

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Workshop	-	10.30
Municipal District Meeting	-	11.00



Municipal District of Glenties

Office of Meetings
Administrator
Public Service Centre
Dungloe

6th February, 2024

NOTICE OF MEETING

The Municipal District of Glenties Meeting will be held on **Tuesday 13th February, 2024 at 11.00 a.m.**
in **Dungloe Public Services Centre.**

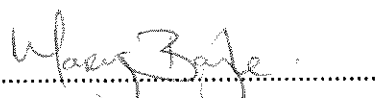
N.B. There will be a Workshop held at 10.30a.m. prior to the above Meeting.

TO EACH MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GLENTIES

Dear Councillor,

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

Yours Sincerely,

PP 
Michael Rowsome
Meetings Administrator



Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí

Oifig Riarthóir na
gCruinnithe
Ionad Seirbhísí
Clochán Liath

6ú Feabhra, 2024

FOGRA CRUINNITHE

Beidh Cruinniú de Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí ar an **13ú Feabhra 2024, ag 11.00 i.n.** in Oifigí na Comhairle Condae ar an Chlochán Léith.


N.B. Beidh Ceardlann ann ag a 10.30 r.n. roimh an Chruinniú thuasluaite.

DO GACH BHALL DEN CEANTAR BARDAS NA GLEANNTAÍ

A Chara

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

Mise, le meas

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Micheál Rowsome
Riarthóir Cruinnithe

AGENDA

1. Consideration of the Minutes of the Glenties Municipal District Committee Meeting held on the 14th November 2023
2. Community Development
 - 2.1 Arrangement of 2024 DFI workshop for Glenties Municipal District
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 the Dungloe Public Service Centre on
9th January 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr. Michael McClafferty (Cathaoirleach)
Cllr. John Sheamuis Ó Fearraigh
Cllr. Micheal Choilm Mac Giolla Easbuig
Cllr. Marie Therese Gallagher

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Michael McGarvey -Director Water & Environment
Michael Rowsome - A/Area Manager, Housing &
Corporate
Jamie Gallagher, Executive Engineer, Roads
Lorna Ramsey - Executive Planner
Mary Boyle - A/Senior Staff Officer, Housing &
Corporate
Ann Marie McCole, Staff Officer, Community
Development

**AISTRIÚCHÁIN
COMHUAINÉACH:** Seán Ó Daimhín

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Anthony Molloy

GMD 01/24

Adjournment of Meeting

On the proposal of Cllr. McClafferty and seconded by Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig, it was agreed that the January meeting of the Glenties Municipal District be opened and immediately adjourned as a mark of respect to the late Glenties Municipal District Leas Cathaoirleach,

Cllr. Noreen McGarvey who very sadly passed away on the 28th December, 2023. On the proposal of Cllr. McClafferty and seconded by Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig, it was agreed that the adjourned meeting would take place on the 13th February 2024 at 11.00 a.m.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF GLENTIES
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE**
held in the Dungloe Public Service Centre on
14th November 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr. Michael McClafferty (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
Mary Boyle - A/Senior Staff Officer, Housing &
Corporate
Jim Boner - Senior Executive Engineer, Housing
Capital
Sinead McClafferty - Executive Planner
Philip O'Kennedy - Local Enterprise Officer
Kevin McCloskey - Coastal Officer
Lorna Ramsey - Executive Planner

**AISTRIÚCHÁIN
COMHUAINÉACH:** Clíona Ní Ghallachóir

APOLOGIES: Cllr. John Sheamuis Ó Fearraigh
Cllr. Noreen McGarvey
Ann Marie McCole
Joy Browne

GMD 51/23

**Confirmation of Minutes of Glenties Municipal
District Committee Meeting**

On the proposal of Cllr. Molloy seconded by Cllr. Ó
Gallagher, the minutes of the Municipal District
Meeting held on the 12th September 2023 were
confirmed.

GMD 52/23 ENVIRONMENT

The Committee noted the Reports circulated with the agenda and highlighted the following issues for the attention of the Environmental Service:

- Recycling and Bring Bank requirements.
- Bins for the disposal of dog fouling.
- Provision of public toilets at Assaranka Waterfall and at Maghera Beach.
- Provision of bins at Glengesh.
- 'No Dumping' sign needed at Carrickatlieve.

In response to concerns highlighted by the Committee regarding recent flooding and the importance of a river cleaning programme, the Environment Director undertook to liaise with the Roads Director.

Cllr. Gallagher recommended a meeting between the Council and the O.P.W.

GMD 53/23 HOUSING CAPITAL

The Report circulated with the agenda was welcomed by the Committee.

The Senior Executive Engineer advised the Committee of the current status of turnkey projects in:

- Dungloe - Stage 3 - 45 units reduced to 43.
- Massiness, Creeslough - site being cleared.
- Gweedore - at legal stage
- Part 8 approval in place for Glenties Fire Station.

The Area Manager for Roads advised the Committee that a road closure will most likely be required for 4 to 6 weeks at Chapel Road during construction, to facilitate storm drainage works. He also advised that local access will be maintained.

Cllr. Gallagher expressed frustration regarding the three vacant Údarás properties in Fintown during a housing crisis. Cllr. Molloy undertook to liaise with Údarás officials in this regard.

The A/Area Housing Manager stated that the local Council Engineering team are not interested in acquisition of the properties due to right of way and easement complications. The Council are also in negotiations to complete the acquisition of an alternative suitable site in the Fintown area.

GMD 54/23 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, I.S. AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Committee noted the Report circulated with the agenda regarding the following work programmes:

- Economic Development
- Tourism and Marketing
- Strategic Funding
- Local Enterprise Office

The L.E.O. business advisor provided further information to Members regarding:

- #BuyDonegal Campaign to commence on 20th November 2023.
- Launch of 'Go Visit Donegal' Campaign on 20th October 2023.
- Donegal Enterprise Awards Ceremony to take place on 1st December 2023 in Rockhill House Estate in Letterkenny.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig referred to his previous requests that the Head of Tourism convene a Workshop regarding the impact of tourism on Housing, local environment and sustainability of the Gaeltacht Region.

Cllr. Molloy stated that hotel accommodation capacity is proving a significant issue and requested the Council to develop initiatives to support local festivals.

Cllr. Gallagher expressed disappointment at the level of fire service available on offshore Islands and Cllr. McClafferty recommended that the Chief Fire Officer meet Councillors in that regard.

GMD 55/23 PLANNING

The Committee noted the Reports circulated previously regarding the following:

- Planning application Statistics to end of October 2023.
- Enforcement - to the end of October 2023.
- Schedule of pre-planning clinics.
- Regeneration and Development Reports.
- Capital Projects Delivery Unit.

The Committee welcomed Lorna Ramsey, Executive Planner to the Meeting and commended Sinead McClafferty for her assistance, courtesy, and professionalism during her lengthy period of employment in the Glenties Municipal District.

GMD 56/23 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Cllr. Mac Giolla Esbuig expressed disappointment at the absence of any official to represent Community Development at the meeting. The Members noted Reports circulated with the agenda.

GMD 57/23 YOUTH COUNCIL

Michael McDevitt, Project Worker introduced the following Youth Councillors to the Committee:

- Jessica McDevitt
- Peter McNelis
- Lara McCready
- Erin Gallagher

The Youth Councillors made an informative presentation to the Members including a variety of issues such as:

- Bullying
- Mental Health
- Addiction
- Lack of Youth facilities
- Lack of Public Transport

The Committee interacted with the Youth Councillors on a number of these issues and commended the quality of the presentation and the promotion of matters of significance to the youth.

GMD 58/23 ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

58.1 Roads Workshop

The Committee noted the Report from the Roads Workshop held on the 10th October 2023.

58.2 NRDO

The Roads Manager updated Members on the status of N56 projects.

58.3 Burtonport/Letterkenny Greenway

The Roads Manager informed the Committee that an online Workshop for the Glenties and Letterkenny Municipal Districts is proposed for 2 pm on 29th November 2023.

58.4 Flooding

The Committee commended the Roads Service for their prompt response and assistance to the public in the aftermath of Storm Debi.

The Roads Manager informed the Committee that (i) all Roads Staff were assigned to flood alleviation duties following the intense rainfall and (ii) costings will be prepared to apply for additional funding to resolve major flooding issues.

In response to concerns by Cllr. McClafferty regarding extreme flooding in the Port dale Estate in Dunfanaghy, the Roads Manager advised that substantial flood relief funding would be required to resolve this particular problem.

Cllr. Gallagher requested Senior Management to source major funding for an annual drainage programme as a preventative measure in advance of increasing rainfall predictions as a consequence of climate change.

Maintenance

Cllr. McClafferty raised the following issues:

- Flooding at Ballyconnell and Shroughan.
- 'No Overtaking' signage at Muckish/Creeshlough turnoff.
- Pound St. Dunfanaghy - increase pipe capacity.

Cllr. Gallagher requested a follow-up in respect of the following items:

- Crucknageeragh Road, Dungloe to Creche.
- Meeting regarding Lettermacaward lights.
- Footpaths - Glenties Community Centre.
- Lighting and footpaths - Glenties GAA field.

Cllr. Molloy raised the following road matters:

- Flooding at Loughros Point and adjacent to the Glen Tavern, Rosbeg and Narin.
- Removal of gravel at Glengesh.
- Repair of potholes on back road at Clós Naomh Chonail.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig welcomed the provision of traffic lights on the Carnmore Road, Dungloe.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig highlighted the following issues for the attention of the Roads Service:

- Flooding - Ranafast, Annagry (the Cope) and Meenaniller.
- Traffic safety measures at Caisleán Óir Hotel and Falcarragh National School.
- Public Lighting - Dore and Main Street, Dungloe.
- Manholes - Loughanure, Annagry and Dungloe.
- Subsidence - Derryconnor School.
- Vision Lines - Killult.
- Poll a' tSnámh - Ranafast.
- Laybys - Meenbanad.
- Footpaths - Doochary Chapel, Acres School and Quay Road, Dungloe.
- Hedgecutting.
- Bunbeg Bridge.
- Port Arthur Junction.

The Roads Manager informed the Committee of status of a consultation process and safety audit in relation to safety concerns at Cronashallog, Dungloe. He undertook to revisit this issue with the NRDO following a request from Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig.

GMD 59/23 HOUSING & CORPORATE SERVICES

59.1 Monthly Reports

The Committee noted the Reports circulated with the agenda and presented by the Housing A/Area Manager.

59.2 Best Kept Estates

The Committee agreed that the presentation to the Winners of the 3 Categories would be held on site at the soonest available date.

59.3 Painting Programme

The A/Area Manager updated the Committee in relation to painting works in Ardara, Cotteen, Dunfanaghy and Creeslough.

59.4 Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme 2023

The Committee were informed of the completion of substantial retrofitting works in the sum of an excess of €1million - 40 units in Falcarragh and Annagry (Ballina x 34) (Lochan Mhuire x 6).

Cllr. Gallagher recommended the installation of Solar panels as part of the retrofitting programme.

59.5 Back Lanes

The A/Area Manager informed Members of work in progress in Ballina, Falcarragh and Ard Patrick, Glenties.

59.6 Housing - General

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig and Cllr. McClafferty requested the Council to address deficiencies with the treatment plant at Stáisiún an Chúirt, Falcarragh.

Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig recommended the recruitment of an Occupational Therapist and Social Worker to assist the housing service and the decentralisation of Housing Construction Staff to the Municipal Districts.

59.7 Public Service Centre Parking

Cllr. Gallagher recommended the widening of car parking spaces to facilitate users of all services available in the Public Services Centre.

59.8 Corporate

On the proposal of Cllr. Mac Giolla Easbuig, seconded by Cllr. Gallagher, the Municipal District Committee of Glenties resolved:

- To fly the Palestinian flag at An Clochán Liath (Dungloe) Public Service Centre in solidarity with the people of Gaza against the indiscriminate targeting and slaughter of innocent civilians.
- To request the Government to immediately expel the Israeli Ambassador.
- To request the Government to refer the ongoing actions of Israel and the Israeli Prime Minister to the International Criminal Court for breaches of International Law.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.



Municipal District of Glenties

13th February 2024

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 Rural Development Programme/LEADER
 - 1.4 Donegal Youth Council
 - 1.5 Donegal Walks & Trails



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

Municipal District: Glenties

Activity / Project Update: February 2024

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	Works consist of: 3.4km path from the Errigal carpark to the summit of Errigal Mountain including pitching and gravel path. Current Status: The work is now complete
<i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	
Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	Brian Keogh, Tel: 074-9172569 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



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

Municipal District: Glenties

Activity / Project Update: February 2024

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> <p>This work is now completed, and the next phase is currently being designed.</p>
<i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	Project is now complete
Contact Person(to include telephone number & e-mail address)	Brian Keogh, Tel: 074-9172569 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



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

Municipal District: Glenties

Activity / Project Update: February 2024

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: €50,000.00• Cill Ulta, An Fál Carrach: €50,000.00• Maghery: €50,000.• Pobal Eascarrach, Ballina Resource Centre: €45,000• Ardara: €50,0000
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An Clochán Liath: Outdoor lighting servicing an existing riverside walkway. Work is now 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 and are almost complete.• 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 complete.• Ardara GAA MUGA – Tender process is complete, and works are currently ongoing,



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

Activity / Project Update: February 2024

Municipal District: Glenties

Activity / Project Title	2022 Clár Scheme
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	All works should be completed by the end of Q1 2024.
Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	Brian Keogh, Tel: 074-9172569 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



Activity / Project Update: February 2024

Activity / Project Title	2022 Town & Village Renewal Scheme – Dungloe
File:	
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 a 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	Change of use approval grant from the department. Post tender meeting held on site with contractor. Awaiting final insurance checks before issuing letter of acceptance. Contractor due to start on site end Feb/early March. 3-month programme
<i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	
Project Targets for the next quarterly reporting period	Works ongoing.
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



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

Municipal District: Glenties

Activity / Project Update: February 2024

Activity / Project Title	PLAYGROUNDS 2024
Project Description/Activity	Annual maintenance of Playgrounds <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Arranmore Island Playground2. Arranmore Island Shore Playground3. Tory Island Playground4. Dolmen Centre Playground & MUGA5. Glenties Playground6. St Mary's Close Playground7. Cois Cuain Playground8. Burtonport SHS Playground9. Ballina Playground10. Ardara Playground11. Clós Naonh Chonaill Playground12. Dungloe Foreshore Playground13. 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">• Currently seeking tender submissions from suitable contractors for the 2024 playground maintenance programme.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessment of tender submissions.
Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie



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

Municipal District: Glenties

Activity / Project Update: February 2024

Activity / Project Title	Tory Island Playground Refurbishment
Project Description/Activity	Refurbishment of the existing Tory Island playground maintained by Donegal County Council.
Budget (if applicable)	Works funded by Donegal County Council and the Department of Rural and Community Development
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Playground contractor appointed after procurement exercise and works commenced on site on the 28th August 2023.• Works near completed on site, working with Contractor to address few remaining snag items.• Works are now substantially complete.• Working through snag items with contractor.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have snag items addressed.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie



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

Municipal District: Glenties

Activity / Project Update: February 2024

Activity / Project Title	Arranmore Island Playground Fence Refurbishment
Project Description/Activity	Replacement of the existing damaged boundary fence around the Arranmore Island playground maintained by Donegal County Council.
Budget (if applicable)	Works funded by Donegal County Council and the Department of Rural and Community Development
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In the process of appointing a contractor to undertake to fence replacement works.• Playground currently closed to the public for health & safety.• Sought quotations from contractors to repair the fence, working with the Dept of Rural and Community who have provided a grant towards the repairs to confirm the fence specification.• Have to retender project due to Dept of Rural and Community Development required specifications. Documents prepared for publishing in January 2024.• Published tender documents for a contractor to undertake fence replacement works.• Tender submissions received.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessment of tender submissions.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie



Activity / Project Update

February 2024

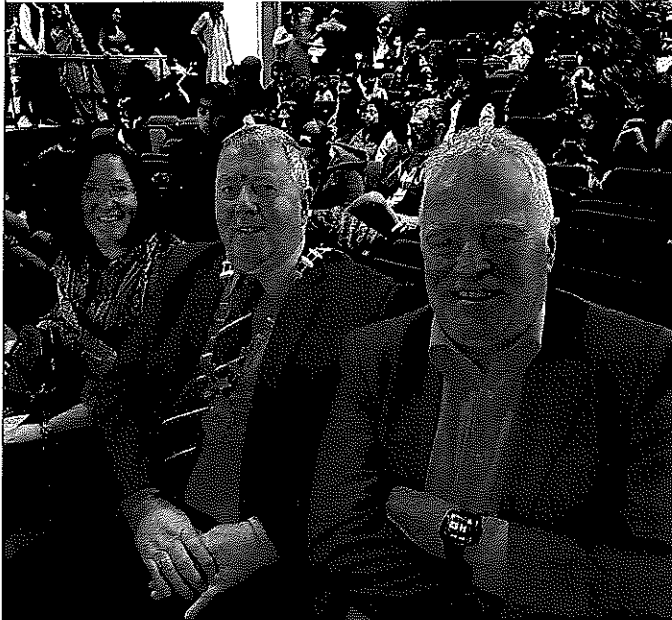
Activity / Project Title	Donegal Walks and Trails
File:	
Project Description/Activity	Maintenance, development, and promotion of walks & trails in Donegal including cycle routes and Greenways.
Budget (if applicable)	ORIS 2021 - Kincasslagh Tower €20,000.00 ORIS 2022 - Slí na Finne €30,000.00
Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status	<p>ORIS 2021 <u>Kincasslagh Tower Trail:</u></p> <p>We have received two successful tender submissions which are been reviewed with potential award letter to be issued in the next few weeks.</p> <p>ORIS 2022 <u>Slí na Finne;</u></p> <p>The work on these documents has been delayed due to other project commitments. The estimated target to have completed is for mid-February and upload onto the e-tender system.</p> <p><u>ORIS 2023 – (Measure 1)</u></p> <p>Expressions of Interest were sought in June with closing date of 26th July. There were up to seven projects to be chosen by for submission to the Department for potential funding of up to €30,000.00 by 5th September. Seven applications were submitted under the ORIS 2023 measure 1 funding one of which fall within the Glenties Municipal District. This one is enhancement of the surfacing on the Old Bog road near Portnoo and the second project was issued on behalf of the entire County to promote and market two trails or walk in each of the Municipal districts.</p> <p>Donegal County Council now currently await to hear the announcement of the awarded projects within the first quarter of 2024.</p>
* Delete irrelevant reporting period	

Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the documents for Sli Na Finne to upload on e-tender system • Award contractor with Kincasslagh Tower Trail arrange pre-start meeting
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Darryl Connor (Outdoor Recreational Development Officer) 08736138111 dconnor@donegalcoco.ie

Activity / Project Title	Social Inclusion Unit
Progress to date and current status	<div data-bbox="387 327 869 987"> <p>Pride of Place Awards</p> <p>Pride of place award took place in Armagh City Hotel with the following representing Donegal for 2023: Ballyshannon Regeneration Group in category Creative Places, Church Hill Community Development in category population 200-1500, Twin Towns Community Garden in category of community wellbeing, Letterkenny Indian Community Centre in category of communities welcoming new communities, Carndonagh Traders in category population 1500-4000. Congratulations to Carndonagh Traders who were presented as winners of the National award in their category.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="895 315 1347 969">  </div> <div data-bbox="387 1021 1380 1644"> <p>United Nations' International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people.</p> <p>The event was hosted at the Regional Cultural Centre on Wednesday, November 29 with a screening of a Palestinian short film followed by traditional Palestinian food in Burrito Loco. This was a showcase of Palestinian culture and music. Days like this gives us the platform to highlight diversity and to showcase the Palestinian Culture here in Donegal.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="660 1167 1353 1644">  </div> <div data-bbox="387 1704 1380 1984"> <p>EU Belong</p> <p>Donegal as lead on work package 4(delivery of integration strategy) with deliverable 4.1 and 4.2 almost complete and 4.3 to be completed by April. 2 Pilot project initiatives delivering actions from the Black and Ethnic Minority Strategy will commence in Jan 2024 lead by Donegal Intercultural Platform and Inishowen Development Partnership. EU Belong project continues to attend online knowledge sharing events.</p> </div>

Donegal County Council will be host to EU Belong Transnational Knowledge Sharing Event in Letterkenny on 19 – 21 March on Intercultural Integration: A Shared Journey towards Equality and Belonging.

Letterkenny Indian Community Celebrated - Diwali



Diwali represents the spiritual victory of light over darkness, good over evil and knowledge over ignorance.

Donegal Diwali was held in the An Grianan Theatre to get members engaged in Indian cultures, festivals, foods, people, and languages. This was a lovely Sunday afternoon of Indian food, dance, song, language and fun.

One Donegal - Social Inclusion Week 2024, 17 March – 23 March

The week provides an opportunity to highlight the various activities undertaken locally to involve and include everyone in our County. The programme of events provides an occasion to increase our awareness and understanding of inclusion and diversity in Donegal. We are currently working on the programme of events for this week with invites to all groups to hold events.

Launch of One Donegal Social Inclusion Week 2024 will take place on 5 March in the Regional Culture Centre.

Black and Minority Ethnic Inclusion Strategy

There was a well-attended November meeting of the Implementation team where we had workshop on the LECP plan. We are currently collating the work completed in 2023 to add to the Monitoring and evaluation report.

Contact Person

Christina O'Donnell
codonnell@donegalcoco.ie
0879192272

Charles Sweeney
charlesseeney@donegalcoco.ie

Activity / Project Title	Rural Development Programme/LEADER
Project Description/Activity	Donegal Local Community and Development Committee are the Local Action Group for County Donegal, with responsibility for the LEADER/Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 & Transitional LEADER Programme 2021-2022
Budget (if applicable)	<p>€13,413,875 (Additional funding received 2019)</p> <p><i>Note: Project costs €10,063,586, administration and animation costs €3,350,289</i></p> <p>1st April 2021 – 31st December 2022</p> <p>€2,861,598 project costs</p> <p>€953,866 for Administration & Animation.</p>
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<p>There are 4 Implementing Partners within the county; Donegal Local Development Company (DLDC), Inishowen Development Partnership (IDP), Údarás Na Gaeltachta and Comhar na nOileán, who are rolling out the LEADER Transitional programme on behalf of the LAG (Local Action Group). The LEADER Transitional programme is effective from 1st April 2021 and runs until 31st December 2022. €45 million is allocated nationally for the Transitional Programme and €20 million from the EURI programme.</p> <p>62 projects in Donegal are now approved by Pobal under the Transitional & EURI programmes and Letters of Offer have issued/are pending, granting LEADER funding to a value of €2,861,598.</p>
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<p>All funding awarded to the Donegal LAG under the Transitional LEADER programme and EURI programme has been allocated but LDCs will continue to engage with promoters on the ground regarding any potential underspend or decommitments.</p> <p>Donegal County Council as Lead Financial Partner, in collaboration with our four implementing partners, Donegal Local Development Company, Inishowen Development Partnership, Údarás na Gaeltachta and Comhar na nOileán completed the draft LEADER Local Development Strategy, with this Strategy approved in October. Contract agreements have now been signed on behalf of the Donegal LCDC, Donegal County Council and local Implementing Partners to deliver the programme in 2024.</p> <p>Draft Operating rules for the new LEADER programme have been circulated and the DCC are meeting the</p>

	local Implementing Partners to ensure a smooth finish to the LEADER 2021-2022 programme and to prepare for the roll out of the LEADER 2023 – 2027 Programme.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Ciaran Martin cmartin@donegalcoco.ie

Donegal Youth Council members joined Foroige in a wakeaton for Homelessness. This was held on the 13th of October as part of Focus Ireland's "Shine a light" campaign for the homeless. Young people raised €830 for Focus Ireland while also staying awake all night to create awareness and discuss the issue of homelessness in Ireland.



Youth Conference:

The Donegal Youth Conference, formally known as the AGM was held on the 9th of November. 125 young people from schools and youth organisations from all over the county attended the event. On the day, young people had discussion tables on the top 3 topics voted for last year of:

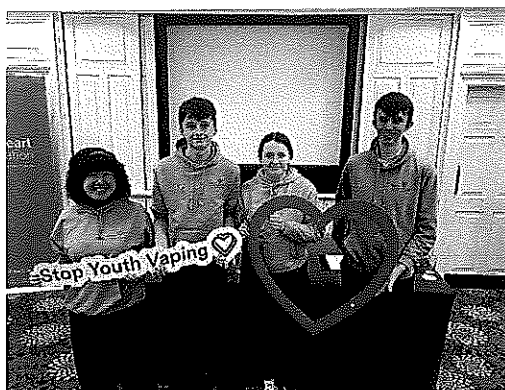
1. Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco and Vaping
2. Mental Health
3. Social Media/Body Image

Young people were also given post-it notes on the day to highlight young face in their local communities and post them on their MD boards laid out across the room. A report of all findings from the discussions will be published early in the new year.



Vaping Conference:

Members of the Donegal Youth Council attended a conference held by the Irish Heart Foundation on the issue of vaping and Tobacco Endgame. This was held in Dublin and members heard from experts from New Zealand, the Netherlands and HSE on the day. It is hoped to work more with the Irish Heart Foundation going forward in relation to the issue of vaping.



Foroige Showcase:

Members of the Donegal Youth Council attended the North West Regional Showcase. This event brought Foroige projects together and gave members a chance to meet with young people and discuss their work. Members also spoke with local TD and youth service managers to highlight some of the issues facing young people.



LCEP (Local Economic and Community Plan):

On November 25th, members took part in a consultation on the LCEP for Donegal. On the day members discussed how the quality of life for young people could be improved in Donegal and how to retain young people in the county from immigrating.



Podcast:

The Donegal Youth Council's new podcast has been released with the first 2 episodes looking at the issue of vaping followed by an episode on the Youth Conference. The podcast will continue in the new year with episodes to discuss the other top issues and interviews with experts.



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

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

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 border="0"> <tr> <td>ORIS 2021 - Kincasslagh Tower</td><td>€20,000.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>ORIS 2022 - Slí na Finne</td><td>€30,000.00</td></tr> </table>	ORIS 2021 - Kincasslagh Tower	€20,000.00	ORIS 2022 - Slí na Finne	€30,000.00
ORIS 2021 - Kincasslagh Tower	€20,000.00				
ORIS 2022 - Slí na Finne	€30,000.00				
Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<p>ORIS 2021 Kincasslagh Tower Trail; We have received two successful tender submissions which are been reviewed with potential award letter to be issued in the next few weeks.</p> <p>ORIS 2022 Slí na Finne; the work on these documents has been delayed due to other project commitments. The estimated target to have completed is for mid-February and upload onto the e-tender system.</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 by for submission to the Department for potential funding of up to €30,000.00 by 5th September. Seven applications were successfully submitted under the ORIS 2023 measure 1 funding two of which fall within the Glenties Municipal District. One is the enhancement of the surfacing on the Old Bog road near Portnoo and the second project it was a section of Sli an Errigal that could be deemed has been disabled accessible for a coastal section of the larger Sli an Errigal Trail. A third project was issued on behalf of the entire County to promote and market two trails or walk in each of the Municipal districts.</p> <p>Donegal County Council now currently await to hear the announcement of the awarded projects within the first quarter of 2024.</p>				
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete the documents for Sli Na Finne to upload on e-tender system • Award contractor with Kincasslagh Tower Trail arrange pre-start meeting 				
Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	Darryl Connor (Outdoor Recreational Development Officer) 08736138111 dconnor@donegalcoco.ie				



Glenties MD Meeting
13TH February 2024

	Item	Update																																				
1	Development Applications																																					
	(1) Statistics	<div>Glenties MD Totals Year to End January 2024</div> <table><tr><td>Applications received</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>Granted</td><td>16</td></tr><tr><td>Refused</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>Deferred</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>Invalid</td><td>2</td></tr></table>	Applications received	17	Granted	16	Refused	3	Deferred	5	Invalid	2																										
Applications received	17																																					
Granted	16																																					
Refused	3																																					
Deferred	5																																					
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		<div>Applications to End December 2024</div> <table><tr><th>Category</th><th>Stranorlar</th><th>Letterkenny</th><th>Inishowen</th><th>Glenties</th><th>Donegal</th></tr><tr><td>Apps Recd</td><td>19</td><td>17</td><td>20</td><td>27</td><td>19</td></tr><tr><td>Granted</td><td>9</td><td>16</td><td>14</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr><tr><td>Refused</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>Deferred</td><td>6</td><td>5</td><td>5</td><td>5</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>Invalid</td><td>0</td><td>2</td><td>1</td><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr></table>	Category	Stranorlar	Letterkenny	Inishowen	Glenties	Donegal	Apps Recd	19	17	20	27	19	Granted	9	16	14	25	26	Refused	1	1	1	2	3	Deferred	6	5	5	5	10	Invalid	0	2	1	3	2
Category	Stranorlar	Letterkenny	Inishowen	Glenties	Donegal																																	
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2	Enforcement									
		<table><tr><td>Glenties MD</td><td>To end of Jan 2024</td></tr><tr><td>New Cases</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>Closed Cases</td><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>Outstanding cases on record since 2012</td><td>311</td></tr></table>	Glenties MD	To end of Jan 2024	New Cases	6	Closed Cases	2	Outstanding cases on record since 2012	311
Glenties MD	To end of Jan 2024									
New Cases	6									
Closed Cases	2									
Outstanding cases on record since 2012	311									
3	Notes & Monthly Schedule	<p>Pre planning clinics are on a telephone call only basis (ring 074 9153900) between 9.00am and 12.30pm on the dates outlined below.</p> <p>The pre planning clinic calls will be taken by the Executive Planners and shall be for substantial applications only.</p> <p><u>Planning Clinics 2024:</u> 15th February, 2024 29th February, 2024 14th March, 2024 28th March, 2024 http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/planningclinics/</p>								
4	Casual Trading									
5	Regeneration & Development	See Appendix A								
6	Conservation									
7	Building Control & Taking in Charge									
8	Capital Projects Delivery Unit	See Appendix B								
9	Central Planning Unit									
10	Further Information <i>Click on web links to access information.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weekly List of applications and decisions: http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/weeklyplanninglists/• Planning Service email (to be used in correspondence with the planning service): planning@donegalcoco.ie• Planning Webpage: www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/• Planning Application Online Query – https://www.eplanning.ie/DonegalCC/SearchTypes• File Retrieval Form – to be used for file retrieval and planning search requests:								



		www.donegalcoco.ie/media/donegalcountyc/planning/pdfs/fileretrieval/File%20Retrieval.pdf
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APPENDIX A



Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall
Donegal County Council



Rialtas na
hÉireann
Government
of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

Regeneration & Development Team Community Development and Planning Services

REPORT TO THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETINGS FEBRUARY 2024

1.0 Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF)

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

1.1 Summary update of Projects

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

Table 1: Rural Regeneration and Development Fund Projects

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



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

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

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



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

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

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

2.0 Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF).

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

2.1 Summary update of Projects

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

Table 2: Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Projects

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



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



		<p>Experience Plan/ Product Identification Plan and Business Plan for the development of a major visitor attraction at the Courthouse. Inception Workshop with Letterkenny-Milford MD held on 21st November 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letterkenny-Milford MD workshop and separate Stakeholder Forum workshop held on the 16th January 2024. • Public drop-in event held on the 17th January 2024 with over 40 attendees. • Letterkenny-Milford MD workshop: 1st February at 11am. • Application submitted to the Built Heritage Investment Scheme for minor repair works. <p>Next Steps: Letterkenny-Milford MD Workshop planned for the 13th February 2024 to provide feedback on the consultation events and agree the concepts to advance to market testing.</p> <p>5. Strategic acquisition to enable a Regional Transport Hub</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avison Young appointed to take forward all previous engagement and act on Councils behalf as regards further offers/ acquisitions/ CPO. • Funding commitment secured from the NTA to enable the engagement of consultancy services to move the project forward to the next level as regards scale, scope, further engagement with transport providers and operational requirements. • Draft tender package sent to the NTA in December 2023 for feed-in prior to opening of a procurement process. • Consultation with Local Link ongoing in relation to private bus operators. <p>6. Strategic acquisition to enable LK Green Connect</p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 8 in relation to the Cultural Corridor element of the project approved by Donegal County Council at the November 2023 Plenary meeting. • In-house team has commenced steps to develop a Part 8 for Phase 2 (from constructed Phase 1 to Pearse Road). • Valuation services of Avison Young being engaged in relation to phase 2 (from constructed Phase 1 to Pearse Road) and lands required for the Cultural Corridor element of the Scheme.
Call 3 (March 2023 and approved July 2023).	€4m	<p>Revolving fund for acquisition costs of long-term vacant property or sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In December 2023, 15 letters issued to property owners and 23 Notices of Enquiries affixed to properties to try and identify the owners. • Majority of property owners have been identified and meetings to take place over the next few weeks.
"The Eat Out' Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Project		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 8 approved November 2022 and contractor due to commence 6th February 2024. • Please refer to the report from Community Development who are delivering this project.
Letterkenny Cultural Corridor		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 8 approved November 2022. • Valuation services of Avison Young being engaged in relation to lands required for the delivery of the Scheme. • Services of Quantity Surveyor being engaged to provide cost estimates for the scheme. • To be targeted for future URDF funding call.
Youth/Community focused project at Lower Main Street		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early engagements with Letterkenny Youth Club and Donegal Youth Services have commenced. • Avison Young appointed in Q4 2023 to take forward all previous engagement and act on Council's behalf as regards further offers/acquisitions/CPO.



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

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

Table 3: Summary of Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant Applications

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

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



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

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

4.0 Compulsory Purchase Order Activation Fund/Survey of Vacant Properties

In April 2023, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage launched the CPO Activation Programme for the activation of vacant and derelict properties.

The main steps of the programme include:

- Step 1:** Identification of vacant and derelict properties
- Step 2:** Identification of and engagement with owners.
- Step 3:** Communication with owners regarding the supports available.
- Step 4:** Consideration of options available to owners and DCC.

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

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

Table 4: Towns Surveyed under the CPO Activation Fund

Municipal District	Towns		
Letterkenny-Milford MD	Ramelton	Carrigart, Manorcunningham	Rathmullan, Milford
Donegal MD	Donegal Town	Ballyshannon	Bundoran, Dunkineely
Glenties MD	Dungloe	Ardara	Faclarragh



Inishowen MD	Carndonagh	Buncrana	Moville, Malin
Lifford-Stranorlar MD	Ballybofey-Stranorlar	Lifford	Raphoe

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

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

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

Regeneration and Development Team.
February 2024.



APPENDIX B

CAPITAL PROJECTS DELIVERY UNIT

Community Development and Planning Services

Report to Glenties Municipal District Members: Feb 2024

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



Budget	€2.3m
Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status	Construction tenders have been assessed with a preferred contractor determined. Awaiting approval from funders to proceed.
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	Construction works will have commenced.
Contact Person(s)	Ardal McDermott, A/Senior Executive Engineer



ENVIRONMENT MD REPORT – February '24

WASTE AND LITTER MANAGEMENT

Activity / Project Title	Re- Turn Ireland's New Deposit Return Scheme
Project Description/ Activity	<div data-bbox="692 723 1112 1046"></div> <p>Main Provisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is estimated that about 1.9 billion drinks bottles and cans are consumed each year in Ireland, in-house and 'on the go'.• The Deposit Return Scheme aims to boost the recycling rate for these drinks containers by charging a small, refundable deposit for each plastic bottle or cans.• The Scheme will be operated by Deposit Return Scheme Ireland CLG, trading as Re-turn, who Minister Smyth appointed in July 2022.• The Scheme will include PET plastic bottles and aluminium and steel cans between 150ml and 3 litres.• A deposit of 15c will apply to containers 500mls or less and a deposit of 25c for each container above 500ml.• All producers and retailers are legally obliged to register with Re-turn. Registration is open at www.re-turn.ie.• Customers get this money back when they return the container to a retailer or other collection point to be recycled.• Places supplying beverage bottles and cans will be obliged to take back the containers and reimburse the deposit.

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

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

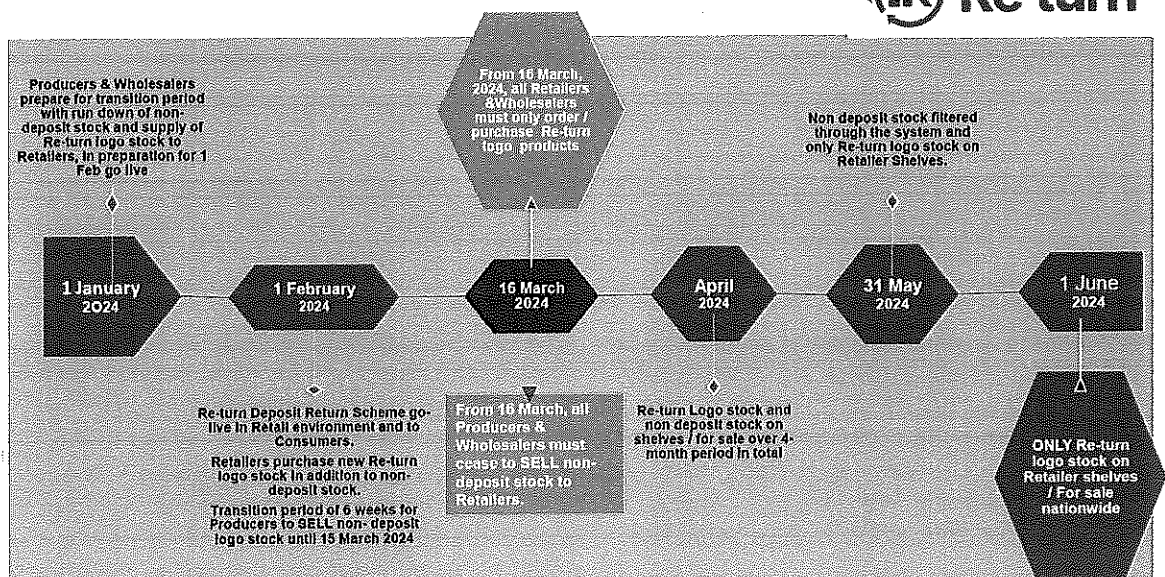
Notes

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

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

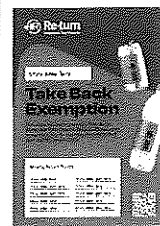
Beyond convenience, the scheme is expected to benefit communities by promoting recycling as a potent tool for addressing climate change. Re-Turn seeks to transition away from the 'take-make-dispose' mindset, encouraging the return of valuable materials to the economy for prolonged use.

Re-turn Transition Period Timeline



Re-turn Brand Assets

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



Standard Retailer Toolkit



Final Checklist for Retailers

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

Further Information

www.re-turn.ie

info@re-turn.ie

01 4618680

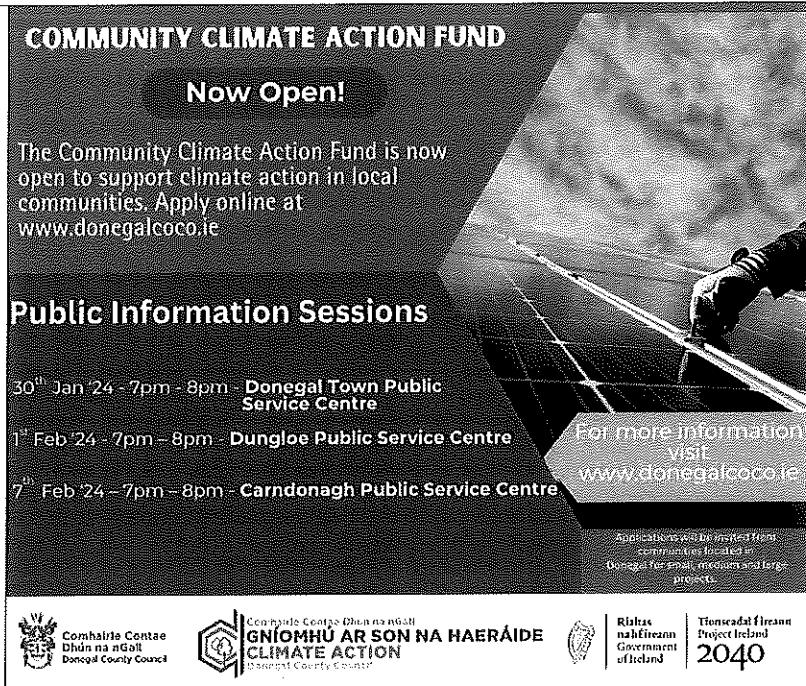



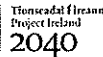
Contact
Person

Environment Office
074 9153900

Activity / Project Title	Everyone, Everywhere is Entitled to a Brown Bin Collection Service in 2024
Project Description/ Activity	<div data-bbox="708 392 1098 781" data-label="Image"> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From January 2024, new EU legislation means every household will be entitled to avail of a brown bin collection service; • Approximately 69% of households in Ireland up until now, are able to avail of a food waste collection service from their waste service collector; • MyWaste.ie is encouraging everyone, here, there, and everywhere to contact their waste collector and request a brown bin service in 2024, because <i>“you’re never too remote to recycle!”</i> <p>There is good news for households in rural areas. New legislation, came into effect in January 2024, meaning all householders in Ireland are entitled to a brown bin recycling collection service from their waste collector.</p> <p>The brown bin service accepts all types of food including raw and cooked meat and fish, plate scrapings, along with fruit and vegetable peelings. Other items that can go into the brown bin include food-soiled paper napkins, paper towels, pizza boxes as well as grass clippings and light garden waste. There is lots of information available at https://www.mywaste.ie/brown-bin-service/</p> <p>MyWaste.ie has information on how to manage all waste types including preventing and recycling food waste in your home.</p> <p><i>“Every single person can make a huge difference in helping our environment and contributing positively to Ireland achieving a recycling rate of 60% by 2030” said Pauline McDonogh, Spokesperson for MyWaste.ie.</i></p> <p>For more information, please visit https://www.mywaste.ie/brown-bin-service/</p>
Contact Person	Environment Office 074 9153900

Activity / Project Title	Donegal household waste collectors will be taking part in the National Food Waste Recycling Project in 2024
Project Description/ Activity	<div data-bbox="718 331 1145 622" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>The EPA estimates that Ireland generated 753,000 tonnes (t) of food waste in 2021. Growing, processing and transporting food uses a huge amount of resources, such as land, water, energy and fertiliser. If food is wasted, these resources are wasted too. The EPA estimates that food waste costs the average Irish household about €60 per month or €700 per year. That's an annual national cost of €1.29 billion.</p> <p>In order to help households to separate their waste and to reduce contamination in the food waste stream Donegal household waste collectors will be taking part in the National Food Waste Recycling Project this year.</p> <p>This project is funded by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC) and is being led by the Regional Waste Management Planning Authorities under the guise of mywaste.ie.</p> <p>Through the project Donegal collectors will be provided with thousands of kitchen caddy packs to distribute to their customers.</p> <p>Each pack consists of a 7 litre kitchen caddy, a starter pack of compostable liners and an information leaflet. Householders can use the caddy and liners to separate their food waste in the kitchen and when the liner is full, place it in their kerbside food waste bin.</p> <p>In addition to the caddy packs there are a range of toolkit supports available for the collectors to use at https://www.mywaste.ie/food-waste-campaign-toolkit/</p> <p>The toolkit includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posters • Stickers • Leaflets • Social media images • E-Newsletter header • Information Videos
Contact Person	Environment Office 074 9153900

Activity / Project Title	Community Climate Action Fund – Public Information Sessions
Project Description/ Activity	<div data-bbox="387 353 1378 1099" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="308 1137 1407 1167"><i>Picture: Community Groups pictured at the Community Climate Action Fund – Public Information Session</i></p> <p data-bbox="308 1207 1420 1279">The Community Climate Action Fund - Public Information Sessions are ongoing and are being well attended by community groups across the county.</p> <p data-bbox="308 1319 1449 1467">The Public Information Sessions allow community groups the opportunity to engage with staff to explore their project proposals that meet the objectives of the fund to, ‘Shape and build low carbon, sustainable communities in a coherent way to contribute to national climate and energy targets’.</p> <p data-bbox="308 1507 1428 1693">The Community Climate Action Programme (CCAP) is a new programme to support small and large, rural and urban communities to take climate action at a local level. Donegal County Council in association with the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC), will provide funding to local communities for projects that promote community climate action.</p> <p data-bbox="308 1733 850 1765">There are two strands of funding available:</p> <ul data-bbox="355 1805 1425 1917" style="list-style-type: none"> • Strand 1: focuses on direct climate action building low carbon communities; • Strand 1A: focuses on cross-border projects in partnership with communities and organisations in Northern Ireland. <p data-bbox="308 1957 1107 1989">The fund is open to not-for-profit community groups and clubs.</p>

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

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

GLENTIES FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME

Briefing Note 12 – January 2024

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.

The Steering Group has appointed RPS to undertake a further study to scope out a pilot project which trials Nature based Solutions to multiple issues in the Stracashel catchment including the potential to mitigate flood risk.

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.

Projected Key Milestone Dates

- Options Development Report – March 2024
- Public Information Day – April 2024
- Completion of Environmental Impact Assessment Report – February 2025
- Completion of Natura Impact Statement – February 2025

There has been an extension of eleven months to the Stage I programme for Glenties. This is due to the addition of the Glenties Nature-based Solutions Pilot Study to the programme.



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

Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services Directorate

Master Municipal District Report February 2024

Content

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

1. Economic Development

1.1. Upcoming Events

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

		You can watch back by visiting ALPHA Innovation Innovation Campfire — ALPHAInnovation.eu	
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1.2 Economic Development Unit

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

Estimated project completion date: Q1 2026.

Remote Working Hub Carrigart:

Status: In operation. Annual management agreement in place.

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

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

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

Marketing Campaign: to commence Q1 2024.

Operation & Management of Burtonport Enterprise Centre (Post Construction)

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

Current Estimated Completion date: Q1 2025.

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

Current Status: Detailed design.

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

Inward Investment Activity

North West City Region

Golden Bridges and the US Trade Mission

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

The NWCR Inward Investment Strategy

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

Service Land Initiative at The Commons, Lifford

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

Disposal of Council owned Land to support Economic Development

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

Contact Persons

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

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

1.2: Tourism Marketing Unit

Project Activity

Holiday World Show 2024

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

New Tourism Brochure 2024

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

Tourism Ireland Marketing Plans 2024

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

Shoulder Season Campaign Spring 2024

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

Beyond the Stage Festival and Events Workshop

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

Donegal Tourism Seminar 2024

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

TOURBO Project

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

Sustainable Arctic and Peripheral Biking Tourism Project

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

Supporting the development of Golf Tourism

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

Donegal 550

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

GoVisitDonegal.com Website

2024 (Jan 1 – Jan 28) - Users 18K- Page Views 43K.

Festival and Events is the most viewed page – views 3.1K

Online & Social Media Updates – Go Visit Donegal

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

Instagram: Instagram had a reach of 66.4K.

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

Twitter: 6K impressions over the last 28 days.

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

Donegal Tourism CLG

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

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

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

All successful applicants under the 2023 MTWGS have been issued letters of offer and applicants are getting works underway. The 2024 application form is being prepared with the aim of having this available in early March.

Regional Festival & Events Grant Scheme

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

Contact Person

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

1.4: Strategic Funding Unit

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

PEACE Plus

SEUPB has provided a new timetable of calls for applications to the PEACEPLUS Programme for 2021-2027 on their website. Please visit: <https://www.seupb.eu/funding/current-funding-opportunities>

ICC – Intelligent Cities Challenge

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

NPA Funded Target Circular Project

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

CPMR General Assembly

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

AER Youth Regional Network (YRN)

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

AER Summer Academy 2024

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

Contact Person

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

2. Local Enterprise Office

Summary of January 2024 Outputs/Events:

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

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

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

Training – YTD: 63 Attendees on 5 Courses held.

Digital Start – YTD: 3 applications received.

Green for Business – YTD: 1 application received.

Energy Efficiency Grants - YTD: 0 applications received.

Lean For Business – YTD: 0 applications received.

Start Your Own Business Programme 2024

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

Upcoming Events/Programmes:

Lean, Green & Digital for Business Information Sessions

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

European Enterprise Network (EEN)

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

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

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

Food Coast Donegal

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

Donegal Engineering Network

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

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

Contact Person

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

3. Information Services

Information Services (IS)

National Broadband Plan Fibre Network

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

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

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

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

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

Other Fibre Networks

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

Link to Map of Digital Hubs in the County

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

4. Emergency Services

4.1 – Fire Service

Fire Service Monthly MD Report (February)

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

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

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

4.3 Civil Defence

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

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

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

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

GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING

13th February 2024

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. Draft 2024 Bridge Programme for discussion.**
- 3. Bunbeg Pontoon Update Feb 2024**
- 4. Takeover of Island Roads – Documents have already been circulated.**
- 5. Current NTA available updates – Dunfanaghy and Bunbeg**
- 6. NRDO – Verbal Update on N56 Project Glenties – Kilraine.**
- 7. Proposed Roads First Workshop Date : Options Mon 19th, Thurs 22nd or Monday 26th February. Agree Date.**

8. Proposed Roads Second Workshop Date : Options 4th, 5th, 7th March. Agree Date.

9. As an alternative to dates at 7 and 8 we could have a day long Workshop on either the 4th, 6th or 7th March and hopefully most Allocations will be available by then. Programmes to be adopted at March MD Meeting.

10. AOB

Housing & Corporate Agenda

For Meeting on 13th February 2024

- Progress Report - Grants
- Progress Report - Casual Vacancies
- Housing Need
- HAP
- RAS
- LTL Properties
- Tenancies and Offers
- Tenant Purchase
- Local Authority Loans
- Age friendly Healthy Homes Co-Ordinator

1. **PROGRESS REPORT - GRANTS AT 30/01/2024**

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	150	112	25	1	12	13
2024	11	2	4	0	5	5

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>
2023	118	78	23	4	8	5	17
2024	10	0	5	0	4	1	5

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>
2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Total number of grants paid in 2023 in the Glenties MD – 195 in sum of €1.076million

2. PROGRESS REPORT – CASUAL VACANCIES @ 31/01/2024

Glenties MD	Address	Beds	Vacant From	Current Status
Arranmore				
	Leabgarrow	2 bed	11/01/2024	Currently being assessed
Doochary				
	Radharc an tSeipeal	2 bed	10/11/2023	Contractor on site
Dunfanaghy				
	Eadan Mor	3 bed	12/12/2023	Quotations currently being assessed
Falcarragh				
	Ballina	3 bed	23/08/2023	Currently being assessed
	Ballina	3 bed	15/01/2024	Currently being assessed
Glenties				
	Ard McGill	1 bed	15/06/2023	Contractor on site

3. HOUSING NEED AS AT 30/01/2024

Gross Need - by approved bedrooms

Municipal District	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Glenties						
Annagry	0	12	5	3	0	20
Ardara	4	14	1	1	0	20
Arranmore	0	1	0	0	0	1
Bunbeg	0	0	1	0	0	1
Burtonport	0	4	1	1	0	6
Creeslough	0	14	2	3	0	19
Crolly	0	1	0	0	0	1
Derrybeg	0	3	0	0	0	3
Doochary	0	1	0	0	0	1
Dunfanaghy	1	12	1	0	0	14
Dungloe	4	35	7	2	1	49
Falcarragh	1	29	4	0	0	34
Fintown	0	0	1	0	0	1
Glenties	0	6	2	2	0	10
Gortahork	1	5	0	0	1	7
GWEEDORE	1	16	8	1	0	26
Kincasslagh	0	1	0	0	0	1
Lettermacaward	0	0	0	1	0	1
Loughanure	0	3	0	0	0	3
Magheroarty	0	2	0	0	0	2
Portnoo	0	0	2	1	0	3
Total	12	159	35	15	2	223

4. HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENT (HAP) SCHEME

As at 30th January, 2024, the Glenties Municipal District is providing Social Housing Support in the form of the Housing Assistance Payment to 87 families/individuals. 25 of these families/individuals are in receipt of HAP only.

5. NUMBER OF RAS PROPERTIES

As of the 30th January, 2024, 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 30th January, 2024, the Glenties Municipal District is providing Social Housing Support in the form of the Long Term Lease Properties to 18 families/individuals.

7. HOUSING VACANCIES AND OFFERS

Reasons for Vacancies between 1 st Jan 2023 to 20/12/2023				
Transfers	Surrenders	Death of Tenant	Other	Total
1	11	6	0	18

Number of Housing Offers issued between 1 st Jan 2023 to 20/12/2023		
Number of Offers issued	Offers Accepted	Offers Refused
32	28	4

Reasons for Vacancies between 1 st Jan 2024 to 31 st January 2024				
Transfers	Surrenders	Death of Tenant	Other	Total
	2	1		3

Number of Housing Offers issued between 1 st January 2024 to 31 st January 2024		
Number of Offers issued	Offers Accepted	Offers Refused
1	1	

8. TENANT PURCHASE

Number of applications received since Scheme commenced:	141
Total number of valid applications:	111
Valid applications received in 2023:	27
Valid applications received in 2024:	1
Total number of houses sold under the Scheme to date:	28

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 2024	Number of Loans Approved in 2023
44	5	0	0

Housing Capital Update Report Glenties Municipal District Meeting 13 February 2024

1. Social Housing Developments – Construction Schemes

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

Location	Status	No. of Units
Design / Tender Stage		
Chapel Road, Dungloe	An advertisement was published on eTenders and OJEU (Official Journal of the European Union) on 11th January 2024, for contractors to tender for the construction of 43no. Social Housing Units and all associated site development works at Loinnir an Locha, Chapel Road, Dungloe, Co. Donegal. Tender closing date is 23rd February 2024. Following this the tenders will be assessed in advance of a submission to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for Stage 4 approval to appoint a contractor.	43
Masiness, Creeslough	Advance site clearance works have been carried out. Engagement is ongoing with adjoining landowners in relation to boundary treatment. Detailed design will be progressed, subject to agreements with landowners being finalised in advance of proceeding to tender.	3
Glenties (Fire Station)	Engagement is ongoing with adjoining landowners in relation to boundary treatment. Once agreements have been finalised the detailed design can be completed for the project to progress to tender.	3
Total		49

2. Social Housing through Turnkey Acquisition

Donegal County Council's turnkey acquisition process is continuing throughout the county. A proposal for 29 housing units at Gweedore has Department approval and subject to the signing of contracts, works are expected to commence on site in Q1 2024.

A proposal to construct 11 no. social housing units on lands in Creeslough has planning permission and Uisce Eireann approval. Department Approval has also been obtained. The Council is working with the Developer seeking final agreement on costs and programme delivery. The proposal remains subject to contract.

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

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

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

This process has been advertised on eTenders (reference RFT 2461070), where all documentation and information can be obtained. Submissions are currently being accepted under the turnkey process and submissions will be accepted up to a final closing date of 30th September 2026.

3. Lands / Property for Social Housing Purposes

The Council is actively pursuing the acquisition of lands suitable for housing purposes, in towns and villages where there is currently not a social housing solution available.

The Council has made offers to acquire lands for social housing and are sale agreed subject to contract in Fintown and Falcarragh. An offer to acquire land in Gweedore has also been made.

The site at Fintown is subject to contract and planning approval and the site in Falcarragh is subject to contract and confirmation of utility connections.

As part of the process of acquiring land, the team liaises and consults on a cross-directorate basis with other Council services in carrying out due diligence in respect of each acquisition and considers the following: zoning, easements for connections to utilities and vision lines, Uisce Eireann connection agreements, footpath connectivity to town centre, flood risk assessment and surface water discharge point with capacity and easements.

A number of land parcels have and are being considered in Annagry (1 Plot), Ardara (4 plots), Glenties (5 Plots), Kilclooney (1 Plot), Dungloe (2 plots), Burtonport(1 Plot), Arranmore Island(1 Plot), Gweedore (2 Plots), Falcarragh (2 Plots), Dunfanaghy(1 Plot) and Doochary (1 Plot).