that an e-mail has been received from Road Design advising that the project will be tendered in one part rather than two parts and it is anticipated it will go out to tender in October with an expected construction commencement date in early 2024.

Cloghore, Ballyshannon

Cllr McMahon highlighted the road traffic concerns expressed by residents living between Rockfield School and the Celtic Wave junction at Cloghore, Ballyshannon and queried if it was possible to reduce the grass verges and ensure the roadside is maintained to facilitate good vision lines. Cllr McMahon submitted a young wheelchair user who attends Rockfield School is unable to make her way to school without the use of a vehicle, despite living within a short distance of the school. Cllr McMahon further submitted that the cottage located adjacent to the Celtic Wave junction is constantly under threat of being flooded and sought an update on a possible solution to this ongoing issue. Both Cllr Naughton and Cllr Sweeney concurred with Cllr McMahon comments.

Mr Sweeney agreed to relay this issue to the Roads Safety Engineer to review. He also submitted that a budget of approximately €80,000 is required to carry out remedial works to alleviate flooding concerns in this area. Mr Sweeney agreed to continue to explore funding options to help alleviate this flooding.

Roads & Footpaths

Cllr McMahon submitted that there is an issue with the road surface adjacent to the Filling Station on approach road from the East End of Bundoran and queried which company was carrying out manhole investigations. Mr Sweeney agreed to investigate the roads surfacing issue and advised that the company carrying out manhole investigations are the contractors working for NBI who are rolling out broadband in the Bundoran area and are investigating if fiber optic cables can run in the existing ducting between the existing manholes.

Cllr Naughton welcomed the commencement of the footpath works in Pettigo.

Donegal Town One Way System

Cllr Naughton welcomed the commencement of the Donegal Town One Way System and noted that the implementation of the project will ultimately reduce the level of traffic congestion within the town centre.

Road Signage

In response to Cllr Naughton's query in relation to adding Drumark to the Ballydevitt sign, Mr Sweeney agreed to investigate same.

Lighting

Cllr Naughton commended the Killymard Community Improvement Scheme and queried if it was possible to erect 2 additional public lights at the Killymard graveyard. Mr Sweeney advised that it was policy to reduce the number of public lights in rural areas, however, suggested the funding for same may be obtained from the Members Public Lighting fund.

In response to Cllr Naughton's query in relation to the switching on of the lights at Laghey Bridge, Mr Sweeney agreed to investigate same.

Donegal Town Roundabouts

Cllr Naughton noted the works carried out at the Tullyearl roundabout to facilitate windmill lorries and queried if it was possible to consider the erection of public art feature on this roundabout and on the Donegal Town/Ballybofey roundabout. Cllr Sweeney suggested making contact with Wind Farms in relation to possible funding.

Mr Sweeney submitted that the Area Roads Office has been working with the Tidy Town Committee regarding the upgrading of the Tullyearl roundabout and noted that the larger roundabout adjacent to the Public Service Centre would facilitate a feature, however, funding and safety concerns must be taken on board.

Roads Staff

Cllr Naughton welcomed Jonathan Mulhern to the Roads Office and Cllr Kennedy wished to convey good wishes to Thomas Hegarty on his recent retirement. Mr Sweeney acknowledged Mr Hegarty's 47 years of service and advised that a request for his replacement is with the HR Section.

Road Improvement Programme

In response to Cllr Sweeney's query in relation to additional funding for Ballyshannon streets, Mr Sweeney advised that the reallocation of funding as previously agreed will be included in the next batch of minutes, and subject to funding being available after these works are completed, additional works on College Street will be considered.

Rock, Ballyshannon

Cllr Sweeny queried if the parking area outside Saimer Childcare Centre could be reallocated to set down only parking and sought a solution to the upgrading of the Rock Steps.

Mr Sweeney noted the level of work and funding required to repair the Rock Steps and agreed to investigate the set down only parking at Saimer Childcare Centre.

Housing Estate Funding

In response to Cllr Sweeny's query in relation to the commencement of the works at Cluain Barron, Mr Sweeny confirmed these works will be completed in 2023.

Ballyshannon / Bundoran Cycleway

In response to Cllr Sweeny's query in relation to drainage works adjacent to the houses on the Ballyshannon / Bundoran road, Mr Sweeny advised these works will be completed in conjunction with the cycleway project.

Bus Eireann Workshop

Cllr Conaghan wished to acknowledge the meeting held with the Bus Eireann representatives recently.

MDD/118/23 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFORMATION SYSTEMS & EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT

On behalf of the Economic Development, Information Systems and Emergency Services Directorate, Ms McBride submitted that a successful promotional trip to Chicago and Milwaukee took place recently and the #LoveDonegal 2023 day is scheduled for the 14th September. The Tip O'Neill Irish Diaspora Awards ceremony will be held on the 16th September 2023 and the North West City Region are holding a collaborative event on the 4th December. Ms McBride also highlighted a number of Enterprise Office events including an Asia Matters business event scheduled to take place on the 2nd and 3rd October.

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

Ireland West Airport

Cllr Kennedy noted the record passenger numbers for Ireland West Airport and sought a further breakdown of the incoming and outgoing passenger numbers. In response, Mr Martin advised that Donegal County Council provides an annual financial contribution to the airport and agreed to seek a further breakdown of the figures.

Donegal Tourism – Associate Members Committee

Cllr Kennedy noted that the Tourism Report referred to an e-mail released to all members advising of details of the new committee members for the Donegal Tourism Associate Members Committee. Cllr Kennedy sought further clarification in this regard, as a number of members have not received the correspondence.

TIDES Project

Cllr Kennedy referred to the TIDES project which is currently promoting 3 pilot VR sites in the county and sought to ensure that the VR equipment purchased for Killybegs and Burtonport is installed when the construction works have been completed. It was noted that the TIDES project is concluding and Ms McBride agreed to ascertain details on the VR equipment for Killybegs and Burtonport.

Outdoor Dining Projects

Cllr McMahon sought details of the commencement date for the Westend Outdoor project and Cllr Naughton sought an update on the Donegal Town Outdoor Dining Project. Cllr Conaghan also made enquires in relation to the works to the Diamond and Pier in Donegal Town. Mr Martin advised that the tenders obtained for both the Bundoran and Donegal Outdoor projects exceeded the budget available, and negotiations have been ongoing to source additional funding. There is a commitment to deliver both projects and it is expected commencement will take place shortly.

Camper Vans

Although Cllr McMahon wished to highlight that Donegal welcomes all visitors to the county, he sought a workshop to discuss the ongoing issues with camper vans who are not respecting the caravan and camping code of conduct. Mr Martin noted the detailed strategy in place for the caravan and camping sector and welcomed the proposal to hold a workshop.

Shared Island Projects

Cllr Sweeny welcomed the progression of the Shared Island Projects, particularly the Regenerative Tourism projects which are located within the Donegal MD. Mr Martin advised that the feasibility studies are nearing completion, and it is expected a number of business cases will be completed and utilised to seek funding from the Department to implement the projects.

All-Ireland Strategic Rail Review

Cllr Naughton expressed his disappointment that the Donegal MD is not included in the current rail plan and urged members of the public to make submissions as part of the consultation process. Cllr Naughton emphasised the importance of a rail link to Donegal, particularly in terms of tourism, health and the reduction in carbon emissions. Mr Martin noted that the advisory document lacks content

for Donegal and observations will be forwarded by the 29th September.

MDD/119/23 ENVIRONMENT SERVICES REPORT

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

- Waste & Litter Management
 - Keep Donegal Beautiful – Sustainable Holidaymaker Campaign
 - Summer Greenpiece 2023
- County Laboratory
 - Public Service Announcements (PSA's) – Water Quality
 - Bathing Waters 2023 Season
- Flood Relief Scheme (FRS) Unit
 - Donegal Town Flood Relief Scheme

Ms Bogan noted the report which contained details on waste and litter management as well a water quality and bathing waters report.

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

Beach Access Mats

In response to Cllr Sweeny's query in relation beach access mats for wheelchair users, Ms Bogan agreed to refer the query to the Coastal Officer.

Rossnowlagh Portaloos

Cllr Sweeny advised he had received a number of complaints in relation to the condition of the portaloos in Rossnowlagh and emphasised the importance of constructing permanent toilet facilities that are connected to the water and sewer mains. Ms Bogan agreed to relay Cllr Sweeny's comments to the Management Team.

Lifeguards & Emergency Services

Cllr Sweeny commended the lifeguard service provided during the summer season and Cllr McMahon wished to convey his thanks to the emergency services who played a vital role in a rescue operation in Bundoran last weekend.

Bottle Banks

In response to Cllr McMahon's query in relation to the dumping of waste beside bottle banks, Ms Bogan advised that the Council are awaiting receipt of the Commencement Order to allow for the use of CCTV in prosecutions. Cllr McMahon wished to acknowledge the service provided by the local Tidy Towns Committee in Bundoran and the TÚS workers as well as the Litter Warden, Martin Burke. Cllr

McMahon also recommended the appointment of an additional Litter Warden.

Air Pollution

In response to Cllr Kennedy's comment in relation to an unpleasant odour along the Shore Road in Killybegs, Ms Bogan agreed to relay the comments to the Laboratory Section.

Water Quality

Cllr Kennedy advised she has received reports that the water quality at St John's Point is poor and queried if sample bottles could be made available for collection. Ms Bogan agreed to relay the comments to the Laboratory Section.

Septic Tanks

Cllr Jordan sought clarification in relation to a couple who did not originally register the property's septic tank, however, have since carried out works in 2023 and are querying if they can make a claim under the Septic Tank Grants Scheme. Ms Bogan agreed to seek clarification.

MDD/120/23 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING SERVICES

Community Development

Mr B McLaughlin noted the report included 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
- Platform For Growth
- Walks & Trails
- Peace Plus
- Healthy Donegal
- Social Inclusion Unit

Mr McLaughlin highlighted that the Town & Village Renewal projects in Glencolmcille, Carrick and Bruckless are complete, however, the the funding for the Donegal Town project has been de-committed. The Clár Project for Pettigo is due to be completed by the end of October and the Kilcar project is due to commence in quarter 3 of 2023. An internal meeting has taken place in relation to the Tullan Strand project.

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

Playgrounds

In response to Cllr McMahon's query in relation to Bundoran Westend Playground, Mr McLaughlin advised a contractor will be appointed shortly.

Boat Quay

In response to Cllr McMahon's query in relation to the boat quay in Bundoran, Mr Sweeny agreed to make contact with the Marine Section.

Rossylongan

Cllr Naughton sought an update on the Rossylongan Project and Mr McLaughlin advised an ORIS application has been submitted.

Town & Village Renewal Scheme

In response to Cllr Naughton's query in relation to the number of applications received under the 2023 Town & Village Renewal Scheme, Mr McLaughlin advised that the applications are currently being processed and further details will be made available at the next meeting.

Cllr Naughton sought further clarification on the reason why the funding was decommitted for Donegal Town and queried if this funding could be utilised elsewhere. Mr Sweeny advised that due to landowner issues, the project was unable to proceed, and Mr McLaughlin agreed to seek further clarification in relation to the redistribution of the funding.

Cllr Kennedy wished it noted that the Carrick Town & Village Renewal Scheme is not a final completion stage.

Cllr Sweeny noted the delay in implementing a number of Community & Development Projects and queried if value for money is being obtained.

Planning Services

In Ms Aideen Quinn's absence, Ms McCann noted the Planning Service Reports, which were taken as read:-

- Development Applications
- Enforcement
- 2023 Planning Clinics
 - 7th September 2023
 - 21st September 2023
 - 5th October 2023
 - 19th October 2023
- Regeneration & Development Team Report

- Building Control & Taking In Charge
- Capital Projects Delivery Unit

Ms McCann advised that drop in events in relation to the County Development Plan will take place in Donegal Town on the 12th September and in Bundoran on the 18th September 2023, with both events being held between 4pm and 9pm. The closing date for submissions is the 13th October 2023 at 4pm.

Ros Mór, Donegal Town

On the proposal of Councillor Naughton seconded by Councillor Jordan it is resolved that the Council make an order in accordance with Section 207 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) for the creation of a public right of way over the estate roads within the housing estate Ros Mór, Donegal Town as set out in the attached maps, to enable it to proceed with the taking in charge of the estates.

On the proposal of Councillor Jordan seconded by Councillor Naughton it is resolved that the Council make an order in accordance with Section 11 (1) of the Roads Act, 1993 to declare the estate roads within the housing estate Ros Mór, Donegal Town to be a public road and note the consequential provisions contained in Section 180(4) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) whereby this Council will also take in charge the water services infrastructure and the public open spaces or car park within the attendant grounds of the development and will subsequently transfer the water services within the estate to Irish Water.

Woodvale, Rossylongan, Donegal Town

On the proposal of Councillor Naughton seconded by Councillor Jordan it is resolved that the Council make an order in accordance with Section 207 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) for the creation of a public right of way over the estate roads within the housing estate Woodvale, Rossylongan, Donegal Town as set out in the attached maps, to enable it to proceed with the taking in charge of the estates.

On the proposal of Councillor Naughton seconded by Councillor Jordan it is resolved that the Council make an order in accordance with Section 11 (1) of the Roads Act, 1993 to declare the estate roads within the housing estate Woodvale, Rossylongan, Donegal Town to be a public road and note the consequential provisions contained in Section 180(4) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) whereby this Council will also take in charge the water services infrastructure and the public open spaces or car park within the attendant grounds of the development and will subsequently transfer the water services within the estate to Irish Water.

MDD/121/23 DISCUSSION ON THE BANK WALK, DONEGAL TOWN

On the proposal of Cllr Conaghan, seconded by Cllr Jordan the following motion was adopted: -

“That this Donegal MD carry out immediate resurfacing works of the Bank Walk, Donegal Town and move forward with plans to extend the walk”.

Members were given a response to the motion by the Area Manager, Roads & Transportation.

Cllr Conaghan welcomed the response received from the Area Manager of Roads & Transportation.

MDD/122/23 DISCUSSION ON THE BRADOGUE RIVER

On the proposal of Cllr McMahon seconded by Cllr Sweeny the following motion was adopted: -

“That this MD clear the rubble and weeds at the mouth of the Bradogue River”.

Members were given a response to the motion by the Senior Engineer, Water & Environment

In speaking to his motion, Cllr McMahon noted the efforts made by the local Tidy Towns Committee to keep the environs of Bundoran attractive for both locals and visitors to the area. The Bradogue River which runs close to the Tourist Office in Bundoran contains material that requires extraction. Cllr McMahon emphasised that no construction works will be required and therefore the removal of material should take place as soon as possible. Cllr Sweeny concurred with Cllr McMahon and noted the importance of identifying what type of material is in the river.

Cllr Naughton suggested a meeting take place with the OPW to discuss the maintenance of rivers, however, Mr Sweeney advised that the OPW has no role in any rivers in this MD, except for the Abbey River in Ballyshannon. In this regard, it was suggested a letter issue to the Department seeking the creation of a specific Section to manage rivers.

MDD/123/23 REQUEST FOR A SURVEY OF ALL THE ROADS WITHIN THE VICINITY OF DONEGAL TOWN THAT HAVE NO ROAD MARKINGS

The following question was submitted by Cllr Conaghan: -

“Is it possible to have all roads that have no markings surveyed in Donegal Town and a date prepared for when this job will be done? At present there are a lot of road safety concerns where roads/junctions are not marked”.

Cllr Conaghan received a response from the Area Manager, Roads & Transportation.

MDD/124/23 REQUEST FOR REMEDIAL WORKS TO DR WARNOCK’S GRAVE

The following question was submitted by Cllr Conaghan: -

“Senator Sharon Keogan followed up a request by myself to the OPW regarding the upkeep of Dr Warnock's grave in the Old Abbey Graveyard, Donegal Town. The response is that it is the Heritage section in DCC that are responsible. Therefore when will the upkeep works take place on Dr. Warnock's grave?”.

Cllr Conaghan received a response from the Director of Service, Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services.

MDD/125/23 Date of Next Meeting / Workshops

- MD Budget Workshop on Tuesday the 3rd October 2023 at 10am in the Peter Kennedy Chamber
- MD Meeting on Tuesday the 10th October 2023 at 11.30 am in the Peter Kennedy Chamber (as per standing orders)
- MD Budget Meeting on Tuesday the 24th October 2023 at 10am in the Peter Kennedy Chamber

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**A / Area Manager
Municipal District of Donegal**

**Cathaoirleach
Municipal District of Donegal**

Minutes of the Corporate Workshop of Municipal District of Donegal held on Wednesday the 6th September 2023, commencing at 09.30 am in the Peter Kennedy Chamber, Donegal Public Service Centre, Donegal Town

Members Present:

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

Officials in Attendance:

Mr Garry Martin, Director Designate, Municipal District of Donegal
Mr Mark Sweeney, Area Manager, Roads & Transportation
Mr Enda Monaghan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services
Ms Caroline Britton, Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services

Also in Attendance

Mr Andrew Yates, Head of Expressway, Bus Eireann
Mr Kieran McShea, NW Services Manager, Bus Eireann
Mr Darragh Twoney, Expressway Performance Manager
Ms Siobhan McAndrew, People Operations Manager, North-West

Apologies

Ms Linda McCann, A/Area Manager, Municipal District of Donegal
Mr Pauric Sheerin, Area Manager, Municipal District of Donegal

Minutes

Attendance of Representatives from Bus Eireann

(i) Expressway Services

- 1.0 Cllr Conaghan welcomed all attendees to the Workshop and following a round of introductions, invited Mr Yates to make a presentation.
- 2.0 As a follow up to the previous meeting held in the earlier part of the year, Mr Yates provided an updated on the progress within the Expressway's Five Point Plan for Donegal. In terms of Capacity, Mr Yates submitted that a relief coach was added to four daily Route 32 trips in July and August as well as providing additional services for the Rory Gallagher Festival and the Sea Session Festival in Bundoran. Mr Yates further submitted that Reliability on Expressway services in Donegal has increased steadily each quarter to 99.8% in Q2 2023 and expressed his remorse at an incident that occurred in July at Dublin airport whereby passengers arriving off flights with prebooked tickets had no Donegal bus service. Over 90% of services leave within 10 minutes of scheduled departure time and it was noted that the Sligo roadworks, Donegal Town traffic congestion and Ballybofey roadworks can lead to additional delays. The Bus

Eireann representatives wished to emphasize the streamline online booking facilities and the value for money to be obtained by prebooking tickets and young adults and students utilising the Leap Card facility.

- 3.0 A number of comments / queries were dealt with at the workshop. The Members expressed their dismay in relation to the Dublin Airport incident and suggested a private operator should have been utilised when no Expressway bus was available. In response to staffing queries, the Bus Eireann representatives submitted that since COVID, recruitment has become challenging, and a number of measures have been put in place to attract suitable drivers as well as a Customer Service Agent was recruited for the Summer Season to provide an information service at Dublin airport. In terms of actions, Bus Eireann agreed to share customer feedback in relation to wayfinding, facilities and services and to follow up with the NTA in relation to Leap Card agents within Donegal. Bus Eireann also agreed to monitor the number of fleet deployed with toilet facilities for the Route 30 / X30.

(ii) Traffic Congestion in Donegal Town and Bus Parking on the Diamond

- 4.0 M Sweeney provided an analysis of the number of users and their specific timeframes for utilising the bus parking facilities outside the Abbey Hotel in Donegal. It was noted that delays due to traffic congestion / roadworks on the approaching journey to this specific stop can cause several transport users utilising the bus stop simultaneously. In order to reduce the traffic congestion in this area and provide more appropriate facilities such as wheelchair accessibility, covered waiting room and toilet facilities, Mr Sweeney advised discussions have commenced with a local landowner who is developing a site some 400 metres from the existing bus stop. In order to seek NTA approval with this Transport Hub proposal, Mr Sweeney and Mr Martin sought Bus Eireann's approval in principle for the suggested relocation of the bus stop. Mr Yates welcomed the discussion and noted that Bus Eireann would not be in a position to fund the proposal but suggested that perhaps a leasing agreement or a private business model could be appropriate. In order to consider the proposal further it was agreed Mr Sweeney would forward the User Analysis Worksheet along with a copy of the presentation to Bus Eireann. Bus Eireann agreed to carry out a number of reviews and committed to respond by the first week in October. Bus Eireann agreed to circulate details of an appropriate NTA contact to discuss possible Bus Hub funding options as well as updating the Council on service changes once NTA licences for Expressway services have been approved. Bus Eireann also agreed to update the Council on new accessible bus stops.

(iii) School Transportation

- 5.0 As school transportation is operated independently, Mr Yates suggested making contact with Fiona Scanlon, School Transportation Manager. It was agreed the Fiona's contact details would be circulated.

(iv) Follow Up Meeting

- 6.0 It was agreed to arrange a follow up meeting in approximately six months.

Members thanks the representatives of Bus Eireann for attending.

This concluded the business of the Workshop.

**A / Area Manager,
Municipal District of Donegal**

**Cathaoirleach,
Municipal District of Donegal**

Donegal Municipal District

Roads & Transportation Workshop

Date: 6th September 2023

Time: 9:30am

Venue: Donegal PSC - Council Chamber

Present:

Councillors: Cllr Sweeney, Cllr Naughton, Cllr Kennedy,
Cllr Conaghan, Cllr McMahon. Cllr Jordan.

DCC Staff: Mark Sweeney,

Topic discussed:

1. Additional Road Improvement grant (Tranche 2).

The Members were advised that the Department has allocated a second tranche of funding for Road Improvement projects throughout the country.

This equates to the following:

- An additional €657,034 for the County
- An additional €136,006 for the Donegal Municipal District

The members were presented with a list of projects on which this allocation is to be spent and were happy with what is being proposed.

See table below for list of projects.

This list is to be formally adopted at the next Donegal MD meeting which is scheduled for 10th October 2023.

2. Change to the 2023 Road Maintenance Programme

The Area Roads office advised the Members that they wanted drop one of the projects on the Road Maintenance programme that was planned for the R267 Regional Road at Abbots near Donegal Town move this funding to another project on a less busy road at Lagheybarr. The reason for this is due to the risk of a surfacing failure on the busy regional due to current poor weather conditions and the drop in temperature.

The Members were happy to agree to this change.

See table below for list of projects

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

Donegal Municipal District

Agreed changes 2023 Road Improvement Programme (Tranche 2)

2023									
Road Class	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Eng Area	Year	Total Area of work (sq.m)	Initial Budget	Tranche 1 Adjusted June 2023	Tranche 2 Adjusted Aug 2023	Revised Estimated Cost (€)
R	R262/3	Frosses - Meenagran	14	2023	4920	€180,000.00	€34,000.00		€214,000.00
LP	LP2615/1	Main Street Mountcharles	14	2023	3600	€100,000.00	€10,000.00		€110,000.00
LP	LP1515/3	Ardaghey - Ardara (Meenabraden)	14	2023	4070	€113,000.00	€32,897.76		€145,897.76
LP	LP1815/1	Glencoagh	14	2023		€71,280.00		€12,070.00	€83,350.00
LP	LP1645/4	Doorin Line	14	2023		€47,520.00		€10,000.00	€57,520.00
LP	LP1665/3	Rock Road Doorin	14	2023		€73,000.00		€10,000.00	€83,000.00
							€76,897.76	€32,070.00	
R	R263-14	Cashel hill	15	2023	4690	€150,000.00	€10,000.00		€160,000.00
R	R263 - 4	Killybegs streets	15	2023	4000	€150,000.00	€20,000.00		€170,000.00
R	R230	Meenaneary to crove	15	2023	3250	€80,000.00	€20,000.00		€100,000.00
LS	L-1175-1	Kilbeg (out of Kilcar)	15	2023	2000	€50,000.00			€0.00
LP	L-1215-1	Towney Road	15	2023	2400	€50,000.00	€11,000.00	€13,430.27	€74,430.27
L	L-1365-1	Drumaghy	15	2023		€60,000.00		€20,000.00	€80,000.00
R	R263-17	Malinbeg towards silver strand	15	2023	2000	€65,000.00	€15,000.00		€80,000.00
							€76,000.00	€33,430.27	
R	R280	Church Road	16	2023	2450	€0.00	€70,000.00	€15,000.00	€85,000.00
L	L-2425-5	Ballyshannon Streets	16	2023		€0.00	€9,750.84	€18,593.48	€28,344.32
							€79,750.84	€33,593.48	
LP	L1835-3	Corrracram Rd to Tawnawully Old school	17	2023	4000	€128,000.00			€0.00
LP	L2125-1	Lagheybarr	17	2023	4000	€128,000.00			€128,000.00
LS	L-8035-2	Grousehall	17	2023	5000		€73,032.00		€73,032.00
R	R232	Pettigo Road	17	2023		€172,786.00		€36,912.03	€209,698.03
							€73,032	€36,912	
							€305,681	€136,006	

Donegal Municipal District

Agreed changes to 2023 Road Maintenance (Surface Dressing) Programme

Road Class	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Engineering Area	Year	Width	Budget (€)	Revised budget (€)	Comments
R	R267	Abbots	17	2023	7	29,758.00	0.00	Dropped
LP	L2125-1	Lagheybarr	17	2023	4		29,758.00	

This concluded the business of the Workshop.

A / Area Manager,
Municipal District of Donegal

Cathaoirleach,
Municipal District of Donegal



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

Municipal District of Donegal

10th October 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. Lease & Repair Scheme Summary

Casual Vacancies

Area	BED	Dwelling Vacated	Comment
Ballintra	3	Tenant deceased - keys returned 17/07/2023	Contractor on site
Ballyshannon	3	Keys returned 08/07/2019	Contractor on site
Ballyshannon	3	Tenant deceased - keys returned 16/06/2023	Contractor on site
Donegal Town	2	Keys returned 20/06/2023	Contractor on site
Bruckless	3	Keys returned 25/05/2023	Assessment Stage
Killybegs	1	Tenant deceased - keys returned 23/05/2022	Contractor on site
Kilcar	1	Tenant deceased - keys returned 24/07/2023	Contractor on site
Carrick	2	Keys returned 22/06/2023	Contractor on site
Glencolmcille	1	Tenant deceased - keys returned 10/03/2023	Contractor on site

Position as at 29th September 2023

HOUSING GRANTS

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED \ INVALID	FURTHER INFO	PENDING
HO	2022	89	79	7	2	1
HO	2023	82	58	2	10	12

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED \ INVALID	REAPPLIED UNDER HM GRANT	FURTHER INFO.	REF. TO OT	REF. To ENGINEER	PENDING
HD	2022	47	33	7	0	2	5	0	0
HD	2023	41	21	4	0	9	2	0	5

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED \ INVALID	REAPPLIED UNDER HD GRANT	REF. TO OT	FURTHER INFO	PENDING
HM	2022	41	30	5	5	0	1	0
HM	2023	27	16	0	6	0	3	2

HOUSING LOANS

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED	PENDING	Further information
Housing Loans	2022	7	2	1	4	0	0
Housing Loans	2023	8	1	0	4	3	0

Tenant Purchase Applications 2022 - 2023

Year	No. of Apps Received	Incomplete Returned	Open Applications	Refused/ Not Eligible	Offer letters Issued	Completed
2022	9	1	7	1	0	0
2023	20	2	16	2	0	0

HAP/PRD	
HAP Tenancies	
Municipal District	Number
Donegal	223
Letterkenny	708
Glenties	113
Stranorlar	287
Inishowen	427
Sub Total	1758
Tenancies Closed	2812
Overall Total	4570
Updated 29/09/2023	

Housing Need by Location

Municipal District	Waiting List (Net Need)	Transfer List	Total Gross Need
Donegal	197	215	412
Ballintra	8	8	16
Ballyshannon	36	51	87
Bruckless	6	3	9
Bundoran	39	56	95
Carrick	1	0	1
Donegal	77	60	137
Drimarone	0	1	1
Dunkineely	2	4	6
Frosses	0	1	1
Glencolmcille	4	0	4
Kilcar	4	2	6
Killybegs	11	17	28
Laghey	3	3	6
Mountcharles	3	7	10
Pettigo	3	2	5
Total	197	215	412
Updated 29/09/2023			

**Housing Capital Update Report
Donegal Municipal District Meeting
October 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 complete and final commissioning has commenced. DCC Housing Capital team to complete the handover process to Donegal MD Area team in October.	24
Design / Tender Stage		
Drumacrin, Bundoran Phase 1	DCC Housing Capital have received Stage 4 department approval, confirming project budget. Contractor appointment is being finalised with contract commencement scheduled for October. Contract period for the works is 20months.	42
Largymore, Kilcar (SI)	The detailed design / tender package completed. Value engineering exercise being carried out as requested by Dept. in advance of tendering.	1
Preliminary Design Stage (No of units subject to change)		
New Row, Fintra Road, Killibegs	DCC is engaging with Uisce Eireann with regard to the existing services crossing the site, to incorporate their requirements for wayleaves and connections into the design of the proposed development.	17
Laghey	Third party engagement with the adjoining landowner is ongoing. The design is currently being progressed taking account of these site constraints, in conjunction with other council services and utility providers.	4
Total		88

2. House Acquisition Programme & Buy & Renew Programme

The Council is currently in the process of acquiring 2 no. units under the Buy & Renew Programme at Donegal Town. 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.

The Donegal MD is considering expressions of interest for potential house acquisitions throughout the municipal district as well as considering options advertised on the market.

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 now complete. The development provides a total of 38 no. high quality and energy efficient social housing units in Donegal Town.

A further development of 5 no. 2 bedroom properties at Ballyshannon is complete. Final contractual matters are now complete, and the units are in the process of being handed over to the approved applicants.

In addition, Council officials are continuing to dialogue with Developers in relation to an additional valid proposal for Donegal Town for 35 units. This proposal has now received its connection offer from Uisce Eireann. A Stage 3 approval request was submitted to the department in August 2023; subject to approval, the Developer will be issued with an Invitation to Submit a Final Tender and final approval will then be sought from the department. 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~~.

Repair & Lease Scheme Summary						
Applications						
MD	Received	No. of Units	Awaiting assessment	Rejected	Progressing	Total
Inishowen	25	28	2	23	0	25
Donegal	18	42	0	18	0	18
Glenties	20	20	1	19	0	20
Letterkenny	33	58	6	27	0	33
Stranorlar	26	83	13	13	0	26
Total	122	231	22	100	0	122
Updated 02/10/2023						

**Donegal Municipal District
2023 Roadworks Programme
Status Report – 10th October 2023**

Donegal Municipal District

Agreed 2023 Road Maintenance (Surface Dressing) Programme

Road Class	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Engineering Area	Works Type	Year	Length (m)	Width (m)	Total Area of work (sq.m)	Estimated Cost (EURO)	Status
2023 Regional & Local Road Surface Dressing										
R	R262/6	Frosses Glenties Patching	14	SD	2023	510	7	3570	€19,635.00	Completed
LS	LS6495-1	Heneys (Patching)	14	SD	2023	950	4.75	4512.5	€22,130.00	Completed
LP	LP1865-1	Ballydevitt - Drumark (Patching)	14	SD	2023	1025	5.5	5638	€27,760.00	Completed
LS	LP6315-1	Mountcharles Forge Road	14	SD	2023	1300	4.2	5460	€26,870.00	Completed
LP	LP1815-1	Mountcharles Glencoagh (Tarmac)	14	SD	2023	800	4.5	3600	€17,956.98	Completed
LP	LP 1515-2/3	Meenabraden (Tarmac)	14	SD	2023	1000	5.75	5750	€28,320.00	Completed
LP	LP1415-3	Calhame - to Bogside Jnc	14	SD	2023	1200	4	4800	€23,570.00	Completed
LP	LP1425-1	Ballycroy St Johns Point	14	SD	2023	1000	3.75	3750	€18,320.00	Completed
LP	LP1665-3	Rock Road Doorin	14	SD	2023	1000	3.5	3500	€17,070.00	Completed
LP	LP1685-4	Meenaguse	14	SD	2023	1250	3.2	4000	€19,625.02	Completed
						10035		44580	€221,257.00	
LP	LP1265-3	Portnacrosch	15	SD	2023	1200	3.4	4080	€20,400.00	Completed
LP	LP1415-2	Loughmult/ Calhame	15	SD	2023	1300	3.7	4810	€24,050.00	Completed
LS	LS5645-1	Meenabraden/ Meencloy	15	SD	2023	1600	5.5	8800	€44,000.00	Completed
LP	LP1215-3	Lergadaghtan/Muckcross	15	SD	2023	1400	3.5	4950	€24,750.00	Completed
LP	LP1185-1	Cougish Link road	15	SD	2023	1000	3	3000	€15,000.00	Completed
LS	LP1115-1	Derrylaghan/Kilbeg	15	SD	2023	1200	4.2	5040	€25,200.00	Completed
LP	LP5015-3	Loughaherk toward straboy	15	SD	2023	1600	4	6400	€27,996.86	Completed
LS	LS5075-1	Kinakillew	15	SD	2023	1000	3.3	3300	€16,500.00	Completed
LP	LP1025-2	Malinmore	15	SD	2023	1200	5	6000	€30,000.00	Completed
LS	LS5195-1	Derrylaghan rowards Cuskary	15	SD	2023	1100	3.5	3850	€19,250.00	Completed
LS	LT11151	Derrylaghan rowards Cuskary g	15	SD	2023	700	3	2100	€10,500.00	Completed
LP	LP1395-1	Calhame towards Gilbertstown	15	SD	2023	900	4.5	4050	€20,916.14	Completed
						14200		56380	€278,563.00	
LP	L-2255-1	Ballintra Gables	16	RM	2023	630	5.00	3150	€15,750.00	Completed
LP	L-2305-1	Rockhill	16	RM	2023	450	4.00	1800	€9,000.00	Completed
LS	L-7745-1	Ardgillew	16	RM	2023	1100	3.30	3630	€18,150.00	Completed
LS	L-7815-2	Lough Unshin	16	RM	2023	1400	4.00	5600	€28,000.00	Completed
LP	L-2525-2	Moy Road (O'Mahony's to Tow	16	RM	2023	1000	5.50	5500	€27,500.00	Completed
R	R-231-5	Rosnowlagh	16	RM	2023	1000	6.50	6500	€35,750.00	Completed
LS	L-7475-1	Barr of Ballynacarrick	16	RM	2023	1700	3.50	5950	€32,725.00	Completed
LP	L-2485-4	Cliff Road to Knader	16	RM	2023	1040	4.50	4680	€23,400.00	Completed
LP	L-7835-1	Cliff Road to Corlea	16	RM	2023	300	5.00	1500	€7,500.00	Completed
LS	L-7795-2	Corlea	16	RM	2023	300	5.00	1500	€7,500.00	Completed
LS	L-7825-1	Corlea to Derrewkillew	16	RM	2023	1400	3.00	4200	€21,000.00	Completed
	L-7675-2	Abbeylands to Cowpark	16	RM	2023	1000	4.00	4000	€22,850.00	Completed
						11320		48010	€249,125.00	
LP	L 1935-1	Raily Park /Drumroske East	17	RM	2023	1100	5	5500	€27,500.00	Completed
LP	L 1965-1	Harveys Point	17	RM	2023	1100	5.5	6050	€30,250.00	Completed
LP	L 2025-1	St Ernans	17	RM	2023	1200	5	6000	€30,000.00	Completed
LP	L 2185	Ballintooly /Rath	17	RM	2023	1200	5	6000	€30,000.00	Completed
LT	L 21451-0	Carrick West	17	RM	2023	1100	3.5	3850	€19,250.00	Completed
LT	L 20952-1	Ballykillowen	17	RM	2023	1100	3.5	3850	€19,250.00	Completed
LS	L 7345-3	Kimimid Depot	17	RM	2023	1150	3.5	4025	€20,125.00	Completed
LT	L 22652-0	Carn	17	RM	2023	2400	3.5	8400	€42,000.00	Completed
R	R233	Lough Derg	17	RM	2023	1200	5	6000	€33,000.00	Completed
R	R267	Abbots	17	RM	2023	740	7	5180	€0.00	Dropped
LP	L2125-1	Lagheybarr	17	RM	2023	1000	4	4000	€29,758.00	Completed
						13290		54855	€281,133.00	
									€1,030,078.00	

Donegal Municipal District

Agreed 2023 Road Improvement Programme

T1 Additional RI Funds

2023

Road Class	Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Engineering Area	Year	Width	Length (m)	Total Area of work (sq.m)	Estimated Cost (€)	Status	Comments
R	R262/3	Frosses - Meenagran	14	2023	6	820	4920	€214,000.00	Completed	Additional RI money
LP	LP2615/1	Main Street Mounthcharles	14	2023	8	450	3600	€110,000.00	Started	Additional RI money
LP	LP1515/3	Ardaghey - Ardara (Meenabraden)	14	2022	5.5	740	4070	€145,897.76	Completed	Additional RI money
LP	LP1845/3	Ballydevitt - Altadoo	14	2023	6.5	650	4225	€118,000.00	Completed	
LP	LP1665/3	Rock Road Doorin	14	2023	3.75	700	2625	€73,000.00	Completed	
LP	LP1575/3	Killian N S - Drumnacarry	14	2023	3.5	450	1575	€44,000.00	Completed	sd
LP	LP1585/1	Drumnacarry - Ballymacahill	14	2023	3.5	450	1575	€44,000.00	Completed	sd
LP	LP1375/5	Leagans - Meenawullaghan	14	2022	3.5	1000	3500	€72,000.00	Completed	
LP	LP16251	McGranes Post Office (Patch)	14	2023	20	25	500	€16,500.00	Completed	
LS	LS6175/1	Salthill - Mounthcharles Leonards	14	2023	3.75	300	1125	€33,750.00	Completed	
LP	LP1815/1	Glencoagh	14	2023	5	300	1500	€71,280.00	Completed	
LS	LS975/1	Drumgorman	14	2023	3.75	550	2063	€39,160.00	Completed	
LS	LP1645/4	Doorin Line	14	2023	6	240	1440	€47,520.00	Completed	
						6675	32718	€1,029,107.76		
R	R263-14	Cashel hill	15	2023	6.7	700	4690	€160,000.00	Completed	Additional RI money
R	R263 - 4	Killybegs streets	15	2023	9.0	450	4000	€170,000.00	Started	Additional RI money
LP	LP1345-2	Binroe	15	2023	3.5	700	2450	€78,000.00	Completed	
LP	L1365-1	Drumaghy	15	2023	11.0	200	2200	€60,000.00	Completed	sd
R	R230	Meenaneary to crove	15	2023	6.5	500	3250	€100,000.00		Additional RI money
LS	LS5295-1	Strabinná	15	2023	3.0	700	2100	€39,543.66	Completed	
R	R-263-11	Meenavaghan	15	2023	6.7	700	4690	€150,000.00	Completed	
LS	L-1175-1	Kilbeg (out of Kilcar)	15	2023	5.0	400	2000	€0.00		Dropped
LP	L-1215-1	Towney Road	15	2023	6.0	400	2400	€61,000.00	Completed	Additional RI money
LS	L1295-2	Balbane	15	2023	3.5	800	2800	€50,000.00	Completed	
LP	LP1025-3	Meenaveen	15	2023	5.0	350	1750	€70,000.00	Completed	
R	R263-17	Malinbeg towards silver strand	15	2023	4.0	500	2000	€80,000.00	Completed	Additional RI money
LS	LS5465-1	Straleeny - Aghayeevoge	15	2023	4.5	450	2025	€50,016.34	Completed	sd
						6850	36355	€1,068,560.00		
R	R 267	Bundoran Streets	16	2023	9.0	300	2700	€50,000.00		
LP	L-2315-1	Smugglers Creek Rossnowlagh	16	2023	5.0	300	1870	€50,000.00	Completed	
LS	L-7675-1	Coolmore to Spaddan	16	2023	4.0	1400	5600	€137,600.00	Completed	
LP	L-2525-3	Four Masters (Moy Road)	16	2023	6.0	230	1380	€34,500.00	Completed	
LP	L 75152	Alla-Lurgan	16	2023	3.2	1000	3200	€86,400.00	Completed	
LP	L 7985-1	Lisaholly North	16	2023	4.4	300	1320	€35,640.00	Completed	
LP	L 7275-1	Legnanornoge	16	2023	3.2	1700	5440	€151,286.00	Completed	
LP	L7115-2	Lacklom (Timoney House to Xroads)	16	2023	4.0	300	1200	€32,400.00	Completed	
LS	L7815-1-2	Cashelard (Quarry)	16	2023	3.5	1000	3500	€94,500.00	Completed	
LP	L7875-3	Ballymunterhiggins - Ardloughill	16	2023	5.0	1000	5000	€85,000.00	Completed	
LP	L7515-2	Ardpatton - Alla	16	2023	3.75	1000	3750	€101,250.00	Completed	
LP	L2545-1	Ballymunterhiggins (Mangre RD)	16	2023	3	1000	3000	€51,000.00	Completed	
LP	L-2535-1	Ballymunterhiggin (Higginstown)	16	2023	5	500	2500	€87,847.00	Completed	
R	R280	Church Road	16	2023	7	350	2450	€70,000.00		Additional RI money
L	L-2425-5	Ballyshannon Streets	16	2023				€9,750.84		Additional RI money
						10380	40460	€1,077,173.84		
R	R267	Donegal Streets	17	2023	7	500	3500	€112,000.00		
R	R232	Pettigo Road	17	2023	7	500	3500	€172,786.00		
LP	L1835-1	Greenan Lough Eske	17	2023	4.5	1000	4500	€78,354.00	Completed	
LS	L 8065-2	Crilly Lettercran Chapel	17	2023	3.5	1000	3500	€59,500.00	Completed	
LS	L6685-2	Meenadreen	17	2023	3.5	650	2275	€45,500.00	Completed	
LS	L6765-2	Drumcroagh continuation of last year	17	2023	3.5	1000	3500	€70,000.00	Completed	
LP	L1835-3	Corraccramp Rd to Tawnawully Old sch	17	2023	4	1000	4000	€0.00		Dropped
LP	L2125-1	Lagheybarr	17	2023	4	1000	4000	€128,000.00	Completed	
LS	L6785-2	Glackens to Ardnagasson	17	2023	3.5	700	2450	€49,000.00	Completed	
LS	L6505-1	New Line Barnes	17	2023	3.5	1000	3500	€70,000.00	Completed	
LP	L2125-3	Ranenney Barr PJ towards Willie Mc Gr	17	2023	3.5	1000	3500	€59,500.00	Completed	
LT	L65052	Ardnawark Danny Dunnion	17	2023	3.5	750	2625	€52,500.00	Completed	
LS	L7365-2	Junction Lough Derg Rd to T junction M	17	2023	3.5	650	2275	€45,500.00	Completed	
LP	L1975-1	Corveen Depot Rd	17	2023	3.5	700	2450	€49,000.00	Completed	
LP	L1965-1	Friary Lough Eske	17	2023	3.5	700	2450	€49,000.00	Completed	
LP	L2055-1	Laghey (Urban)	17	2023	8	200	1600	€56,000.00		
LS	L-8035-2	Grousehall	17	2023	4	1250	5000	€73,032.40	Started	Additional RI money
						13600	49625	€1,169,672.40		
								€4,344,514.00		

Donegal Municipal District Drainage Works

Area	% of Budget	Budget	Description of Works	Road No.	Estimated Cost	Area totals	Status		
14	23.58%	€65,904.18	Inver Village: Pipe roadside Drain with 900mm S&S pipe for a distance of 60M	LP1565-1	€19,404.18	€65,904.18	Completed		
			Killian: Bernard Boyles 40M of 750mm S&S pipes	LS5825-1	€10,000.00		Completed		
			Altidoon: Pipe roadside drain to prevent Slippage (CIS O Driscolls) 60m	LP1845-3	€8,000.00		Completed		
			St John's Point: Ballycroy St Johns Point (Shovlins) pipe existing drain for 40m	LP1425-1	€10,000.00		Completed		
			Inver (Port) at Kennedys 225mm new drainage pipe required along road edge - 80m	LP1565-1	€8,500.00		Completed		
			Newtown: Pipe roadside drain with 600mm S&S pipe to prevent slippage (20m)	LP6445-2	€10,000.00		Deferred to 2024		
15	24.58%	€68,696.90	Muckcross: pipe open drain + 1 nr road crossing (100m)	LP-1215-3	€16,000.00	€68,696.90	Completed		
			Kilbeg: Pipe existing open drain (70m) to dealing with road slippage	LP-1175-1	€15,000.00		Completed		
			Church road: pipe existing open drain + 1 nr road crossing + gullies (100m)	LP-1315-1	€17,696.90		Completed		
			Lergadaghan: pipe existing drain with a suitably sized pipe and install road gullies (50m)	LP-1065-1	€10,000.00		Completed		
			Aghragh: Pipe existing open drain to prevent slippage. 100m	LS-5165-1	€10,000.00		Completed		
16	24.70%	€69,033.45	Lacklom (Road Flooding)	L-7115-2	€14,033.45	€69,033.45	Completed		
			Derries Road (2 x Culverts)	L-2335-4	€20,000.00		Completed		
			Pipe Ditch (Rockhill) - (Road Pushing)	L-2305-1	€15,000.00		Completed		
			Smugglers Creek (Water on Road - Potholing)	L-2315-1	€10,000.00		Completed		
			Moy Road (Flooding) (Culvert Crossing)	L-2525-3	€10,000.00		Completed		
			Cullionbuoy Road crossing repair road (McAnawes) ESB Outage Meenadreen	L 2095-6	€15,000.00		Completed		
17	27.15%	€75,900.47	Road crossing chamber repair road (Killymard)	L 1954-1	€15,000.00	€75,900.47	Completed		
			Pipe Rd edge gulleys repair road (Drumrooske Flyover)	L 1935-1	€7,500.00		Completed		
			Replace 2no Rd crossings raise Rd level (Blue road Shannagh)	L 6965-1	€7,500.00		Completed		
			Pipe Rd edge 50 mts gulleys repair road (Aghadowey)	L6915-2	€9,000.00		Completed		
			Install overflow pipe to prevent Rd flooding	R232	€11,263.25		Completed		
			Pipe Rd edge 50 mts gulleys repair road (Lough Derg Road - corner before sawmill)	R233	€10,637.22		Completed		
			TOTAL		€279,535.00			€279,535.00	

Donegal MD public lighting infill works

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 MD footpath repair works

RSS Area	Location	Year	Budget	Spent	Remaining Balance	% Complete
14	Mountcharles	2018	€5,729.00	€5,729.00	€0.00	100%
		2019	€16,600.00	€6,608.59	€9,991.41	40%
		2020	€24,350.00	€0.00	€24,350.00	0%
	Dunkineely	2020	€23,432.00	€9,650.34	€13,781.66	41%
	Frosses	2019	€16,600.00	€2,759.97	€13,840.03	17%
		2020	€23,432.00	€0.00	€23,432.00	0%
	Area 14	2022	€6,346.67	€0.00	€6,346.67	0%
	TOTALS		€116,489.67	€24,747.90	€91,741.77	21%

RSS Area	Location	Year	Budget	Spent	Remaining Balance	% Complete
15	Killybegs	2018	€15,568.00	€15,575.78	-€7.78	100%
		2019	€16,600.00	€16,600.00	€0.00	100%
		2020	€50,000.00	€51,817.02	-€1,817.02	104%
	Kilcar	2020	€3,200.00	€0.00	€3,200.00	0%
	Glencolmcille	2019	€8,300.00	€0.00	€8,300.00	0%
		2020	€16,314.00	€0.00	€16,314.00	0%
	Carrick	2019	€8,300.00	€0.00	€8,300.00	0%
		2020	€1,700.00	€0.00	€1,700.00	0%
	Area 15	2022	€17,246.00	€8,669.00	€8,577.00	50%
	TOTALS		€137,228.00	€92,661.80	€44,566.20	68%

RSS Area	Location	Year	Budget	Spent	Remaining Balance	% Complete
16	Ballintra	2020	€11,214.00	€11,214.00	€0.00	100%
	Ballyshannon	2018	€95,244.00	€79,716.99	€15,527.01	84%
		2019	€16,600.00	€10,375.66	€6,224.34	63%
		2020	€35,000.00	€30,966.14	€4,033.86	88%
	Bundoran	2019	€16,600.00	€16,600.00	€0.00	100%
		2020	€25,000.00	€25,000.00	€0.00	100%
	Area 16	2022	€105,493.00	€10,639.00	€94,854.00	10%
		TOTALS		€305,151.00	€184,511.79	€120,639.21

RSS Area	Location	Year	Budget	Spent	Remaining Balance	% Complete
17	Donegal Town	2018	€32,879.00	€24,048.00	€8,831.00	73%
		2019	€16,600.00	€17,500.00	-€900.00	105%
		2020	€47,214.00	€586.70	€46,627.30	1%
	Laghey	2019	€8,300.00	€9,359.00	-€1,059.00	113%
		2020	€4,000.00	€0.00	€4,000.00	0%
	Bridgetown	2020	€20,000.00	€19,778.00	€222.00	99%
	Pettigo	2019	€8,300.00	€880.35	€7,419.65	11%
		2020	€10,000.00	€0.00	€10,000.00	0%
	Area 17	2022	€26,424.34	€0.00	€26,424.34	0%
		TOTALS		€173,717.34	€72,152.05	€101,565.29

Donegal MD Active Travel Projects

Donegal Town MD Active Travel						
Jan	Project Name	Project Description	Project Band	Current Phase	DCC Comments	
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	Construction works ongoing,	Completed
DL/21/0024a	TOWNPARKS BALLYSHANNON PED CROSS	Low Cost Junction Tightening / Pedestrian Crossing Schemes	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 6 - Construction	Construction works ongoing,	Completed
DL/22/0002	Donegal Town One Way system	It is proposed to introduce a One-Way System onto Tirchonail 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	TOBINS Consultant Engineers, detail design complete. Contractor to be appointed July/Aug 23,	Started
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	TOBINS Consultant Engineers appointed, preliminary design ongoing, Part 8 Planning 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	TOBINS Consultant Engineers, detail design and land purchase ongoing	
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	TOBINS appointed, detail design and land purchase ongoing	
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	TOBINS Consultant Engineers, detail design ongoing. Construction 2023	
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	TOBINS Consultant Engineers, Part 8 Nov 23	
DL/21/0008a	Ballyshannon, Bishop Street	Provision of footpath on (L-2465-1)	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 3 - Preliminary Design	TOBINS Consultant Engineers appointed, preliminary design ongoing, one-way system required,	
DL/21/0023	Safe to Schools Programme - Scoil Aodh Rua & Nuala	Safe to Schools Programme	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	Green Schools to undertake delivery plan in Q3 2023 to allow Prelim design to commence	
DL/24/xxx	AIB Junction, Fintra Road One-Way Killybegs	One-way system to provide footpath links	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	In house design to be submitted to the NTA as a scheme for 2024	
DL/22/0014	Malinmore Footpath , Glencolmille	Glencolmille - provision of a footpath along the R263 West of Glencolmille in the direction of the Folk Village.	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 5 - Detailed Design and Tender	TOBINS Consultant Engineers, detail design ongoing.	
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	Options to be considered to deliver footpath link in 2023	

2023 Specific improvement Grant					
MD	Road Number	Location	Description	LA Allocation	Status
Donegal	R232	Glenmore Bridge - Laghey Pettigo Road	Bridge widening works	€150,000	
	R263/L1195	Halls Junction - Kilcar	Junction improvement works	€300,000	

2023 Strategic improvement Grant Regional & Local Road

MD	Road Number	Location	Description	LA Allocation	Status
Donegal	R263	Fintra Bridge Road Realignment Works	Road Realignment Works	€2,000,000	

DMD Housing Estates

Estimated cost of repair works to back lanes

2023 Budget - €70,000.00 - (Yet to be confirmed)

RSS Area	Estate name	Town	Works requested	Cost estimate (€)	Works costed (description of what is included in the price)	Priority list agreed at workshop on 09.01.23	Amount	Status
16	Cluain Barron	Ballyshannon	Upgrade drainage and surfacing on the back lane.	€94,300.00	Drainage of 0.5km of road, accommodations works (drainage) and surfacing DBM 14mm	1	€50,000.00	
14	Bay View Terrace	Mountcharles	Upgrade back lane	€20,000.00	Install drainage where required, adjust ironworks, Overlay existing road with AC14 macadam. Approximate area 500m2	2	€20,000.00	Started
Total							€70,000.00	

Donegal municipal District

Safety Improvement Works

MD	Road Number	Location	Description	LA Allocation	Status
Donegal	R267	Low cost remedial measures at SuperValu Donegal Town	Low cost remedial measures, non national road	€25,000	

Donegal MD Community Involvement Schemes 2023

Funding available in 2023 €184,264.00

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
362	14	LS6365-1	School Lane Mountcharles Mountcharles (Phase 2)	305	1600	€60,000.00	20%		€12,000.00	€48,664.00	
393	14	LP1845-1/2/3	Ballydevitt Altidoo (Phase 3)	TBC	TBC	€62,000.00	20%		€12,400.00	€49,600.00	Started
215	15	L-51151-0	Malinbeg Bog Road Malinbeg	1500	3750	€20,000.00	20%		€4,000.00	€16,000.00	
438	16	L-8005-3	Cloghore	700	2800	€87,500.00	20%		€17,500.00	€70,000.00	Completed
										€184,264.00	

Donegal MD				
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2023 LIS Tranche 1 Funding Priority List -				
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2023 Budget	840,509.00			
DMD Budget	€156,950.00			

Ref_No	ADDRESS	Work Area	Amount	Status
170080	Castleogary	14	€15,500.00	Completed
170403	Ardaghy	14	€19,000.00	Completed
170180	Drumnaherk	14	€25,000.00	Completed
170046	Dooley	15	€11,000.00	Completed
170511	Aughera	15	€26,000.00	Completed
180053	Barr Hill House, Ballymacaward, Ballyshannon	16	€31,000.00	
190285	Townagorm	17	€29,400.00	Completed
			€156,900.00	TOTAL

Donegal MD				
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2023 LIS Tranche 2 Funding Priority List -				
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2023 Budget	€1,050,000.00			
DMD Budget	€196,069.00			

Ref_No	ADDRESS	Work Area	Amount	Status
230017	Inver Glebe, Dunkineely	14	€13,824.00	Completed
170841	Drimarone	14	€13,824.00	
170653	Ballymacahill	14	€12,000.00	
190284	Coolshannon	14	€25,200.00	
170817	Ballydevitt	14	€16,384.00	Completed
170404	Ballydevitt	14	€19,040.00	Completed
170869	Calhame	15	€16,000.00	
170749	Meenahoaghan	15	€26,000.00	
180227	Rockhill	16	€17,000.00	
170685	Loughultan	17	€36,797.00	
			€196,069.00	Total

2023 Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Works					
MD	Road Number	Location	Description	LA Allocation	Status
Donegal	R262	St Alberts Bridge Min Ui Chathain, Frosses to Glenties Road	Raise road level to mitigate against future flooding	€60,000	
	L-1125-1	Straleel North Carrick	Upsizing culvert to mitigate against future flooding.	€28,000	Started



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

Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services Directorate

Donegal Municipal District Report October 2023

Content

- 1. Economic Development**
 - 1.1 Economic Development Unit**
 - 1.2 Tourism Marketing Unit**
 - 1.3 Strategic Funding Unit**
 - 1.4 Donegal Diaspora Unit**
- 2. Donegal Local Enterprise Office**
- 3. Emergency Services - Fire Service**

1. Division: Economic Development

1.1 Economic Development Unit

Project / Activity Report

Title	Economic Development Unit
Countywide	<p data-bbox="448 455 1029 489">Recent and Upcoming Events and Initiatives</p> <p data-bbox="448 531 1036 564">ALPHA Innovation - Disrupt by the Sea 2023:</p> <p data-bbox="448 575 1406 699">ALPHA Innovation held its first annual Disrupt by the Sea 2023 Shark Tank event in The Pavilion on the grounds of Rathmullan House, on Friday 15 September and 100 guests attended the event.</p> <p data-bbox="448 709 1409 877">This <i>Shark Tank</i> event saw 6 Irish scaleups pitching to a panel of US judges in front of a live audience. The pitchers represented scaleups operating in various industries including the agricultural, health, satellite communications and sports fields.</p> <p data-bbox="448 919 1414 1043">Scaleups competed for their chance to win a share of \$100,000 investment, provided by the US judges (Sharks), one year’s membership of <i>ALPHA Innovation</i>, and access to meeting space on the US coast.</p> <p data-bbox="448 1085 1398 1253">Letterkenny native Seán McVeigh, who represented <i>Precision Sports Technology</i>, picked up the Audience Choice Award and Overall prize from the sharks. They will now enter negotiations with the sharks to secure investment.</p> <p data-bbox="448 1295 1414 1463">The event also had a panel discussion titled <i>Connect the Dots</i>, moderated by <i>IDA Ireland</i>, and featured leaders of FDI companies operating in Donegal including: Charlene Kennedy, CEO, PGIM Ireland; David Gildea, VP of Product, Druva; Paul Phelan, VP of Operations, Optum</p> <p data-bbox="448 1505 1300 1589">The panel explored a range of topics including, scaling innovation, ambition, collaboration and partnerships, talent and culture.</p> <p data-bbox="448 1631 1321 1755">ALPHA were delighted to welcome 100 guests made up of support agencies from across the wider Atlantic coast, small businesses and dignitaries for coming on the day.</p> <p data-bbox="448 1797 1117 1831">Check out the full press release and highlights here.</p>

#LoveDonegal 2023 reached 85 million globally

#LoveDonegal day 2023 took place on September 14th, 2023, and had a global reach of 85 million on the day and trended throughout the weekend to reach 123.9 million across the world, trending in countries including Ireland, the UK, the USA, Canada, New Zealand, India and across Europe. Highland Radio showcased and promoted the campaign with a #LoveDonegal tour across the county throughout the day. The campaign was also highlighted on national radio channels including RTÉ 2FM and Today FM.

Details on the #LoveDonegal campaign available on Donegal.ie/LoveDonegal

Tip O'Neill Irish Diaspora Awards 2023

Donegal County Council hosted the Tip O'Neill Irish Diaspora Awards 2023 on Saturday, 16th September, at the Inishowen Gateway Hotel in Buncrana. The award recognised those who excelled in their chosen field whilst honouring their contribution to Ireland and its Diaspora. Three individuals were honoured with the Award this year, Professor William C. Campbell, Caroline McLaughlin and John T Fries.

The night's ceremony was opened by Cathaoirleach Cllr Martin Harley with a keynote address by Minister of State at the Department of Foreign Affairs with responsibility for International Development and Diaspora Sean Fleming TD. This year's event was attended by over one hundred and fifty people of both local and international origin and offered an opportunity to develop the relationships with our Diaspora and continue to promote Donegal's interests and what we have to offer internationally.

Asia Matters Summit Letterkenny: 2nd - 3rd October 2023

Asia Matters hosted an international Business Summit in Letterkenny on 2nd and 3rd October 2023. This Summit was held in Partnership with Atlantic Technological University and Údarás na Gaeltachta. Donegal County Council supported this event alongside the Letterkenny Chamber. This Summit showcased the unique strengths of Donegal and the wider North West region, promoting the region's global offering driven by Tech Talent onto the Asian stage.

This event focused on highlighting trade and investment opportunities for businesses in Donegal and the North West in Asian markets and is an ideal opportunity for those who wish to understand the Asian markets, learn

how to access these markets, build partnerships and drive their business. It was an opportunity to network with government and corporate leaders and highlighting key sectors of business opportunity including RegTech.

Navigating the Future of Regulation - North West RegTech Conference: 25th October 2023

This conference is being hosted as part of the North West RegTech Initiative being developed by Donegal County Council, Derry City & Strabane District Council, ATU and Catalyst, to establish an all-island national institute in Regulatory Technology. Shared Island funding has been awarded towards feasibility assessment including a feasibility study and business case.

The conference will bring together policy makers, regulators, experts and regulated organisations from around the world to discuss the future of regulation. It will provide an opportunity for partners to share their vision of creating the world's first multi-sector Regulatory Supercluster, building on the unique multi-jurisdictional advantages of the North West cross-border region, to position key stakeholders at the forefront of solving complex global regulatory challenges.

The conference will take place in ATU in Letterkenny on Wednesday 25th October 2023. Registration of interest and further details are available by emailing economicdevelopment@donegalcoco.ie.

Property Solutions

Lifford Lands: Planning application for enabling infrastructure for this 30-acre site has been approved An Bord Pleanála. Procurement for construction of enabling infrastructure is progressing. The EDU is engaging with prospective companies and other parties in relation to the development of this site.

The EDU, under the auspices of Donegal 2040 DAC, is working with the Councils Regeneration Team and Capital Delivery team to deliver a number of economic development property solutions including Enterprise Centre, Burtonport, Island House, Killybegs and the Ritz, Ballybofey.

The EDU is also available to engage with businesses looking to access Council owned land or property and a number of queries are currently being dealt with.

Promoting Donegal as a place to work, invest and do business.

Relocation Marketing Campaign: Donegal County Council’s Relocation marketing campaign #MoveToDonegal has reached over 3.5 million across all social media platforms and received over 65 relocation enquiries. The team will be working with TG4 and WDC on the upcoming period on their Move West initiative which will add impetus to this campaign.

This campaign has been shortlisted in the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2023 for “Promoting Economic Development”.

Remote Working: The 2023 Remote Working Holiday campaign is in collaboration with Donegal Hubs Forum and Healthy Ireland’s initiative ‘Civic Dollars’ encouraging social inclusion, mental and physical wellbeing, and supporting local businesses.

The focus of the Working Holiday campaign is on promoting the wide network of Digital Hubs across the county and showcasing the unique offering Donegal has for a work-life balance without compromise. Details of the campaign are available at: <https://donegal.ie/workholdl>

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	39,277	4,925(+100)
Twitter	34.9K	2,985 (+45)
Instagram	5,706	4,091(+117)
Facebook	54,186	2,009 (+76)
Donegal.ie	4.3K Web Users (4 weeks 28 August – 24 September)	
14 News Items Published.		

Shared Island Funded Projects Update

North West RegTech Initiative is a proposal to develop an all-island national institute in Regulatory Technology in the North West with partners DCSDC, Catalyst and ATU. Work is well underway by the appointed consultants (Stratagem Partners) for the Scoping/Feasibility Study and Business Case/Economic Appraisal for completion by the end of October 2023. **Navigating the Future of Regulation** conference is planned for 25th October 2023 in ATU Letterkenny (see above for info).

Crossborder Innovation Plaza to develop cross-border innovation campuses in Ballyshannon and Irvinestown in partnership with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council (FODC). Following scoping and consultation the sectoral scope has been expanded to also include provision for non-food/renewable options. Site appraisal and benchmarking are well underway by the appointed consultants with development options due early October 2023. The completed Feasibility Study, Economic Appraisal/Business Case is on track for delivery by early November 2023.

Regenerative Tourism Project is a proposal to develop a cross border slow tourism destination which preserves and showcases the region's rich, social, cultural and natural heritage while enabling tourism enterprise clusters to grow and prosper. Option refinement and economic appraisal is now underway. The Draft Feasibility Study, Economic Appraisal/Business Case is due mid-October 2023 with Final Report on track for delivery by end of October 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 is leading feasibility assessment with partners DCSDC and Slí Cholmille CLG. Work is well underway by the appointed consultants for the Scoping Study, Business Case/Economic Appraisal and Design Toolkit (Outdoor Recreation NI) for completion by the end of October 2023. A wider stakeholder engagement event in June 2023 was followed by local engagement in August/September as well as cross-border animation planned for October 2023.

	<p>Investment in the North West City Region: Donegal County Council and Derry City and Strabane District Council on a number of key projects for supporting and stimulating Inward Investment in the region as follows:</p> <p>Collaborative NWCR Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans are ongoing in preparation for the following events: • Irish Embassy Event in London - 4th December 2023. • Golden Bridges and US trade mission - November 2023 <p>Inward Investment Strategy: pitch propositions, factsheets and a marketing plan, a promotional video and the final branding for the North West City Region focusing on key investment have been completed.</p> <p>Irelandnw.com Website: An audit and revamp of the NWCR website is in progress to reflect the new marketing and branding collateral.</p> <p>Communications: The EDU continues to collaborate with DCSDC on promoting the North West City Region for investment and business opportunities across multiple platforms including irelandnw.com and via LinkedIn and Twitter platforms.</p> <p>Atlantic Economic Corridor: Donegal County Council is working with Local Authority partners along the western coast to progress mutually beneficial projects and initiatives around economic development. The various Councils are currently working with the WDC to develop an AEC Strategy for the seaboard counties that will promote economic development and investment.</p> <p>Concierge Service: The Concierge Service provides support to those interested in doing business in Donegal. The EDU team is planning a social media campaign to promote it over the coming months. The contact email for this service is economicdevelopment@donegalcoco.ie</p>
Contact Person	<p>Daniel Mc Chrystal – dmcchrystal@donegalcoco.ie</p> <p>Joy Browne - joybrowne@donegalcoco.ie (087) 0619360</p>

1.2: Tourism Marketing Unit

Project/Activity Report:

Title	Tourism Unit
Countywide	<p>Donegal County Council's Tourism Unit undertakes a range of tourism marketing and industry support initiatives. The team also administers a number of grant supports including the Festival and Events Grant Scheme and the Minor Tourism Works Grant scheme. The team also supports the operation of Donegal Tourism Clg.</p> <p>Launch of Autumn Donegal Tourism Campaign</p> <p>Donegal Tourism is working on a seasonal marketing campaign, highlighting Donegal through the autumn months, and this €90,000 multi-channel marketing campaign will launch in October.</p> <p>Award-winning creative agency, Big O has been procured to work alongside tourism businesses to develop this campaign which will spotlight all regions in Donegal.</p> <p>The autumn campaign will encourage visitors to slow down and immerse themselves in Donegal. The campaign will promote off-season visits encouraging visitors to enjoy a slower pace and to immerse themselves in local experiences. This will maximise the visitors' experience and people, places, and their stories are key pillars of the overarching campaign that will attract visitors to experience these places for themselves.</p> <p>The campaign will include a suite of new autumn videos and imagery. The govisitdonegal.com website will enable visitors to avail of bespoke offers from businesses throughout Donegal.</p> <p>Virtual workshops are being hosted to allow tourism trade in Donegal to get involved in this campaign.</p> <p>Launch of Donegal Travel Concierge Service</p> <p>The concept of pre-arrival and travel concierge is becoming more and more popular. Donegal County Council and Donegal Tourism Clg will launch a new Travel Concierge Service for tour operators worldwide.</p>

The Donegal Tourism team has extensive knowledge of accommodation, transportation, tourist attraction sites, hospitality, and guiding services throughout the county and aims to bring this to tour operators and travel agents in our key markets. The service will include assistance in channelling the best fit for a tour operator requirement to our local businesses on the ground.

Supporting the development of Golf Tourism

Golf Cluster Meeting was hosted on Wednesday, 27th September 2023 in Cruit Island Golf Club. All golf clubs in the county are invited to attend these meetings which provide a good forum for clubs to work collaboratively, share learning and insights and identify opportunities to cross promote and co-operate further so as to help build Donegal's world-class golf reputation and in turn increase number of high yield visitors to the county.

International Association of Golf Tour Operators (IAGTO) Golf Convention took place in Derry in October. Between 50 to 75 Golf Tour Operators from across all key markets travelled to Derry for this convention. Donegal County Council and Derry City and Strabane District Council worked in partnership with Tourism Ireland to arrange to meet these tour operators and provide them with information about the region as well as assisting them with hosting fam trips to the region.

Golf Media Fam Trip to Donegal: Donegal County Council's tourism team is working on a collaboration between Fáilte Ireland, Donegal Airport, and Emerald Airlines to bring a number of golfers into the county. The venture aims to showcase the unparalleled beauty and excellence of Donegal's golf courses and will bring some of the most influential golf reporters who have the power to spotlight Donegal on the global stage. The following reporters have been invited:

- Shane O'Donoghue - BBC-CNN-FOX Sports.
- Philip Reid - The Irish Times.
- Greg Allen – RTE.
- Ronan MacNamara - Irish Golfer.
- John McHenry - Irish Examiner.
- Brian Keogh - The Irish Golf Desk.

Online & Social Media Updates – Go Visit Donegal

Facebook

Facebook reach increased by 523.4% and Instagram reach increased by 37.6% in the last month This was due to a variety of campaigns on the platform.

Instagram

Instagram had a reach of 25K up 37.6%. This peaked during Daithi O Se and Brian Mc Dermot's tour of Donegal.

LinkedIn

In the last month, there was an increase in page views, with a rise of 200%. LinkedIn saw an increase of 27 new followers.

Twitter

Twitter impressions show an increase of 303.9% over the last 28 days.

TikTok

Since launching in July, we have made consistent progress on this platform. Over the last month we have had 4,790 plays. This will continue to drive reach, brand awareness and drive people to the website.

Website Redevelopment

Govisitdonegal.com is the primary source of tourism information for Donegal. The website plays a critical role in terms of proactively promoting the county and in enabling visitors and/or potential visitors to easily access essential information to allow them to make decisions and plan their holiday in Donegal.

The tourism team is working on the website redevelopment, and this is being informed from the findings of extensive research into user behaviour as they plan holidays. The aim of this redevelopment is for the new website to become much more focused on the needs of users. It will continue to serve the tourism industry by driving referrals to businesses and growing the tourism economy throughout the county.

Donegal Tourism

Associate Members Committee

The Associate Members Committee of Donegal Tourism Clg provides a forum that enables its members to share views, opinions and insights and to provide a connection between associate members and the Board of Directors of Donegal Tourism Clg.

The committee is made up of associate members nominated and voted by the associate members of Donegal Tourism and a poll is taken every two years.

In April 2023, the process for nomination of associate members onto the committee commenced. Each associate member was assigned a business category and was invited to vote on the membership of the committee.

The Associate Members Committee election process was completed in July and the first meeting of the new Associates Members Committee took place on September 13th at the Silver Tassie Hotel Letterkenny. This meeting focused on exploring the role of the committee, its members and the work of Donegal Tourism Clg. Three associate members from the committee were also selected to sit on the board of Donegal Tourism. The next board meeting for Donegal Tourism Clg is scheduled for October 3rd.

Grant Schemes

Minor Tourism Related Works Grant Scheme

All successful applicants under the 2023 MTWGS have been issued letters of offer and applicants are getting works underway.

The team will continue to liaise with all applicants to ensure the smooth drawdown of funds in a timely manner.

Regional Festival & Events Grant Scheme

All successful applicants to this grant scheme have been issued letters of offer and work is underway with the various festivals that have been completed to drawdown this funding. All funding must be drawn down by December 2023 as this is then recouped from Failte Ireland at the end of each year.

Ireland West Airport

Ireland West Airport is enjoying a record-breaking year for passenger traffic in 2023. Statistics show that a record 367,000 passengers passed through the airport during the period January to June 2023, making it the busiest six-month period in the airport's 38-year history.

Donegal Tourism is working with the Ireland West Airport marketing team to update branding and imagery on all digital screens and billboards within the airport and ensure that Donegal has maximum exposure throughout the airport. In addition, a monthly distribution of brochures is provided to the airport for arrivals.

Two new models of the Saldanha – Tides Project

Donegal County Council Tides Project has appointed a Marketing company to promote the three pilot VR sites – Fanad Lighthouse, Greencastle Maritime Museum, and Fort Dunree.

The campaign will include a competition centred around these sites and procurement of new imagery from the catchment areas around these regions – Inishowen and Fanad. The agency will work closely with the Fanad Lighthouse, Greencastle Maritime Museum, and Fort Dunree to promote their offering.

There will also be a launch of the two new models of the Saldanha, which were delivered to the two sites (Fanad and Dunree) in July.

TOURBO Project

The Council has commenced the implementation of an Interreg Europe consortium, led by Seville Chamber of Commerce to deliver the TOURBO project, which will help small and medium sized tourism businesses with green and digital transformation known as the 'Twin Transition'.

The project includes an analysis of the tourism sector in terms of green and digital skills/capabilities, training businesses and pilot actions such as new technology trials and knowledge/expertise collaboration. Tourism businesses will be eligible to apply for a grant of up to €5000 under the TOURBO programme. For more information visit

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/tourbo>.

Sustainable Arctic and Peripheral Biking Tourism Project

The Council has secured €428,600 to deliver this project which will provide businesses with an opportunity to learn from various good practice approaches across Europe to encourage sustainable biking business. The implementation of this project has commenced and will progress in the coming period.

Chicago – Milwaukee Aug 2023 – Post Event Report

Donegal County Council Tourism team under the auspices of Donegal Tourism participated in the Milwaukee Irish Fest 2023 on 17th to 20th August. This included a meeting with tour operators and travel agents in Chicago in advance of the festival.

The below report sets out details of the objectives of the event, details of the team attending, details of the events held, and a summary of the benefits accrued from the events.

Objectives

The objective of attending this event was:

1. To target potential visitors, attending the Milwaukee Irish Fest who have a strong interest in Irish cultural and music, on the attractiveness of Donegal as a destination to visit on the island of Ireland.
2. To build a database of potential visitors to be targeted via a range of marketing campaigns to convert intentions/desires into visitors to the county.
3. To build connections and relationships with US based tour operators and travel agents who are already featuring Ireland in their itineraries and to highlight Donegal as a strong and attractive destination for their customers.
4. To raise awareness among US based tour operators and travel agents of the bespoke Donegal Travel Concierge Service available to assist and support tour operators in building their itineraries in Donegal.

The team

Three members of staff attended the Chicago Donegal Showcase and the Milwaukee Irish Fest 2023, and this included Anne Marie Conlon, Head of Economic Development, Sarah Nolan, A/Head of Tourism and Mary Daly, Tourism Officer. Unfortunately, the Cathaoirleach Cllr. Martin Harley and Leas Cathaoirleach Cllr. Gerry McMonagle was not in a position to attend this event.

The Donegal Tourism trade was also invited via an open call to participate in this trade event and Harvey's Point Resort participated and provided one staff member to attend this event.

Chicago Donegal Showcase

On Wednesday 16th August, Donegal Tourism, in conjunction with industry partner Harvey's Point Hotel, hosted over 30 tour operators, travel agents and diaspora connections at the Donegal Showcase event in Chicago. This event provided an opportunity to present to those attending the key compelling reasons for visiting Donegal and for including Donegal in their Ireland itineraries.

Positioning Donegal as an emerging and exciting destination on the Wild Atlantic Way and as a new and relatively undiscovered destination on the island of Ireland was received positively by the various tour operators attending.

This event was also an excellent opportunity for the team to learn more about the changing consumer preferences in this US market and a number of tour operators referred to the desire for return visitors to Ireland to experience new destinations on the island and that Donegal was emerging strongly as a preferred location in this regard.

The showcase event also provided an opportunity to connect with a small number of Donegal diaspora in Chicago and these relationships will be developed further in the coming period through the proactive engagement of the Donegal Diaspora project. These individuals continue to play a key role in advocating for Donegal and promoting the county as a place to visit and there is an opportunity to nurture these relationships and support them in their efforts.

Milwaukee Irish Fest

The Milwaukee Irish Fest is the largest Irish Festival in the world and is attended by over 120,000 people from the US each year. This event is supported by Tourism Ireland with a number of counties attending to promote their own counties as destinations for US visitors. In 2023 Galway, Clare, Mayo, Leitrim and Donegal manned stands in the Irish Destinations area.

There were also a number of Donegal businesses showcasing their products at the festival and this included Edel McBride, Oideas Gael, Raithlin Knitwear, Brenda Hewitt, James O'Donnell Photography, Harvey's Point Resort and Study Abroad Ireland and this meant that Donegal was very well represented at the Milwaukee Irish Festival in 2023.

Visitors to the festival were encouraged to stop at the Irish Destinations area to find out what there is to do and see in Ireland. The Irish Destinations area provided information on where to visit during a trip to Ireland.

At the Donegal stand a variety of information was available for visitors to the stand including the new Donegal tourism brochure, tips on top 10 things to see and visit in Donegal, Aer Lingus voucher for flights to Dublin and Aer Lingus Donegal Airport offers. In addition, to this information and Donegal merchandise, the Donegal stand hosted a competition for visitors to the stand with a number of prizes and this resulted in 600 entries to the Donegal Tourism potential customer database. This information will be used for future direct marketing campaigns.



Donegal stand at the Milwaukee Irish Fest in 2023



Visitors attend the Donegal stand at Milwaukee Irish Fest 2023



Audience attending Milwaukee Irish Fest 2023

Benefits

Chicago Donegal Showcase

- Met with 30 tour operators who deal with Ireland and presented an overview of what their clients can expect when visiting Donegal.
- One to one conversation with tour operators and influencers with good opportunity to learn more about US customer travel preferences to help position Donegal more effectively in this market.
- Raised awareness with tour operators and travel trade on the new Donegal Travel Concierge Service and how this can benefit them and encourage them to feature unique Donegal experiences in their itineraries.
- Established connections with Donegal diaspora contacts in Chicago.

	<p>Milwaukee Irish Fest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raised awareness about Donegal as an attractive location to visit on the island of Ireland. • Provided in depth and specific information to individuals planning to visit Ireland in the coming period and encouraging them to visit Donegal as part of their trip. • Networked and built positive relationships with travel trade and stakeholders including Tourism Ireland, Aer Lingus, other Irish destinations and Donegal businesses showcasing at the event. • Engaged with members of the Donegal diaspora and encouraged them to keep in contact with Donegal by visiting home and engaging with the Donegal diaspora project. • Collected additional customer details via the Donegal competition, to use in future direct marketing campaigns.
<p>Donegal MD</p>	<p>Bundoran Marketing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing to activate marketing plan 2023. • Updating blogs and content on website. • Compilation and distribution of monthly email newsletter. • Drafting plans and discussions for 2024 events and activities. • Promotion of County Development Plan Bundoran event. <p>Bundoran Tourist Office</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourist Office open 6 days a week (Tue-Sun) • Currently one TÚS employee working. <p>Website and Social Media</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Creation of website content and updating of event/music listings.</p> <p>Users of discoverbundoran.com up 7.66% Jan 1st – Sep 25th v 2022, Page views up 5.30% on same period & Sessions up 9.78% on same period.</p> <p>Website users and page views:</p> <p>2022 (Jan-Sep 24th) – Users 108,293 – Page Views 243,366</p> <p>2023 (Jan-Sep 24th) - Users 116,590 - Page Views 256,281</p> <p>The webcam remains constantly the most viewed page on the website monthly at almost 17% of the entire traffic.</p>

	<p>Waterworld Waterworld has closed for the 2023 season. Marketing activities undertaken during this year will be examined ahead of a plan being made for the 2024 season.</p> <p>Other Coordinating the establishment of the Discover Bundoran Volunteer Events team with the Donegal Volunteer Centre. The goal is to establish a team of volunteers who will assist in creating and running new events as well as helping with existing events. Working with DCC team on Bundoran Oceanside and ancillary projects. Working with DCC/Paul Doherty Architects teams on new signage drafts/design/locations and information.</p>
Contact Person	<p>Sarah Nolan sarahnolan@donegalcoco.ie Acting Head of Tourism Unit 074 91 94241</p>

1.2. Strategic Funding Unit Report

Project/Activity Report

Title	<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>
Countywide	<p>PEACE Plus The SFU is exploring opportunities in relation to PEACE Plus, which has 6 themes and 22 investment areas. The SFU is currently working with Alpha Innovation on a potential concept note focused on the Innovation Challenge Fund under PEACE Plus. SEUPB has provided a new timetable of calls for applications to the PEACEPLUS Programme for 2021-2027 on their website. Please visit: https://www.seupb.eu/funding/current-funding-opportunities</p> <p>The Wheel EU Funding Roadshow On 4th October 2023, funding organisation, the Wheel will be hosting a funding roadshow in Donegal to take place in the Europe Direct Letterkenny office in the Central Library. Delivered in collaboration with</p>

Donegal County Council and the Western Development Commission, this free full-day event provides an opportunity for community groups, individuals and other organisations to learn more about the Wheel's online Access Europe funding platform and the following:

Learn about different types of funding opportunities available to your organisation – at a local, national and EU level.

Talk directly to funders about your project (full details coming soon).

Network with other community and voluntary organisations.

More details can be found here:

<https://www.wheel.ie/training/2023/10/wheels-funding-roadshow-donegal>

CPMR Workshop on the Brexit Adjustment Reserve Fund

On 19th September the CPMR held a workshop on the Brexit Adjustment Reserve funding that was attended by members of the CPMR from across Europe and representatives from the Economic Development Directorate. Head of Economic Development, Anne Marie Conlon gave a presentation on the impact of Brexit in the North West region and highlighted some of the challenges such as the deadline of end December 2023 for completion of projects.

Assembly of European Regions Engagement

The AER Summer Academy 2022 held here in Donegal co-hosted by Donegal County Council and Udarás na Gaeltachta has been awarded the prestigious European Citizen's Prize for Ireland. The Award Ceremony will take place at the European Parliament in Brussels, on Tuesday 7 November. The European Citizens' Prize goes to projects "organised by people or organisations that encourage mutual understanding and closer integration between people in the EU, cross-border cooperation that builds a stronger European spirit, and EU values and fundamental rights."

Donegal County Council has joined the AER Green Hydrogen Working Group to explore EU project opportunities in renewable energy.

	<p>Project Partnership & Development</p> <p>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
Donegal MD	<p>Donegal Diamond – Outdoor Public Space Scheme</p> <p>Tender process is ongoing. More information will be made available in due course.</p> <p>Bundoran Oceanside – funded under the Fáilte Ireland Local Authority Weatherproofing & Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Scheme. The refurbishment of the public toilets is complete. Tender process is ongoing for dining facility, more information will be made available in due course.</p>
Contact Person	<p>Joy Browne - Acting Senior Staff Officer</p> <p>Mobile: +353 (87) 0619360</p> <p>E-mail: joybrowne@donegalcoco.ie</p>

1.3. Donegal Diaspora Unit

Project/Activity Report

Title	Donegal Diaspora Unit
Countywide	<p>Tip O’Neill Irish Diaspora Awards 2023</p> <p>Donegal County Council hosted the Tip O’Neill Irish Diaspora Awards 2023 on Saturday, 16th September, at the Inishowen Gateway Hotel in Buncrana. See above for more information.</p>

Donegal Diaspora Website / Social Media

Donegal Diaspora social media statistics as of 25/09/2023 are as follows:

1. LinkedIn – 1,269 (up 25) connections
2. X (formerly Twitter) – 4,024 (down 2) followers
3. Facebook – 5,655 (up 17) followers
4. Instagram – 343 (up 19) followers

Donegal Connect 2024

A funding application for the Global Irish Festival Series 2024 has been submitted with an update due from Fáilte Ireland in October.

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 with further updates to follow. *Donegal Diaspora social media statistics as of 25/09/2023 are as follows:*

LinkedIn – 1,269 (up 25) connections

X (formerly Twitter) – 4,024 (down 2) followers

Facebook – 5,655 (up 17) followers

Instagram – 343 (up 19) followers

London Irish Vintage Club Day

Cathaoirleach of Donegal County Council Cllr. Martin Harley led a small delegation to attend the London Irish Vintage Club day on September 3rd. Donegal County Council's Diaspora Project had a stand at this event where information was shared with attendees on various initiatives currently underway including Love Donegal Day, Remote Working Holiday Campaign, Co Working Hubs, holiday opportunities in Donegal. A competition to win flights from London to Derry was also hosted and over 60 entries were received from this event, and this will also help build the database of diaspora contacts that the Council currently holds.

	<p>Scottish Diaspora</p> <p>The Council’s Diaspora Office is working with the Donegal Scotland Diaspora group on a number of upcoming initiatives including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hosting events to collate material in Scotland for the Donegal Emigrant Working lives in Scotland project in conjunction with Donegal County Councils Heritage Office.• An event in the Irish Consulate in Scotland to showcase the unique relationship between Donegal and Scotland. The Diaspora office is working with stakeholders to progress this initiative.
Contact Person	<p>Eoin Leonard - Diaspora Officer</p> <p>Mobile: +353 (87) 360 5678</p> <p>E-mail: eleonard@donegalcoco.ie</p>

2. 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	<p>General Overview – Highlights:</p> <p><u>Summary of September 2023 Outputs:</u></p> <p>Grant Aid (M1) – Business Expansion & Priming (Start Up) 45 Businesses have been approved Grant Aid.</p> <p>Value of total Grant Aid Approvals YTD is €301,791</p> <p>Next EVAC meeting will take place on 2nd November 2023.</p> <p>Trading Online Vouchers – 44 Businesses approved support to trade online with a value of €97,677.</p> <p>Mentoring YTD – 193 Businesses have received this support.</p> <p>Training – 1,079 Business attendees at 75 Events YTD.</p> <p>The next Start Your Own Business (SYOB) online programme is commencing on 3rd October and is already fully booked with 21 participants registered. This is the last SYOB programme in 2023.</p> <p>The next LEO Business Support clinic is an in-person event and is taking place in The Base Enterprise Centre, Stranorlar on 29th September @ 10am.</p>
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National Women's Enterprise Day – “Empowering Business Together” is taking place on 19th October 2023 in Solis Lough Eske Hotel. This event aims to inspire, motivate and empower women across the country in running their own businesses.

Thinking of Starting Your Own Food Business – a half day workshop took place on 30th August 2023 attended by 11 participants from all parts of the county. Food industry expert, James Burke, gave a comprehensive presentation on the dos and don'ts of starting a food business. Five of these businesses have registered for the Food Starter Programme.

LEO Donegal and Creative Coast Donegal are organising the “Meet the Makers” event, taking place on October 20th at Lough Eske Castle. “Meet the Makers” offers Donegal designers and manufacturers in the consumer products sector valuable opportunities to present their unique products and will allow Donegal’s innovative brands to connect with national and international buyers. LEO Donegal is currently receiving expressions of interest from Donegal based craft businesses to exhibit at the upcoming event.

Creelough Small Business Humanitarian Scheme. The Local Enterprise Office assisted the Red Cross in the administration of the Scheme. A total of €173,475 has been approved under Scheme A and Scheme B. Under Scheme A, €109,940 was awarded to 25 businesses ranging in value from €840 to €5,000. 6 of these businesses were awarded additional funding of €63,535 under Scheme B, ranging in value from €2,894 to €15,000. All applications under the Scheme have now been assessed.

The first IMMERSE workshop, took place on August 30th, 2023, and showcased how creative businesses are already generating revenues from immersive technologies. Attendees received a hands-on state-of-the-art experience of this technology.

O Reilly Sports was selected as the LEO Donegal client to exhibit in the Local Enterprise Village at the National Ploughing Championships in Rathiniska, Co Laois on 19-21 September.

The Pre-Accelerator programme AMBITION, developed by Local Enterprise Office Donegal to encourage more female entrepreneurs has been shortlisted in the twentieth annual Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2023. AMBITION is one of two projects shortlisted for Donegal County Council:

AMBITION in Diversity & Inclusion by the Donegal Local Enterprise Office

#MoveToDonegal Relocation Campaign by the Economic Development Unit

Upcoming Events/Programmes:

Student Enterprise 2023/2024

This year, Idea Generation Sessions are scheduled to take place on Tuesday & Wednesday 26th & 27th September 2023 at the Clanree Hotel in Letterkenny. Around 800 students will take part in the Idea Generation Workshops. These sessions will assist the participating students to come up with ideas for their mini company for this year's Student Enterprise competition and they will also get to hear inspiring stories from young entrepreneurs and innovation experts. This year's event will involve idea generation with Alpha Innovation and a keynote address from Jordan Casey, a 23 year old entrepreneur, software engineer and global speaker who has been working in the global technology space for the past 14 years.

LEO Business Supports Clinic

The next in-person Business Information Session will take place on Friday 29th September @ 10am in the Base Enterprise Centre, Stranorlar. Participants interested in starting and/or growing their business from Donegal are encouraged to attend.

This session will feature a guest business, Macs Deli, who will talk about the benefits of the Green programme for their business.

Future in-person sessions will incorporate guest speakers and networking opportunities in a range of venues across the county for the remainder of 2023.

North West Accountants - Breakfast Event

LEO Donegal has been invited to present to the North West Accountants event on 29th September 2023, in the Grianan Hotel, Burt. The accountants meet on a monthly basis and this networking opportunity will enable LEO Donegal to present on its supports and services which would be of benefit to both the accountants and their clients.

National Women's Enterprise Day

National Women's Enterprise Day strives to empower even more women to set up their own businesses and to increase national recognition of the essential role played by Ireland's female entrepreneurs.

We are delighted to bring together a range of female speakers to celebrate National Women's Enterprise Day on 19th October in Lough Eske Castle Hotel.

Host & MC for the day is Radio & TV Broadcaster, All Ireland Winning Captain, and Mindset Expert, Anna Geary. The keynote speaker is former dragon, successful businesswoman, magazine publisher, television personality and broadcaster, Nora Casey. There will also be a panel discussion with a number of female entrepreneurs from the North West including Áine Faughnan of Dromod Boxy, Isobel Sangha of Donegal Natural Soap and Helen Mulholland of Lough Gill Distillery.

Meet The Makers

LEO Donegal and Creative Coast Donegal are organising the "Meet the Makers" event, taking place on October 20th at Lough Eske Castle. "Meet the Makers" offers Donegal designers and manufacturers in the consumer products sector valuable opportunities to present their unique products and will allow Donegal's innovative brands to connect with national and international buyers. LEO Donegal is currently receiving expressions of interest from Donegal based craft businesses to exhibit at the upcoming event.

Donegal Enterprise Awards

Entries are now being invited for the 2023 Donegal Enterprise Awards which will take place on Friday December 1st in Rockhill House Estate, Letterkenny. A total prize fund of €14,000 across 11 categories is

available for Donegal businesses who apply. Elected Members will be invited to attend the award ceremony. For more see <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Donegal/Enterprise-Development/Donegal-Enterprise-Awards/localenterprise.ie/donegal>

Closing date for receipt of entries is Monday October 23rd at 12pm.

Food Coast

Food Coast Donegal is collaborating with Taste Causeway and Enterprise Causeway, Northern Ireland on a 2-day exchange. Food/drinks producers as well as food service & hospitality providers and agency representatives from each region engage in a cross-border visit exchange to collaborate and learn from each other. The first trip is to Bushmills on Monday, 25th September 2023 with the return visit to Donegal on Tuesday, 18th November 2023, venue to be confirmed.

Donegal Engineering Network

The following is a list of recent and upcoming events organised by the Donegal Engineering Network Executive: -

30th August 2023 – Good practice visit to Welditz, Carndonagh with members of Engenuity Midlands Engineering Network.

1st September 2023 - GEMX Industry 4.0 Showcase @ NWRC Springtown, Derry.

13th September 2023 – Energy Costs Saving workshop, Radisson Hotel, Letterkenny.

29th September 2023 – Good practice visit to Takumi, Limerick with members of the Engenuity Midlands Engineering Network.

7-10 November 2023 visit to BLECH Expo, Stuttgart, Germany.

All bookings for upcoming events and training can be made on <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Donegal/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/>

Export Development

In line with our commitment to fostering economic growth and empowering local businesses, LEO Donegal is committed to the development of export-related initiatives. LEO Donegal has organised two in-person Export Information Sessions tailored to both new and

existing exporters taking place in the LEO office, Ballyraine, Letterkenny on September 22nd. These sessions are tailored to those interested in beginning their exporting journey, and those who are currently exporting and wish to improve their exporting strategy. The information sessions aim to equip participants with the necessary knowledge, tools, and insights to navigate the complexities of international trade successfully.

Additionally, LEO Donegal is developing an Export Development Programme scheduled for late 2023. This program is designed to provide participants with a structured framework for enhancing their export capabilities, fostering global market access, and ultimately contributing to the economic strength of Donegal. Through these initiatives, we remain dedicated to empowering the Donegal small business community and positioning them for success on the global stage.

Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)

The EEN Annual Conference is the Enterprise Europe Network's flagship event. This year's edition will take place on 15-17 November in a hybrid format, at the Bilbao Exhibition Centre in Spain.

Under the theme 'The EEN at 15: showing the way forward for SMEs', the conference will celebrate the 15th anniversary of the network and bring together network partners, representatives of EU institutions, and key external stakeholders to discuss how the network's business support services can best meet the evolving needs of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

The conference has three main objectives:

- exchange ideas on how the Network can contribute to the European industrial transition.
- share best practices to improve the quality and visibility of the Network's services.
- foster cooperation and synergies across borders among network members.

High-level EU and national officials as well as representatives of the private sector are expected to join the opening session on 15 November.

Ongoing Programmes:

Digital Start

YTD – 33 Donegal LEO Clients receiving this support.

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

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 Business

YTD – 18 Donegal LEO Clients receiving this support.

This FREE programme, which has recently been re-branded to Green For Business, helps small businesses take the first step towards becoming more sustainable, giving them access to a green consultant worth up to €2,500 and showing them how small changes can have a big impact on their company.

Energy Efficiency Grant

YTD – 2 applicants. 2 receiving this support.

The recently launched Energy Efficiency Grant supports the investment in technologies and equipment identified in a Green for Business Report, Green Start Report or a SEAI Energy Audit with 50% of eligible costs up to a maximum grant of €5,000.

The aim of the scheme is to reduce the impact of enterprises on the environment thereby increasing the agility and resilience of these businesses.

For more information click on the link below:

[What is the Energy Efficiency Grant? - Local Enterprise Office](#)

Lean For Business

YTD – 18 Donegal LEO Clients receiving this support.

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.

IMMERSE

LEO Donegal has received funding of €68,000 from Creative Ireland from the Creative Communities Action Fund, to deliver the IMMERSE project, a collaboration between Donegal County Council, Eirmersive, Connected Hubs, Regional Enterprise Offices (Midwest/Northwest/West), CREW, Údarás na Gaeltachta and the Western Development Commission. The project, a multi-agency, pan-regional proposition across the Atlantic Innovation region, will focus on the Content Creation Sector. Responsibility has been assigned to the Western Development Commission to handle project operations.

The Western Development Commission will submit a draft report to LEO Donegal in late November 2023, prior to final submission to Creative Ireland.

Scale-X

Scale-X North West began on Wednesday September 6th involving participants from Donegal and Leitrim.

The 11-week Accelerator Programme, aimed at start-up entrepreneurs with the potential for fast growth, will run until November 22nd. 12 entrepreneurs across a diverse group of businesses, sectors and

backgrounds have been selected to take part in the programme. At the final event, each business will present their business pitch idea to a judging panel.

Ambition

Ambition is a pre-accelerator programme which focuses on female entrepreneurs.

15 businesses have been recently selected to participate in the fourth programme for Donegal’s early-stage female entrepreneurs. Businesses will attend twelve half-day workshops and the programme will run from September 2023 to December 2023.

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

LEO Donegal is developing a ‘Meet The Makers Directory’, a directory of craft businesses in County Donegal. This is currently being designed and will be made available at the Meet the Makers event, referred to earlier, which is taking place on October 20th at Lough Eske Castle.

Enterprise Europe Network

The Enterprise Europe Network Ireland helps Irish businesses to innovate and grow internationally and is delivered by a partnership between Enterprise Ireland, Cork Chamber of Commerce, Dublin Chamber of Commerce with Donegal County Council leading out on behalf of the Local Enterprise Office.

Services offered through the EEN help businesses to grow through tailored support, new business and technology partnerships, commercial opportunities, licensing deals, and partners searches for EU funded R&D. The services are tailored to SMEs but are also available to all other businesses, universities and research centres.

	<p>Internationally, the Network is active in more than 60 countries worldwide bringing together 3,000 experts from more than 600 member organisations. EEN is the largest support network for SMEs and combine international business expertise with local knowledge to help you take your innovation into new markets.</p> <p>Two meet the buyer events will take place early 2024 with EENginex catering for the engineering sector and Food eirEEN for the food sector. 9 Donegal companies are engaged in EEN services to support them in both sourcing and selling internationally.</p> <p><u>Donegal Stories:</u> Website highlighting the businesses of Donegal that have been supported by the LEO. https://donegalstories.ie/</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

Activity	Number of: (August) ¹	Total for year
<u>Fire Service Operations</u>		
Fire Brigade incidents within County Donegal**:	62	527
Mobilisations (by Donegal Fire Service Brigades)**:	101	684
Mobilisations into Donegal (by NI Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS))**:	7	54
<u>Fire Prevention</u>		
Fire Safety Certificate applications received:	28	162
Fire Safety Certificates waiting to be assessed:	51	N/A
Fire Safety Certificate applications assessed by Fire Officer and waiting for Further Information from Applicant / Agent:	60	N/A
Fire Safety Certificate decisions made:	18	148
Applications for Dangerous Substance Licences received:	1	8
Dangerous Substance Licences issued:	0	0
Form of notice received under the Explosives Act, 1875:	5	26
Inspections and Auditing carried out (Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003, Annual	57	151

Licensing, DSA 1972, Explosive Stores, Pyrotechnics, BCA 1992 & 2007):		
Fire Safety Complaints received:	0	22
Fire Safety Complaints dealt with:	0	14
During Performance Inspections carried out:	0	1 ²
Fire Safety awareness presentations delivered:	0	54 ³

1. Current data only available up to end of August 2023.

2. During Performance Inspection carried out at Sea Sessions Festival, Bundoran, on 16th June 2023.

3. As part of its community fire safety programme, Donegal Fire Service delivers the Primary Schools Programme (PSP) each year to 3rd year classes in the County's primary schools. The programme was delivered in person to 54 schools in May 2023.



ENVIRONMENT MD REPORT – October '23

WASTE AND LITTER MANAGEMENT

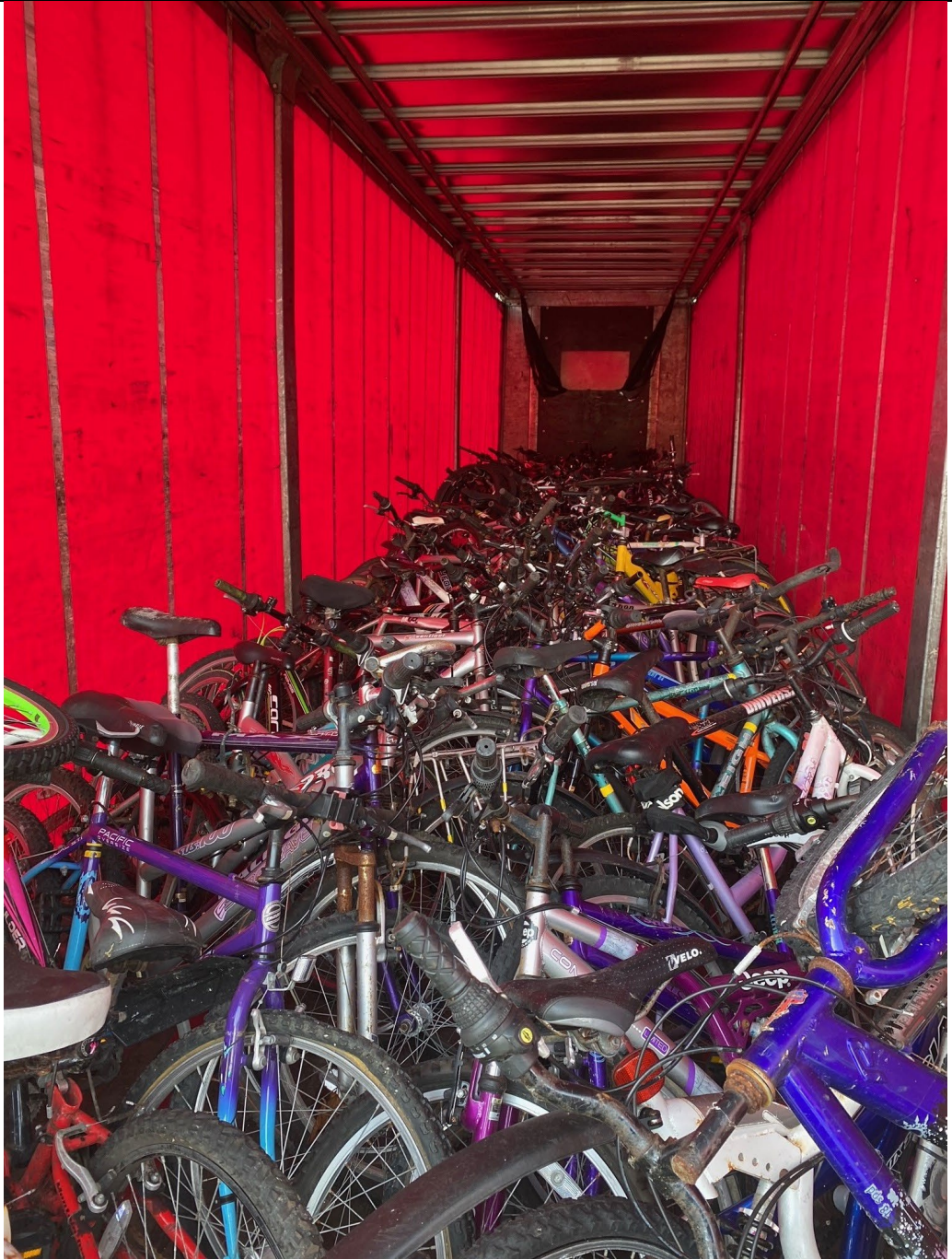
**Activity /
Project Title**

School Bikes for Africa Campaign 2023

**Project
Description/
Activity**



In collaboration with Letterkenny Rotary Club & Bryson Recycling, the annual collection of the school bikes for Africa was held in mid-September. Over 130 bikes were donated throughout the year and collected at Milford Recycling Centre to be transported to Loughlan House for repair before making their way to The Gambia. The 2024 appeal for bikes will be occurring later in October.



Contact Person

Matthew Byrne

Matthewbyrne@donegalcoco.ie

Activity / Project Title	Ending of exemption for agricultural green waste burning
<p>Project Description/ Activity</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Final dates for the burning of cut and other agricultural green waste</u></p> <p>The Waste Management (Prohibition of Waste Disposal by Burning) Regulations 2009 makes it an offence to dispose of waste by burning. An initial five-year exemption was provided for the permissible disposal of waste by burning where it was done as a final measure after the preferred alternatives had been assessed, the local authority was notified and the material to be burned consisted only of uncontaminated wood, trees, tree trimmings, leaves, brush, or other similar waste generated by agricultural practices. This exemption has been extended on several occasions.</p> <p>In early 2023, the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications announced that the practice of burning agricultural green waste will end on the 30th of November 2023.</p> <p>To facilitate a final transition, a last short time-period for burning re-opened on the 1st of September 2023 and will close on the 30th of November 2023. There will be no further extension.</p> <p>Farmers who plan to undertake the burning of agricultural green waste within this timeframe must notify their local authority in advance.</p> <p><u>Material types</u></p> <p>This final burning exemption applies to farmers who generate agricultural green waste through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of hedgerows • Land clearance and maintenance activities • Wind fall material arising • Pest-infected and diseased material requiring management <p>This exemption does not apply to the controlled burning of growing vegetation as this is covered by Section 39 & 40 of the Wildlife Act 1976. In addition, if land is in a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) or a Special Protection Area (SPA), it is likely that an application will have to be made to the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) for permission to conduct any burning of vegetation. For the management of invasive species, please refer to the NPWS.</p> <p><i>Why is the burning of green waste ending?</i></p> <p>To improve the sustainable management of agricultural green waste which will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve air quality and human health • Better utilise material for sustainable alternative uses • Enhance and promote biodiversity

	<p><i>What are the sustainable practices to replace burning?</i></p> <p>In November 2022, the Irish Bioenergy Association on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine developed a feasibility study on the sustainable management of agricultural green waste in Ireland.</p> <p>This report outlines many sustainable alternatives to burning which farmers are permitted to use, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use of flailing and return the cut material to the ground in-situ• Establish a nature pile/biodiversity habitat corner allowing the material to decompose over time• Produce sustainable wood fuel for own heating use on-farm• Composting of the material on-farm• Off-farm energy generation from high quality, large volume, uncontaminated material• Use of the material for animal bedding• Produce landscaping material• Biochar production
Contact Person	Matthew Byrne Matthewbyrne@donegalcoco.ie

**Activity /
Project Title**

Solid Fuel Regulations

**Project
Description/
Activity**



Now that the winter months are approaching, the Environment Section will be commencing awareness campaigns through radio and social media for the new solid fuel regulations which means that all coal products, wood products, biomass products and manufactured part-biomass products must comply with the new standards.

Smoky bituminous coal is no longer available from retailers and work has been ongoing throughout the year to ensure compliance with these regulations.

**Contact
Person**

Matthew Byrne
Matthewbyrne@donegalcoco.ie

RURAL WATER PROGRAMME

Activity / Project Title	County Donegal Group Water Scheme Sector
Description/ Activity	<p>Donegal has a considerably high number of Group water Schemes (GWS) within our rural water sector. The status of Donegal's GWSs is listed below;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 308 no. Public GWS's receiving their water from Uisce Éireann • 4 no. Private GWS's serving more than 50 consumers • 15 no. Private GWS's serving less than 50 consumers
Contact	<p>Pauric Feely, Executive Engineer Pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie</p>

Activity / Project Title	Group Water Scheme Takeover Requests
Description/ Activity	<p>There are 82 GWS's which have submitted takeover requests to Donegal County Council and 24 have been taken in Charge by ÚÉ (plus an additional 18 Orphan GWSs). This is seven more GWS since the update in March 2023. The number of GWSs that have requested takeover amounts approximately 17% of the overall total of GWSs within the county. Although this figure appears low there are a large number of orphan GWSs where the promoter or trustees are no longer active. Donegal County Council is represented on a working group examining issues in relation to the taking in charge of orphan GWSs. Donegal County Council has commenced a pilot process which provides an alternative pathway for these orphan schemes to be taken over. The promoters or trustees of any group water scheme that wishes to be considered for takeover should do so by writing to the Rural Water Liaison Officer, Donegal County Council, County House, Lifford or by emailing ruralwater@donegalcoco.ie.</p> <p><u>Criteria for GWSs to be Eligible for Takeover</u></p> <p>In order for GWSs to be eligible for takeover they must comply with technical, legal and financial requirements set down in circular letter WSP01 16. The takeover of a GWS is potentially a lengthy process in that all aspects of the GWS must be examined so as to ensure that they satisfy the standards set out by Uisce Éireann.</p>
Contact	<p>Pauric Feely, Executive Engineer Pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie</p>

Activity / Project Title	Resourcing
Description/ Activity	<p>Donegal County Council have been successful in securing additional funding from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to employ additional staff within the Council's Rural Water Section in order to expedite the formal takeover process of GWSs.</p> <p>These staff, a Technician Grade 2 and an Executive Engineer, have been in post since 30th April 2018 and 19th November 2018 respectively following the completion of recruitment processes. An Assistant Engineer was added to the Rural Water team on 2nd March 2020 to assist with the Takeover Programme. A Senior Executive Engineer has been put in place since August 2020 to oversee the Rural Water Section.</p>
Contact	<p>Pauric Feely, Executive Engineer Pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie</p>

Activity / Project Title	GWS Takeover Project – Works to date
Description/ Activity	<p>Works completed by the GWS Takeover Team to date have included;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an extensive desktop exercise reviewing and cataloguing GWS files for more than 300 GWS; • examining the works required on a large number of schemes that have requested takeover; • liaising with promoters and trustees on a number of schemes that have requested takeover. • Rural Water Team have engaged with 76% (63 of 82) of GWSs that have formally requested takeover and commenced the takeover process. • implementing a Civils framework for contractors to carry out upgrade works to GWSs. • conducting a review of pumping stations to identify upgrade works. • publishing a mechanical and electrical bundle for pumping station upgrades on eTenders. <p>In order to expedite the takeover process it was necessary to prioritise the order of GWSs the Takeover Team will engage with first. A priority list was developed and it sets out four focus area as below.</p> <p>Priority 1 - GWSs with active committee members who are applying for annual subsidies and do not have any wayleaves or land transfer requirements Priority 2- GWSs with active committee members who are not applying for annual subsidies and do not have any wayleaves or land transfer requirements Priority 3- GWSs with active committee members who are applying for annual subsidies and have wayleaves or land transfer requirements Priority 4- GWSs with active committee members who are not applying for annual subsidies and have wayleaves or land transfer requirements</p>

32 schemes have progressed to the point whereby they have been submitted to Uisce Éireann for Takeover review. The list below shows which schemes from have been submitted to Uisce Éireann for review;

	<u>GWS Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Municipal District</u>	<u>Status</u>
1	Cappry Lane	Ballybofey	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over
2	Meenalaught	Killygordan	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over
3	Lagnalore/ Meenahorna	Glenfin	Lifford Stranorlar	Submitted to IW
4	Cloughroe	Drumkeen	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over
5	Liskernan/ Meenavoy	Drumkeen	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over
6	Halftown Skelpy	Castlefin	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over
7	Corcashey	Convoy	Lifford Stranorlar	Submitted to IW
8	Woodland-Dooish	Ballybofey	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over
9	Tirhomin	Milford	Letterkenny	Submitted to IW
10	Labbadish/ Drumoghill	Drumoghill	Letterkenny	Taken Over
11	Moyle Magheradrumman	Milford	Letterkenny	Taken Over
12	Tullygay	New Mills	Letterkenny	Submitted to IW
13	Ballygallen/Breenagh	Glenswilly	Letterkenny	Submitted to IW
14	Leitir	Kilmacrennan	Letterkenny	Taken Over
15	The Bog	Cranford	Letterkenny	Submitted to IW
16	Brea Road	Bridgend	Inishowen	Taken Over
17	Glengad Mountain	Malin	Inishowen	Submitted to IW
18	Ballymacarthur No. 2	Greencastle	Inishowen	Taken Over
19	Ture	Muff	Inishowen	Taken Over
19	Lisfannon	Buncrana	Inishowen	Taken Over
20	Ballyderowen	Burnfoot	Inishowen	Taken Over
21	Ardmore	Muff	Inishowen	Submitted to IW
22	Ballymacgroarty	Ballintra	Donegal	Taken Over
23	Rath/Lisminton	Ballintra	Donegal	Taken Over
24	Lurgan	Ballintra	Donegal	Taken Over
25	Teelin	Carrick	Donegal	Taken Over
26	Driminardagh	Donegal Town	Donegal	Taken Over

	27	Owenteskna	Meenaneary	Donegal	Submitted to IW
	28	Lisahully	Ballyshannon	Donegal	Taken Over
	29	Roshine	Killybegs	Donegal	Taken Over
	30	Tullywee	Laghey	Donegal	Taken Over
	31	Ardcrone/Craugheybolye	Dungloe	Glenties	Submitted to IW
	32	Meenlaragh No. 2	Gortahork	Glenties	Submitted to IW
	33	Loughros Point	Ardara	Glenties	Taken Over
	34	Lochnanoran	Annargy	Glenties	Taken Over
	36	Lower Knocknastoller	Bunbeg	Glenties	Taken Over
	<p>In the coming months continued engagement with promoters and trustees of GWSs that have applied for takeover will continue. Members will be advised of progress in further updates given via the Municipal District Meetings. Project works are taking place by contractors on various GWSs across the county that have been procured through the rural water section on behalf of GWSs. These works involve works to the network and pumping stations comprising of Civil, Mechanical and Electrical in nature to ensure the minimum UÉ standards are met to achieve the takeover of the GWS.</p>				
Contact	<p>Pauric Feely, Executive Engineer Pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie</p>				

Activity / Project Title	Orphan Schemes			
Description/ Activity	<p>An Orphan scheme is defined as any scheme where there is no active committee and where the emergency and maintenance works are carried out by Donegal County Council on behalf of Uisce Éireann. Donegal County Council is part of a pilot programme to commence the takeover of these types of scheme. Uisce Éireann has agreed to review 10 schemes from each county involved in this pilot programme. This list below sets out the parameters for which Uisce Éireann will consider takeover for these schemes;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • less than 10 connections • two-thirds of the GWS members have signed consent for IW takeover • no wayleaves on scheme • no land transfers on scheme • no pumping on scheme • no reservoirs • no debt <p>The desk study of all 1104GWSs within the county was utilised to identify all orphan scheme within the county. 295 GWS were classified as orphan through this process and have decreased to 273 based on the takeover programme to date. These 295 schemes were investigated further to identify GWSs with less than 10 connections. 158 GWSs were identified after this review. A detailed analysis of each scheme is currently being conducted to establish if these schemes meet additional parameters set out by Uisce Éireann as mentioned above. All 158 schemes have been reviewed and 37 schemes have been deemed to meet the criteria set out by the programme. These 37 schemes will be checked on site to confirm if conditions match the desk study. The total number of Orphan schemes is now 273 due to the progress made on the takeover programme to date.</p>			
	<u>GWS Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Municipal District</u>	<u>Status</u>
1	Ballinaboe	Clonmany	Inishowen	Taken Over
2	Carnowen Road	Raphoe	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over
3	Corraine No. 2	Ballybofey	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over
4	Dooras	Ballindrait	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over
5	The Roughan	Lifford	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over
6	Sandymills	Castlefin	Lifford Stranorlar	Taken Over
7	Creivy	Ballyshannon	Donegal	Taken Over
8	Clontyseer	Ballyshannon	Donegal	Taken Over
9	Springhill	Quigley's Point	Inishowen	Taken Over
10	Fallask	Drumfreis	Inishowen	Taken Over
11	Glebe Road	Burt	Inishowen	Taken Over
12	Carronamaddy	Burt	Inishowen	Taken Over

	13	Clonkillymore	Termon	Letterkenny	Taken Over
	14	Pluck/ Aughlihard	Mannorcunningham	Letterkenny	Taken Over
	15	Gortnaskeagh	Kilmacrennan	Letterkenny	Taken Over
	16	Rathmullan Coastguard	Rathmullan	Letterkenny	Taken Over
	17	Grail Craugheyboyle	Dungloe	Glenties	Taken Over
	18	Sanfield	Ardara	Glenties	Taken Over
Contact	Pauric Feely, Executive Engineer Pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie				

Activity / Project Title	Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2019-2021				
Description/ Activity	A number of GWSs received funding under the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme under various measures. A summary of progress is listed below:				
	<u>Measure</u>	<u>GWS</u>	<u>Funding</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Current Status</u>
	Source Protection	Dunlewey	€3,200	To install a barrier around the source	Work are complete
	Public Health Compliance	Tory Island	€262,861	To ensure compliance with Drinking Water Regulations	Treatment System trial ongoing and sampling process also ongoing. Awaiting confirmation for GWS that filter media has been replaced. Hydrogeologist completed desktop study and further investigations ongoing
		Townawilly	€38,500	To ensure compliance with Drinking Water Regulations	Sedimentation filter and UV systems replaced. Ongoing monitoring for THM compliance. GWS pursuing connection to public water supply
	Enhancement of Existing Schemes	Townawilly	€15,300	To improve Operation efficiency of GWS	Not proceeding as GWS are progressing the connection to the Public Network.

		Dunlewey	€68,000	To carry out pipeline replacement works	Consultant appointed and Feasibility report being finalised. GWS compiling Tender Documents for upgrade and extension works.
	New Group Water Schemes	Dunlewey Extension	€661,900	Extend the GWS to serve Dunlewey	Consultant appointed and Feasibility report being finalised. GWS compiling Tender Documents for upgrade and extension works.
	Transition of Existing GWS to IW	Multiple GWSs	€699,299	Funding to upgrade GWSs to IW Standards	Takeover programme as described above
		Maghera	€360,000	Funding to transfer GWS to IW	Hydrogeologist completed desktop study. DCC completed alternative options for water supply report. Initial door to door survey along Maghera Road completed. Request for additional funding submitted to Department, Preparing documents for procurement of consultant.
		Townawilly		Funding to transfer GWS to IW to ensure THM compliance	DCC have appointed a consultant to examine the work required to connect GWS to the public network. Feasibility Study complete. Procurement of SI contractor ongoing.
	Community Connections	Goland	€108,470	To provide funding to Connect to IW Network	Works on site complete. Applicants are receiving water.

		Glenalla	€315,000	To provide funding to Connect to IW Network	Project not feasible based on current market rates. Letters issued to applicants informing them of same.
Contact	Pauric Feely, Executive Engineer Pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie				

Activity / Project Title	Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2022-2025
Description/ Activity	<p>The promoter or trustees of any group water scheme that wishes to be considered for an application under the Multi Annual Rural Water Programme 2023-2025 should do so by writing to the Rural Water Liaison Officer, Donegal County Council, County House, Lifford or by emailing ruralwater@donegalcoco.ie.</p>
Contact	Pauric Feely, Executive Engineer Pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie

Activity / Project Title	Measure A8 – Wastewater Collection and Treatment Needs for Villages and Settlements without access to Public Waste Water Services
Description/ Activity	<p>In April 2022, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage announced €50m in funding under measure A8 of the Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme 2022-2025 for waste water collection and treatment needs for villages and settlements without access to public wastewater services.</p> <p>Donegal County Council submitted an application for funding to the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage for Bonagee in September of this year under this measure. The Rural Water Section are awaiting confirmation if bid was successful.</p>
Contact	Pauric Feely, Executive Engineer Pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie

Activity / Project Title	Well Grants
Description/ Activity	<p>Well grants are available for the installation or upgrade of a well the purpose of domestic supply. The property must;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be the householders permanent place of residence• be at least seven years old• be located a reasonable distance from an existing water supply or GWS. <p>Application forms are available on the DCC website www.donegalcoco.ie/services/water/ruralwaterprogramme/wells</p> <p>Over the last 5 years, the annual average of well grant applications is 30.1. We received 29 applications in 2022 and have 8 to date in 2023.</p>
Contact	<p>Pauric Feely, Executive Engineer Pauric.feely@donegalcoco.ie</p>



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

Municipal District of Donegal

10th October 2023

Presented By B. Mc Laughlin A.O. Community Development Division

1. Playgrounds & Failte Ir Platforms for Growth & Destination Towns.
Bundoran
Ballyshannon
Donegal Town
Killybegs.
2. Leader / RDP Programme Update
3. Peace Plus 2022-2027
4. Healthy Donegal
5. Presentation from Delegation of Youth Cllrs at December MD Meeting.
6. Social Inclusion



1.

Municipal District: Donegal

Activity / Project Update: October 2023

Activity / Project Title	PLAYGROUNDS 2023
Project Description/Activity	Annual maintenance of Playgrounds
Budget (if applicable)	
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<p>1. Works consists of:</p> <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">• Annual Rospa Inspection Reports have been completed with necessary repairs identified.• Repair works have been tendered with a submission deadline in February 2023 to appoint a playground Maintenance works contractor for 2023.• Tender assessment for playground maintenance contractor underway.• Maintenance repair works to playgrounds commenced March 2023.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue routine inspection of playgrounds
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie

Activity / Project Update: September 2023

Activity / Project Title	Bundoran Destination Towns (Fáilte Ireland Co-Funded)
Project Description/Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of artwork on the three approach roundabouts to Bundoran; Tullaghan/Drumacrin/Finner • Installation of wayfinding signage throughout Bundoran • Streetscape improvement works to; Central Lane/Renisan's Lane/Meehan's Lane
Budget (if applicable)	
<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"> • Architect appointed to delivery the project. • Part 8 Planning secured for the wayfinding signage and streetscape improvement works. • Tender documents/detailed designs being prepared for the wayfinding signage and streetscape improvement works. • Artist selected for the roundabout artwork, contract documents being completed. • Artist contract documents completed and issued, site meeting held with Artist and his engineer to discuss the works. • Consultation ongoing with TII regarding approval for Artwork on the N15 roundabouts. • Part 8 Planning Application for the installation of artwork on the Tullaghan, Drumacrin & Finner roundabouts opened to public consultation on the 15th September. • Reviewing detailed designs for the wayfinding signage and streetscape works.
<p>Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period</p> <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aiming to publish tender documents for a contractor to undertake the wayfinding signage and streetscape works.
<p>Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i></p>	<p>John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie</p>

Activity / Project Update: September 2023

Activity / Project Title	Bundoran Waterworld Playground Refurbishment
Project Description/Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refurbishment of the Bundoran Waterworld Playground, funded through the Community Recognition Fund and Donegal Co Co
Budget (if applicable)	
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">• Consultation with the Bundoran National School undertaken.• Designs and tender documents published.• Tender submission return deadline of 30/06/2023• Received a number of submissions from playground contractors and the tender evaluation is ongoing.• Contract Documents issued to the successful contractor to undertake the refurbishment works.• Works expected to commence late October / early November and will take approximately 8-9 weeks to complete.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commence refurbishment works late October/early November.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie

Activity / Project Update: September 2023

Activity / Project Title	Ballyshannon Mall Park Playground Refurbishment
Project Description/Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refurbishment of the Ballyshannon Mall Park Playground, funded Donegal Co Co & the Dept of Children and Youth Affairs
Budget (if applicable)	
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">• Consultation with the three Ballyshannon National Schools undertaken.• Draft designs in progress.• Tender documents have been published on etenders to seek submissions from suitable contractors. The tender return date is the 20th of October 2023.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commence review of submitted tenders.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie

Activity / Project Update: September 2023

Activity / Project Title	Platforms for Growth Tullan Strand Funded by Fáilte Ireland
Project Description/Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of a Facility Centre for Water Based Activities at Tullan Strand in Bundoran along with improved access to Tullan Strand Beach.
Budget (if applicable)	
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">• Cross departmental meetings being held with different sections of the Council to fully understand project requirements and future maintenance requirements.• Draft tender documents prepared to seek a Consultant to develop site specific designs and secure planning permission.• Discussions with local stakeholders and landowners.• Meeting held with local stakeholders from Bundoran.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review final tender documents and publish on etenders to seek submission from suitable professionals.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie

Activity / Project Update: September 2023

Activity / Project Title	Donegal Town & Killybegs Playgrounds Refurbishment
Project Description/Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refurbishment of the Donegal Town & Killybegs Playgrounds, funded through the Community Recognition Fund and Donegal Co Co
Budget (if applicable)	
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">• Initial meeting with community groups to discuss the project and their vision for the playgrounds.• Donegal Co Co technical staff undertaking detailed surveys of each playground.• Surveys complete.• Initial design works in progress to develop plans for the playgrounds.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Once draft plans are ready these will be circulated with the relevant community groups for feedback.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie

2.



Municipal District: All

Activity / Project Update

October 2023

Activity / Project Title	Rural Development Programme/LEADER
Project Description/Activity	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 <i>(if applicable)</i>	€13,413,875 (Additional funding received 2019) <i>Note: Project costs €10,063,586, administration and animation costs €3,350,289</i> 1 st April 2021 – 31 st December 2022 €2,861,598 project costs €953,866 for Administration & Animation.
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	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 / quarterly reporting period	All funding awarded to the Donegal LAG under the Transitional LEADER programme and EURI programme has been allocated but LDCs will continue

	<p>to engage with promoters on the ground regarding any potential underspend or decommitments.</p> <p>Donegal County Council as Lead Financial Partner, in collaboration with our four implementing partners, Donegal Local Development Company, Inishowen Development Partnership, Údarás na Gaeltachta and Comhar na nOileán have completed the draft LEADER Local Development Strategy which was submitted on 14th July 2023. Clarifications and further information has since been sought and DCC staff are working with the Implementing Partners and consultants to submit a revised LDS.</p>
<p>Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i></p>	<p>Ciaran Martin cmartin@donegalcoco.ie</p>

3.

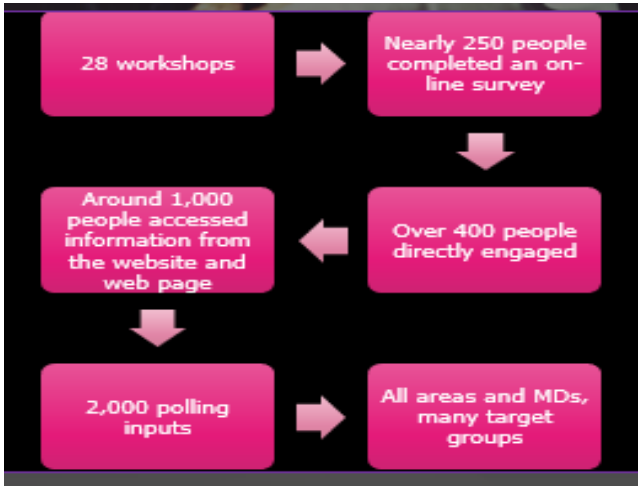


**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

Municipal District:

Activity / Project Update 2023

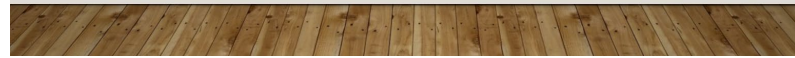
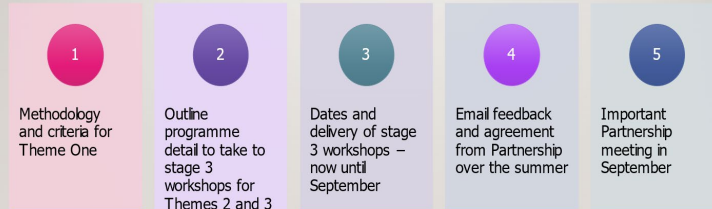
Activity / Project Title	PEACEPLUS Programme 2022-2027
File:	
Project Description/Activity	<p>Donegal County has an indicative allocation from the PEACEPLUS programme of €7.6m. The SEUPB has indicated three important themes, including:</p> <p>1. Local community regeneration and transformation, including changing how people use their local area, lasting improvements, prioritising the most marginalised and vulnerable, reflecting shared heritage, and how potential capital investment can facilitate sustained cross community interaction and make a lasting contribution to peacebuilding.</p> <p>2. Thriving and peaceful communities including cross community collaboration, positive change in communities, high levels of wellbeing, and lasting contributions to peace building.</p> <p>3. Celebrating cultures and diversity including increasing understanding and respect for all cultural identities, involving minority communities, involving those with issues arising from the conflict, and support to the most marginalised.</p> <p>PEACEPLUS Call</p> <p>The SEUPB opened for submission of PEACEPLUS Plans on 14th June meaning the PEACEPLUS Plan must be submitted by 14th December 2023. SEUPB may, once submitted, take around four months to assess it. On this timeline it may be spring/early summer 2024 before the Partnership can move forward to tender for Programmes</p>

	under themes 2 and 3 , and commence the capital works programme under theme 1.
Budget	Under Theme 1 Investment Area 1.1 Co-designed Local Community PEACEPLUS Action Plans have been allocated €110m, Donegal County Council has been awarded an indicative allocation of €7,635,396.:
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<p>Public Consultation (Stage 1 Consultation) throughout the Electoral Areas was carried out during February to April, with (Stage 2 Consultation) carried out throughout May & June 2023.</p>  <p>To satisfy all criteria for a Co-designed consultation Process, DCC engaged with communities & key Stakeholders as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produced a Indicive Report & Analysis of Stage 1 Engagement Process • Held a series of Stage 2 consultation workshops across all the municipal areas May- June 2023. • Social media promotion of events as a mechanism for people to feed into the process. • Organisations and individuals who engaged with our Stage 1 series of workshops, and others who have not previously engaged had an opportunity to input into the development process by submitting a Concept Form. The form will help the PEACEPLUS Partnership to create a longlist of concept ideas that might fit with the funding opportunity under PEACEPLUS Theme 1.1. <p>Overall, 82 concept forms were submitted by 19th June 2023.</p>
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<p>July-Sept: Partnership approves approach and administration to develop programmes.</p> <p>Aug -Sep: Applications for theme one, to be submitted by 18th September 2023. Stage 3 workshops will continue to engage with stakeholders to further develop programmes under themes 2 &3 with</p>

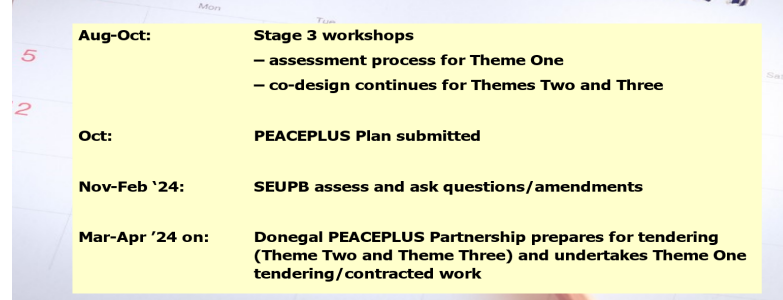
communities, to the stage of being Peace Plan ready by month ending October 2023.

Nov -Dec : Peace Plan submitted – assessed by SEUPB – Partnership will tender if approved – spring 2024 or later.

NEXT STEPS



TIMELINE – BEST ESTIMATE (MAY VARY - DEPENDENT)



Contact Person
(to include telephone number & e-mail address)

Pauline Smyth: peace@donegalcoco.ie


4.



Municipal District: Countywide

Activity / Project Update

October 2023

<p>Programme</p>	<p>Healthy Ireland Fund</p>
<p>Project Description/Activity</p>	<p>Healthy Ireland The objective of the Healthy Ireland Fund 2023 – 2025 is to improve the health and wellbeing of people of all ages and abilities living in Ireland through the implementation of the Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan 2021-2025.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>€198,122.42 Round 4 Funding</p>
<p>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</p>	<p>Healthy Ireland Round 4 The Healthy Ireland Round 4 Programme (HIF 2023-2025) represents a more evidenced-based outcomes led approach, with a longer 3-year timeframe. The grant period for Round 4 will run from 1 June 2022 to 31 December 2025, with the outcomes led approach to be delivered from 2023-2025.</p> <p>Moments of Happiness at your Library Launch</p>  <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p> <p>Cathaoirleach of Donegal County Council, Cllr. Martin Harley pictured launching the Moments of Happiness at your Library Initiative. Pictured Back Row: Ciara Cunanne, Healthy Ireland at your Library Coordinator; Belinda Glackin, Donegal Library Service; Sinead Noonan, Twin Towns Librarian; Paddy Doherty, Divisional Manager, Community Development; Ciaran Martin, Community Development; Hugh Carlin, Donegal Sports Partnership; Richard Ryan, Donegal Library Service; Christina O'Donnell, Social Inclusion,</p>

*Community Development; Kirsty Browne, Donegal Sports Partnership. **Front Row:** Deirdre Lavery, Memory Assessment Support Services, HSE; Margaret Fitzgerald, Healthy Ireland Coordinator; Dara McDaid, HSE; Donna Kavanagh, Senior Executive Librarian, Donegal Library Services.*

Cathaoirleach of Donegal County Council, Cllr. Martin Harley has launched the Healthy Ireland Moments of Happiness at your Library initiative which uses the innovative award-winning Tovertafel games system to positively influence the quality of life for children with autism, seniors living with dementia and adults with intellectual disabilities using interactive light projected games that stimulate physical activity, social interaction, cognition, and moments of happiness.



Cathaoirleach of Donegal County Council, Cllr. Martin Harley with Catherine McGeehan at the launch of the Healthy Ireland Moments of Happiness at your Library Initiative

At the launch, held in the Twin Towns Library in the Base Enterprise Centre in Stranorlar, Cllr. Harley paid tribute to the Donegal Library Service and said ‘Our libraries are a fun, free, inclusive resource at the heart of our communities – where anyone can learn, discover and develop, regardless of age, ability, education or income and the Healthy Ireland funded Moments of Happiness at your Library initiative provides a unique opportunity for us to support and promote inclusive care within our local community’.

Healthy Ireland at your Library Coordinator, Ciara Cunnane explained how the ‘Tovertafel’ is Dutch for ‘Magic Table’ and projects vibrant, lifelike images onto a white surface in the form of games that react to even the smallest of hands and movements, creating a “magic-like” effect that captivates and engages users. Ciara outlined the person-centre benefits of this type of purposeful play and advised that while the Tovertafel is a new addition to the Twin Towns Library, Tovertafels and a Sensory Pod are available for all members of the public as part of Donegal Library Sensory Services in Bunrana Library, Central Library Letterkenny, Leabharlann Phobail Gaith Dobhair and Bundoran Library respectively.

Outlining the significance of the Healthy Ireland Programme, Healthy Ireland Coordinator for Donegal, Margaret Fitzgerald said “The Healthy Ireland Programme provides a cross-sectoral focus for improving and supporting the health and wellbeing of everyone living in Ireland and is central to the work of Donegal County Council and Donegal Local Community Development Committee.”



Students from Robertson National School, Stranorlar and Bluestacks Training and Progression Programme creating Moments of Happiness using the Tovertafel!

The Moments of Happiness at your Library initiative is funded under the Healthy Ireland Programme, which is supported by the Dept. of Health.

If you would like more information on using any of the sensory services including the Tovertafel call in or contact the libraries as follows –

Twin Towns Library - Tel: 074 9175384 or Email: twintowns@donegallibrary.ie

Buncrana Library – Tel: 074 9361941 or Email: buncrana@donegallibrary.ie

Bundoran Library - Tel: 071 9829665 or Email: bundoran@donegallibrary.ie

Central Library Letterkenny – Tel: 074 9124950 or Email:

central@donegallibrary.ie

Leabharlann Phobail Gaoth Dobhair - Tel: 074 9560862 or Email:

gaothdobhair@donegallibrary.ie

Follow Healthy Donegal on

<http://www.donegalcoco.ie/community/healthydonegal>

<https://www.facebook.com/HealthyDonegal>

https://www.instagram.com/healthy_donegal/

<https://twitter.com/HealthyDonegal>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwcqNcNTWBCaRiEFGqSkOnA>

Contact Person	Margaret Fitzgerald, Healthy Donegal Coordinator 074 9172562 mfitzgerald@donegalcoco.ie
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5.

Forthcoming
Presentation by a Delegation of Donegal Youth Cllrs to The December Donegal MD Meeting.

6.



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

Municipal District: ALL

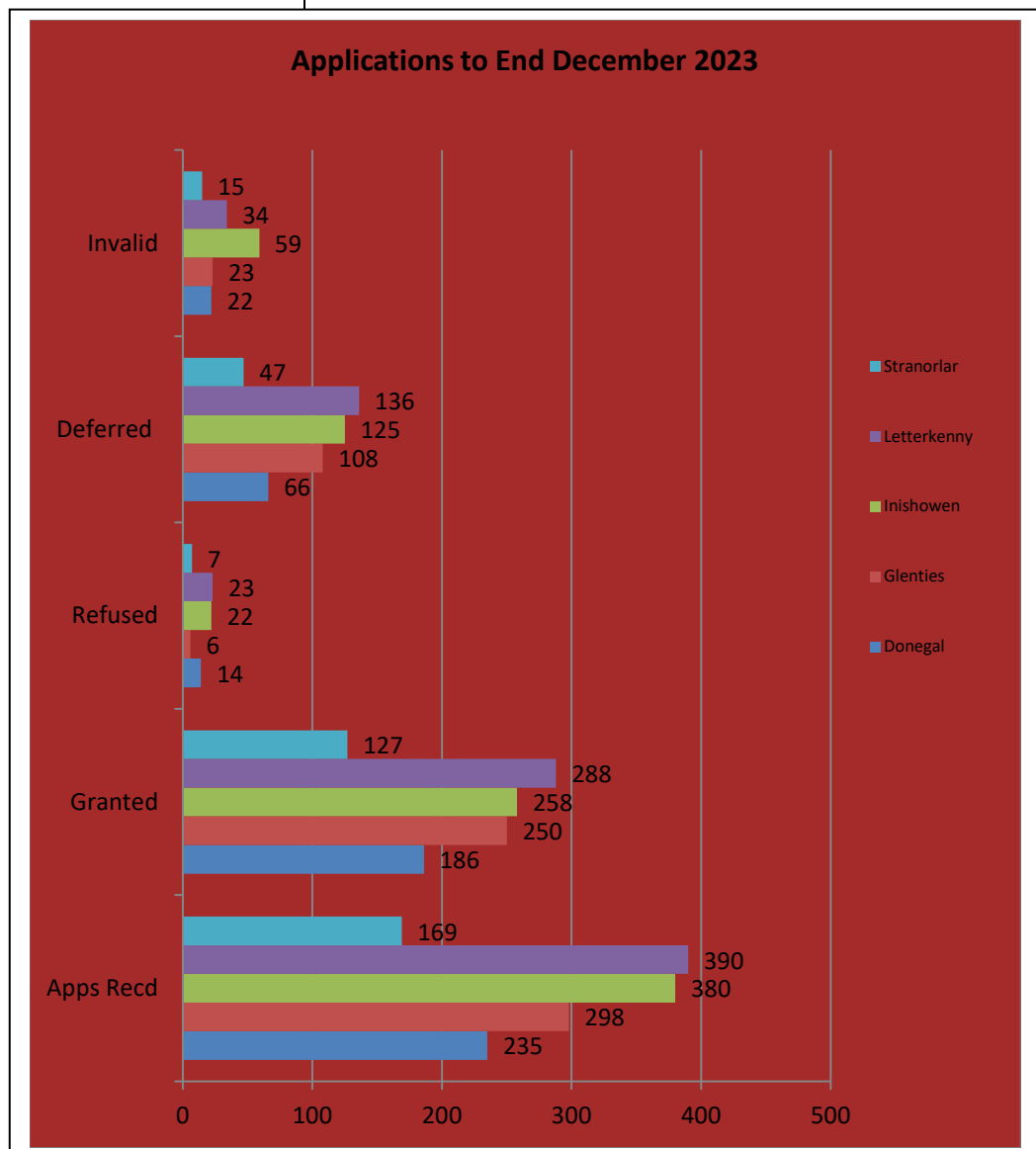
Activity / Project Update

Activity / Project Title	Social Inclusion Unit
<p>Progress to date within the last two months/quarter 3 -inclusive of current status</p>	<p>Black and Minority Ethnic Inclusion Strategy There was a well-attended September meeting of the Implementation team where we looked at the work completed in Q1 and Q2 of 2023. There are 47 Actions in the strategy and in the first half of 2023 there have been activity reported on 20 of these actions. Themes Two, Three and Four were reviewed with an agreement on a new reporting structure.</p> <p>All Stakeholders are going to continue to engage and follow through on the Workplan. Monitoring and evaluation for Q3 will be followed up on now.</p> <p>EU Belong Donegal continue to lead on work package 4(delivery of integration strategy) has been working on the following project partners Emilia-Romagna of Italy, Leipzig of Germany, Catalonia of Spain, Timis of Romania, Arad of Romania, Navarra of Spain, Salzburg of Austria, Pomerania of Poland, and Poznan of Poland to achieve this deliverable.</p> <p>EU Belong project partners will attend a knowledge sharing event in Donegal in March 2024 where there will be opportunity to share work in relation to integration and inclusion in Donegal and to learn from our project partners.</p>
<p>Contact Person</p>	<p>Christina O'Donnell codonnell@donegalcoco.ie 0879192272</p> <p>Charles Sweeney charlesseeney@donegalcoco.ie</p>



Donegal MD Meeting
10th October, 2023

	Item	Update												
1	Development Applications													
	(1) Statistics	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="630 421 1398 454">Donegal MD Totals Year to End Sept 2023</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="630 454 1046 495">Applications received</td> <td data-bbox="1046 454 1398 495">235</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="630 495 1046 535">Granted</td> <td data-bbox="1046 495 1398 535">186</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="630 535 1046 575">Refused</td> <td data-bbox="1046 535 1398 575">14</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="630 575 1046 616">Deferred</td> <td data-bbox="1046 575 1398 616">66</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="630 616 1046 656">Invalid</td> <td data-bbox="1046 616 1398 656">22</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Donegal MD Totals Year to End Sept 2023		Applications received	235	Granted	186	Refused	14	Deferred	66	Invalid	22
Donegal MD Totals Year to End Sept 2023														
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Granted	186													
Refused	14													
Deferred	66													
Invalid	22													



2	Enforcement									
		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Donegal MD</th> <th>To end Sept 2023</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>New Cases</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Closed Cases</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Outstanding cases on record since 2012</td> <td>216</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Donegal MD	To end Sept 2023	New Cases	3	Closed Cases	1	Outstanding cases on record since 2012	216
Donegal MD	To end Sept 2023									
New Cases	3									
Closed Cases	1									
Outstanding cases on record since 2012	216									
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><u>Planning Clinics 2023:</u> 5th October, 2023 19th October, 2023 2nd November, 2023 16th November, 2023</p> <p>Please see website for further dates. http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/planning-clinics/</p>								
4	Casual Trading									
5	Regeneration Report	See Appendix A								
6	Building Control & Taking in Charge									
7	Central Planning Unit									
8	Capital Projects Delivery Unit									
9	Conservation Report									
10	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/weekly-planninglists/ • 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 – https://www.eplanning.ie/DonegalCC/SearchTypes 								



		File Retrieval Form – to be used for file retrieval and planning search requests: www.donegalcoco.ie/media/donegalcountyc/planning/pdfs/fileretrieval/File%20Retrieval.pdf
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Appendix A



**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 October (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 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.

A workshop was held with Members on July 13th 2023 to update them on this evolving consultation and design process. It is anticipated that design work will complete and work to prepare publication of a statutory planning scheme will occur in Q4 2023.

1.1.2 Ramelton Re-Imagined.

Category 2 Value: €249,159 (RRDF funding approved €186,869)

Category 1 Value: €7,949,868 (RRF funding approved €6.3m)

Update: Part 8 planning for this project was confirmed at a Plenary Meeting of the Council on Wednesday 6th of April, 2022.

The Detailed Design phase is now complete and it is intended to open a construction tender in Q1 of 2024 ahead of a projected commencement to site later in 2023. The process of project handover to the Council’s Capital Project Delivery Unit (CPDU) has commenced. CPDU will manage the construction and handover stage of the project.

The Team will continue to update and advise Members on progress and key milestones as this project moves towards commencement on site.

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

Repowering Buncrana.

The Elected Members of the Inishowen Municipal District were updated on the status of this project at workshop on Friday 27th January 2023. The project was then submitted to the DRCD for Decision Gate 2 Pre-Tender Approval on Monday 20th March, 2023. Decision Gate 2 approval was subsequently received on 3rd April, 2023 and this project is therefore now approved to proceed to tender.

A sale agreed position has been reached in respect of the town centre acquisition interest enabled by this project. The property concerned is the former Garda Barracks at St. Orans Rd, Buncrana. The Council's legal services have now been instructed to close out and complete this acquisition and this is ongoing. The property will be redeveloped as an economic development proposition as a part of this project with a forward view towards job creation and inward investment.

A detailed tender package for the procurement of Architect Led Full Integrated Design & PSDP Team services has also now been prepared and is undergoing final review before opening the formal tender process on eTenders. It is acknowledged that the Members of the Inishowen Municipal District have requested a workshop in respect of the Repowering Buncrana project, and arrangements will be made to facilitate this once the tender process has opened and greater certainty can then be given in relation to the timelines for the further development of the project going forward. It is anticipated that this workshop will be facilitated in late October/Early November 2023.

1.3 **Rathmullan RRDF Project Development work**

A formal Part 8 planning scheme for this project was published on Thursday 24th November 2022. Submissions or observations were required to be made in writing on or before 4:30pm on Wednesday 18th January 2023. A Chief Executives Report on the proposed development was brought before the Elected Members for consideration at a Special Meeting of the Council on 13th February 2023 when Members decided to proceed with the development as proposed.

Work is now continuing to position the project for application to future calls of the Rural Regeneration & Development Fund (RRDF) for category 1 (capital) projects. The next stage in project development work concerns the preparation of a Business Case. In this regard FPM were appointed on 25th September 2023 to provide services for an Economic Appraisal including a Business Plan and Financial Analysis of the project.

The project is a partnership with Rathmullan The Way Forward CLG.

1.5 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.

GM Design Associates Ltd were appointed as the successful consultancy service to deliver the Town Centre First Plan for Milford on Tuesday 14th February 2023 and the project commenced with the first stage of Public Consultation which took place over a period of 3 weeks beginning on Thursday 16th February and concluding on Thursday 9th March 2023. The first stage consultation process involved a number of targeted workshops, including a project workshop with Elected Members which took place on Tuesday 14th February 2023, as well as a cross-directorate workshop, a community stakeholder group workshop and workshops with students attending the two local secondary schools. A very successful Public Consultation Event was also held on Wednesday 22nd February which was attended by c.120 no. participants.

The public engagement also centered on the launch of a dedicated project website, facebook page and twitter page, and provided for responses via an online resident's survey, a business survey, a feedback form for individual submissions as well as a kids' page. On the whole there has been a hugely positive response to the public engagement with 227 no. online surveys completed with a further 128 no. survey responses from the secondary school pupils, 355 no. in total. There were also 16 no. comment sheets submitted, 3 no. written submissions and 2 no. email submissions as well as 86 no. kids' responses.

The consultants, GM Design Associates Limited completed the process of collating, recording and interpreting the findings and results of the public and stakeholder engagement together with the conclusions of the baseline analysis of the town centre including the SCOT analysis, and have finalised the Stage 1 Report entitled 'Milford TCF Plan Baseline Profile', which was presented to the Elected Members at a Workshop on the 5th of May 2023. This Report has directly informed the Draft Milford Town Centre First Plan which was published for public consultation from the 10th of July to the 4th of August 2023. A drop in event was held on the 26th July 2023 in the Milford PSC with 64 attendees and 42 submissions were made via completed survey forms, comments sheet and email.

The Consultants are now working to complete the Milford TCF Plan, which involves, inter alia, translation, response to submissions and environmental screenings, after which it is planned to hold a workshop with the Members of the Letterkenny – Milford MD to present the proposed Milford TCF Plan before final launch arrangements are confirmed. It is anticipated that this

workshop will proceed in October/early November and separate arrangements will be made in due course.

1.6 Creeslough Village Plan and Community Regeneration Project

Donegal County Council, the Creeslough Working Group and the Creeslough Community Association supported by Arup launched a public consultation process to prepare a Village Plan and community regeneration project for the Creeslough Community in May 2023.

On 27th July 2023 a formal Part 8 planning scheme for the Creeslough Community Regeneration Project was published. A Chief Executives report on the proposed Part 8 development and the statutory consultation process was brought before the Elected Members at a plenary meeting of Donegal County Council on Monday 25th September 2023 when the Members decided to proceed with the development as proposed. Planning consent for the project is now confirmed.

Work is now continuing to position the project for application to future calls of the Rural Regeneration & Development Fund (RRDF) for category 1 (capital) projects. The next stage in project development work concerns the preparation of a Business Case, ground and site investigations and the preparation of detailed project costings. In this regard Jennings O'Donovan & Partners Limited Consulting Engineers were appointed on 15th September 2023 to provide structural & civil engineering design services for the project, including PSDP services and geotechnical investigations. On 25th September 2023 FPM were appointed to provide services for (i) Community Engagement and Company Formation, and (ii) an Economic Appraisal including Financial Analysis of the project. This work will now continue in earnest.

ARUP are continuing work to prepare the final Creeslough Village Plan. Members were updated on the status of this work by ARUP at a workshop on Tuesday 19th September 2023. This work involves translation and formatting prior to confirmation of appropriate launch arrangements before year end.

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. Sub-project A, preparation of Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy is now complete and available at www.letterkenny2040.ie.

Sub-project B, CPO in respect of the Letterkenny 2040 Strategic Urban Regeneration Site, significantly progressed having served Notices to Treat and Enter in March and April 2023. On 8th May 2023, Donegal County Council

took possession of the CPO lands required to enable the delivery of Phase 1 development of the site as regards Alpha/Beta office accommodation and public realm infrastructure. Negotiation on compensation continues in parallel. Acquisition by agreement of remaining property at 29 and 31 Port Road to enable Phase 2 completed on 2nd August 2023 and both properties are also now in the possession of Council.

In addition, a Recommendation has been prepared to progress the business case for an Affordable Housing Scheme in respect of the residential component of the Concept Masterplan relating to the remainder of the strategic site (Phase 2). As a result, this part of the site will transfer to Housing colleagues with alignment and input from both the Regeneration and Development Team and the Capital Projects Delivery Unit. Further updates will be brought to the Letterkenny-Milford MD in this regard as this work develops.

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

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

The Councils successful application to URDF Call 2, entitled ‘Letterkenny 2040 (Phase 1): To Re-energize and Connect the Historic Town Centre’ secured a provisional allocation for total project cost of €18.1m (comprising €13.6m URDF support together with match funding committed by the Council in the sum of €4.5m). Total project uplift was secured at Decision Gate 1 in relation to Preliminary Business Case to take account of inflation resulting in total project cost of €19.3m (comprising €14.5m URDF support and €4.8m match funding by Donegal County Council). Project costs will remain under review at each stage of project development and as the approval gateways under the Public Spending Code are navigated.

The project will advance five sub-projects to varying stages as follows:

- The further enhancement of the Cathedral Quarter
- The re-purposing of the Courthouse
- Strategic land assembly towards:
 - Renewal of Lower Main Street
 - Advancement of a Regional Transport Hub
 - Enhancement of ‘LK Green Connect,’ walking, cycling and parkland infrastructure.

DHLGH approval to proceed with tendering processes and acquisitions was secured on 7th March 2023 following approval of the Detailed Project Brief and Procurement Strategy. DHLGH advise that each sub- project will now progress on its own timeline including the preparation of individual Final Business Cases prior to appointment of construction contractor.

Accordingly, steps are being taken to proceed with each sub-project as set out in the following table.

Next steps set out in letter of approval to proceed.

Sub-project	Nature of DHLGH approval/ Project activity
Sub-project A: Market Square element	<p>Proceed to procurement of architect-led team for detailed design and site supervision</p> <p>The following actions have been commenced/underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The project has been handed over to the Capital Projects Delivery Unit (CPDU) for progression of detailed design with feed-in from the Regeneration and Development Team. A follow up handover meeting is to be scheduled between both teams for September 2023. Further updates will be provided by CPDU.
Sub-Project A: Cathedral Quarter Park and Church Lane Shared Surface Scheme	<p>Proceed acquisition processes for land required. The following actions have been commenced/underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refreshed valuations received as regards several market valuations to inform potential acquisitions by agreement. • A number of offers have been made and are under consideration by landowners. • Structural Engineering Report completed to inform 1 no. acquisition involving a building. • Clarifications sought on a number of properties in relation to land ownership. • Tender package for Valuation Services closed on 21st July 2023. Final arrangements for the appointment of the successful valuer are currently being made. • High level legal appraisal with Councils solicitor completed on 9th June 2023. • Next step: Consideration of requirements and timeline for publication of CPO by year end. <p>Proceed to procurement of architect-led team for all design stages (planning consent, detailed design & site supervision)</p> <p>This project will be led through the next stage of design and consultancy services by the Regeneration and Development Team with feed-in from the Capital Projects Delivery Unit. The</p>

	<p>following actions have been commenced/underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Draft tender for architect-led team under preparation and review for opening of procurement process as soon as possible.
<p>Sub-project B: Renewal at Lower Main Street</p>	<p>Proceed acquisition processes for land required. The following actions have been commenced/underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refreshed valuations received as regards several market valuations to inform potential acquisitions by agreement. • A number of offers have been made and are under consideration by landowners. • Offer accepted in principle for acquisition of 2 no. properties at Lower Main Street. The Business Case therefore been completed and Council solicitors have been instructed to proceed with legal and conveyancing processes. • Structural Engineering Reports completed to inform 4 no. acquisitions involving buildings. • Clarifications sought on a number of properties in relation to land ownership. • Tender package for Valuation Services closed on 21st July 2023. Final arrangements for the appointment of the successful valuer are currently being made. • High level legal appraisal with Councils solicitor completed on 9th June 2023. • Next step: Consideration of requirements and timeline for publication of CPO(s) before year end.
<p>Sub-project C: Revival of the Courthouse</p>	<p>Proceed to procurement of consultancy services to prepare ‘Product identification/Visitor Experience Plan.’</p> <p>This project will be led through the next stage by the Regeneration and Development Team and will involve multiple workshops at MD level. The following actions have been commenced/underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tender package for Creative Consultancy Services opened on 22nd June 2023 in respect of ‘Revival at the Courthouse’ for the preparation of a Visitor Experience Plan/ Product Identification Plan and

	<p>Business Plan for the development of a major visitor attraction at the Courthouse.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Deadline for receipt of tenders was 21st July 2023. Two submissions were received. The Evaluation Team met on 31st July and 3rd August and are scheduled to meet again on 12th September. Thereafter an appointment will be made.
<p>Sub-project D: Strategic acquisition to enable a Regional Transport Hub</p>	<p>Proceed acquisition processes for land required. This project will be led through the next stage by the Regeneration and Development Team. The following actions have been commenced/underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Formal engagement with landowner commenced by means of a meeting on 18th May 2023. • Tender package for Valuation Services closed on 21st July 2023. Final arrangements for the appointment of the successful valuer are currently being made. • High level legal appraisal with Councils solicitor completed on 9th June 2023. • A meeting with NTA and representatives of the Councils Roads, Planning, Regeneration and Community Development Teams took place on 10th July 2023 in relation to transportation in Letterkenny inclusive of the Regional Transport Hub project. As regards the Regional Transport Hub, a funding commitment was secured from NTA to enable the engagement of consultancy services to move the project forward to the next level as regards scale, scope, further engagement with transport providers and operational requirements. Draft tender package is being prepared in this regard for internal review initially followed by NTA feed-in prior to opening of a procurement process.
<p>Sub-Project E; Strategic acquisition to enable LK Green Connect</p>	<p>Proceed acquisition processes for land required This project will be led through the next stage by the Regeneration and Development Team. Progress on acquisition is to some degree dependent on capacity to progress Part 8 for phase 2 of LK Green Connect and in this regard, it is noted that in-house resources are severely under pressure across both URDF and RRDF work programmes.</p>

	<p>Notwithstanding, the following actions have been commenced/underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Formal engagement with a number of landowners commenced and commitment given to further re-engage with particular landowners in September 2023. ▪ Tender package for Valuation Services in relation to the Cultural Corridor element closed on 21st July 2023 and an appointment is currently being made. Activation of acquisition steps in relation to phase 2 (from constructed Phase 1 to Pearse Road) is dependent on progress on the Part 8 to inform the extent of lands required and previous commentary of capacity of in-house resources refers. ▪ High level legal appraisal with Councils solicitor completed on 9th June 2023.
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2.3 ‘The Eat Out’ Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Project, Letterkenny
 ‘The Eat Out’ Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Project at the public space to the front of An Grianan Theatre secured Part 8 planning consent at the plenary Council meeting in November 2022. Detailed design of this project enabled in the context of the further development of the concept contained in the Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy via the appointment of The Paul Hogarth Company and O’Connor Cronin Sutton Engineers is well advanced. The Regeneration Team now provide support and input into the detailed design process which is led by Community Development wherein a procurement process for construction contractor closed for tender submissions on 16th August 2023. Further updates are being provided by Community Development.

2.4 Letterkenny Cultural Corridor
 Part 8 proposed development for the ‘Cultural Corridor’ section of LK Green Connect is progressing and is at an advanced state of readiness. The target for publication of the Part 8 is September 2023 leading to consideration of Chief Executives Report on the Part 8 consultation at the November 2023 Council meeting. The team continue to work towards these target dates whilst balancing some additional negotiations with landowners that have arisen. Any adjustment in publication timeline will be communicated directly to Members.

2.5 2nd Phase of LK Green Connect
 Early design work using in-house resources commenced initially in January 2023 on Part 8 proposed development for Phase 2 of LK Green Connect to

link walking and cycling infrastructure at the completed Phase 1 to Pearse Road.

Due to pressures across the wider work programme of the Regeneration Team, only limited progress has been made with a fresh application of resources targeted for September 2023. Given the early stage in the design process, the timeline for publication of the Part 8 is yet to be confirmed and, as referenced, is subject to capacity of staff resources across both URDF and RRDF programmes. The preferred scenario is to publish a Part 8 by year end 2023. Workshops at MD level will be arranged as this project develops.

In parallel with design work, it is proposed to make further contact with landowners.

2.6 Youth/Community focused project at Lower Main Street

Early engagements with Letterkenny Youth Club and Donegal Youth Service have commenced to further explore the potential for a youth/community focused project at Lower Main Street as envisaged within the Design Concepts contained in the Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy and relating to a number of Councils acquisition interests under URDF Call 2 successful application. In this regard, a partnership in principle has been agreed. Following progress on relevant land acquisition under the Councils URDF Call 2 project, it is targeted to commence design processes as regards a future capital scheme at this location. Timeline for commencement of design work is likely to be Q of 2024 at the earliest and is highly dependent on capacity of in-house resources. Updates will be provided to Members on ongoing basis.

2.7 Collaboration with Housing Section of Donegal County Council

Collaborative working arrangements have been established with the Housing Section of Donegal County Council to explore and develop social/affordable housing schemes on key regeneration sites within the town centre generally and, more specifically at Lower Main Street and at Phase 2 of the Strategic Urban Regeneration Site located between Pearse Road and Ramelton Road. Members will be updated as this work progresses.

2.8 URDF Call 3

On the 11th July 2023, Minister O'Brien announced an allocation of €4m under URDF Call 3 for Donegal County Council in relation to Letterkenny Regional Centre. URDF Call 3 focusses on enabling Local Authorities to tackle long-term vacancy and dereliction in Letterkenny town centre and on the acceleration of residential development. The programme will provide a rolling fund to Local Authorities to enable acquisition and design and civil works that may be required to de-risk property to make it more attractive for onward sale. A funding agreement has been completed and returned to DHLGH and a further return is to be completed for return to DHLGH by a deadline of 25th August 2023. A further workshop with Letterkenny-Milford MD will be required as regards next steps, resources and timeline.

2.9 Other

The Regeneration and Development Team continue to engage in other regeneration related work areas in Letterkenny, engage with key stakeholders on a rolling basis and support other sections of Donegal County Council as required and across several other activities.

3.0 CROI CONAITHE VACANT PROPERTY REFURBISHMENT GRANT SCHEME

The Council administers the Croi Conaithe Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant Scheme on behalf of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The grant schemes, which came into operation in July 2022, provides grants to property owners to refurbish properties that have been vacant for two years or more for use as their principle private residence or to be made available for rent. The level of grant funding available is €50,000 or €70,000 if the property is derelict. The grants are increased by 20% for off-shore island properties. To date, the Council have processed 302 applications with 87 approved and 16 rejected on the basis that they do not meet the scheme criteria mainly relating to the proposed works or that the property has not been vacant for two years or more and built on or before 2007. The balance of applications is either awaiting further information from the applicant or at first technical inspection stage. There are two applicants who have completed the works and these are currently being processed.

4.0 COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER ACTIVATION FUND

In April 2023, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage launched the CPO Activation Programme for the activation of vacant and derelict properties. The main steps of the programme include:

Step 1: Identification of vacant and derelict properties

Step 2: Identification of and engagement with owners.

Step 3: Communication regarding the various schemes and measures in place to support bringing the property back into use, and

Step 4: Where owners of vacant and derelict properties cannot be identified or where they are unwilling to engage, use of available legislative powers to compulsory purchase or acquire such properties. The acquired properties may subsequently be used for social housing, made available for sale on the open market or used for other purposes.

The Council are currently undertaking Step 1 to identify vacant and derelict properties through the GEO Directory. This survey is being undertaken in the following towns, which includes town identified at the workshops held with Elected Members in July 2023. The surveys will be rolled out to other towns over the coming months:

Municipal District	Towns		
Letterkenny-Milford MD	Ramelton	Carrigart, Manorcunningham	Rathmullan, Milford



Donegal MD	Donegal Town	Ballyshannon	Bundoran, Dunkineely
Glenties MD	Dungloe	Ardara	Faclarragh
Inishowen MD	Carndonagh	Buncrana	Moville, Malin
Lifford-Stranorlar MD	Ballybofey-Stranorlar	Lifford	Raphoe

To date, 1,545 properties have been surveyed with 678 confirmed as vacant and 48 as derelict. The next step is for our team to identify and engage with the property owners to make them aware of the supports available to bring the vacant property back into productive use. The Members will be kept up to date as we progress through the work programme.

Regeneration & Development Team
October 2023



CAPITAL PROJECTS DELIVERY UNIT

Community Development and Planning Services

Report to Donegal Municipal District Members: Oct 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. External and Internal blockwork is ongoing and roof covering has been installed with windows now measured and in fabrication.</p> <p>Works on public realm are continuing, with sections along the Shore Road and Main Street substantially complete. Works to the main central realm area have commenced with structural concrete works underway to form the steps and ramps. Works have also commenced on the footpath to the south of the Shore Road.</p> <p>The 'Coal Yard' temporary car park for the project is now operational.</p>



Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	It is anticipated that Island House works will progress with windows to be installed and internal first fix works to commence. Works on the public realm space will continue with the Diamond central civic space and car park to be significantly progressed.
Contact Person(s)	Michael Quigley, A/Executive Engineer Ardal McDermott, A/ Senior Executive Engineer



Donegal Municipal District - 10th October 2023 Motions

Agenda Item No.5

Office Ref:DLMD-2023-08001

Submitted By: Cllr. Niamh Kennedy**Assigned To:** Corporate

Motion "That this MD contacts the Finance Minister and the Minister for Rural affairs to plead for assistance to small businesses on the streets in our towns; there is a major crisis which is going to have a huge impact on the survival of our towns. Town centre first, town and village renewal schemes, RRDF will be jeopardised by the lack of supports to tackle the many issues for people who are trying to provide a revitalisation of the streets, to create employment and to make our communities a viable place to live. VAT increases, the energy crisis, the new rates valuation, the increase to the minimum wage in rural areas which does not have a footfall due to the inflated hotel prices for visitors, the lack of accommodation for visitors and the increase in rents which people cannot afford, they now have no disposable income to support local businesses. If something isn't addressed very soon there will be multiple closures throughout the County."

Signed Off By: LINDA MCCANN

Response: Subject to this motion being adopted, a letter will be issued on behalf of the Municipal District to the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Rural Affairs.

Agenda Item No.6

Office Ref:DLMD-2023-08002

Submitted By: Cllr. Michael McMahon**Assigned To:** Roads

Motion "That this MD look at speed ramps for the Bundoran Area, as soon as possible. "

Signed Off By: MARK SWEENEY

Response: An application has been submitted for 2024 low cost safety funding for the provision of two number raised tables on main street in Bundoran. If this application is successful then these will be installed as soon as possible after the funding is confirmed. In addition to this, the Bundoran Laneways Project which is being managed by the Economic Development Section there are plans to provide a raised table at both ends of Meehan's Lane i.e. on Main Street and at Atlantic Way.

Agenda Item No.7

Office Ref:DLMD-2023-08003

Submitted By: Cllr. Noel Andrew Jordan**Assigned To:** Roads

Motion "That this Municipal District calls on the relevant departments to address the road safety issues at Dunkineely National School "

Signed Off By: MARK SWEENEY

Response: Upon receipt of the report of the recent near miss incident on Thursday 21st September 2023 outside the national school at Dunkineely , the Area Roads office immediately brought this to the attention of the Road Safety Engineer and asked him to review the location to see if there are any other additional measures that could be implemented at this location to help address the issue of vehicles failing to stop at the pedestrian crossing outside the school when the lights are red. The road passing the school is the N56 National Secondary Route and lies within the 50kph zone. Any additional measures identified by the road safety engineer need to be discussed and agreed with the TII's National Road safety team before they can be implemented. Also, in February 2023, in response to other reported incidents of vehicles not stopping at these lights the Council arranged for a Road Safety Assessment Report to be carried out which concluded with short, medium, and long-term recommendations which will help with road safety in the vicinity of the school. These recommendations were discussed with the school and a copy of this report was provided to assist in the schools application to the Department of Education for the necessary funding to complete the works which formed part of their planning permission in 2018 for the school extension and carpark facility on the school grounds which when implemented will help with the overall road safety in the vicinity of the school.