



**Municipal District of Glenties**

Office of Meetings  
Administrator  
Public Service Centre  
Dungloe

3<sup>rd</sup> January, 2024

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

The Municipal District of Glenties Meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th January, 2024 at **10 a.m. in  
Dungloe Public Services Section**

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

Dear Councillor,

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

Yours Sincerely,

**Michael Rowsome  
Meetings Administrator**



## Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí

Oifig Riarthóir na  
gCruinnithe  
Ionad Seirbhísí  
Clochán Liath

3ú Eanáir, 2024

### FOGRA CRUINNITHE

Beidh Cruinniú de Ceantar Bardais Na Gleanntaí ar an 9ú Eanáir 2024, ag 10 r.n, in Ionad Seirbhísí an Clocháin Léith

## DO GACH BHALL DEN CEANTAR BARDAS NA GLEANNTAÍ

A Chara

Iarrtar ort bheith i lathair ag an gcrúinniu seo Ceantar Bardais na nGleanntaí. Tá Clár an Cruinnithe le seo.

Mise, le meas

**Micheál Rowsome**  
Riarthóir Cruinnithe

## AGENDA

1. Consideration of the Minutes of Glenties Municipal District Committee Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2023.
2. Community Development
3. Planning Services
4. Environment
5. Economic Development, I.S. & Emergency Services
6. Roads Services
7. Housing & Corporate Services

## AGENDA

1. Consideration of the Minutes of Glenties Municipal District Committee Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2023.
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7. Housing & Corporate Services

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

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**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 12<sup>th</sup> 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 also 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 rights 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 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023.
- Launch of 'Go Visit Donegal' Campaign on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023.
- Donegal Enterprise Awards Ceremony to take place on 1<sup>st</sup> 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 service available in 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 - 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 their activities.

## **GMD 58/23 ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION**

### **58.1 Roads Workshop**

The Committee noted the Report from the Roads Workshop held on the 10<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 Portdale Estate in Dunfanaghy the Roads Manager advised that substantial flood relief funding would be required to resolve the problem.

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

Maintenance

Cllr. McClafferty raised the following issues:

- Flooding at Ballyconnell and Shroughan
- 'No Overtaking' signage at Muckish/Creeslough 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 commended 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 a consultation process and safety audit in relation to safety concerns at Cronashallog, Dungloe. He undertook to revisit this issue with the NRDO following our 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 (Lochan Mhuire X 6) (Ballina X 34).

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 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**

**9<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

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**Community Development Division**

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**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

## Glenties Municipal District - Community Development

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

## Glenties Municipal District - Community Development

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

## Glenties Municipal District - Community Development

Activity / Project Title	2022 Clár Scheme
<b>Project Description/Activity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Clochán Liath: Outdoor lighting servicing an existing riverside walkway.</li> <li>• Cill Ulta, An Fál Carrach: Gairdín na gCeadfaí - Sensory garden with wheelchair access, outdoor tea / coffee making facilities &amp; bio stove gug.</li> <li>• Maghery: Enhancement of existing community outdoor play facility with an emphasis on nature-based play.</li> <li>• Pobal Eascarrach – Ballina Resource Centre</li> <li>• Ardara MUGA</li> </ul>
<b>Budget (if applicable)</b>	<p>Funded by: Department of Rural and Community Development Donegal County Council / Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Clochán Liath:</li> <li>• Cill Ulta, An Fál Carrach:</li> <li>• Maghery:</li> <li>• Pobal Eascarrach, Ballina Resource Centre:</li> <li>• Ardara:</li> </ul>
<b>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</b>  <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Clochán Liath: Outdoor lighting servicing an existing riverside walkway. Work is now complete.</li> <li>• Cill Ulta, An Fál Carrach: Gairdín na gCeadfaí - Sensory garden with wheelchair access, outdoor tea / coffee making facilities &amp; bio stove gug - works are ongoing.</li> <li>• Maghery: Enhancement of existing of community outdoor play facility with an emphasis on nature-based play is complete.</li> <li>• Pobal Eascarrach – Ballina Resource Centre – Carparking is complete.</li> <li>• Ardara GAA MUGA – Tender process is complete, and works are currently ongoing</li> </ul>
<b>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</b>	<p>All works should be completed by the end of Q1 2024.</p>
<b>Contact Person (to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</b>	<p>Brian Keogh, Tel: 074-9172569 E-mail: bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie</p>



## Glenties Municipal District - Community Development


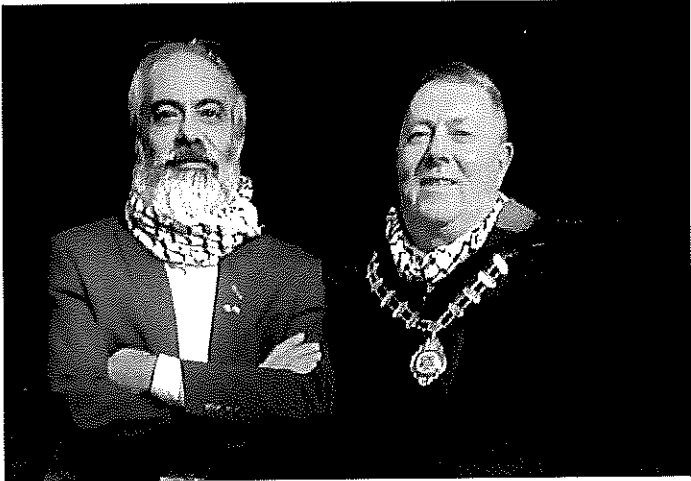
<b>Activity / Project Title File:</b>	<b>2022 Town &amp; Village Renewal Scheme – Dungloe</b>
<b>Project Description/Activity</b>	Provision of age friendly seating in Dungloe, construction of a new bus drop off/pick area off the main street adjacent to the public car park, public realm works to the area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

## Glenties Municipal District - Community Development

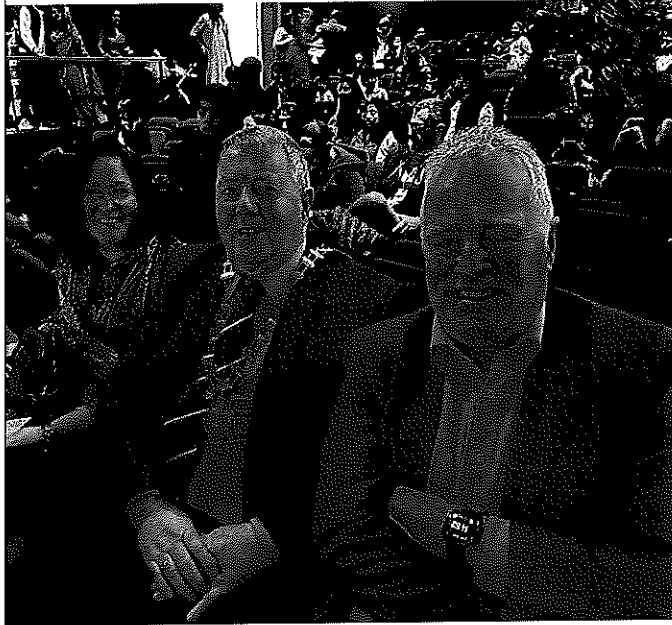
Activity / Project Title	PLAYGROUNDS 2023
Project Description/Activity	<p><b>Annual maintenance of Playgrounds</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Arranmore Island Playground</li> <li>2. Arranmore Island Shore Playground</li> <li>3. Tory Island Playground</li> <li>4. Dolmen Centre Playground &amp; MUGA</li> <li>5. Glenties Playground</li> <li>6. St Mary's Close Playground</li> <li>7. Cois Cuain Playground</li> <li>8. Burtonport SHS Playground</li> <li>9. Ballina Playground</li> <li>10. Ardara Playground</li> <li>11. Clós Naonh Chonail Playground</li> <li>12. Dungloe Foreshore Playground</li> <li>13. Creeslough SHS Playground</li> </ol>
Budget (if applicable)	Works funded by Donegal County Council.
<p>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</p> <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p>	<p>1. Works consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance repairs to Council owned/maintained playgrounds.</li> </ul> <p><u>Current Status:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance contractor for 2023 currently working through repairs across the county and addressing new repairs as required.</li> <li>• Seeking quotations from professional service providers to undertake the annual playground safety inspections for 2023</li> <li>• Assess tender submissions for annual playground safety inspections.</li> <li>• Maintenance works underway throughout playground</li> <li>• Creeslough SHS playground closed due to H&amp;S issues, reported to maintenance contractor to repair</li> <li>• All planned repairs for 2023 completed.</li> <li>• Annual safety inspections for 2023 completed.</li> <li>• Drafting tender documents for 2024 playground maintenance contract.</li> </ul>
<p>Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period</p> <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publish tender documents for 2024 playground maintenance contract.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Contact Person</b> (to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</p>	<p>John Deeney Tel: 074-9172568 E-mail: jdeeney@donegalcoco.ie</p>

## Glenties Municipal District - Community Development

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

Activity / Project Title	Social Inclusion Unit
<p><b>Progress to date and current status</b></p>	<p><b>Pride of Place Awards</b>  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>  <p><b>United Nations' International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people.</b>  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>  <p><b>EU Belong</b>  Donegal as lead on work package 4(delivery of integration strategy) with deliverable 4.1 and 4.2 complete and 4.3 to be completed by February. 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>

### 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.

### 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](mailto:codonnell@donegalcoco.ie)  
0879192272

Charles Sweeney  
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### Wakeaton:

Donegal Youth Council members joined Foroige in a wakeaton for Homelessness. This was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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.



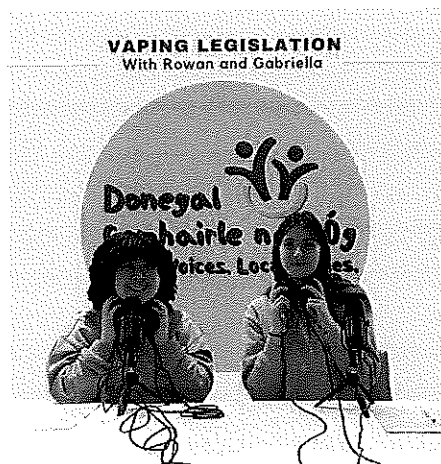
LCEP (Local Economic and Community Plan):

On November 25<sup>th</sup>, 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**

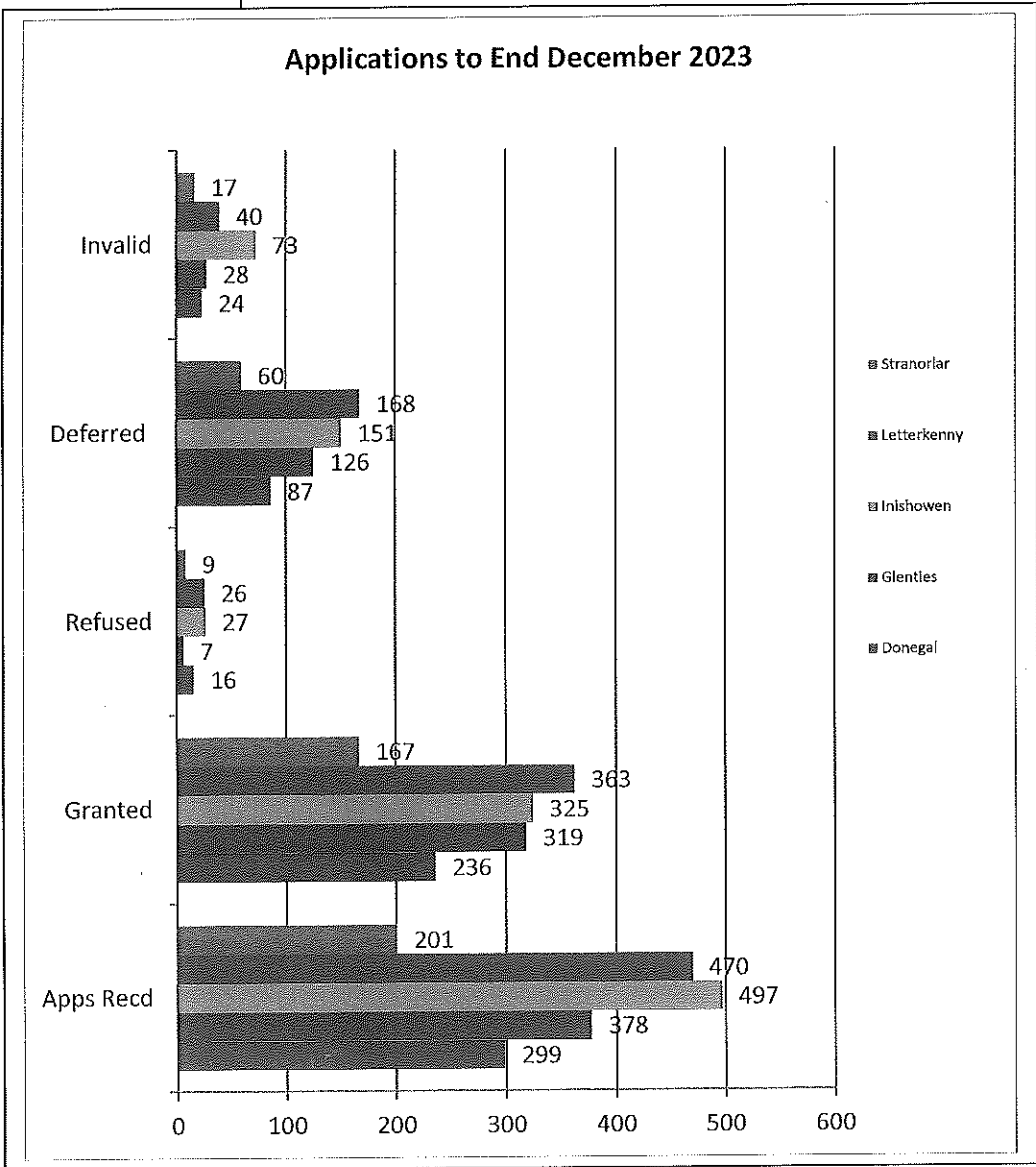
**Contact Person**  
*(to include telephone  
number & e-mail address)*

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Donegal Walks and Trails</b>	
<b>File:</b> <b>Project Description/Activity</b>	Maintenance, development, and promotion of walks & trails in Donegal including cycle routes and Greenways.	
<b>Budget (if applicable)</b>	ORIS 2021 - Kincasslagh Tower ORIS 2022 - Slí na Finne	€20,000.00 €30,000.00
<b>Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status</b>  <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<p><b>ORIS 2021</b> <b>Kincasslagh Tower Trail;</b> We have received two successful tender submissions which are been reviewed with potential award letter to be issued in the next few weeks.</p> <p><b>ORIS 2022</b> <b>Slí na Finne;</b> 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><b>ORIS 2023 – (Measure 1)</b> 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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>	
<b>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete the documents for Sli Na Finne to upload on e-tender system</li> <li>• Award contractor with Kincasslagh Tower Trail arrange pre-start meeting</li> </ul>	
<b>Contact Person</b> <i>(to include telephone number &amp; e-mail address)</i>	Darryl Connor (Outdoor Recreational Development Officer) 08736138111 dconnor@donegalcoco.ie	



**Glenties MD Meeting**  
**9<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

Item	Update										
1 Development Applications											
(1) Statistics	<p><b>Glenties MD Totals Year to End November 2023</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Applications received</td> <td>378</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Granted</td> <td>319</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Refused</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deferred</td> <td>126</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Invalid</td> <td>28</td> </tr> </table>	Applications received	378	Granted	319	Refused	7	Deferred	126	Invalid	28
Applications received	378										
Granted	319										
Refused	7										
Deferred	126										
Invalid	28										





2	Enforcement	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="571 277 975 315">Glenties MD</th> <th data-bbox="975 277 1406 315">To end of November 2023</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="571 315 975 353">New Cases</td> <td data-bbox="975 315 1406 353">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="571 353 975 392">Closed Cases</td> <td data-bbox="975 353 1406 392">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="571 392 975 465">Outstanding cases on record since 2012</td> <td data-bbox="975 392 1406 465">307</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Glenties MD	To end of November 2023	New Cases	5	Closed Cases	0	Outstanding cases on record since 2012	307
Glenties MD	To end of November 2023									
New Cases	5									
Closed Cases	0									
Outstanding cases on record since 2012	307									
3	Notes & Monthly Schedule	<p><b>Pre planning clinics are on a telephone call only basis (ring 074 9153900) between 9.00am and 12.30pm on the dates outlined below.</b></p> <p>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>                  18<sup>th</sup> January, 2024                  1st February, 2024                  15<sup>th</sup> January, 2024                  29<sup>th</sup> February, 2024</p> <p><a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/planningclinics/">http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/planningclinics/</a></p>								
4	Casual Trading									
5	Regeneration & Development									
6	Conservation									
7	Building Control & Taking in Charge									
8	Capital Projects Delivery Unit									
9	Central Planning Unit									
10	Further Information <i>Click on web links to access information.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weekly List of applications and decisions:  <a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/weeklyplanninglists/">http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/weeklyplanninglists/</a></li> <li>• Planning Service email (to be used in correspondence with the planning service): <a href="mailto:planning@donegalcoco.ie">planning@donegalcoco.ie</a></li> <li>• Planning Webpage:  <a href="http://www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/">www.donegalcoco.ie/services/planning/</a></li> <li>• Planning Application Online Query –  <a href="https://www.eplanning.ie/DonegalCC/SearchTypes">https://www.eplanning.ie/DonegalCC/SearchTypes</a></li> <li>• File Retrieval Form – to be used for file retrieval and planning search requests:</li> </ul>								



ENVIRONMENT MD REPORT – January '24

CLIMATE ACTION

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Adoption of the Final Climate Action Plan 2024-2029</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	A pack for Members including Chief Executive's Report on Public Consultation Submissions, and the Final Climate Action Plan for adoption will be issued in mid January 2024. This will allow time for Members review ahead of Plenary meeting on 21st February where Adoption of the CAP will be sought in accordance with our statutory obligations under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act, 2021.
<b>Contact Person</b>	Lorraine Arbuckle, Climate Action Co-ordinator <a href="mailto:larbuckle@Donegalcoco.ie">larbuckle@Donegalcoco.ie</a>

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Community Climate Action Fund announced</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p>Donegal County Council has opened applications under the Community Climate Action Fund and is accepting applications from the <b>29<sup>th</sup> December 2023 until 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024</b>.</p> <p>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>There are two strands of funding available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Strand 1: focuses on direct climate action building low carbon communities;</li><li>• Strand 1A: focuses on cross-border projects in partnership with communities and organisations in Northern Ireland.</li></ul> <p>The fund is open to not-for-profit community groups and clubs.</p>

A series of public information sessions will be held by Donegal County Council as follows:

Date:	Time:	Venue:
11 <sup>th</sup> Jan '24	7pm – 8pm	Online Webinar – registration details to follow.
16 <sup>th</sup> Jan '24	7pm - 8pm	Letterkenny Public Service Centre, Eircode F92TNY3
18 <sup>th</sup> Jan '24	7pm - 8pm	Dungloe Public Service Centre, Eircode F94H4CF
23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan '24	7pm - 8pm	Carndonagh Public Service Centre, Eircode F93YV1N
25 <sup>th</sup> Jan '24	7pm - 8pm	The Base Enterprise Centre, Stranorlar, Eircode F93 VAK6
30 <sup>th</sup> Jan '24	7pm - 8pm	Donegal Town Public Service Centre, Eircode F94DK6C

Any group considering making an application is advised to contact the Community Climate Action Officer at [climateactionfund@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:climateactionfund@donegalcoco.ie) in advance of making an application.

For more information on the fund and the application process visit [www.donegalcoco.ie](http://www.donegalcoco.ie)

**Closing Date for Applications 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024.**

**COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION FUND**

**Coming Soon!**

The Community Climate Action Fund is due to launch on 29th December 2023 to support climate action in local communities.

**Public Information Sessions**

11<sup>th</sup> Jan '24 - 7pm - 8pm - **Online Webinar - Registration details to follow**

16<sup>th</sup> Jan '24 - 7pm - 8pm - **Letterkenny Public Service Centre**

18<sup>th</sup> Jan '24 - 7pm - 8pm - **Dungloe Public Service Centre**





23<sup>rd</sup> Jan '24 - 7pm - 8pm - **Carndonagh Public Service Centre**

25<sup>th</sup> Jan '24 - 7pm - 8pm - **The Base Enterprise Centre, Stranorlar**

30<sup>th</sup> Jan '24 - 7pm - 8pm - **Donegal Town Public Service Centre**

For more information visit [www.donegalcoco.ie](http://www.donegalcoco.ie)

Applications will be invited from communities located in Donegal for small, medium and large projects.

 **Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall**  
Donegal County Council
  **Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall**  
**GNIOMHÚ AR SON NA HAERÁIDE**  
CLIMATE ACTION  
Donegal County Council
  **Rialtas na hÉireann**  
Government of Ireland
  **Tionscadal Éireann**  
Project Ireland  
**2040**

# COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION FUND

## Strand 1(a) Shared Island Community Climate Action

Launch date 29th December 2023

Strand 1A:  
Focuses on cross-border projects in  
partnership with communities and  
organisations in Northern Ireland.

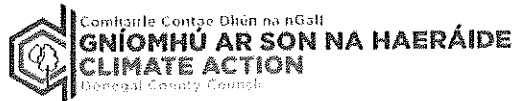
### Themes include:

- Community/Energy
- Sustainable Travel
- Food & Waste
- Shopping & Recycling
- Local Climate & Environmental  
Action

For details of upcoming information sessions  
on the above fund visit [www.donegalcoco.ie](http://www.donegalcoco.ie)

For more information visit  
[www.donegalcoco.ie](http://www.donegalcoco.ie)

Applications will be invited from communities  
located in  
Donegal with a partner in Northern Ireland.



Riadas  
na hÉiceann  
Government  
of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann  
Project Ireland  
2040

Contact  
Person

Lorraine Arbuckle, Climate Action Co-ordinator  
[larbuckle@Donegalcoco.ie](mailto:larbuckle@Donegalcoco.ie)



<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>Sustainable Energy Communities Programme – Financing for Energy Master Plans</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p>Donegal County Council have teamed up with the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) to pilot a new bridging finance programme aimed at Sustainable Energy Communities in the County.</p> <p>The SEAI plays a leading role in transforming Ireland into a society based on sustainable energy and practices. The SEAI Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC) Programme engages and enables citizens to work together to achieve their energy goals.</p> <p>At present there are 32 SECs in Donegal. Search Our Sustainable Energy Communities Network   SEAI Benefits of the SEC Programme include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achieve financial and energy savings</li> <li>• Improve public wellbeing and comfort from energy efficient buildings</li> <li>• Boost local knowledge, skills and employment</li> <li>• Build capacity and leverage funding</li> <li>• Contribute to climate change targets</li> <li>• Support an equitable transition to a low carbon society</li> </ul> <p>A key starting point for SECs is the preparation of a local Energy Master Plan (EMP). This Plan provides the SEC with a road map for achieving the benefits listed above. EMP Grants of between €10,000 and €25,000 are available from SEAI to claim back costs incurred during its preparation.</p> <p>Donegal County Council are now providing further assistance through a Memorandum of Understanding with SEAI. The Council will provide SECs with short term up-front funding to ensure the necessary cash flow is available during Energy Master Plan preparation pending receipt of SEAI grants. DCC has partnered with SEAI to encourage further uptake of the SEAI grant and help more Donegal based SECs develop their own local Energy Master Plan.</p> <p>Donegal County Council joins 17 other Local Authorities nationally by participating in this initiative and encourages SECs to contact their relevant SEC Mentors for further information on eligibility criteria and how to sign up.</p> <p><b>Contact Details:</b>  Stevie Donnelly, Sustainable Energy Communities Mentor Programme,  Atlantic Technological University  Stevie.Donnelly@atu.ie</p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	Lorraine Arbuckle, Climate Action Co-ordinator <a href="mailto:larbuckle@Donegalcoco.ie">larbuckle@Donegalcoco.ie</a>

## WASTE AND LITTER MANAGEMENT

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>WASTE MANAGEMENT – END OF YEAR UPDATE</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p>A large amount of Waste Management, Circular Economy, Litter Control and Community Engagement took place in 2023.</p> <p>There is a considerable amount of compliance assistance and enforcement work being planned for 2024 to meet the Local Authorities obligations including local, regional and national targets.</p> <p>The Environment litter and waste team will continue to work with many stakeholders and through the Regional Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority (CU WERLA) to ensure a cohesive and coordinated approach with other agencies and organisations where appropriate to maximise resources where possible.</p> <p><b>National Waste Enforcement Priority: Tackling illegal waste activities and multi-agency sites of concern</b></p> <p>Inspections are ongoing, work programmes and the annual environmental plan tracks actions throughout the year e.g. legal documentation issued, site inspections etc.</p> <p>11 court cases progressing throughout 2023 and we have examples of cases that are taking 5+ years and still ongoing. The level of compliance within the county has improved in recent years and the standard of waste facilities and waste collection has also improved.</p> <p><b>1.1 Multi Agency Cases</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Two sites that were notified to Donegal County Council through the Gardaí were recently prosecuted in court and convictions under the waste management act were secured along with costs.</li> <li>➤ Enforcement staff attended court multiple times in 2023 and achieved a number of successful outcomes with fines imposed, tonnes of waste lawfully removed and disposed of and expenses awarded to the Council.</li> <li>➤ Extensive resources are required to progress this work area.</li> <li>➤ The team are looking at ways to communicate these outcomes effectively to the wider community.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>1.2 Waste Enforcement Priority: Construction and demolition waste</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Continue to review resource waste management plans and planning applications &amp; submit comments where appropriate.</li> <li>➤ Investigate illegal/unauthorised sites and enforcement actions where appropriate.</li> <li>➤ Input to consultation processes e.g. Greenfield soil and stone as a by-product consultation.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Matthew Byrne, Waste Regulation Officer</b>  <a href="mailto:Matthewbyrne@donegalcoco.ie">Matthewbyrne@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

<p><b>Activity / Project Title</b></p>	<p><b>Waste Enforcement Priority: Household and commercial waste</b></p>
<p><b>Project Description/ Activity</b></p>	<p>Further roll out of household food waste bins. Collectors reporting <b>17,500 households provided with a three bin service as of September 2023</b>. Information shows that the number of households in the County with a waste collection service has increased further in 2023 to over 49,000. Work required in 2024 to achieve uptake and participation of the three bin service and further validate data.</p> <p>The team continue to review and analysis information e.g. annual returns, waste collection permit conditions and vehicle checks.</p> <p><b>Multi agency vehicle checkpoints</b> were carried out at locations throughout the County in 2023. These joint operations prove a valuable mechanism to further strengthen relationships with agencies such as An Garda Síochána, Revenue, The Department of Social Protection, The Road Safety Authority and others. They portray an important visual message about multi agency actions to tackle illegal and unauthorised waste activity to prevent pollution and protect the environment.</p> <p><b>Waste Annual Returns:</b> Accurate waste data plays a critical role in;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitoring Irelands progress towards EU, national and regional targets,</li> <li>- Producing national statistics on waste generation, collection, disposal, recycling and recovery rates</li> <li>- Providing an evidence base guide to policy and</li> <li>- Providing evidence in the enforcement of alleged offences</li> </ul> <p>National waste statistics and indicators also play an important part in clearly conveying the impacts and opportunities of waste management to Irelands people, its environment and progress towards a 'circular economy'.</p>

In 2023 there were over 80 Waste Collection Permit (WCP) returns for validation by Donegal County Council and more than 50 Waste Facility Permit (WFP) and/ or Certificate of Registration (CoR) returns.

In October 2023 90% of WCP's were validated and 94% of WFP/CoR's. Joint online validations were carried out with the Regional Waste Management Planning Office in 2023 in line with the protocol.

A considerable amount of resources were allocated to this body of work in 2023 to further improve the quality of information being submitted and therefore the accuracy of information presented for waste data analysis and projections. A report will be produced in Q1 2024 as part of scheduled reporting to quantify this.

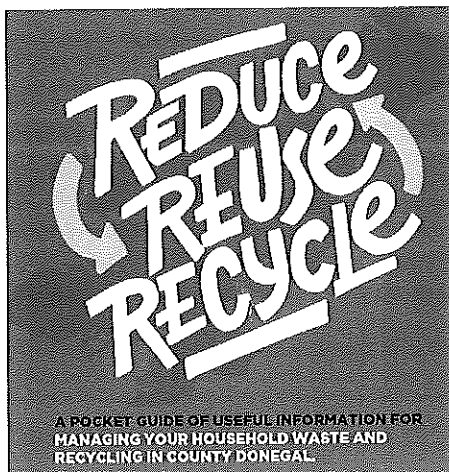
Donegal is an active member of the **AR waste validation working group** and is also represented on various sub groups that have formed to look at key themes associated with this important work area such as waste characterization and waste codes.

**Waste characterisation** –64% of what is in the household residual bin should not be in it. Education and price incentivisation will help improve things somewhat. Tools to be examined to address this in 2024.

**30 in-person household waste surveys** were carried out in Sept 2023 in Falcarragh. The particular area selected was chosen as a result of a number of criteria including collectors reporting high refusals of brown bins and / or low participation of the three bin service and the town is also a decarbonisation town, to link with the work of the climate office.

Pocket guides were distributed to participating households. The information gathered through this process will be built on going forward, for example quite a number of those interviewed did not realise that if they were having works done to their house they are responsible for the waste.

Communications work was undertaken to address this including public service announcements on local radio stations and information provided on Donegal County Council social media platforms.



The **pocket guides** are proving very popular and Environment staff have been contacted by other LA's looking to produce similar guides. Environment staff assist other LA's where possible.

The team continue to promote **mywaste.ie** and are looking at ways to direct people to resources on the *mywaste* website.

	<p><b>Donegal’s draft household waste presentation bye laws</b> are in line to go through public consultation process and work is ongoing in this area. When the bye laws are in place they will support targeted enforcement work in problem areas.</p> <p><b>Commercial waste inspections are underway.</b> These will also provide an opportunity to signpost businesses to the resources available on the <a href="http://mywaste.ie">mywaste.ie</a> website.</p> <p><b>Further changes in legislation are set for 2024</b> that will place even greater responsibility on waste collectors to achieve source segregation and Donegal will be working with the Connaught Ulster Waste Enforcement Lead Authority (CU WERLA) to ensure a cohesive and coordinated approach in this area.</p> <p><b>Donegal is part of a National Food Waste Project.</b> In 2024, thousands of household customers in Donegal will get kitchen caddie packs for food waste as part of this project. Caddie packs were distributed to members of the public at events held throughout the County as part of <b>National Food Waste Recycling week.</b></p>
<b>Contact Person</b>	<p><b>Matthew Byrne, Waste Regulation Officer</b>  <a href="mailto:Matthewbyrne@donegalcoco.ie">Matthewbyrne@donegalcoco.ie</a></p>

Activity / Project Title

Events were held throughout the County in 2023 for National Food Waste Recycling Week

Project Description/ Activity



Contact Person

Matthew Byrne, Waste Regulation Officer  
[Matthewbyrne@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:Matthewbyrne@donegalcoco.ie)

<b>Activity / Project Title</b>	<b>National Waste Enforcement Priority: Producer responsibility initiatives and additional local priorities</b>
<b>Project Description/ Activity</b>	<p>All operators subject to producer responsibility initiatives registered with appropriate organisation(s).</p> <p>Good regulatory compliance at all waste facilities including those owned by local authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 12 inspections in relation to farm plastics</li> <li>- 18 inspections in relation to packaging regs – suspected major producers</li> <li>- 21 inspections in relation to tyre regulations</li> </ul> <p><b>CCTV</b> - The Environment team have been working closely with Inland Fisheries re GDPR. Inland Fisheries have the cameras out and got approval from data commissioner therefore Donegal. CU WERLA and Fisheries are going to work together to further develop the procedures that will allow for the roll out of the cameras again.</p> <p><b>Drones</b> - Waste and Litter staff have been trained, licences in place, drone work in progress thanks to CU WERLA for support and guidance without whom this would not have been achievable. Environment staff share learnings with other LA's.</p> <div data-bbox="646 1014 1150 1406" data-label="Image"> </div> <p><b>Anti-Dumping initiative funding 2023</b>  DCC successfully secured €107,000 in funding in 2023. This funding supported projects throughout the county including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- resources for community groups,</li> <li>- bulky waste projects,</li> <li>- clean ups,</li> <li>- signage,</li> <li>- cameras and containers.</li> </ul>



### **'Think Global, Act Local'**

Environment staff feed into consultation processes and participate in working groups and discussion groups that shape legislation and enforcement priorities e.g.

- Input to incentivised charging study.
- Participated in consultation group re proposed amended commercial kerbside conditions.
- National waste management plan for a circular economy.
- Donegal are an active member of the AR waste validation working group and a member of the 'list of waste codes' sub group.
- Greenfield soil and stone as a by-product consultation

In 2023 the Environment team also provided submissions to the draft climate action plan and the County Development plan for County Donegal.

Donegal County Council have successfully campaigned for legal mechanisms to allow for excess material from construction jobs to be reused and repurposed. This reuse of material is in keeping with the circular economy and Climate Change targets and it is anticipated that there will be sites more involved in this area in 2024.

### **Litter**

Between January and October '23, the litter wardens examined over 500 complaints, pursuing legal actions against offenders.

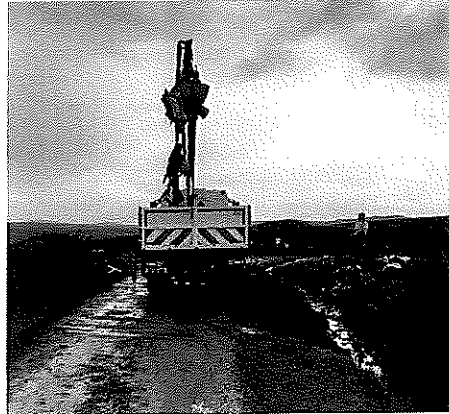
Collaborating with a dedicated team of 5,000 community volunteers, they facilitated more than 500 cleanups through the mobile litter units.

Additionally, the wardens actively engaged with local schools, delivering talks on the importance of litter and recycling.



Complementing these efforts, the environment team crafted various in-house videos for social media campaigns, covering topics such as litter, beaches, and community awareness initiatives like "Man in the Van."

Their unwavering dedication extends to collaborating with Tidy Towns groups throughout the County on a weekly basis, resulting in increased points for all towns in this year's competition.



#### **Knowledge exchange**

On the 29th and 30th May 2023, delegates from all over Ireland directly involved in environmental legislation and in particular waste enforcement came together at an event organized by the Network for Irelands Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (NIECE) in conjunction with the Waste Enforcement Regional Local Authorities (WERLA's).

Donegal County Council presented at this event alongside speakers from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the WERLAs, the National Trans Frontier Shipment Office (NTFSO) and local authorities throughout Ireland.

#### **Sale and Use of Solid Fuel - Coal**

Donegal are leading the way in this area and are providing support to other Local Authorities. This work involves;

- Inspections at retailers
- Sampling and analysing coal products
- Education campaigns, including door to door visits
- Installation of fixed and mobile air monitors
- Monitoring online sales
- Multi Agency Checkpoints
- Legal Prosecutions

**Contact Person**

**Matthew Byrne, Waste Regulation Officer**  
[Matthewbyrne@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:Matthewbyrne@donegalcoco.ie)



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

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

**Master Municipal District Report January 2024**

**Content**

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

**Appendix 1 – Shared Island Project Updates November 2023**

## 1. Division: Economic Development

### 1.1 Economic Development Unit

#### Project / Activity Report

Title	Economic Development Unit
Letterkenny/ Milford MD	<b>Letterkenny 2040 Strategic Urban Regeneration Site – Phase 1 (Alpha Innovation Centre, Beta Business Centre &amp; Public Realm):</b> Project to go to tender in January 2024 for construction contract, with construction expected to commence on site in Q3 2024 and estimated project completion date set for Q3, 2025.
Stranorlar/ Lifford MD	<b>Lifford Lands:</b> Planning application for enabling infrastructure has been approved An Bord Pleanála. Procurement for construction of enabling infrastructure is progressing. The EDU is engaging with prospective companies and other parties in relation to the development of this site.

#### County Wide

##### **#BuyDonegal / #CeannaighDúnnanGall 2023**

The 2023 #BuyDonegal campaign ran for a period of 5 weeks until 2 December 2023. This award-winning initiative, which will be in its fourth year, showcased the high-quality and renowned Donegal brands across a wide range of sectors including creative, services, tourism, and retail. Over 300 businesses have been involved in the #Buydonegal campaign to date. A website has been developed to showcase the businesses [www.buydonegal.com](http://www.buydonegal.com)

##### **Donegal Tech Advocates**

Donegal Tech Advocates was established in order to promote, grow and empower the Tech sector across Donegal. Plans for 2024 include the development of branding and a focus on growing the membership. A launch event will be held later in the year.

##### **Relocation Marketing Campaign**

The #MoveToDonegal campaign has reached over 3.5 million across all social media platforms and received over 65 relocation enquiries. The team have been working with TG4 and WDC on the TV show 'Move West'. The Donegal episode will be aired in January 2024.

##### **InvestDonegal Communications Update**

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

Impressions (last 28 days)	Total Followers
Linked In     15,589	4,981(+45)

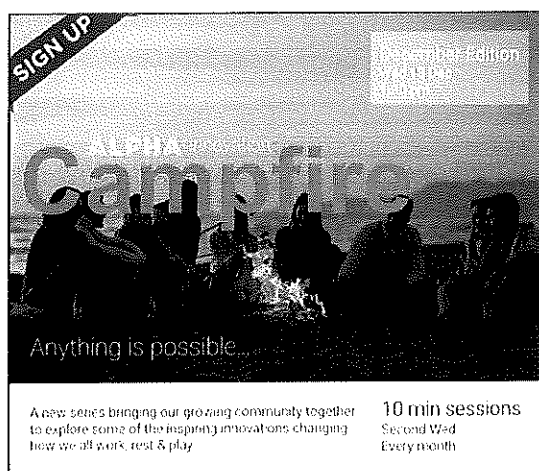
Twitter	17.8K	3,937(+953)
Instagram	2,652	4,178(+26)
Facebook	31,292	2,074 (+25)

Donegal.ie 3.4K Web Users

8 News Items Published.

### ALPHA Innovation Update

#### *New Series - Innovation Campfire:*



ALPHA Innovation is delighted to announce our new #InnovationCampfire Series which will take place on the second Wednesday of each month. 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:

- 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

The first episode was live on 13<sup>th</sup> of December, and you can watch back by You can watch back by visiting <https://form.jotform.com/233241176726354>.

#### **Online Selling Workshop:**

ALPHA Innovation recently collaborated with the Inishowen Development Partnership and the #BuyDonegal team to deliver an 'Online Selling Workshop' on Friday 17 November, to prepare businesses for the upcoming Black Friday selling period and the #BuyDonegal campaign. Hosted in the Inishowen Innovation hub in Buncrana, the 3-hour session was delivered by Grace Shields of Social Scene PR and went through:

- How to get started selling online.
- Explored how to maximize sales during #BuyDonegal and Black Friday.
- Developing a strategy to increase revenues in 2024.
- Gained an understanding of applying for support such as Local Enterprise Office Donegal's Trading Online Voucher.

Participants left with a prioritized Action Plan to drive sales in their business over the festive period.

#### **Shared Island Funded Projects Update**

Scoping and Feasibility Studies along with Business Cases have been completed for four projects namely NW RegTech Initiative, Slí Colmcille, Crossborder Innovation Plazas and Regenerative Tourism Initiative. This work was funded under the Shared Island Local Authority Grant Scheme. Project documentation has been submitted to both the Shared Island Unit and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in accordance with the grant scheme. See November MD report appendix 1 for further detail.

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

##### **Golden Bridges and the US Trade Mission 2023**

This took place from 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023 and was a very successful trade mission that incorporated both meetings and events showcasing the North West City Region.

- The annual Golden Bridges Conference took place on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023 attended by the NWCR delegation. Joe Kennedy III, US economic envoy to Northern Ireland also attended.
- As part of the US trade mission the 'Pathfinder Go To Market' programme was very successful in partnership with the LEO and Alpha Innovation and facilitated by Catalyst. 10 businesses from the North West City Region travelled to the US to take part, 4 were from the Life Sciences sector and 6 were from the Tech, Saas, AI sector.
- The 'Ireland's North West City Region' brand was promoted throughout the US Trade Mission and at Golden Bridges 2023 through using new branded marketing collateral.
- The NWCR delegation met with contacts in Philadelphia to discuss tourism collaboration opportunities with agreement to explore the potential of a golf tourism focused initiative between the US and the North West City Region.
- The NWCR delegation met representatives of CSC Station, Wilmington, Delaware in relation to their Innovation Hub and potential collaborations with the North West City Region.
- The Donegal Association Philadelphia hosted an evening reception for NWCR delegates. This event provided an opportunity to build relationships and nurture connections with the Diaspora in Philadelphia and to showcase the latest developments and inward investment initiatives in the North West City Region.
- The NWCR delegation met with management of 'Pennovation Works' an Innovation Centre in Philadelphia. This meeting provided an opportunity to discuss Innovation Centre business models and approaches.

- The NWCR delegation attended the IABCN Life Sciences Summit 2023, which provided an opportunity to network and discuss potential collaboration opportunities.
- The Boston State House representatives hosted a reception with NWCR delegates to further strengthen civic links with Boston MA and update on the opportunities and challenges facing the NWCR.
- A meeting between IDA & INI US East Coast with North West City Region representatives took place to agree pathways on collective branding and marketing to accelerate inward investment location determination for the NWCR.
- Other meetings were held with key US coast contacts including Harvard University and the World Trade Centre in Boston.

### **North West City Region - Irish Embassy Event in London**

This North West City Region event was hosted by Ambassador Martin Frazer on 4th December 2023 at the Embassy of Ireland in London. The objective of this event was to promote Ireland's North West City Region in relation to trade and investment and to demonstrate the competitive advantages of doing business in the North West City Region. The event is also marked the 25-year anniversary of the Good Friday agreement and to share success stories of how the region has evolved since from an economic development perspective and highlighted the benefit to businesses of locating in this region which can provide seamless market access to both the EU and UK. The Cathaoirleach of Donegal County Council Cllr. Martin Harley and Mayor of Derry City and Strabane District Council, Patricia Logue along with Council Executive representatives were in attendance.

Approximately 60 guests attended the event including key business and community representatives, partner organisations, key influencers and Diaspora representatives. The event provided an opportunity to strengthen relationships with the Diaspora and other key contacts in the UK.

And included a panel discussion moderated by Tip O'Neill recipient 2023, Caroline McLaughlin, Executive Director at Morgan Stanley, UK. Panelists included Denis Curran, Head of Regions, Property and Enterprise Development at the IDA and Darragh McCarthy, CEO at FinTrU.

The event was also supported by stakeholders including the IDA Ireland, Invest NI, Enterprise Ireland, Atlantic Technological University, Ulster University, Donegal ETB and the North West Regional College along with businesses operating in the region. Those who attended are being invited to continue to engage with the NWCR via the various social media channels and ezines.

### **Irelandnw.com Website**

The NWCR website has been updated with the new branding and with new content.

### **Caravan, Camping and Campervan Initiatives**

Donegal County Council continues to implement the actions set out in the KPMG Study into the Caravan, Camping and Campervan Sector including the following areas of work:

- CCCMF Grant Scheme: €180,000 was allocated to this grant scheme with 9 applicants who returned Letters of Offers including 7 businesses and 2 voluntary organisations. These projects are ongoing.
- Code of Conduct: We continue to promote the 'campers code' on Govisitdonegal.com.
- Signage: New signage has been successfully trialled at various pilot locations to encourage responsible disposal of waste and to direct campers to private sector sites to avail of services there. This will be rolled out to other locations in 2024.
- Marketing: The Tourism Unit has delivered a marketing campaign via a dedicated page on Go Visit Donegal providing information on the camper code, private sector sites, waste disposal and service point information. New campaigns will run in 2024.
- Campers Service Point Review: A review of the workings and management of existing service units has been conducted and presented to the Economic Development SPC.

### Concierge Service

The Concierge Service provides support to those interested in doing business in Donegal. The EDU team is planning a social media campaign to promote it over the coming months. The contact email for this service is [economicdevelopment@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:economicdevelopment@donegalcoco.ie)

### Diaspora

**Open Call to Artists – Tip O’Neill Annual Irish diaspora Award Re-design** – Calls for artists submissions for a new design of the annual Tip O’Neill Irish Diaspora Award is now open. Details of project requirements can be found on Donegal.ie and Donegal County Council website. Deadline for submissions – 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024 to [info@donegal.ie](mailto:info@donegal.ie)

**London Irish Centre:** A Donegal-themed event is confirmed for the London Irish Centre on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024 with Packie Bonner and Shay Given alongside ETB and HSE promoting our relocation campaign and employment opportunities in the county.

**Scottish Diaspora:** Collaboration ongoing with the Donegal Scotland Diaspora group on a number of upcoming initiatives:

- Hosting events to collate material in Scotland for the “Donegal Emigrant Working lives in Scotland” project in conjunction with Donegal County Councils Heritage Office.
- EDU Team is working with Irish Consulate in Scotland with a view to hosting an event to showcase the unique relationship between Donegal and Scotland - Event now confirmed for 25<sup>th</sup> April 24.

### Contact Person

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## 1.2: Tourism Marketing Unit

### **Project Activity Report**

#### **Holiday World Show 2024**

Event taking place in RDS, Dublin from Fri 26th – Sun 28th January 2024. The show is expected to attract over 550 exhibitors, and 40,000 attendees. Donegal Tourism Unit have invested in purchasing their own stand and branding for this event and to be utilised at future promotional events. Sixteen local providers will be exhibiting and promoting their business alongside Donegal Tourism at the Holiday World Show stand. The Tourism Unit are liaising with the show organisers in relation to PR in advance of the show and securing prizes for the show competition. Details are available on the Show website: [www.holidayworldshow.com](http://www.holidayworldshow.com)

#### **New Tourism Brochure 2024**

Our Tourism Brochure for 2024 will be ready for Holiday World 2024 at the end of January.

#### **Age Friendly/Disability Strategy**

Tourism Team continues to participate in both groups to see where the Tourism Industry in the county can learn from consultation. A draft action plan for Nairn Portnoo is currently being drafted.

#### **Dungloe to Glenties Cycleway**

Tourism Team continue to participate in the newly formed working group to organise and market an official opening and to promote the 25km cycleway going forward in the first quarter of 2024. A production company has been procured to produce marketing materials for this event.

#### **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.

#### **Tourism Ireland Marketing Plans 2024**

Donegal Tourism will attend the launch of Tourism Ireland's Marketing Plans for 2024 in January which will give an insight into the year ahead, there will also be an opportunity to attend one-to-one workshops with their overseas business exchange staff.

#### **Shoulder Season Campaign Spring 2024**

Donegal Tourism will re-start its shoulder season campaign, which ran in autumn 2023, again in February 2024. The aim of this campaign is to drive incremental visitors to our county in the non-peak period.

#### **TOURBO Project**



The implementation is continuing of the Interreg European TOURBO project, led by Seville Chamber of Commerce, which will help small and medium sized tourism businesses with green and digital transformation. At the beginning of 2024 calls for expressions of interest will be launched targeting experts in digitalisation/sustainability from all partner countries to advise MSMEs in Greece and Marche regions (Marche and North Aegean regions are the sole partner regions). 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 and will provide businesses with an opportunity to learn from various good practice approaches across Europe to encourage sustainable biking business.

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

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

#### **GoVisitDonegal.com Website**

**2023 (Jul 01<sup>st</sup> – Dec 18<sup>th</sup>)** - Users 144,756- Page Views 369,465.  
Festival and Events is the most viewed page – views 33.031

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

**Facebook:** Facebook had a reach of 109,968. Donegal announced as Lonely Planet Top Places To Visit was the highest reaching post.

**Instagram:** Instagram had a reach of 14,745. The best performing content related to Donegal It's Yours campaign.

**LinkedIn:** There was an increase of 35 new followers.

**Twitter:** 2,964 impressions over the last 28 days.

**TikTok:** TikTok has 58 followers.

#### **Donegal Tourism CLG**

The board of Donegal Tourism CLG have their next meeting scheduled for January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

#### **Grant Schemes**

##### **Minor Tourism Related Works Grant Scheme**

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

##### **Regional Festival & Events Grant Scheme**

All successful applicants to this grant scheme have been issued letters of offer and work is underway with the various festivals that have been completed to drawdown this funding. All funding must be drawn down by December 2023 as this is then recouped from Failte Ireland at the end of each year.

## **Bundoran**

### **Marketing**

- Promotion of Christmas activities and dedicated Christmas page on website.
- 2024 Activities and Events Calendar is nearly complete.
- Continuing to update blogs and content on website on a weekly basis.
- Compilation and distribution of monthly email newsletter.

### **Bundoran Tourist Office**

- Tourist Office open 4 days a week (Tue-Sun).
- Currently one TÚS employee working.

### **Website and Social Media**

- Maintaining a social media presence for the town on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.
- Producing the annual “Reeling in Bundoran” blog gives a retrospect of 2023. The top 5 Instagram posts will be shared from each month from December 20<sup>th</sup> until New Year’s Eve.

### **Website**

- the Discover Bundoran website continues to perform strongly year on year with the pages views from 2022 (Jan-Dec 308,589) being surpassed by the end of November this year. The website will surpass the targets set for 2023.

**Website users and page views:** 2023 (Jan-Dec 11th) - Users 143,081 - Page Views 317,280

### **Waterworld**

Marketing plan for the 2024 season is waiting to be approved by SMT and the board.

### **Other activities:**

- A further training event has taken place for the new Discover Bundoran Volunteer Events Team which has 23 volunteers. Colm Croffy from AOIFE (Association of Irish Festival & Events) gave a three-hour workshop on various aspects of event organisation and promotion.

Tourism Officer attended the Cruise Ireland meeting in the royal Marine Hotel in Dun Laoghaire, Dublin.

### **Contact Person**

Sarah Nolan  
[sarahnolan@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:sarahnolan@donegalcoco.ie)  
Acting Head of Tourism Unit  
074 91 94241

### **1.3: Strategic Funding Unit**

#### **Project / Activity Report**

**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**

The SFU is currently exploring opportunities around PEACE Plus, in particular the Investment Area 2.2, the Innovation Challenge Fund. 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>

#### **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.

#### **Project Partnership & Development**

The SFU is exploring several project opportunities under the Atlantic Area Programme and is liaising with Council staff and other potential partners on project concepts related to air quality, green infrastructure, fishing sector ecosystem innovation and tourism.

#### **Two new EU projects successfully funded.**

The SFU applied for two projects under the Interreg Europe funding call and both have been successfully funded, the Green Hydra and EDIN project. They will launch in late January/early February 2024.

The *Green Hydra* project's main scope is to improve national, regional, or local policies for involving SMEs across the whole hydrogen value chain by ensuring better conditions for the following:

- promoting Green Hydrogen as a viable energy transition solution.
- greening existing value chains and creation of new ones.
- financing for testing equipment.
- upscaling innovations related to green hydrogen products and services.
- supporting identifying needs for skills, knowledge development, education and communication and measures for their upscaling.
- identifying new social and economic measures of energy transition project

The *EDIN project* is focused on Digital Nomads (DN) in European regions. Promoting regions as viable locations for digital nomads to work represents an opportunity for the sustainable development of partner regions. The EDIN project intends to engage in knowledge exchange learning on how to adapt or change policy instruments in order to attract digital nomads to the variety of member states involved in the project in order to fully exploit the benefits they can bring to the regions in the form of talent, tech and tourism.

**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****Mobile:** +353 (87) 0619360**E-mail:** [joybrowne@donegalcoco.ie](mailto:joybrowne@donegalcoco.ie)

## 2. Local Enterprise Office

### Summary of December 2023 Outputs/Events:

**Grant Aid (M1)** – Business Expansion, Priming (Start-Up) & Feasibility -51 Businesses have been approved Grant Aid in 2023 totalling **€713,412**. The next EVAC meeting will take place on 1st February 2024.

**Trading Online Vouchers** – 64 Businesses approved support in 2023 to trade online with a value of **€141,423**.

**Mentoring 2023** – 303 Businesses have received this support in 2023

**Training** – 2,592 Business attendees at 105 Events in 2023.

**Micro Finance Ireland** – 2023 - 10 applications submitted to MFI. A total of €156k in loan finance recommended by LEO Donegal and approved by MFI.

Digital Start – 24 applications approved in 2023.

Green for Business – 21 applications approved in 2023.

Energy Efficiency Grants - 1 application approved in 2023.

Lean For Business – 17 applications approved in 2023.

### **European Enterprise Network (EEN)**

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 of these brokerage events, **“Meet the Buyer – Food and Nutrition”** will be taking place on **January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024**, at the Merits Innovation Thinkspace in Naas County Kildare.

The second Brokerage event, title **“Meet the Buyer – Construction, Engineering, & Sustainable Energy”** will occur on the **9<sup>th</sup> of February 2024** at Mount Lucas, County Offaly.

### **Ambition - Excellence in Local Government Award**

The LEO initiated Ambition Programme won the Chambers Ireland Diversity & Inclusion award at the Excellence in Local Government Awards in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Dublin. Ambition is a pre-accelerator programme which focuses on female entrepreneurs. The most recent programme engaging 15 early-stage female entrepreneurs concluded in December at an in-person event in the Harvey's Point Hotel.

### Upcoming Events/Programmes:

#### **Start Your Own Business Programme 2024**

The Start Your Own Business Programme is recommencing on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024, and is already fully booked. This will be the first of 7 Programmes scheduled to take place during 2024. The February programme is starting on 6<sup>th</sup> February and is available for booking on the LEO Donegal website.

**Lean, Green & Digital for Business Information Sessions**

Information Sessions for Lean, Green and Digital productivity supports will take place in January and early February to raise awareness of the scope of each programme and encourage sign-up. Businesses can sign-up for these free events through the Local Enterprise Office website.

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/donegal>

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

<b>Contact Person</b>	Brenda Hegarty, Head of Enterprise  Local Enterprise Office 074 9160735 <a href="mailto:Brenda.Hegarty@leo.donegalcoco.ie">Brenda.Hegarty@leo.donegalcoco.ie</a>
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### 3. Emergency Services – Fire Service

#### Fire Service Monthly MD Report (January)

Activity	Number of: (November) <sup>1</sup>	Total for year		
<b>Fire Service Operations</b>				
Fire Brigade incidents within County Donegal <sup>**</sup> :	53	702		
Mobilisations (by Donegal Fire Service Brigades) <sup>**</sup> :	61	892		
Mobilisations into Donegal (by NI Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS)) <sup>**</sup> :	3	70		
<b>Operational Activity Breakdown November 2023</b>				
	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
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>		<b>53</b>	
<b>Fire Prevention</b>				
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.



**GLENTIES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
MEETING  
09<sup>th</sup> January 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. NRDO – Verbal Update on N56 Project Glenties – Kilraine.**
- 3. Draft 2024 Bridge Programme for discussion.**
- 4. Proposed Roads Workshop 1 : During 19 – 23 rd February 2024. Agree Date.**
- 5. Proposed Roads Workshop 2 : During 6 – 13<sup>th</sup> March 2024. Agree Date.**
- 6. Takeover of Island Roads – Documents will be circulated in advance of meeting**
- 7. AOB**

# **Housing & Corporate Agenda**

**For Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

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

1. PROGRESS REPORT - GRANTS AT 15/12/2023

<b>Housing Aid for Older People Grants</b>						
<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Cancelled/ Refused</i>	<i>Applicant Further Info</i>	<i>Referred to Eng</i>	<i>Pending</i>
2023	144	99	28	2	15	17

<b>Housing Adaptation Grants</b>							
<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Cancelled/ Refused</i>	<i>Applicant Further Info</i>	<i>Referred to Eng</i>	<i>Referred to OT</i>	<i>Pending</i>
2022	87	62	22	1	0	2	3
2023	116	73	26	4	7	6	17

<b>Mobility Aids Grants</b>							
<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Cancelled/ Refused</i>	<i>Applicant Further Info</i>	<i>Referred to Eng</i>	<i>Referred to OT</i>	<i>Pending</i>
2023	3	2	1	0	0	0	0

## 2. PROGRESS REPORT – CASUAL VACANCIES @ 20/12/2023

<b>Glenties MD</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Beds</b>	<b>Vacant From</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Arranmore				
	Leabgarrow	2 bed	01/06/2023	Offered
Doochary				
	Radharc an tSeipeal	2 bed	10/11/2023	Contractor appointed
Dunfanaghy				
	Eadan Mor	3 bed	12/12/2023	To be tendered
Falcarragh				
	Ballina	3 bed	23/08/2023	Will be tendered in Q1 of 2024
Glenties				
	Ard McGill	1 bed	15/06/2023	Contractor on site

### 3. HOUSING NEED AS AT 19/12/23

#### Gross Need - by approved bedrooms

Municipal District	0	1	2	3	4	5	Total
<b>Glenties</b>							
Annagry	0	0	11	5	3	0	<b>19</b>
Ardara	0	3	13	1	1	0	<b>18</b>
Bunbeg	0	0	0	1	0	0	<b>1</b>
Burtonport	0	0	4	1	1	0	<b>6</b>
Creeslough	0	0	14	2	3	0	<b>19</b>
Crolly	0	0	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Derrybeg	0	0	3	0	0	0	<b>3</b>
Doochary	0	1	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Dunfanaghy	0	1	12	1	0	0	<b>14</b>
Dungloe	0	4	35	6	2	1	<b>48</b>
Falcarragh	0	1	30	4	0	0	<b>35</b>
Fintown	0	0	0	1	0	0	<b>1</b>
Glenties	0	0	6	2	2	0	<b>10</b>
Gortahork	0	1	4	0	0	1	<b>6</b>
<b>GWEEDORE</b>	0	1	17	8	1	0	<b>27</b>
Kincasslagh	0	0	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Lettermacaward	0	0	0	0	1	0	<b>1</b>
Loughanure	0	0	3	0	0	0	<b>3</b>
Magheroarty	0	0	2	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
Portnoo	0	0	2	1	0	0	<b>3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>219</b>

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

As at 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Glenties Municipal District is providing Social Housing Support in the form of the Housing Assistance Payment to 89 families/individuals. 24 of these families/individuals are in receipt of HAP only.

### 5. NUMBER OF RAS PROPERTIES

As of the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023, the Glenties Municipal District is providing Social Housing Support in the form of:

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

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

## 6. NUMBER OF LTL PROPERTIES

As of the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2023, 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 <sup>st</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2023 to 20/12/2023		
Number of Offers issued	Offers Accepted	Offers Refused
32	28	4

## 8. TENANT PURCHASE

Number of applications received since Scheme commenced:	138
Total number of valid applications:	109
Valid applications received in 2023:	26
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 2023	Number of Loans Approved in 2023
43	5	1	0

**Housing Capital Update Report  
Glenties Municipal District Meeting  
January 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	Department Approval to go to tender (Stage 3 Approval) has been received and final tender documentation is being finalised in advance of uploading to E tenders. The timeframe for contractors to submit tenders for the Project is 35 days from date of tender.	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
<b>Total</b>		<b>49</b>

**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 must be made in strict accordance with the requirements of the procurement documentation and the deadline for submission is 16.30 on Wednesday, 30th of September 2026. Any enquiries from interested parties should be sent via eTenders.

### **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).