

Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall

Oifig Riarthóir na gCruinnithe,
Aras an Chontae,
Leifear.

6ú Feabhra, 2024

Fógra Cruinnithe

Beidh Cruinniú de Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall ar siúl **De Máirt 13ú Feabhra, 2024, 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.

6th February 2024

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal will be held on **Tuesday 13th February 2024 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 the Minutes of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 09th January 2024.
2. Consideration of the Minutes of the Municipal District of Donegal Corporate Workshop held on the 09th January 2024.
3. Consideration of the Minutes of the Municipal District of Donegal Roads Workshop held on the 15th January 2024.
4. **Update Reports from Council Services:**
 - 4.1 Housing & Corporate Services
 - 4.2 Roads & Transportation
 - 4.2.1 *Section 183 Request – Disposal of Land at Ballymagroarty Scotch, Ballintra*
 - 4.3 Economic Development, Information Systems and Emergency Services
 - 4.4 Environment Services
 - 4.5 Community Development
 - 4.6 Planning Services
5. **Date of Next Meeting(s) / Workshop(s)**
 - MD Meeting on Tuesday the 12th March 2024 at 11.30 am in the Peter Kennedy Chamber (as per standing orders).

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL
HELD AT 11.30 AM ON TUESDAY THE 09TH JANUARY 2024 IN THE PETER
KENNEDY CHAMBER, DONEGAL PUBLIC SERVICE CENTRE**

MDD/001/24 MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MDD/002/24 OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

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. Joy Browne, Senior Economic Development Officer, Economic
Development
Ms. Suzanne Bogan, Environmental Awareness Officer, Environment
Section
Mr. Paddy Doherty, Divisional Manager, Community Development
Mr. Enda Monaghan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate
Services
Ms. Caroline Britton, Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services

MDD/003/24 APOLOGIES

Mr. Garry Martin, Director Designate, Municipal District of Donegal
Ms. Aideen Quinn, A/Executive Planner, Planning
Mr. Pauric Sheerin, Area Manager, Housing & Corporate Services

MDD/004/24 ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING

Cllr Conaghan opened the meeting.

On the proposal of Cllr Jordan, seconded by Cllr Naughton it was
resolved to adjourn the meeting for 10 minutes.

MDD/005/24 VOTES OF SYMPATHY

Votes of sympathy were passed in respect of the following:-

- The late Stella Quinn, mother of Eunan Quinn and mother-in-law of Aideen Quinn
- The late Margaret McGill (nee McCauley), Ballyboe, Convoy mother of Paul McGill, Corporate Services
- The late Liam McGroary, Laghey Barr, Laghey, Donegal
- The late Eamon McGinty, Garvagh, Barnesmore, Donegal Town, Donegal
- The late Jackie & Anne McGettigan, Benroe, Bruckless, Donegal
- The late Dr Raymond Kerr, Church Rd, Bundoran, Donegal

- The late Mary Faulkner, (née Haugh), Fox's Lair, Church Rd, Bundoran, Donegal
- The late Liam Travers, Sheil Avenue, Bundoran, Donegal
- The late Iris Daly, (née Clarke), 10 Celtic Cross view, Tullaghan, Leitrim / Ballyshannon, Donegal
- The late Dr John Quinn, Portnason, Ballyshannon, Donegal
- The late Cllr Noreen McGarvey, Meenmore, Dungloe, Donegal

On behalf of the Fianna Fáil party, Cllr Naughton wished to express his deepest sympathy to the McGarvey family on the recent death of Noreen. Cllr Naughton submitted that Noreen was an extremely active public representative who had been elected to the Council in 2019 and unfortunately, her ill health had prevented her from completing a full term. All the Members concurred with Cllr Naughton's sentiments.

MDD/006/24 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 12TH DECEMBER 2023

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

MDD/007/24 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE HOUSING & CORPORATE WORKSHOP OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 12TH DECEMBER 2023

On the proposal of Cllr Jordan seconded by Cllr Naughton the Minutes of the Housing & Corporate Workshop of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 12th December 2023 were confirmed.

MDD/008/24 HOUSING & CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

CORPORATE SERVICES

Cllr McMahon submitted that he had been contacted by a constituent who had to attend the A&E Department in Sligo recently and unfortunately had to wait 19 hours before receiving attention. Cllr McMahon noted the excessive hours existing medical staff are working and asked that a letter issue to the Department of Health to request additional supports be provided to hospital departments. Cllr Jordan seconded this proposal.

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 noted the reports circulated with the agenda and advised that the Housing Office will continue to deliver an extensive work programme during 2024.

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

Housing

Cllr Sweeny thanked the Housing Team and welcomed the allocations made in advance of Christmas. Cllr Sweeny noted the upturn in the number of housing grants and loans during 2023 and commended the Croí Cónaithe Scheme that is administering a high volume of applications.

Cllr McMahon welcomed the commencement of construction of the 42 housing units in Bundoran and noted the importance of delivering additional social housing stock within communities. Cllr McMahon advised that he has been made aware of 3 Notices to Quit since the beginning of the New Year and suggested measures should be considered to reduce the number of Notices to Quit.

Cllr Jordan also welcomed the recent allocations and suggested the process of identifying land banks within the smaller towns and villages should be expediated as these areas would benefit from an increase in population whilst simultaneously reducing the housing waiting lists in the larger towns. Cllr Jordan submitted that the Tenant In-Situ Scheme and the Repair & Leasing Scheme should be abolished as they currently were not working in their existing format.

Cllr Kennedy also agreed with the progression of identifying suitable lands within the smaller towns and villages and noted that there was a need for additional sheltered housing facilities in the Donegal MD.

Cllr Naughton submitted that the Donegal MD delivered a high volume social housing units in 2023 and welcomed the proposals to deliver further houses in Donegal Town and Bundoran as well as the proposal to deliver 4 units in Laghey.

L McCann thanked the Members for their comments and submitted that the delivery of additional housing units is an ongoing priority for the Donegal MD.

MDD/009/24 ROADS / TRANSPORTATION SERVICES REPORT

2024 Roadworks Programme Status Report

M Sweeney advised the Roads Report excluded the Roads Maintenance and Improvement Works Programme as the budget for 2024 has not been announced yet. It is anticipated a workshop will be arranged in due course, when the overall budget amount has been allocated.

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: -

- **Seek an update on the works at Donaldsons Corner.**
This work was completed before Christmas.
- **Arrange a meeting with the Marine Engineer to discuss the possible erection of bollards and a height restriction barrier at the Pier in Bundoran.**
This meeting took place on 5th January 2024.
- **Review the junction at Saimer Drive, Ballyshannon.**
The area roads office will arrange to trim back the branches on the Portnason side of the junction in the coming days.
- **Dunkineely National School - Prepare a letter of support, - Consider the traffic report and feedback the Members' concerns to the National Roads Office.**
A letter of support was sent to the school principal and to the Parents Association on 2nd January 2024.
- **Follow up with the Roads Central Office in relation to the naming of the Killybegs Industrial Road.**
An email was sent to Roads Central on 2nd January 2024 asking for the process of renaming this road to be progressed as soon as possible.
- **Refer the request for a one-way system at the Sheil Avenue in Bundoran to the Road Design Office.**
This request was referred to Road Design on 2nd January 2024.
- **Review the Community & Climate Plan to ascertain if funding is available to construct footpath extensions to link to local schools.**
This fund is being administered through the Environment Section. See link below which details the information available on the Council's website in relation to the Community Climate Action Fund. You will note from same that Theme 2 – Sustainable Travel relates to cycle parking / racks, improving cycle way access, safe and active routes to schools, eCargo bikes, bike repair hubs.
[Donegal County Council \(donegalcoco.ie\)](https://donegalcoco.ie)
The Environment Section of the Council are holding a series of public information sessions throughout the County in January with the Donegal MD session being held on 30th January 2024 from 7pm to 8pm at the Donegal Town Public Services Centre.

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

Pedestrian Crossing - Ballyshannon

Cllr Sweeney welcomed the commencement of the access road for the Sheil Hospital via the Market Yard in Ballyshannon and queried if it was possible to introduce a left hand turn only at the exit junction and construct an adjacent pedestrian crossing. Cllr Sweeney noted that the surrounding businesses have provided positive feedback in relation to the possibility of a pedestrian crossing at this location. M Sweeney welcomed the positive feedback in relation to the pedestrian crossing and agreed to consider suitable funding streams. He also submitted that the Market Yard exit junction will remain as a two way exit junction, however, it will be monitored for a time period and if required, a left hand only turn will be introduced.

Uisce Éireann

In response to Cllr Sweeney's query in relation to the laying of a water main under the Ballyshannon/Bundoran cycle path, Mr Sweeney advised that he is awaiting a reply from Uisce Éireann and agreed to follow up on same.

Ramps - Bundoran

Cllr McMahon submitted that he was aware that further car meets are being organized for Bundoran and sought an update on the previously requested ramps. Mr Sweeney advised that subject to funding, Bundoran would be facilitated with 4 ramps; 2 on the Main Street and 2 on the Atlantic Way and noted that the TII have revised their guidelines and are introducing ramps in areas to ensure cars continue to drive at the slower speed through urban areas. Cllr N Kennedy welcomed the reintroduction of ramps in town centres.

Footpaths

In response to Cllr Naughton's query in relation to the footpath works at Pettigo and the Old Golf Course Road, Mr Sweeney advised that these projects have not yet been advanced due to staffing issues but hoped that a new Executive Engineer will be in place in the near future which will facilitate these projects progressing in due course.

One-Way System, Donegal Town

Although Cllr Naughton welcomed the introduction of the one-way system in Donegal Town, a number of issues have arisen, particularly a traffic congestion point at the Blueberry Restaurant. In order to reduce traffic congestion at this area, Cllr Naughton suggested removing the uncontrolled pedestrian crossing point at the Triona shop and encouraging pedestrians to use the crossing adjacent the Four Masters Bookshop. In response, M Sweeney submitted that the crossing points are placed at the areas where most usage takes place and noted that pedestrians wishing to cross from the Triona Shop side to the Abbey Hotel would not walk to the Four Masters Bookshop to

cross the road at this point. If the crossing was removed at this location, pedestrians would still be crossing at this point. M Sweeney advised that it is important in a town centre that both vehicular and pedestrian movements are catered for and during peak times when the town gets busy, it is important that pedestrians are facilitated.

M Sweeney submitted that the key to resolving much of the traffic congestion being experienced around the Diamond, Bridge Street, Main Street and Quay Street is removing the majority of busses using the existing bus stop on the Diamond, which currently facilitates up to 97 buses on a daily basis. The existing bus stop facility does not have the capacity to deal with this volume of busses and associated traffic that comes with the bus stop being at this location and alternatives are being considered and being discussed with the relevant authorities and service providers.

Cllr Conaghan expressed his dismay at the negative comments in relation to the one-way system and suggested these comments do not benefit the businesses who are currently operating within the town centre. Cllr Conaghan noted that when complete, the one-way system will ease traffic congestion within the town centre.

Winter Maintenance

Cllr Naughton advised that a supply of salt is required at the Dummies Bridge, Letterbarra. M Sweeney agreed to relay the request to the Outdoor Maintenance Staff.

Cllr Sweeny queried if additional equipment such as a tractor could be purchased to facilitate the spreading of salt in areas that are not currently serviced by the winter maintenance programme. In response, M Sweeney advised that the Area Roads Office, does facilitate the ad hoc distribution of salt/grit in areas of special need such as wake houses or patients who are receiving palliative care and noted that additional funding sources would be required for the acquisition of equipment and the appointment of extra staff.

Kildoney Bridge

In response to Cllr McMahon's query in relation to Kildoney Bridge, M Sweeney advised staff are investigating the issue and will upsize the pipework if required.

LIS Workshop

The Members agreed to hold an LIS Workshop on Monday the 15th January 2024 at 10am.

Ms Joy Browne presented the report for the Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services, as circulated with the Agenda with topic headings noted below:-

- Economic Development
 - Economic Development Unit
 - Tourism Marketing Unit
 - Strategic Funding Unit
- Local Enterprise
- Emergency Services

In relation to Tourism, J Browne submitted that the Tourism Unit will have a presence at the Dublin Holiday World scheduled to take place from the 26th to 28th January 2024 and 16 businesses have agreed to share the stand. The new tourism brochure will be available for distribution at the show. In addition, a new tourism campaign will be delivered in February with the aim to drive incremental visitors to our county in the non-peak period.

J Browne further submitted that the Strategic Funding Unit has been successful in securing Interreg funding for 2 applications, namely the *Green Hydra Project* and the *EDIN Project* and the Local Enterprise Office will be delivering 6 Brokerage Events in 2024 / 2025 aimed at connecting SMEs with international buyers.

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

Donegal Town – Outdoor Space

In response to Cllr Jordan's query in relation to the commencement date for the works to the Diamond in Donegal Town, J Browne advised that a contractor has been appointed and the works are due to commence on the 22nd January 2024. J Browne advised correspondence has issued to the Members in this regard, and it is expected the works will be completed by June, in advance of the summer season.

In response to Cllr Naughton's query in relation to the works at the Donegal Town Pier, J Browne advised that suitable funding sources are currently being investigated.

Bundoran Outdoor Dining Project

Cllr McMahon sought an update on the Bundoran Outdoor Dining Project and J Browne advised a meeting is scheduled to take place this week and it is expected the tender process will be finalised by the end of the month.

Supports for SMEs

In response to Cllr McMahon's query in relation to supports for SMEs, J Browne advised the Local Enterprise Office is a good starting point

for potential businesses as well as the Concierge Service offered by the Economic Development Unit.

Tourism Sectoral Forum

Cllr Sweeny welcomed the participation at the Dublin Holiday World and also welcomed the funding announcement for the 2 Interreg projects. Cllr Sweeny called for the reestablishment of the Tourism Sectoral Forum and noted that there is a currently a disconnect between tourism operators on the ground. Cllr Kennedy concurred with Cllr Sweeny and noted that the existing structure of the Donegal Tourism Board and the Associate Members Committee is positioned at a higher level with a greater focus on the hotel sector. J Browne noted that this issue is currently being discussed by the Tourism Team and agreed to relay the comments raised.

MDD/011/24 ENVIRONMENT SERVICES REPORT

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

- Climate Action
 - Adoption of the Final Climate Action Plan 2024 – 2029
 - Community Climate Action Fund Announced
- Waste & Litter Management
 - Christmas Greenpiece

Ms S Bogan informed Members that a pack would issue to Members in mid-January regarding the Climate Action Plan. This will allow Members sufficient time to review the draft Plan ahead of the Plenary meeting on the 21st February 2024. She also informed Members that the Community Climate Action Fund is accepting applications up until the 22nd March 2024.

S Bogan submitted that the recycling of natural Christmas trees is encouraged and a number of recycling centres throughout the county are accepting trees up until the 27th January 2024.

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

Donegal Town Bottle Bank Site

Cllr Conaghan welcomed the upgrade works to the Donegal Town Bottle Bank site and wished to convey his thanks to the Environment Team and the contractor who completed the works. Cllr McMahon concurred with Cllr Conaghan's comments. S Bogan agreed to relay the comments to the Senior Management Team.

Deposit Return Scheme

Cllr McMahon referred to the introduction of the Deposit Return Scheme, which facilitates the return of empty undamaged drinks containers featuring the Re-turn logo to any retailers that sells drinks in plastic and steel/aluminium cans and queried if the Environment Section will have a presence at the launch of the Re-turn Station in Bundoran. S Bogan advised that this scheme is ran by Re-turn and will commence in February 2024. S Bogan agreed to relay the suggestion to the Senior Management Team.

CCTV Legislation

Cllr McMahon expressed his dismay at the level of rubbish left at the Bundoran Bottle Banks during the Christmas period and suggested a letter issue to the Department seeking an update on the CCTV legislation.

Community Climate Action Fund

In response to Cllr Jordan's query in relation to the Community Climate Action Fund, S Bogan advised that a meeting is being arranged with colleagues in Northern Ireland to consider possible community proposals under the Strand 1(a) Shared Island Community Climate Action.

MDD/012/24 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING SERVICES

Community Development

Mr Paddy Doherty noted the report included the following matters:-

- Playgrounds
 - Bundoran
 - Donegal Town
 - Ballyshannon
 - Killybegs
- Fáilte Ireland Platforms for Growth & Destination Towns
 - Bundoran Destination Towns
 - Platforms for Growth Tullan Strand
- Leader / RDP Programme Update
- Donegal Youth Council
- Social Inclusion Unit
- Community Funding Opportunity

Mr P Doherty advised a number of playgrounds have received a significant capital investment and the LEADER contract has been signed with the Department and is expected to be open for applications in Quarter 1. Work is ongoing with the Local Economic & Community Plan and the Development Fund Initiative is currently open for application up until the 2nd February 2024.

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

Community Development Officer

In response to a query from Cllr Kennedy in relation to the appointment of Community Development Officer, P Doherty advised that a budget has been identified and the Community Development Unit is currently liaising with HR.

Playgrounds & West End Walking Route

Cllr McMahon commended the recent work to the Bundoran Playground and queried if works to the West End Walking Route could be progressed. M Sweeney advised he is happy to meet the relevant landowner to discuss the progression of the West End Walking Route.

In response to a query from Cllr Sweeney in relation to the appointment of a contractor to carry out playground maintenance works, P Doherty advised individual tenders are conducted for each playground.

Bundoran Destination Towns

In response to a query from Cllr McMahon in relation to the installation of the artwork on the 3 approach roundabouts, P Doherty advised that the successful artist has been selected.

Platforms for Growth Tullan Strand

Cllr McMahon sought an update on the Tullan Strand project. P Doherty advised a tender will issue in Quarter 1 for the appointment of a consultant to develop site specific designs and secure planning permission.

Community Recognition Fund

P Doherty noted that there was an appetite for a second round of the Community Recognition Fund, however, to date no announcement of additional funding has been received.

Planning Services

In light of Ms A Quinn's absence, the Planning Service Reports were taken as read:-

- Development Applications
- Enforcement
- 2024 Planning Clinics
 - 18th January 2024
 - 1st February 2024
 - 15th February 2024
 - 29th February 2024
- Regeneration & Development Team Report
- Capital Projects Delivery Unit

MDD/013/24 Date of Next Meeting / Workshops

- MD Meeting on Tuesday the 13th February 2024 at 11.30 am in the Peter Kennedy Chamber (as per standing orders)
- An LIS Workshop on Monday the 15th January 2024 at 10 am 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 Tuesday the 09th January 2024 commencing at 10.30am in the Peter Kennedy Chamber, Donegal Public Service Centre.

Members Present:

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

Officials in Attendance:

Ms Linda McCann, A/Area Manager, Municipal District of Donegal
Mr Enda Monaghan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services
Ms Caroline Britton, Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services

Also in Attendance

Seamus Herron, Public Liaison Officer, SSE Airtricity
Michelle Donnelly, Project Manager, SSE Airtricity
Pat Greene, Civil Engineer, SSE Airtricity (virtual)

Apologies

Mr Garry Martin, Director Designate, Municipal District of Donegal

1. Welcome

Cllr T Conaghan opened the workshop by welcoming all attendees and a round of introductions took place.

2. Presentation by SSEE Airtricity

Mr S Herron, Public Liaison Officer with SEE Airtricity advised the company had 3 operational windfarms in Donegal with plans in place to construct a fourth windfarm at Drumnahough. Mr Herron noted that the consultation period for the draft County Development Plan had expired, however, in advance of the Plenary meeting to approve the County Development Plan for 2024 to 2030, SEE Airtricity wished to highlight that lands where approximately 33 of their existing wind turbines are located, has been shaded pink on the map and designated as an area of scenic amenity. Both Mr Herron and Ms M Donnelly, Project Manager with SSE Airtricity emphasised that the lifespan of wind turbines is approximately 25 to 30 years and the existing wind turbines are coming near their end of life. It was noted that with new technological advances and innovation, less wind turbines would be required to generate power, however, they are bigger in scale. It was further noted that the draft plan did not consider the repowering of existing turbines in great detail and there was concern expressed that should this proposal be adopted, repowering opportunities may be limited for the company.

In this regard, a discussion ensued, and a number of comments were made, and queries answered.

3. Thanks

The Members thanked SSE Airtricity personnel for their attendance and Mr Herron gave the Members an open invitation to visit the existing SEE Airtricity windfarms in the county.

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: 15th January 2024

Time: 10:00am

Venue: Donegal PSC - Council Chamber

Present:

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

DCC Staff: Mark Sweeney

Apologies: Cllr Conaghan, Cllr Sweeney

Topic discussed:

1. Local Improvement Schemes

The Members were presented with the current list of Local Improvement Schemes in each RSS area and agreed the schemes where the applicants are to be contacted and asked to submit further information to ascertain if their scheme meets the qualifying criteria. This list will be sent to Roads Central who will arrange to write to these applicants seeking the necessary information.

2. Donegal Town One Way system enabling works.

The Members were briefed on the extent of the enabling works that had to be carried out at the Donegal Town Livestock Mart to facilitate the one-way system and agreed that funding for these works can be sourced from the Pay & Display funding.

3. Donegal Town One Way system matching funding for surfacing works.

The Members were reminded that back on 8th September 2020 they agreed at a Municipal District meeting to contribute €50,000 from the Pay & Display fund as matching funding for the Donegal Town One Way System. This funding will be used for surfacing works which will be undertaken in the coming months.

4. Donegal Town - St Patricks Day parade.

Works on the Diamond in Donegal Town are scheduled to commence on 22nd January 2024 and are expected to be completed in June 2024. As a result, the space on the Diamond will not be available for the crowds expected on St

Patrick' s day so this will result in more people gathering on the other streets along the route of the parade. To assist the parade organising committee with managing this the Members have, as a once off, agreed to cover the cost of additional barriers needed to manage the crowds expected.

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

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

13th February 2024

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
Ballyshannon	3	Keys returned 14/12/2023	Tender Stage
Laghey	3	Keys returned 13/04/2022	Assessment Stage
Donegal Town	1	Keys returned 08/11/2023	Tender Stage
Donegal Town	3	Keys returned 07/12/2023	Tender Stage
Drimarone	3	Keys returned 03/01/2024	Tender Stage

Position as at 2nd February 2024

HOUSING GRANTS

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED\INVALID	FURTHER INFO	PENDING
HO	2023	120	99	3	11	7
HO	2024	11	1	0	4	6

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED\INVALID	REAPPLIED UNDER HM GRANT	FURTHER INFO.	REF. TO OT	REF. To ENGINEER	PENDING
HD	2023	70	45	8	0	2	4	0	11
HD	2024	3							3

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED \ CANCELLED\INVALID	REAPPLIED UNDER HD GRANT	REF. TO OT	FURTHER INFO	PENDING
HM	2023	39	25	1	8	0	3	2
HM	2024	0						

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	15	3	1	10	1	0
Housing Loans	2024	2	0	0	0	2	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	4	1	3	0
2023	22	1	16	2	3	0
2024	0	0	0	0	0	0

HAP/PRD	
HAP Tenancies	
Municipal District	Number
Donegal	197
Letterkenny	681
Glenties	112
Stranorlar	278
Inishowen	420
Sub Total	1688
Tenancies Closed	2969
Overall Total	4657
Updated 02/02/2024	

Housing Need by Location

Municipal District	Waiting List (Net Need)	Transfer List	Total Gross Need
Donegal	186	201	387
Ballintra	7	7	14
Ballyshannon	35	50	85
Bruckless	6	3	9
Bundoran	41	57	98
Carrick	1	2	3
Donegal	72	47	119
Drimarone	0	1	1
Dunkineely	1	3	4
Frosses	0	2	2
Glencolmcille	3	0	3
Kilcar	2	2	4
Killybegs	11	16	27
Laghey	2	3	5
Mountcharles	3	6	9
Pettigo	2	2	4
Total	186	201	387
Updated 02/02/2024			

Housing Capital Update Report
Donegal Municipal District Meeting
13th February 2024

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		
Drumacrin, Bundoran Phase 1	Contractor appointed and works have commenced on site. Contract period for the works is 20 months. Ground investigation test holes for foundations works completed. Foundations ongoing and installed to first 8 no. units. Block-laying substructure commenced. Main foul drainage works commenced.	42
Design / Tender Stage		
Largymore, Kilcar (SI)	An advertisement was published on eTenders on 11 th January 2024 seeking tenders from contractors for the construction of a single storey dwelling at Largymore, Kilcar. The closing date for receipt of tenders is 9 th February 2024. Following this the tenders will be assessed in advance of a submission to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for approval to appoint a contractor.	1
Preliminary Design Stage (No of units subject to change)		
New Row, Fintra Road, Killybegs	The project was reviewed with the inspector from the Department of Housing on 23.01.24 to allow the design to progress, taking into consideration the topography of the site. Consultations are ongoing with Uisce Eireann with respect to mains water and sewerage connections and diversions on site to facilitate the development.	17
Laghey	The project was reviewed with the inspector from the Department of Housing on 23.01.24. Disposal of surface water from the site and connection to the main sewer were discussed. The layout is being amended and the houses relocated along the street side of the site to ensure connectivity to the existing surface water drain can be achieved, whilst addressing proximity to adjoining properties.	4
Total		64



2. House Acquisition Programme & Buy & Renew Programme

The completion of the sale of 2 properties in Donegal Town is expected in the coming days. Significant improvement works to bring these properties back into use can then be procured and undertaken.

A number of further acquisitions are being considered by Donegal MD.

3. Social Housing through Turnkey Acquisition

Donegal County Council has opened a new turnkey acquisition process seeking proposals from Developers to deliver turnkey social housing units to help meet the Council's social housing need. This is a county-wide process and proposals can be made for any town or village throughout the county, on lands suitable for housing purposes.

The Council is seeking developers to make submissions for 1, 2, 3 & 4 bedroom housing units. Proposals must contain a minimum of 5 units and can include:

- Completed units, including potential regeneration projects.
- Units under construction.
- Units to be constructed on suitable sites.

This process has been advertised on eTenders (reference RFT 2461070), where all documentation and information can be obtained. Submissions must be made in strict accordance with the requirements of the procurement documentation and the deadline for submission is 16.30 on Wednesday, 30th of September 2026.

In order to provide advice and guidance to potential applicants, the Council is holding drop-in information events throughout the county during the month of February. Details of all events are outlined below, noting that the event planned for Donegal MD will take place from **1pm-4pm on the 12th of February 2024.**

Date	Time	Location
7 th February 2024	1pm - 4pm	Letterkenny PSC F92 TNY3
8 th February 2024	1pm - 4pm	Carndonagh PSC F93 YV1N
12 th February 2024	1pm - 4pm	Donegal Town PSC F94 DK6C
14 th February 2024	1pm - 4pm	Dungloe PSC F94 H4CF
16 th February 2024	9.30am – 12pm	The BASE Enterprise Centre, <u>Stranorlar</u> , F93A0E4
16 th February 2024	2pm - 5pm	County House, Lifford F93 Y622

Separately, turnkey acquisitions at Brookfield, Donegal Town and Rockview, Ballyshannon are complete providing a total of 43 no. high quality and energy efficient social housing units in Donegal Municipal District.

Members are aware that an additional turnkey proposal for Donegal Town for 35 units is being progressed. This proposal has received its connection offer from Uisce Eireann. Stage 3 approval has been received. Finalised drawings are awaited from the Developer in order that we can progress the proposal to Final Tender and contract stage. Members will be fully informed of these proposals upon receipt of final departmental approval.

4. Lands / Property for Social Housing Purposes

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. In the Donegal MD, the following provides an update:

1. An offer to acquire lands in Bundoran has been made. Decision awaited from vendor.
2. An offer to acquire Ballyshannon has been agreed, subject to contract and availability of utility connections.
3. Additional lands are being considered across Donegal MD and Members will be informed of same upon the Council progressing to make offers to acquire.

Repair & Lease Scheme Summary						
Applications						
MD	Received	No. of Units	Awaiting assessment	Rejected	Progressing	Total
Inishowen	25	28	2	23	0	25
Donegal	19	46	1	18	0	19
Glenties	20	20	0	20	0	20
Letterkenny	35	60	8	27	0	35
Stranorlar	26	83	3	23	0	26
Total	125	237	14	111	0	125
Updated 31/01/2024						

**Donegal Municipal District
2023 Roadworks Programme
Status Report - 13th February 2024**

Donegal Municipal District

2024 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
2024 Regional & Local Road Surface Dressing										
		To be agreed when funding is announced								
									€0.00	

Donegal MD footpath repair & public lighting infill works

3 Year Programme

Footpath Works										
RSS Area	Location	Year 1 Budget 2018	Year 2 Budget 2019	Year 3 Budget 2020	Overall Total Amount	Spent to date Year 1 2018	Spent to date Year 2 2019	Spent to date Year 3 2020	Overall total spent	Remaining balance
14	Mountcharles	€5,729.00	€16,600.00	€24,350.00	€46,679.00	€5,729.00	€17,515.99	€1,873.82	€25,118.81	€21,560.19
	Dunkineely			€23,432.00	€23,432.00			€9,650.00	€9,650.00	€13,782.00
	Frosses		€16,600.00	€23,432.00	€40,032.00		€2,759.75	€0.00	€2,759.75	€37,272.25
15	Killybegs	€15,568.00	€16,600.00	€50,000.00	€82,168.00	€15,575.78	€16,600.00	€51,817.02	€83,992.80	-€1,824.80
	Kilcar			€3,200.00	€3,200.00			€2,958.60	€2,958.60	€241.40
	Glencolumbkille		€8,300.00	€16,314.00	€24,614.00		€0.00	€0.00	€0.00	€24,614.00
	Carrick		€8,300.00	€1,700.00	€10,000.00		€7,919.45	€1,772.90	€9,692.35	€307.65
16	Ballintra			€11,214.00	€11,214.00			€11,214.00	€11,214.00	€0.00
	Ballyshannon	€95,244.00	€16,600.00	€35,000.00	€146,844.00	€79,716.00	€10,375.66	€30,966.14	€121,057.80	€25,786.20
	Bundoran		€16,600.00	€25,000.00	€41,600.00		€16,600.00	€25,000.00	€41,600.00	€0.00
17	Donegal Town	€32,897.00	€16,600.00	€47,214.00	€96,711.00	€24,048.08	€17,500.00	€586.70	€42,134.78	€54,576.22
	Laghey		€8,300.00	€8,000.00	€16,300.00		€9,450.16	€0.00	€9,450.16	€6,849.84
	Bridgetown			€6,000.00	€6,000.00			€19,788.65	€19,788.65	-€13,788.65
	Pettigo		€8,300.00	€10,000.00	€18,300.00		€880.35	€0.00	€880.35	€17,419.65
Totals		€149,438.00	€132,800.00	€284,856.00	€567,094.00				€380,298.05	€186,795.95

DMD 2022 Footpath Repair works

RSS Area	Location	Budget 2022	Overall spent	Remaining balance
14	Ardaghey Area	€6,346.67	€0.00	€6,346.67
15	Killybegs Area	€17,246.37	€14,894.81	€2,351.56
16	Ballyshannon Area	€105,492.62	€10,867.79	€94,624.83
17	Donegal Area	€36,424.34	€0.00	€36,424.34
		€165,510.00	€25,762.60	€139,747.40

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		
	Mountcharles	Lower End Mountcharles –	€6,750.00	Completed		
	Mill Park Hotel, Doonan	Proposed lighting from Doonan Roundabout to	€9,500.00	Completed	€27,662.46	-€541.46
15	Kilcar	Lighting improvement	€10,650.00	Completed		
	Killybegs	Old Fintra Rd near Glenlee	€18,725.00	Yet to commence	€11,181.57	€18,193.43
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		
	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	€26,025.48	€18,074.52
Total amount			€130,596.00		€90,733.51	€39,862.49

Donegal Municipal District							
2024 Drainage Grant							
County Budget							
Donegal MD %							
Donegal MD Budget							
Area	% of Budget	Budget	Description of Works	Road No.	Estimated Cost €	Area totals	Status
14	23.58%						
			To be agreed when funding is announced				
15	24.58%						
16	24.70%						
17	27.15%						
		€0.00	TOTAL		€0.00		

Donegal MD Active Travel Projects

Jan	Project Name	Project Description	Project Band	Current Phase	Phase 6 Construction Date planned	DCC Comments
DL/21/0002	Proposed Footpath between the Niall Moore National School & Foresters Hall carpark Killybegs	Construct a footpath leading from a drop off carpark to the main entrance of the Niall Moore National School	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q4 2021	Works completed - Final Close out report issued to NTA
DL/21/0008a	Ballyshannon, Bishop Street	Provision of footpath on (L-2465-1)	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 3 - Preliminary Design	Q4 2025	TOBINS Consultant Engineers appointed , preliminary design ongoing, public information evening complete, introducing a One-Way system could be challenging in order to achieve the project objective.
DL/21/0008b	Donegal Town, Killybegs Road	Provision of infill section of footpath on the Killybegs Road (R925)	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 5 - Detailed Design and Tender	Q4 2025	TOBINS Consultant Engineers appointed, Planning received Nov 2023, detail design and land requirements to be progressed 2024.
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	Q4 2025	TOBINS Consultant Engineers appointed, Planning received 2022, detail design and land requirements to be progressed 2024.
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 7 - Close Out and Review	Q3 2022	Works complete - Final Close out report to be issued to NTA
DL/21/0008d	Kilcar	Proposed footpath extension to Kilcar National School (R263-8)	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q4 2021	Works complete - Final Close out report issued to NTA
DL/21/0008e	Kilcar	Proposed footpath extension past local church to nearby car park (R263-8)	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q3 2022	Works complete - Final Close out report issued to NTA
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	Q4 2025	TOBINS Consultant Engineers appointed, Planning received 2022, detail design and land requirements to be progressed 2024.
DL/21/0008g	Bundoran	Construction of an infill section of footpath along the L-2575-1 to link the Crest of the Wave housing estate to the existing public footpath.	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q3 2022	Works complete - Final Close out report issued to NTA
DL/21/0009a	Glencolumbcille	Proposed footpath improvement works in Glencolumbcille (R263)	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q2 2022	Works complete - Final Close out report issued to NTA
DL/21/0009b	Carrick	Proposed footpath improvement works in Carrick (R263 & L1125)	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q4 2021	Works complete - Final Close out report issued to NTA
DL/21/0023	Safe to Schools Programme - Scoil Aodh Rua & Nuata	Safe to Schools Programme	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 2 - Concept and Options	Q4 2024	Green Schools delivery plan received Q4 2023 Prelim design ongoing. Planning likely required.
DL/21/0024a	TOWNPARKS BALLYSHANNON PED CROSS	Low Cost Junction Tightening / Pedestrian Crossing Schemes	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q3 2021	Works completed - final close out report required 2024
DL/21/0024b	BUNDORAN TOWN PED CROSSING LIGHTS UPGRADE	Low Cost Junction Tightening / Pedestrian Crossing Schemes	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q3 2021	Works completed - final close out report required 2024
DL/21/0024c	ROCK RD BALLYSHANNON, PED CROSSING	Low Cost Junction Tightening / Pedestrian Crossing Schemes	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q3 2021	Works completed - final close out report required 2023
DL/21/0024d	COLLEGE ST BALLYSHANNON, PED CROSSING	Low Cost Junction Tightening / Pedestrian Crossing Schemes	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q3 2021	Works complete - Final Close out report issued to NTA
DL/22/0001	Cycle Parking Donegal Town MD	Installation of bike parking facilities.	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 7 - Close Out and Review	Q2 2022	Works complete - Final Close out report to be issued to 2024
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 6 - Construction	Q4 2023	ACS Civil Ltd have been appointed to carry out the works. Works to be completed by Q2 2024.
DL/22/0005	Ballyshannon to Bundoran Active Travel Scheme	Old N15 (now R267) Bundoran to Ballyshannon Cycling Greyway	Band 2 <10mil	Phase 5 - Detailed Design and Tender	Q3 2024	TOBINS Consultant Engineers appointed , Planning received Nov 2023, detail design 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	Q4 2025	TOBINS Consultant Engineers, Planning received and detail design & land acquisition 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	Q4 2025	Options to be considered to deliver footpath link in 2024
DL/22/0014	Malinmore Footpath , Glencolumbcille	Glencolumbcille - provision of a footpath along the R263 West of Glencolumbcille in the direction of the Folk Village.	Band 1 < 0.5mil	Phase 5 - Detailed Design and Tender	Q4 2025	TOBINS Consultant Engineers, detail design ongoing.

Donegal MD Community Involvement Schemes 2024

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

Donegal MD

2024 LIS Priority List -

2024 Budget

To be agreed when funding is announced

DMD %

18.6715%

DMD Budget

Total

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

2024 Specific improvement Grant

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



Date: 13th February 2024

To: EACH MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL

Notice under Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 and Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001.

Re: Disposal of Lands at Ballymagroarty Scotch, Ballintra, Co. Donegal to Mr Raymond Scott, Raccoo, Ballintra, Co. Donegal.

Dear Councillor,

Pursuant to statutory requirements, notice is hereby given in accordance with the above legislation that Donegal County Council proposes to dispose of a plot of land at Ballymagroarty Scotch, Ballintra, Co. Donegal to Mr Raymond Scott, Raccoo, Ballintra, Co. Donegal.

See attached map dated 16th November 2023 which details the plot in question:

- Plot B outlined in red measures 0.0265 hectares.

On 19th May 2022, Reid & Sweeney Solicitors, on behalf of their client, Mr Raymond Scott requested the disposal of a plot of Council owned land contained within Folio DL 79122F. This piece of land lies between the public road and lands owner by Mr Scott.

The lands have been independently valued at the amount detailed below:

- €500.00 – Plot B.

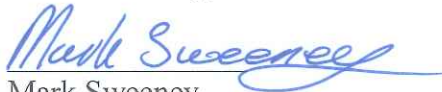
The Area Manager's in Roads, Housing, Economic Development, Property Management and Water Services have no objection to the proposed transfer the site - subject to the following conditions:

1. The total area to be transferred, plot B, is 0.0265 hectares as outlined in red on the attached map dated 16th November 2023.
2. The plot as indicated to be transferred to Mr Raymond Scott, Raccoo, Ballintra, Co. Donegal for the agreed amount of €500.00.
3. Site to be transferred in its current condition.
4. No overburden or over building to take place on any buried services located within the site.

5. If the diversion of any of the existing over ground or underground services is required to facilitate future development works, this should be agreed in advance with the relevant service provider.
6. No temporary or permanent works to be carried out along the National Road frontage i.e. any alterations to the existing earth bund and embankment beyond the proposed ownership area.
7. Mr Raymond Scott, Raccoo, Ballintra, Co. Donegal will be responsible for all legal, administrative costs associated with this land disposal (including that of this Council).

Approval is hereby being sought from the Elected Members of Donegal County Council for the disposal of Plot B at Ballymagroarty Scotch, Ballintra, Co. Donegal

Yours sincerely,



Mark Sweeney
A/SEE Roads & Transportation Office
Donegal County Council
Donegal Municipal District.

Encl: Map

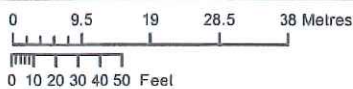
Land Registry Compliant Map



Lands from Folio DL79122F (Donegal County Council)

Plot 'B' shown enclosed in red = 0.0265 Hectares

Deven M. Cully H.N.Dip.Civil Eng MIS
 Digital Land Surveyors Ltd.
 www.landsurveyors. 16th November 2023



OUTPUT SCALE: 1:1,000



CENTRE
 COORDINATES:
 ITM 591650,869444

PUBLISHED: 09/05/2023
 ORDER NO.: 50333558_1

MAP SERIES: 1:2,500
 MAP SHEETS: 0631-B

CAPTURE RESOLUTION:
 The map objects are only accurate to the resolution at which they were captured. Output scale is not indicative of data capture scale. Further information is available at: www.osi.ie; search 'Capture Resolution' **LEGEND:** www.osi.ie; search 'Large Scale Legend'

COMPILED AND PUBLISHED BY:

National Mapping Division of
 Tailte Éireann,
 Phoenix Park,
 Dublin 8,
 Ireland.
 008F6E4

www.tailte.ie

Any unauthorised reproduction
 infringes Tailte Éireann copyright.

No part of this publication may
 be copied, reproduced or transmitted
 in any form or by any means without
 the prior written permission of the
 copyright owner.

The representation on this map
 of a road, track or footpath
 is not evidence of the existence
 of a right of way.

Ordnance Survey maps
 never show legal property
 boundaries, nor do they
 show ownership of physical
 features.

© National Mapping Division of
 Tailte Éireann, 2023
 All rights reserved



**Tailte
 Éireann**



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

Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services Directorate

Master Municipal District Report February 2024

Content

- 1. Economic Development**
- 2. Local Enterprise Office**
- 3. Information Services (IS)**
- 4. Emergency Services**
 - 4.1 Fire Service
 - 4.2 Civil Defence

1. Economic Development

1.1. Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location / Further Info	Point of Contact
8th February 24	Fireside Chat with Shay Given and Packie Bonner.	London Irish Centre. Networking event targeting Irish and Donegal connections in London promoting employment and relocation opportunities in Donegal alongside the HSE and ATU.	Daniel McChrystal – dmcchrystal@donegalcoco.ie
25th April 24	Scottish Diaspora Event showcasing Donegal Tweed and Local Businesses	Event organised in conjunction with ETB, LEO and Irish Consulate Service in Edinburgh to develop connections between Donegal and Scottish Tweed and strengthen connections with Donegal and Irish diaspora in Scotland.	Daniel McChrystal – dmcchrystal@donegalcoco.ie
6th March 24	Donegal Tourism Seminar	Harvey's Point, focusing on sustainable tourism as part of Local Enterprise Week.	Sarah Nolan – sarahnolan@donegalcoco.ie
2nd Wed of Each Month	Innovation Campfire	<p>Hosted by Alpha Innovation - this series provides employees and entrepreneurs an opportunity to take a moment out of their busy days to see the world through a different lens. Over the coming months, our 10-minute sessions will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Showcase inspiring innovation stories from around the world. ● Learn from the experiments, tests, fails, quick wins, and big successes of others. ● Enable participants to be part of a growing community of like-minded individuals. ● Allow participants to shape future sessions by volunteering to tell a story they are passionate about 	Kevin Sexton - kevinsexton@alphainnovation.eu

		You can watch back by visiting ALPHA Innovation Innovation Campfire — ALPHAInnovation.eu	
--	--	--	--

1.2 Economic Development Unit

Marketing & Campaigns Updates
<p>#MoveToDonegal Campaign Donegal will feature in an upcoming TG4 series ‘Move West’ in the coming weeks telling the story of people who have made the move to Donegal in recent years and the impact that this has had on their lives, their business and their career and the lives of their family. It will also showcase the services and supports available including the network of co-working spaces as well as the good broadband connectivity that allows people to work from home. The team have been working with TG4 and WDC on the TV show ‘Move West’. The Donegal episode will be aired in early 2024.</p> <p>#BuyDonegal / #CeannaighDúnnanGall 2023 The annual #BuyDonegal campaign took place in November and December encouraging customers to purchase Donegal products and 250+ Donegal businesses participated in the campaign. Each year new features are incorporated into the campaign including themed days, competitions and featured business news stories. The campaign reached of over 5.5 million with more than 11.5K interactions across social media in countries including Ireland, the UK, the United States of America, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, the Philippines, and across Europe. This campaign was shortlisted in the 2023 ‘All Ireland Community & Council Awards’ under the category “Best Communications”.</p> <p>Business Concierge Service The Councils Economic Development Division provides a Business Concierge Service for businesses looking to access Council Services and supports. This service can be accessed by emailing economicdevelopment@donegalcoco.ie.</p>
Donegal 2040 DAC
<p>Board and Corporate Governance The new enhanced board of Donegal 2040 DAC is now in place and work is progressing in relation to a range of areas including putting in place mechanisms to ensure good corporate governance and establishing a clear strategic framework for Donegal 2040 DAC.</p> <p>Update on Projects:</p> <p>Alpha Innovation Centre and Beta Business Centre Current Status: Main construction contract to go to tender in February 2024, with construction expected to commence on site in Q4 2024. Enabling works / Demolition works to commence on site by Q2, 2024.</p>

Estimated project completion date: Q1 2026.

Remote Working Hub Carrigart:

Status: In operation. Annual management agreement in place.

Details: One storey building with 18 Hot Desks in an open space floor plan. Meeting room, private phone booths, kitchen facilities and bicycle parking.

Operation & Management of Island House, Killybegs (Post Construction)

Current Status: Under Construction. Estimated Completion Date: July 2024

Marketing Campaign: to commence Q1 2024.

Operation & Management of Burtonport Enterprise Centre (Post Construction)

Current Status: Contractor appointment. Construction to commence Q1 2024.

Current Estimated Completion date: Q1 2025.

Operation & Management of The Ritz, Ballybofey (Post Construction)

Current Status: Detailed design.

Current Estimated Completion Date of overall The Seed Project: Q1 2026.

Inward Investment Activity

North West City Region

Golden Bridges and the US Trade Mission

Continuing to follow up and engage with connections established via the Golden Bridges Trade and Investment mission to US in November including potential collaborations with the Alpha Innovation Centre and potential delegation visit to Donegal in April. Plans for 2024 are underway collaboration with partners and stakeholders in Donegal and the wider North West City Region.

The NWCR Inward Investment Strategy

Continuing to progress the NWCR Inward Investment Strategy working in collaboration with Derry City and Strabane District Council including the development of digital and non-digital promotional material including videos and building on online social media and website platforms.

Service Land Initiative at The Commons, Lifford

Planning application for enabling infrastructure has been approved An Bord Pleanála and detailed designs are complete. Procurement for construction of enabling infrastructure will take place in the coming weeks. The EDU is engaging with various potential site users including Social Housing, Community Health, Recreation and businesses and it is expected that enabling infrastructure will be complete by Q4 2024.

Disposal of Council owned Land to support Economic Development

The team are dealing with a number of requests for disposal of lands for economic development in Ballyshannon, Letterkenny and Bunrana.

Contact Persons

Joy Browne – Senior Economic Development Officer
joybrowne@donegalcoco.ie 087 061 9360

Daniel Mc Chrystal – Senior Economic Development Officer
dmcchrystal@donegalcoco.ie 087 614 7496

1.2: Tourism Marketing Unit

Project Activity

Holiday World Show 2024

Donegal was showcased to thousands of visitors and members of the trade at the Holiday World Show in Dublin from 26th- 28th January and was attended by 30,000. Donegal Tourism hosted a branded stand at the Holiday World. Fifteen tourism businesses from each MD were represented under the umbrella of Donegal Tourism

New Tourism Brochure 2024

The new Donegal Tourism 2024 brochure was unveiled at the Holiday World Show. The brochure will be promoted on the govisitdonegal.com and social media channels, the content will be used over the summer months as part of ongoing marketing. The brochure will also be distributed to attractions and airports servicing the region. With the environment and sustainability in mind, a limited amount of printed promotional material with QR codes for the brochure will also be distributed to tourism businesses to make it easy for visitors to access information on what to see and do once they arrive.

Tourism Ireland Marketing Plans 2024

Donegal Tourism attended the launch of Tourism Ireland's Marketing Plans for 2024 in January, where the team had an opportunity to meet on a one-to-one basis with TI representatives working across many different countries. Following these several promotional events and opportunities have arisen, which includes an interview on Spanish national radio in relation to Donegal.

Shoulder Season Campaign Spring 2024

Donegal Tourism will re-start its shoulder season campaign on Monday 19th February for a four-week period. The aim of this campaign is to drive incremental visitors to our county in the non-peak period. This campaign enjoyed phenomenal success during Oct/Nov 2023.

Beyond the Stage Festival and Events Workshop

"Beyond the Stage - Insider Insights for Festival and Event Organisers" was held on 25th January in the Silver Tassie Hotel in Letterkenny. This was attended by 60 people. Industry speakers, including Colm Croffy from AOIFE (Association of Irish Festivals and Events), as well as representatives from Failte Ireland and Donegal County Council offered advice on funding opportunities, marketing, logistics, etc. One-to-one clinics (bookable in 10-minute slots) were available with AOIFE, Ballyshannon Folk Festival, Donegal County Council, and Failte Ireland, where attendees could talk about festival issues and have their questions answered.

Donegal Tourism Seminar 2024

This year's Donegal Tourism Seminar will take place on Wednesday 6th March, in Harvey's Point, as part of Local Enterprise Week. The theme this year will be Sustainable Tourism.

TOURBO Project

Progression into the second phase of the Interreg European TOURBO project, led by Seville Chamber of Commerce, is ongoing which will support small and medium sized tourism businesses with green and digital transformation. For more information visit <https://www.interregeurope.eu/tourbo>

Sustainable Arctic and Peripheral Biking Tourism Project

SUB (Sustainable Arctic and Peripheral Biking Tourism Project) is progressing into phase two and will provide businesses supporting sustainable tourism biking with an opportunity to learn from various good practice approaches across Europe.

Supporting the development of Golf Tourism

The Donegal Golf Cluster met on Wed 31 January and 15 of the 17 golf clubs in the county were represented. Plans for 2024 and 2025 were discussed and it was agreed to host a networking event between clubs and hotels in Donegal in April with the aim of building stronger connections between the two.

Donegal 550

Donegal Tourism is part of the Steering Group looking at celebrating Donegal Town 550 in 2024. A calendar of events is currently being collated and a final weekend of celebrations taking place in the fourth quarter of 2024.

GoVisitDonegal.com Website

2024 (Jan 1 – Jan 28) - Users 18K- Page Views 43K.
Festival and Events is the most viewed page – views 3.1K

Online & Social Media Updates – Go Visit Donegal

Facebook: Facebook had a reach of 294.5K The Power of the Sea Malin Head, was the highest reaching post.

Instagram: Instagram had a reach of 66.4K.

LinkedIn: 1,426 followers. 87 new followers in the last 28 days.

Twitter: 6K impressions over the last 28 days.

TikTok: TikTok has 98 followers, an increase of 40 new followers.

Donegal Tourism CLG

Donegal Tourism CLG and the Associated Members Committee continue to enable meaningful engagement, co-ordination and collaboration of key stakeholders in the tourism sector in Donegal.

The board of Donegal Tourism CLG and the Associated Members Committee met collectively on 10 January 2024 and this provided a good opportunity to exchange information and get a good insight into the opportunities and challenges facing the sector. There was a review of activities undertaken in 2023 and plans for 2024 were discussed and agreed.

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 2024 application form is being prepared with the aim of having this available in early March.

Regional Festival & Events Grant Scheme

The 2023 scheme is now closed. County Donegal has been allocated funding of €49,750 under the 2024 scheme. The application form is being finalised for release in the coming weeks.

Contact Person

Sarah Nolan, Acting Head of Tourism Unit
sarahnolan@donegalcoco.ie 074 91 94241

1.4: Strategic Funding Unit

Strategic Funding Unit – Exploring EU and National Funding Opportunities that support the objectives set out in the **Donegal County Council Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024**

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>

ICC – Intelligent Cities Challenge

Donegal County Council is a partner along with Derry City and Strabane District Council on the EU funded Intelligent Cities Challenge project led by ERNACT. This project looks at working with experts from Europe and local SME's to develop LGD's (Local Green Deals), which are commitments to support the transition towards carbon neutrality.

NPA Funded Target Circular Project

Donegal County Council is an associate partner on the Target Circular project led by MTU (Munster Technological University), the Hincks Centre for Entrepreneurship Excellence. This is an EU funded project under Interreg NPA called 'Target Circular – Supporting SMEs to Success'. Target Circular aims to improve the service that business support organisations offer client SME's with the aim of increasing their chances of business success with the circular economy as a focus. The project is comprised of 7 Partners and 2 Associate Partners from Ireland, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Iceland – all actively engaged in supporting businesses. The lead partner plans to host an information event in Donegal in Q4 of 2024.

CPMR General Assembly

Donegal County Council will continue its membership of the CPMR in 2024. Atlantic Arc Commission Hub meetings will be held on 31 January & 1st February 2024 incorporating meetings of the Fisheries & Aquaculture Working Group and the Atlantic Tourism & Culture Working Group.

AER Youth Regional Network (YRN)

Peter McNelis, a youth representative from Ardara, Donegal has been selected as part of AER's YRN delegation to the LevelUp! event at the European Parliament, organised by the European Youth Forum (YFJ), on 12-13 April. 1,200 participants are expected, with many youth organisations across Europe being represented. The YFJ received 3,000+ applications, but thanks to our partnership with AER, Donegal will be well represented with Peter attending on behalf of the YRN network.

AER Summer Academy 2024

DCC hosted the Summer Academy in Donegal in 2022 in partnership with Udarás na Gaeltachta. The next Summer Academy youth focused event will take place in Norway in August 2024. There will be an opportunity for Donegal County Council to send 2 delegates to this event, 1 youth and 1 adult and host a workshop at the event, which is expected to bring over 150 people from across EU member states and beyond.

Contact Person

Joy Browne – Senior Economic Development Officer

joybrowne@donegalcoco.ie 087 061 9360

2. Local Enterprise Office

Summary of January 2024 Outputs/Events:

Grant Aid (M1) –The first EVAC meeting for 2024 is taking place on 1st February 2024.

Trading Online Vouchers – YTD: 2 applications for Trading Online Vouchers received.

Mentoring 2024 – YTD: 14 Applications for mentoring have been received.

Training – YTD: 63 Attendees on 5 Courses held.

Digital Start – YTD: 3 applications received.

Green for Business – YTD: 1 application received.

Energy Efficiency Grants - YTD: 0 applications received.

Lean For Business – YTD: 0 applications received.

Start Your Own Business Programme 2024

The Start Your Own Business Programme recommenced on 9th January 2024, and was fully booked. This is the first of 7 Programmes scheduled to take place during 2024. The February programme is starting on 6th February and is fully booked.

Upcoming Events/Programmes:

Lean, Green & Digital for Business Information Sessions

Information Sessions for Lean, Green and Digital productivity supports are taking place in January and early February to raise awareness and encourage take up. Businesses can sign-up for these free events through the Local Enterprise Office website: <https://www.localenterprise.ie/donegal>

European Enterprise Network (EEN)

An online event, “Access to Finance – How a Microfinance loan can help your business” was held on 25th January 2024, with 36 businesses in attendance.

LEO Donegal, on behalf of the LEO network and the Enterprise Europe Network in Ireland, will be delivering 6 Brokerage Events in 2024/2025 aimed at connecting SMEs with international buyers. The first two events of the programme taking place are as follows:

- “Meet the Buyer – Food and Nutrition” 31st January 2024, at the Merits Innovation Think Space in Naas County Kildare.
- “Meet the Buyer – Construction, Engineering, & Sustainable Energy” 9th February 2024 at Mount Lucas, County Offaly.

Food Coast Donegal

The first Restaurant/Chef and Producer Cluster meetings for 2024 were held at the LEO offices on 23rd and 24th January 2024.

Donegal Engineering Network

Engineering Profitnet meeting and information workshop will take place at the Radisson Hotel, Letterkenny on 7th February 2024.

Donegal Stories: Website highlighting the businesses of Donegal that have been supported by the LEO. <https://donegalstories.ie/>

Contact Person

Brenda Hegarty, Head of Enterprise, Local Enterprise Office
074 9160735 Brenda.Hegarty@leo.donegalcoco.ie

3. Information Services

Information Services (IS)

National Broadband Plan Fibre Network

Both the Letterkenny and Creeslough deployment areas are complete and actively connecting customers. This deployment area covers 6,006 premises or 18% of the Intervention Area.

Network build is in progress in the 3 deployment areas of Bunbeg, Tamney and St. Johnston totalling 7,679 premises or 23% of the IA. Surveying is complete in the Bundoran, Ballyshannon, Fintown, Moville, Carndonagh, Tory Island and Bunrana deployment areas covering 9,433 premises or 28% of the IA.

10,027 premises in the deployment areas of Donegal, Kilcar, Ardara, Pettigo, Arranmore and Ballybofey/Stranorlar are at survey pending stage.

NBI are planning to accelerate the rollout to the two main Islands of Tory and Arranmore. To keep informed of the rollout plan in Donegal we encourage people to register their interest with;
<https://www.nbi.ie>

Up to date information for each Deployment Area in Donegal is available at <https://www.nbi.ie/rep>s

Other Fibre Networks

OpenEir are actively deploying fibre in some towns and villages, but no deployment plan is available due to commercial sensitivities. They are active in Lifford, Dungloe, Milford and Raphoe.

Link to Map of Digital Hubs in the County

<https://donegal.maps.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=5d17160136374274b4791afccb84446f>

4. Emergency Services

4.1 – Fire Service

Fire Service Monthly MD Report (February)

Activity	Number of: (November) ¹		Total for year	
<u>Fire Service Operations</u>				
Fire Brigade incidents within County Donegal**:	53		702	
Mobilisations (by Donegal Fire Service Brigades)**:	61		892	
Mobilisations into Donegal (by NI Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS))**:	3		70	
<u>Operational Activity Breakdown November 2023</u>				
	Turnouts		Incidents in County	
	Fires	Special Services	Fires	Special Services
Donegal Fire Service	20	41	14	37
Northern Ireland Fire Service	2	1	2	0
Sub Total	22	42	16	37
Total	64		53	
<u>Fire Prevention</u>				
Fire Safety Certificate applications received:	22		221	
Fire Safety Certificates waiting to be assessed:	47		N/A	
Fire Safety Certificate applications assessed by Fire Officer and waiting for Further Information from Applicant / Agent:	66		N/A	

Fire Safety Certificate decisions made:	18	200
Applications for Dangerous Substance Licences received:	0	11
Dangerous Substance Licences issued:	0	0
Form of notice received under the Explosives Act, 1875:	5	38
Inspections and Auditing carried out (Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003, Annual Licensing, DSA 1972, Explosive Stores, Pyrotechnics, BCA 1992 & 2007):	7	221
Fire Safety Complaints received:	0	26
Fire Safety Complaints dealt with:	0	25
During Performance Inspections carried out:	0	1
Fire Safety awareness presentations delivered:	0	55

Current data is only available up to the end of November 2023.

4.3 Civil Defence

Project / Activity report			
Non Emergency Response Activity	Number	Total (2023)	Volunteer Man – Hours
Patient Transfers to Primary Care Centres	1	1	7hrs
Assisting the Irish Blood Transfusion Services with admin and social spacing at blood donor clinics in, Letterkenny, Donegal Town, Buncrana, Ballybofey and Carndonagh	61	61	610hrs

Patient Transfers to Sligo, Dublin, Hospitals Cardiology interventions.	2	2	36hrs
Supported Agencies; Irish Blood Transfusion Service, ALONE, HSE, and MS Society			
Major Emergency Management			
<p>As part of the MEM structure, Civil Defence continues to support the Principal Response Agencies (PRAs) when the need arises. Already in January of this year, Civil Defence AFS units has been placed on standby to assist with Storm Isha and Strom Joclyn.</p>			
Health Service Executive: Severe Weather Events:			
<p>During severe weather events, such as snow, frost and icy conditions, Civil Defence provides transport support to the HSE and National Ambulance Service with their 4x4 vehicles. In January of this year, Civil Defence provided transport services to the HSE Home Care Support Teams from 17th January – 20th January inclusive. This service allows the Home Care Support workers to continue their twice daily care of the vulnerable in the community, during the severe weather.</p>			
Civil Defence Officers Association Conference:			
<p>The 3-day National Civil Defence Officers Association Conference was held in Farnham Estate, Cavan on 7th, 8th and 9th November. In attendance was, 234 delegates, over the course of the event, 33 traders exhibited their latest equipment for potential future Civil Defence use.</p>			
Funding			
Funding Type			Amount
The Civil Defence Branch secured funding under the Dormant Accounts Fund to purchase a Swift Water Flood Response Crew Cab Van			€36,000
Income from Non-Community Support Charges			€6,200.00
Community Engagement			
Non-Emergency Community Support			
<p>Ambulance and Medical cover have been provided to 35 Community Events in 2023. Over the course of these events, volunteers provided 1240 volunteer manhours supporting their communities.</p>			
Community Training			
<p>Civil Defence in partnership with the Raphoe Diocesan Society, delivered their Cardiac First Responder (CFR) and Defibrillator Programme to 16 parishioners to have them in a state of preparedness to use their Defibrillators in the various churches around the parish, should the need arise. CPR Training was also delivered to members of Naomh Colmcille, Sean MacCumhails and Convoy GAA Clubs as part of the Irish</p>			

Heart Foundation, Save a Life campaign, which raises awareness of the importance of good CPR in the chain of survival for persons suffering a heart attack in the community.

Training	
Training Activities	Delivered to No. of Volunteers
Weekly Auxiliary Fire Fighting (Flood Response and Wild Land Fire training)	16
Emergency First Responder Medical (EFR) Training	7
Refresher Emergency First Responder Training continued monthly for certified EFR's.	18
A successful PHECC Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) course was held by the Civil Defence College during the first and second quarter of the year with a 100% pass rate for the participating students, providing the service with an additional 1 EMTs	1
Swift Water and Life Jacket Competency refresher training was delivered	23
Induction training was delivered to 2 new recruits	2
Radio Communications L1, Introductory Training and L2 - Network Operator	15
The Civil Defence Officer attended the Civil Defence College, Civil Defence Branch, Roscrea and received training on the Volunteer Equipment Management (VEMS) Services which went live on 19 July 2023.	



ENVIRONMENT MD REPORT – February '24

WASTE AND LITTER MANAGEMENT

Activity / Project Title	Re- Turn Ireland's New Deposit Return Scheme
Project Description/ Activity	<div data-bbox="706 621 1135 949" data-label="Image"></div> <p data-bbox="316 995 527 1024">Main Provisions</p> <ul data-bbox="365 1075 1526 1967" style="list-style-type: none">• It is estimated that about 1.9 billion drinks bottles and cans are consumed each year in Ireland, in-house and 'on the go'.• The Deposit Return Scheme aims to boost the recycling rate for these drinks containers by charging a small, refundable deposit for each plastic bottle or cans.• The Scheme will be operated by Deposit Return Scheme Ireland CLG, trading as Re-turn, who Minister Smyth appointed in July 2022.• The Scheme will include PET plastic bottles and aluminium and steel cans between 150ml and 3 litres.• A deposit of 15c will apply to containers 500mls or less and a deposit of 25c for each container above 500ml.• All producers and retailers are legally obliged to register with Re-turn. Registration is open at www.re-turn.ie.• Customers get this money back when they return the container to a retailer or other collection point to be recycled.• Places supplying beverage bottles and cans will be obliged to take back the containers and reimburse the deposit.

NOTE – Not every place supplying drinks has to take back containers (e.g. chip vans, small shops) but they have to apply for an exemption and if granted have to display their exemption

- The scheme will be up and running from 1st February 2024.

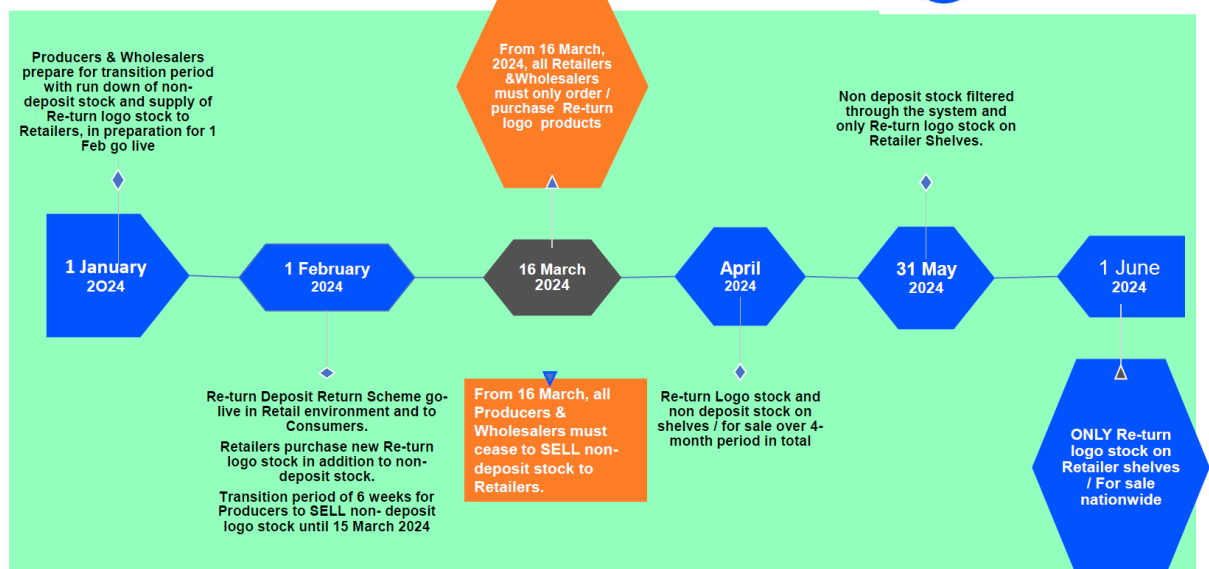
Notes

This is a deposit return scheme commencing on the 1st February 2024 geared towards promoting recycling and addressing littering concerns by assigning a monetary value to beverage containers. If you purchase a drink in a plastic bottle, aluminium, or steel can bearing the Re-turn logo, a small deposit is added to the drink's price. Upon returning the empty, undamaged container to any retail outlet, the full deposit is refunded. Container size determines the deposit amount, with 15c for 500ml or less and 25c for containers exceeding 500ml. The scheme covers PET plastic bottles and aluminium/steel cans ranging from 150ml to 3 litres.

Designed for convenience, Re-Turn offers return points throughout Ireland. Any establishment selling drinks with the Re-turn logo is obligated to accept and refund deposits for empty, undamaged containers, except those with a Take Back Exemption. This exemption is applicable to on-site drink-serving businesses (hotels, restaurants, bars, cafes), off-site sellers with small store sizes (250 sq. meters or less), and online drink retailers. These exempted businesses must display a QR code and website link indicating the nearest return points.

Beyond convenience, the scheme is expected to benefit communities by promoting recycling as a potent tool for addressing climate change. Re-Turn seeks to transition away from the 'take-make-dispose' mindset, encouraging the return of valuable materials to the economy for prolonged use.

Re-turn Transition Period Timeline



Re-turn Brand Assets

- Logos
- Retailer Toolkit
- Social Media branding
- Technical & Labelling Specification Manual
- Producer Guidelines & Logo Assets
- RVM Brand Guidelines
- Retailer & Staff Handouts
- Variety of POS



Final Checklist for Retailers

Re-turn is encouraging all Retailers to do a final checklist in preparation for go live of the Deposit Return Scheme on 1 February. This applies to all Retailers regardless of whether they have been granted a Take Back Exemption.


Further Information

www.re-turn.ie
info@re-turn.ie

01 4618680






Contact
 Person

Environment Office
 074 9153900

Activity / Project Title	Everyone, Everywhere is Entitled to a Brown Bin Collection Service in 2024
Project Description/ Activity	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From January 2024, new EU legislation means every household will be entitled to avail of a brown bin collection service; • Approximately 69% of households in Ireland up until now, are able to avail of a food waste collection service from their waste service collector; • MyWaste.ie is encouraging everyone, here, there, and everywhere to contact their waste collector and request a brown bin service in 2024, because <i>“you’re never too remote to recycle!”</i> <p>There is good news for households in rural areas. New legislation, came into effect in January 2024, meaning all householders in Ireland are entitled to a brown bin recycling collection service from their waste collector.</p> <p>The brown bin service accepts all types of food including raw and cooked meat and fish, plate scrapings, along with fruit and vegetable peelings. Other items that can go into the brown bin include food-soiled paper napkins, paper towels, pizza boxes as well as grass clippings and light garden waste. There is lots of information available at https://www.mywaste.ie/brown-bin-service/</p> <p>MyWaste.ie has information on how to manage all waste types including preventing and recycling food waste in your home.</p> <p><i>“Every single person can make a huge difference in helping our environment and contributing positively to Ireland achieving a recycling rate of 60% by 2030”</i> said Pauline McDonogh, Spokesperson for MyWaste.ie.</p> <p>For more information, please visit https://www.mywaste.ie/brown-bin-service/</p>
Contact Person	Environment Office 074 9153900

Activity / Project Title	Donegal household waste collectors will be taking part in the National Food Waste Recycling Project in 2024
Project Description/ Activity	<div data-bbox="701 216 1172 529" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>The EPA estimates that Ireland generated 753,000 tonnes (t) of food waste in 2021. Growing, processing and transporting food uses a huge amount of resources, such as land, water, energy and fertiliser. If food is wasted, these resources are wasted too. The EPA estimates that food waste costs the average Irish household about €60 per month or €700 per year. That’s an annual national cost of €1.29 billion.</p> <p>In order to help households to separate their waste and to reduce contamination in the food waste stream Donegal household waste collectors will be taking part in the National Food Waste Recycling Project this year.</p> <p>This project is funded by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) and is being led by the Regional Waste Management Planning Authorities under the guise of mywaste.ie.</p> <p>Through the project Donegal collectors will be provided with thousands of kitchen caddy packs to distribute to their customers.</p> <p>Each pack consists of a 7 litre kitchen caddy, a starter pack of compostable liners and an information leaflet. Householders can use the caddy and liners to separate their food waste in the kitchen and when the liner is full, place it in their kerbside food waste bin.</p> <p>In addition to the caddy packs there are a range of toolkit supports available for the collectors to use at https://www.mywaste.ie/food-waste-campaign-toolkit/</p> <p>The toolkit includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posters • Stickers • Leaflets • Social media images • E-Newsletter header • Information Videos
Contact Person	Environment Office 074 9153900

Activity / Project Title	Community Climate Action Fund – Public Information Sessions
Project Description/ Activity	<div data-bbox="391 243 1409 1005" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="310 1045 1442 1108"><i>Picture: Community Groups pictured at the Community Climate Action Fund – Public Information Session held in the Donegal Town PSC.</i></p> <p data-bbox="310 1150 1455 1220">The Community Climate Action Fund - Public Information Sessions are ongoing and are being well attended by community groups across the county.</p> <p data-bbox="310 1266 1485 1413">The Public Information Sessions allow community groups the opportunity to engage with staff to explore their project proposals that meet the objectives of the fund to, ‘Shape and build low carbon, sustainable communities in a coherent way to contribute to national climate and energy targets’.</p> <p data-bbox="310 1459 1463 1644">The Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP) is a new programme to support small and large, rural and urban communities to take climate action at a local level. Donegal County Council in association with the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC), will provide funding to local communities for projects that promote community climate action.</p> <p data-bbox="310 1690 870 1719">There are two strands of funding available:</p> <ul data-bbox="362 1766 1458 1875" style="list-style-type: none"> • Strand 1: focuses on direct climate action building low carbon communities; • Strand 1A: focuses on cross-border projects in partnership with communities and organisations in Northern Ireland. <p data-bbox="310 1921 1133 1950">The fund is open to not-for-profit community groups and clubs.</p>

	 <p>COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION FUND</p> <p>Now Open!</p> <p>The Community Climate Action Fund is now open to support climate action in local communities. Apply online at www.donegalcoco.ie</p> <p>Public Information Sessions</p> <p>30th Jan '24 - 7pm - 8pm - Donegal Town Public Service Centre</p> <p>1st Feb '24 - 7pm - 8pm - Dungloe Public Service Centre</p> <p>7th Feb '24 - 7pm - 8pm - Carndonagh Public Service Centre</p> <p>For more information visit www.donegalcoco.ie</p> <p>Applications will be invited from communities located in Donegal for small, medium and large projects.</p> <p>  Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall Donegal County Council  Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall GNÍOMHÚ AR SON NA HAERÁIDE CLIMATE ACTION Donegal County Council  Rialtas na hÉireann Government of Ireland  Tionscadal Éireann Project Ireland 2040 </p> <p>Any group considering making an application is advised to contact the Community Climate Action Officer at climateactionfund@donegalcoco.ie in advance of making an application.</p> <p>For more information on the fund and the application process visit www.donegalcoco.ie</p> <p>Closing Date for Applications 22nd March 2024.</p>
Contact Person	Lorraine Arbuckle, Climate Action Co-ordinator larbuckle@Donegalcoco.ie

Activity / Project Title	Adoption of the Final Climate Action Plan 2024-2029
Project Description/ Activity	<p>The Climate Action Plan, environmental reports (SEA and AA) and the Chief Executive’s Report on Public Consultation submissions were emailed to Members on 24th January.</p> <p>Adoption of the Plan will be the first item on the Agenda at upcoming Special Council meeting (Housing) on 21st February.</p> <p>Please contact the climate action team with any queries.</p>
Contact Person	Lorraine Arbuckle, Climate Action Co-ordinator larbuckle@Donegalcoco.ie

RURAL WATER PROGRAMME

Activity / Project Title	Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme 2024-2026 Applications for Funding
Project Description/ Activity	<p>The Minister has approved the Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme 2024-2026 (MARWP 2024-2026). A letter will be issued to the elected members with the circular and MARWP documentation.</p> <p>The Rural Water Section, within Donegal County Council are currently receiving applications for this Programme.</p> <p>The programme outlines the 9 measures which Group Water Schemes and members of the public can apply for funding. If you are aware of any Group Water Scheme or member of public seeking funding under this programme to contact the Rural Water Section at ruralwater@donegalcoco.ie.</p> <p>All applications should be submitted to the Rural Water Section of Donegal County Council by close of business on Thursday 28th March 2024, to allow the Local Authority to compile all the applications for the county before the final submission date of the 12th of April 2024.</p> <p>The Rural Water Team are proposing to notify the private regulated Group Water Schemes, Public Group Water Schemes who avail of the Annual Subsidy and any other Group Water Scheme that has contacted the Rural Water Team in relation to Taking in Charge.</p>
Contact Person	Pauric Feely, Rural Water Programme ruralwater@donegalcoco.ie



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

Municipal District of Donegal

February 2024

1. Playgrounds
 - a. Bundoran
 - b. Donegal Town
 - c. Ballyshannon
 - d. Killybegs.

2. Failte Ireland Platforms for Growth & Destination Towns.
 - a. Bundoran Destination Towns
 - b. Platforms for Growth Tullan Strand

3. Leader/RDP Programme



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

Municipal District: Donegal

Activity / Project Update: February 2024

Activity / Project Title	PLAYGROUNDS 2024
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>	1. Works consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Replacement of broken and damaged equipment• Replace worn safety tiles and remove trip hazards• Grease all equipment that contains bushes, bearings, shackles, etc.• Carry out repairs along edges of safety surfaces <u>Current Status:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual Safety Inspection Reports have been completed with necessary repairs identified.• Repair works have been tendered with a submission deadline in February 2024 to appoint a playground Maintenance works contractor for 2024.• Tender submissions received and assessment underway.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete tender assessment and appoint contractor.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie



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

Activity / Project Update: February 2024

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>	<p><u>Current Status:</u></p> <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.• Refurbishment works have commenced and progressing on programme. The weather will determine when the safety surfacing can be laid as this cannot be laid below a certain temperature.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Playground refurbishment complete and open to the public, few minor snags to be closed out.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie



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

Activity / Project Update: February 2024

Activity / Project Title	St John Bosco Playground Refurbishment (Donegal Town)
Project Description/Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refurbishment of the St John Bosco 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">• Site survey completed.• Design works have commenced on a plans to refurbish to the playground.• Plans developed and shared with community group.• Tender documents published on etenders, submissions due early March.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commence tender assessment in March.
Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie



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

Activity / Project Update: February 2024

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.• Tender review process complete.• Meeting arranged with possible contractor to discuss works proposals.• Contact documents issued to successful tenderer.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refurbishment works due to commence late March/start of April.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie



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

Activity / Project Update: February 2024

Activity / Project Title	Killybegs Playgrounds Refurbishment
Project Description/Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Refurbishment of the 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>	<p><u>Current Status:</u></p> <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.Design proposals were shared with the Killybegs Community Council who got feedback from the local community. Minor design amendments are being made to address feedback.Design and tender documents ready to publish, awaiting confirmation from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine before issuing tender documents due to land lease conditions.Meetings held with the Killybegs Harbour Master to get their approval before publishing tender.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to work with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine to get their approval before proceeding to publish tender.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie



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)	
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<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.• Part 8 planning for the artwork on the Tullaghan, Drumacrin and Finner roundabouts secured at the November 2023 Council meeting. Review meeting held with Artist's design team to commence fabrication of artwork in January 2024.• Reviewing project cost estimates to keep within available budget.

<p>Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <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.• Installation of artwork late Q1/early Q2 of 2024.
<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>



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

Activity / Project Update: February 2024

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.• Tender documents were published on etenders seeking a professional design team.• Submissions received and tender assessment process underway.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issue Contract Documents to successful tenderer in Q1 of 2024 and commence works towards a planning application.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie



Activity / Project Update

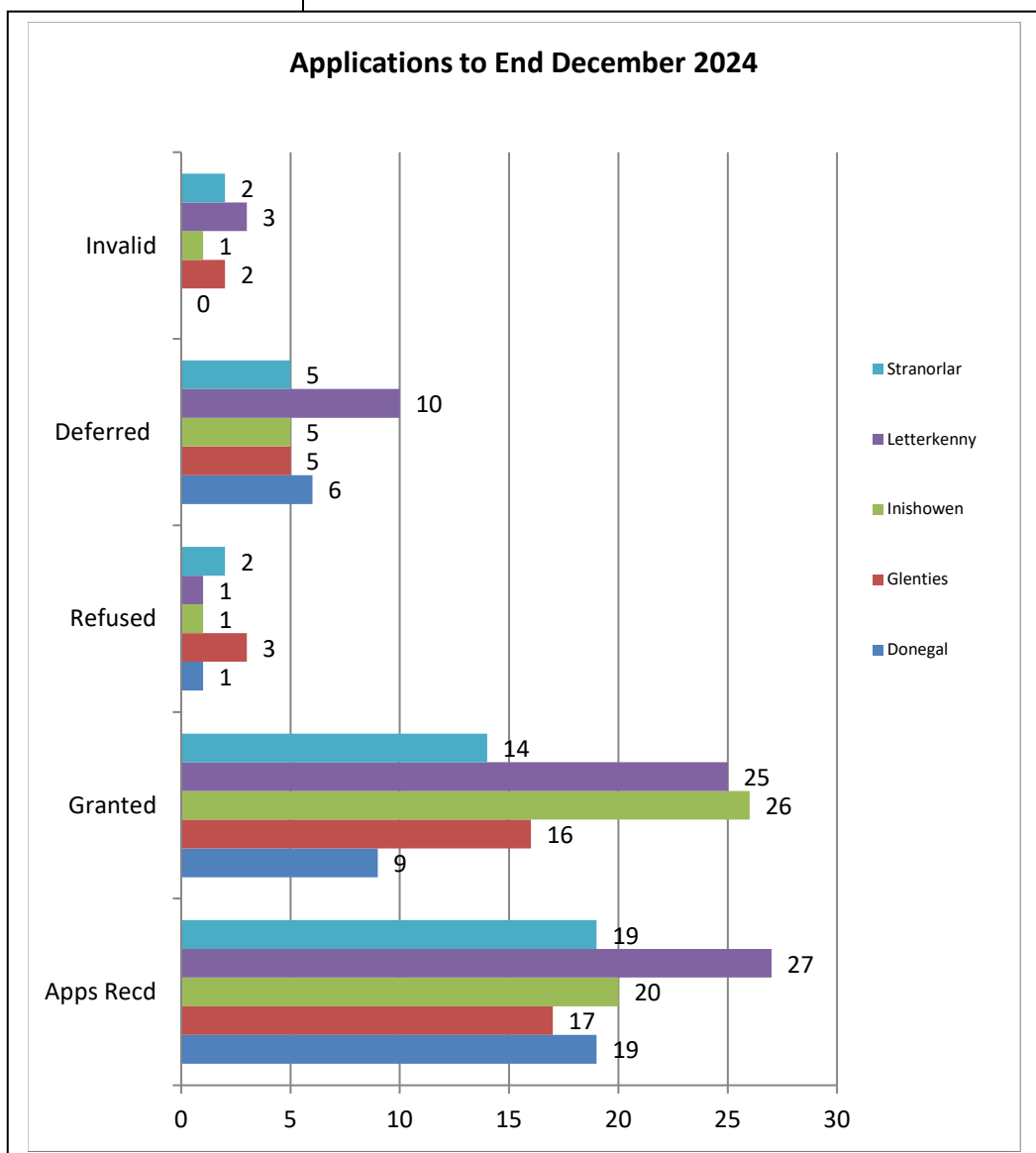
February 2024

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 to engage with promoters on the ground regarding any potential underspend or decommitments.

	<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 completed the draft LEADER Local Development Strategy, with this Strategy approved in October. Contract agreements have now been signed on behalf of the Donegal LCDC, Donegal County Council and local Implementing Partners to deliver the programme in 2024.</p> <p>Draft Operating rules for the new LEADER programme have been circulated and the DCC are meeting the local Implementing Partners to ensure a smooth finish to the LEADER 2021-2022 programme and to prepare for the roll out of the LEADER 2023 – 2027 Programme.</p>
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Ciaran Martin cmartin@donegalcoco.ie

Donegal MD Meeting
13th February 2024

Item	Update										
1 Development Applications											
(1) Statistics	<p>Donegal MD Totals Year to End Jan 2024</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Applications received</td> <td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Granted</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Refused</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deferred</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Invalid</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </table>	Applications received	19	Granted	9	Refused	1	Deferred	6	Invalid	0
Applications received	19										
Granted	9										
Refused	1										
Deferred	6										
Invalid	0										





2	Enforcement									
		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Donegal MD</th> <th>To end Jan 2024</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>227</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Donegal MD	To end Jan 2024	New Cases	3	Closed Cases	1	Outstanding cases on record since 2012	227
Donegal MD	To end Jan 2024									
New Cases	3									
Closed Cases	1									
Outstanding cases on record since 2012	227									
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 2024:</u> 15th February, 2024 29th February, 2024 14th March, 2024 28th March, 2024 Please see website for further dates. http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/planningclinics/</p>								
4	Casual Trading									
5	Regeneration & Development	See Appendix A								
6	Building Control & Taking in Charge									
7	Central Planning Unit									
8	Capital Projects Delivery Unit	See Appendix B								
9	Conservation									
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/weeklyplanninglists/ • Planning Service email (to be used in correspondence with the planning service): planning@donegalcoco.ie • Planning Webpage: www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/ • Planning Application Online Query – https://www.eplanning.ie/DonegalCC/SearchTypes <p>File Retrieval Form – to be used for file retrieval and planning search requests: www.donegalcoco.ie/media/donegalcountyc/planning/pdfs/fileretrieval/File%20Retrieval.pdf</p>								

APPENDIX A



Rialtas na
hÉireann
Government
of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

Regeneration & Development Team Community Development and Planning Services

REPORT TO THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETINGS JANUARY 2024.

1.0 Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF)

Funding is provided from the Department of Rural and Community Development and calls for application to the Fund are sought under two categories. **Category 1** relates to projects with all necessary planning and other consents in place and which are ready to proceed, i.e shovel ready. **Category 2** projects are those which require further development to become ready for Category 1 status.

1.1 Summary update of Projects

Table 1 below provides a summary update on the current status and delivery of projects under the RRDF.

Table 1: Rural Regeneration and Development Fund Projects

Project	Type	Value (includes DCC co- funding)	Current Status/Delivery
Back to Ballyshannon	Category 2 (2020)	€247,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site acquisition completed. Team working towards the publication of a planning scheme. To be targeted for future Category 1 Funding
Ramelton Re-imagined/Historic Town Centre	Category 2	€249,159	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part 8 approved April 2022 Construction tender to open in Q1 2024.
	Category 1 (2022)	€7,949,868	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handover to CPDU imminent. Estimate to commence on site in Q2 2024 (through the CPDU).

Repowering Buncrana	Category 2 (3 rd Call)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sale agreed on former Garda Barracks property. • Tender for consultants to be advertised January 2024 to include public consultation and publication of a planning scheme. • To be targeted for future Category 1 Funding.
Rathmullan (in partnership with The Way Forward Rathmullan CLG).			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 8 approved February 2023. • FPM Accountants (Ireland) Limited appointed in November 2023 to undertake an Economic Appraisal. • To be submitted for funding under the fifth call (closing date 8th February 2024).
Milford Town Centre First Plan		€100,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre First Plan launched November 2023 • GM Design Associates preparing a statutory planning scheme for the lands at Lower Mount Marian (including further public consultation) to be completed by Q2 2024. • DCC to progress other priority projects identified in the Plan. • Projects to be targeted for future funding calls.
Creelough Village Plan and Community Regeneration Project (in association with the Creelough Working Group, Creelough Community Association and Arup).			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village Plan to be launched in early 2024 (prepared by Arup on a pro bono basis). • Part 8 for Community Regeneration Project approved in September 2023. • FPM Accountants (Ireland) Limited appointed in November 2023 to undertake an Economic Appraisal. • To be submitted for funding under the fifth call (closing date 8th February 2024).

1.2 Fifth Call for Category 1 Projects (shovel ready) under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF).

In November 2023 a fifth call for Category 1 projects was announced. This is a competitive application process and Local Authorities can submit a maximum of 3 applications for large scale and ambitious in nature projects. The minimum request per project is €500,000 with

no upper limit but projects seeking over €10m would be considered exceptional in nature.

In recognition of the classification by the EU Commission of the North West Region as a Transition Region, grant aid of 90% will apply with 10% to be provided in matching contributions by the Council – this 10% matching contribution can be in the form of Local Authority investment, community investment or philanthropic contributions.

The deadline for submission of applications is **12 pm on Tuesday 8th February 2024**. As confirmed to Elected Members at the November 2023 Plenary meeting of the Council, work is underway to bring forward applications for Regeneration Projects in Rathmullan and Creeslough under this Call.

2.0 Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF).

Funding is provided from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for towns with a population in excess of 10,000 which includes Letterkenny in this County, with calls for application to the Fund sought under two categories. **Category 1** relates to projects with all necessary planning and other consents in place and which are ready to proceed, i.e shovel ready. **Category 2** projects are those which require further development to become ready for Category 1 status.

2.1 Summary update of Projects

Table 2 below provides a summary update on the current status and delivery of projects under the URDF.

Table 2: Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Projects

Call	Value of Project (includes DCC co-funding).	Projects and current Status/Delivery
Call 1 (approved September 2019) 3 Sub-Projects	€3m	1 Prepare Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed 2022. 2 Letterkenny Urban Regeneration site.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCC took possession of the former ESB site and adjacent lands through a CPO in 2023. • Site to be developed for the Alpha/Beta Office accommodation, public realm and Housing. <p>3 Public Realm/Linear Park Phase 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opened June 2023.
<p>Call 2 (May 2020 and approved March 2021)</p> <p>6 Sub Projects</p>	<p>€19.3m (€4.8m DCC co-funding)</p>	<p>1. Reimagine public space at Market Square.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please refer to report from the Capital Projects Delivery Unit Report who are delivering this project. <p>2. Cathedral Quarter Park and Church Lane Shared Surface Scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valuations obtained and land acquisition offers made. • Avison Young appointed in Q4 2023 to take forward all previous engagement and act on Council's behalf as regards further offers/acquisitions/CPO. • Council to consider further offers and advance any acquisitions/CPOs. • Proceed to procurement of architect-led team for all design stages (planning consent, detailed design and site supervision) – procurement process to open as soon as possible. <p>3. Renewal at Lower Main Street</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valuations obtained and land acquisition offers made. • Avison Young appointed in Q4 2023 to take forward all previous engagement and act on Council's behalf as regards further offers/acquisitions/CPO. • Council to consider further offers and advance any acquisitions/CPOs. <p>4. Revival of the Courthouse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPIC Heritage Consulting Ltd appointed to prepare a Visitor

		<p>Experience Plan/ Product Identification Plan and Business Plan for the development of a major visitor attraction at the Courthouse. Inception Workshop with Letterkenny-Milford MD held on 21st November 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letterkenny-Milford MD workshop and separate Stakeholder Forum workshop held on the 16th January 2024. • Public drop-in event held on the 17th January 2024 with over 40 attendees. • Letterkenny-Milford MD workshop: 1st February at 11am. • Application submitted to the Built Heritage Investment Scheme for minor repair works. <p>Next Steps: Letterkenny-Milford MD Workshop planned for the 13th February 2024 to provide feedback on the consultation events and agree the concepts to advance to market testing.</p> <p>5. Strategic acquisition to enable a Regional Transport Hub</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avison Young appointed to take forward all previous engagement and act on Councils behalf as regards further offers/ acquisitions/ CPO. • Funding commitment secured from the 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 sent to the NTA in December 2023 for feed-in prior to opening of a procurement process. • Consultation with Local Link ongoing in relation to private bus operators. <p>6. Strategic acquisition to enable LK Green Connect</p>
--	--	---

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 8 in relation to the Cultural Corridor element of the project approved by Donegal County Council at the November 2023 Plenary meeting. • In-house team has commenced steps to develop a Part 8 for Phase 2 (from constructed Phase 1 to Pearse Road). • Valuation services of Avison Young being engaged in relation to phase 2 (from constructed Phase 1 to Pearse Road) and lands required for the Cultural Corridor element of the Scheme.
Call 3 (March 2023 and approved July 2023).	€4m	<p>Revolving fund for acquisition costs of long-term vacant property or sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In December 2023, 15 letters issued to property owners and 23 Notices of Enquiries affixed to properties to try and identify the owners. • Majority of property owners have been identified and meetings to take place over the next few weeks.
"The Eat Out' Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Project		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 8 approved November 2022 and contractor due to commence 6th February 2024. • Please refer to the report from Community Development who are delivering this project.
Letterkenny Cultural Corridor		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 8 approved November 2022. • Valuation services of Avison Young being engaged in relation to lands required for the delivery of the Scheme. • Services of Quantity Surveyor being engaged to provide cost estimates for the scheme. • To be targeted for future URDF funding call.
Youth/Community focused project at Lower Main Street		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early engagements with Letterkenny Youth Club and Donegal Youth Services have commenced. • Avison Young appointed in Q4 2023 to take forward all previous engagement and act on Council's behalf as regards further offers/acquisitions/CPO.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In tandem, targeted to carry out capacity testing of potential lands available to clarify viability of the project and to undertake further engagement with stakeholders- NB this is subject to availability of in-house architectural resources.
--	--	---

3.0 Croi Conaithe Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant Scheme.

The Croi Conaithe Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant Scheme opened for applications in July 2022 and **Table 3** below provides further details of the applications received to-date.

Table 3: Summary of Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant Applications

Applications Received	560
Applications Finalised	340
• Approved	320
• Deemed not eligible (eligibility criteria not met – vacancy/proposed works).	20
In progress (first technical inspection/awaiting information from applicant).	204
Withdrawn (by applicant)	16
Properties Refurbished	8
Grants Recouped	1
Requests for grant recoupment (in progress & will be complete by end of week 7).	7
Breakdown of Applicants received per Municipal District	
Letterkenny – Milford MD	135
Inishowen MD	129
Lifford – Stranorlar MD	88
Glenties MD	112
Donegal MD	96
Total	560

- Grants are recouped on completion of works and on submission of vouched expenditure. The applicant must also complete a Charge Document which is prepared by the Local Authority to

register a charge on the property to the value of the grant obtained.

- The timeframe for processing application is approximately 5 – 6 weeks where the applicant has submitted all supporting documentation at the outset.
- Donegal currently have the highest number of grant applications processed nationally.
- Plans have been announced to extend the Local Authority Home Loan scheme to applicants of the Vacant Property Refurbishment grant scheme also and more detail are due in early January.
- Drop in events are to be arranged in 10 further locations in February 2024 – further details will issue to the Elected Members in the next week or so.

4.0 Compulsory Purchase Order Activation Fund/Survey of Vacant Properties

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 with owners regarding the supports available.
- Step 4:** Consideration of options available to owners and DCC.

The Council have undertaken Step 1 to identify vacant and derelict properties through the GEO Directory. This survey has been undertaken in the towns listed in

Table 4 below and will be carried out in further towns over the coming months:

Table 4: Towns Surveyed under the CPO Activation Fund

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

The identification of property owners and engagement has commenced (Steps 2 and 3) and is ongoing. **Table 5** provides the current update which will be further updated as we progress Steps 2 and 3 in all towns.

Table 5: Delivery of CPO Activation Fund (to date).

Total Properties surveyed to date (Step 1)	1,723
Properties identified as being Vacant	890
Properties identified as being Derelict	63
Properties not vacant	770
Owner Identification/Engagement (Steps 2 and 3) in the following Towns:	
Ballybofey/Stranorlar	77
Carndonagh	42
Lifford	37
Malin	11
Total (to date)	167
Outcome/Responses (from Steps 2 and 3)	
1 st Letter issued	88
Hold/Monitor (e.g property for sale)	21
Closed out	12
Ongoing (e.g. investigations)	46
Total	167
2 nd Letter issued	15

**Regeneration and Development Team.
February 2024.**

APPENDIX B

CAPITAL PROJECTS DELIVERY UNIT

Report to Donegal Municipal District Members: Feb 2024

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 complete and roof covering has been installed with windows now measured and in fabrication. First fix M&E is underway.</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. Angled parking spaces along Main Street have been completed and opened to public.</p> <p>The 'Coal Yard' temporary car park for the project is operational.</p>
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly /	It is anticipated that Island House works will progress with windows to be installed and internal first fix works to continue.



quarterly reporting period	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