



**Municipal District of Glenties**

Office of Meetings  
Administrator  
Public Service Centre  
Dungloe

7<sup>th</sup> November, 2023

**NOTICE OF MEETING**


The Municipal District of Glenties Meeting will be held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 1.00 p.m. in  
Dungloe Public Services Centre.

**TO EACH MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GLENTIES**

Dear Councillor,

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

Yours Sincerely,

PP   
Michael Rowsome  
Meetings Administrator



## Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí

Oifig Riarthóir na  
gCruinnithe  
Ionad Seirbhísí  
Clochán Liath

7ú Samhain, 2023

### FOGRA CRUINNITHE

Beidh Cruinniú de Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí ar an 14ú Samhain 2023, ag 1.00 i.n. in Oifigí na Comhairle Condae ar an Chlochán Léith.

### DO GACH BHALL DEN CEANTAR BARDAS NA GLEANNTAÍ

A Chara

Iarrtar ort bheith i lathair ag an gcuinniu seo Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí. Ta Clár an Cruinnithe le seo.

Mise, le meas

PP M. U. Rowsome

Micheál Rowsome  
Riarthóir Cruinnithe

## AGENDA

1. Consideration of the Minutes of Glenties Municipal District Committee Meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 & Statutory Budget Meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023
2. Report from Planning Workshop held on the 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2023
3. Report from Budgetary Workshop held on the 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2023
4. Economic Development, I.S. & Emergency Services
5. Community Development
  - Presentation by Donegal Youth Council (3 p.m.)
6. Planning Services
7. Environment
8. Roads Services
9. Housing & Corporate Services

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF GLENTIES  
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE**  
held on Arranmore Island on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllr. Michael McClafferty (Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. Noreen McGarvey (Leas Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. Anthony Molloy  
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher  
Cllr. John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh  
Cllr. Micheal Choilm Mac Giolla Easbuig

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Michael McGarvey - Director Water & Environment  
Michael Rowsome - A/Area Manager, Housing & Corporate  
Brendan McFadden - S.E.E - Area Manager, Roads  
Anne Marie McCole - Staff Officer, Community, Development  
Mary Boyle - A/Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate  
Jim Boner - Senior Executive Engineer, Housing Capital  
Paul Kelly - Senior Executive Planner  
Philip O'Kennedy - Local Enterprise Officer  
Kevin McCloskey - Coastal Officer

**AISTRIÚCHÁIN  
COMHUAINÉACH:**

Dónal Mac Giolla Chóill

**APOLOGIES:**

Sineád McClafferty - Executive Planner

**GMD 44/23**

Confirmation of Minutes of Glenties Municipal District Committee Meeting

On the proposal of Cllr. Gallagher seconded by Cllr. Ó Fearraigh, the minutes of the Municipal District Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023 were confirmed.

## **GMD 45/23 PLANNING**

Members noted the Report circulated with the agenda regarding the following;

- Development Application's Statistics
- Enforcement
- Schedule of Pre-Planning Clinics
- Regeneration & Development Report

Cllr. McGarvey commended Council staff for their expeditious advancement of the Creeslough Village & Regeneration Project.

Cllr. Gallagher requested the Council to progress and prioritise the Dungloe Regeneration Plan.

### **45.1 CROÍ CÓNAITHE - VACANT PROPERTY REFURBISHMENT GRANT SCHEME**

In response to a query from Cllr. McClafferty, the Regeneration Officer undertook to revert with information regarding the categorization of derelict properties.

### **45.2 COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER ACTIVATION FUND**

Cllr. Gallagher requested a breakdown of vacant derelict properties in Dungloe, Ardara and Falcarragh, identified by the ongoing survey via the GEO Directory.

## **GMD 46/23 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

The Committee noted the following reports circulated with the agenda;

- Outdoor Recreational Infrastructural Scheme
- Clár Scheme
- Town & Village Renewal Scheme
- Donegal Walks and Trails
- Playground Maintenance

- Social Inclusion Unit
- Donegal Participation Network
- Donegal Youth Council
- Healthy Ireland Fund

#### **GMD 47/23 ENVIRONMENT**

The Committee noted the following reports previously circulated with the agenda;

- Waste & Litter Management
- County Laboratory Water Quality
- 2023 Bathing Waters
- Glenties Flood Relief Scheme

#### **GMD 48/23 HOUSING & CORPORATE**

**48.1** The Housing Manager advised Members that the following meetings have been arranged;

- (i) 19<sup>th</sup> of September
  - Economic Development Workshop in GTEIC Gaoth Dobhair
  - Creeslough Village Plan Workshop in GTEIC Gaoth Dobhair
- (ii) Municipal District Budget Workshop - (Online) - 10 a.m. - 6<sup>th</sup> October
- (iii) Municipal District Budget Meeting - 10 a.m. - 27<sup>th</sup> October

**48.2** The Members noted the monthly reports circulated with the agenda in relation to Municipal District Housing administration.

#### **48.3 Housing Construction**

The Senior Executive Engineer updated the Committee regarding progress with the following social housing development proposals;

- Chapel Road, Dungloe - 45 Units
- Massiness, Creeslough - 3 Units
- Glenties Fire Station - 3 Units

- Gweedore - 29 Units
- Creeslough - 11 Units
- Land acquisition developments at Dunfanaghy, Falcarragh and Fintown

Cllr. MacGiolla Easbuig requested Housing Construction to provide an update on potential construction projects at the following locations;

- Udaras na Gaeltachta, Carrickataskin, Gweedore
- Annagry, Burtonport & Dungloe (Respond AHB)

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig also queried the ability of a private contractor to submit a planning application for a multiple housing development at lands at Quay Road, Dungloe, that the Council were unwilling to develop.

Cllr. MacGiolla Easbuig, recommended that Senior Management attend an emergency meeting to discuss the housing situation in the Glenties Municipal District.

Cllr McClafferty and Cllr. Gallagher recommended that a Countywide emergency housing meeting be convened and that this issue will be discussed at the Plenary Council Meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> September.

Cllr. Gallagher further recommended the employment/assignment of a dedicated Housing Construction Team to each Municipal District.

## **GMD 49/23 ROADS & TRANSPORTATION**

### **49.1 Workshop**

The Committee agreed to schedule a Workshop on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October between 9.30 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. to discuss Road Design related issues.

### **49.2 Takeover of Roads**

- (i) Road in the townland of Meenmore (Dungloe) Fairhill

On the proposal of Cllr. Gallagher, seconded by Cllr. McGarvey, the Municipal District Members resolved to declare the above road to be a public road in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 to take effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

(ii) Road in the townland of Clonbarra, Falcarragh

On the proposal of Cllr. Ó Fearraigh and seconded by Cllr. McClafferty the Municipal District Members resolved to declare the above road to be a public road in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 to take effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

(iii) Road in the townland of Meenanillar, Derrybeg

On the proposal of Cllr. Ó Fearraigh and seconded by Cllr. McGarvey the Municipal District Members resolved to declare the above road to be a public road in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 to take effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

(iv) Road on the townland of Mullaghdoe Scotch

On the proposal of Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig and seconded by Cllr. McGarvey the Municipal District Members resolved to declare the above road to be a public road in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 to take effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

### 49.3

#### Recent Allocations

The Roads Manager updated Members on recent funding allocations;

- Carnmore Road Crossing - €54,700
- Glenties Comprehensive School Crossing and Associated works - €93,000



#### 49.4 Roadworks Programme

The Roads Manager updated Members on the current status of the 2023 Roadworks Programme and advised that a report has issued regarding items raised at the last Municipal District meeting. Cllr. Gallagher requested that a meeting be arranged with Members regarding the Dungloe to Glenties cycle route.

The Roads Manager responded to Cllr. MacGiolla Easbuig's query regarding the status of road funding in the Glenties Municipal District.

#### GMD 50/23 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INFORMATION SYSTEMS & EMERGENCY SERVICES DIRECTORATE

The Committee noted the reports circulated with the agenda in respect of the following work programmes;

- Economic Development
- Tourism & Marketing
- Strategic Funding
- Donegal Diaspora
- Local Enterprise Office
- Fire Service

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

**MINUTES OF STATUTORY BUDGET MEETING  
OF GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
HELD REMOTELY ON 27<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2023**

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**Members Present:** Cllr. Micheal McClafferty (Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. Noreen McGarvey  
Cllr. Anthony Molloy  
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher  
Cllr. John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh  
Cllr. Michéal Cholm MacGiolla Easbuig

**Officials Present:** Richard Gibson – Head of Finance  
Michael McGarvey – A/Director of Water & Environment  
Michael Rowsome – A/Housing & Corporate Area Manager  
Róise Ní Laifearthaigh - Aistriúchán Comhuaineach

**GMD 51/23**

**Draft Budgetary Plan for Municipal District of Glenties 2024**

The Head of Finance informed the Committee of the following:

- The Local Government Reform Act 2014 and associated regulations require the allocation of a General Municipal Allocation (GMA) as part of the annual revenue budget process. The current approach is a statutory requirement of local government legislation.
- It is proposed to allocate an amount equivalent to €20,000 per Member to the General Municipal Allocation which is discretionary funding to be allocated under the Strategic Development Fund. The final and conclusive decision will be made as part of the plenary budget meeting in December 2023.
- Budgetary process challenges.

**GMD 52/23**

**Recommendation**

The Committee outlined their concerns in relation to the lack of progress pertaining to the following;

- Social Housing developments
- Procurement of inhouse legal services

Members also requested increased funding for Footpath, Public Lighting provision & Coiste na Gaeilge programmes.

On the proposal of Cllr. McClafferty, seconded by Cllr. Ó Fearraigh, the Municipal District Committee of Glenties in line with the requirements of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 and associated regulations, adopted the Draft Budgetary Plan for the Municipal District of Glenties 2024 and General Municipal Allocation in the sum of €120,000 at this time.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig highlighted inadequate investment in services & particularly an absence of housing construction activity in the MD. His proposal to reject the Draft Budgetary Plan and the General Municipal Allocation was not supported.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

**REPORT FROM WORKSHOP OF  
GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE  
HELD ON ARRANMORE ISLAND  
ON THE 12TH SEPTEMBER 2023**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllr. Michael McClafferty (Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. Noreen McGarvey (Leas Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. Anthony Molloy  
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher  
Cllr. John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh  
Cllr. Micheal Cholm Mac Giolla Easbuig

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Michael McGarvey - Director Water & Environment  
Michael Rowsome - A/Area Manager, Housing & Corporate  
Brendan McFadden - S.E.E - Area Manager, Roads  
Anne Marie McCole - Staff Officer, Community, Development  
Mary Boyle - A/Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate  
Jim Boner - Senior Executive Engineer, Housing Capital  
Paul Kelly - Senior Executive Planner

**AISTRIÚCHÁIN  
COMHUAINÉACH:** Dónal Mac Giolla Chóill

**APOLOGIES:** Sineád McClafferty - Executive Planner

Paul Kelly, Senior Executive Planner, Regeneration and Development Team, updated the Committee on the status of the Creeslough Community Regeneration Project which is listed for approval at the Plenary Council Meeting to be held on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE WORKSHOP**

**REPORT FROM GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT BUDGET WORKSHOP HELD  
ONLINE ON 6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllr. Noreen McGarvey (Leas Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher  
Clr. John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh  
Clr. Michéal Choilm MacGiollaEasbuig

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Richard Gibson-Head of Finance  
Brendan McFadden – SEE Roads Manager  
Michael Rowsome – A/Area Manager, Housing &  
Corporate

**Translator:** Máire Ní Fhearraigh -

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr. Michael McClafferty (Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. Anthony Molloy  
Michael McGarvey - A/Director Water & Environment  
Service

1. The Head of Finance made a presentation to the Committee regarding the following issues:

- Time and date for statutory Municipal District Budget Meeting in line with Circular Fin 06/2023 to be held online at 10a.m. on 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2023.
- Overview of Budget processes, including proposed approach to General Municipal Allocations for 2024.
- LPT allocation for 2024.
- Commercial Rates – 2024 projections.
- Possible approaches to Rates Vacancy for 2024 in line with Section 31(1) of the Local Government Reform Act 2014.
- Emerging Issues in preparation of 2024 Revenue Budget
  - Outturn 2023
  - Emerging Income and Expenditure Issues
- Proposed approach to 3-Year Capital Budget preparation 2024 – 2026 as required by Section 135 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended).

2. The Committee raised the following issues for consideration by the Head of Finance & Senior Management during the formulation of the Budget:
  - Marketing of Annagry and neighbouring Gaeltact villages (in conjunction with local businesses & communities) as cultural, artistic, music & Food destinations.
  - Urgent necessity for expeditious delivery of completed housing capital projects to assist in youth retention within the County.
  - Provision of additional funding for development of housing on offshore Islands
  - Additional road maintenance funding
  - Continuation of Burtonport Railway Walk & development of walkway from airport to neighbouring villages.
  - Recruitment of additional staff
  
3. The Head of Finance responded to Members queries regarding the status of both residential zoned land tax (RZLT) & obstacles to recruitment within the organisation .He undertook to liaise with Senior Management in respect of service issues highlighted at the meeting.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE WORKSHOP.**



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

**Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services Directorate**

**Glenties Municipal District Report November 2023**

**Content**

**1. Economic Development**

- 1.1. Economic Development Unit**
- 1.2. Tourism Marketing Unit**
- 1.3. Strategic Funding Unit**

**2. Donegal Local Enterprise Office**

**3. Emergency Services – Fire Service**

## 1. Division: Economic Development

### 1.1 Economic Development Unit

#### Project / Activity Report

Title	Economic Development Unit
Countywide	<p data-bbox="448 593 1018 629"><b>#BuyDonegal / #CeannaighDúnnanGall 2023</b></p> <p data-bbox="448 667 1362 875">The 2023 #BuyDonegal campaign will begin on Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup> and will run for a period of 5 weeks. This award-winning initiative is in its 4<sup>th</sup> year and will showcases high-quality and renowned Donegal brands across a wide range of sectors including creative, services, tourism, and retail.</p> <p data-bbox="448 920 1362 1039">Over 300 businesses have been involved in the #Buydonegal campaign to date, with a global audience of 13.9 million in 2022 across more than 70 countries globally.</p> <p data-bbox="448 1084 1378 1202">More details on the campaign are available at <a href="https://donegal.ie/buydonegal">https://donegal.ie/buydonegal</a> with more information on the launch to be announced shortly.</p> <p data-bbox="448 1247 1362 1314"><b>Navigating the Future of Regulation – North West RegTech Conference: 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b></p> <p data-bbox="448 1359 1378 1516">This conference was hosted as part of the North West RegTech Initiative being developed by Donegal County Council, Derry City &amp; Strabane District Council, ATU and Catalyst, to establish an all-island national institute in Regulatory Technology.</p> <p data-bbox="448 1561 1394 1718">The conference was attended by approx 110 people (in person and online) and included panels of experts and keynote speakers on areas such as artificial intelligence as well as Minister Dara Calleary. The event is available to watch online at: <a href="#">Navigating The Future Of Regulation - YouTube</a></p> <p data-bbox="448 1762 762 1798"><b>Donegal Tech Advocates</b></p> <p data-bbox="448 1843 1378 1910">The Donegal Tech Advocates group was established in order to promote, grow and empower the Tech sector across Donegal in order to benefit the</p>



county as a whole and showcase Tech as a highly effective cluster. The aim for this initiative is to encourage collaboration among industry members and members to develop, retain and attract new talent to the region. The launch event will take place on December 7<sup>th</sup> at PGIM, Letterkenny.

**Relocation Marketing Campaign**

Donegal County Council’s Relocation marketing campaign #MoveToDonegal has reached over 3.5 million across all social media platforms and received over 65 relocation enquiries. The team will be working with TG4 and WDC on the upcoming period on their Move West initiative which will add impetus to this campaign. The campaign has been shortlisted in the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2023 for “Promoting Economic Development”.

**Remote Working:** Over the course of the Working Holiday Campaign, 121 vouchers were issued to workers across Ireland, UK, Europe, and the US. Details of the campaign are available at: <https://donegal.ie/workhold>

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

	<b>Impressions (last 28 days)</b>	<b>Total Followers</b>
Linked In	25,024	4,993(+68)
Twitter	17.8K	3,937(+953)
Instagram	2,431	4,127 (+36)
Facebook	34,642	2,041 (+32)
Donegal.ie	3.4K Web Users (4 weeks 28 September – 25 October)	

9 News Items Published.

**Shared Island Funded Projects Update**

The deadline for completion of the Shared Island projects and drawdown of funding is 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

**North West RegTech Initiative:** Proposal to develop an all-island national institute in Regulatory Technology in the North West with partners DCSDC, Catalyst and ATU. Work is near completion by the appointed consultants (Stratagem Partners) for the Feasibility Study and Business Case/Economic Appraisal. The ' Navigating the Future of Regulation' conference took place on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023 in ATU Letterkenny (see above) and provided an important platform to raise awareness of the project and further develop collaboration.

**Crossborder Innovation Plaza:** To develop cross-border innovation campuses in Ballyshannon in partnership with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council (FODC). Following scoping and consultation the sectoral scope has been expanded to also include provision for non-food/options including traditional building skills and climate adaptation. Long list development options report has been completed. The draft final reports are due completion in November. The completed Feasibility Study, Economic Appraisal/Business Case is due mid-November 2023.

**Regenerative Tourism Project:** Proposal to develop a cross border slow tourism destination which preserves and showcases the region's rich, social, cultural and natural heritage while enabling tourism enterprise clusters to grow and prosper. The draft final reports are due in November. The final Feasibility Study, Economic Appraisal/Business Case is due mid-November 2023.

**Slí Cholmcille Project:** Proposed 250 km pilgrimage route linking key Colmcille related sites across Donegal and Derry, with the ambition to link across NI to Scotland. DCC is leading feasibility assessment with partners DCSDC and Slí Cholmcille CLG. Work is nearing completion by the appointed consultants for the Scoping Study, Business Case/Economic Appraisal and Design Toolkit (Outdoor Recreation NI). Cross-border animation has taken place during October 2023 with a focus on the Lifford-Strabane and Derry-Inishowen areas and including events in Gartan, Strabane and Greencastle.


**Investment in the North West City Region:**

	<p>Donegal County Council and Derry City and Strabane District Council collaborated on a number of key projects for supporting and stimulating Inward Investment in the region:</p> <p><b>Collaborative NWCR Events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Irish Embassy Event in London - 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023.</li> <li>• US Trade Mission – 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Golden Bridges Conference on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023.</li> <li>○ Pathfinder Go To Market programme in development with Catalyst with 12 business from the region participating.</li> <li>○ Life Sciences Networking event hosted by IABCN</li> <li>○ Event with the Donegal Association of Philadelphia.</li> <li>○ Irish Consulate General of Boston to host a reception for NWCR delegates.</li> <li>○ Meetings with key US contacts.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Communications:</b> The EDU continues to collaborate with DCSDC on promoting the North West City Region for investment and business opportunities across multiple platforms including irelandnw.com and via LinkedIn and Twitter platforms.</p> <p><b>Atlantic Economic Corridor:</b> Donegal County Council is working with Local Authority partners along the western coast to progress mutually beneficial projects and initiatives around economic development. The Councils are currently working with the WDC to develop an AEC Strategy for the seaboard counties that will promote economic development and investment.</p> <p><b>Concierge Service:</b> The Concierge Service provides support to those interested in doing business in Donegal. The EDU team is planning a social media campaign to promote it over the coming months. The contact email for this service is <a href="mailto:economicdevelopment@donegalcoco.ie">economicdevelopment@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>
Diaspora	<p><b>Donegal Diaspora</b></p> <p><b>Tip O’Neill Irish Diaspora Awards 2024:</b> A Tip O’Neill Committee meeting took place on 8<sup>th</sup> November with a plan in place for the 2024 selection</p>

	<p>process. The 2024 edition of the Awards will take place on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September at a location TBC.</p> <p><b>London Irish Centre:</b> A Donegal-themed event is scheduled for the London Irish Centre on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Additional details to follow once finalised.</p> <p><b>Scottish Diaspora:</b> Collaboration ongoing with the Donegal Scotland Diaspora group on a number of upcoming initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosting events to collate material in Scotland for the “Donegal Emigrant Working lives in Scotland” project in conjunction with Donegal County Councils Heritage Office.</li> <li>• An event at the Irish Consulate in Scotland to showcase the unique tweed relationship between Donegal and Scotland. This event is provisionally scheduled for Late February / Early March 2024 and further detail will be available in the coming weeks.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Contact Persons</b></p>	<p><b>Joy Browne – Senior Economic Development Officer</b>  <b>Mobile – +353 (87) 061 9360</b>  <b>Email – <a href="mailto:joybrowne@donegalcoco.ie">joybrowne@donegalcoco.ie</a></b></p> <p><b>Daniel Mc Chrystal – Senior Economic Development Officer</b>  <b>Mobile – +353 (87) 614 7496</b>  <b>E-Mail – <a href="mailto:dmcchrystal@donegalcoco.ie">dmcchrystal@donegalcoco.ie</a></b></p>

## 1.2: Tourism Marketing Unit

### Project/Activity Report:

Title	Tourism Unit
<p><b>Countywide</b></p>	<p>Donegal County Council's Tourism Unit undertakes a range of tourism marketing and industry support initiatives. The team also administers a number of grant supports including the Festival and Events Grant Scheme and the Minor Tourism Works Grant scheme. The team also supports the operation of Donegal Tourism Clg.</p> <p><b>Launch of Autumn Donegal Tourism Campaign</b></p>  <p>The Go Visit Donegal 'It's Ours' Shoulder Season campaign was launched on 20th October in Rockhill House. This campaign will run for four weeks, concluding on November 10th. The campaign aims to showcase the unique appeal, breath-taking natural beauty, and rich cultural heritage of Donegal, positioning it as a must-visit destination.</p> <p>The autumn campaign will encourage visitors to slow down and immerse themselves in Donegal. The campaign includes a suite of new autumn videos and imagery. The <a href="http://govisitdonegal.com">govisitdonegal.com</a> website will enable visitors to avail of bespoke offers from businesses throughout Donegal.</p> <p>Workshops were held with businesses to allow the tourism trade in Donegal to get involved in this campaign. Donegal Tourism has also created a range of free toolkits that can help tourism businesses in the county to get involved in the campaign.</p>

### Launch of Donegal Travel Concierge Service

Donegal Tourism launched the Travel Concierge Service in Rockhill House on 20<sup>th</sup> October. The concept of pre-arrival and travel concierge is becoming more and more popular. Donegal County Council and Donegal Tourism Clg. has launched a new Travel Concierge Service for tour operators worldwide. The service will include assistance in channelling the best fit for a tour operator requirement to our local businesses on the ground.

### Lonely Planet Award



Lonely Planet is a travel guidebook publisher with travel books and social media reach of over 2 billion people.

The publisher has ranked Donegal, as one of the best regions in the world to visit, the only destination in Ireland to receive this accolade, on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> October. They cited the following: 'boasting Ireland's longest coastline, over 100 beaches, and Europe's highest sea cliffs, Donegal is a hidden gem that offers a unique travel experience for local and international tourists alike'. They also commended Donegal for its solitude, wild landscapes, friendly atmosphere, and pristine coastal hiking trails along the Wild Atlantic Way. The esteemed travel guide also highlights the county's ancient forts, vibrant musical traditions, and rich heritage of the Irish language, providing an immersive experience for inquisitive travellers.

### **Supporting the development of Golf Tourism**

**Golf Cluster Meeting:** The next meeting is scheduled for 18<sup>th</sup> January in Letterkenny Golf Club.

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

### **Golf Media Fam Trip to Donegal**

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

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

### **Online & Social Media Updates – Go Visit Donegal**

#### **Facebook**

Facebook had a reach of 403,428.

#### **Instagram**

Instagram had a reach of 217,018 an increase of 696.5% in the last month. There was a clear peak around the launch of Donegal It's Yours campaign. Instagram saw a growth of 834 followers up 24%.

**LinkedIn**

In the last month, there was an increase in page views, with a rise of 280%. LinkedIn saw an increase of 219 new followers.

**Twitter**

Twitter impressions show an increase of 315.8% and 52 new followers over the last 28 days.

**TikTok**

Since launching in July, we have made consistent progress on this platform. Over the last month we have had 1,490 video plays and a reached audience of 957 with 28 new followers. This will continue to drive reach, brand awareness and drive people to the website.

**Donegal Tourism**

The board of Donegal Tourism Clg. held a meeting on Oct 3rd at which the three associate members that were selected to sit on the board at the September 13th Associate Members Committee meeting, were ratified by the board. Nicola Dunnion, Head of Tourism and Sports at ATU presented an overview including tourism programmes on offer; key trends within the tourism department; research and course delivery methods; and initiatives underway at the tourism unit.

**Grant Schemes****Minor Tourism Related Works Grant Scheme**

All successful applicants under the 2023 MTWGS have been issued letters of offer and applicants are getting works underway. The team will continue to liaise with all applicants to ensure the smooth drawdown of funds in a timely manner.

**Regional Festival & Events Grant Scheme**

All successful applicants to this grant scheme have been issued letters of offer and work is underway with the various festivals that have been completed to drawdown this funding. All funding must be drawn down by December 2023.



**Two new models of the Saldanha – Tides Project**

Donegal County Council Tides Project has appointed a Marketing company to promote the three pilot VR sites – Fanad Lighthouse, Greencastle Maritime Museum, and Fort Dunree. The campaign will include a competition centred around these sites and procurement of new imagery from the catchment areas around these regions. The agency will work closely with the Fanad Lighthouse, Greencastle Maritime Museum, and Fort Dunree to promote their offering. There will also be a launch of the two new models of the Saldanha, which were delivered to the two sites (Fanad and Dunree) in July.

**TOURBO Project**

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

The project includes an analysis of the tourism sector in terms of green and digital skills/capabilities, training businesses and pilot actions such as new technology trials and knowledge/expertise collaboration.

Tourism businesses will be eligible to apply for a grant of up to €5,000 under the TOURBO programme. The second meeting of partners and Donegal stakeholders will take place in Croatia on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of November. For more information visit <https://www.interregeurope.eu/tourbo>

**Sustainable Arctic and Peripheral Biking Tourism Project**

The Council has secured €428,600 to deliver this project which will provide businesses with an opportunity to learn from various good practice approaches across Europe to encourage sustainable biking business.

The implementation of this project has commenced with the first partner meeting held in Lapland in October and Donegal attended virtually.

**Association of Irish and Celtic Festivals (ACIF) Conference**

Donegal County Council tourism team attended the Association of Irish and Celtic Festivals (ACIF) Conference in Galway. Attending this conference

	<p>provided Donegal Tourism the opportunity to showcase and promote Donegal with festival organisers from all over the United States.</p> <p>At the Donegal stand a variety of information was available for visitors including the new Donegal tourism brochure, tips on the top 10 things to see and visit in Donegal and information on Donegal Tourism Concierge Service.</p> <p><b>Marketing Skills Course for Tourism Businesses</b>  Donegal Tourism is currently hosting a four-week free, online Autumn Marketing Skills Course for tourism businesses. This course aims to teach businesses latest trends in social media marketing. An invite was issued from Donegal Tourism to all trade and several different tourism businesses availed of the opportunity to upskill in relation to their social media presence. Topic covered included: Facebook, Instagram, content, schedules, and calendars, Canva and TikTok. Training was delivered by Joleen McDermott.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	Sarah Nolan <a href="mailto:sarahnolan@donegalcoco.ie">sarahnolan@donegalcoco.ie</a> Acting Head of Tourism Unit 074 91 94241

### 1.3: Strategic Funding Unit

#### Project / Activity Report

<p><b>Title</b></p>	<p><b>Strategic Funding Unit – exploring EU and National Funding Opportunities that support the objectives set out in the Donegal County Council Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024</b></p>
<p><b>Countywide</b></p>	<p><b>PEACE Plus</b></p> <p>The SFU is exploring opportunities in relation to PEACE Plus, which has 6 themes and 22 investment areas. The SFU is currently working with Alpha Innovation on a potential concept note focused on the Innovation Challenge Fund under PEACE Plus.</p> <p>SEUPB has provided a new timetable of calls for applications to the PEACEPLUS Programme for 2021-2027 on their website. Please visit: <a href="https://www.seupb.eu/funding/current-funding-opportunities">https://www.seupb.eu/funding/current-funding-opportunities</a></p> <p>The SFU will be attending a PEACE Plus workshop in Banbridge on 15<sup>th</sup> November to explore funding opportunities and network with other potential project partners.</p> <p><b>CPMR General Assembly</b></p> <p>The General Assembly and 50th anniversary of the CPMR will take place on 15-17 November 2023 in Saint-Malo (Brittany, France) attended by Donegal County Council’s Political Representative, Cllr. John O’Fearraigh. There will be a vote on the Presidency of the CPMR at the General Assembly. There will be a number of working group sessions on topics such as fisheries and maritime affairs, EU budgets, climate change, regional solidarity and Cohesion Policy.</p> <p><b>Assembly of European Regions Engagement</b></p> <p>The AER Summer Academy 2022 held here in Donegal co-hosted by Donegal County Council and Udarás na Gaeltachta has been awarded the prestigious European Citizen's Prize for Ireland. The Award Ceremony will take place at the European Parliament in Brussels, on Tuesday 7 November. The European Citizens’ Prize goes to projects</p>

	<p>“organised by people or organisations that encourage mutual understanding and closer integration between people in the EU, cross-border cooperation that builds a stronger European spirit, and EU values and fundamental rights.”</p> <p>Donegal County Council has joined the AER Green Hydrogen Working Group to explore EU project opportunities in renewable energy.</p> <p><b>Project Partnership &amp; Development</b></p> <p>The SFU is exploring a number of project opportunities under the Atlantic Area Programme and is liaising with Council staff and other potential partners on project concepts related to air quality, green infrastructure, fishing sector ecosystem innovation and tourism.</p> <p><b>Other areas of work include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● EU Funding Programme Reviews</li> <li>● Participation in project scoping meetings with potential partners</li> <li>● Participation in EU network meetings such as CPMR, AER etc.</li> <li>● Funding Needs Analysis of Council Divisions</li> <li>● Regular Strategic Funding Newsletters</li> </ul>
<b>Donegal MD</b>	<p><b>Donegal Diamond – Outdoor Public Space Scheme:</b> This project is now being managed by Community Development under James Kelly and his team.</p> <p><b>Bundoran Oceanside:</b> Funded under the Fáilte Ireland Local Authority Weatherproofing &amp; Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Scheme. The refurbishment of the public toilets is complete. Tender process is ongoing for dining facility, more information will be made available in due course.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p><b>Joy Browne</b>  <b>Mobile:</b> +353 (87) 0619360  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:joybrowne@donegalcoco.ie">joybrowne@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

## 2. Local Enterprise Office

### Project / Activity Report:

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

<b>Outline of Work</b>	<p><b>General Overview – Highlights:</b></p> <p><b><u>Summary of October 2023 Outputs/Events:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grant Aid (M1) – Business Expansion &amp; Priming (Start Up) - 45 Businesses have been approved Grant Aid. Value of total Grant Aid Approvals YTD is €601,791. Next EVAC meeting will take place on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023.</li> <li>• Trading Online Vouchers – 50 Businesses approved support to trade online with a value of €109,024</li> <li>• Mentoring YTD – 259 Businesses have received this support.</li> <li>• Training – 1,238 Business attendees at 86 Events YTD.</li> <li>• Micro Finance Ireland – YTD 9 applications submitted to MFI. A total of €151k in loan finance recommended to MFI by LEO Donegal.</li> <li>• The final Start Your Own Business (SYOB) online programme for 2023 commenced on 3<sup>rd</sup> October and was fully booked. A total of 7 online programmes have been held in 2023. To date, 112</li> </ul>
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participants have completed 6 of the 7 programmes. The last programme for the year is finishing on 26/10/2023.

#### **National Women's Enterprise Day**

On 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023, the National Women's Enterprise Day – “Empowering Business Together” took place in Solis Lough Eske Hotel. This was a hugely successful event which was held in collaboration with the Local Enterprise Offices in Donegal, Sligo & Leitrim. A total of 192 attended the event.

The theme of this year's National Women's Enterprise Day was “*Empowering Business Together.*” The event began with an opening address from radio and TV broadcaster, and All-Ireland winning captain, Anna Geary and Grainne Mullins of Gra Chocolates. This was followed by a panel discussion with Áine Faughnan of Dromod Boxty, Isobel Sangha of The Donegal Natural Soap Company and Helen Mulholland of Lough Gill Distillery, who shared their knowledge and experience of growing their respective brands and businesses.

#### **Creative Coast**

LEO Donegal and Creative Coast Donegal held a “Meet the Makers” event, on October 20<sup>th</sup> at Lough Eske Castle. The event provided Donegal designers and manufacturers valuable opportunities to present their unique products and enabled them to connect with national and international buyers who were there on the day. 36 Donegal craft businesses exhibited, and 180 members of the public also attended. 15 Buyers from NACTA (North American Trade Association) also attended. A hardback directory of craft businesses in County Donegal entitled ‘Meet the Makers Donegal Directory’, was also launched.

#### **Student Enterprise Programme**

Two Student Enterprise Programme Idea Generation workshops took place on Tuesday & Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at the Clanree Hotel in Letterkenny. Around 800 students took part in the 2 sessions which were facilitated by the Alpha Innovation Centre. The keynote address was given by Jordan Casey, a 23 year old entrepreneur,

software engineer and global speaker who has been working in the global technology space for the past 14 years.

#### **Raphoe Flood Relief Scheme**

The Local Enterprise Office assisted the Red Cross in the administration of the Scheme. The scheme provided Emergency Flood Relief to Small Businesses and Community, Voluntary, and sporting Bodies affected by the flooding. A single once-off contribution toward the damage of up to a maximum of €5,000 was available, based on an application form and verification by the Local Authority. 7 Applications were received, 4 of which were small businesses and 2 were voluntary organisations. All applications under the Scheme have now been assessed.

#### **Creeslough Small Business Humanitarian Scheme.**

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

#### **Food Coast**

Seven Donegal businesses, the majority of whom are Food Coast Donegal members, won awards at the Blas na hEireann awards in October. The winners are Kombucha Ni Dalaigh, Donegal Rapeseed Oil, Filligans Handmade Preserves, Green Pastures Donegal, McConnell Meats Limited, Natural Dairies and Wild Fuchsia Bakehouse.

A new collaboration between Food Coast Donegal, Taste Causeway and Enterprise Causeway, Northern Ireland commenced in September. A visit to Bushmills took place on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023 and was hugely successful. The return visit to Donegal is on Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> of November 2023, when we will showcase the very best the county has to offer. Venue to be confirmed.

**Export Development**

LEO Donegal facilitated two Export Information Sessions tailored to both new and existing exporters which took place in the Enterprise Centre on September 22nd. These sessions were tailored to those interested in beginning their exporting journey, and those who are currently exporting and wish to improve their exporting strategy. The information sessions set out to equip participants with the necessary knowledge, tools, and insights to navigate the complexities of international trade successfully.

**Donegal Engineering Network**

Two events took place recently organised by the Donegal Engineering Network which included an Energy Costs Saving workshop, in the Radisson Hotel, Letterkenny and a good practice visit to Takumi, Limerick, along with members of the Enginuity Midlands Engineering Network.

**Upcoming Events/Programmes:****SYOB Network & Learn Events**

LEO Donegal is hosting two in-person network and learn events taking place in October and November.

Graduates of the SYOB online programme will get an opportunity to meet in-person, speak with a LEO Advisor and hear a social media masterclass from guest speaker Emma Boylan PR.

The first event is happening on Friday October 27<sup>th</sup> @ 12pm in the Inishowen Innovation Hub, Buncrana, with a second event taking place in Donegal Town on Friday November 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Donegal Enterprise Awards**

Entries are now being reviewed for the 2023 Donegal Enterprise Awards ahead of the ceremony which will take place on Friday December 1<sup>st</sup> in Rockhill House Estate, Letterkenny.



A total prize fund of €14,000 across 11 categories is available for Donegal businesses who apply. A save the date email has been issued to all Elected Members. For more click on the link below

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Donegal/Enterprise-Development/Donegal-Enterprise-Awards/localenterprise.ie/donegal>

#### **Food Coast**

The first Food Coast Donegal Strategy implementation meeting took place at Castle Grove Country House on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October. Attendees heard about plans to ensure that the network moves from an agency to an industry lead initiative.

Plans to create two industry clusters were also initiated. The Restaurant/Chef cluster will have its inaugural meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November whilst the Food/Drink producer cluster will have their preliminary meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

#### **Donegal Engineering Network**

A new Engineering Profitnet group will convene in November. This will comprise approx. 6 members of the previous Profitnet group and new members from the wider Donegal Engineering Network. The members will meet monthly in a confidential and facilitated environment and will decide the topics of workshops and learning visits going forward.

In November, Donegal Engineering Network has arranged a visit for the members to BLECH Expo, Stuttgart, Germany.

#### **Export Development**

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

	<p><b>Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)</b>  LEO Donegal is the lead partner in the Enterprise Europe Network project. The Enterprise Europe Network provides support for Small and Medium-sized enterprises with international ambitions. The Network's aim is to help businesses innovate and grow internationally. The Network is active in more than 60 countries worldwide.</p> <p>The EEN Annual Conference is the Enterprise Europe Network's flagship event. This year's edition will take place on 15-17 November in a hybrid format, at the Bilbao Exhibition Centre in Spain.</p> <p>The Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) in partnership with LEO Donegal has organised an international 'Meet the Buyers Event' for the Food and Beverage industry which is taking place at the MERITS Innovation Thinkspace in Naas, Co. Kildare on January 31<sup>st</sup> 2024.</p> <p>A second brokerage event will focus on the Construction &amp; Engineering sector which is taking place on February 9<sup>th</sup> 2024.</p> <p><b>Student Enterprise 2023/2024</b>  The Donegal county final of the Student Enterprise Programme will take place in March 2024 with the National final scheduled for May 2024 at the Mullingar Park Hotel.</p> <p><b>Chambers Ireland Award</b>  The LEO Donegal initiated AMBITION programme for Female Entrepreneurs shortlisted in the twentieth annual Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2023 in the Diversity &amp; Inclusion category. The winner will be presented at an awards ceremony on 23 November 2023.</p> <p><b><u>Ongoing Programmes:</u></b></p> <p><b>Digital Start</b></p> <p><b>YTD – 33 Donegal LEO Client applications received for this support.</b></p>
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The objective of Digital Start is to help businesses prepare and implement a plan for the adoption of digital tools and techniques across the business.

#### **Green for Business**

**YTD – 20 Donegal LEO Client applications received for this support.**

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

#### **Energy Efficiency Grant**

**YTD – 2 LEO Client applications received for this support.**

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

#### **Lean For Business**

**YTD – 18 LEO Client applications received for this support.**

LEAN provides strategic intervention for businesses to work with third party consultants worth up to €4,500 (Client contribution €200). It is designed to encourage clients to adopt Lean business principles in their organisations to increase performance and competitiveness. Lean is for all companies, regardless of sector – it is not just for manufacturing companies.

#### **IMMERSE**

LEO Donegal applied to Creative Ireland for funding to deliver the IMMERSE project, a collaboration between Donegal County Council, Eirmersive, Connected Hubs, Regional Enterprise Offices (MidWest/North West/West), CREW, Údarás na Gaeltachta and the Western Development Commission. The project, a multi-agency, pan-

	<p>regional proposition across the Atlantic Innovation region, will focus on the Content Creation Sector. Funding of €68,000 was awarded from the Creative Communities Action Fund, and responsibility has been assigned to the Western Development Commission to handle project operations.</p> <p>The second IMMERSE workshop took place on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023 in the Local Enterprise Office Donegal, providing an overview of the immersive XR space and showcasing real XR vertical use cases from industry experts. Examples demonstrated current vertical innovations using XR and workshop participants were given the opportunity to immerse themselves in their own XR experiences.</p> <p>The Western Development Commission will submit a draft report to LEO Donegal in late November 2023, prior to final submission to Creative Ireland.</p> <p><b>Scale-X</b> Scale-X North West continues each Wednesday morning involving participants from Donegal and Leitrim. The 11-week Accelerator Programme, aimed at start-up entrepreneurs with the potential for fast growth, will run until November 22<sup>nd</sup>. 12 entrepreneurs across a diverse group of businesses, sectors and backgrounds have been selected to take part in the programme. At the final event, each business will present their business pitch idea to a judging panel.</p> <p><b>Ambition</b> Ambition is a pre-accelerator programme which focuses on female entrepreneurs. 15 businesses have been selected to participate in the fourth programme for Donegal's early-stage female entrepreneurs. The businesses are currently attending twelve half-day workshops and the programme is running from September 2023 to December 2023.</p> <p><b>Creative Coast Donegal</b> The LEO Donegal and external consultants are developing a 3-year action plan for the creative industry in Donegal and expect to have it finalised in the coming weeks.</p>
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	<b><i>Donegal Stories:</i></b> Website highlighting the businesses of Donegal that have been supported by the LEO. <a href="https://donegalstories.ie/">https://donegalstories.ie/</a>
<b>Contact Person</b>	Brenda Hegarty, Head of Enterprise  Local Enterprise Office 074 9160735 <a href="mailto:Brenda.Hegarty@leo.donegalcoco.ie">Brenda.Hegarty@leo.donegalcoco.ie</a>

### 3. Emergency Services – Fire Service

Activity	Number of: (September) <sup>1</sup>	Total for year		
<b><u>Fire Service Operations</u></b>				
Fire Brigade incidents within County Donegal**:	58	585		
Mobilisations (by Donegal Fire Service Brigades)**:	68	752		
Mobilisations into Donegal (by NI Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS))**:	5	59		
<b><u>Operational Activity Breakdown September 2023</u></b>	<b>Turnouts</b>	<b>Incidents in County</b>		
	<b>Fires</b>	<b>Special Services</b>		
	<b>Fires</b>	<b>Special Services</b>		
Donegal Fire Service	25	43	19	34
Northern Ireland Fire Service	2	3	2	3
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>58</b>		
<b><u>Fire Prevention</u></b>				
Fire Safety Certificate applications received:	20	181		
Fire Safety Certificates waiting to be assessed:	53	N/A		

Fire Safety Certificate applications assessed by the Fire Officer and waiting for Further Information from the Applicant / Agent:	59	N/A
Fire Safety Certificate decisions made:	17	165
Applications for Dangerous Substance Licences received:	3	11
Dangerous Substance Licences issued:	0	0
Form of notice received under the Explosives Act, 1875:	5	31
Inspections and Auditing carried out (Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003, Annual Licensing, DSA 1972, Explosive Stores, Pyrotechnics, BCA 1992 & 2007):	50	201
Fire Safety Complaints received:	5	26
Fire Safety Complaints dealt with:	4	25
During Performance Inspections carried out:	0	1
Fire Safety awareness presentations delivered:	0	54

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



Municipal District of Glenties

14<sup>th</sup> November 2023

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Community Development Division

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**CLÁR / AGENDA**

1. Presentation by Donegal Youth Council
2. Report on recent activity in the Community Development Division
  - 2.1 Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme
  - 2.2 Clár Scheme
  - 2.3 Social Inclusion
  - 2.4 Rural Development Programme/LEADER
  - 2.5 Town & Village Renewal Scheme
  - 2.6 Donegal Walks & Trails
  - 2.7 Playgrounds
  - 2.8 Healthy Ireland



<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme</b>
<b>Project Description/Activity</b>	Errigal Mountain – pathway and environmental improvements
<b>Budget (if applicable)</b>	
<b>Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status</b>	<p><b>Works consist of:</b></p> <p>3.4km path from the Errigal carpark to the summit of Errigal Mountain including pitching and gravel path.</p> <p><b>Current Status:</b></p> <p>The work is now complete</p>
<i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	
<b>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</b>	
<b>Contact Person (to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</b>	Brian Keogh, Tel: 074-9172569 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme</b>
<b>Project Description/Activity</b>	Railway Greenway at Muckish
<b>Budget (if applicable)</b>	
<b>Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status</b>	<p><b>Works consist of:</b></p> <p>Carpark construction &amp; Greenway construction from the carpark along the old railway line to tie into the previously completed Greenway.</p> <p><b>Current Status:</b></p> <p>The construction work on site is currently ongoing, working to a 20-week programme due to be complete in January 2024. This work is progressing well and is on schedule for completion in January.</p>
<i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	
<b>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</b>	Project is progressing well and should be complete by January 2024
<b>Contact Person (to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</b>	Brian Keogh, Tel: 074-9172569 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie


Activity / Project Title	2022 Clár Scheme
<b>Project Description/Activity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Clochán Liath: Outdoor lighting servicing an existing riverside walkway.</li> <li>• Cill Ulta, An Fál Carrach: Gairdín na gCeadfaí - Sensory garden with wheelchair access, outdoor tea / coffee making facilities &amp; bio stove gúg.</li> <li>• Maghery: Enhancement of existing community outdoor play facility with an emphasis on nature-based play.</li> <li>• Pobal Eascarrach – Ballina Resource Centre</li> <li>• Ardara MUGA</li> </ul>
<b>Budget (if applicable)</b>	<p>Funded by: Department of Rural and Community Development Donegal County Council / Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Clochán Liath:</li> <li>• Cill Ulta, An Fál Carrach:</li> <li>• Maghery:</li> <li>• Pobal Eascarrach, Ballina Resource Centre:</li> <li>• Ardara:</li> </ul>
<b>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Clochán Liath: Outdoor lighting servicing an existing riverside walkway. Work is now complete.</li> <li>• Cill Ulta, An Fál Carrach: Gairdín na gCeadfaí - Sensory garden with wheelchair access, outdoor tea / coffee making facilities &amp; bio stove gúg - works are ongoing.</li> <li>• Maghery: Enhancement of existing community outdoor play facility with an emphasis on nature-based play - is complete.</li> <li>• Pobal Eascarrach – Ballina Resource Centre – Carparking is complete.</li> <li>• Ardara GAA MUGA – Tender process is complete and works are currently ongoing</li> </ul>
<i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	
<b>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</b>	All works should be completed by the end of 2023.
<b>Contact Person (to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</b>	Brian Keogh, Tel: 074-9172569 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie

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

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	Rural Development Programme/LEADER
<b>Project Description/Activity</b>	Donegal Local Community and Development Committee are the Local Action Group for County Donegal, with responsibility for the LEADER/Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 & Transitional LEADER Programme 2021-2022
<b>Budget (if applicable)</b>	<p>€13,413,875 (Additional funding received 2019)  <i>Note: Project costs €10,063,586, administration and animation costs €3,350,289</i>  1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022  €2,861,598 project costs  €953,866 for Administration &amp; Animation.</p>
<b>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</b>  <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<p>There are 4 Implementing Partners within the county; Donegal Local Development Company (DLDC), Inishowen Development Partnership (IDP), Údarás Na Gaeltachta and Comhar na nOileán, who are rolling out the LEADER Transitional programme on behalf of the LAG (Local Action Group). The LEADER Transitional programme is effective from 1st April 2021 and runs until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022. €45 million is allocated nationally for the Transitional Programme and €20 million from the EURI programme.</p> <p>62 projects in Donegal are now approved by Pobal under the Transitional &amp; EURI programmes and Letters of Offer have issued/are pending, granting LEADER funding to a value of €2,861,598.</p>
<b>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</b>	<p>All funding awarded to the Donegal LAG under the Transitional LEADER programme and EURI programme has been allocated but LDCs will continue to engage with promoters on the ground regarding any potential underspend or decommitments.</p> <p>Donegal County Council as Lead Financial Partner, in collaboration with our four implementing partners,</p>

	<p>Donegal Local Development Company, Inishowen Development Partnership, Údarás na Gaeltachta and Comhar na nOileán have completed the draft LEADER Local Development Strategy which was submitted on 14th July 2023.</p> <p>Clarifications and further information has since been sought with confirmation from the DRCD received on 27<sup>th</sup> October that the submission was seen to be of “excellent standard”, with a funding agreement to follow to allow Donegal LCDC and its partners to deliver the 2023-2027 LEADER programme.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b> <i>(to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</i>	Ciaran Martin <a href="mailto:cmartin@donegalcoco.ie">cmartin@donegalcoco.ie</a>


<b>Activity / Project Title</b>  <b>File:</b>	<b>2022 Town &amp; Village Renewal Scheme – Dungloe</b>
<b>Project Description/Activity</b>	Provision of age friendly seating in Dungloe, construction of a new bus drop off/pick area off the main street adjacent to the public car park, public realm works to the area adjacent to the public toilets to include new paving and seating, construction of an small area for outdoor performances beside the two public car parks.
<b>Budget (if applicable)</b>	€ 121,905 Department of Rural and Community Development
<b>Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status</b>     <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	Detailed design in progress in consultation with local community group and local Council staff.
<b>Project Targets for the next quarterly reporting period</b>	At tender evaluation stage.
<b>Contact Person</b>  <i>(to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</i>	Adrian Duffy / John Deeney  Tel: 087 452 3698 / 074-9172568  E-mail: <a href="mailto:aduffy@donegalcoco.ie">aduffy@donegalcoco.ie</a> / <a href="mailto:jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie">jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie</a>

Activity / Project Title	Donegal Walks and Trails						
<b>File:</b>							
<b>Project Description/Activity</b>	Maintenance, development, and promotion of walks & trails in Donegal including cycle routes and Greenways.						
<b>Budget (if applicable)</b>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>ORIS 2021 - Kincasslagh Tower</td> <td>€20,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ORIS 2022 - Slí na Finne</td> <td>€30,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ORIS 2022 - Ranafast looped walk</td> <td>€20,000.00</td> </tr> </table>	ORIS 2021 - Kincasslagh Tower	€20,000.00	ORIS 2022 - Slí na Finne	€30,000.00	ORIS 2022 - Ranafast looped walk	€20,000.00
ORIS 2021 - Kincasslagh Tower	€20,000.00						
ORIS 2022 - Slí na Finne	€30,000.00						
ORIS 2022 - Ranafast looped walk	€20,000.00						
<p><b>Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status</b></p> <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p>	<p><b>ORIS 2021</b>  <b>Kincasslagh Tower Trail;</b>  We have received two successful tender submissions which are been reviewed with potential award letter to be issued in the next few weeks.</p> <p><b>ORIS 2022</b>  <b>Slí na Finne;</b> draft documents are now commencing with regards the scope of works to be completed here and propose to have ready for upload early October.  On going to be finalised for End December.</p> <p><b>Rann Na Feirste,</b>  This project has now been successfully completed by contractor, we extend our gratitude for their prompt efficient works with a good overall finish welcomed by the locals in the area.</p>  <p>Example picture of completed surfacing works at the lough.</p> <p><b>ORIS 2023 – (Measure 1)</b>  Expressions of Interest were sought in June with closing date of 26th July.</p>						



	<p>There were up to seven projects to be chosen by for submission to the Department for potential funding of up to €30,000.00 by 5<sup>th</sup> September.</p> <p>Seven applications were successfully submitted under the ORIS 2023 measure 1 funding two of which fall within the Glenties Municipal District. One is the enhancement of the surfacing on the Old Bog road near Portnoo and the second project it was a section of Sli an Errigal that could be deemed has been disabled accessible for a coastal section of the larger Sli an Errigal Trail.</p> <p>A third project was issued on behalf of the entire County to promote and market two trails or walk in each of the Municipal districts.</p>
<p><b>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advance with completing documents for Sli Na Finne to upload on e-tender system.</li> <li>• Planned trail inspections now programmed for November.</li> <li>• Issue award to the contractor for Kincasslagh.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Contact Person</b> <i>(to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</i></p>	<p>Darryl Connor (Outdoor Recreational Development Officer) 08736138111 dconnor@donegalcoco.ie</p>

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>PLAYGROUNDS 2023</b>
<b>Project Description/Activity</b>	<b>Annual maintenance of Playgrounds</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Arranmore Island Playground</li> <li>2. Arranmore Island Shore Playground</li> <li>3. Tory Island Playground</li> <li>4. Dolmen Centre Playground &amp; MUGA</li> <li>5. Glenties Playground</li> <li>6. St Mary's Close Playground</li> <li>7. Cois Cuain Playground</li> <li>8. Burtonport SHS Playground</li> <li>9. Ballina Playground</li> <li>10. Ardara Playground</li> <li>11. Clós Naonh Chonaill Playground</li> <li>12. Dungloe Foreshore Playground</li> <li>13. Creeslough SHS Playground</li> </ol>
<b>Budget (if applicable)</b>	Works funded by Donegal County Council.
<b>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</b>  <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Works consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance repairs to Council owned/maintained playgrounds.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p><u>Current Status:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance contractor for 2023 currently working through repairs across the county and addressing new repairs as required.</li> <li>• Seeking quotations from professional service providers to undertake the annual playground safety inspections for 2023</li> <li>• Assess tender submissions for annual playground safety inspections.</li> <li>• Maintenance works underway throughout playground</li> <li>• Creeslough SHS playground closed due to H&amp;S issues, reported to maintenance contractor to repair</li> </ul>
<b>Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period</b>	
<b>Contact Person</b> <i>(to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie

<b>Programme</b>	Healthy Ireland Fund	
<b>Project Description/Activity</b>	<b>Healthy Ireland</b> The objective of the Healthy Ireland Fund 2023 – 2025 is to improve the health and wellbeing of people of all ages and abilities living in Ireland through the implementation of the Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan 2021-2025.	
<b>Budget</b>	€198,122.42 Round 4 Funding	
<b>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</b>	<p><b>Healthy Ireland Round 4</b></p> <p>The Healthy Ireland Round 4 Programme (HIF 2023-2025) represents a more evidenced-based outcomes led approach, with a longer 3-year timeframe. The grant period for Round 4 will run from 1 June 2022 to 31 December 2025, with the outcomes led approach to be delivered from 2023-2025.</p> <p><b>Civic Dollars Project</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div data-bbox="491 772 842 1668" style="width: 45%;"> <p>Building on the success of the Civic Dollars Project launched in May this year, Donegal County Council has added an extra 60 new ‘Earn Zones’ across the County. The new zones include the playgrounds listed in the Playground Passport Initiative (see here <a href="#">EZexploring-Donegal-Playground-Passport.pdf</a> (<a href="#">donegalcoco.ie</a>)), along with beaches, parks, trails and forest walks throughout the County. The project timeline has also been extended until the end of January 2024 and the maximum amount of Civic Dollars earned per day has increased from 3 to 5.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="858 772 1444 1668" style="width: 45%; text-align: center;">  <p>FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE SITES NEAR YOU SEE: WWW.DONEGALCOCO.IE/COMMUNITY/HEALTHYDONEGAL/ CIVIC%20DOLLARS/</p> </div> </div>	
<i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>		
	<b>See below for a list of the current ‘Earn Zones’</b>	

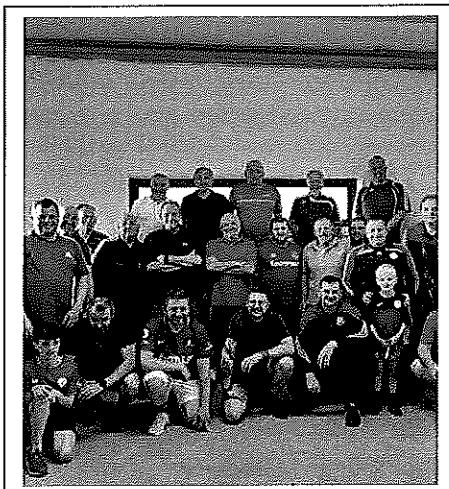
Improving your Health has never been more rewarding!  
Civic Dollars Pilot Project Earn Zones - Donegal

Ardara Playground	Falcarragh Playground
Ards Forest Park	Fiddlers Bridge Miners Path Walk, Falcarragh
Ards Forest Park Playground	Glencolmcille Playground
Arranmore Shorefront Playground	Glenties Playground
Arranmore Island Beach	Glenveagh National Park
Aura Playground, Letterkenny	Gweedore Community Playground
Aura Centre, Letterkenny	Kilcar Playground
Backstrands Beach, Ards	Killea Community Playground
Ballyliffen Beach	Killybegs Playspace
Ballyliffen Playground	Killygordon Playground
Ballymacool Town Park	Kilmacreeann Community Playground
Ballymacool Town Park Playground	Machaire Rabhartaigh (Magheroarty Beach)
Barrack Hill Park	Mall Park, Ballyshannon
Bernard McGlinchey Town Park	Milford Playground
Bernard McGlinchey Town Park Playground	Moville Playground
Bruckless Playground	Muff Community Park
Bundoran Promenade	Owenea River Parade, Ardara
Buncrana Amazing Grace Heritage Trail	Portnoo Playground
Buncrana Playground	Raphoe Playground
Carndonagh Playground	Rathmullan Beach
Carrick Playground	Rathmullan Playground
Carrick River Walk	Ray Community Playground
Carrigart Playground	Rosstownlough Beach
Churchill Playground	Rosstownlough Community Playground
Cloghan Play Park	Rossylongan Estate, Donegal
Convoy Playground	St John Bosco Playground
Culdaff Beach	Stranorlar Playground
Culdaff Playground	Swan Park, Buncrana
Drumboe Woods	Tory Island Playground
Dunfanaghy Playground	Tullan Strand, Bundoran
Dungloe Foreshore Playground	Waterworld Playground, Bundoran
Dungloe River Walk	Westend Playground, Bundoran

Please note this is a pilot project therefore the 'earn zones' detailed can be subject to change.

### Finn Harps Football & Social Responsibility Programme

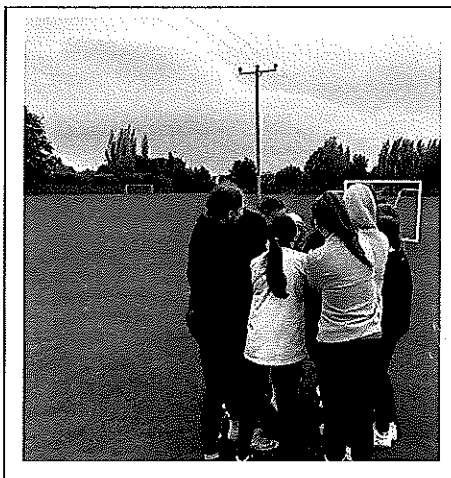
Donegal County Council in conjunction with Finn Harps and through the employment of a Football & Social Responsibility (FSR) officer are developing physical exercise/educational health programmes to educate adults, young people, and children on the benefits of a healthier lifestyle. Stephen McNutt is in post since earlier this year and is liaising with identified target groups including children, young people, and disadvantaged adults Countywide.



Walking Football and Football Bootroom Programmes support and promote physical and positive mental health in men over 50.

Pictured left: Convoy, Raphoe and Castlefinn Walking Football and Football Bootroom Programme participants.

Supporting the In My Shoes Charity – a programme that promotes giving, from one child to another, through collecting pre-loved shoes/trainers that are in good condition but no longer required because someone has grown out of them and donating them to school children in South Africa. This initiative also teaches young people about the environmental impact of shoe production – every 10 pairs of shoes donated and given a second life, is the equivalent of carbon dioxide taken out of the atmosphere by 14 mature trees per year. In addition saving almost 14,000 litres of freshwater.



Pictured above and to the left: Halloween camp participants and Girls Coaching Sessions.

Over the four-month period of July and Oct there have been over 1000 children, young people and adults participating in these programmes. The countywide Football & Social Responsibility Programme will continue to be rolled out until December 2025.

**Follow Healthy Donegal on**

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



	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/HealthyDonegal">https://www.facebook.com/HealthyDonegal</a> <a href="https://www.instagram.com/healthy_donegal/">https://www.instagram.com/healthy_donegal/</a> <a href="https://twitter.com/HealthyDonegal">https://twitter.com/HealthyDonegal</a> <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwcqNcNTWBCaRjEFGqSkOnA">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwcqNcNTWBCaRjEFGqSkOnA</a>
<b>Contact Person</b>	Margaret Fitzgerald, Healthy Donegal Coordinator 074 9172562 <a href="mailto:mfitzgerald@donegalcoco.ie">mfitzgerald@donegalcoco.ie</a>



**Activity / Project Update**

**November 2023**

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	Rural Development Programme/LEADER
<b>Project Description/Activity</b>	Donegal Local Community and Development Committee are the Local Action Group for County Donegal, with responsibility for the LEADER/Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 & Transitional LEADER Programme 2021-2022
<b>Budget (if applicable)</b>	€13,413,875 (Additional funding received 2019)  <i>Note: Project costs €10,063,586, administration and animation costs €3,350,289</i>  1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021 – 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2022  €2,861,598 project costs  €953,866 for Administration & Animation.
<b>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</b>	There are 4 Implementing Partners within the county; Donegal Local Development Company (DLDC), Inishowen Development Partnership (IDP), Údarás Na Gaeltachta and Comhar na nOileán, who are rolling out the LEADER Transitional programme on behalf of the LAG (Local Action Group). The LEADER Transitional programme is effective from 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2021 and runs until 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2022. €45 million is allocated nationally for the Transitional Programme and €20 million from the EURI programme.  62 projects in Donegal are now approved by Pobal under the Transitional & EURI programmes and Letters of Offer have issued/are pending, granting LEADER funding to a value of €2,861,598.
<i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	
<b>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</b>	All funding awarded to the Donegal LAG under the Transitional LEADER programme and EURI programme has been allocated but LDCs will continue to engage with promoters on the ground regarding any potential underspend or decommitments.  Donegal County Council as Lead Financial Partner, in collaboration with our four implementing partners, Donegal Local Development Company, Inishowen Development

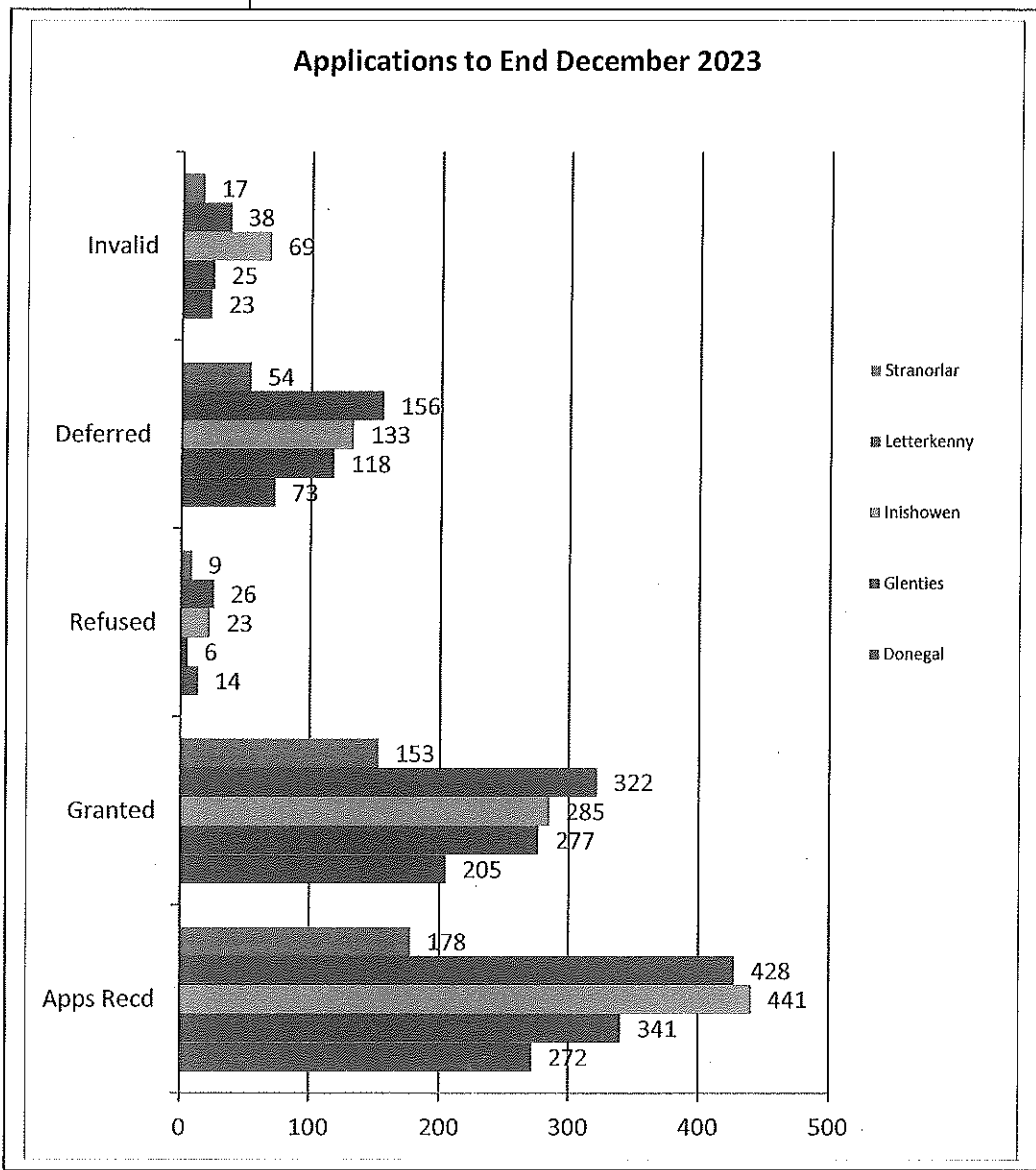
	<p>Partnership, Údarás na Gaeltachta and Comhar na nOileán have completed the draft LEADER Local Development Strategy which was submitted on 14th July 2023.</p> <p>Clarifications and further information has since been sought with confirmation from the DRCD received on 27<sup>th</sup> October that the submission was seen to be of “excellent standard”, with a funding agreement to follow to allow Donegal LCDC and its partners to deliver the 2023-2027 LEADER programme.</p>
<b>Contact Person</b> <i>(to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</i>	Ciaran Martin <a href="mailto:cmartin@donegalcoco.ie">cmartin@donegalcoco.ie</a>





**Glenties MD Meeting**  
**14<sup>th</sup> November, 2023**

Item	Update										
1	<b>Development Applications</b>										
(1) Statistics	<b>Glenties MD Totals Year to End October 2023</b>										
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Applications received</td> <td>341</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Granted</td> <td>277</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Refused</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deferred</td> <td>118</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Invalid</td> <td>25</td> </tr> </table>	Applications received	341	Granted	277	Refused	6	Deferred	118	Invalid	25
Applications received	341										
Granted	277										
Refused	6										
Deferred	118										
Invalid	25										





2	<b>Enforcement</b>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="549 264 954 304"><b>Glenties MD</b></th> <th data-bbox="954 264 1418 304"><b>To end of October 2023</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="549 304 954 344">New Cases</td> <td data-bbox="954 304 1418 344">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="549 344 954 385">Closed Cases</td> <td data-bbox="954 344 1418 385">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="549 385 954 456">Outstanding cases on record since 2012</td> <td data-bbox="954 385 1418 456">302</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Glenties MD</b>	<b>To end of October 2023</b>	New Cases	1	Closed Cases	3	Outstanding cases on record since 2012	302
<b>Glenties MD</b>	<b>To end of October 2023</b>									
New Cases	1									
Closed Cases	3									
Outstanding cases on record since 2012	302									
3	<b>Notes &amp; Monthly Schedule</b>	<p><b>Pre planning clinics are on a telephone call only basis (ring 074 9153900) between 9.00am and 12.30pm on the dates outlined below.</b></p> <p><b>The pre planning clinic calls will be taken by the Executive Planners and shall be for substantial applications only.</b></p> <p><u>Planning Clinics 2023:</u>                  2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2023                  16<sup>th</sup> November, 2023                  30<sup>th</sup> November, 2023                  14<sup>th</sup> December, 2023</p> <p><a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/planningclinics/">http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/planningclinics/</a></p>								
4	<b>Casual Trading</b>									
5	<b>Regeneration &amp; Development</b>	See Appendix A								
6	<b>Conservation</b>									
7	<b>Building Control &amp; Taking in Charge</b>									
8	<b>Capital Projects Delivery Unit</b>	See Appendix B								
9	<b>Central Planning Unit</b>									
10	<b>Further Information</b> <i>Click on web links to access information.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly List of applications and decisions:  <a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/weeklyplanninglists/">http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/weeklyplanninglists/</a></li> <li>• Planning Service email (to be used in correspondence with the planning service): <a href="mailto:planning@donegalcoco.ie">planning@donegalcoco.ie</a></li> <li>• Planning Webpage:  <a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/">www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/</a></li> <li>• Planning Application Online Query –  <a href="https://www.eplanning.ie/DonegalCC/SearchTypes">https://www.eplanning.ie/DonegalCC/SearchTypes</a></li> <li>• File Retrieval Form – to be used for file retrieval and planning search requests:</li> </ul>								



		<a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie/media/donegalcountyc/planning/pdfs/fileretrieval/File%20Retrieval.pdf">www.donegalcoco.ie/media/donegalcountyc/planning/pdfs/fileretrieval/File%20Retrieval.pdf</a>
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## APPENDIX A

### Regeneration & Development Team Community Development & Planning Services

## Report to November (2023) Municipal District Meetings

### 1.0 RURAL REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT FUND (RRDF)

#### 1.1 EXISTING APPROVED CATEGORY 2 RRDF PROJECTS (2020)

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

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

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

Further to the public consultation period on the draft plans held in October-November 2022, the Team is continuing to engage with key stakeholders in relation to the feedback received. This includes the local Business Chamber, ESB and Bus Éireann. Good progress is being made in this regard. A workshop was held with Members on July 13<sup>th</sup> to update them on this evolving consultation and design process.

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

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

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

The Detailed Design phase is now completing and it is intended to open a construction tender in Q4 2023 ahead of a projected commencement on site in early Q4 of 2023. The Team will continue to update and advise Members on progress and key milestones as this project moves towards commencement on



site. The process of project handover to the Council's Capital Project Delivery Unit (CPDU) has also commenced in anticipation of imminent progression to site. CPDU will manage the construction and handover stage of the project.

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

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

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

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

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

The Elected Members of the Inishowen Municipal District were updated on the status of this project at workshop on the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023. It is now intended to progress this project to

tender and in this regard the project was submitted to the DRCD for Decision Gate 2 Pre-Tender Approval on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2023. Decision Gate 2 approval was subsequently received on 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2023 and this project is therefore now approved to proceed to tender. Preparations are continuing in this regard.

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



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

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

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

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

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

### 1.4 **Rathmullan RRDF Project Development work**

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

Work will now continue to position the project for application to future calls of the Rural Regeneration & Development Fund (RRDF) for category 1 (capital) projects. A tender for the preparation of a business case has been awarded to FPM Accountants (Ireland) Ltd who are due to report by mid December 2023.

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

### 1.5 **Milford Town Centre First Plan**

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



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

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

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

## **1.6 Creeslough Village Plan and Community Regeneration Project**

Donegal County Council, the Creeslough Working Group and the Creeslough Community Association supported by Arup launched a public consultation process to prepare a Village Plan and community regeneration project for the Creeslough Community. The first stage of public consultation ran between Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 and Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 and included the following events:

- Launch of the project website:  
<https://creesloughvillageplan.commonplace.is/> on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2023;



- A Senior Citizens Workshop in Creeslough Day Centre from 12noon to 1pm on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2023**;
- A public information event from 2pm to 8pm on **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023** in Massinass Hall, Creeslough, and,
- Workshops with National, Gaelscoil and Secondary schools across **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023**.

These events were extremely well attended, with over 180 persons attending the drop in event in Massinass Hall. Following examination of the feedback received, a Draft Village Plan and community regeneration project was prepared and a second public consultation event was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June in Creeslough where both draft plans were presented. This event was very well attended also and following a period of further examination of the feedback, the proposed Creeslough Community Regeneration Project Part 8 was published on the 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023 with submissions to be made before 4.30 pm on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023. The proposal was subsequently approved at the September 2023 Plenary meeting of the Council. Since then, a tender for the preparation of a business case has been awarded to FPM Accountants (Ireland) Ltd who are due to report by mid December 2023.

## **2.0 URBAN REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT FUND (URDF)**

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

This first application secured €1.9m in URDF monies, match funded by €600,000 for three sub-projects. Sub-project A, preparation of Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy is now complete and available at [www.letterkenny2040.ie](http://www.letterkenny2040.ie). The Letterkenny 2040 project won the Landscape Institute 2023 Award in London on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 in the category of Excellence in Master-planning and Urban Design. These awards celebrate people, places and nature and the way that landscape projects can connect them. The Mayor of the Letterkenny – Milford MD, Cllr. Kevin Bradley attended the awards ceremony with Eunan Quinn, Senior Planner; Sinead McCauley, Senior Executive Planner and representatives from the Paul Hogarth Company.

Sub-project B, CPO in respect of the Letterkenny 2040 Strategic Urban Regeneration Site, significantly progressed having served Notices to Treat and Enter in March and April 2023. On 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023, Donegal County Council took possession of the CPO lands required to enable the delivery of Phase 1 development of the site as regards Alpha/Beta office accommodation and public realm infrastructure. Negotiation on compensation continues in parallel. Acquisition by agreement of remaining property at 29 and 31 Port Road to enable Phase 2 completed on 2nd August 2023 and both properties are also now in the possession of Council.





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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Next steps set out in letter of approval to proceed.

Sub-project	Nature of DHLGH approval/ Project activity
Sub-project A: Market	Proceed to procurement of architect-led team for



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



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structural Engineering Reports completed to inform 4 no. acquisitions involving buildings.</li> <li>• Clarifications sought on a number of properties in relation to land ownership.</li> <li>• Tender package for Valuation Services closed on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023 and the successful valuer Avison Young has been appointed.</li> <li>• High level legal appraisal with Councils solicitor completed on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023.</li> <li>• Next step: Consideration of requirements and timeline for publication of CPO(s) before year end.</li> </ul>
<p>Sub-project C: Revival of the Courthouse</p>	<p><b>Proceed to procurement of consultancy services to prepare ‘Product identification/Visitor Experience Plan.’</b></p> <p>This project will be led through the next stage by the Regeneration and Development Team and will involve multiple workshops at MD level. The following actions have been commenced/underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Tender package for Creative Consultancy Services opened on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023 in respect of ‘Revival at the Courthouse’ for the preparation of a Visitor Experience Plan/ Product Identification Plan and Business Plan for the development of a major visitor attraction at the Courthouse.</li> <li>▪ Deadline for receipt of tenders was 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023. Two submissions were received. The Evaluation Team met during July, August and September and EPIC Heritage Consulting Ltd have been awarded the contract.</li> </ul>
<p>Sub-project D: Strategic acquisition to enable a Regional Transport Hub</p>	<p><b>Proceed acquisition processes for land required.</b></p> <p>This project will be led through the next stage by the Regeneration and Development Team. The following actions have been commenced/underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Formal engagement with landowner commenced by means of a meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023.</li> <li>• Tender package for Valuation Services closed on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023. Final arrangements for the appointment of the successful valuer are currently being made.</li> <li>• High level legal appraisal with Councils solicitor completed on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023.</li> <li>• A meeting with NTA and representatives of the Councils Roads, Planning, Regeneration</li> </ul>



	<p>and Community Development Teams took place on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023 in relation to transportation in Letterkenny inclusive of the Regional Transport Hub project. As regards the Regional Transport Hub, a funding commitment was secured from NTA to enable the engagement of consultancy services to move the project forward to the next level as regards scale, scope, further engagement with transport providers and operational requirements. Draft tender package is being prepared in this regard for internal review initially followed by NTA feed-in prior to opening of a procurement process.</p>
<p>Sub-Project E; Strategic acquisition to enable LK Green Connect</p>	<p><b>Proceed acquisition processes for land required</b>                  This project will be led through the next stage by the Regeneration and Development Team. Progress on acquisition is to some degree dependent on capacity to progress Part 8 for phase 2 of LK Green Connect and in this regard, it is noted that in-house resources are severely under pressure across both URDF and RRDF work programmes. Notwithstanding, the following actions have been commenced/underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Formal engagement with a number of landowners commenced and commitment given to further re-engage with particular landowners in September 2023.</li> <li>• Tender package for Valuation Services in relation to the Cultural Corridor element closed on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023 and the successful valuer Avison Young has been appointed.</li> <li>▪ Activation of acquisition steps in relation to phase 2 (from constructed Phase 1 to Pearse Road) is dependent on progress on the Part 8 to inform the extent of lands required and previous commentary of capacity of in-house resources refers.</li> <li>▪ High level legal appraisal with Councils solicitor completed on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023.</li> </ul>

**2.3 ‘The Eat Out’ Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Project, Letterkenny**  
 ‘The Eat Out’ Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Project at the public space to the front of An Grianan Theatre secured Part 8 planning consent at the plenary Council meeting in November 2022. Detailed design of this project enabled in



the context of the further development of the concept contained in the Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy via the appointment of The Paul Hogarth Company and O'Connor Cronin Sutton Engineers is well advanced. The Regeneration Team now provide support and input into the detailed design process which is led by Community Development wherein a procurement process for construction contractor closed for tender submissions on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2023. Further updates are being provided by Community Development.

#### **2.4 Letterkenny Cultural Corridor**

Part 8 proposed development for the 'Cultural Corridor' section of LK Green Connect has been published and is currently at public consultation stage until the 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023 with a view to the proposal being included on the agenda of the November 2023 plenary meeting for the consideration of the Elected Members.

#### **2.5 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase of LK Green Connect**

Early design work using in-house resources commenced initially in January 2023 on Part 8 proposed development for Phase 2 of LK Green Connect to link walking and cycling infrastructure at the completed Phase 1 to Pearse Road.

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

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

#### **2.6 Youth/Community focused project at Lower Main Street**

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

#### **2.7 Collaboration with Housing Section of Donegal County Council**



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

## **2.8 URDF Call 3**

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

## **2.9 Other**

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

## **3.0 CROI CONAITHE VACANT PROPERTY REFURBISHMENT GRANT SCHEME**

The Council administers the Croi Conaithe Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant Scheme on behalf of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The grant schemes, which came into operation in July 2022, provides grants to property owners to refurbish properties that have been vacant for two years or more for use as their principle private residence or to be made available for rent. The level of grant funding available is €50,000 or €70,000 if the property is derelict. The grants are increased by 20% for off-shore island properties. To date, the Council have processed 424 applications with 150 approved and 16 rejected on the basis that they do not meet the scheme criteria mainly relating to the proposed works or that the property has not been vacant for two years or more and built on or before 2007. The balance of applications is either awaiting further information from the applicant or at first technical inspection stage. There are four applicants who have completed the works and these are currently being processed for payment, with one applicant fully paid at this stage.



#### 4.0 COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER ACTIVATION FUND

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

**Step 1:** Identification of vacant and derelict properties

**Step 2:** Identification of and engagement with owners.

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

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

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

Municipal District	Towns		
Letterkenny-Milford MD	Ramelton	Carrigart, Manorcunningham	Rathmullan, Milford
Donegal MD	Donegal Town	Ballyshannon	Bundoran, Dunkineely
Glenties MD	Dungloe	Ardara	Faclarragh
Inishowen MD	Carndonagh	Buncrana	Moville, Malin
Lifford-Stranorlar MD	Ballybofey- Stranorlar	Lifford	Raphoe

To date, over 1,600 properties have been surveyed with 850 confirmed as vacant and 50 as derelict. The team has now commenced Step 2 to identify and engage with the property owners to make them aware of the supports available to bring the vacant property back into productive use and to date 23 contacts have been made. The Members will be kept up to date as we progress through the work programme.

**Regeneration & Development Team**  
**November 2023**



## APPENDIX B

### CAPITAL PROJECTS DELIVERY UNIT

#### Community Development and Planning Services

Report to Glenties Municipal District Members: Nov 2023

Activity / Project Title	Burtonport Redevelopment Scheme – Phase 1																								
<p><b>Project Description/Activity</b></p>	<p>The Burtonport Redevelopment Scheme – Phase 1 will develop an improved public realm space at the existing harbour area of Burtonport, Co. Donegal.</p> <p>The scheme will provide new road construction and revised landscape layout to the existing harbour area. All associated footways, kerbing, drainage, utilities, road markings, landscaping and accommodation works are included in the works. The project involved considerable demolition works as part of the site clearance and the site size is approximately 2 Hectares.</p> <p>The Burtonport Harbour Development – Phase 1 scheme is part of the larger Burtonport-Arranmore 'Harbour to Island' Regeneration Project, which has a total project value of €4,118,932. This Project was submitted to the second call of the RRDF for category 1 shovel ready capital projects in August 2019 and was awarded funding support of €3,089,199 under the RRDF in November 2019.</p> <p>The Project Brief and Procurement Strategy for the delivery of the project were approved by the Department of Rural and Community Development (RRDF) on the 19<sup>th</sup> June 2020 and the project was approved to proceed to construction.</p> <p>The proposed Project compromise of the following key components.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="622 1444 1508 1892"> <thead> <tr> <th>No.</th> <th>Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1</td><td>Site clearance</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>Demolition</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>Bulk excavations and filling</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>Reinforced concrete works</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>Drainage and Services</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>Pavement Works</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>Landscaping</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>Fencing</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>Installation of street lighting</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>Installation of street furniture</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>Creation of car parking areas</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	No.	Description	1	Site clearance	2	Demolition	3	Bulk excavations and filling	4	Reinforced concrete works	5	Drainage and Services	6	Pavement Works	7	Landscaping	8	Fencing	9	Installation of street lighting	10	Installation of street furniture	11	Creation of car parking areas
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<p><b>Budget</b></p>	<p>€1.1m</p>																								





<b>Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status</b>	Works are complete.
<b>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</b>	Works are complete.
<b>Contact Person(s)</b>	Ardal McDermott, A/ Senior Executive Engineer

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Burtonport Redevelopment Scheme – Phase 2</b>
<b>Project Description/Activity</b>	<p>The Ailt an Chorráin (Burtonport) Harbour Redevelopment - Phase 2 Harbour Buildings Regeneration Project is a key component of the larger phased project known as the Ailt an Chorráin (Burtonport)/Oileán Árainn Mhór (Arranmore Island) 'Harbour to Island' Regeneration Project for the regeneration of Burtonport (Ailt an Chorráin) and Arranmore (Oileán Árainn Mhór).</p> <p>The 'Harbour to Island' Project was conceived on the basis that it would take place in two stages in order to accommodate the existing uses occupying the harbour space including the Harbour Master's office, ticket offices and the public toilets.</p> <p>Phase 1 of the Project was awarded funding under the Second Call for Category 1 Funding announced in November 2019. Phase 1 provides for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At Ailt an Chorráin (Burtonport):- Transformation of the harbour infrastructure and environment through the demolition and removal of under-utilised, redundant or vacant buildings, to a new multi-user public realm space with modern transport infrastructure, public amenities and services and parking;</li> <li>• At Óilean Árainn Mhór (Arranmore Island):- Landmark shorefront recreation, outdoor amenity and local community inspired amphitheatre style event space including children's playground and car parking.</li> </ul> <p>The works at Óilean Árainn Mhór (Arranmore Island) are now complete and works at Ailt an Chorráin commenced in January 2022 and are now in progress, with substantial completion anticipated for the end of September 2022.</p> <p><b>About the Project</b></p> <p>Phase 2 of the project proposes a new Ferry Terminal Building and Enterprise Building that present as an important physical element of the overall project and provide a valuable opportunity to introduce regenerative physical development, a diversification of uses and quality architecture to the marine and harbour environment. Broadly, the proposed development will provide for the construction of a Ferry Terminal Building which will house Donegal County Council office accommodation, a community meeting room, public facilities, ferry offices, waiting area and tourist desk facility and a separate Enterprise</p>



	Building containing a number of small mixed-use units that will help create employment opportunities and stimulate entrepreneurship.
<b>Budget</b>	€2.3m
<b>Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status</b>	Construction tenders have been received and are currently being assessed.
<b>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</b>	Construction tenders will be assessed with a successful candidate identified.
<b>Contact Person(s)</b>	Ardal McDermott, A/Senior Executive Engineer



Comhairle Contae  
Dhún na nGall  
Donegal County Council

## CAPITAL PROJECTS DELIVERY UNIT

### Community Development and Planning Services

Report to Glenties Municipal District Members: Nov 2023

Activity / Project Title	Burtonport Redevelopment Scheme – Phase 1																								
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<b>Budget</b>	€2.3m
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ENVIRONMENT MD REPORT – November '23

CLIMATE ACTION

Activity / Project Title	Notice of the Preparation of the Donegal County Council Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029
<p><b>Project Description/ Activity</b></p>	<p>Pursuant to Section 16 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 Donegal County Council has prepared a Draft Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029.</p> <p>Submissions or observations can be made within the period specified in this notice on the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Local Authority Climate Action Plan from <b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 4:00pm</b> (both dates inclusive); and</li> <li>• from <b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November to Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023 at 4:00pm</b> (both dates inclusive) for the Natura Impact Statement and the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report.</li> </ul> <p>The Draft Donegal County Council Climate Action sets out how the local authority will promote a range of mitigation, adaptation, and other climate action measures, to help deliver on the national climate obligations and the Government’s overall national Climate Objective, which seeks to pursue and achieve, by no later than the end of 2050, the transition to a climate resilient, biodiversity rich, environmentally sustainable and climate neutral economy.</p> <p>Submissions or observations on Donegal County Council’s Draft Climate Action Plan 2024-2029 and on the environmental reports (SEA Environmental Report and Natura Impact Statement) are invited in writing from statutory bodies, the public and any interested parties. All written submissions or observations will be duly considered and taken into consideration before the making of the final plan.</p> <p><b>Copies of the Draft Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024-2029, Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report and Natura Impact Statement may be inspected at the following locations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online at <a href="https://consult.Donegal.ie/">https://consult.Donegal.ie/</a></li> <li>• Donegal County Council Offices and Public Service Centres: Monday to Friday - 9.00am to 4.30pm</li> </ul>


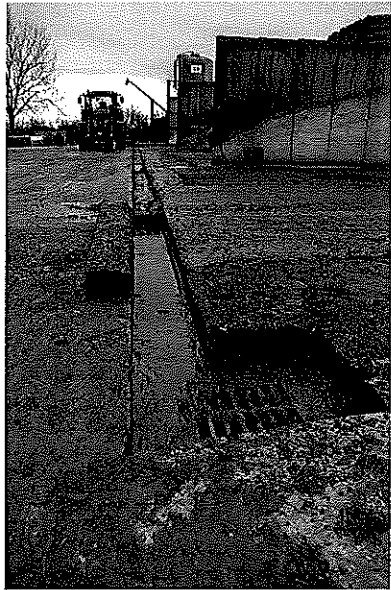
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ County House, The Diamond, Lifford, Co. Donegal, F93 Y622</li> <li>➤ Drumlonagher, Donegal Town, Co. Donegal, F94 DK6C</li> <li>➤ Bóthar Ghaoth Dobhair, An Clochán Liath, Co. Donegal, F94 H4CF</li> <li>➤ Malin Road, Carndonagh, Co. Donegal, F93 YV1N</li> <li>➤ Neil T. Blaney Road, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, F92 TNY3</li> <li>➤ Main Street, Milford, Co. Donegal, F92 TD0P</li> </ul> <p><b>Submissions may be made as follows:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Online via <a href="https://consult.Donegal.ie/">https://consult.Donegal.ie/</a></li> <li>2. By email to <a href="mailto:climatereadydonegal@donegalcoco.ie">climatereadydonegal@donegalcoco.ie</a></li> <li>3. In writing to: Climate Action Team, Donegal County Council, Old Army Barracks, Lifford, Co. Donegal, F93 W586.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Contact Person</b></p>	<p>Lorraine Arbuckle, Climate Action Co-ordinator  <a href="mailto:larbuckle@Donegalcoco.ie">larbuckle@Donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

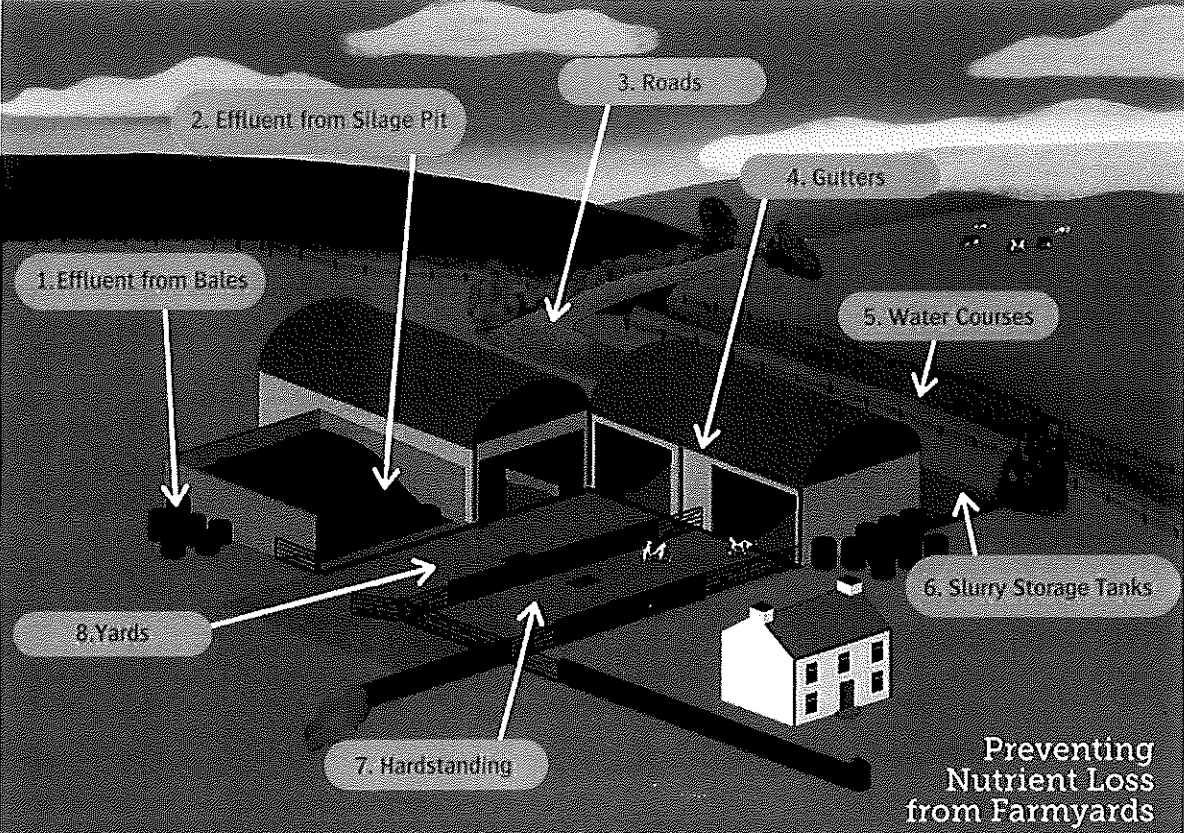
**WASTE AND LITTER MANAGEMENT**

<p><b>Activity / Project Title</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>School Bikes for Africa Campaign</b></p>
<p><b>Project Description/ Activity</b></p>	<div data-bbox="464 421 1331 1012" data-label="Image"> </div> <p align="center"><b>Letterkenny Rotary Club's Annual School Bikes Africa Appeal</b></p> <p>Donegal County Council is once again delighted to support and promote the Letterkenny Rotary Club's annual School Bikes Africa Appeal in conjunction with Donegal County Council and Bryson Recycling. The annual appeal is being promoted this October to coincide with National Reuse month. However, the good news is that this appeal will continue throughout the year.</p> <p>As in previous years, bicycles suitable for refurbishing should be strong and sturdy, mountain bike style, have minimum 24" wheel size and mountain bike type tyres. Racer style bikes are not sought as part of this collection. Suitable bikes can be dropped off at any of the Council's six Recycling Centres (Laghey, Dungloe, Carndonagh, Stranorlar, Letterkenny &amp; Milford).</p> <p>Donated bicycles will be transported to Loughan House, Co. Cavan one of the Irish Open Prison Centres, where they will be refurbished prior to being shipped off to The Gambia. To date, Rotary have transported approximately 5000 bikes to Africa, and the Irish Prison Service through Loughan House has been involved from the outset.</p> <p>For information on the opening times for your local Recycling Centre visit <a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie">www.donegalcoco.ie</a> or <a href="https://www.brysonrecycling.org/donegal-recycling-centres/">https://www.brysonrecycling.org/donegal-recycling-centres/</a></p>
<p><b>Contact Person</b></p>	<p><b>Matthew Byrne, Waste Regulation Officer</b>  <a href="mailto:Matthewbyrne@donegalcoco.ie">Matthewbyrne@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>



**CENTRAL LABORATORY**

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Public Service Announcements (PSA's) – Water Quality</b>
<b>Description/ Activity</b>	<p>The follow Public Service Announcement is on local radio during the month of November:</p> <p>“Donegal County Council would like to remind farmers of the importance of good agricultural practice in protecting water-courses over the wet winter period. Make sure soiled water from yards, roadways or the poaching of land doesn’t enter waters and keep out-wintered stock away from streams and rivers by fencing off. Locate supplementary feeding points at least 20 metres from waters and not on bare rock. Fix any broken gutters and downpipes to keep clean roofwater off dirty yards and divert all silage effluent and soiled water to a storage tank.”</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<b>Joe Ferry, Senior Executive Chemist</b> <a href="mailto:joe.ferry@donegalcoco.ie">joe.ferry@donegalcoco.ie</a>

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Farm Inspections</b>
<b>Description/ Activity</b>	<p>Donegal County Council have engaged a contractor to start the 2023/24 winter season farm inspection programme, commencing with follow-up visits to farms inspected in 2022 in the Manorcunningham, Newtowncunningham and Raphoe areas.</p> <p>First time inspections at farms located in At-Risk catchments will continue until year end. The main focus for these inspections will be farmyards including slurry &amp; manure storage, silage effluent and storm water collection.</p>  <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Preventing Nutrient Loss from Farmyards</b></p>
<b>Contact</b>	<b>Joe Ferry, Senior Executive Chemist</b> <a href="mailto:joe.ferry@donegalcoco.ie">joe.ferry@donegalcoco.ie</a>

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Amendment of Septic Tank Grant Scheme</b>
<b>Description/ Activity</b>	<p>On the 4<sup>th</sup> November 2023, Minister Darragh O'Brien, <b>Department of Housing, Local Government &amp; Heritage</b> issued a press release (available at <a href="https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/40ec0-minister-obrien-announces-increase-in-septic-tank-grants/">https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/40ec0-minister-obrien-announces-increase-in-septic-tank-grants/</a>) announcing changes to the current grant schemes, increasing the maximum grant from €5,000 to €12,000 and removing the requirement for homeowners to have registered their DWWTS with <b>Protect Our Water</b> on or before 1<sup>st</sup> February 2013. These changes are due to come into effect on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024.</p> <p>Donegal County Council is currently awaiting a Department Circular letter to obtain further clarification on eligibility and how the amended grant scheme may be accessed. This information will be made available to homeowners as soon as it has been received.</p>
<b>Contact</b>	<p><b>Joe Ferry, Senior Executive Chemist</b>  <a href="mailto:joe.ferry@donegalcoco.ie">joe.ferry@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

**GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
MEETING  
14<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023**

**Roads & Transportation Agenda**

- 1. Notes from Roads Workshop dated 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023**
- 2. Follow up to Issues raised at last MD Meeting.  
Report has / will issue in advance of the MD Meeting to the Member that raised the query. If more than One Member raised the same query then the response is issued to All Members.**
- 3. NRDO – Verbal Update on N56 Projects**
- 4. Road Works Programme – Verbal Update**
- 5. AOB**

**NOTES FROM ROADS WORKSHOP DATED 10<sup>TH</sup> October 2023  
(9:30am - 1:45pm)**

**Present:**

**Cllr. Michael Mc Clafferty  
Cllr. Anthony Molloy  
Cllr. John Sheamais O'Fearraigh  
Cllr. Marie T Gallagher  
Brendan Mc Fadden, SEE**

**Apologies:**

**Cllr. Michael Cholm Mac Giolla Easbuig  
Cllr. Noreen Mc Garvey**

**ITEMS DISCUSSED**

**1. Update on Safety Issues/Footpaths and NTA Projects**

The Committee discussed in detail approximately 30 projects throughout the MD. It was noted that the NTA focus has now moved to larger scale cycle infrastructural projects in the more substantial urban areas. Smaller historic footpath projects are likely to close out in 2023.

**2. Takeover of Non County Roads**

It was noted that subject to the Minutes of the September MD Meeting being adopted in November, then 4 roads will be added to the Roads Schedule. These new additions total circa 1.3km. Within the policy there is scope to takeover up to 10km in a 5 year period.

Members put forward roads for consideration for a second tranche and it was confirmed that these will be compared with the policy over the winter months. Preliminary feedback will be given to Members in Q1 2024.

# **Housing & Corporate Agenda**

**For Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

- Progress Report - Grants
- Progress Report - Casual Vacancies
- Housing Need
- HAP
- RAS
- LTL Properties
- Tenancies and Offers
- Tenant Purchase
- Local Authority Loans

1. PROGRESS REPORT - GRANTS AT 06/11/2023

<b>Housing Aid for Older People Grants</b>						
<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Cancelled/ Refused</i>	<i>Applicant Further Info</i>	<i>Referred to Eng</i>	<i>Pending</i>
2023	114	73	4	18	19	37

<b>Housing Adaptation Grants</b>							
<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Cancelled/ Refused</i>	<i>Applicant Further Info</i>	<i>Referred to Eng</i>	<i>Referred to OT</i>	<i>Pending</i>
2022	87	59	19	0	1	8	9
2023	101	41	5	16	39		55

<b>Mobility Aids Grants</b>							
<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Cancelled/ Refused</i>	<i>Applicant Further Info</i>	<i>Referred to Eng</i>	<i>Referred to OT</i>	<i>Pending</i>
2023	2	2	0	0	0	0	0

**2. PROGRESS REPORT – CASUAL VACANCIES @ 10/11/2023**

<b>Glenties MD</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Beds</b>	<b>Vacant From</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Arranmore				
	Leabgarrow	2 bed	01/06/2023	Will be complete next week
Dunfanaghy				
	Chapel Road	2 bed	08/09/2023	Offered
Dungloe				
	Gort na Mona	3 bed	12/09/2023	Contractor appointed
	Gort na Mona	3 bed	31/10/2023	Contractor appointed
Falcarragh				
	Ballina	3 bed	23/08/2023	Currently being assessed. Substantial works required
Glenties				
	Ard McGill	1 bed	15/06/2023	Contractor appointed



### 3. HOUSING NEED AS AT 06/11/23

#### Gross Need - by approved bedrooms

Municipal District	0	1	2	3	4	5	Total
<b>Glenties</b>							
Annagry	0	0	9	5	3	0	<b>17</b>
Ardara	0	3	11	1	2	0	<b>17</b>
Bunbeg	0	0	0	1	0	0	<b>1</b>
Burtonport	0	0	4	1	1	0	<b>6</b>
Creeslough	0	0	13	2	2	0	<b>17</b>
Crolly	0	0	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Derrybeg	0	0	3	0	0	0	<b>3</b>
Doochary	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Dunfanaghy	0	3	14	3	0	0	<b>20</b>
Dungloe	0	5	34	8	2	1	<b>50</b>
Falcarragh	0	1	30	4	0	0	<b>35</b>
Fintown	0	0	0	0	1	0	<b>1</b>
Glenties	0	0	5	3	2	0	<b>10</b>
Gortahork	0	1	3	0	0	1	<b>5</b>
<b>GWEEDORE</b>	0	1	16	7	1	0	<b>25</b>
Kincasslagh	0	0	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Lettermacaward	0	0	0	0	1	0	<b>1</b>
Loughanure	0	0	2	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
Magheroarty	0	0	2	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
Portnoo	0	0	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>215</b>

### 4. HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENT (HAP) SCHEME

As at 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023, the Glenties Municipal District is providing Social Housing Support in the form of the Housing Assistance Payment to 89 families/individuals. 24 of these families/individuals are in receipt of HAP only.

### 5. NUMBER OF RAS PROPERTIES

As of the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023, the Glenties Municipal District is providing Social Housing Support in the form of:

- Rental Accommodation Scheme to 10 families/individuals.
- Rent supplement to 78 couples/individuals.

Glenties Municipal District also pays a management and maintenance subsidy for 49 units.

## 6. NUMBER OF LTL PROPERTIES

As of the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023, the Glenties Municipal District is providing Social Housing Support in the form of the Long Term Lease Properties to 19 families/individuals.

## 7. HOUSING VACANCIES AND OFFERS

Reasons for Vacancies between 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2023 to 10/11/2023				
Transfers	Surrenders	Death of Tenant	Other	Total
1	11	5	0	17

Number of Housing Offers issued between 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2023 to 10/11/2023		
Number of Offers issued	Offers Accepted	Offers Refused
29	24	4

1 OFFERED – AWAITING REPLY

## 8. TENANT PURCHASE

Number of applications received since Scheme commenced:	132
Total number of valid applications:	105
Valid applications received in 2023:	22
Total number of houses sold under the Scheme to date:	25

## 9. LOCAL AUTHORITY LOANS

Total number of Loan applications (RIHL) received from 2018-2023	Number of Loans Approved from 2018-2023	Total number of new Loan applications (LAHL) in 2023	Number of Loans Approved in 2023
43	5	0	0

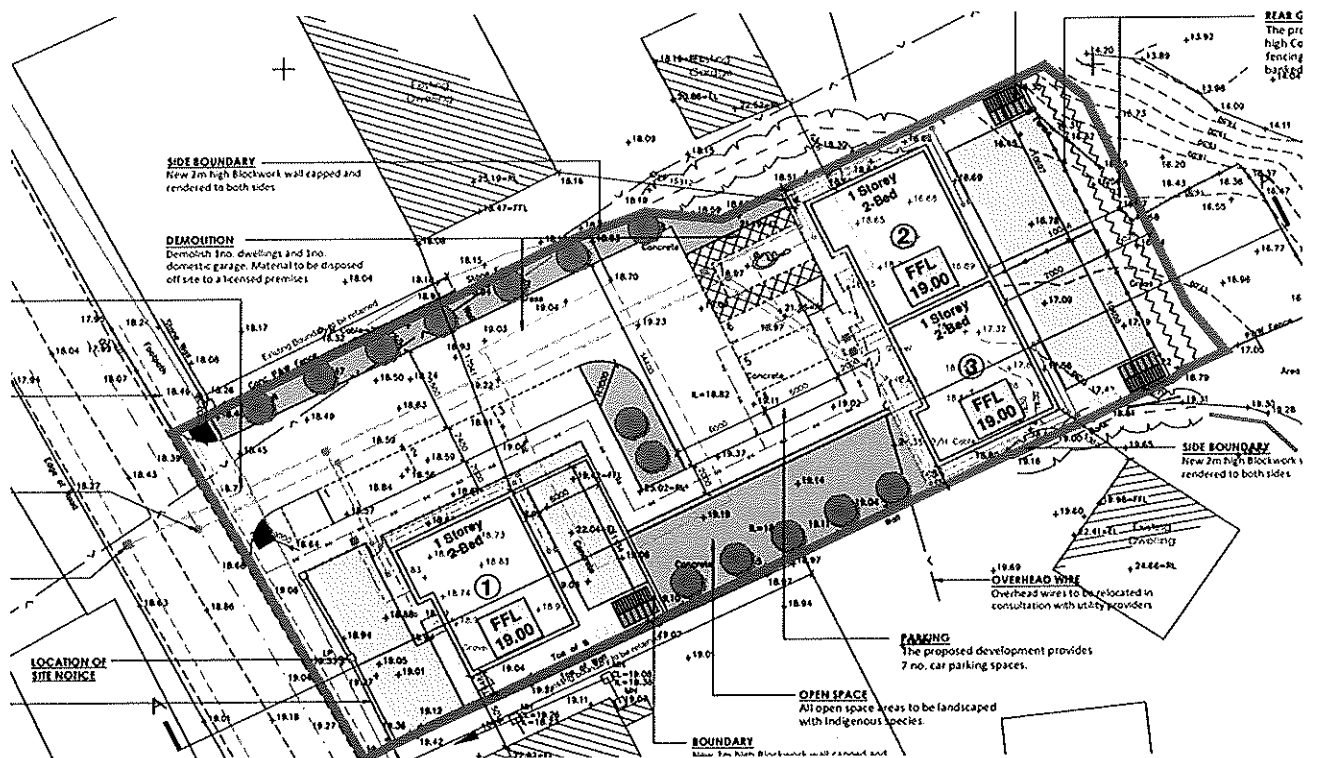
**Housing Capital Update Report  
Glenties Municipal District Meeting  
14 November 2023**

**1. Social Housing Developments – Construction Schemes**

Donegal County Council is currently progressing the following proposed social housing development in the Glenties Municipal District:

Location	Status	No. of Units
Design / Tender Stage		
Chapel Road, Dungloe	<p>Pre-tender / Stage 3 approval has been granted from the Department for a reduced budget.</p> <p>A value engineering exercise is being carried out to reduce the project cost estimate in accordance with the approved budget. Consequently, it is anticipated that the number of units on site will reduce from 45 to 43.</p> <p>Subject to achieving the necessary cost savings to meet the Department's requirements, the project will be issued for tender.</p>	43
Masiness, Creelough	<p>A contractor is expected on site week beginning 13/10/23 to carry out advance site clearance works to confirm boundaries and to facilitate the progression of the detailed design package.</p> <p>Department / funding approval in place for 3 units. Programmed to proceed to tender in Q1 2024.</p>	3
Glenties (Fire Station)	<p>Part 8 planning approval in place. On-site investigations and surveys ongoing. Boundary treatment being reviewed by engineering team in consultation with adjoining landowners. Appraisal report being prepared for submission to the Department to seek funding approval for the project.</p> <p>Programmed to proceed to tender for contractor in Q1 2024 subject to Department approval and confirmation of budget</p>	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>49</b>

**Image 1 – Proposed Site Layout Plan for 3 no units at Masiness, Creeslough**



## 2. Social Housing through Turnkey Acquisition

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

- a) The proposed turnkey acquisition of 29 social housing unit at Gweedore has obtained final departmental approval and is now at contract stage. Construction can commence on site upon the signing of contracts. Members will be kept informed of progress on this proposal.
- b) As part of the Council's overall response to support the community of Creeslough following the devastating explosion which occurred in October 2022, a housing response has been identified. The Council is working with Developer Charles Roarty to provide 11 no. social housing units on lands in Creeslough. Planning permission and Irish Water approval have been obtained. Approval from the Department of Housing has also been sought and obtained via the single stage approval process. Housing Capital is working with the Developer seeking final agreement on costs and programme delivery. The proposal remains subject to contract.

## **2. Lands / Property for Social Housing Purposes**

The Council is planning to develop further projects on existing landbank in various locations throughout the county. Preliminary designs are underway for a number of these sites and are informed by the pertaining approved social housing need at local level. In tandem with the construction programme outlined in Section 1 above, the Council is actively pursuing the acquisition of lands suitable for housing purposes, in towns and villages where there is currently not a social housing solution available. In addition to the current expression of interest advertisement on the Councils' website for parcels of land, derelict sites / buildings with the potential to deliver social housing, the Council is also separately identifying parcels of land with social housing potential in areas of need.

Progress has been made by the team in identifying and progressing the acquisition of suitable lands. As part of the process of acquiring land, the team liaises and consults on a cross-directorate basis with other Council services in carrying out due diligence in respect of each acquisition.

Across the Glenties Municipal District, the team is actively pursuing lands, and has successfully sale agreed 3 parcels of land at Dunfanaghy, Falcarragh and Fintown, all of which remain subject to contract.

Engagement with landowners and estate agents continue on further potential land acquisitions including at: Ardara, Glenties, Kilclooney, Dungloe, Burtonport, Annagry, Arranmore, Gweedore and Falcarragh.