



Municipal District of Glenties

Office of Meetings
Administrator
Public Service Centre
Dungloe

5th September 2023

NOTICE OF MEETING

The Municipal District of Glenties Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 12th September 2023** at 1 p.m. on **Aranmore Island** (following the Islands Committee Meeting which will commence at 10.30 a.m.)

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,

Michael Rowsome
Meetings Administrator



Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí

Oifig Riarthóir na
gCruinnithe
Ionad Seirbhísí
An Clochán Liath

5ú Meán Fómhair 2023

FOGRA CRUINNITHE

Beidh Cruinniú de Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí ar an **12ú Meán Fómhair 2023, ag 1.00 i.n. ar Oileán Aráinn Mhór** (tar éis cruinniú Coiste na nOileán a bheas ag toiseacht ar a 10.30 r.n.)

DO GACH BHALL DEN CEANTAR BARDAS NA GLEANNTAÍ

A Chara

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

Mise, le meas

Micheál Rowsome
Riarthóir Cruinnithe

Cuir freagra chuig: Ionad Seirbhísí Pobail, Bóthar Ghaoth Dobhair, An Clochán Liath, Contae Dhún na nGall F94 H4CF
Please reply to: Public Service Centre, Gweedore Road, Dungloe, Co. Donegal F94 H4CF

AGENDA

1. Consideration of the Minutes of Glenties Municipal District Committee Meeting held on the 11th July, 2023
2. Community Development
3. Planning Services
4. Environment
5. Economic Development, I.S. & Emergency Services
6. Roads Services
7. Housing & Corporate Services

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF GLENTIES
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE**
held in Dungloe Public Services Centre on 11th July 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr. Noreen McGarvey (Leas Cathaoirleach)
Cllr. Anthony Molloy
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher
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
Sineád McClafferty, -Executive Planner
John McCarron- Senior Executive Engineer, Water &
Environment
Braid Neely - Senior Staff Officer, I.S.

The Meeting was chaired by Cllr. McGarvey

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Michael McClafferty (Cathaoirleach)
Cllr. John Sheamais Ó Fearraigh

**OTHERS IN
ATTENDANCE:** Dónall Mac Giolla Comhail, Aistriúcháin Comhuaineach

GMD 36/23

Confirmation of Minutes of Glenties Municipal District AGM

On the proposal of Cllr. Gallagher seconded by Cllr. Molloy, the minutes of the Municipal District Meeting held on the 9th May 2023 were confirmed.

GMD 37/23 **Confirmation of Minutes of Glenties Municipal District Committee Meeting**

On the proposal of Cllr. Gallagher, seconded by Cllr. Molly, the Minutes of the Municipal District Committee Meeting held on the 9th May 2023 were confirmed.

GMD 38/23 **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

38.1 **Workshop**

Members were advised that a Rural Programme Workshop will be held in Dungloe PSC at 10 a.m. on 21st July 2023.

38.2 **ORIS Funding Scheme 2023**

The Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme provides funding for the development of new outdoor infrastructure in rural areas and an invitation to submit expressions of interest is open until 26th July 2023.

38.3 **Community Development Reports**

The Committee welcomed the Reports circulated with the Agenda regarding the following:

- Community Development Activity
- Social Inclusion Unit
- Age Friendly Programme
- PEACE PLUS Programme 2022-2027.
- Healthy Ireland Fund 2023-2025
- Rural Development Programme / Leader

Cllr, Mac Giolla Easbuig requested an update on the status of:

- (1) the Annagry Health check and
- (2) Poll a' tSnámh Ranafast Project

He also asked the Community Development and Roads Services to collaborate to provide footpaths between Annagry, Meenaleck and Crolly.

Cllr. Gallagher requested the provision of a link from the GAA Pitch at the Banks to Mullaghduff and queries the status of funding for the Green at Leitir.

Cllr. Molloy requested an update on the following:

- Bonny Glen
- Leconnell Trail
- Replacement of seating at Glengesh and provision of bins
- Provision of toilets at Maghera Beach.

Cllr. McGarvey congratulated the Dungloe Tidy Town Committee on the quality of works undertaken on Dungloe Main Street. She also congratulated the SULT Committee on the success of that event in Gweedore and extended her best wishes to the Maghera, Burtonport and Dungloe Festival Committees.

GMD 39/23

PLANNING

39.1

Members noted the Reports circulated with the Agenda regarding:

- Development Application Statistics
- Enforcement
- Pre-planning clinics

39.2

Rural regeneration and Development Fund

The Committee welcomed ongoing work to prepare a draft village plan and regeneration project for the Creeslough Community.

Cllr. Gallagher requested the Director to highlight this issue at SMT level and Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested the attendance of the Planning Director at the next Municipal District Meeting to respond to Members concerns in this regard.

39.3 **Burtonport Redevelopment Scheme - Phase 2**

In response to a query from Cllr. McGarvey regarding the current status of this project, the Area Planner undertook to revert to the Capital Projects Delivery Unit for an up to date report.

39.4 **Development Levey Waiver Scheme**

Cllr. McGarvey requested further information from the Planning Service in respect of the above recent announcement.

39.5 **N56 Restrictions**

The Committee queried if there have been any further developments regarding development proposals along the N56.

39.6 **County Development Plan**

Cllr. Gallagher requested clarification on the outcome of issues highlighted by the Glenties Municipal District Committee at meetings pertaining to the County Development Plan.

39.7 **Defective Block Scheme**

The Area Planner informed Members that a briefing note is being prepared for Members by Eunan Quinn.

GMD 40/23 **ENVIRONMENT**

40.1 **Environmental Reports**

The Senior Executive Engineer discussed the Reports circulated with the Agenda in relation to the following projects:

- Waste and Litter Management
- Food Waste Recycling Week
- Half Price Bulky Goods Events

The Senior Executive Engineer further updated Members regarding the status and process involved in preparation of a Climate Action Plan.

40.2

National Waste Management Plan

Cllr. Gallagher referred to the statutory consultation phase for the National Waste Management Plan for a circular economy and highlighted the exorbitant costs of disposal of incontinence pads and nappies.

The Director undertook to liaise with relevant stakeholders (Nursing homes, Medical staff) prior to discussion at SPC level and will investigate options for a local pilot scheme that will comply with National Guidelines.

The Director also informed the Committee of a Deposit Return Scheme that is planned to go live in February 2024 to boost the recycling rate for plastic bottles and cans.

Cllr. McGarvey congratulated the recent recipients of Green School Awards.

Cllr. Molloy requested the council to expedite the provision of illegal dumping warning signage.

40.3

Boardwalks

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig queried the status of the proposed audit of existing boardwalk infrastructure and also requested an update in respect of Maghery Boardwalk. The Director commended the role

of the Council's Disability Officer, Trudi O'Reilly in the resolution of Dooley Boardwalk issues.

40.4

Public Conveniences

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig commended the active involvement of John McCarron, SEE in attempts to progress toilet facilities. Ha also stressed the importance of implementing a maintenance policy for the upkeep of public conveniences.

Cllr. Molloy requested Port-a-loo provision at tourist attractions in the county to encourage return of tourists. Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig recommended that Paul Dawson be invited to an MD Meeting to make a presentation regarding work involved in the Changing Places toilet initiative.

40.5

Water Services

The Director informed the Committee of the recent signing of a Master Co-operation Agreement between the Council and Uisce Éireann. Members were also advised of recent meetings with Water Services staff and the options open to staff to remain with the Council.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig criticized (1) the lack of respect for his native language in the course of his interactions with Uisce Éireann and (2) number and frequency of waterpipe bursts throughout the MD and lack of long-term plans to resolve these issues.

GMD 41/23

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

41.1

Minor Tourism related Works - Grant Scheme Workshop

On the proposal of Cllr. Gallagher seconded by Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig, the Committee approved the distribution of funding in the sum of €100,00 as agreed at Workshop held on 20th June 2023.

Cllr. Molloy requested that notification issue promptly to the successful applicants.

41.2

Monthly Reports

The Committee welcomed the Reports circulated with the Agenda and presented by the SSO regarding the following services:

- Economic Development Unit
- Tourism Marketing Unit
- Strategic Funding Unit
- Information Systems
- Emergency Services

The SSO advised Members that the focus of the 2023 Remote Working Holiday Campaign is on promoting the wide network of digital hubs across the County as well as showcasing the unique offering Donegal has for a worklife balance.

Cllr. Molloy requested the provision of additional digital hubs south of the Gweebarra and expressed disappointment that poor quality broadband has resulted in a loss of clients at the Áislann Centre in Kilcar.

Cllr. Mac Gilla Easbuig requested an urgent response regarding issues that he has consistently raised at previous meetings as follows:

- Status of Campervan consultation recommendations
- Aire de Service - costs of usage
- Tourism Workshop relating to social and economic impact of the industry
- Fire Service on the Islands
- Live streaming of the MD Meetings

41.3

Irish Diaspora Awards

The SSO informed the Committee that the Tip O'Neill 2023 Awards Ceremony will take place on the 16th September 2023 at the Inishowen Gateway Hotel.

41.4

Local Enterprise Office

Cllr. Gallagher commended the role and remit of LEO and stated that further positive communications regarding assistance is required so that the wider public is fully informed of extensive assistance.

Cllr. Gallagher highlighted the abysmal socio economic profile of West Donegal on all National Economic Indicators. Cllr. Gallagher requested that the Donegal County Council Chief Executive, CEO of Údaras na Gaeltachta, CEO of HSE and Youth Representatives collaborate to improve youth retention, care of the elderly and socio economic improvement for the County.

41.5

Tourism

Cllr. McGarvey acknowledged the positive work of the Donegal Airport Committee and their role in the restoration of the Glasgow flight service. She welcomed the positive impact of cruise ships docking in Killybegs and continuing work at Errigal.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig requested the Council to write to the Scottish authorities regarding the exorbitant costs of boat travel between Ireland and Scotland.

GMD 42/23

ROADS

42.1

Glenties Comprehensive School

On the proposal of Cllr. Gallagher, seconded by Cllr. Molloy the Committee adopted the preliminary design for the crossing points as circulated with the Agenda.

42.2

Municipal District Road Projects

The Roads Manager updated the Committee and responded to queries in relation to the following ongoing works:

- Fintown Project
- Bunbeg Foot Bridge
- Carnmore Road footpath
- Dungloe to Glenties Cycleway
- Glenties/Kilraine Project
- Wild Flower Programme
- Aphort Road, Arranmore
- Link Roads Meeting with Departmental Inspector
- Bridge Strengthening projects
- Pedestrian links outside speed limits
- Flashing lights at schools

42.3

Road Safety and Maintenance

The Committee highlighted the following issues that require follow-up by the Roads Service:

- Lining on the Corkscrew
- Hedgecutting - Meenbanad to Kincasslagh
- Caisleán Óir Road Safety
- Road Crossing
- Quay Road and Footpath
- Crolly Junction realignment

Cllr. Gallagher commended the quantity and quality of works carried out by the Roads Service.

GMD 43/23

HOUSING

43.1

Housing Progress Reports

The Committee noted the Reports circulated with the Agenda in relation to the current status of:

- Grants
- Casual Vacancies
- Housing Need
- LTL/RAS/HAP

In response to a query from Cllr. Molloy regarding issues with availability of the OT Service, the Housing Manager requested that any issues requiring an OT Report be referred to him for follow-up. Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig recommended that the Council directly employ an occupational therapist to avoid any impact on the level of service.

43.2

Land Disposal

On the proposal of Cllr. Molloy, seconded by Cllr. McGarvey, the Committee agreed to dispose of a plot of land comprising of 0.0054 hectares at Muntermellan, Hornhead to Mr. Andrew Campbell subject to payment of €1500 and Mr. Campbell being responsible for the payment of land registration fees, stamp duty and his own legal fees and costs associated with the transfer.

The Committee were also advised of an increased offer in the sum of €45000 for the disposal of land at Meenavalley, Ardara as previously agreed at the MD Meeting held on 14th February 2023.

43.3

Deep Energy Retrofitting Programme

The Committee were updated in relation to ongoing works at Ballina, Falcarragh (44 units) and completion of 6 units at Lochán Mhuire, Annagry.

43.4

Painting Programme

The Committee were informed that a Contractor has been appointed to carry out the painting of 49 units in 2 phases before the year end.

43.5

Housing Construction

The Housing Manager advised that Housing Construction personnel were unable to attend the meeting due to the necessity to meet with Departmental officials. The Committee requested the housing service to issue an up-to-date report in relation to the current status of progress in respect of land and property acquisition throughout the Municipal District and also were disappointed that the scheduling of bi-monthly meetings was not positively impacting on the provision of relevant information to Councillors.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig expressed frustration at the absence of relevant officials at the Municipal District Meeting and also the lack of progress in terms of construction activity to assist those on the social housing list and facing crisis situations. He also requested a presentation from ETB/SOLAS in relation to their efforts to increase building trade apprenticeships in light of manpower shortages in the construction sector.

43.6

Reception

Cllr. McGarvey commended all those involved in the recent reception for Pádraig Ó Baoighill and Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig praised the interview with Pádraig by Raidió na Gaeltachta.

43.7

Palestine

On the proposal of Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig seconded by Cllr. McGarvey, the Committee recommended that the Palestinian flag be flown at Dungloe Public Services Centre until the first week in September in solidarity with the Palestinian community. Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig also requested that the Council write to the Minister for Foreign Affairs requesting an expulsion of the Israeli Ambassador to Ireland.

GMD 44/23

VOTE OF SYMPATHY

Cllr. McGarvey expressed her sympathy on behalf of the Committee to Cllr. Molloy on the passing his brother-in-law.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.



Municipal District of Glenties

12th September 2023

Community Development Division

CLÁR / AGENDA

1. Report on recent activity in the Community Development Division
 - 1.1 Community Development
 - 1.2 Social Inclusion
 - 1.3 Donegal Public Participation Network
 - 1.4 Donegal Youth Council
 - 1.5 Healthy Ireland

Glenties Municipal District - Community Development

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

Glenties Municipal District - Community Development

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

Glenties Municipal District - Community Development

Activity / Project Title	2022 Clár Scheme
Project Description/Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Clochán Liath: Outdoor lighting servicing an existing riverside walkway. • Cill Ulta, An Fál Carrach: Gairdín na gCeadfaí - Sensory garden with wheelchair access, outdoor tea / coffee making facilities & bio stove gug. • Maghery: Enhancement of existing community outdoor play facility with an emphasis on nature-based play. • Pobal Eascarrach – Ballina Resource Centre • Ardara muga
Budget (if applicable)	<p>Funded by: Department of Rural and Community Development Donegal County Council / Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Clochán Liath: • Cill Ulta, An Fál Carrach • Maagherly • Pobal Eascarrach, Ballina Resource Centre: • Ardara:
<p>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</p> <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Clochán Liath: Outdoor lighting servicing an existing riverside walkway. Works are almost complete. • Cill Ulta, An Fál Carrach: Gairdín na gCeadfaí - Sensory garden with wheelchair access, outdoor tea / coffee making facilities & bio stove gug - works are ongoing. • Maghery: Enhancement of existing of community outdoor play facility with an emphasis on nature-based play is complete. • Pobal Eascarrach – Ballina Resource Centre – Carparking is almost complete. • Ardara muga – Works are currently ongoing

Glenties Municipal District - Community Development

Activity / Project Title File:	2022 Town & Village Renewal Scheme – Dungloe
Project Description/Activity	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.
Budget (if applicable)	€ 121,905 Department of Rural and Community Development
Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status	Detailed design in progress in consultation with local community group and local Council staff.
<i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	
Project Targets for the next quarterly reporting period	Prepare tender documents and publish on etenders.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Adrian Duffy / John Deeney Tel: 087 452 3698 / 074-9172568 E-mail: aduffy@donegalcoco.ie / jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie

Glenties Municipal District - Community Development

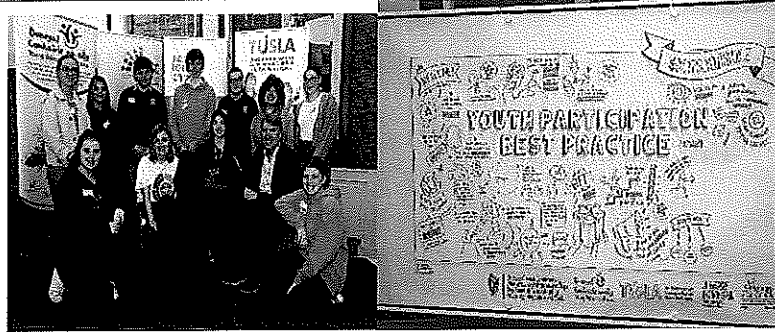
Activity / Project Title	Donegal Walks and Trails						
File:							
Project Description/Activity	Maintenance, development, and promotion of walks & trails in Donegal including cycle routes and Greenways.						
Budget (if applicable)	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">ORIS 2021 - Kincasslagh Tower</td> <td style="text-align: right;">€30,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ORIS 2022 - Slí na Finne</td> <td style="text-align: right;">€30,000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ORIS 2022 - Ranafast looped walk</td> <td style="text-align: right;">€20,000.00</td> </tr> </table>	ORIS 2021 - Kincasslagh Tower	€30,000.00	ORIS 2022 - Slí na Finne	€30,000.00	ORIS 2022 - Ranafast looped walk	€20,000.00
ORIS 2021 - Kincasslagh Tower	€30,000.00						
ORIS 2022 - Slí na Finne	€30,000.00						
ORIS 2022 - Ranafast looped walk	€20,000.00						
<p>Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status</p> <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p>	<p>ORIS 2021 Kincasslagh Tower Trail; has been successfully uploaded on e-tender platform and is open for submissions until 12:00 noon on September 20th for all interested companies to send quotes.</p> <p>ORIS 2022 Slí na Finne; draft documents are now commencing with regards the scope of works to be completed here and propose to have ready for upload early October.</p> <p>Rann Na Feirste, Tender quotes sought from suitable contractors, appointed contractor commenced on site, and progressing well to date with planned completion of the project by first week of September.</p> <p>ORIS 2023 – (Measure 1) Expressions of Interest were sought in June with closing date of 26th July. There are up to seven projects to be chosen for submission to the Department for potential funding of up to €30,000.00 by 5th September.</p>						
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To complete the ORIS 2023 applications Advance with document for Sli Na Finne Planned trail inspections mid – late September 						
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Darryl Connor (Outdoor Recreational Development Officer) 0873613811 dconnor@donegalcoco.ie						

Glenties Municipal District - Community Development

Activity / Project Title	PLAYGROUNDS 2023
Project Description/Activity	Annual maintenance of Playgrounds <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Arranmore Island Playground 2. Arranmore Island Shore Playground 3. Tory Island Playground 4. Dolmen Centre Playground & MUGA 5. Glenties Playground 6. St Mary's Close Playground 7. Cois Cuain Playground 8. Burtonport SHS Playground 9. Ballina Playground 10. Ardara Playground 11. Clós Naomh Chonaill Playground 12. Dungloe Foreshore Playground 13. Creeslough SHS Playground
Budget (if applicable)	Works funded by Donegal County Council.
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Works consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance repairs to Council owned/maintained playgrounds. <p><u>Current Status:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance contactor for 2023 currently working through repairs across the county and addressing new repairs as required. • Seeking quotations from professional service providers to undertake the annual playground safety inspections for 2023
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess tender submissions for annual playground safety inspections.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@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>Letterkenny Pride 2023 Saturday 19th August saw a series of colourful events taking place to celebrate the LGBTQ+ community. Donegal County Council Social Inclusion unit worked in the background to assist in the organisation of the pride festival and parade.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p style="text-align: right;">Indian</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Community Onam festival 2023</p> <p>A large celebration of the harvest festival Onam an ancient festival celebrated in Kerala in India which still survives in modern times to mark the commemoration of the home-coming of the King Mahabali took place on 3 September in Aura Letterkenny. It was attended by invited guests Pdraig McLoughlin TD, Cllr Gerry McMonagle Leas-Chathaoirleach of Donegal County Council, Cllr Kevin Bradley Mayor of Letterkenny-Milford Municipal District, Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh and John Watson of Letterkenny Chamber of commerce.</p> 	
<p>Contact Person</p>	<p>Christina O'Donnell codonnell@donegalcoco.ie 0879192272</p>	<p>Charles Sweeney charlesseeney@donegalcoco.ie</p>

Activity / Project Title	Donegal Public Participation Network (Donegal PPN)
Project Description/Activity	Link through which organisations from the Community & Voluntary, Social Inclusion & Environment Sectors have a voice on Council decision making bodies and other structures. Networking, Information & Capacity Building for Community Groups
Budget (if applicable)	€115,000.00 per annum
Progress to date within the last two months inclusive of current status	<p>PPN membership now stands at 700 registered organisations. Donegal MD 135, Glenties MD 161, Inishowen MD 126, Letterkenny MD 197, Stranorlar MD 81. The PPN have 62 Representatives on 24 different Committees and Boards.</p> <p>Donegal PPN Strategic Plan The Draft Plan is in progress at present. Consultation Period closes September 5th</p> <p>Donegal PPN Environment Pillar Event Thursday 21st September at 7pm in Cara House Letterkenny 'How to access Funding for Environment Group Projects' Panel Discussion, Networking, Refreshments</p> <p>Make Way Day – 22nd September – Activities throughout County</p> <p>Sustainable Goals Week Workshops 23rd September – 1st October</p> <p>Training for Quarter 3/4 PPN Representative Training First Aid for Community Groups Social Media & Website Workshops Understanding Sustainable Development Goals Workshops</p>
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period	<p>PPN Regional Meeting 19th September 2023 Secretariat Meeting 28th September 2023 PPN National Conference 4th-5th October in Wicklow</p> <p>Linkage Group Meetings Environment September 12th 2023 C&V and SI - Oct/Nov PPN AGM/Plenary TBD</p>
Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	<p>Mary Clyde / Annette McGrenra 074 9153900 donegalppn@donegalcoco.ie</p>



Poreto:

A Youth Councillor has been involved in Poreto. This was a project where students from the Loreto Community College Milford and students from Portadown College worked together on issues affecting young people on both sides of the border. There was a lot of common ground between both groups. On Monday the 12th of June they launched their Manifesto. Within the Manifesto Youth Participation, Mental Health & Social Media, Social Deprivation and Drug Use were highlighted as topics young people feel are most affecting them. Under Youth Participation the Donegal Youth Council was identified as a great structure for ensuring young people are heard and part of decision-making processes. This unfortunately is lacking in Northern Ireland.



Donegal Road Safety Working Group:

Members of the Donegal Youth Council sit on the Donegal Road Safety working group on rotation. These meetings take place once a month. Members represent the voices of young people at these meetings and identify and discuss any issues or concerns young people may be facing in relation to road safety.

Comhairle na nÓg Networking Day:

5 members of the Donegal Youth Council attended the networking day for North West comhairlí. This event took place in Sligo on the 20th of June. Youth Council members from across these counties discussed together what works well for their youth council, what doesn't, and ideas/projects

they have or wish to work on as a youth council. Members from the Donegal Youth Council felt they got a lot out of the day and came away with great feedback to share with other members.

Vaping:

Members of the Donegal Youth Council are currently working with the Prevention Officer within Foróige on a workshop/information session to be run with young people in schools and youth organisations. Youth Councillors feel there is a lack of information and knowledge currently surrounding the issue of vaping. As the use of vapes is growing with young people the Donegal Youth Council feel that running workshops in schools and youth organisation about the facts and information about vaping can prevent more young people from using these.

Pride Parade:

Members of the Donegal Youth Council attended the Letterkenny Pride Parade and events on the 19th of August. Members showed their support for the LGBTQ+ community by dressing up and fling flags on the day.

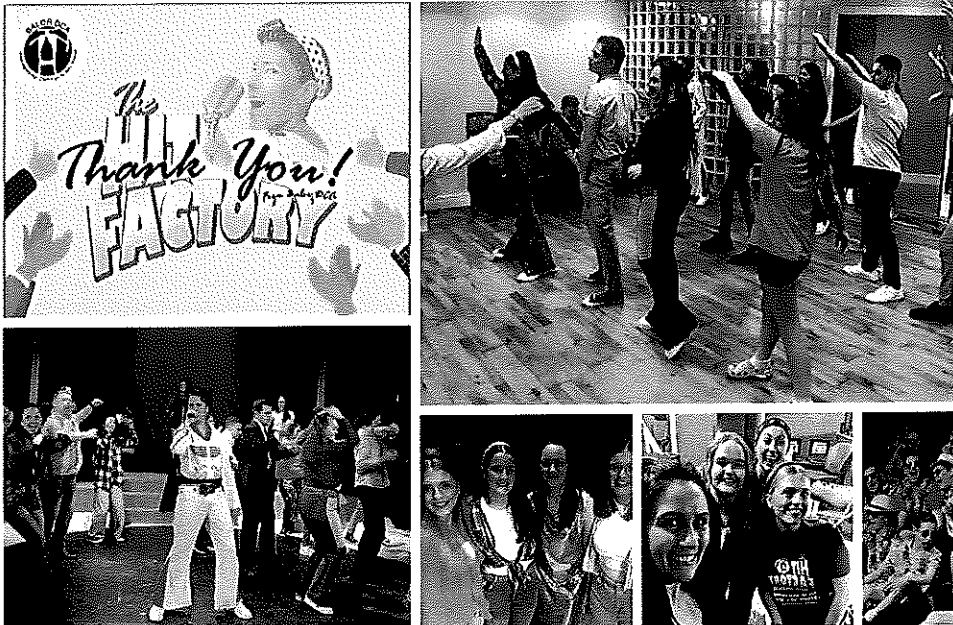


Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period

Podcasting:

Donegal Youth Council is currently looking at creating a podcast. Members highlighted in a recent meeting there is a lack of young people in the news or news outlets. There is also a lack of youth voice for young people currently, especially on the issues affecting them including the top 3 issues currently being worked on. The coordinator with a Youth Council member had an online meeting with a Foróige digital youth worker who is part of the Foróige Sound Surfers program which part of focuses on setting up podcasts for young people. Donegal Youth Council members are currently working on producing a podcast made by young people for young people.

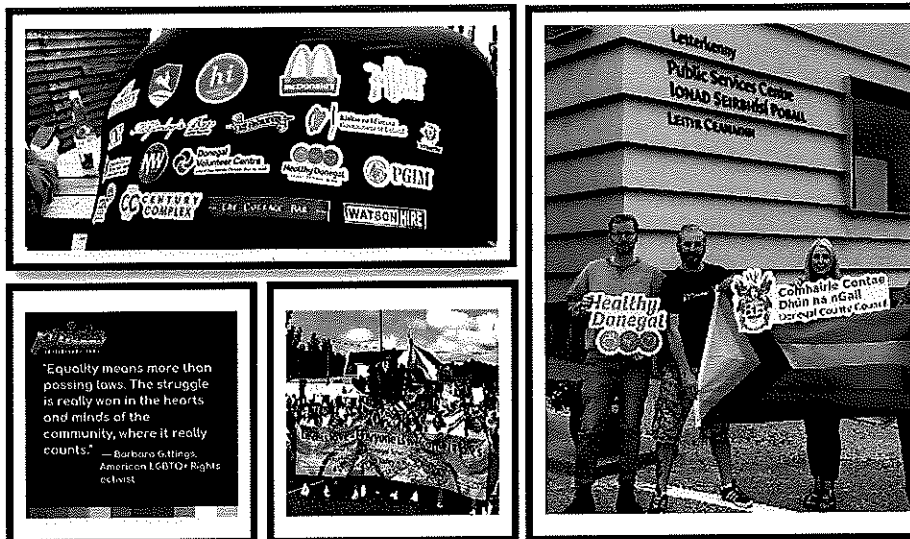
Contact Person
(to include telephone number & e-mail address)

Programme	Healthy Ireland Fund
Project Description/Activity	<p>Healthy Ireland</p> <p>The objective of the Healthy Ireland Fund 2023 – 2025 is to improve the health and wellbeing of people of all ages and abilities living in Ireland through the implementation of the Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan 2021-2025.</p>
Budget	€198,122.42 Round 4 Funding
<p>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</p> <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p>	<p>Healthy Ireland Round 4</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>Balor Theatre Summer Academy Programme</p>  <p>One of the target groups identified as a key priority in the Healthy Donegal Public Consultation Survey was Adolescents and Young People, with suggested activities to impact on Lifestyle and Behaviour and Health and Wellbeing including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “more activities which are fun with the emphasis on participation that that aren’t necessarily sport focussed” • “more activities in areas that actively promote a healthier life-style and social engagement” • “activities that reduce screen-time” <p>Healthy Donegal in conjunction with Balor Developmental Community Arts and through the Healthy Ireland Fund invited adolescents and young people to join the Balor Theatre Summer Academy Programme. The programme consisted of rehearsals in June and July and resulted in a musical production taking place from 1st- 6th August. The purpose of this programme was to bring young people, artists and educators together through drama, art and music to promote positive mental health, decrease the sense of isolation and provide positive role models.</p>

Role-playing activities enable adolescents to learn and practice social and decision-making skills and makes it possible to present situations in a non-threatening way. The impact of drama can also go beyond the stage, stimulating discussion and serving as a means of distributing information to the wider community. In promoting participation-focussed activities, like the Balor Theatre Summer Academy Programme, Donegal County Council is helping empower adolescents and young people to develop interpersonal skills to communicate, build relationships and interact with others, which are significant contributors to their health and overall wellbeing.

Letterkenny Pride Festival

To empower, support and promote sustainable, inclusive, and prosperous communities, is a key objective of Donegal County Council. We were proud to support the Letterkenny Pride event on 19th August, which works towards building healthy, inclusive communities.



Follow Healthy Donegal on

- <http://www.donegalcoco.ie/community/healthydonegal>
- <https://www.facebook.com/HealthyDonegal>
- https://www.instagram.com/healthy_donegal/
- <https://twitter.com/HealthyDonegal>
- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwcqNcNTWBCaRjEFGqSkOnA>

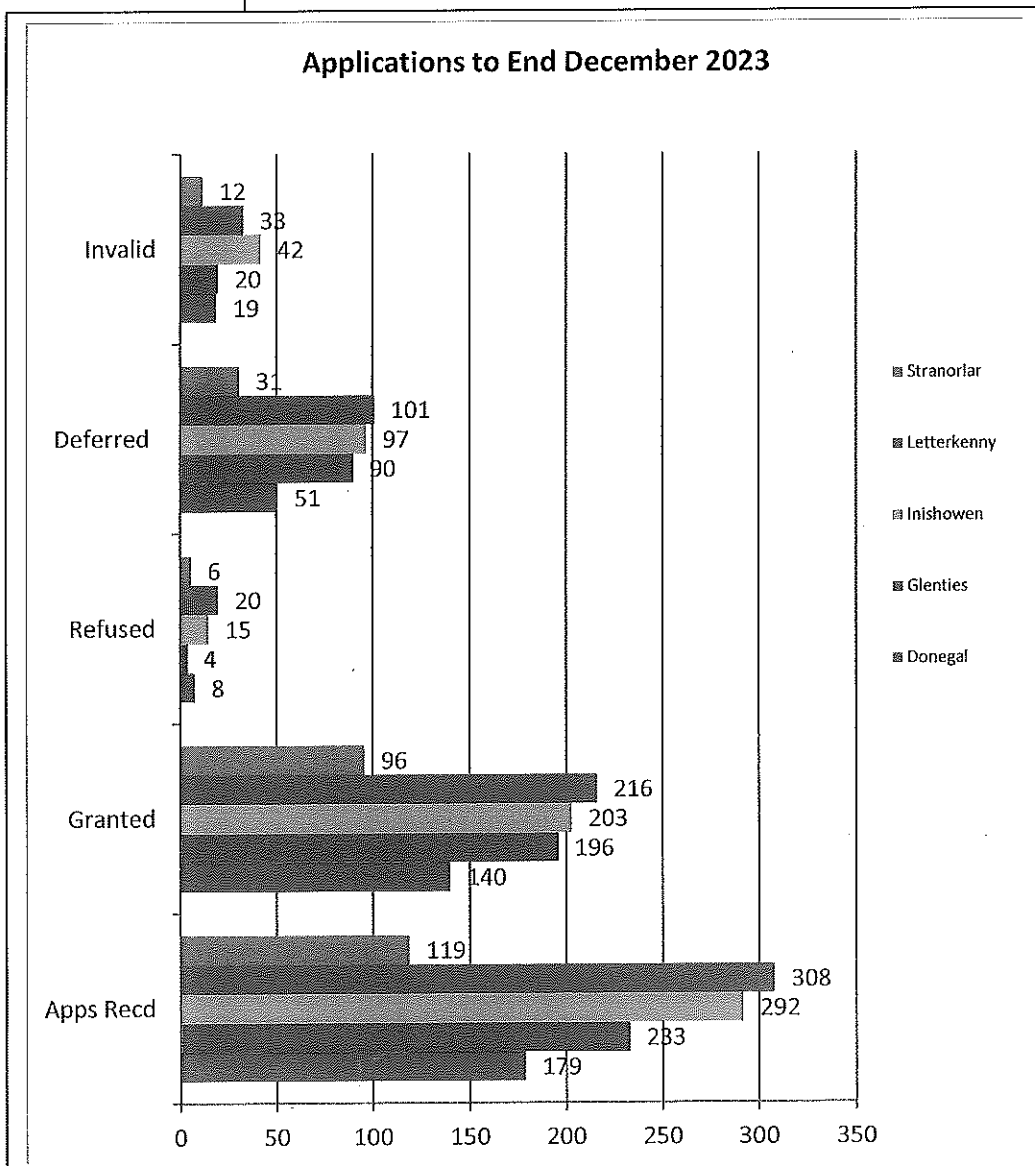
Contact Person

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



Glenties MD Meeting
12th September, 2023

Item	Update										
1	Development Applications										
(1) Statistics	Glenties MD Totals Year to End July 2023										
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Applications received</td> <td>233</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Granted</td> <td>196</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Refused</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deferred</td> <td>90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Invalid</td> <td>20</td> </tr> </table>	Applications received	233	Granted	196	Refused	4	Deferred	90	Invalid	20
Applications received	233										
Granted	196										
Refused	4										
Deferred	90										
Invalid	20										





2	Enforcement	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="550 271 954 309">Glenties MD</td> <td data-bbox="954 271 1375 309">To end of July 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="550 309 954 347">New Cases</td> <td data-bbox="954 309 1375 347">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="550 347 954 385">Closed Cases</td> <td data-bbox="954 347 1375 385">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="550 385 954 459">Outstanding cases on record since 2012</td> <td data-bbox="954 385 1375 459">097</td> </tr> </table>	Glenties MD	To end of July 2023	New Cases	3	Closed Cases	1	Outstanding cases on record since 2012	097
Glenties MD	To end of July 2023									
New Cases	3									
Closed Cases	1									
Outstanding cases on record since 2012	097									
3	Notes & Monthly Schedule	<p>Pre planning clinics are on a telephone call only basis (ring 074 9153900) between 9.00am and 12.30pm on the dates outlined below.</p> <p>The pre planning clinic calls will be taken by the Executive Planners and shall be for substantial applications only.</p> <p><u>Planning Clinics 2023:</u> 7th September, 2023 21st September, 2023 5th October, 2023 19th October, 2023</p> <p>Please see website for further dates. http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/planningclinics/</p>								
4	Casual Trading									
5	Regeneration & Development Report	See Appendix A								
6	Conservation Report									
77	Building Control & Taking in Charge Report									
8	Capital Projects Delivery Unit									
9	Central Planning Unit Report									
10	Further Information <i>Click on web links to access information.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly List of applications and decisions: http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/weeklyplanninglists/ • Planning Service email (to be used in correspondence with the planning service): planning@donegalcoco.ie • Planning Webpage: www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/ 								



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning Application Online Query – https://www.eplanning.ie/DonegalCC/SearchTypes• File Retrieval Form – to be used for file retrieval and planning search requests: www.donegalcoco.ie/media/donegalcountyc/planning/pdfs/fileretrieval/File%20Retrieval.pdf
--	--



Appendix A



Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall
Donegal County Council



Rialtas na
hÉireann
Government
of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

Regeneration & Development Team
Community Development & Planning Services

Report to September (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 Eireann. Good progress is being made in this regard. A workshop was held with Members on July 13th 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 1st February 2022 and a Chief Executives Report on the proposed development was brought before the Elected Members at a Plenary Meeting of the Council on Wednesday 6th 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 Q3 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 12noon deadline on Friday 29th April 2022. The submitted project had a total project value of €7,949,868.

On 10th November 2022 the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys announced that €6.3m had been awarded under the Fourth Call for Category 1 Projects of the RRDF for the "Ramelton Re-Imagined" regeneration Project. This represents a full award of the RRDF funding sought. Work is now 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 6th January 2022 the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys announced that €1.17m had been awarded under the Third Call for Category 2 Projects of the RRDF for the "Repowering Buncrana" regeneration Project.

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

The Elected Members of the Inishowen Municipal District were updated on the status of this project at workshop on Friday 27th January 2023. It is now intended to progress this project to tender in Q2 of 2023 and in this regard the project was submitted to the DRCD for Decision Gate 2 Pre-Tender Approval on Monday 20th March, 2023. Decision Gate 2 approval was subsequently received on 3rd April, 2023 and this project is therefore now approved to proceed to tender. 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 Councils legal services have now been instructed to close out and complete 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 17th December 2021 the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD announced the fourth call for Category 1 applications to the €1 Billion Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF).

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

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

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

1.4 **Rathmullan RRDF Project Development work**

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

Work will now continue to position the project for application to future calls of the Rural Regeneration & Development Fund (RRDF) for category 1 (capital) projects. The next stage in project development work concerns the preparation of a Business Case.

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

1.5 **Milford Town Centre First Plan**

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



The Regeneration & Development Team is now leading on the delivery of a Town Centre First Masterplan for the Town.

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

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

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

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 4th May, 2023 and Thursday 25th May, 2023 and included the following events:



- Launch of the project website:
<https://creesloughvillageplan.commonplace.is/> on Thursday 4th May, 2023;
- A Senior Citizens Workshop in Creeslough Day Centre from 12noon to 1pm on **Wednesday 10th May, 2023**;
- A public information event from 2pm to 8pm on **Thursday 11th May 2023** in Massinass Hall, Creeslough, and,
- Workshops with National, Gaelscoil and Secondary schools across **Wednesday 10th May to Friday 12th 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 22nd 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 24th July 2023 with submissions to be made before 4.30 pm on Friday 8th September 2023. The proposal is available for viewing at the following link - [Donegal County Council \(donegalcoco.ie\)](http://Donegal County Council (donegalcoco.ie)) It is planned to bring the Part 8 application to the September 2023 Plenary meeting of the Council for consideration.

2.0 URBAN REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT FUND (URDF)

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

This first application secured €1.9m in URDF monies, match funded by €600,000 for three sub-projects. Sub-project A, preparation of Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy is now complete and available at www.letterkenny2040.ie.

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

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



will be brought to the Letterkenny-Milford MD in this regard as this work develops.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Next steps set out in letter of approval to proceed.

Sub-project	Nature of DHLGH approval/ Project activity
Sub-project A: Market Square element	<p>Proceed to procurement of architect-led team for detailed design and site supervision</p> <p>The following actions have been commenced/underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The project has been handed over to the Capital Projects Delivery Unit (CPDU) for



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



	<p>2 no. properties at Lower Main Street. The Business Case therefore been completed and Council solicitors have been instructed to proceed with legal and conveyancing processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structural Engineering Reports completed to inform 4 no. acquisitions involving buildings. • Clarifications sought on a number of properties in relation to land ownership. • Tender package for Valuation Services closed on 21st July 2023. Final arrangements for the appointment of the successful valuer are currently being made. • High level legal appraisal with Councils solicitor completed on 9th June 2023. • Next step: Consideration of requirements and timeline for publication of CPO(s) before year end.
<p>Sub-project C: Revival of the Courthouse</p>	<p>Proceed to procurement of consultancy services to prepare ‘Product identification/Visitor Experience Plan.’</p> <p>This project will be led through the next stage by the Regeneration and Development Team and will involve multiple workshops at MD level. The following actions have been commenced/underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tender package for Creative Consultancy Services opened on 22nd June 2023 in respect of ‘Revival at the Courthouse’ for the preparation of a Visitor Experience Plan/ Product Identification Plan and Business Plan for the development of a major visitor attraction at the Courthouse. ▪ Deadline for receipt of tenders was 21st July 2023. Two submissions were received. The Evaluation Team met on 31st July and 3rd August and are scheduled to meet again on 12th September. Thereafter an appointment will be made.
<p>Sub-project D: Strategic acquisition to enable a Regional Transport Hub</p>	<p>Proceed acquisition processes for land required.</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"> ▪ Formal engagement with landowner commenced by means of a meeting on 18th May 2023. • Tender package for Valuation Services closed on 21st July 2023. Final arrangements



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



- 2.3 'The Eat Out' Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Project, Letterkenny**
'The Eat Out' Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Project at the public space to the front of An Grianan Theatre secured Part 8 planning consent at the plenary Council meeting in November 2022. Detailed design of this project enabled in the context of the further development of the concept contained in the Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy via the appointment of The Paul Hogarth Company and O'Connor Cronin Sutton Engineers is well advanced. The Regeneration Team now provide support and input into the detailed design process which is led by Community Development wherein a procurement process for construction contractor closed for tender submissions on 16th August 2023. Further updates are being provided by Community Development.
- 2.4 Letterkenny Cultural Corridor**
Part 8 proposed development for the 'Cultural Corridor' section of LK Green Connect is progressing and is at an advanced state of readiness. The target for publication of the Part 8 is September 2023 leading to consideration of Chief Executives Report on the Part 8 consultation at the November 2023 Council meeting. The team continue to work towards these target dates whilst balancing some additional negotiations with landowners that have arisen. Any adjustment in publication timeline will be communicated directly to Members.
- 2.5 2nd Phase of LK Green Connect**
Early design work using in-house resources commenced initially in January 2023 on Part 8 proposed development for Phase 2 of LK Green Connect to link walking and cycling infrastructure at the completed Phase 1 to Pearse Road.
- Due to pressures across the wider work programme of the Regeneration Team, only limited progress has been made with a fresh application of resources targeted for September 2023. Given the early stage in the design process, the timeline for publication of the Part 8 is yet to be confirmed and, as referenced, is subject to capacity of staff resources across both URDF and RRDF programmes. The preferred scenario is to publish a Part 8 by year end 2023. Workshops at MD level will be arranged as this project develops.
- In parallel with design work, it is proposed to make further contact with landowners.
- 2.6 Youth/Community focused project at Lower Main Street**
Early engagements with Letterkenny Youth Club and Donegal Youth Service have commenced to further explore the potential for a youth/community focused project at Lower Main Street as envisaged within the Design Concepts contained in the Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy and relating to a number of Councils acquisition interests under URDF Call 2 successful application. In this regard, a partnership in principle has been agreed. Following progress on relevant land acquisition under the Councils URDF



Call 2 project, it is targeted to commence design processes as regards a future capital scheme at this location. Timeline for commencement of design work is likely to be Q of 2024 at the earliest and is highly dependent on capacity of in-house resources. Updates will be provided to Members on ongoing basis.

2.7 Collaboration with Housing Section of Donegal County Council

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

2.8 URDF Call 3

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

2.9 Other

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

3.0 CROI CONAITHE VACANT PROPERTY REFURBISHMENT GRANT SCHEME

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



4.0 COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER ACTIVATION FUND

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

Step 1: Identification of vacant and derelict properties

Step 2: Identification of and engagement with owners.

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

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

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

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

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

Regeneration & Development Team
September 2023



Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall
Donegal County Council

ENVIRONMENT MD REPORT – September '23

WASTE AND LITTER MANAGEMENT

Activity / Project Title **'Keep Donegal Beautiful' – Holidaymaker Campaign**

Project Description/ Activity

The 'Keep Donegal Beautiful' campaign, in collaboration with the Tourism Section, received over 1 million social media impressions during Summer 2022, was relaunched again for 2023.



The campaign targets holidaymakers & visitors to the county encouraging them to play their part in keeping Donegal beautiful with helpful tips on managing their waste & signposting them in the right direction.


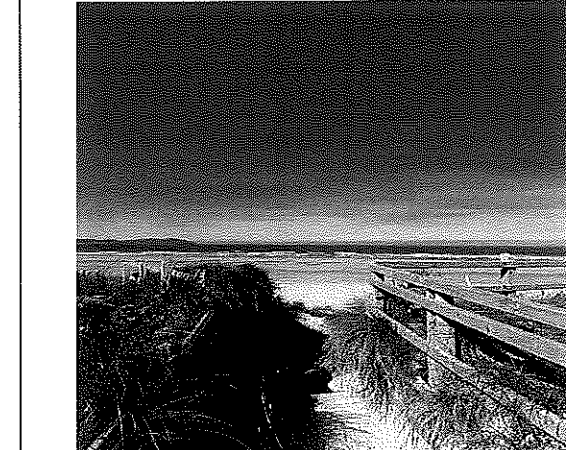


Contact Person

Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer
sbogan@donegalcoco.ie

COUNTY LABORATORY

Activity / Project Title	Public Service Announcements (PSA's) – Water Quality
Description/ Activity	<p>“Donegal County Council would like to advise farmers of some key messages about water quality at this time of year. Check that all silage effluent is collected in a properly sealed storage tank, and not entering waters. Before spreading slurry, Farmers & contractors should pay particular attention to the weather forecast & ground conditions to avoid applying it to land which is waterlogged, flooded, likely to flood or if rain is forecast within 48 hours. Remember slurry and fertilisers lost by overland flow to waters is a loss of vital nutrients for your crops”.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>
Contact Person	<p>Joe Ferry joe.ferry@donegalcoco.ie</p>

Activity / Project Title	Bathing Waters 2023 season	
Description/ Activity	<p>The Council’s Central Lab monitoring results have confirmed excellent water quality for the 2023 Bathing Season to date, despite the unsettled weather of the past 2 months.</p> <p>Forecasted heavy rainfall events have led to the posting of <i>Prior Warning Notices</i> at certain bathing waters to protect bathers & forewarn of a potential drop in water quality.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>	
	<p><i>Figure 1. Turbulent Day Sampling Killahoey</i></p>	<p><i>Figure 2. Brighter Side of Life - Dooey Beach</i></p>
	<p>Monitoring results are posted on noticeboards and on beaches.ie, until the bathing season formally ends on the 15th September.</p>	
Contact	<p>Bernadette Gault, BernadetteGault@donegalcoco.ie</p>	

GLENTIES FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME

Briefing Note 11 – September 2023

Progress Summary

The Project Team is currently seeking to identify the Preferred Option for Glenties in conjunction with the Steering Group. Hard defences, increased channel conveyance and natural flood/ catchment management measures are the measures which are currently being assessed. Once the assessments are complete the Steering Group will hold a Public Information Day to inform the public of the outcomes of Stage I.

The RPS Environmental team have now completed specialist surveys, habitat mapping and protected species surveys. This has informed the option assessment process. Further specialist surveys may be required subject to the selection of a Preferred Option.

Next Steps

Hydraulic Analysis: RPS are in the process of finalising the hydraulic reporting.

Scheme Analysis and Development: RPS are working to identify the preferred option in conjunction with the Steering Group. RPS are developing Scheme Analysis and Development reporting including supplementary reporting on the application of nature-based catchment measures, buildability, operation and maintenance and climate change adaptation.

Environmental Assessment: Screening for Appropriate Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening and, where necessary, the development of the Natura Impact Statement and Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EAIR) will be undertaken on confirmation of the Preferred Option.

Public Information Day: A public information day is planned for late Autumn 2023.

Projected Key Milestone Dates

- Options Development Report – September 2023
- Public Information Day – October 2023
- Completion of Environmental Impact Assessment Report – April 2024
- Completion of Natura Impact Statement – January 2024
- Ongoing management of invasive species in line with the management plan

There has been an extension of three months to the Stage I programme for Glenties. This is due to a delay in the completion and issue of the Scheme Analysis and Development phase reporting.

The Public Information Day has been delayed further as RPS and the Steering Group explore further the potential for Nature-based Catchment Management; the potential project partners and the wider objectives of such a scheme.



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

Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services Directorate

Glenties Municipal District Report September 2023

Content

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

● **1. Division: Economic Development**

1.1 Economic Development Unit

Project / Activity Report

Title	Economic Development Unit
Countywide	<p>Property Solutions: The team is progressing a number of property solution opportunities across the county. These are queries relating to the purchase of council owned lands for Economic Development purposes.</p> <p>Killybegs Marine Cluster Steering Group: The Economic Development Unit continues to support the development of the Marine Cluster with a view to enhancing business development opportunities for businesses in the sector not just in Killybegs but across the county. Recent activity includes the Innovation Cadet programmes hosted by the Alpha Innovation Team, St Catherines Vocational School and the Cluster to introduce young people to innovation and opportunities in the Marine Sector.</p> <p>#LoveDonegal 2023: #LoveDonegal day 2023 takes place on September 14th, 2023. #LoveDonegal provides the opportunity to promote Donegal and it's wonderful offering to the widest possible audience and the Donegal diaspora play a hugely important role in this. Spreading the word in relation to opportunities and quality of life in Donegal is one of the main aims for this campaign. Ultimately, organisers want more people to visit, invest and relocate to Donegal for and experience the spectacular quality of life on offer.</p> <p>Details on the #LoveDonegal campaign and how to get involved are available on Donegal.ie/LoveDonegal</p> <p>Remote Working: The 2023 Remote Working Holiday campaign is in collaboration with Donegal Hubs Forum and Healthy Ireland's initiative 'Civic Dollars' encouraging social inclusion, mental and physical wellbeing, and supporting local businesses.</p> <p>The focus of the Working Holiday campaign is on promoting the wide network of Digital Hubs across the county and showcasing the unique</p>

offering Donegal has for a work-life balance without compromise. Details of the campaign are available at: <https://donegal.ie/workholdl>

Relocation Marketing Campaign: A relocation marketing campaign to attract talent nationally and from overseas continues to roll out, supported by two showreel videos and testimonials from those who have relocated, to encourage people to #MoveToDonegal. So far it has reached over 3 million across all social media platforms and received over 65 relocation enquiries.

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

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

	Impressions (last 28 days)	Total Followers
Linked In	12,834	4,825 (+52)
Twitter	5.1k	2,940 (+42)
Instagram	1,756	3,974(+48)
Facebook	2,880	1,933 (+8)
Donegal.ie	3.8K Web Users (4 weeks 22 July – 19 August)	
	11 News Items Published.	

Shared Island: Work continuing for Shared Island funded projects as follows:

North West RegTech Initiative is a proposal to develop an all-island national institute in Regulatory Technology in the North West with partners DCSDC, Catalyst and ATU. Work is underway by the appointed consultants for the Scoping/Feasibility Study and Business Case/Economic Appraisal (Stratagem Partners) for completion in September 2023. A high-profile conference is also planned for Autumn 2023.

Innovation Plaza to develop cross-border food innovation campuses in Ballyshannon and Irvinestown in partnership with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council (FODC). Key stakeholder consultation, site appraisal and benchmarking are currently being progressed by the appointed consultants. The completed Feasibility Study, Economic Appraisal/Business Case is on track for delivery in October 2023.

Regenerative Tourism Project is a proposal to develop a cross border slow tourism destination which preserves and showcases the region's rich, social, cultural and natural heritage while enabling tourism enterprise clusters to grow and prosper. *The preferred option emerging is to develop key recreational hubs at the Knader Forest and Castle Caldwell and to link them physically, promotionally and thematically with regional visitor hubs in Belleek and Ballyshannon, through a shared use trail network to develop a connected, serviced destination for the region.*

Community Trails emerging in Option 2 include:

- *Monellan Wood-Trusk Lough-Killeter, connecting to Lifford Castlefinn & proposed Barnesmore Greenway*
- *Castle Archdale & Lisnarick Trail*
- *Creevy Shore Walk with links to include old Co-Op Coastal Walk*
- *Big Dog Forest & connections with Lough Navar*
- *Pettigo Looped Trails & connections to Lough Derg Pilgrim Path*
- *Glenee Forest, Killybegs*
- *Ballybofey/Stranorlar connections using Drumboe Woods, etc.*

The completed Feasibility Study, Economic Appraisal/Business Case is on track for delivery in October 2023.

Slí Cholmcille Project is a 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 underway by the appointed consultants for the Scoping Study, Business Case/Economic Appraisal and Design Toolkit (Outdoor Recreation NI) for completion in September 2023. A wider stakeholder engagement event on 22 June 2023 will be followed by local engagement along the proposed route as well as cross-border animation.

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

1.2: Tourism Marketing Unit

Project / Activity Report

Title	Tourism Unit
Countywide	<p data-bbox="448 544 1038 577">Online & Social Media Updates – Go Visit Donegal</p> <p data-bbox="448 611 798 645"><u>GoVisitDonegal.com Website</u></p> <p data-bbox="448 678 1305 745">In the last 28 days the website received 38K users – 37K new users and 1K returning visitors.</p> <p data-bbox="448 779 1347 846">Festivals and Events proved be the most popular page in the last 28 days with over 20k visits to the section.</p> <p data-bbox="448 891 564 925">Facebook</p> <p data-bbox="448 925 1358 992">Facebook reach increased by 402.9% and Instagram reach increased by 25.1%. This was due to a variety of campaigns on the platform.</p> <p data-bbox="448 1059 571 1093">Instagram</p> <p data-bbox="448 1093 1278 1126">Across Instagram, there was an increase of 326 new followers (up 23%).</p> <p data-bbox="448 1182 552 1216">LinkedIn</p> <p data-bbox="448 1216 1318 1283">In the last month, there was an increase in page views, with a rise of 155%. LinkedIn saw an increase of 37 new followers.</p> <p data-bbox="448 1350 539 1384">Twitter</p> <p data-bbox="448 1384 1315 1451">Twitter insights show an increase of 8.2K impressions (up +166%) from the previous 90 days.</p> <p data-bbox="448 1507 533 1541">TikTok</p> <p data-bbox="448 1585 1374 1776">A new TikTok account has been established for the GoVisitDonegal brand. Since launching in July, we have made consistent progress on this platform. We have uploaded five videos, and each have had relatively strong views to date. This work will continue to drive reach, brand awareness and driving people to the website.</p>

Donegal Airport & Go Visit Donegal Campaign 2023

A digital campaign was launched in conjunction with Donegal Airport to raise awareness of the flight service from Glasgow to Donegal, to promote accessibility and increase traffic on the route, value for money and car hire at the airport.

The advertisement ran on Facebook/Instagram and on Google Ads – Display Ads

Duration: 15 June – 31 July 2023

Goal: Click through traffic to www.donegalairport.ie

Target Audience: Scotland, particularly Glasgow and Edinburgh and Donegal

Results:

Click links: 3,450k

Reach: 105.3k

Leave no Trace Campaign

Go Visit Donegal launched a responsible tourism campaign to raise awareness of the importance of exploring the outdoors responsibly with the focus on asking people to leave no trace of their visit and protect Donegal's stunning countryside.

This work is supported by a dedicated page on govidonegal.com website, providing simple advice to visitors. The campaign reinforced the importance that as visitors, we should be aware of the consequences of our visits on our stunning landscapes, wildlife and communities.

Duration: 20 days – 21st to 10th August 2023

Goal: raise awareness of leave no trace

Target audience: ROI, NI

Results:

Reach: 64,651

Total clicks: 1,076

Marketing Updates

Ireland West Airport

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

The Tourism Unit is working with Ireland West Airport marketing team to update branding and imagery on all digital screens and billboards within the airport and ensure that Donegal has maximum exposure within the airport.

Brochures & Promotional Merchandise

For the summer season, Donegal Tourism produced 6,000 A5 brochures in July and 3,000 A4 double sided leaflets. Brochures along with maps were distributed to all tourist offices, hotels, airports and promotional events.

Spirit of Ireland Magazine

Donegal Tourism will be advertising in the next edition of the Spirit of Ireland Magazine. The March issue will be distributed in New York City on St Patrick's Day. Spirit of Ireland is the official magazine of Nacta that brings visitors to Ireland to the value of 3.6 million annually. In addition, Tourism Ireland works very closely with the North American Celtic Trade association and attends the four major Irish Shows. Nacta uses the magazine as a travel brochure promoting Ireland.

Golf Cluster Meeting

Donegal County Council Tourism Unit continues to support golf providers and is organising a meeting which will take place on Wednesday, 27th September 2023 in Cruit Island Golf Club. We have invited all golf providers in the county to attend this meeting with a view to working collaboratively to promote Donegal as a world class golf destination.

Donegal Tourism - Associate Members Committee

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

The committee is made up of members nominated and voted by members of the company with a poll taking every two years.

	<p>In April 2023, the process for nomination of members onto the committee commenced. Each member was assigned a business category and was nominated to vote on the membership of the committee.</p> <p>The Associate Members Committee election process was completed in July and the names of the new committee members have been emailed to all members. The first meeting of this new committee is scheduled for September 13th. The main item on the agenda of this meeting will be the election of three committee members onto the Board of Directors.</p> <p>Chicago/Milwaukee 2023</p> <p>Donegal Tourism recently completed a successful trade mission to the USA which saw representatives positively engage with tour operators in Chicago and participation in the world’s largest Irish festival.</p> <p>The schedule included a B2B event in Chicago, with an interactive presentation showcasing the very best Donegal has to offer to the key American decision-makers in attendance.</p> <p>This event proved to be an excellent opportunity to meet, do business with and present to tour operators from the Chicago area– ensuring Donegal is top of mind for scheduling itineraries for their clients.</p> <p>The team then moved to the Milwaukee to host an area in the travel section. Milwaukee Irish Fest is North America’s largest celebration of Celtic music and culture, showcasing more than 100 entertainment acts on 17 stages.</p> <p>Irish Fest promotes all aspects of Irish, Irish American and Celtic Cultures and attracted an audience of over 100,000 attendees.</p> <p>The festival also provided an opportunity for staff to engage with several prominent visitors to the festival including the Mayor of Milwaukee, Cavalier Johnson and Ireland’s Minister of State at the <i>Department of Justice</i> and Equality, James Browne, in addition to Tourism Ireland USA and Aer Lingus and other counties.</p> <p>Laurentic Forum</p> <p>Donegal Tourism continues to attend monthly meetings in relation to exploring mutual opportunities.</p>
--	--

Big O – Marketing Agency

Donegal Tourism have appointed a marketing agency called Big O to create a campaign that is aligned with our product offering for the shoulder season. Donegal Tourism in conjunction with the trade hosted a fam trip in June to sample for the agency what the county has to offer. Ongoing meetings and plans are in place in advance of the delivery of a campaign later in the year.

Tides Project

Donegal County Council Tides Project have appointed a Marketing/PR Campaign agency to promote the three pilot VR sites and to launch the two new models of the Saldanha, which were delivered to the two sites in July.

The objective of the marketing campaign is to achieve the following objectives:

- Create targeted marketing opportunities, to raise project/brand awareness for Donegal and keep the proposition 'top of mind' when considering a maritime destination.
- Build on the marketing assets (VR Experiences and 3D Models) and promote this offering.
- Highlight the unique experience that can be offered in these historic locations – Fanad, Greencastle and Fort Dunree and surrounding areas through social media, new photography, blogs and video.

TOURBO Project

The Tourism Unit has successfully commenced an Interreg Europe consortium, led by Seville Chamber of Commerce to deliver the TOURBO project, which will boost the transition pathway of MSMEs (Micro Small & Medium Size Enterprises) in tourism with green and digital transformation known as the 'Twin Transition'.

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

Social Media

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

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

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/tourbo-interreg-europe-190758280/>

<https://www.instagram.com/interregeutourbo/>

	<p>Progress to August:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The initial meeting took place in Seville in June with seven European Partners 2. The first financial report is due at the beginning of September 3. Donegal stakeholders have been selected. 4. The Tourism Unit is working on a communications plan for 2023, which will incorporate a series of surveys, meetings with stakeholders, and a press release to promote the project to tourism businesses. <p>Donegal 550</p> <p>The Tourism team is sitting on the steering group focused on celebrating Donegal Town 550 in 2024. A logo has now been agreed and available for circulation to all groups, individuals and associations and a press release will be circulated in the next few weeks by Donegal Chamber inviting groups to participate.</p> <p>Minor Tourism Update</p> <p>Workshops with the members from each MD has been completed and the minor tourism allocations were adopted at MD meetings for Donegal; Glenties; Inishowen and Letterkenny. The Lifford MD is scheduled to take place in September.</p> <p>All applicants were notified in relation to their application.</p> <p>Festivals and Event workshop</p> <p>A festival and events workshop are planned for October.</p> <p>This workshop will cover topics such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programming Budgeting Sponsorship Operations Marketing & Promotion Cross Selling
<p>Glenties MD</p>	<p>Dungloe to Glenties Cycleway</p> <p>Donegal Tourism have met in July with a newly formed working group to organise and market an official opening and to promote the 25km cycleway going forward.</p>

Contact Person	Sarah Nolan sarahnolan@donegalcoco.ie Acting Head of Tourism Unit 074 91 94241
-----------------------	---

1.3: Strategic Funding Unit

Project / Activity Report

Title	Strategic Funding Unit – exploring EU and National Funding Opportunities that support the objectives set out in the Donegal County Council Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024
Countywide	<p>PEACE Plus</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>A PEACE Plus roadshow hosted by SEUPB is planned for September 2023, with a workshop taking place on 22nd September in Donegal Town at The Central Hotel. More information and registration can be found at www.seupb.eu/latest/events</p> <p>Assembly of European Regions Engagement</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 "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>An SFU representative attended the AER General Assembly in June 2023 and gave a verbal update to the Assembly in relation to our Donegal Remote Working Strategy for Business.</p>

	<p>Donegal County Council has joined the AER Green Hydrogen Working Group to explore EU project opportunities in renewable energy.</p> <p>The YOUTHopia project concludes in September 2023 with a workshop to be hosted in Letterkenny for young journalists with an interest in EU affairs.</p> <p>Atlantic Stakeholders Platform Conference 2023</p> <p>The Atlantic Stakeholders Platform Conference 2023 and the CPMR Atlantic Strategy Committee meeting will take place in Porto on 18th October 2023. This event will focus on the sustainable development of the Blue Economy and the implementation of the Atlantic Action Plan 2.0. Irish Government Minister Charlie McConalogue, Minister of Agriculture, Food and the Marine will be in attendance.</p> <p>Project Partnership & Development</p> <p>The SFU is exploring a number of project opportunities under the Atlantic Area Programme and is liaising with Council staff and other potential partners on project concepts related to air quality, green infrastructure, fishing sector ecosystem innovation and tourism.</p> <p>Other areas of work include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EU Funding Programme Reviews ● Participation in project scoping meetings with potential partners ● Participation in EU network meetings such as CPMR, AER etc. ● Funding Needs Analysis of Council Divisions ● Regular Strategic Funding Newsletters
<p>Contact Person</p>	<p>Joy Browne - Acting Senior Staff Officer Mobile: +353 (87) 0619360 E-mail: joybrowne@donegalcoco.ie</p>

1.4: Donegal Diaspora Unit

Project / Activity Report

Title	Donegal Diaspora Unit
Countywide	<p data-bbox="450 539 949 573">Tip O'Neill Irish Diaspora Awards 2023</p> <p data-bbox="450 607 1366 730">The award ceremony will take place on Saturday, 16th September 2023 at the Inishowen Gateway Hotel, Buncrana. A press release issued on 04 July announced the 2023 awardees:</p> <ol data-bbox="501 763 834 927" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="501 763 783 797">1. Caroline McLaughlin<li data-bbox="501 831 687 864">2. John T Fries<li data-bbox="501 898 834 931">3. Prof. William C Campbell <p data-bbox="450 965 1342 1043">All other elements of the award ceremony progressing. Tickets on sale via Eventbrite since 10 July 2023.</p> <p data-bbox="450 1077 1358 1245">Press Release: <a data-bbox="450 1077 1358 1245" href="https://donegal.ie/news/2023/july/three-distinguished-honourees-announced-for-tip-oneill-irish-diaspora-award#:~:text=It%20is%20my%20honour%20to,Irish%20Diaspora%20Award%20Committee%20Clr.">https://donegal.ie/news/2023/july/three-distinguished-honourees-announced-for-tip-oneill-irish-diaspora-award#:~:text=It%20is%20my%20honour%20to,Irish%20Diaspora%20Award%20Committee%20Clr.</p> <p data-bbox="450 1279 1337 1357">Eventbrite Link: <a data-bbox="450 1279 1337 1357" href="https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/tip-oneill-irish-diaspora-awards-2022-tickets-388571416567">https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/tip-oneill-irish-diaspora-awards-2022-tickets-388571416567</p> <p data-bbox="450 1391 834 1424">Donegal Connect 2023 / 2024</p> <p data-bbox="450 1458 1366 1626">Donegal Connect will take place from 14th - 17th September with a strong focus on Innovation & Diaspora Engagement. A funding application for the Global Irish Festival Series 2024 is due for submission on 25th August with a decision expected within two weeks.</p> <p data-bbox="450 1659 991 1693">Donegal Diaspora Website / Social Media</p> <p data-bbox="450 1727 1366 1895">A communications plan on the use of the Diaspora website and associated Diaspora social media channels is currently taking place with further updates to follow. <i>Donegal Diaspora social media statistics as of 23/08/2023 are as follows:</i></p>

	<p>LinkedIn – 1,244 (up 33) connections</p> <p>X (formerly Twitter) – 4,026 (down 14) followers</p> <p>Facebook – 5,638 (up 18) followers</p> <p>Instagram – 324 (up 21) followers</p> <p>London Events</p> <p>A contingent from Donegal County Council will attend the London Irish Vintage Club Day event on September 3rd.</p> <p>The Diaspora Officer is also working with the London Irish Centre to organise a Donegal-themed ‘In Conversation with’ event. Originally scheduled to occur on September 4th this has been moved back until Oct. / Nov due to LIC commitments. Further updates to follow and final date TBC.</p> <p>Scottish Diaspora</p> <p>A meeting of the wider Scottish Diaspora group held online on 26th June. Heritage Officer for Donegal County Council Joseph Gallagher presented on the Donegal Emigrant Working lives in Scotland project.</p> <p>Further engagement with Donegal County Council Ambassador Packie Bonner is ongoing to maximise his role in the context of promoting our Economic Development work within the United Kingdom.</p>
Contact Person	<p>Eoin Leonard - Diaspora Officer</p> <p>Mobile: +353 (87) 360 5678</p> <p>E-mail: eleonard@donegalcoco.ie</p>

• **2. Division: Donegal Local Enterprise Office**

Project / Activity Report

Activity / Project Title	The Local Enterprise Office (LEO)
Role and Remit	<p>The Local Enterprise Offices is positioned nationally as the “<i>First Stop Shop</i>” for anyone seeking information and support on starting or growing a business in Ireland. The Local Enterprise Office Donegal provides advice, information, and support to those starting up or growing their business in Donegal. Grant is potentially available for businesses that meet the eligibility criteria.</p> <p>Further information available here - localenterprise.ie/donegal Contact number: 074-9160735</p>
Outline of Work	<p>General Overview – Highlights:</p> <p><u>Summary of August 2023 Outputs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant Aid (M1) – Business Expansion & Priming (Start Up) • 36 Businesses have been approved Grant Aid. • Value of total Grant Aid Approvals YTD is €481,020.80 • Next EVAC meeting will take place on 13th September 2023. • Trading Online Vouchers – 42 Businesses approved support to trade online with a value of €93,687.12. • Mentoring YTD – 180 Businesses have received this support. • Training – 1,038 Business attendees at 71 Events YTD. • The next Start Your Own Business (SYOB) online programme is commencing on 5th September and is already fully booked with 28 participants registered. Another SYOB programme, and the final one for 2023, is commencing on 3rd October, 2023, and spaces for this can be booked at Start Your Own Business Programme (Virtual Delivery - Evening) October 2023 - Local Enterprise Office - Donegal • Next Business Information Session scheduled 25th August @ 10am • Lunch & Learn for Accountants to hear about LEO supports for their business clients will be held on Friday 25th August at 12 noon.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Women's Enterprise Day – “Empowering Business Together” is taking place on 19th October 2023 in Solis Lough Eske Hotel. This event aims to inspire, motivate and empower women across the country in running their own businesses. • LEO Donegal and Creative Coast Donegal are organising the “Meet the Makers” event, taking place on October 20th at Lough Eske Castle. “Meet the Makers” offers Donegal designers and manufacturers in the consumer products sector valuable opportunities to present their unique products and will allow Donegal’s innovative brands to connect with national and international buyers. LEO Donegal is currently receiving expressions of interest from Donegal based craft businesses to exhibit at the upcoming event. • 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. • The Pre-Accelerator programme AMBITION, developed by Local Enterprise Office Donegal to encourage more female entrepreneurs has been shortlisted in the twentieth annual Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2023. AMBITION is one of two projects shortlisted for Donegal County Council: • AMBITION in Diversity & Inclusion by the Donegal Local Enterprise Office • #MoveToDonegal Relocation Campaign by the Economic Development Unit
--	---

Upcoming Events/Programmes:

Scale-X

A third Scale-X North West programme will commence on Wednesday September 6th and involve participants from Donegal and Leitrim.

The 11-week Accelerator Programme, aimed at start-up entrepreneurs with the potential for fast growth, will run until the end of November. 11 entrepreneurs across a diverse group of businesses, sectors and backgrounds have been selected to take part in the programme. At the final event, each business will present their business pitch idea to a judging panel.

Ambition

Ambition is an exciting pre-accelerator programme which focuses on female entrepreneurs and promotes the skills and resilience needed to develop globally scalable ventures, attract investment and create jobs.

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

Student Enterprise 2023/2024

Registration is now open for the 2023/2024 Student Enterprise Programme – Ireland's biggest and most successful programme for young entrepreneurs where 25,000 second level students join up across the country and take up the challenge every year. Donegal schools, with the help of the LEO Donegal, will be looking to follow in the footsteps of last year's finalists and book a place at the National Final, which will be held in the Mullingar Park Hotel on 9th May 2024 in the hope that they can take home the prestigious 'Student Enterprise of the Year' title.

Lunch & Learn with LEO Donegal

On Friday August 25th all registered accountants in Donegal have been invited to attend a Lunch & Learn event where the LEO Team will advise attendees of the range of LEO supports available to both them and their clients. The activity will help to drive further awareness and word of mouth referrals for LEO services to Donegal micro businesses and SMEs.

Business Information Session

The next in-person Business Information Session will take place on Friday August 25th in the Local Enterprise Office, Donegal. Participants interested in starting and/or growing their business from Donegal are encouraged to attend.

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

National Women's Enterprise Day

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

This event will consist of a variety of developmental support actions, including inspiring speakers, shared experience, group discussion, information provision, and exhibition of state supports for enterprise.

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

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

IMMERSE

LEO Donegal was successful in securing funding of €68,000 from Creative Ireland to deliver the IMMERSE project, a collaboration between Donegal County Council, Eirmersive, Connected Hubs, Regional Enterprise Offices (Midwest/Northwest/West), CREW, Údarás na Gaeltachta and the Western Development Commission (WDC). The project will focus on the Content Creation Sector.

The first IMMERSE workshop, taking place on August 30th, 2023, will showcase how creative businesses are already generating revenues from immersive technologies and will offer attendees hands-on state-of-the-art experience of this technology.

MEET THE MAKERS

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

FOOD COAST

Thinking of Starting Your Own Food Business – half day workshop on 30th August 2023

Food Starter Programme – 4 x half day workshops over 2 weeks, starting on 18th September 2023.

SuperValu Food Academy – one Donegal food producer will progress – Aoibhin O’Dea of Cacao Aoibhin from Bunbeg.

Food Coast Donegal is collaborating with Enterprise Causeway, Northern Ireland on a 2-day exchange in September & October which will see food producers from each region engage in a cross-border visit exchange to collaborate and learn from each other.

Donegal Engineering Network

30th Aug 2023 - Visit to Welditz, Carndonagh with members of Engenuity Midlands Engineering Network.

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

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

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

Ongoing Programmes:

Digital Start

YTD – 32 Donegal LEO Clients receiving this support.

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

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

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

Green for Business

YTD – 14 Donegal LEO Clients receiving this support.

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

Energy Efficiency Grant

YTD – 2 applicants. 1 receiving this support.

The recently launched Energy Efficiency Grant supports the investment in technologies and equipment identified in a Green for Business Report, Green Start Report or a SEAI Energy Audit with 50% of eligible costs up to a maximum grant of €5,000. An integrated marketing campaign took place in July and August across Donegal radio, press and digital media highlighting the support to businesses in the county. On foot of the campaign, applications have been received for both Green for Business and the Energy Efficiency Grant.

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

For more information click on the link below:

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

Lean For Micro***YTD – 16 Donegal LEO Clients receiving this support.***

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

Food Coast Donegal

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

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

Current activities:

- Following on from the recent successful launch of the Food Coast Strategy 2023-2026, key stakeholders and agencies will meet to agree next steps and the initial implementation of the strategy.
- Donegal lamb promotion was successfully launched in April and continued throughout the summer months.
- There have been more successful collaborations for Food Coast Donegal members. Wild Fuschia Bakehouse, Kombucha Ni Dalaigh and Coco Milis, met at the Food Market Course, organised by Food Coast Donegal to Philadelphia last February. Donegal Wild Atlantic Flavours very successfully launched their first workshop at Congreggan Mill in July and Home Grown in Donegal Food Market in Dunfanaghy.
- ATU Higher Diploma in Food Business & Product Innovation Level 8 programme - LEO Donegal and Food Coast Donegal has sponsored four food businesses from the county to participate.
- Upcoming courses: -
- Thinking of Starting Your Own Food Business – half day workshop on 30th August 2023
- Food Starter Programme – 4 x half day workshops over 2 weeks, starting on 18th September 2023.
- SuperValu Food Academy – one Donegal food producer will progress –Aoibhin O’Dea of Cacai Aoibhin from Bunbeg.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Coast Donegal is collaborating with Enterprise Causeway, Northern Ireland on a 2-day exchange in September & October which will see food producers from each region collaborate and learn from each other. <p><i>Creative Coast Donegal</i></p> <p>Creative Coast Donegal’s aim is to support the building of a strong creative and digital economy in Donegal. There are currently 204 members of the Creative Coast Donegal network.</p> <p>Earlier this year, LEO Donegal was successful in securing funding from Creative Ireland to deliver the IMMERSE project, a collaboration between Donegal County Council, Eirmersive, Connected Hubs, Regional Enterprise Offices (Midwest/NorthWest/West), CREW, Údarás na Gaeltachta and the Western Development Commission (WDC). The project will focus on the Content Creation Sector. Funding of €68,000 was awarded and responsibility has been assigned to the Western Development Commission to handle project operations.</p> <p>The first IMMERSE workshop, taking place on August 30th, 2023, will showcase how creative businesses are already generating revenues from immersive technologies and will offer attendees hands-on state-of-the-art experience of this technology.</p> <p>LEO Donegal and external consultants are also developing a 3-year action plan for the creative industry in Donegal and expect to have it finalised in the coming weeks.</p> <p>LEO Donegal and Creative Coast Donegal are organising the “Meet the Makers” event, taking place on October 20th at Lough Eske Castle. “Meet the Makers” offers Donegal designers and manufacturers in the consumer products sector valuable opportunities to present their unique products and will allow Donegal’s innovative brands to connect with national and international buyers. LEO Donegal is currently receiving expressions of interest from Donegal based craft businesses to exhibit at the upcoming event.</p> <p><i>Donegal Engineering Network</i></p> <p>The ambition of the Donegal Engineering Network is to expand, strengthen and enhance the existing engineering group in Donegal.</p>
--	---

A range of Good Practice visits, Exhibition Visits and collaborations with other cluster/network facilitators on reciprocal events are being organised for the Autumn including the following: -

- 30th Aug 2023 - Visit to Welditz, Carndonagh with members of Engenuity Midlands Engineering Network.
- 1st September 2023 - GEMX Industry 4.0 Showcase @ NWRC Springtown, Derry.
- 7-10 November 2023 visit to BLECH Expo, Stuttgart, Germany.

Monthly workshops are facilitated with the topics selected by the Engineers. Recent topics covered included HR and ISO certification. A range of events have been taking place this year including visits to Kirchoff-Automotive in Letterkenny and Inishowen Engineering. Following the summer break, we will reconvene on the 13th September and the workshop will focus on Energy Cost Savings/Sustainability.

Export Development

In line with our commitment to fostering economic growth and empowering local businesses, LEO Donegal is committed to the development of export-related initiatives.

LEO Donegal has organised two comprehensive Export Information Sessions tailored to both new and existing exporters taking place in September. These sessions will aim to equip participants with the necessary knowledge, tools, and insights to navigate the complexities of international trade successfully.

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

	<p>Enterprise Europe Network</p> <p>The Enterprise Europe Network Ireland helps Irish businesses to innovate and grow internationally and is delivered by a partnership between Enterprise Ireland, Cork Chamber of Commerce, Dublin Chamber of Commerce with Donegal County Council leading out on behalf of the Local Enterprise Office.</p> <p>Services offered through the EEN help businesses to grow through tailored support, new business and technology partnerships, commercial opportunities, licensing deals, and partners searches for EU funded R&D. The services are tailored to SMEs but are also available to all other businesses, universities and research centres.</p> <p>Internationally, the Network is active in more than 60 countries worldwide bringing together 3,000 experts from more than 600 member organisations. EEN is the largest support network for SMEs and combine international business expertise with local knowledge to help you take your innovation into new markets.</p> <p>Two meet the buyer events will take place later in 2023 with EENginex catering for the engineering sector and Food eirEEN for the food sector. 6 Donegal companies are engaged in EEN services to support them in both sourcing and selling internationally.</p> <p><u>Donegal Stories:</u> Website highlighting the businesses of Donegal that have been supported by the LEO. https://donegalstories.ie/</p>
Contact Person	<p>Brenda Hegarty, Head of Enterprise Local Enterprise Office 074 9160735 Brenda.Hegarty@leo.donegalcoco.ie</p>

- 3 Division: Emergency Services - Fire Services

Project / Activity Report

Activity	Number of: (June) ¹		Total for year	
Fire Service Operations				
Fire Brigade incidents within County Donegal ^{**} :	104		408	
Mobilisations (by Donegal Fire Service Brigades) ^{**} :	142		505	
Mobilisations into Donegal (by NI Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS)) ^{**} :	11		41	
Operational Activity Breakdown June 2023				
	Turnouts		Incidents in County	
	Fires	Special Services	Fires	Special Services
Donegal Fire Service	99	42	67	28
Northern Ireland Fire Service	4	7	3	6
Sub Total	103	49	70	34
Total	152		104	
Fire Prevention				
Fire Safety Certificate applications received:	21		97	
Fire Safety Certificates waiting to be assessed:	31		N/A	
Fire Safety Certificate applications assessed by Fire Officer and waiting for Further Information from Applicant / Agent:	58		N/A	
Fire Safety Certificate decisions made:	16		109	
Applications for Dangerous Substance Licences received:	0		7	

Dangerous Substance Licences issued:	0	0
Form of notice received under the Explosives Act, 1875:	5	17
Inspections and Auditing carried out (Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003, Annual Licensing, DSA 1972, Explosive Stores, Pyrotechnics, BCA 1992 & 2007):	13	78
Fire Safety Complaints received:	3	20
Fire Safety Complaints dealt with:	2	13
During Performance Inspections carried out:	1 ²	1
Fire Safety awareness presentations delivered:	54 ³	54

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

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

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

**GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
MEETING
12th Sept 2023**

Roads & Transportation Agenda

- 1. 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.**

- 2. Road Takeover – Final step for current tranche of Roads (4).**

- 3. Update on recent confirmed Allocations :-**
 - **Carnmore Road Crossing - €54,700**
 - **Glenties Comp School Crossing and Associated Works - €93,000.**

- 4. Road Works Programme – Verbal Update**

- 5. AOB**

2. Takeover of Roads

I refer to previous presentations and discussions regarding the Takeover of Roads at various Workshops and MD Meetings over the last few years.

Based on these, I am satisfied that this Committee is in agreement to take the following Roads over, however as a final step a **Proposer** and **Second**er is required for each Road to be taken in charge.

I have documented the 4 Roads under consideration in the following documents.

Ref 1: Road to be taken in charge at Fairhill

As a follow up to the Glenties MD meeting of 14th March 2023, Roads Area Manager presented a final report in relation to the proposed Declaration of the following road as a public road;

Dungloe Town

The road in the Town land of Meenmore Dungloe (Fairhill), between end of road L-15432 and junction to road L-1543-2, from grid reference 576786.8 E, 911887.4 N to grid reference 576832.0 E, 911663.1 N, a length of approximately 221m.

The members noted that there were no objections/representations received during the public consultation period following publication of the required notice in accordance with Section 11(1)(b)(iii) of the Roads Act 1993. The members were satisfied that the road is of general public utility, that a public right of way exists over the road, that the cost of bringing the road to a suitable standard for use by the general public, estimated at €0 is within the means of the Glenties MD and that the additional maintenance cost of this section of road into the future is not likely to be significant and in any event is justified by the benefit of having this additional section of road added to the Council's existing public road network.

On the proposal by Cllr., seconded by Cllr. the MD members resolved to declare the said road to be a public road in accordance with said section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 to take effect from 01 Dec 2023.

Ref 2: Road to be taken in charge at Clonbara, Falcarragh

As a follow up to the Glenties MD meeting of 14th March 2023, Roads Area Manager presented a final report in relation to the proposed Declaration of the following road as a public road;

Clonbara Falcarragh

The road in the Town land of Clonbara Falcarragh, between its junction with the R-256-5 to the farmyard entrance, from grid reference 594571.3 E, 930639.7 N, to grid reference 594385.8 E, 931071.3 N, a length of approximately 481m.

The members noted that there were no objections/representations received during the public consultation period following publication of the required notice in accordance with Section 11(1)(b)(iii) of the Roads Act 1993. The members were satisfied that the road is of general public utility, that a public right of way exists over the road, that the cost of bringing the road to a suitable standard for use by the general public, estimated at €3,000 is within the means of the Glenties MD and that the additional maintenance cost of this section of road into the future is not likely to be significant and in any event is justified by the benefit of having this additional section of road added to the Council's existing public road network.

On the proposal by Cllr., seconded by Cllr. the MD members resolved to declare the said road to be a public road in accordance with said section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 to take effect from 01 Dec 2023.

Ref 3: Road to be taken in charge at Meenaniller

As a follow up to the Glenties MD meeting of 14th March 2023, Roads Area Manager presented a final report in relation to the proposed Declaration of the following road as a public road;

Meenaniller

The road in the town land of Meenaniller and Ardnagappery, between its junction with the road L-1363-1/2 and its junction with the road L-1373-1, from grid reference 582871.5 E, 924618.2 N, to grid reference 582500.2 E, 923938.0 N, a length of approximately 559m.

The members noted that there were no objections/representations received during the public consultation period following publication of the required notice in accordance with Section 11(1)(b)(iii) of the Roads Act 1993. The members were satisfied that the road is of general public utility, that a public right of way exists over the road, that the cost of bringing the road to a suitable standard for use by the general public, estimated at €6,000 is within the means of the Glenties MD and that the additional maintenance cost of this section of road into the future is not likely to be significant and in any event is justified by the benefit of having this additional section of road added to the Council's existing public road network.

On the proposal by Cllr., seconded by Cllr. the MD members resolved to declare the said road to be a public road in accordance with said section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 to take effect from 01 Dec 2023.

Ref 4: Road to be taken in charge near Teach Neddy's, Mullaghdoe Scotch

As a follow up to the Glenties MD meeting of 14th March 2023, Roads Area Manager presented a final report in relation to the proposed Declaration of the following road as a public road;

Mullaghdoe Scotch

The road in the town land of Mullaghdoe Scotch & Braade, between its junction with the R- 257-9 to a private gate at end of road, from grid reference 577354.9 E, 920404.3 N, to grid reference 577497.9 E, 920765.4 N, a length of approximately 612m.

The members noted that there were no objections/representations received during the public consultation period following publication of the required notice in accordance with Section 11(1)(b)(iii) of the Roads Act 1993. The members were satisfied that the road is of general public utility, that a public right of way exists over the road, that the cost of bringing the road to a suitable standard for use by the general public, estimated at €2,000 is within the means of the Glenties MD and that the additional maintenance cost of this section of road into the future is not likely to be significant and in any event is justified by the benefit of having this additional section of road added to the Council's existing public road network.

On the proposal by Cllr., seconded by Cllr. the MD members resolved to declare the said road to be a public road in accordance with said section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 to take effect from 01 Dec 2023.

Housing & Corporate Agenda

For Meeting on 12th September 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 04/09/2023

Housing Aid for Older People Grants						
<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	88	61	20	0	7	7

Housing Adaptation Grants							
<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	2	7	9
2023	75	40	17	2	9	7	18

Mobility Aids Grants							
<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	0	1	0	1	0	1

2. PROGRESS REPORT – CASUAL VACANCIES @ 01/09/2023

Glenties MD	Address	Beds	Vacant From	Current Status
Arranmore				
	Leabgarrow	2 bed	01/06/2023	Quotations due in early september
Creeslough				
	Muckish Terrace	1 bed	26/05/2023	Ready for letting
Dunfanaghy				
	Eadan Mor	3 bed LTL	19/06/2023	Contractor appointed
Glenties				
	Ard McGill	1 bed	15/06/2023	Currently preparing tender documents

3. HOUSING NEED AS AT 4/9/23

Gross Need - by approved bedrooms

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

4. HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENT (HAP) SCHEME

As at 1st September 2023, the Glenties Municipal District is providing Social Housing Support in the form of the Housing Assistance Payment to 97 families/individuals. 15 of these families/individuals are in receipt of HAP only.

5. NUMBER OF RAS PROPERTIES

As of the 30th 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 1st 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 st Jan 2023 to 31 st August 2023				
Transfers	Surrenders	Death of Tenant	Other	Total
1	6	5	0	12

Number of Housing Offers issued between 1 st Jan 2023 to 31 st August 2023		
Number of Offers issued	Offers Accepted	Offers Refused
24	20	4

8. TENANT PURCHASE

Number of applications received since Scheme commenced:	127
Total number of valid applications:	100
Valid applications received in 2023:	17
Total number of houses sold under the Scheme to date:	21

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

- 2024 Budget:
 - MD Workshop – October 6th @ 10.00 a.m.
 - Statutory Budget Meeting – October 27th @ 10.00 a.m.