



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

3-Year Capital Budget 2022 - 2024

22nd November 2021

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1. Chief-Executive's Report

Introduction and Context

I submit for your consideration the Draft Capital Budget for the period 2022 – 2024. The Draft Capital Budget is prepared having regard to the amount of capital funding that is already confirmed from external or internal sources and, as is the case in the majority of the 2023 and 2024 projections, is based on best estimates available at this time.

In that context, the Draft Capital Budget estimates that Donegal County Council's total capital expenditure for 2022 will be of the order of €192,109,943, with potential capital expenditure for the three-year period estimated at €795,871,919, subject to funding becoming available.

In recent years, the opportunity to engage in larger scale capital investment in the County has increased significantly, aided in no small part by the additional funding opportunities that have been sought and secured from sources at national government level, and on a cross-border and trans-European basis.

Total capital expenditure in 2020 amounted to €95,015,779, with the 2021 capital budget amounting to €137,656,991. The following table provides a clear indication as to the rate at which Donegal County Council's capital expenditure has been increasing in recent years.

| Programme Group | 2015 € | 2016 € | 2017 € | 2018 € | 2019 € | 2020 € | Totals € |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Housing & Building | 6,765,167 | 13,448,988 | 15,188,742 | 22,635,385 | 24,402,796 | 32,386,107 | 114,827,185 |
| Road Transportation & Safety | 17,244,148 | 27,809,784 | 19,684,065 | 45,536,378 | 49,042,390 | 46,088,886 | 205,405,651 |
| Water Supply and Sewerage | 1,089,361 | 484,177 | 418,990 | 267,250 | 334,157 | 264,702 | 2,858,637 |
| Development Incentives & Control | 676,591 | 7,868,190 | 909,586 | 2,966,018 | 1,291,515 | 1,271,201 | 14,983,101 |
| Environmental Protection | (156,866) | 852,714 | 1,308,492 | 1,845,966 | 2,477,825 | 2,816,029 | 9,144,160 |
| Recreation & Amenity | 6,849,481 | 3,322,180 | 4,819,171 | 7,358,488 | 7,679,830 | 8,822,166 | 38,851,316 |
| Agriculture, Education, Health & Safety | 762,117 | 1,064,250 | 565,612 | 577,593 | 505,571 | 635,841 | 4,110,984 |
| Miscellaneous Services | 1,831,314 | 1,547,540 | 1,111,989 | 1,801,113 | 3,081,720 | 2,730,848 | 12,104,524 |
| Totals | 35,061,313 | 56,397,824 | 44,006,647 | 82,988,191 | 88,815,804 | 95,015,779 | 402,285,558 |

As always, the Council will continue to focus on efforts to maximise funding opportunities for capital investment in the County. Donegal County Council is well positioned to develop, compete for, and deliver capital investment projects, of all scales, large and small, that can respond to the challenges of Brexit, mitigate the worst effects of the global pandemic, and accelerate economic recovery in the County

and in the North West region. As has been stated previously, the scale of the Council's ambition remains steadfast in the face of these challenges.

Like many opportunities arising for capital and infrastructure development, such projects will require a significant contribution from Donegal County Council in terms of co-financing and project development/management. Whereas this is a challenge that must be managed, it is essential that every effort be made to seize the opportunities that now present for infrastructural developments of scale, which are impactful over the longer term, and have the potential to enhance the economic, social and community fabric of the County for the benefit of the County's citizens and businesses.

Some of the primary areas of expenditure in 2022 will be:

- The commencement of 165 social housing units in 2022 with an estimated cost of €10.4m during Year 1
- The projected acquisition of 217 Turnkey Housing Units in 2022 at a projected cost of €35m
- Under the Social Housing Investment Programme, the acquisition of 20 units during 2022 at an estimated cost of €3.2m
- Further interventions in the Social Housing area through the Fabric Upgrade Energy Efficiency Programme, Capital Assistance Schemes through Approved Housing Bodies, Voids Programme and Extensions & Adaptation Works.
- Continuing to implement the Countywide Footpath Programme, under which a total fund of €5.2m has been set aside, with specific works being agreed at Municipal District level
- Advancement of the Ten-T project in 2022 on the N13, N14 and N15
- Continued investment in improvement projects along the N56 roadway and other national roads
- Investment in Greenway infrastructure, with a dedicated management team tasked with developing further project proposals to shovel-ready stage
- Investment in Active and Sustainable Travel, Energy Saving Improvements and Climate Change Initiatives
- Continuing investment through the Marine Capital programme for piers and harbours
- A continuing programme of investment in strategic economic infrastructure supporting the community and tourism sections and including iconic attractions
- Continued investment through EU sourced funds and across multi-sectoral areas
- The continuation of a multi-annual programme to maintain the Council's capacity in the areas of Information and Communications Technology
- The further progression of Taking-in-Charge of estates and in the completion of works to remediate Unfinished Housing Estates
- Investment in environmental areas including landfill remediation, recycling, beach improvement and leisure centres

Co-funding from Own Resources

The delivery of the Council's ambitious capital programme is critically dependent on the availability of sufficient co-financing capacity from the Council's own resources at local level. The co-financing requirements for large-scale, high-value projects is often

25% or higher. Co-financing these projects presents a significant challenge for the Council in years ahead.

The principal sources of generating the local contributions required to co-fund external capital investment are:

1. Loan Financing
2. The Development Contribution Scheme (DCS)
3. Transfers from Revenue
4. Use of Reserves

In recent years, provision has been made in the Council's revenue budget for funding that can be used to secure and service loan financing to co-finance capital projects. This capacity has been retained within the Draft Revenue Budget for 2022. However, the Council's ability to create the required additional capacity within annual revenue budgets in the years ahead is severely constrained and must take account of existing commitments.

The level of income available from the DCS Fund can only be applied to new works in any given year to an equivalent value of cash collected in the same year. Similarly, the availability of transfers from Revenue, as a source of co-funding for capital investment, remains limited – as Members will be aware from the annual Revenue Budget discussions and meetings. Additionally, the judicious use of limited Capital Reserves, generally established through operating surpluses through the Revenue Account, provides additional capacity in limited, but targeted areas.

New funding sources, or concessions on the rates of co-financing, will be required if Donegal County Council is to be able to deliver the existing capital programme and to add new projects to the programme in the years ahead. It is intended that more detailed discussions will take place in this regard as soon as possible in early 2022 to identify specific and targeted actions with those who can assist us at local and national level.

Notwithstanding the considerable co-funding constraints outlined, I will continue to seek to ensure that the Council is best placed at any given time to be able to take advantage of potential capital funding opportunities that arise.

Proposals for the 3-Year Capital Programme 2022 – 2024

A Three-Year Capital Programme in the sum of €795,871,919 is presented for the period 2022 – 2024 broken down per Programme Group as detailed in the Statutory Tables.

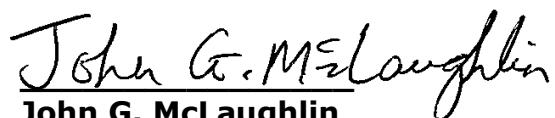
The Statutory Tables reflect the gross estimated expenditure for the period 2022 – 2024 (noting my earlier comments relating to the unknown detail of capital funding generally in respect of 2023 and 2024).

As previously stated, it is only the first year of the three-year programme that can be presented in detail. Each Director of Service has provided an analysis of proposed expenditure for their respective directorate, which is included in the detail of this

report. The table that follows this introduction provides an overview summary of capital expenditure per directorate for 2022.

The total estimated capital expenditure of €192,109,943 as indicated for 2022 is conditional on a range of factors and assumptions, including the allocation of grants, level of DCS collectable, loan sanction approval, and availability of co-financing.

The work of the Council in the years ahead, in terms of capital investment in a post-Brexit and post-Covid-19 environment, will be extremely important to the County and its citizens. The Council will continue to be ambitious in terms of developing and competing for capital investment opportunities and maximising sources of external funding for worthwhile and impactful projects. The Three-Year Capital Budget 2022-2024 reflects that level of ambition and I would like to thank the Elected Members for their vision and for their role in guiding and supporting the projects and proposals that are contained within this plan.


John G. McLaughlin
Chief Executive

Donegal County Council Capital Expenditure per Directorate 2022

| Directorate/Spend-Heading | Estimated Expenditure 2022 (€) |
|---|---|
| Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services | |
| Social Housing Investment Programme | 50,125,000 |
| Improving the Social Housing Stock | 2,500,000 |
| Voluntary Housing | 2,228,650 |
| Housing Grants | 2,500,000 |
| Traveller Accommodation | 390,000 |
| Defective Concrete Blocks Scheme | 15,000,000 |
| Library / Cultural Services | 800,000 |
| Total | 73,543,650 |
| Roads & Transportation | |
| National Primary & National Secondary | 51,729,098 |
| General Road Improvements including Development Charges Schemes | 250,000 |
| Footpath & Lighting | 1,100,000 |
| Roads Specific Capital | 2,500,000 |
| Bridge Works | 800,000 |
| Marine | 500,000 |
| NorthWest Greenways Project | 850,000 |
| Other Greenway Projects | 2,298,000 |
| Total | 60,027,098 |
| Community, Enterprise & Planning Services | |
| Unfinished Housing Estates | 300,000 |
| Takeover of Housing Estates | 1,740,000 |
| RDP/Leader | 1,882,372 |
| Town & Village Renewal | 2,193,108 |
| CLÁR Scheme | 314,967 |
| Outdoor Infrastructure Scheme | 1,621,667 |
| Peace IV | 1,800,000 |
| Fort Dunree | 248,405 |
| Bundoran Destination Towns | 580,000 |
| URDF/RRDF | 10,262,676 |
| Riverine Project | 2,876,001 |
| Other Community Development | 5,801,999 |
| Total | 29,621,195 |
| Water & Environment Services | |
| Rural Water Programme | 1,500,000 |
| Leisure Centres | 550,000 |
| Public Conveniences | 100,000 |
| Beach and Coastal Improvement Programme | 218,000 |
| Waste Management | 2,130,000 |
| CFRAMS | 1,100,000 |
| Other | 115,000 |
| Total | 5,713,000 |
| Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services | |
| Inishowen innovation Hub, Buncrana | 1,000,000 |
| Alfa Project Letterkenny | 700,000 |
| Beta Business Centre | 700,000 |
| Development at The Common, Lifford | 645,000 |
| Information Systems Infrastructure | 960,000 |
| Total | 4,005,000 |
| Roads Management Office | 19,200,000 |
| Overall Total | 192,109,943 |

2. Head-of-Finance's Report

In preparing the Three-year Capital Plan, the Council is required, as per Section 135(3) of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended), to ensure that:

"In considering the question of resources likely to be available to it, the local authority shall so consider [the Three-Year Capital Budget] -

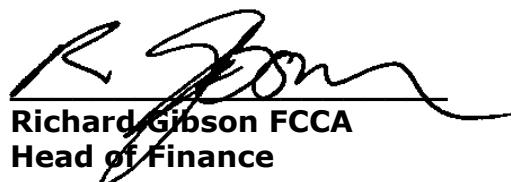
- (a) on the basis of a realistic and prudent assessment of the [financial] position [of the local authority], and
- (b) on the basis of the information available to it at the time and having regard to the measures proposed by the authority to raise funding itself."

The Council continues to apply a rigorous approach to the management of capital projects and programmes, with a continued focus on managing projects within approved and defined budget lines. The objective of this is to ensure that no unfunded capital balances arise.

Available budgets from external sources (department allocations, other grants, etc.) and from internal sources (reserves, Development Charges, etc.) are detailed within this report. Development Charges, in line with audit requirements, are reflected on a cash-collected basis; i.e. the Development Charge figures quoted in this report reflect the best available estimates of the actual cash that is expected to be collected from this source during the three-year period 2022 to 2024.

Similarly, it should be noted that proposals may also rely on the current best estimates as to the funding elements and sources anticipated to be available during the period 2022 – 2024, especially in instances where confirmation is still awaited on a definitive funding package for a particular project or programme. It should be noted that projects will only proceed on confirmation of a complete funding package.

There is always a level of uncertainty as to the degree of availability of capital funding in the medium to long term. This means that only projects and programmes for 2022 can be presented in detail. Therefore, in general, the level of capital activity and funding available for the years 2023 and 2024 is presented on the basis of best estimates as to the level of funding that is anticipated to be available for those years.



Richard Gibson FCCA
Head of Finance

3. Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services

Section 3.1 – Local Authority Housing

3.1.1 - Housing Construction Programme 2022-2024

The social housing developments listed below are currently in the capital design/construction programme:

| Location | No. of Units |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Construction Stage 2021 | |
| Buncrana Phase I | 21 |
| Raphoe | 11 |
| Dunfanaghy | 4 |
| Sub Total | 36 |
| Construction Stage 2022 | |
| Donegal Town (Phase III) | 24 |
| Crana Crescent, Buncrana | 16 |
| Trusk Road, Ballybofey | 19 |
| Lifford | 29 |
| Kilmacrennan Road, Letterkenny | 34 |
| Buncrana | 1 |
| Bundoran | 42 |
| Sub Total | 165 |
| Construction 2023 | |
| Indicative No. of Units | |
| Killybegs | 18 |
| Dungloe (Chapel Road) | 44 |
| Killylastin, Letterkenny | 11 |
| Buncrana Phase II | 50 |
| Carrigart | 8 |
| Ardara | 20 |
| Sub Total | 151 |
| Construction 2024 | |
| Indicative No. of Units | |
| Kiltoy, Letterkenny | 50 |
| Dunfanaghy | 30 |
| Letterkenny (ESB Site) | 24 |
| Buncrana | 22 |
| Lifford Common | 32 |
| Sub Total | 158 |
| Overall Total 2022 - 2024 | 474 |

The table below sets out an indicative three-year budget for in-house design and construction projects:

| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Total |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Construction Programme | €10,325,000 | €40,687,500 | €47,612,500 | €98,625,000 |

3.1.2 – Social Housing through Turnkey Acquisition

The turnkey acquisition model is progressing in towns throughout the County and will deliver high-quality housing in significant numbers. This is one of the key mechanisms being used to meet the social housing need under the current Social Housing Investment Programme.

Projects have been completed or are being progressed in the following towns (and including a specific turnkey process for Letterkenny):

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Ballybofey / Stranorlar | Newtowncunningham | Carndonagh Milford |
| Convoy | Falcarragh | Moville |
| Letterkenny | Donegal Town | Buncrana |
| Carrigart | Ballyshannon | Gweedore |

The projected costs associated with turnkey acquisitions over the period 2022 – 2024 is set out below:

| Year | Projected Turnkey Acquisitions | Projected Spend |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2022 | 217 | €35,030,000 |
| 2023 | 225 | €46,525,000 |
| 2024 | 250 | €68,000,000 |
| Total | 692 | €149,555,000 |

3.1.3 – House Acquisition Programme (Single Units)

Over recent years, the focus has moved incrementally to increasing delivery via new build construction. It is important however to utilise all available delivery strands to deliver social housing, and included below are the projections for single house acquisitions over the forthcoming three-year period:

| Year | Projected Acquisitions | Projected Spend |
|--------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2022 | 20 | €3,200,000 |
| 2023 | 10 | €1,600,000 |
| 2024 | 10 | €1,600,000 |
| Total | 40 | €6,400,000 |

3.1.4 – Specific Instance Properties (SI's)

Projected expenditure for the three-year period is set out below:

| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Total |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Specific Instance | €570,000 | €1,000,000 | €1,000,000 | €2,570,000 |

3.1.5 – Land

The overall social housing programme will be supplemented by additional schemes during the lifetime of the Capital Plan. The Council will continue to seek land suitable for social housing. Projected land purchase costs are shown below.

| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Total |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Land | €1,000,000 | €1,300,000 | €1,500,000 | €3,800,000 |

3.1.6 – Approved Housing Body Sector

Through continued extensive inter-agency engagement with the Health Service Executive and the Approved Housing Body Sector, schemes under the Capital Assistance Programme are now specifically targeted towards the provision of special needs accommodation where the traditional forms of social housing supports will not deliver on this need.

Discussions are ongoing with various parties and the Department in relation to proposed projects throughout the County, with certain projects at early stages of evaluation. Projects approved and at various stages in the process are at locations in Letterkenny, Dungloe, Donegal Town, and Castlefin, and will provide 50 units of accommodation when complete. The projected spend over the next three years in this regard is projected as follows:

| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Total |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Capital Assistance Scheme | €2,228,650 | €2,771,700 | €2,850,000 | €7,850,350 |

In addition to the provision of accommodation under the Capital Assistance Scheme, the Approved Housing Body Sector is engaging with the Department and the Council in the context of delivering further units under the Capital Advance Leasing Facility/Payment and Availability Agreement Scheme.

3.1.7 – Improving the Social Housing Stock

There are a number of programmes under which improvements to the Social Housing stock are carried out, as set out below:

a) Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme

A new Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme was introduced in 2021 to replace the previous energy efficiency programme. 52 properties were progressed under the Programme in 2021 at a total cost of approximately €1.4m. The Council will make further significant funding bids under this Programme on an annual basis.

b) Returning Void/Vacant Properties to Productive Use

The Council has been proactive and successful in sourcing monies from the Department under the Voids Programmes since 2014. By the end of 2021, the Council will have sourced department funding of over €7.7 million in this regard and has refurbished over 1,110 vacant properties to a high standard for re-letting.

It is intended to make a further bid for funding for 2022. The expenditure and income associated with the operation of this programme is accounted for in the Revenue Account.

c) Extensions and Adaptation Works

The Council carries out small-scale adaptation works, including extensions, to its social housing stock on an ongoing basis as needs arise. In most cases, this is for tenants with special needs and/or disabilities, with around 50 households benefiting from works carried out under this programme on an annual basis. An annual spend of €750,000 is anticipated in this regard. 90% department funding is provided, with the balance funded from own resources.

| Improving the Social Housing Stock | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Total |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme | €1,750,000 | €1,750,000 | €1,750,000 | €5,250,000 |
| Extensions / Adaptations | €750,000 | €750,000 | €750,000 | €2,250,000 |

3.1.8 – Assistance to Persons Improving Houses

There has been a significant increase in demand under the Housing Adaptation Grant, Mobility Aids Grant, and Housing Aid for Older People Grant schemes. The Department provides 80% funding towards these grant schemes. Annual expenditure of up to €2.5m is projected in this regard for 2022 to 2024 inclusive.

| Assistance to Persons Improving Houses | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Total |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Grants for older people & people with disabilities | €2,500,000 | €2,500,000 | €2,500,000 | €7,500,000 |

3.1.9 – Traveller Accommodation

The Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019 – 2024 was adopted by Council on 30th September 2019. The Programme outlines key objectives and targets for each year in the delivery of Traveller-specific projects.

The Traveller accommodation project at Cashel, Ardara was completed during 2021 and a number of other Traveller accommodations projects are at an advanced stage for progression in 2022. Several other separate small-scale Traveller-specific projects have also been completed throughout the year.

These projects are in addition to a range of other accommodation solutions provided on an ongoing basis to meet the needs of the Traveller Community through the Social Housing Investment Programme.

| Traveller Accommodation | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Total |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| | €390,000 | €280,000 | €150,000 | €820,000 |

3.1.10 – Defective Concrete Blocks

The Defective Concrete Blocks Grant Scheme opened for applications at the end of June 2020. Applications are being considered in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations, the national technical standard I.S. 465, and the administrative guidelines issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. A review of the Scheme is currently being undertaken by the Department.

A submission has been made to the Department to establish a project team with external supports and for funding to carry out remedial works to Council houses affected by defective concrete blocks. The Council has identified houses that will be prioritised for remedial works in the first funding allocation and will be submitting applications for funding on an ongoing basis.

| Remedial Works Programme | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Total |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Defective Concrete Blocks – Social Houses | €15,000,000 | €40,000,000 | €60,000,000 | €115,000,000 |

Section 3.2 –Cultural Services Division

3.2.1 - Projects Planned

Donegal Town Library

The Council has been successful in securing part-funding from the Department of Rural and Community Development towards the overall cost of designing and delivering a library in Donegal Town. The Council is continuing to progress a public procurement process to identify a successful bidder to deliver this project.

Archives Centre

The potential to develop an Archives Centre to properly preserve and make archives publicly available is being considered by the Council. The Prior School, on the site of the former Lifford Army Barracks, is potentially suitable for this and it is proposed to develop plans accordingly. Following preparation of a conservation report in 2021, an application was submitted to the Historic Structures Fund for €24,500 (with the Council providing 20% match funding) which was successful. This funding will cover asbestos and bat surveys and will allow for some remedial works to render the building waterproof. A feasibility study will be carried out next, following which

additional external funding sources will be explored to develop the Prior School as the County Archives Centre.

Cultural buildings

The Council has been successful in obtaining capital funding of €100K (with DCC providing 10% match) from the Department of Rural and Community Development for small-scale works to upgrade libraries. Work at the Central Library will take place during 2022. It is hoped this funding stream will continue to be made available for further library works.

It is expected that further investment in improvement works in other cultural buildings will be made by the Council during the lifetime of this Capital Plan. Some of these works relate to ventilation, insulation, and energy saving, as well as to general repairs and maintenance, working towards having planned preventive maintenance rather than responsive as at present. In addition, there will be investment to ensure compliance with statutory requirements and to improve H&S standards and accessibility.

Historic graveyards

At least 50 historic graveyards are in the care of Donegal County Council. These graveyards are social and cultural assets and of interest to the Donegal community at home and abroad. The Council, taking a cross-directorate approach, proposes to explore internal and external funding sources during the next three years to enable conservation plans and appropriate works to be carried out.

Cultural Capital Scheme 2019-2022 (Dept of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media)

Awards of capital grants for eleven arts and culture organisations were announced in August 2021 for upgrading and development of facilities. Two of the eleven successful applications are Donegal-based, An Grianán Theatre in Letterkenny and the Abbey Arts Centre in Ballyshannon, with €290K and €88K approved respectively. The terms of the Scheme require 50% co-funding from the Council, bringing the total value of the investment to €756k.

This latest funding will support the continued development, improvement, and investment in Donegal's cultural infrastructure. The previous capital funding scheme, 2016-2018, invested in An Grianán Theatre, the Abbey Arts Centre, the County Museum and LATCH (the Old Courthouse) in Lifford.

Capital funding projections for the three-year period 2022-2024 are as follows:

| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Libraries & other Cultural Services buildings | 800,000 | 1,800,000 | 2,800,000 |

4. Roads & Transportation

4.1 – National Roads Major Capital Projects

The National Roads Office (NRO), based in the Donegal Town Public Services Centre, continues to successfully manage a major program of key road improvements and essential network management across the wider TII North and Western regions. All projects are fully funded by Transport Infrastructure Ireland, except for the Ten-T priority improvement project which is currently part funded by the CEF (Connecting Europe Facility).

The immediate government funding profile for the TII over the next 4 years is set out in the NDP 2021 to 2030. The overall funding environment with respect to new road design and delivery is expected to be very restricted up to 2025 at least.

4.1.1 - TEN-T Priority Route Improvement Project, Donegal

General

The TEN-T Priority Route Improvement Project (Ten-T PRIP) is approaching the closing stages of Phase 3 Design & Environmental Evaluation, including completion of design, environmental matters, and project appraisal. The projects involve three priority sections of the National Road Network in Donegal.

- Section 1 N15/N13 Ballybofey – Stranorlar Urban
- Section 2 N56/N13/N14 Letterkenny to Manorcunningham, including N13 Lurgybrack, dual carriageway upgrade to Manorcunningham Roundabout, and N56 link road over R. Swilly to Creamery Roundabout on N56/Ramelton Road.
- Section 3 N14 Manorcunningham to Lifford

Project Appraisal Deliverables

The Preliminary Business Case, a key requirement under the Public Spending Code, is well advanced and, following review and final checks, will be submitted to TII, the Department of Transport, and ultimately to the Government before year end for approval. Overall project delivery and finance is also reviewed at this stage. Previous elementary cost/km estimates in 2019 will be superseded by detailed cost estimates based on current developed design and scope of works. Design development, changing European and Government Policy (particularly around climate action), together with significant current inflation pressures arising out of Covid-19 and other factors, are expected to result in a significant increase in the overall project estimate.

Design, Environmental Assessments and CPO

The closing-stage environmental assessments and design refinements are underway and the final documentation bringing together all information is currently being compiled. Subject to the progression of approvals of the scheme business case and project appraisal (through TII, Department of Finance, and Government), the

publication of the Design, EIAR and CPO documentation, which marks the commencement of the planning process, is possible in early 2022. The immediate spending profile from year 2022 to 2025 is estimated as follows:

| TEN-T Estimated Expenditure Profile 2022 – 2025 | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Years | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
| Projected Expenditure | 2.5m | 2.0m | 3.0m | 4.0m |

Table 4.1 Ten-T Estimated Expenditure Profile to 2025

This expenditure profile allows for the completion of statutory processes and oral hearing between 2022 and 2024 (subject to approval), and initiation of procurement, essential advance works such as Archaeology, and some land acquisition in 2025. The method and order of delivery of this project and its respective sections have not been determined. Importantly, CEF funding for 2022 and 2023 will assist through what will be potentially lean years up to 2025. It is critical that minimal funding as indicated is secured and that the project continues to progress forward.

4.1.2 - N14/N15 to A5 Link

The N14/N15 to A5 Link structure and associated elements are now progressed and integrated fully into the TEN-T PRIP CPO, EIAR and Design Report. Donegal NRO continues to liaise and consult fully with the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) Northern Ireland regarding design, program, and planning, as well as transboundary impacts and assessments.

4.1.3 - Current National Roads Major Capital Projects at Construction

There are three construction contracts currently on site in Donegal, namely N56 Dungloe to Cloughbolie, N56 Letterilly to Glenties (Kilraine) Phase 1, and N56 Illistrin to Letterkenny Cycleway. Works continue to proceed satisfactorily. All works are fully funded by TII

N56 Dungloe to Cloughbolie

The main contract was awarded in early May 2020. Construction commenced in June 2020. Construction is now approximately 70% complete. Substantial completion is programmed for the end of Q2 2022, although current progress will likely bring that date forward into Q1 2022.

N56 Letterilly to Glenties (Kilraine)

The main contract was awarded in late August 2020. Construction commenced in January 2021 and is approximately 20% complete. Substantial completion is programmed by Q3 2022.

This scheme is particularly complex and challenging. It includes the surcharging of peat over a 2km section, with the peat remaining in place as part of the Permanent

Works. Experienced consultant engineers are working closely with Donegal NRO and the contractor to evolve the design and construction to best meet the particular challenges being faced on the ground.

These ongoing works involve the design and management of cutting edge experimental geotechnical and environmental solutions. The current process can inform and help develop methodologies for environmentally sustainable development in peat. The Council, with the consultant engineers, will seek wider industry and academic input into this particular case. It is expected that the long-term maintenance needs of the section will be an important consideration.

N56 Illistrin to Letterkenny Cycleway

The main contract was awarded in June 2021, with construction commencing in early July 2021. The scheme is being supervised by Donegal NRO staff. Construction is substantially complete. The project links Letterkenny to Illistrin with a dedicated pedestrian and cycling facility. This new section connects to the existing facility from Illistrin to Kilmacrennan completed as an integral part of the N56 Coolboy to Kilmacrennan Road realignment.

4.1.4 - Current National Roads Major Capital Projects at Design Stage

Ten-T N13 Bridgend to County Boundary – Northern Ireland Border (Derry)

The N13 Bridgend to County Boundary Route Improvement Project focuses on a 1.2 km long section of the N13 National Primary Route through the village of Bridgend and onto the border with Northern Ireland (Derry) where it connects to the A2 Buncrana Road.

Donegal NRO has now completed all deliverables required for Phase 0 & Phase 1 of the TII Project Management Guidelines (PMG) and has obtained TII Phase 0 Gate Approval including approval to procure and appoint Technical Advisors to progress the project from Phase 2 to Phase 5 inclusive.

Donegal NRO is currently in the process of procuring Technical Advisors from TII's Technical Consultancy Services Framework Lot 1b. The procurement Tender Period for Technical Advisors concluded on 17th September 2021. Tender Evaluation is ongoing with a view to appointing the successful Technical Advisors in Q4 2021.

The following is an indicative programme for the project:

- Consultant Appointment - Q4 2021
- Phase 2 Completion - Q1 2023
- Phase 3 Completion - Q1 2024
- Phase 4 Completion - Q3 2025
- Phase 5 Completion - Q3 2026

N56 Letterilly to Glenties (Kilraine)

This phase 6 of the N56 Dungloe to Glenties/Kilraine project involves two distinct elements. Design and tender documentation for the majority of the scheme is complete.

The second element involves approximately 800m of bog rampart with significant environmental constraints and construction challenges. Donegal NRO has developed an alternative minimal option to mitigate or avoid the most significant constraints. This will be finalised over the next six months. Both elements will be procured as one contract.

N56 Doonwell to Drumbrick

The procurement process to appoint a consultant is nearing completion with an appointment expected by the end of 2021.

N15 Corcam Bends

The scheme has commenced at Phase 0/1. Design consultants have recently completed a Strategic Assessment Report (SAR) in accordance with the Public Spending Code and Project Appraisal requirements, and this will shortly be finalised and submitted to TII for approval.

4.1.5 - Current National Roads Major Capital Pipeline Projects

While resources are primarily assigned to active and design, construction and network management projects pipeline and upstream projects remain an important element of the capital roads programme.

The following 'pipeline' projects are currently being progressed, as funding and staffing resources permit.

| National Roads Major Capital Pipeline Projects | |
|---|--|
| Category/Type | Name |
| Cross Border Links | N3 Ballyshannon to Northern Ireland Border (A46 Belleek) (6km) |
| TEN-T Network | N13 Stranorlar to Letterkenny (9km) |
| TEN-T Network | N13 Manorcunningham to Bridgend (21km) |
| Historical Projects | N56 Inver to Killybegs (Five points) (14km) |
| Historical Projects | N15 Stranorlar to Lifford (19km) |
| Low Volume National Secondary | N56 Glenties to Killybegs (25km) |
| Low Volume National Secondary | N56 Dungloe to Gweedore (15km) |

Table 4.2 Pipeline Projects (non-exhaustive list)

4.2 National Road Safety Projects

Safety projects on national roads are identified initially through TII HD15 Network Safety Ranking and NRA HD17 Road Safety Inspection.

Six projects continue to be progressed under HD15/17 in 2020. Following on from new project appraisal requirements, further delays arising out of Covid-19 have led to slower than planned progress on some of these projects. Progress in 2021 is dependent on funding and approvals, including project appraisal under the Public Spending Code.

4.2.1 Safety Schemes at Construction

N56 DL_157.5 Four Lane Road Safety Improvement Scheme

This scheme addresses essential safety, drainage, and pavement requirements. The scheme also provides substantial new and improved active travel facilities including:

- 2.8km of footways
- 2.8km of cycleways
- Three on-demand Toucan crossings
- Two new bus lay-bys

The construction contract was awarded in late May 2021, with construction commencing in June 2021. Time Allowed for Completion is 65 Weeks and the Date for Substantial Completion is August 2022. A company has been appointed to provide Employer's Representative services and a Site Supervision Team.

4.2.2 - Safety Schemes at Design

N14 Tullyrap

Design and draft tender documentation are complete. This scheme is now on hold pending confirmation of the Major TEN-T road project. Immediate interventions are proposed under the 2022 N14 Feddyglass RSIS, incorporating separate but contiguous pavement works deferred from this year.

N15 McGroary's Brae

This 0.9km legacy section of TEN-T national road has a substandard high gradient. This situation is exacerbated by its localised narrow cross-section with no hard shoulder over the short section of the hill. The immediate interim proposal is to provide a new hard shoulder to the existing carriageway over approximately 1km to provide route consistency benefits as well as aiding function, safety, and capacity. Design and draft tender documentation have been completed, with approvals and funding awaited.

N15 Lough Mourne

This project entails completion of 100m of new hard shoulder and clear zone construction. A consistent cross section will have safety and operational benefits for all road users. It is intended to progress a CPO in Q4 2021.

N14 Feddyglass

The N14 Feddyglass project is being brought forward to address issues identified following Road Safety Inspections and includes forward-visibility / stopping-sight-distance improvements, verge strengthening, curve widening, and improved delineation. It is intended to deliver these improvements, in part or in full, with a 2022 PARR scheme identified for this section of the N14, subject to TII approval.

4.2.3 - NRO Safety Schemes at Feasibility and Options Stage

There are three safety schemes at feasibility assessment stage; these are:

- N15 Lough Eske
- N15 Laghey
- N3 Lissacholly

Draft reports are currently under consideration by TII and it is anticipated these feasibility assessments will advance towards conclusion in Q4 2021.

4.3 – National Road Pavement Strengthening Design and Construction

Pavement strengthening works associated with the N14 Feddyglass Road Safety Inspection Improvement Safety Project have an estimated construction cost of €1 million. Planning and Design of this combined project will be completed by year end 2021. Procurement of a contractor and construction will be completed in 2022.

The Donegal NRO is currently finalising a proposed new Three-Year Donegal PARR Programme with TII. TII's Pavement Asset Management System (PAMS), combined with Donegal NRO network surveys and local knowledge has identified 23 proposed PARR Projects in Donegal with a total length of 67km and an estimated construction cost of approximately €32 million. Donegal NRO will continue to work in partnership with TII to prioritise these proposed projects and finalise a Three-year Pavement Strengthening Programme based on the projected TII funding available.

| Proposed Year for Construction (TBC) | Scheme Name | Estimated Cost |
|---|---|-----------------------|
| 2022 | N56 Four Land Road | €2,500,000 |
| 2022 | N14 Tullyrap to Ballyholey | €1,100,000 |
| 2022 | N56 Crolly to Meenacung | €1,821,184 |
| 2022 | N15 Ballyshannon to Ardgillow | €1,879,672 |
| 2022 | N15 Bundoran Bypass Surface Course Replacement | €1,428,242 |
| 2023 to 2025 | N56 Mountain Top to Illistrin Surface Course Replacement | €795,000 |
| | N56 Creeslough Village to Graveyard | €820,000 |
| | N13 Lurgybrack to Listillion | €1,200,000 |
| | N15 Laghy to Drumnacroil | €1,500,000 |
| | N56 Ardara East to Frosses Junction at Kilraine (5.4km-1.6km) | €1,700,000 |
| | N15 Castlefinn to Liscooley | €1,300,000 |
| | N56 Inver Bridge to Ardaghey Junction | €450,000 |
| | N56 North of Termon (800m + 1300m = 2100m) | €950,000 |
| | N56 Mount Errigal to Thomas Keys | €975,000 |
| | N15 McGroarys Bray to Derg Line | €1,700,000 |
| | N56 Dungloe North (Petrol Station to Garden Centre) | €1,050,000 |
| | N56 Dungloe - Loughanure | €190,000 |
| | N13 Newtowncunningham to Burt | €1,550,000 |
| | N15 Castlefinn Village | €1,350,000 |
| | Ballybofey/Stranorlar | €1,400,000 |
| | McClay's Corner to Kilross | €1,700,000 |
| | N15 Stranorlar to Treanamullin / Corcam | €1,850,000 |
| | N56 Dunfanaghy to Clonmore | €2,600,000 |

Table 4.3 Projected Pavement Program to 2025

4.4 – National Roads - Estimated Capital Spending for 2022, 2023 and 2024

The table below sets out the expected capital spend for 2022. The capital allocation is estimated for 2022 and 2023.

| SCHEME | 2022 €m | 2023 €m | 2024 €m |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| TII Support Grant (NRO and DCC RDO) | 2.5 | 2.6 | 2.6 |
| National Roads Capital Projects (Design and Construction) | 21.0 | 20.0 | 20.0 |
| National Road Pavement Strengthening (NS and NP) | 6.6 | 7.0 | 8.0 |
| National Road Safety Projects (HD15/HD17) | 2.0 | 3.0 | 5.0 |
| Bridge Management (Maintenance, Refurbishment and Rehabilitation) | 1.0 | 1.0 | 2.0 |
| ANNUAL TOTALS | 33.1 | 33.6 | 37.6 |

Table 4.4 Expected capital spend 2022 to 2024

4.5 – Non-National Roads Projects

Generally, Non-National Roads, Road Safety, and Bridges projects are funded through the Department of Transport. While some projects may be regarded as capital, these are accounted for in the Annual Revenue Budget.

Applications for Department of Transport (DoT) Specific Grant projects and Strategic Grant projects have become more challenging in recent years. During 2020, a shortlist of projects was agreed with Elected Members to ensure that staff resources are focussed in the right areas.

A draft five-year programme was prepared which consisted of 26 projects for completion in year one. While the 2021 DoT Specific Grant funding application was unsuccessful, the Council will continue to progress these projects through the project development stages towards construction stage, as resources permit.

During 2021, a review was undertaken to realign or seek co-funding for those prioritised projects within urban speed limits from NTA Active Travel Grants and/or other funding sources (highlighted in bold in the table below) and applications will be progressed over the coming three years as the opportunity arises.

| Priority | Project Title | MD | Other Funding Opportunities |
|-----------------|--|-----------|---|
| 1 | Ballybofey/Stranorlar Link Roads - Mill Brae Footpath | LS | Active Travel 2022 |
| 2 | R263/L1195 Halls Junction, Kilcar | D | Laghey Pettigo Project ongoing at present |
| 3 | R252 Fintown Pavement and Safety Scheme | G | Active Travel 2022 plus other Co-Funding options |
| 4 | Aghilly Road | I | Active Travel 2022 plus other Co-Funding options |
| 5 | Cathedral One Way System, Letterkenny. | LM | Active Travel 2022 |
| 6 | R250 Meenaroy Realignment Bridges Replacement | LM | |
| 7 | GR240 Glentogher Phase I | I | |
| 9 | R232 Pettigo Road - Glenmore Bridge | D | |
| 10 | Ballybofey/ Stranorlar Link Roads - Glenfinn Link | LS | |
| 11 | R235 Castlefin Bridge * | LS | |
| 12 | R231 Connors bridge | D | |
| 13 | R251 Back of Errigal | G | |
| 14 | Buncrana Inner Relief Road Project - Marian Park/football grounds | I | Possible Active Travel Co-Funding option |
| 15 | L1072 Portsalon to Fanad Head via Doaghbeg | LM | |
| 16 | R251 Foxhall to Churchill - Project 1 - Rockbar | LM | |
| 17 | R238 Redcastle Moville | I | |
| 18 | L2863 Ardara - Ardaghey Route Improvements | D | |
| 19 | Guesthouse End footpath, Raphoe | LS | Active Travel or other |
| 20 | R267 Bundoran & Ballyshannon cycleway/walkway | D | |
| 21 | Coyles/Beggars Bridge | I | |
| 22 | Keadue Bridge | LM | |
| 23 | L1352 Ballyare Bridge | LM | |
| 24 | Tank Road Safety Improvements | I | |
| 25 | Donegal Town One Way system | D | Active Travel 2022 |
| 26 | L1164 Windy Hall Road Project 1 | LM | Possible Active Travel and Social Housing Co-Funding Options |

Further to aspirations in the previous capital plan, progress has been made on a number of large Road Infrastructural Projects, with the status of same summarised below:

- Meenamulligan Bridge: Completed in 2021
- Letterkenny Traffic Management - Polestar and Associated Junctions: DoT funded works completed in 2021
- R263 Fintra Bridge and Realignment Project: CPO published in October 2021 with construction tender to proceed in 2022 (subject to DoT funding allocation) with total remaining budget requirement of €7.05m to complete in 2024
- Letterkenny Southern Relief Road (incorporating Swilly Relief Road & Bridges and the Eastern Link Road): Strategic Assessment Report submitted to DoT and await approval to commence consultant engineer procurement process. Project estimate of €77m, with €5m investment for next three years
- R232 Laghey Pettigo Improvement Project: Glenmore Bridge solution and pavement designs ongoing with construction completed on annual basis of road works with total budget requirement of €3m
- Aghilly Road, Buncrana: CPO process nearing completion and final design underway with project estimate of €1m

The table below sets out the proposed expenditure for Non-National Roads Projects for 2021-2023:

| Expenditure Heading | 2022 € | 2023 € | 2024 € | Council € | External € |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Bridge Maintenance | 800,000 | 800,000 | 800,000 | 0 | 2,400,000 |
| Specific Capital Projects (0.5m per MD) | 2,500,000 | 2,500,000 | 2,500,000 | 0 | 7,500,000 |
| Strategic Capital Projects (LKSRR/Fintra Bridge) | 2,400,000 | 6,000,000 | 3,650,000 | 0 | 12,050,000 |
| Active Travel Projects | 5,000,000 | 5,000,000 | 5,000,000 | | 15,000,000 |
| Total | 10,700,000 | 14,300,000 | 11,950,000 | 0 | 36,950,000 |

4.6 – Public Lighting

Currently, the Council has 18,695 public lights. The Council maintains a full inventory, including mapping of each light, on its DeadSure public lighting management information system.

Commencing in 2016, the Council embarked on upgrading public lighting from traditional SOX/SON lamps to energy-efficient LED lamps through various projects and funding sources.

During 2020, loan funding in the sum of €1 million was approved by the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage and drawn from the HFA, enabling the Council to progress the three-year LED upgrade programme. All SOX lantern replacements have been completed in the following towns:

- Buncrana
- Ballybofey Stranorlar
- Donegal Town
- Milford
- Bundoran
- Ramelton
- Bunbeg/Derrybeg
- Dungloe
- Falcarragh
- Kilmacrennan
- Downings
- Letterkenny
- Ballyshannon
- Carndonagh
- Moville
- Muff

With regards to public lighting on the national road network, the TII has funded the upgrade of almost the entire stock of public lighting over the last four years, with the high-mast lighting at Donegal Town replaced in Q4 of 2021 and full completion of all upgrades anticipated by end of 2022.

At the end of 2021, 65% of the 18,695 public lights under the control of Donegal County Council will have been converted to LED lanterns (12,000 in number), with the remainder split approximately 50/50 between SOX and SON lanterns. It is expected that energy savings of up to 50% can be achieved as a result of this work once the Unmetered Register (UMR) is updated. Work is nearing completion with ESB Networks in this regard.

The RMO is currently planning for the rollout of a regional contract (including Donegal) in Q3 of 2022 in order to complete the outstanding retrofits of all non-LED lanterns. The cost to complete the upgrading of the remaining lights in the Donegal inventory to LED is estimated in the range of €5m to €7m. Upgrading of the support infrastructure will require additional funding of €2m to €4m in the coming years. Loan financing will be required to support this project, as previously approved by Council. Mayo County Council shall be the lead authority for this contract under the previously approved Section 85 agreement and has appointed a consultant to complete the design and contract tender documents.

4.7 – Footpath and Lighting Programme

The Council adopted a motion in 2017 to provide funding to implement a three-year footpath and public lighting programme utilising a combination of funds from IPBMI, State/Agency Grants, Development Charges, and other own resources. Construction started on individual improvements in 2018 and will continue through 2021. A fund in the sum of €4.2m was ring-fenced for this programme and a further €1m was added in 2021, bringing the total fund to €5.2m and allowing for the footpath and public lighting programme to continue beyond the originally planned three-year period.

4.8 – Piers & Harbours Capital Development

In late 2016, Donegal County Council engaged the services of an engineering firm to undertake safety inspections of its 100 piers and harbours at the various locations throughout County Donegal. The resulting report identified a range of measures to help ensure, in as far as is practicable, that these working piers and harbours in public ownership are safe for use and fit for purpose. Since 2017, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) has provided an annual allocation, co-funded by the Council, to address these needs and steady progress has been made in this regard. However, the funding limit (recently raised to €200,000 per project) is insufficient to implement larger transformational projects.

Over the last five years, in consultation with the Elected Members of Donegal County Council, the Donegal Fisheries Committee, local maritime and fishing communities, the challenges faced at local level and enhancements required to provide opportunity to fish, to diversify and/or to provide alternative uses for the Piers/Harbours infrastructure for leisure and tourist activities, have been at the centre of the development of annual works programmes and the 3-year capital plan.

In 2021, the Minister of the DAFM offered Donegal County Council a co-funded €13m budget to undertake the completion of the long-awaited breakwater at Greencastle, the largest and busiest of the Council-owned Harbours. The Council accepted the terms and conditions of the offer and is progressing with the relevant processes to comply with same to secure the funding and complete the works over the coming three-year period.

In addition to Greencastle Harbour, the Council also owns, manages, and maintains 100 harbours along the Donegal coastline. Following a recent annual review of the condition of said facilities, the Council is satisfied that:

- 50 pier/harbour facilities require no further works in the next three-year period or have had work completed in recent years. This equates to circa 50% of all facilities in each MD.
- 24 pier/harbour facilities require a low level of safety enhancements and structural repairs. The DAFM, under its Fishery Harbour and Coastal Infrastructure Development Programme, provides funding for minor capital works projects each year. The maximum project cost permitted has recently increased to €200,000. The Department will provide up to 75% of the necessary funding, with the Council providing the balance. Invitations for applications usually issue in February each year. Works to be undertaken will include:
 - Pier & Harbour Safety Measures
 - Aids to Navigation (AtoNs)
 - Crane/Winch facilities
- 26 pier/harbour facilities require significant capital investment but will be transformational in their outputs. In some cases, specialist assessment and design may be undertaken prior to seeking funding and aids in the preparation

of preliminary appraisal applications for more significant funding opportunities as they arise for larger projects.

| MD | Pier No. | Pier Name | Project Type | Project details | Budget Estimates |
|-----------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| D | 141 | Port, Inver Bay | Pier Extension | Location is strategic; busiest re fishing industry in DMD after Killybegs, pier extension supported by local fishing community | 2,750,000 |
| D | 147 | Donegal Town | Pontoon Project | Study to develop facilities at pier - extension of pontoons or structure for berthing for visiting yachts due to good natural shelter | 1,500,000 |
| D | 122 | Teelin | Pontoon Project | Charters and tourism focus; existing pontoon to be extended for visiting yachts - excellent safe havens and shelters | 600,000 |
| D | 151 | Ballyshannon | Pontoon Project | Pontoon project | 500,000 |
| D | 142 | Inver Village | Pontoon Project | Pontoon project | 300,000 |
| D | 125 | Cladnageeragh | Structural Refurbishment /development | Maintenance of significant piled structure and new winch | 300,000 |
| D | | Various | Carpark Provision | Support for increased visitor / harbour user numbers | 500,000 |
| G | 67 | Magheraroarty | Harbour Development | An Roinn has committed funding and a project is at Preliminary Appraisal Stage – this is a further support to overall works that could be delivered for this important fishing/island harbour. There are likely to be works required outside of the An Roinn funded works to meet the needs of the local maritime community. | 2,500,000 |
| G | 83 | Burtonport | Harbour Development | In addition to the Regeneration Project, this phase of work will include quay wall, slipway, and marina. Good facility for ferry, island support, fishing, tourism, and is a safe haven. | 1,500,000 |
| G | 63 | Portnablagh | Structural Refurbishment /development | Significant stone structure requires underpinning /grouting and improved shelter | 1,500,000 |
| G | 73 | Bunbeg | Pontoon Project | Pontoon project | 1,000,000 |
| G | 107 | Aranmore, Ferry Terminal | Structural Refurbishment /development | Slipway widening and extension to improve accessibility and safety and wave wall refurbishment | 800,000 |
| G | 98 | Camusmore, Tory | Slipway Improvement | Slipway upgrade to improve accessibility for RORO ferry service and to remove tidal reliance | 400,000 |
| G | 91 | Portnoo | Carpark Provision | Carpark extension required for increased user numbers | 200,000 |
| G | 114 | Rutland | Pontoon Project | Pontoon Project | 300,000 |
| G | 92 | Rosbeg | Structural Refurbishment /development | Some works required - fishing supported pier and new crane required | 200,000 |
| I | 6 | Greencastle | Harbour Development | Other harbour works not funded under breakwater (at €13m) to provide further berthing and increase capacity - largest DCC fishing port and significant strategic location, safe haven, SFPA designated and needs increase in capacity | 3,000,000 |
| I | 18 | Portevlin, Leenan | Pier Extension | Slipway completed in 2022 | 2,500,000 |
| I | 11 | Portmore, Malin Head | Structural Refurbishment /development | Pier in good condition; access to beach could be improved for improved leisure amenity and additional berthing via construction of new quay wall incorporating footpath, thus reducing sand build-up and improving beach access | 2,250,000 |
| I | 10 | Portaleen, Glengad | Structural Refurbishment /development | New quay wall | 1,250,000 |
| I | 24 | Buncrana | Pontoon Project | Pontoon Project | 300,000 |

| | | | | | |
|----|----|---------------------|---------------------|--|-----------|
| LM | 37 | Rathmullan | Pier Refurbishment | Consultant report completed 2021 outlining requirements | 3,500,000 |
| LM | 40 | Portsalon | Harbour Development | Significant pier in terms of structure and form; needs works due to erosion - but no significant fishing activity; mainly leisure use (swimming, not pier) | 1,500,000 |
| LM | 61 | Downings | Pontoon Project | Location is strategic and safe haven; would benefit from pontoon and pier repair works | 500,000 |
| LM | 55 | Mevagh, Fanny's Bay | Pontoon Project | Pontoon facility completed in 2022 | 200,000 |
| LM | | Various | Carpark Provision | Support for increased visitor/harbour user numbers | 500,000 |

4.9 – Roads Projects Funded from Development Charges

The total estimated amount of General Development Charges that will be provided for the Roads Directorate is currently estimated at €250,000 annually for the period 2022 to 2024. These estimates will be the subject of further review in advance of each respective budget year and will take account of the payment trend of DCS at that time to update the expected available budget accordingly.

The projects to be built under available Development Charges will be prioritised by the Municipal Districts.

In addition to general DCS, the Council collects Specific Development Charges for specified works required to facilitate specific developments, and these charges will be spent on the projects for which they are levied.

4.10 – Projects Funded from Private Works Contributions

From time to time, monies are made available to the Roads Department to undertake specified works on the public road network. An example of this would include funding for the repair of roads damaged by third parties (e.g. EIR, Water Services, etc.).

Projects of this nature are reported as capital projects. However, they tend to be of low value, short duration, and impossible to predict in advance with any certainty. Such projects are mentioned here for completeness but will not form part of the Roads Capital Budget.

4.11 – Greenways Projects

North West Greenway Network

In 2015, Derry City & Strabane District Council (DCSDC) in partnership with Donegal County Council (DCC), Transport NI, and Sustrans, established the Active & Sustainable Travel Forum (ASTF) and the Forum's North West Greenways Action Plan forms the basis of a strategic and co-ordinated plan for the development of a network of greenways throughout the North West.

In line with the aims and vision set out within the North West Greenway plan, partners Derry City & Strabane District Council, Donegal County Council, Transport NI (TNI) and Sustrans secured funding approval for a project costing €14,861,188, with 85% of the funding coming from the EU's INTERREG VA 2014-2020 programme (administered by SEUPB) and 15% matching funding provided by the two governments. This has enabled the partners to progress with design, development & delivery of the cross-border greenway routes to achieve a rise in modal shift.

The objectives of the North West Greenway Network are aligned to the key messages associated with the funding:

- a. Increase modal shift – move away from a car-dependent culture
- b. Contribute to the region's overall sustainability by providing health, social, economic, and environmental benefits
- c. Create and promote a strong unifying brand
- d. Support local authorities in promoting access & infrastructural improvements
- e. Develop a connected region
- f. Promote health, wellbeing, and the wider societal benefits of cycling/walking

The project lifespan is five years from 1st January 2017 to 31st December 2021. An extension of time is likely to be approved with closeout no later than December 2023. Three separate projects were included in the NWGN and the status of each project is as follows:

- Route 1 – 32.5km: Derry-Buncrana: EIAR/CPO to be published in Q4 2021 and anticipate Oral Hearing in 2022
- Route 2 – 10.5km: Muff-Derry: Construction contract commenced in September 2021 with works to be completed in Q2 2022.
- Route 3 – 3.5km: Strabane to Lifford: Project was completed in 2021.

Donegal County Council co-funding of approximately €1.65 million will be required to complete this project as per the terms of the offer. In addition, the overall Project Team has indicated that the estimated construction costs will be higher than the original cost estimates. This will require further analysis and a plan to deal with the increases.

The Planning and Design process for Route 1 has taken longer than originally anticipated and is no longer likely to be delivered within the INTERREG VA 2014-2020 programme window. Alternative proposals, delivering an equivalent length of greenway, have been submitted to SEUPB and are currently being considered. Both councils remain committed to delivering Route 1 in its entirety and are actively engaging on alternative funding sources.

Other Greenways Projects

The remainder of a new Greenways Capital Projects Team should be set up by Q1 2022 in the Central Technical Services Division to manage the delivery of any greenways projects that achieve funding over the next three-year period to support the Senior Executive and Executive Engineers already in post.

In December 2020, Donegal County Council was awarded funding by the Department of Transport to advance three greenways projects under its 'Greenways Funding Round – Carbon Tax 2020' initiative. Those routes are:

- Buncrana to Carndonagh (€180,000)
- Carrigans to Castlefinn (€115,000)
- Muff to Quigley's Point (€45,000)

The funding provided is to enable the commencement of the delivery process in each case with strategic assessment and feasibility study.

An Integrated Consultancy Team (ICT) is being procured to work on delivery of each project, with appointments being made in Q4 2021.

The first deliverable in each case will be a Strategic Assessment Report (SAR), which will investigate all relevant issues and opportunities arising.

Buncrana to Carndonagh Greenway

This project will form part of the envisaged Inishowen Greenway and will be a continuation of the Bridgend – Buncrana Greenway currently being developed through the NWGN project.

Carrigans to Castlefin Greenway

This project will link to the Foyle Valley cycle route close to the border north of Carrigans, with the aim of providing a traffic-free route (as much as possible) onwards to Castlefin, connecting with the existing Lifford – Strabane Greenway recently constructed as part of the NWGN project.

Muff – Quigley's Point Greenway

This project will form part of the envisaged Inishowen Greenway and will be a continuation of the Derry to Muff Greenway currently being developed through the NWGN project.

In addition to the three schemes already in receipt of funding, the Council is keen to pursue further greenway schemes including Burtonport – Letterkenny Greenway and Barnsmore Gap Greenway.

Burtonport – Letterkenny

It is an aspiration of the Council to develop a full greenway standard route from Burtonport to Letterkenny. To that end, funding has been sought for a 2022 allocation to enable appointment of a consultant to commence the project delivery process. The undertaking of a strategic assessment and constraints study will be the first step. Consultation with Elected Members commenced in 2021 to identify objectives and a strategy for the delivery of this circa 80km greenway project.

Barnesmore Gap

It is also an aspiration of the Council to commence the development of a greenway through the Barnesmore Gap from Ballybofey to Donegal Town. Its location between two centres of population, passing through a very scenic part of the County, makes it an attractive route for visitors and locals alike, to use for social and tourist activities. No funding has been sourced to date to enable the project to commence but an application has been made to DoT for an allocation in 2022. When funding is available, consultants will be appointed to commence the project delivery process, initially undertaking a strategic assessment and constraints study.

In Q3 2021, the Council submitted a funding request to the DoT for 2022 Greenway Projects to enable same to be progressed:

| Project | 2022 Indicative Budget |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Muff to Quigley's Point | €270,000 |
| Buncrana to Carndonagh | €480,000 |
| Carrigans to Castlefin | €748,000 |
| NWGN Route 1 (oral hearing costs, detailed design and tender) | €500,000 |
| Letterkenny to Burtonport (appoint consultants in Q1 with delivery commencing thereafter) | €250,000 |
| Barnesmore Gap Greenway (appoint consultants in Q2 with delivery commencing thereafter) | €50,000 |
| Total | €2,298,000 |

As funding is approved and progress made, further applications for greenways may be submitted.

In September 2021, the role of sanctioning authority for greenway projects transferred from Department of Transport (DoT) to Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII). Going forward, delivery of greenways will follow the TII project phase methodology. It is expected that the Donegal NRO will have a regional remit to provide programme oversight and technical support for greenways development.

5. Water & Environment Services

5.1 – Water Services

5.1.1 – Irish Water

The Water Services (No. 2) Act of 2013 transferred responsibility for policy and funding for public water services from local authorities to Irish Water. This has had a significant impact for the Council's overall capital programme. The provision of water service infrastructure accounted for a considerable proportion of the Council's annual capital expenditure in previous years. The responsibility for investment programmes, including the prioritisation of projects, has transferred to Irish Water.

The Council's capital & design division continues to play a key role in the rollout of projects locally on behalf of Irish Water, under the terms of the Service Level Agreement with Irish Water. There has been an extensive programme of major water and wastewater projects progressed through planning, design, and construction stages in Donegal as part of the current Irish Water Capital Investment Plan since 2014.

Minor capital upgrade/replacement requirements to wastewater treatment infrastructure have been identified at a number of locations throughout Donegal by the Elected Members and Water Services staff in recent years. This was highlighted as requiring investment during the County Donegal Development Plan 2018-2024 process. These needs include essential upgrades required to wastewater treatment plants that impact negatively on bathing water quality, and increase risk as regards the retention of our highly valued Blue Flag beaches. The programme also includes investment required in advance of the rollout of the Irish Water Capital Investment Plan (2020-2024), and essential upgrades of prioritised housing estate wastewater treatment plants.

5.1.2 - Eligibility Criteria for Group Water Schemes takeover by Irish Water

The three main criteria for group water schemes to be eligible for takeover by Irish Water are compliance with all technical, legal, and financial requirements. The Irish Water takeover process requires that the three aforementioned criteria are to the standards set out by Irish Water.

5.1.3 - Resourcing

Under the Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme, funding is available to assist the group water schemes in the takeover process.

Donegal County Council's Rural Water Team has been engaging with group water committees and Elected Members in order to progress the takeover of group water schemes where requests have been received, including orphan group water schemes.

5.1.4 - Rural Water Programme

The Rural Water programme has provided a very effective and beneficial means of delivering improvements to water services at a local level over the past decade. The primary focus over the last number of years has been to improve water quality and supply to private group scheme consumers, and to bring the schemes into compliance with the Drinking Water Directive.

Donegal County Council received an allocation of €2,724,826 in October 2019 in relation to projects under the Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme. Progress has been made on a wide variety of projects during 2021. However, ongoing restrictions relating to Covid-19 have impacted on the delivery of works on the ground. A new multi-annual programme is expected in 2022 for the period to 2022-2024 and the work done by DCC since 2019 will support a strong application for that programme.

The following table sets out the total allocation for County Donegal under the Rural Water Programme for 2022, 2023 and 2024.

| Rural Water Programme | Expenditure Projections | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| | €1.5m | €1.5m | €1.0m |

5.2 – Environmental Services

5.2.1 – Landfill Restoration Programme

Donegal County Council was granted waste licences by the EPA for six landfill facilities under the Waste Management Act 1996. All six facilities are now closed. The waste licences granted required the Council to carry out engineered restoration works at all six facilities within a certain timescale following their closure. Five of these facilities have been restored, including the Churchtown site where restoration works were completed in recent years. Details of these projects, along with further infrastructural works required at several of the other landfill sites, are outlined in the following sections.

5.2.2 – Balbane Landfill Facility

The Council has secured department funding for the final restoration of Balbane Landfill Site utilising biotechnology. A similar type of solution as was used successfully at Churchtown has been approved by the EPA for the Balbane Landfill Site. Consultants were appointed in 2019 to advance the detailed design and tender stages of the project. A contractor was appointed and works commenced in 2021 at the site. Works are expected to be completed in 2022 with the site being fully commissioned in 2023.

The estimated cost to advance detailed design, tender and construction works to complete the restoration of the Balbane site is approximately €2m, which has been fully funded by the Department of the Environment, Climate & Communications.

| Total Project Cost Estimate €2m | Expenditure Projections for Period | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| | €1.1m | €0.2m | €0.1m |

5.2.3 – Ballynacarrick Landfill Site

Leachate from Ballynacarrick landfill is currently transported to Letterkenny Wastewater Treatment works for treatment. It is proposed to develop an Integrated Constructed Wetland (ICW) at Ballynacarrick Landfill site as a lower-cost alternative. The design, tender and construction of an ICW, with associated land acquisition, is estimated to cost €2.2m. Department funding is awarded annually for these types of landfill works. It is anticipated that, in addition to the funding received in 2020 and 2021, further funding is expected to be provided in 2022. It is envisaged that a significant proportion of the project will be Department funded.

| Total Project Cost Estimate €2.2m | Expenditure Projections for Period | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| | €0.9m | €1.1m | €0.2m |

5.2.4 – Other Landfill Works

Hydro-geological studies have been completed at all six licensed landfills in recent years, as required by the EPA. These studies have given rise to a programme of further investigation and remedial works at all six sites. A cost of €150,000 over three years is estimated. Minor capital upgrades/replacements are an ongoing feature of landfill maintenance at all sites, with an estimated €50,000 being required annually.

Local Authorities, the EPA, and the WERLAs have also engaged in a process to complete risk assessments in relation to historic landfill sites (Section 22 Sites) across the country. DCC received funding for works at a historic site in Dungloe in 2021 from the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications and it is anticipated that further funding will be allocated in the coming years.

The estimated cost of progressing the above listed works is summarised in the table below. Delivery of the projects will depend on securing funding from the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment, and will require some co-financing from Donegal County Council.

| Landfill Works | Annual Funding Allocations Sought | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| Hydro-geological Costs | €50,000 | €50,000 | €50,000 |
| Minor Capital Replacement | €50,000 | €50,000 | €50,000 |
| Section 22 Sites | €30,000 | 100,000 | €100,000 |
| Total Annual Cost Estimate | €130,000 | €200,000 | €200,000 |

5.3 Recycling Centres

The Council-owned Recycling Centres at Letterkenny, Milford, Stranorlar, Carndonagh, Laghey and Dungloe are managed and operated by a contractor on behalf of the Council.

Extensive capital infrastructure has been advanced at the six centres, each of which has an area where recyclables may be recycled free-of-charge and an area where charges apply. Items such as glass, cans, textiles, batteries, and electrical goods are all accepted free-of-charge.

At the Letterkenny Recycling Centre, recyclables from the six recycling centres around the County are sorted and mechanically baled. A covered-in structure is proposed to enhance the facility. Facilities shall also be provided to allow for the acceptance of waste paints and the introduction of a paint reuse scheme. It will allow work to continue during inclement weather conditions, enhance the working conditions for staff on site, and also improve the quality of materials that are stored on site.

| Total Project Cost Estimate €50,000 | Funding Allocation Sought |
|--|----------------------------------|
| | 2022-2024 |
| | €50,000 |

5.4 Bring Banks

The Council has progressed capital works at over 72 Bring Banks sites throughout the County where members of the public may recycle glass, cans, and textiles.

An incremental programme of upgrading the Bring Bank facilities in County Donegal is ongoing. Depending on the site, upgrading works can include the installation of fencing around the site, construction of a plinth, signage, and the installation of CCTV. The annual cost of this work is estimated to be in the region of €3,000 per site. In addition, it is planned to create a new bring bank location in Gaoth Dobhair. These works are estimated to cost €35,000.

Bring Banks are maintained to a high standard. These plastic receptacles are subject to high levels of wear and tear, and the banks and internal cables are monitored regularly. Donegal County Council replaces banks where needed. The cost of purchasing a new bring bank is €550. There are approximately 475 bring banks throughout County Donegal. A programme of replacing 20% of banks annually is needed in order to maintain these facilities and sustain their use by the public. An annual provision of €36,000 over the three years 2022 – 2024 is required.

The above capital programmes for recycling centres and bring banks will require funding from the Council. Opportunities to reduce the financial burden on the Council will be pursued if new grants arise.

| Bring Banks | Annual Funding Allocations Sought | | |
|-----------------------------|--|----------------|----------------|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| Bank replacement | €36,000 | €36,000 | €36,000 |
| Gaoth Dobhair Bring Banks | €35,000 | | |
| CCTV | €9,000 | €9,000 | €9,000 |
| Annual Cost Estimate | €80,000 | €45,000 | €45,000 |

5.5 – Donegal Air Quality Monitoring Programme

The Environment and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee reviewed the rollout of the National Ambient (Air Quality) Monitoring Programme in late 2017 and early 2018.

- The review has concluded that where information on local air quality and its impact on the environment and health is available to the public, it helps to change the attitude of those still choosing to burn smoky coal or other specified fuels
- The proposed installation of five live PM10/PM 2.5 monitors would enable the public to check results online at any time on the Council’s web site
- According to the Asthma Society of Ireland, there are 13,000 Asthma sufferers in Donegal; smoky coal is one of the known triggers of Asthma attacks

Donegal County Council has installed several Air Quality Real-Time Indicator Monitors throughout the County.

Two real-time air quality monitoring sites were commissioned in partnership with the EPA in 2019, in Letterkenny and Buncrana. Further air quality monitoring sites have been rolled out in Donegal Town, Ballybofey and Dungloe in 2021. It is anticipated that the Council will continue to expand its air quality monitoring network in 2022 and in subsequent years.

The estimated cost of this air quality monitoring programme for the three years 2022 – 2024 is €105,000 and is to be funded through a combination of department and own-resource funding.

| Donegal Air Quality Monitoring Programme | Annual Funding Requirements | | |
|---|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| | €35,000 | €35,000 | €35,000 |

5.6 – Public Convenience Capital Investment Programme

There is a variety of public-convenience services provided across the County at 55 locations. This ranges from:

- 28 permanent Council-owned structures (some of which are open on a seasonal basis), which are maintained by a combination of Council staff and community groups
- Five permanent privately-owned facilities operated with Council subvention

- 19 temporary beach services during the bathing season
- Three year-round temporary services at key Community & Enterprise promoted locations

A review of the type of public conveniences that are appropriate for different situations throughout the County was carried out through the Environment and Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee in 2017 and 2018. This review has informed the infrastructural investment required in future years.

A summary of the recommendations from the review includes:

- Development of a capital investment programme to carry out essential improvements at prioritised existing public conveniences
- Improved accessibility at public conveniences
- A recommendation that the Council should enhance the public convenience services provided, through increased engagement with community groups and the business community
- The environment section is also working closely with the Donegal County Council Regeneration Team as their projects will deliver improvements in the public convenience network also

The estimated cost of the public convenience capital investment programme for the three years 2022 – 2024 is summarised in the following table.

| Public Conveniences Upgrade Cost Estimate €300,000 | Annual Funding Allocations | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| | €100,000 | €100,000 | €100,000 |

5.7 – Coastal and Beach Improvement

The Donegal mainland coastline is 1,134km long, and constitutes over 17% of the total national coastline. Donegal County Council actively maintains and promotes 21 designated bathing areas under varying National and International initiatives. These 21 beaches alone require considerable maintenance and investment. Whereas every effort will be made to identify grant assistance, the work programme will essentially depend on Donegal County Council for funding.

An increasing number of visitors are enjoying our coastline each year. This coastal tourism is promoted by the Wild Atlantic Way campaign, with specific locations being promoted through initiatives such as the international Blue Flag and Green Coast beach awards. There is a need to meet the requirements and expectations of visitors to our coastline to complete their experience.

The Climate Action and Environment Strategic Policy Committee agreed to a review of facilities and services at our 21 designated bathing areas being undertaken at its meeting in July 2020. Updates from the review have been brought to the SPC on an ongoing basis and specific detailed work has continued in 2021. This review details where improvements are required, and it is planned to use the outputs from the review to formulate applications for external funding from a variety of sources.

Of the 21 designated beaches, 14 beaches have had infrastructural improvements to improve accessibility for visitors of all abilities. A further seven beaches now require investment to allow safe access. The cost estimate for these works is €90,000 per annum. The 2022 programme includes a specific requirement for €30,000 for a number of coastal erosion projects throughout the County.

The following table summarises the anticipated funding that will be required to address the findings and recommendations of this review.

| Beach and Coastal Improvement Programme | Annual Funding Allocations Sought | | |
|--|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| Infrastructure Improvements | €200,000 | €300,000 | €500,000 |
| Total Annual Cost Estimate | €200,000 | €300,000 | €500,000 |

5.8 – Leisure Centres

The proposed refurbishment of Buncrana Community Leisure Centre continues to be progressed by Donegal County Council and Buncrana Community Leisure Centre Committee. The report recommended the demolition of the existing structure and construction of a new facility on the existing site.

Tenders were invited in late 2019 for consultants relating to the project in two lots. Lot 1 was for an Architect Led Design Team and Lot 2 was for Quantity Surveying and Project Management. A two-stage procurement process was followed which allowed interested candidates to be assessed for suitability and shortlisted at the initial stage. During the second stage, shortlisted firms were invited to submit quality and price proposals related to the commissions. Delays to the procurement process were incurred as a result of restrictions imposed relating to Covid-19. However, consultants for both the Architect Led Design Team (Lot 1) and Quantity Surveying and Project Management (Lot 2) were appointed in 2021. The cost for Stage (i) of this appointment will be approximately €68k plus VAT in total. The outputs from Stage (i) will include further development of the project brief with stakeholders, initial architectural proposals and a detailed cost plan for the project. Elected members will be updated in more detail during, and at the end of, Stage (i).

Projected expenditure during the period 2022 to 2024, which is based on preliminary estimates, is included in the table that follows.

There is an emerging need for capital replacement works at each of the existing leisure centres in the County. This is necessary to protect the initial investment and to maintain each facility to a required standard to attract and retain customers. Capital replacement requirements will be informed by periodic structural and fabric assessments of the various facilities. Information to date indicates a requirement of approximately €300,000 per annum, over the three-year period. This programme will depend on funding from Donegal County Council and external sources where available.

| Leisure Centres | Annual Funding Allocations Sought | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|-------------|-------------|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| Buncrana Leisure Centre | €250,000 | €1,300,000 | €3,500,000 |
| Capital Replacement | €300,000 | €300,000 | €300,000 |
| Total Annual Cost Estimate | €550,000 | €1,600,000 | €3,800,000 |

5.9 – Flood Relief Schemes

In May 2018, Minister of State at the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, Kevin Moran, T.D. launched 29 Flood Risk Management Plans for all the main river basins, identifying an initial total of 118 flood relief projects to protect the main flood risk areas throughout the country. This number increased to 119 with the addition of the Burnfoot project, following a Cost Review Report completed in May 2018, which was commissioned in the aftermath the 2017 flood. These Plans and projects are a key part of the overall flood risk management strategy set out in the National Development Plan 2017 – 2028, involving total investment of almost €1 billion over the ten-year timeframe of that plan. As it is not possible to implement all of the 119 projects at the one time, a total of 57 projects have been prioritised, following discussions with local authorities, for the initial tranche of investment and delivery based on the level of risk and number of properties to be protected.

In total, fifteen flood relief projects have been identified for County Donegal as part of the 119 projects. Six of the Donegal projects have been identified to be progressed in a first phase of implementation. These projects include Lifford, Castlefin, Burnfoot, Downings, Glenties, and Kerrykeel. In November 2019, the OPW approved the progression of three further flood relief schemes in Donegal – in Ballybofey and Stranorlar, Buncrana and Ramelton. In addition to these six, there is an ongoing flood relief project at design stage for Raphoe. The OPW and the Council are working closely to progress these projects, with the OPW leading on the delivery of Lifford and Raphoe, and the Council leading on the remaining eight projects. Initial public consultation processes have been completed for the FRSs in Ballybofey and Stranorlar, Buncrana, and Ramelton in 2021, in addition to the consultations that took place on the other schemes in 2020. A wide variety of survey, modelling, and optioneering works have been ongoing across all schemes. A dedicated website, www.countydonegalfrs.ie, has been established and provides a portal to information on all schemes. Quarterly newsletters are published, and quarterly briefing notes are provided for elected members on all schemes.

The OPW has provided funding for the Council to appoint two dedicated members of staff to manage the projects that the Council will deliver in collaboration with the OPW. These staff members were appointed in 2019. As stated above, the Council will initially manage eight projects which will take several years to complete. It is anticipated that the OPW will release further projects to the Council in the coming years.

| Flood Relief Schemes | Anticipated Expenditure | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| Estimate costs | €1,100,000 | €900,000 | €2,200,000 |

6. Community Development & Planning Services

The Community Development & Planning Services Directorate continues to manage a wide-ranging capital programme which will be presented under the following headings:

Section 6.1: Community Development Division.

Section 6.2: Planning Services Division.

The planned programme of investment set out below aims to maximise the opportunities to source external funding while limiting the demand for co-funding from internal resources where possible.

6.1 – Community Development Division

6.1.1 – Projects in Progress

| Project Name | Funder(s) | Details |
|--|--------------------|--|
| Rural Development Programme (RDP/LEADER) | EU/Dept | €13.4m was the total allocation to the Donegal LAG for the programme period 2014 – 2020. €10.06m of the funding was for project costs which were fully allocated by the LAG by December 2020. A LEADER Transitional Programme April 2021- December 2022 is ongoing. €2.8m has been allocated to Donegal LAG for the period of the transitional programme. €274,894 has been awarded to projects by September 2021. |
| 2017/2018 Town & Village Renewal Scheme | Dept/Own Resources | Works at Arranmore, Donegal Town, Glenties and Buncrana will be concluded by Q2 of 2022. |
| 2019 Town & Village Renewal Scheme | Dept/Own Resources | Seven towns and villages across the County were awarded funding under the 2019 Town & Village Renewal Scheme. Projects have been approved in the following areas: Rossnowlagh, Glencolmcille, Dunfanaghy, Maghery, Killea, Clonmany, and Raphoe. The total grant funding approved of €764,400, when combined with the match funding element will represent a total investment of €955,500. These projects will be completed in 2022. |
| 2020 Town & Village Renewal Scheme Accelerated Measures (Rounds 1, 2, 3) | Dept/Own Resources | Fifteen towns were awarded funding under 2020 Town & Village Renewal Scheme (Accelerated Measures 1, 2 & 3). Works at Buncrana, Dungloe, Donegal Town, and Letterkenny are ongoing and will be completed in Q2 of 2022. |
| 2020 Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2020 (Main Scheme) | Dept/Own Resources | Four towns were awarded funding under Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2020 (Main Scheme): Ardara, Bruckless, Carrick and Crossroads. These works are ongoing and will be completed in 2022. Total funding (inclusive of 10% co-funding) amounts to €444,444.44. |

| | | |
|---|------------------------------|--|
| 2021 Town & Village Renewal Scheme (Streetscape Enhancement Measure) | Dept/Own Resources | Applications were submitted in late September 2021 to the Dept. of Rural and Community Development from the owners of eligible properties in 5 No. towns/villages across the county; Burnfoot, Castlefinn, Falcarragh, Laghey & Milford under the Streetscape Enhancement Measure. Funding of €308,664.02 was announced in October 2021 to undertake the works which must be complete by early Q2 of 2022. |
| Tullan Strand, Bundoran | Own Resources | Development of access and public amenities at Tullan Strand. |
| Malin Head Phase 3 | Fáilte Ireland/Own Resources | The development and implementation of a Visitor Management Plan for the Malin Head Signature Discovery Point got underway in 2019 and is currently being finalised. The plan will shape future development in Malin Head in the years ahead. Planning applications to develop the plan in phases are being progressed with construction of Phase 1 to get underway having secured planning permission and pending the availability of funding. |
| Bundoran | Fáilte Ireland/Own Resources | Fáilte Ireland launched its national 'Developed & Emerging Tourism Destinations Investment Scheme' in March 2019 with the aim of boosting the attractiveness and tourism appeal of towns across the country. Donegal County Council submitted an application to Fáilte Ireland seeking funding of €500,000 for a project in Bundoran in September 2019. Confirmation was received in May 2020 that the application was successful. Total funding (inclusive of match funding) amounts to €669,313 with the project to be fully completed by June 2023. |
| Platforms for Growth, Platform 1, 'Immersive Heritage & Cultural Attractions' | Fáilte Ireland/Own Resources | Donegal County Council received confirmation from Fáilte Ireland in May 2021 that the Fort Dunree application was one of four successful applications across the country with funding of €9,251,000 being made available. 25% co-funding is to be provided by Donegal County Council which will bring the overall funding available to the project to circa. €12,500,000. The Council, in consultation with Fáilte Ireland and their agents, is currently in the process of appointing a Project Manager to oversee the development and delivery phases of the project. A Development Grant Agreement and Procurement Strategy are being finalised with Fáilte Ireland. On appointment of the Project Manager, a competition to appoint a multi-disciplinary consultancy team will be initiated over the coming months with the intention of securing planning approval and all statutory consents for the project by the end of Q2 of 2023. |

| | | |
|--|------------------------------|---|
| Platforms for Growth, Platform 2, 'Facility Centres for Water Sports Activities' | Fáilte Ireland/Own Resources | <p>The second Platform for Growth, launched in January 2020, a closed call scheme for Local Authorities only, focused on developing water sports activity centres across the country. The aim of this funding call was to provide facilities with a hub in each locality from which multiple water sport operators can base themselves. These best-in-class facilities will include changing facilities, showers, toilets, secure storage, and enclosed spaces for inductions to take place.</p> <p>Donegal County Council submitted funding applications at 3 No. locations across the county; Tullan Strand - Bundoran, Downings & Marble Hill. When Failte Ireland announced the successful applications in April 2021, the projects in Bundoran and Downings got approval.</p> <p>Both projects will be progressed in 2022 with applications for planning approval and other statutory consents being sought in consultation with relevant stakeholders. Total funding will be in excess of €1,500,000.00</p> |
| 2018 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (Measure 2) | Dept/Own Resources | <p>3 No. Measure 2 applications to the 2018 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) were allocated funding in February 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glenties Alter Trail • Great Arch Trail Fanad <p>Letterkenny to Burtonport Greenway (Phase 1). Part 8 planning approval was obtained for the Great Arch Trail and Phase 1 of the Letterkenny to Burtonport Greenway in September 2019. Construction on the Glenties Alter Trail and the Letterkenny to Burtonport Greenway (Phase 1) are substantially complete while construction on the Great Arch Trail in Pollet, Fanad is likely to get underway in November 2021 and be completed by the end of Q1 2022. Total funding (inclusive of 20% match funding) is €429,575.</p> |
| 2019 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (Measure 3) | Dept/Own Resources | <p>DCC received €568,580 to lead the ASCENT project. Errigal mountain was chosen as the site for the project with three areas of activity: partner learning & expertise exchange; management planning and intervention design; and training and solution trialling. Part 8 planning approval for habitat restoration including an upland path was obtained in March 2019. Trialling works on short sections of the new path took place in June 2019. An application for funding of €500,000 to construct 3km of an upland path on Errigal mountain was successful under the 2019 Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) Measure 3. Total funding (inclusive of 20% co-funding) is €625,000. Liaison with relevant landowners and the local community group is ongoing in relation to land agreements. The procurement of a contractor to undertake the works is almost complete with tender</p> |

| | | |
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| | | assessments ongoing. It is anticipated that construction will commence on site in Q4 2021. A management plan for Errigal mountain has been undertaken. |
| 2020 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (Measure 1) | Dept/Own Resources | 5 No. projects were awarded funding under the 2020 Outdoor Recreation In.frastructure Scheme (ORIS) Measure 1: Bealach na Gaeltachta, Lehordan Harbour Walk, Trusk Lough Trail, Tip O' Neill Trail/Urris Loops and Mountain Top Walk. Design and tendering work on all projects are ongoing with construction to be completed by Q2 of 2022. Total funding (inclusive of 10% co-funding) is €111,111.11 |
| 2020 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (Measure 3) | Dept/Own Resources | Funding applications were submitted under the 2020 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) Measures 2 & 3 on 30 th November 2020. Funding of €500,000.00 was announced in March 2021 for the Burtonport to Letterkenny Greenway Phase 1, Part 2: The Muckish Railway Walk Enhancement. Work on Part 1 of the Muckish Railway Walk Enhancement, comprising a 2km section, funded under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2018 Measure 2 is substantially complete and focus in the coming months will turn to the detailed design and procurement of a contractor to undertake Part 2 which includes a bridge replacement. It is anticipated that Part 2 will be completed by the end of 2022. Total funding (inclusive of 10% co-funding) is €555,555.55. |
| 2021 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (Measure 1) | | 7 No. projects were awarded funding under the 2021 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) Measure 1 which were announced in October 2021: Great Arch Trail Fanad, Creevy/Ballyshannon, Dungorman/Castlefin, Pedestrian Counter Units Countywide, Standing Man - Glenalla, Ray, Rathmullan, Bealach na Gaeltachta & Rann na Feirste. Design and tendering work on all projects will commence in Q1 of 2022 with construction to be completed by Q4 of 2022. Total funding (inclusive of 10% co-funding) is €155,555.55 |
| 2021 CLÁR Scheme Measure 1 (Support for Schools/Community Safety Measures) | Dept/Own Resources | 3 No. projects received funding in August 2021 under CLAR Scheme Measure 1 namely: St. Francis' National School (Clogher), Murroe National School (Dunfanaghy) & St. Davaddog's National School (Fanad). Total funding received (inclusive of 10% match funding) amounts to €148,300. These projects will be progressed in 2022. |
| 2021 CLÁR Scheme Measure 2 (Community Recreation Areas) | Dept/Own Resources | 3 No. projects received funding in August 2021 under CLAR Scheme Measure 2 namely: Culdaff Development Association, Comhairle Paroiste Glencolmcille & Fintown Railway - Cumann Traenach na Gaeltachta Láir. Total funding sought (inclusive of 10% match funding) amounts to €166,666.66. These projects will be progressing in 2022. |

| | | |
|---|-----------------|--|
| Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme | Dept. of Health | <p>6 No. applications were submitted by Donegal Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) to the Dept. of Health under the Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme Enhancement Funding Scheme in October 2021 for a range of projects that enhance or redevelop existing amenities and support new opportunities to address the social determinants of health in the areas selected. The submitted projects are collaborative in nature and focus on the upkeep, repair and development of trails, walkways and playgrounds.</p> <p><u>Inishowen</u></p> <p>Enhancement of Walking Trails at Drumfries – Meendoran (€44,667.93)</p> <p>Barrack Hill Playground Project (€124,204.19)</p> <p>Moville Playground Project €81,027.08</p> <p><u>Gaeltacht</u></p> <p>Dungloe Foreshore Playground Project (€79,442.62)</p> <p>Muckish Railway Walk Enhancement (€73,638.23)</p> <p>Rosguill Walking & Cycling Trail Project (€95,834.29)</p> <p>Total funding secured €498,823.78.</p> |
| Riverine Community Park | ERDF | <p>In 2018, Donegal County Council, in partnership with Derry City and Strabane District Council, submitted an application to the Special European Union Programmes Body under the European Union Programme for Peace and Reconciliation (Peace IV) under Objective 3: Shared Spaces and Services, Action 3.1 Shared Spaces Capital Development. In June 2019, the Peace IV Programme Steering Committee announced a grant of €8,962,540.60 towards the Riverine Community Park Project to be expended and claimed by 30th September 2023. The project proposes to create thirty acres of new community park space and infrastructure at Lifford and Strabane. Works to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pavilion Building ▪ Outdoor Wetlands and Park Space ▪ Outdoor Flexible Multi-Functional Space ▪ Family Space ▪ Cross-border Pathways and Park Infrastructure (Walkways and Greenways) ▪ Safe River Access ▪ Pedestrian Footbridge. <p>In addition to the delivery of the park, the project will also deliver several Community Animation Programmes to encourage participation by the public in the design of the park and ultimately in the use of constructed park.</p> |

| | | |
|----------|------------------|---|
| | | <p>The project has established the Riverine Community Forum, comprising of 32 representatives from a wide variety of local community groups on both sides of the border, to help deliver the Animation Programmes and influence the design of the park.</p> <p>Planning applications were submitted to both the NI and ROI Planning Authorities on 30th September 2021 and it is hoped to have decisions from both authorities by the end of April 2022. This will allow construction of the park to commence in July 2022.</p> |
| Peace IV | SEUPB (Peace IV) | <p>The Donegal Peace IV Action Plan was approved to the value of €5.5m. This Plan sets out the types of activities to be supported under three main headings: 'Children & Young People', 'Building Positive Relations', and 'Shared Spaces & Services'.</p> <p><u>Shared Spaces & Services Projects.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Multi-use Sports Facility to be completed by Q3 of 2023 → €3,200,000. ▪ Cross Community Garden to be completed in 2022: ICARE - Inishowen Children Autism Related Education → €50,000. ▪ Reimagining Perceived Single Identity Spaces to be completed in 2022: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Carrigans Old School Hall → €25,000 ○ Clar Orange Hall → €45,000 ○ Convoy Presbyterian Church → €40,000 ○ Killymard LOL → €45,000 ▪ Outdoor Play Areas to be completed in 2022: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Friends of Rossnowlagh Beach → €100,000 |

6.1.2 – Projects Planned

| Project Name | Funder(s) | Details |
|--|-------------------------------|---|
| Playgrounds | External/ Own Resources | <p>Refurbishment of equipment at eight existing playgrounds is planned during the period 2022-2024. Proposed expenditure (subject to securing external funding) will total €450,000:</p> <p>2022: €200,000</p> <p>2023: €125,000</p> <p>2024: €125,000</p> |
| 2021 Town & Village Renewal Scheme (Main Scheme) | Dept/Own Resources | 3 No. towns and villages applications were submitted to the Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2021 (Main Scheme) in July 2021, namely Churchill, Moville & Newtowncunningham. An application was submitted in 2021 also under the Project Development Measure for Dunlewey. It is understood that the Dept. will announce |

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| | | funding for successful projects in Q4 2021. Total funding sought (inclusive of 10% co-funding) amounts to €388,888.88. |
| 2021 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) Measures 2 & 3 | Dept/Own Resources | 3 No. funding applications were submitted to the Department in September 2021 under the 2020 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) Measures 2 & 3. Measure 2 applications; Burtonport to Letterkenny Greenway – Muckish Railway Walk Enhancement Phase 1/Part 4 (€222,562.15) & The Restoration of Bunagee Jetty (€181,340.68); Measure 3 application; Sliabh Liag Cliff Experience (€299,646.25). It is understood that the Dept. will announce funding for successful projects in Q4 2021. Total funding sought (inclusive of 10% co-funding) amounts to €703,549.08. |
| Drumboe Park | DRCD (RRDF) / Own Resources | In March 2019, Part 8 planning approval was obtained for the development of a public park, comprising play areas, public conveniences, and walking trails in Drumboe, Stranorlar. The Council is currently progressing the acquisition of these lands to be able to submit a 'shovel-ready' project when further national funding calls are announced. It is envisaged that the acquisition of the lands will be finalised in Q1 of 2022. |

6.1.3 – Development of an Outdoor Recreation Strategy

The Community Development Division in conjunction with the Donegal Local Community Development Committee/ Local Action Group is committed in its work to deliver an Outdoor Recreation Strategy for Donegal before the end of 2022.

The Outdoor Recreational Strategy for Donegal will identify the key priorities and actions in sustainably managing and developing outdoor recreation in the County up to 2028 in the first instance and on to 2040. The Strategy will be focused and will consider key thematic areas in relation to outdoor recreation including but not limited to: landscape, seascape, landowners, the community, local and regional stakeholders, businesses, health and wellbeing, accessibility, walking and cycling, paths and trials, maritime, natural and built heritage tourism, conservation and associated infrastructure.

The Strategy will identify/review a number of key project interventions including a phased programme of extensions, connections, enhancement, improvements, and development projects in relation to the provision of outdoor Recreation in county Donegal of land and sea based activities in the form of strategic actions to be implemented in the first instance over a six-year period from 2022-2028, and onto 2040 and which will assist in achieving a number of key objectives including:

- An understanding of the scope and particulars of the range and diversity of recreational infrastructure in the County and its associated collective potential
- The ongoing informed conservation and protection of the natural and built environment and associated cultural heritage of County Donegal, ensuring

outdoor recreation in Donegal is developed and managed in an environmentally sustainable and responsible manner

- The consolidation and enhanced connectivity of the existing and potential future recreational asset.
- Nurturing and supporting a positive engaged community and stakeholder infrastructure advocating a partnership approach
- An increased knowledge and awareness of the opportunities and benefits that exist in Donegal for outdoor recreation
- The stimulation of business and job creation.
- Promoting tourism
- Supporting Social Enterprise

In dealing with the above elements, account will be taken of the following:

- Access to the countryside
- Carrying capacity of the resource – visitor management
- Education and training – the visitor experience
- Potential for local enterprise – marketing and promotion
- The role of private landowners
- The role of communities
- Unlawful activity
- Conservation of built and natural heritage including legal requirements such as the Habitats Directive

The Strategy will seek to take a holistic perspective of land and water based activities-the integration and alignment of both informing the outdoor recreational amenity across the County by identifying key issues, cross cutting themes, opportunities, funding avenues and potential realistic and deliverable project proposals.

Section 6.2 – Planning Division

6.2.1 – Projects in Progress

| Project Name | Funder(s) | Details |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Letterkenny 2040 (First Award) | DHPLG(URDF)/ Own Resources | <p>Under the Urban Regeneration & Development Fund (URDF), the Council was successful in 2018 in securing funding for the first phase of the urban regeneration project 'Letterkenny 2040'. The total value of this phase of the project is €2,590,048 and the funding award from the URDF is €1,942,536, with a match funding obligation of €647,512.</p> <p>There are three approved strands to this phase: A Regeneration Strategy for the Master-Planning of the town centre area; the acquisition of a key intervention site and the delivery of public realm works, and all strands are progressing well.</p> <p>The Paul Hogarth Company were appointed to prepare the Regeneration Strategy for Letterkenny 2040 and this process commenced on 14th January</p> |

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| | <p>Letterkenny 2040 (Second Award)</p> | <p>2021. A phase of public engagement followed between 8th February and 7th March 2021 and since then the programme of engagement, workshops and development work has seen this sub-project progress to draft stage. At a workshop on 21st October the Members endorsed the draft Regeneration Strategy and it was agreed to bring same to public consultation in November 2021. This project strand will complete in February 2022 with a value of €330,000.</p> <p>Negotiations have continued to progress with all landowners of the key regeneration site approved by DHLG&H for acquisition in 2021 and these negotiations remain active and constructive. The Council has decided however to progress its acquisition interests in the relevant lands by means of CPO and in this regard a CPO was published on 4th November 2021. All parties were given advance notice of this decision and communications remain live and constructive. The value of this strand is €1,568,148.</p> <p>Detailed design of the public realm was completed using the in-house multi-disciplinary resources of the Regeneration Team. This work included a topographical survey, ground investigations, structural design and Road Safety Audit. The project is now at tender stage and it is anticipated that work will commence on site in Q4 of 2021 and will be completed by end of May 2022. The value of this strand is €691,900.</p> <p>On Friday 12th March 2021 the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien announced that €13m had been awarded under the Urban Regeneration & Development Fund (URDF) for the URDF application Letterkenny 2040 (Phase 1)</p> <p>'Re-energise and Connect the Historic Town Centre'. This application had been submitted on 28th May 2020 and supported by match funding committed by the Council of €4.5m has an overall value of €18.1m.</p> <p>The project proposes an ambitious, transformative, and strategic step in Letterkenny's longer-term regeneration goal to transform the core of the town as a liveable 'place for People and Public Life'. It includes an exciting blend of five inter-related sub-projects which work together in combination to deliver integrated urban regeneration at a strategic level with actions and interventions across: urban regeneration, liveability, vacancy, public space, employment, enterprise, tourism and vibrancy. The sub-projects of the application are:</p> |
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| | | <p>A. The Cathedral Quarter – Making a Creative District.</p> <p>A re-imagined public space at Market Square</p> <p>A revitalized and accessible Church Lane through delivery of a shared surface scheme</p> <p>A 1,500 sqm Creative Design Hub with green urban parkland</p> <p>A repurposed vacant building as a Tourist Office.</p> <p>B. Enabling Renewal at Lower Main Street.</p> <p>Strategic land assembly and acquisition package.</p> <p>C. Revival at the Courthouse.</p> <p>New enterprise space blended with a tourist attraction in the historic courthouse presenting 'Donegal: People and Place'.</p> <p>D. Enabling a Regional Transport Hub.</p> <p>Strategic land acquisition.</p> <p>E. LK Green Connect.</p> <p>Connecting origins, destinations, and targets inc. strategic land acquisition.</p> <p>Following early engagement with the DHLGH in respect of funding drawdown arrangements and due diligence on funding approval conditions, a Preliminary Approval Letter was received on 25th August 2021. The next steps towards delivery of these sub-projects requires the preparation of a Preliminary Business Case in accordance with the Public Spending Code and a Project Action Plan meeting with the DHLGH has also been arranged for 12th November 2021.</p> |
| Killybegs 2040 – A Town Centre Regeneration Project | DRCD (RRDF)/Own Resources | <p>This project proposes the refurbishment and extension of Island House (a derelict building on the Harbour) to use as a Digital Hub and Tourist Information Centre with integrated Civic space, new pedestrian infrastructure and parking arrangements. The value of the project is €4,842,344 and funding of €3,631,758 was sought from the RRDF. Grant funding for this project was confirmed in November 2019.</p> <p>This project was formally launched on the 6th May 2021 with the announcement that McCabe Architects (Donegal & Sligo) were appointed to deliver the project. Work to complete detailed design is now completing in advance of the tender stage for a contractor which will open before year end. Commencement of construction is scheduled for Q1 of 2022 with a build period estimated at 52 weeks.</p> |
| Burtonport/Aranmore – Harbour to Island Regeneration | DRCD (RRDF)/Own Resources | <p>This project proposes first phase works at Burtonport which will see improved traffic management, parking and ferry access arrangements in the Harbour area</p> |

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| | | <p>together with public realm works and associated acquisition and demolition works. The improved Harbour infrastructure is linked to a Shore Front Amenity development on Aranmore Island consisting of beach access, parking, recreational facilities, and an outdoor events space. The value of the project is €4,118,932 and funding of €3,089,199 was sought from the RRDF. Grant funding for this project was confirmed in November 2019.</p> <p>This project was formally launched on 17th May 2021 with a turning of the sod event on Aranmore Island. Donegal based building contractors Joseph McMenamin & Sons (Stranorlar) Ltd have been appointed to carry out the Island element of the project, which is well under way and scheduled to complete in Q1 of 2022.</p> <p>On 14th June 2021 An Bord Pleanala confirmed the CPO authorising compulsory acquisition of lands entitled Donegal County Council (Burtonport Harbour Redevelopment) CPO 2019. The next steps in this process are now being advanced. Detailed design for the Harbour redevelopment has been completed and a construction tender was conducted in September 2021. It is intended to progress both the CPO process and appointment of a contractor to enable commencement on site before year end. This project has a 7 month build period (approx).</p> |
| The SEED project - Ballybofey & Stranorlar | DRCD(RRDF)/ Own Resources | <p>This project will deliver the restoration and redevelopment of the former Ritz cinema as a vibrant Enterprise Centre facilitating much needed jobs, the redevelopment of an existing public car park to create a new high quality, multi-functional civic space with enhanced pedestrian linkages and accessibility, façade enhancements to the Ballybofey Shopping Arcade improving its visual presentation to the new civic space and the development of replacement and additional car parking. The value of the project is €9,756,969 and funding of €8,781,272 was sought from the RRDF. Grant funding for this project was announced on 14th May 2021.</p> <p>A formal letter of offer was received on 20th August 2021 and the project is now at procurement strategy stage for delivery. Delivery will commence in 2021 with the project progressing to detailed design and construction in 2022.</p> |
| The Tús Nua - Regeneration Project Carndonagh. | DRCD (RRDF)/Own Resources | <p>This project will deliver a new multi-use hub located in a regenerated heritage building for a range of uses including: a co-working space & fabrication laboratory, office space, youth space, a community kitchen and public amenities. The project also includes a shared workspace and retail space for the designer maker industries together with enhanced</p> |

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| | | <p>public realm at the Diamond and improved pedestrian accessibility and linkages. The project will bring people of all generations back into the town centre for community services, education, recreation, housing, enterprise, and jobs. The value of the project is €9,542,852 and funding of €8,218,982 was sought from the RRDF. Grant funding for this project was announced on 14th May 2021.</p> <p>A formal letter of offer was received on 23rd July 2021 and the project is now at procurement strategy stage for delivery. Delivery will commence in 2021 with the project progressing to detailed design and construction in 2022.</p> |
| Burtonport Harbour Redevelopment (Phase 2) | DRCD(RRDF) Own Resources | <p>This project builds upon previous RRDF support for Phase 1 Ailt an Chorráin (Burtonport)/Oileán Árainn Mhór (Aranmore Island) 'Harbour to Island' Regeneration Project. It will deliver a new Ferry Terminal Building and Enterprise Building at the Harbour. The value of the project is €2,295,290 and funding of €2,065,761 was sought from the RRDF. Grant funding for this project was announced on 14th May 2021 with enhanced funding confirmed on 27th October 2021.</p> <p>This project is now at detailed design stage and will progress to construction in 2022.</p> |

6.2.2 – Projects Planned

| Project Name | Funder(s) | Details |
|----------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Back to Ballyshannon | DRCD (RRDF)/Own Resources | <p>Back to Ballyshannon – A transformational project to re-energise, re imagine and sustain the social, cultural, historical, physical, and economic fabric of Ballyshannon's historic town centre.</p> <p>The project was submitted to the DRCD (RRDF) on 28th February 2020 under a call for Category 2 projects and was announced as a successful project by Minister Michael Ring TD On 25th June 2020. The project has a value of €247,500 with RRDF funding approved in the sum of €185,625. It will enable project development towards a 'shovel ready' Category 1 project and this work has commenced.</p> <p>In 2021 the Team has completed a feasibility study of acquisition options including potential end users, archaeological and conservation constraints, compliance with Fire Regulations and Disability Access requirements. This has informed a preferred acquisition option.</p> <p>Design work is now completing using in-house resources and a Part 8 planning scheme for the project is in preparation for publication before year end.</p> |

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| Ramelton Historic Town Centre | DRCD (RRDF)/Own Resources | <p>Ramelton Historic Town Centre is a Restorative & Transformational Public Realm Scheme. This project was submitted to the DRCD (RRDF) on 28th February 2020 as a Category 2 project and was one of the successful projects announced by Minister Michael Ring TD On 25th June 2020. The project has a value of €249,159 with RRDF funding of €186,869. This category 2 funding will enable project development towards a 'shovel ready' Category 1 project and this work has commenced.</p> <p>This project was formally launched on 28th June 2021 with the appointment of BDP to deliver this project from concept to shovel ready status. The preliminary design phase is now well underway with public consultation taking place in early November. The project will then be brought through Part 8 Planning and detailed design to a contract ready capital project. A Part 8 planning scheme is currently scheduled for publication early in the new year 2022.</p> |
| Repowering Buncrana | DRCD(RRDF)/Own Resources | <p>On Wednesday 12th May 2021 the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, announced the third call for Category 2 applications to the RRDF. The deadline for applications was Friday 30th July 2021. The Regeneration Team developed and submitted a Category 2 application for the Tier 2A Strategic Town of Buncrana under this call entitled 'Repowering Buncrana'. The project envisages a series of measures that will strengthen the shore front, provide quality shore front amenities, integrate art and biodiversity into the urban landscape and critically work to counter the disconnect between Main Street and the shore front. In addition, reuse of a vacant town centre building (Former Garda Barracks) and creation of circa 100 jobs will bring much needed employment opportunities to Buncrana.</p> <p>Specifically under this Category 2 application, RRDF support is sought to procure Architect Led Full Integrated Design Team for the preliminary design, planning scheme design and detailed design of the 'Repowering Buncrana' regeneration project together with support to acquire the former Garda Barracks, St Oran's Road and other limited acquisition of land to cater for necessary enabling works. This category 2 application, if successful, will enable the advancement of the final project to a shovel-ready status resulting in a further future Category 1 capital project application.</p> <p>The project has a Cat.2 value of €1,355,865 with RRDF funding support sought in the sum of €271,173.</p> |

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| A Heritage Led Regeneration Project - Rathmullan | DRCD (RRDF)/Trust Funding/Own Resources | <p>This project proposes to build on the significant work done to date by the 'Way Forward Group' in Rathmullan in progressing a 'future use feasibility study' for the Napoleonic Gun Battery in conjunction with Pasparakis Friel.</p> <p>In 2021 the Team explored and confirmed the scope of a broader transformational heritage led regeneration project for Rathmullan which might meet the RRDF eligibility criteria. The project now requires progression through pre-planning, planning and detailed design/contract work. A tender to procure fully integrated design team services to advance the project was conducted in April and May of 2021 and Robin Lee Architecture were then appointed as the successful consultancy service in November 2021. Preliminary design work on the project has now commenced towards publication of a Part 8 planning scheme end of Q1 2022 with a view to achieving project readiness for future calls under the Fund, which are anticipated in 2022.</p> <p>This stage of the project is being funded from own resources and co-funding from The Way Forward Group enabled by The Tomar Trust.</p> |
| Rural Regeneration & Development Projects | DRCD (RRDF)/Own Resources | <p>It is anticipated that further calls under the RRDF will open in Q4 2021 (Category 1) and again in Q2 and Q4 of 2022 (Category 1 & 2). Further applications will be developed and submitted to this Fund when calls open in line with Delivery Area 2 of the Work Programme (as set out by the Chief Executive in report to Council and CPG in January 2019).</p> |
| Strategic Urban Regeneration Site - Letterkenny | Multiple – including URDF, BEDF/Own Resources | <p>Work has commenced using the in-house multi-disciplinary resources of the Regeneration Team to bring forward a Part 8 planning scheme for the First Phase development of the strategic urban regeneration site in Letterkenny. This first phase development will include demolition works, new Alpha and Beta innovation and enterprise proposals and associated public realm works. It is being developed in conjunction with our Economic Development colleagues and capital funding is secured. The publication of a planning scheme is scheduled before year end and delivery will commence in 2022. The estimated capital value of the first phase development is approx. €22m.</p> |
| Urban Regeneration & Development Projects | DHLHG (URDF)/Own Resources | <p>Work will continue in 2022 on the further development and delivery of the five sub-projects which were successful in the second URDF award and these projects will be brought through planning, acquisition, detailed design and capital delivery in accordance with their delivery programmes towards 2027. It is anticipated that further calls under the URDF will open in Q2 of 2022 and further</p> |

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| | | applications will be developed and submitted to this Fund when calls open in line with Delivery Area 1 of the Work Programme (as set out by the Chief Executive in report to Council and CPG in January 2019) and the emerging project priorities from the Regeneration Strategy. |
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6.2.3 – Housing Estate Improvement Works and Unfinished Housing Estates

The Council continues to work through the remaining unfinished estates which received funding under the Government's Site Resolution and Taking in Charge funding programmes. Further resolution works will continue as part of the 2022 UFHD's Work Programme with an expected spend of €300,000.

A number of unresolved sites continue to be addressed using funds realised from developers' bonds. It is anticipated that around €400,000 from this funding source will continue to be spent in each year during 2022-2024.

6.2.4 – Taking-in-Charge – Residential Housing Estates

The Council continued to progress the taking-in-charge of residential estates throughout 2021 and will continue this process throughout 2022. Up to the end of October 2021, 16 estates were sent to Municipal District meetings seeking approval from members to have them taken in charge in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning Act. It is anticipated that another 12 estates, will be sent forward before the end of 2021, subject to resolution of a number of issues such as outstanding wayleaves and agreement with Irish Water.

Planning permission for a new pump station at Dromore Park in Killygoprdon was granted in September 2021 and funding has been allocated to this project as well as the works required to connect Hazelwood/St. Jude's in Lifford to the public network in 2022 under the Government's Multi-Annual Developer Provided Water Services Infrastructure Resolution Programme.

The funding allocated amounts to 75% of the estimated cost of the works with the Council expected to provide the matched funding requirements. It is anticipated that these works will form the majority of the work programme for 2022.

Agreement has been reached with Irish Water in relation to progress to tender stage a number of estates with problematic sewage pumping stations, where there are insufficient planning securities or bonds to complete the resolution works required to bring the estates to an acceptable standard in line with the Memorandum of Understanding agreed between Irish Water and Local Authorities for the taking in charge of estates connected to the Irish Water controlled or owned network. It is anticipated that these works will be carried out in 2022 in Errigal View and Mountain View in Letterkenny, Greystones in Milford and Ash Meadows in Stranorlar. While Irish Water will be expected to pay for the remediation of the water and wastewater services element of the works, the Council will have to fund any other elements of the works, including roads, footpaths, and street lighting.

The Council will continue to engage with relevant parties to try to arrive at acceptable resolutions for those estates which have not yet been completed but where planning bonds or securities are available for resolution works.

6.2.5 – Development Charges / Development-Contribution Scheme

In accordance with Circular Letter Finance 08/2008, the estimate of development contributions (DCS & Specific Charges) to be collected in 2022 (based on receipts to date in 2021) is €1,199,061.

Community Development & Planning Services Directorate Capital Table 2022-2024 (Projects in Progress)

| Description | Projected Cost* Per Annum | | | Proposed Sources of funding* | |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Council | External |
| RDP/LEADER | 1,882,372 | 2,732,372 | 850,000 | | 5,464,743 |
| Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2017/218 | 340,000 | | | 68,000 | 272,000 |
| Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2019 | 800,000 | | | 160,000 | 640,000 |
| Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2020 Accelerated Measures (Rounds 1,2 & 3) | 300,000 | | | 30,000 | 270,000 |
| Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2020 (Main Scheme) | 444,444 | | | 44,444 | 400,000 |
| Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2021 (Streetscape Enhancement Scheme) | 308,664 | | | | 308,664 |
| Tullan Strand, Bundoran | 50,000 | 125,000 | 100,000 | 275,000 | |
| Malin Head, Phase III | 90,000 | | | 24,300 | 65,700 |
| Bundoran (Destination Towns) | 580,000 | 89,313 | | 169,313 | 500,000 |
| Fort Dunree (Platform for Growth) | 248,405 | 707,000 | 955,405 | 496,810 | 1,414,000 |
| Bundoran & Downings (Platforms for Growth: Water Sports Activity Centres) | 80,000 | 750,000 | 920,000 | 250,000 | 1,500,000 |
| Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2018 Measure 2 | 190,000 | | | 53,800 | 136,200 |
| Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2019 Measure 3 | 625,000 | | | 125,000 | 500,000 |

| | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2020 Measure 1 | 111,111 | | | 11,111 | 100,000 |
| Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2020 Measure 3 | 555,556 | | | 55,556 | 500,000 |
| Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2021 Measure 1 | 140,000 | 15,556 | | 15,556 | 140,000 |
| 2021 CLÁR Scheme Measure 1 (Support for Schools/Community Safety Measures) | 148,300 | | | 14,830 | 133,470 |
| 2021 CLÁR Scheme Measure 2 (Community Recreation Areas) | 166,667 | | | 16,667 | 150,000 |
| Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme | 498,824 | | | | 498,824 |
| Riverine | 2,876,001 | 4,926,661 | | | 7,802,662 |
| Peace IV. | 1,800,000 | 1,600,000 | | 1,600,000 | 1,800,000 |
| Urban Regeneration Project 'Letterkenny 2040' (First Award) | 2,414,562 | | | 603,640 | 1,810,922 |
| Urban Regeneration Project 'Letterkenny 2040' (Second Award) | 121,517 | 7,598,804 | 7,007,598 | 3,681,980 | 11,045,939 |
| Killybegs 2040 – A Town Centre Regeneration Project | 3,070,777 | 1,569,086 | | 1,159,965 | 3,479,898 |
| Burtonport/Aranmore – Harbour to Island Regeneration | 2,934,353 | | | 733,588 | 2,200,765 |
| Burtonport Harbour Redevelopment (Phase 2) | 1,721,467 | 573,823 | | 229,529 | 2,065,761 |
| The Seed Project-Ballybofey & Stranorlar | 837,867 | 6,554,986 | 2,248,967 | 964,183 | 8,677,638 |
| The Tús Nua-Regeneration Project Cardonagh | 4,245,284 | 4,988,403 | 154,583 | 1,285,843 | 8,102,427 |
| Unfinished Housing Dev-Developers' Bonds | 300,000 | 300,000 | 300,000 | | 900,000 |
| Take Over of Housing Estates | 1,740,000 | 500,000 | 500,000 | 840,000 | 1,900,000 |
| Totals: | €29,621,170 | 33,031,005 | 13,036,553 | €12,909,115 | €62,779,611 |

*1 Due to the nature of external funding applications, projected costs and timelines are best estimates

7. Economic Development, Emergency Services & Information Systems

7.1 – Economic Development Division

- 7.1.1 The Economic Development Directorate is comprised of the Economic Development Division and the Local Enterprise Office (LEO)/Small Business Support Division and is part of the wider Economic Development, Emergency Services and Information Systems Directorate.
- 7.1.2 Both the Economic Development Division and the Small Business Supports Division (LEO) will contribute to the delivery of projects under initiatives including the Regional Enterprise Development Fund & Border Enterprise Development Funds (REDF & BEDF), the Urban and Rural Regeneration Development Funds (URDF) and the Rural Regeneration Development Funds (RRDF), alongside colleague Council services.
- 7.1.3 The Economic Development Division is advancing proposals that will have implications for Capital expenditure in the following areas:
 - Land and building optimisation for economic development purposes
 - Opportunity site acquisition for economic development purposes
 - Funding and investment opportunities from Central Government and State Agencies for economic development purposes
 - As appropriate, downstream Brexit investment requirements, in a Donegal context, for economic development purposes.
- 7.1.4 A number of proposals are currently being advanced, particularly from the perspective of post Brexit offerings for relocation or second site location opportunities. This includes maximising the potential of Council owned land and properties. The need for the development of Serviced Land Initiatives for Economic Development Purposes was identified by Grant Thornton in their recent Responding to Brexit report and the Economic Development Division is currently working with Community Development and other Council services to develop a multiuse park at The Common Lifford and similar proposals are being considered for other locations in the county.
- 7.1.5 The Inishowen Innovation Hub, which secured funding under the Regional Enterprise Development Fund is progressing, with construction due to commence in 2021. In addition, the Alpha Innovation Centre which will be located in Letterkenny but will serve the wider region, secured €3.66m under the Border Enterprise Development Fund (BEDF) administered by Enterprise Ireland in 2020 and work on the delivery of this initiative will continue in 2022.

7.1.6 Economic Development Capital Investment Programme 2022 – 2024

| Description | Projected Cost Per Annum * | | | Proposed Sources of funding 2022 – 2024 * | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|--|-------------------|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | Council | External |
| | € | € | € | € | € |
| Inishowen Innovation Hub, Buncrana | 1,000,000 | 500,000 | | 300,000 | 1,200,000 |
| Alpha Innovation Centre | 700,000 | 3,770,000 | 1,530,000 | 2,340,000 | 3,660,000 |
| Beta Business Centre | 700,000 | 8,860,000 | 4,440,000 | 2,000,000 | 12,000,000 |
| Development at The Common, Lifford | 645,000 | 610,000 | | 1,255,000 | |
| Totals: | 3,045,000 | 13,740,000 | 5,970,000 | 5,895,000 | 16,860,000 |

*Total cost of co-financing requirements is subject to final costing and procurement

- 7.1.7 As part of the Economic Development Division, the Strategic Funding Unit proactively engages with potential external support bodies and agencies, with the objective of matching strategic Council objectives with appropriate external funding programmes, both National and EU, to maximise funding and co-financing opportunities to enable further development in the County. It is expected that a number of new EU Funding Programmes will open in 2022 and the Strategic Funding Unit will continue to engage with various programme bodies, Council Services and partner organisations with a view to ensuring that the Council is well positioned to avail of opportunities as they arise.

7.2 – Information Systems

Introduction

- 7.2.1 Donegal County Council's Information Technology infrastructure serves 107 locations countywide and is one of the largest Local Authority networks in Ireland.

The infrastructure comprises: -

- 96 Servers
- 1,518 Desktop & Notebook Computers
- 349 Printers/Scanners/Plotters
- 29 Print Management Multi-Function Devices (managed solely by Information Systems)
- 79 Other Multi-Function Devices (managed by Reprographics Section with support from Information Systems)

- 318 Tablets
- 650 Mobile Phones
- 200 Other Data devices
- 900 Telephone handsets and 1,800 Extensions/DDI's

Together with this ICT infrastructure, a wide range of Council business systems and applications are managed on an ongoing basis.

- 7.2.2 In addition to operational support on the networks and applications, a comprehensive systems programme is implemented annually. The systems programme is designed to support the Council's Corporate Plan and Customer Services Action Plan. It assists business units in Donegal County Council to work more efficiently and effectively, as well as delivering improved customer service.

Capital Investment Programme

- 7.2.3 Ongoing Revenue budgets fund maintenance and support of existing applications on an annual basis, including contributions to the Local Government Management Agency.
- 7.2.4 An upgraded networking, hardware, telephony, security and systems upgrade project got underway in 2021. It had been intended to commence the capital investment programme in 2020 but the onset of the Covid-19 crisis delayed the project due to the need to direct I.T. resources to essential Covid-19 I.T support. In addition, the acquisition of necessary additional I.T. staff resources to implement the programme had been delayed. During 2021 Information Systems invested heavily in upgrading the Communications and Network infrastructure replacing core routers at HQ and in the Public Services Centres as well as replacing key equipment at HQ, Public Services Centres and many other key offices such as the Local Enterprise Centre, Stranorlar Training Centre and Letterkenny Fire Station.

In the years 2022 – 2024 the Information Systems Department Capital Expenditure will fall into the following main categories:

- Communications and Networking Improvements (Local and Wide Area Network Upgrades)
- Upgraded Computing & Storage Solutions
- Backup & Business Continuity Solutions
- Telephony Systems Replacements and Upgrades
- Enhanced Information and Cyber Security Solutions
- Infrastructure and support systems for Blended Working
- Cloud based desktop office automation and work support systems
- Improved Corporate Information Systems and Applications

- 7.2.5 The Council's main Wide Area Network was largely implemented at the time of the Decentralisation Programme over 15 years ago. It is now necessary to substantially upgrade this network to provide improved internal connectivity as well as improved connectivity to Government Networks nationally. Similarly,

telephony systems which were implemented in the Council at the same time now require replacement.

- 7.2.6 During the financial emergency, public bodies were directed by Government to cease upgrading software on a regular basis but to sweat current software assets for as long a period as possible. As a result, the Council is now required to undertake a major enhancement programme, to bring software products up to current versions as part of a sectoral Microsoft Enterprise Agreement.
- 7.2.7 Cyber-attacks and similar forms of criminal activity continue to wreak havoc across the globe for organisations and businesses, including public authorities. The Council, in common with other public authorities, needs to keep abreast of these threats by using the best defence mechanisms available. Additionally, General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) became law in 2018, with increased obligations for bodies holding personal data, and increased fines for breaches of these enhanced obligations. The ransom ware attack on the Health Service Executive in May of this year brought into sharp focus that continued investment in this area is essential to both protect Council systems and data as well as ensuring compliance with GDPR Regulations.
- 7.2.8 Over the period 2022 – 2024 the ongoing systems implementation and upgrade programme will also continue. Work will be prioritised on an annual basis and will target systems and applications with significant payback for the Council in terms of operational efficiencies. In addition, solutions such as print management, extension of IP Telephony and electronic meeting solutions will bring significant operational benefits and financial savings to the Council.

Information Systems - Estimated Capital Commitments 2022 – 2024

| Work Area | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Communications & Network Infrastructure | €40,000 | €40,000 | €40,000 |
| Wide Area Connectivity | €25,000 | €25,000 | €25,000 |
| IP Telephony/ Customer Contact Solution | €225,000 | | |
| Core Server & Storage Infrastructure | €250,000 | | |
| Migration to Microsoft 365 | €50,000 | | |
| Business Continuity & Backup Solutions | €50,000 | €50,000 | |
| Data & Cyber Security Solutions | €100,000 | €100,000 | €100,000 |
| Infrastructure for Blended Working | €100,000 | €50,000 | €50,000 |
| Donegal Digital Projects | €80,000 | €80,000 | |
| Cloud Services | €40,000 | €40,000 | €75,000 |
| Total | €960,000 | €385,000 | €290,000 |

The full costs of these investments over the three-year period will be borne solely by Donegal County Council.

Information Systems - Priorities for 2022

- 7.2.9 A priority project is the implementation of a new IP Telephone & Customer Contact Centre system for the organisation. Additionally, the Server Estate and Data Storage Infrastructure at HQ Lifford is currently on extended warranty (greater than 7 years old) and swiftly reaching end of life due to the continual growth of all data sets across the organisation. This infrastructure needs to be replaced in the next 12 months and a framework tender will issue in Q1 2022.
- 7.2.10 In 2022, further investment is needed in Security, Management and Monitoring Systems in order to maintain cyber security defences, as well as to continually improve the security of data. This will include an investment in new Backup and Replication systems as well as improved Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery solutions. In part, this may involve a move away from the traditional backup-to-tape environment to backup-to-disk and backup-to-cloud solutions being implemented in the coming year.
- 7.2.11 The migration to Microsoft 365 will continue as a priority for Q1 & Q2 of 2022. This is a complex project incorporating the following key elements (a) migration of a further 700 mailboxes from on-premise to the Cloud as a follow-on to the 220 mailboxes completed to date (b) security of the Council Microsoft 365 infrastructure (c) rollout of Microsoft Intune to manage the estate of mobile devices (d) integration of Microsoft Intune & Microsoft SCCM to effectively and efficiently manage Windows updates and (e) decommissioning of the legacy Microsoft Exchange 2010/2013 hybrid infrastructure.

7.2.12 – Donegal Digital Programme

In addition to maintaining a large operational I.T. environment, the Council's Information Systems Department has for many years led out on the development of Broadband and associated Digital initiatives within the County.

The Donegal County Council Head of Information Systems leads the Donegal Digital Programme, an important policy initiative designed to exploit the benefits of modern information and communications technology for the advancement of local communities and the business sector in County Donegal. Donegal Digital dovetails successfully with several other Council development strategies including remote working, inward investment as well as indigenous job creation. At this stage 14 different organisations are working together on a very ambitious digital transformation agenda for the County.

A range of these projects will be progressed during the 2022 – 2024 period, funded appropriately through Capital financing, annual Revenue budget allocations, or through grant-aided projects – including those led by ERNACT and in collaboration with a range of internal collaborators and external partners.

Examples of these projects include the Inishowen Innovation Hub located in the former Buncrana Town Council offices and which will provide a range of innovation, technology transfer and enterprise support services from LYIT/CoLab, IDA, Enterprise

Ireland and the Local Enterprise Office to potential start-ups and to existing small businesses to help improve their processes, products, services, marketing and sales.

Other Donegal Digital key actions include initiatives to increase the range of 3rd level Research & Development in Donegal, the creation of a Training Portal for I.T. related skills and the stimulation of Digital Start Up's in the County.

September 2021 saw a significant addition to the Digital Hub network in Donegal when the BASE Digital Hub Stranorlar was launched by Minister Heather Humphries as part of the RRDF funded DiGiWest Project. Funding was also confirmed for the Malinbeg Digital Hub as well as a number of rural BCP digital workspaces under the Connected Hubs initiative.

Other projects include WiFi4EU, the Development of Wi-Fi zones in towns and villages at 54 locations across the County allowing for the provision of free public Wi-Fi, a pilot IOT (Internet of Things) project and a range of projects led through ERNACT such as Emergreen NPA, Smartic NPA utilizing emerging ICT in environmental related initiatives.

7.3 – Emergency Services

7.3.1 – Fire Stations

Following the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (the Department) advising in 2016 that the Department was open to considering a suitable fire station project for the south of the County from Donegal County Council, an evidence-based consultancy report was completed in mid-2018, with a subsequent recommendation from the Chief Fire Officer that a single location, two-pump station, supplemented by a hydraulic platform, and serviced by a fifteen-member crew, be submitted to the Department for funding. The Elected Members did not accept this recommended approach and resolved that the preference was for the retention of two locations and stations. This position, along with a request for a delegation to meet the Minister in this regard, has been submitted to the Department. A response to the request is awaited.

The station priority list submitted to the Department in 2020 placed Glencolmcille Fire Station as priority No. 3 at a 2020 estimated cost of €1,570,724.

It is not anticipated that this project will progress until the fire station project in the south of the County is substantially advanced or concluded.

7.3.2 – Fire Appliances & Associated Vehicles

Funding was provided by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (the Department) in 2021 in the amount of €365,000 + VAT for a new Class B appliance which is scheduled for delivery in Q2 of 2022. The last new Class B appliance went into service in June 2019 in Gaoth Dobhair Fire Station. The current class B replacement rate is inadequate to maintain the age profile of the class B fleet.

It is intended to submit a business case to the Department in early 2022 for a second water tanker to augment the water tanker which is scheduled for delivery in Q4 of 2021.

The Fire Service will continue to make submissions to the Department for funding for appliances and vehicles to enhance the fire service fleet.

7.4 – Civil Defence

The Department of Defence secured funding through the Dormant Accounts Fund in late 2019 to upgrade the excising vehicle fleet around the country. Subsequently, through this funding, in 2021 Donegal Civil Defence was allocated €35,000 towards the purchase of 1 Ford Transit Van as a communications vehicle for the service. Additional funding will be required for the conversion works. An application for this funding will be submitted to the Department of Defence in January 2022, and it is envisaged, that if successful, the communications vehicle will be put into service in the 2nd quarter of 2022.

8. Roads Management Office (RMO)

The Road Management Office (RMO) is a local authority shared service with agreements under S.149A of the 2001 Local Government Act between local authorities and mandated by the Department of Transport (DoT).

The RMO provides services to authorities, utilities, TII, and the DoT in the areas of road infrastructure asset management. These include user supports, software development, income collection and KPI reporting in the areas of road inventory, pavement interventions and roadworks licensing. Between 2017 and 2021, the RMO has provided supports and oversight to the development and implementation of the public lighting retrofit project for 23 local authorities across Ireland. The first region is due to commence on site during Q4 2021, with the other regions to commence in 2022.

The RMO is funded by all local authorities, DoT, and TII. Expenditure in relation to the RMO is accounted for on an 'Agent Works Recoupable' basis. As such, it is not reported in the Council's Revenue Budget. For the sake of transparency, it is reported on herein as part of the 3-Year Capital Budget.

It is anticipated that the level of expenditure over the 3-year period 2022 – 2024 will be in the order of €48.2m. This is broken down as follows:

| Item | 2022 Expenditure | 2023 Expenditure | 2024 Expenditure |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Office Running Costs and Software Development | €3.0m | €3.0m | €3.0m |
| Support to regional Authorities from EIB for Public Lighting | €0.2m | | |
| Supports to Public Lighting retrofit programme from Climate Action Fund | €8.0m | €7.0m | |
| Administration of Centralised Billing for Road Licensing | €8.0m | €8.0m | €8.0m |
| Total | €19.2m | €18.0m | €11.0m |

The work of the RMO is approved and overseen by a project board of the County and City Management Association (CCMA), and the objectives and tasks for the office are agreed annually. For 2022 these include:

Road Licensing:

- Support Road Authorities and Utilities in the Implementation of the Guidelines for the Management of Road Openings
- Implementation of improved licence turnaround times
- Monthly-in-arrears billing for large Utilities.
- Further development of licensing software in Dublin City Council
- Support implementation of National Broadband rollout through efficient road licensing
- Administering the Joint Utility and Local Authority Group on Licensing (JULA).

Pavement Management:

- Support and training to local authorities in managing the MapRoad Pavement management system including:
 - Surveying of road condition
 - Recording of road maintenance projects
 - Recording other road assets including speed limit signage, bridges
 - Development of suitable pedestrian and cycling infrastructure tools in MapRoad
- Assisting LASNTG in training
- Compiling NOAC indicators
- Centralised procurement of software and pavement surveys
- Assisting DoT in policy support

9. Statutory Tables

**LOCAL AUTHORITY - COMHAIRLE DHÚN NA NGALL
CAITEACHAS AGUS IONCAM DO 2022 - 2024**

| | CAITEACHAS | | IONCAM | | Ranníoc Chomhairle Contae Dhún na nGall |
|---|---------------------|------------|---------------------|------------|---|
| | MEASTACHÁN | GLACHTA | MEASTACHÁN | GLACHTA | |
| CLÁRGHRÚPAÍ | | | | | |
| 1. TITHÍOCHT & TÓGÁIL | | | | | |
| 1.1. Tithíocht An Údarás Áitiúil | €268,450,000 | | €268,450,000 | | €225,000 |
| 1.2. Cúnamh Do Dhaoine Ag Cur Tithíochta Ar Fáil Dóibh Féin | | €7,850,350 | | €7,850,350 | |
| 1.3. Cúnamh Do Dhaoine Ag Cur Feabhsúcháin Ar Thithe | €122,500,000 | | €122,500,000 | | €1,500,000 |
| 1.8. Riarachán Agus Ilghnéitheach | €820,000 | | €820,000 | | |
| IOMLÁN-CLÁR 1 | €399,620,350 | | €399,620,350 | | €1,725,000 |
| 2. IOMPAR DE BHÓTHAR & SÁBHÁILTEACHT | | | | | |
| 2.2. Feabhsúchán Bóithre | €187,263,765 | | €187,263,765 | | €9,805,000 |
| 2.3. Trácht Ar Bhóithre | | | | | |
| 2.8. Riarachán Agus Ilghnéitheach | €48,200,000 | | €48,200,000 | | €0 |
| IOMLÁN CLÁR 2 | €235,463,765 | | €235,463,765 | | €9,805,000 |
| 3. SOLÁTHAR UISCE & SÉARACHAIS | | | | | |
| 3.1. Soláthar Uisce Poiblí | | | | | |
| 3.2. Scéimeanna Poiblí/Séarachais | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 3.3. Feistiú Príobháideach | €7,500,000 | | €7,500,000 | | €0 |
| 3.8. Riarachán Agus Ilghnéitheach | | | | | |
| IOMLÁN-CLÁR 3 | €7,500,000 | | €7,500,000 | | €0 |
| 4. DREASACHTAÍ FORBARTHA & RIALÚCHÁN | | | | | |
| 4.1. Pleanáil Úsáide Talún | | | | | |
| 4.2. Forbairt Thionscláioch | | | | | |
| 4.3. Dreasachtaí agus Rialu Forbartha | €3,640,000 | | €3,640,000 | | €840,000 |
| 4.5. Cur Cum Cinn Suinne I Measc An Phobail Aitiuil | | | | | |
| 4.8. Riarachán Agus Ilghnéitheach | | | | | |
| IOMLÁN-CLÁR 4 | €3,640,000 | | €3,640,000 | | €840,000 |

LOCAL AUTHORITY - COMHAIRLE DHÚN NA NGALL
CAITEACHAS AGUS IONCAM DO 2022 - 2024

| CLÁRGHRÚPAÍ | CAITEACHAS | | IONCAM | | Rannfóic Chomhairle Contae Dhún na nGall |
|--|---------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|---|
| | MEASTACHÁN | GLACTHA | MEASTACHÁN | GLACTHA | |
| | | | | | |
| 5. COSAINT CHOMHSHAOIL | | | | | |
| 5.1 Diúscairt Dramhaíola | €4,350,000 | | €4,350,000 | | €370,000 |
| 5.2 Úirleachas | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 5.3 Sábhálteacht Struchtúr Agus Áiteanna | €1,054,000 | | €1,054,000 | | €1,054,000 |
| 5.4 Cosaint In Aghaidh Dóiteáin | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 5.5 Measúnú Truailliúcháin | €4,305,000 | | €4,305,000 | | €40,000 |
| 5.8 Riarachán Agus Ilghnéitheach | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| IOMLÁN-CLÁR 5 | €9,709,000 | | €9,709,000 | | €1,464,000 |
| 6. ÁINEAS AGUS TAITNEAMHACHT | | | | | |
| 6.1 Linn Snámha | €5,950,000 | | €5,950,000 | | €2,920,000 |
| 6.2 Leabharlanna | €5,400,000 | | €5,400,000 | | €5,400,000 |
| 6.3 Páircéanna, Spásanna Oscailte, Ionaid Áineasa | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 6.4 Áineasa/Taitneamhachaí Eile | €95,103,804 | | €95,103,804 | | €18,264,190 |
| 6.8 Riarachán Agus Ilghnéitheach | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| IOMLÁN-CLÁR 6 | €106,453,804 | | €106,453,804 | | €26,584,190 |
| 7. TALMHAÍOCHT, OIDEACHAS & SLÁINTE & LEASA | | | | | |
| 7.1 Talmhaíocht | €31,850,000 | | €31,850,000 | | €7,962,500 |
| 7.8 Riarachán/Ilghnéitheach | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| IOMLÁN-CLÁR 7 | €31,850,000 | | €31,850,000 | | €7,962,500 |
| 8. SEIRBHÍSÍ ILGHNÉITHEACHA | | | | | |
| 8.1 Ceannach Talún Agus Forbairt | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 8.2 Planda Agus Ábhair | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 8.5 Riarachán Chossaint Cheartais/Tomholtóra Tomholtóra | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 8.6 Damáiste Do Mhaoin | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 8.8 Riarachán Agus Ilghnéitheach | €1,635,000 | | €1,635,000 | | €1,635,000 |
| IOMLÁN-CLÁR 8 | €1,635,000 | | €1,635,000 | | €1,635,000 |
| IOMLÁN NA GCLÁRGHRÚPAÍ UILE | €795,871,919 | | €795,871,919 | | €50,015,690 |

LOCAL AUTHORITY - DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL
EXPENDITURE AND INCOME FOR FINANCIAL YEARS 2022 - 2024

| PROGRAMME GROUP AND PROGRAMME | EXPENDITURE | | INCOME | | DCC Contribution |
|---|---------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|---------------------|
| | ESTIMATED | ADOPTED | ESTIMATED | ADOPTED | |
| | | | | | |
| 1. HOUSING & BUILDING | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 1.1. Local Authority Housing | €268,450,000 | | €268,450,000 | | €225,000 |
| 1.2. Assistance to Persons Housing themselves | €7,850,350 | | €7,850,350 | | €0 |
| 1.3. Assistance to Persons Improving Houses | €122,500,000 | | €122,500,000 | | €1,500,000 |
| 1.8. Administration and Miscellaneous | €820,000 | | €820,000 | | €0 |
| TOTAL | €399,620,350 | | €399,620,350 | | €1,725,000 |
| 2. ROAD TRANSPORTATION & SAFETY | | | | | |
| 2.2. Road Improvement | €187,263,765 | | €187,263,765 | | €9,805,000 |
| 2.3. Road Traffic | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 2.8. Administration & Misc (RMO) | €48,200,000 | | €48,200,000 | | €0 |
| TOTAL | €235,463,765 | | €235,463,765 | | €9,805,000 |
| 3. WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE | | | | | |
| 3.1. Public Water Supply Scheme* | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 3.2. Public Sewerage Scheme | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 3.3. Private Installations | €7,500,000 | | €7,500,000 | | €0 |
| 3.8. Administration & Miscellaneous | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| * Historical expenditure included | | | | | |
| TOTAL | €7,500,000 | | €7,500,000 | | €0 |
| 4. DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVES & CONTROLS | | | | | |
| 4.1 Land Use Planning | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 4.2 Industrial Development | €0 | | €0 | | |
| 4.3 Development Incentives & Control | €3,640,000 | | €3,640,000 | | €840,000 |
| 4.5 Promotion of Interest - Local Community | €0 | | €0 | | |
| 4.8 Administration & Miscellaneous | €0 | | €0 | | |
| TOTAL | €3,640,000 | | €3,640,000 | | €840,000 |

LOCAL AUTHORITY - DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL
EXPENDITURE AND INCOME FOR FINANCIAL YEARS 2022 - 2024

| PROGRAMME GROUP AND PROGRAMME | EXPENDITURE | | INCOME | | DCC Contribution |
|---|---------------------|---------|---------------------|---------|---------------------|
| | ESTIMATED | ADOPTED | ESTIMATED | ADOPTED | |
| | | | | | |
| 5. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION | | | | | |
| 5.1 Waste Disposal | €4,350,000 | | €4,350,000 | | €370,000 |
| 5.2 Burial Grounds | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 5.3 Safety of Structures & Places | €1,054,000 | | €1,054,000 | | €1,054,000 |
| 5.4 Fire Protection | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 5.5 Pollution Control | €4,305,000 | | €4,305,000 | | €40,000 |
| 5.8 Administration & Miscellaneous | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| TOTAL | €9,709,000 | | €9,709,000 | | €1,464,000 |
| 6. RECREATION & AMENITY | | | | | |
| 6.1 Swimming Pools | €5,950,000 | | €5,950,000 | | €2,920,000 |
| 6.2 Libraries | €5,400,000 | | €5,400,000 | | €5,400,000 |
| 6.3 Parks, Open Spaces, Recreation Centres etc. | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 6.4 Other Recreation & Amenity | €95,103,804 | | €95,103,804 | | €18,264,190 |
| 6.8 Administration & Miscellaneous | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| TOTAL | €106,453,804 | | €106,453,804 | | €26,584,190 |
| 7. AGRICULTURE, EDUCATION HEALTH & WELFARE | | | | | |
| 7.1 Agriculture | €31,850,000 | | €31,850,000 | | €7,962,500 |
| 7.8 Administration & Miscellaneous | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| TOTAL | €31,850,000 | | €31,850,000 | | €7,962,500 |
| 8. MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES | | | | | |
| 8.1 Land Acquisition | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 8.2 Plant & Materials | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 8.5 Administration of Justice & Consumer Protection | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 8.6 Property Damage | €0 | | €0 | | €0 |
| 8.8 Administration & Miscellaneous | €1,635,000 | | €1,635,000 | | €1,635,000 |
| TOTAL | €1,635,000 | | €1,635,000 | | €1,635,000 |
| ALL PROGRAMME GROUPS TOTAL | €795,871,919 | | €795,871,919 | | €50,015,690 |