

Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall

Oifig Riarthóir na gCruinnithe,
Aras an Chontae,
Leifear.

3ú Eanáir, 2017

Fógra Cruinnithe

Beidh Cruinniú de Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall ar siúl **De Máirt 10ú Eanáir, 2017, ag 11.30 r.n. in Ionad Serbhísí Pobail, Bhaile Dhún na nGall.**

DO GACH BHALL DEN CEANTAR BARDAS DÚN NA nGALL

A Chara,

Iarrtar ort bheith i lathair ag an gcruinniú seo Ceantar Bardais Dún na nGall. Tá Clar an Cruinnithe le seo.

Mise, le meas

Seosamh O'Piopla
p.p. Riarthóir Cruinnithe

Municipal District of Donegal

Office of Meetings Administrator,
County House,
Lifford.

3rd January, 2017

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal will be held on **Tuesday 10th January 2017, at 11.30 a.m. in the Donegal Public Services Centre.**

TO EACH MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL

Dear Councillor,

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

Yours sincerely,

for Joe Peoples
Meetings Administrator

AGENDA

1. Consideration of Minutes of Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 13th December, 2016.
2. Consideration of Minutes of Workshop of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 13th December, 2016.
3. Update Reports from Council Services:
 - 3.1 Housing & Corporate Services
 - 3.2 Roads / Transportation
 - 3.3 Planning & Economic Development
 - 3.4 Community, Enterprise and Cultural Services
 - 3.5 Environment Services
4. Date of Next Meeting - Tuesday the 14th February, 2017 at 11.30 am.

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD AT
11.30 A. M. ON TUESDAY THE 13TH DECEMBER 2016 IN THE PETER
KENNEDY CHAMBER, DONEGAL PUBLIC SERVICES CENTRE, DONEGAL**

MDD/143/16 MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr Barry O'Neill
Cllr Noel Jordan
Cllr Tom Conaghan
Cllr John Campbell
Cllr Niamh Kennedy

MDD/144/16 OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Garry Martin, Director Designate, Municipal District of Donegal
Ms. Bridie McBrearty, Area Manager, Municipal District of Donegal
Mr. Mark Sweeney, A/Area Manager, Roads/Transportation
Mr. Barney McLaughlin, Administrative Officer, Community & Enterprise
Mr. Killian Smith, Executive Planner
Ms. Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer
Mr. Enda Monaghan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services

MDD/145/16 ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Ms. Zia McClean, Secretary, Friends of Rossnowlagh Beach Committee
Mr. Neil Britton, Chairman, Friends of Rossnowlagh Beach Committee
Mr. Martin McDevitt, Friends of Rossnowlagh Beach Committee

MDD/146/16 Apologies

Cllr Sean McEniff

MDD/147/16 VOTES OF SYMPATHY

Members passed a vote of sympathy in respect of the following recent death;-

The late Mrs. Anna Mae Hanna, mother-in-law of Mr. Paul Timoney, Building Supervisor, Donegal Public Services Centre

Also noted a thank you card received from the family of the late Dom and Mary Breslin, Donegal Town.

MDD/148/16 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 11TH OCTOBER, 2016

On the proposal of Cllr Jordan, seconded by Cllr Campbell, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 11th October 2016 were confirmed.

MDD/149/16 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 7TH OCTOBER, 2016

On the proposal of Cllr Conaghan, seconded by Cllr Campbell, the Minutes of the Workshop of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 7th October 2016 were confirmed.

MDD/150/16 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE BUDGET MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 24TH OCTOBER, 2016

On the proposal of Cllr Jordan, seconded by Cllr O'Neill, the Minutes of the Budget Meeting of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 24th October 2016 were confirmed.

MDD/151/16 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF DONEGAL HELD ON 14TH NOVEMBER, 2016

On the proposal of Cllr O'Neill, seconded by Cllr Jordan the Minutes of the Workshop of the Municipal District of Donegal held on the 14th November 2016 were confirmed.

MDD/152/16 Attendance of Deputation from Friends of Rossnowlagh Beach Committee

Members welcomed Mr. Neil Britton, Ms. Zia McClean and Mr. Martin McDevitt from the Friends of Rossnowlagh Beach Committee to the meeting and invited them to make their presentation.

Mr. Neil Britton informed Members that their group represents all of the stakeholders for Rossnowlagh Beach. He advised that a public meeting that was held in the Sand House Hotel at which there were 60 attendees and at which the Committee was proposed. He referred to the population of the Rossnowlagh Beach Area which is about 60 in winter time but that this increases to up to 5000 in the summer time. He submitted that Rossnowlagh Beach is the most used place in the County for visitors. He made a detailed presentation on the issues of concern to the deputation and in particular the following:-

- **Traffic Safety** – an increasing difficulty in Rossnowlagh – need for footpaths as there are a lot of walkers to the beach.

- **Speed Limits** – need to be reviewed/reduced to take account of the area
- **Main Junction** – is in middle of Rossnowlagh, Chip Vans park on the double yellow lines, is a bottleneck for traffic, would like to see a roundabout constructed at this junction which was previously proposed and which would alleviate the problem of ‘boy racers’
- **Car-free zone on beach** – this is popular with residents but requested that the area be extended or moved approximately 80 meters south. This would also prevent cars from parking on the soft sand area and getting stuck and also relieve the bottleneck at the Sand House exit from the beach.
- **Signage** – the current signage is in need of review to make it more user friendly and should include information about ‘car free zone, directions to the car-park, maps of Rossnowlagh in a bigger version of the ‘blue flag’ maps that would tie all of the area together should be provided at a number of locations in Rossnowlagh including in car parking areas.
- **Litter and Rubbish** – the arrangements for July and August work quite well but there are issues on busy beach days outside of the two summer months and would like a contingency plan to deal with this during the months of May, June and September.
- **Playground** – a site is available from the Britton Family for the purpose of providing a playground for Rossnowlagh. This is in the early stages of planning and the deputation would like the support of the Council to provide a playground.

A number of comments/queries were dealt with as follows:-

Cllr O'Neill thanked the deputation for their comprehensive presentation. He submitted that there have been some improvements at Rossnowlagh over the years but that a response is needed from the Council e.g. to assist in dealing with busy weekends. He referred to a deputation that had attended the Donegal Electoral Area Committee some years ago and referred to the proposal at the time for a ‘car-free’ beach which did not proceed owing to objections. He also referred to plans that were being proposed for commercial units at Rossnowlagh at the time which did not proceed. He also submitted that it is timely for the Council to review Casual Trading on the beach and also that parking cars on the beach should be limited to a major extend and that additional car parking should be provided in the Rossnowlagh area. Cllr O'Neill also stated that much more needs to be done to police the Beach Bye-laws.

Cllr O'Neill advised that the fabric of Rossnowlagh needs to be protected via a character assessment which would guide the planning control section in deciding on applications. He supported the issues raised by the deputation i.e. bins, footpaths, carparks, signage and policing.

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell if the deputation was seeking to extend the 'car-free' zone or just move the zone by 80 m to avoid the soft sand area, Mr. N Britton advised their preference would be to extend the area. Mr. M McDermot advised that people with children using the beach prefer a car-free area but that this only affects beach users and would not impact on businesses and would protect the beach and provide a safer environment for beach users.

Cllr Campbell advised the deputation that there is a speed limit review in the County nearing a completion and that this will have a positive impact on the Rossnowlagh area. He also advised the deputation that an option for them would be to form a company limited by guarantee which would facilitate them in drawing down grants and that they should co-ordinate with the Local Community Development Committee and that quite an amount of guidance is available from the Council in this area through the Community and Enterprise Section. He submitted that this might be an avenue to deliver additional car-parking.

Cllr Jordan thanked the deputation for their presentation and submitted that the car-parking is an issue and referred to the importance of safety on the beach and other areas. He submitted it might be an opportune time to examine the Beach Bye-laws and that Casual Trading on the beach is an issue for local businesses.

In response to a query from Cllr Kennedy if there is alternative car-parking at Rossnowlagh as opposed to the beach, Ms. Zia McClean advised there is a car park for 220 cars but that it gets little use due to poor signage.

Mr. G Martin thanked the deputation for their presentation and asked that it be forwarded by e-mail so that it can be communicated to the relevant staff for consideration. He also referred to proposals that were referred to earlier and that had been proposed some years ago but that these had not progress due to some factors including the downturn in the economy. He also referred to the issues that had arisen in relation to possible rights-of-way that had prevented the beach from being designated a car free zone at the time. He submitted that extending or moving the car free zone is a welcomed request.

In relation to the litter/dumping issued these could be reviewed through the Council's Environment Section with a view to improving same. In relation to the playground Mr. Martin submitted that this was a generous offer of a site for same and submitted that this proposal would be looked at by the Section in the Council which deals with playgrounds. He submitted that Leader funding may be available to assist with this and that the other issue to consider would be insurance. He advised the deputation that the issues raised would be fed back to the services for review.

Cllr Conaghan submitted that when the beach is busy signage should be provided to direct traffic to the car-park which may go some way to educating users about the availability of car-parking. He also submitted that with the goodwill of both the Council and the deputation, progress could be made in relation to their concerns.

Members thanked the deputation for their attendance.

MDD/153/16 HOUSING CORPORATE AND CULTURAL SERVICES REPORT

Corporate Services

Housing Services

Progress reports on Grants, Loans, Casual Vacancies, and Social Housing Support Programme, Tenant Purchase Scheme 2016 and Housing Assistance Payments.

Members noted the update reports on Grants, Loans, and Casual Vacancies, Tenant Purchase Scheme 2016, Housing Assistance Payments and Social Housing Support Programme as circulated with the Agenda and presented by Ms. B McBrearty.

Casual Vacancies

In relation to Casual Vacancies, Ms. B McBrearty advised that all of the properties on the casual vacancies list would be turned around except for two in Ballyshannon that will be advertised for sale in 2017. She also advised Members that there is a need for additional contractors to undertake work for the Housing Service in Donegal and if there is any interest for contractors for them to contact Mr. Michael Hanley, Health & Safety Officer to apply to go on the approved list of contractors. Due to the limited number of contractors, and the volume of works the housing department is undertaking at present including insulation works, additional contractor capacity would be welcomed to expedite works.

Social Housing Support Programme

Ms. B McBrearty informed Members that House Purchases had been completed for this District for 2016 and that she was working with an AHB on other purchases.

Tenant Purchase Scheme 2016

Ms. B McBrearty updated Members on the Tenant Purchase Scheme 2016.

Social Housing Support Programme

Ms. B McBrearty updated Members in relation to the Social Housing Support Programme as per report circulated with the Agenda.

Ballyshannon ErneDale Heights

Ms. B McBrearty informed Members that the tenders have been opened by Cluid Housing Association and are currently being examined.

Housing Assistance Payments (HAP)

Ms. B McBrearty presented the HAP report as circulated with the Agenda. In relation to inspections, Ms. B McBrearty informed Members that all private rented dwellings in the County would be inspected over a period after the HAP property inspections are completed and the update report on inspections would be amended to reflect that it is inspections under the RTB Acts.

Other Housing Matters

Section 183 Disposal

Ms. B McBrearty briefed Members in relation to the proposed Section 183 at Railway Park Donegal Town as previously agreed by the Municipal District which would go to the next Plenary Meeting of the Council for consideration of the Members.

A number of comments/queries were dealt with as follows:-

HAP

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell regarding the recoupmnt of costs for inspections, Ms. B McBrearty informed Members the Council receives a fee per dwelling inspected from the Department.

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell if persons are having difficulty in getting viewings of properties from agents if the agents are aware they are applying for HAP, Ms. B McBrearty informed Members that it is an offence for landlords to discriminate against tenants or potential tenants in receipt of HAP or Rent Allowance. She also submitted that the Council is processing lesser new HAP applications at present and it is largely the remaining applicants who are in receipt of Rent Supplement that are currently changing over to HAP. She also advised that the scheme has worked well in Donegal with Landlords receiving their payments monthly electronically which negates the need for them to collect rents from tenants. It was also noted that all private rented dwelling in the County will be inspected in due course and that this will support the provision of a better quality private rented market.

Clar Funding for back road at Cluain Barron, Ballyshannon

In response to a request for an update on the possibility of obtaining funding for the back road at Cluain Barron, Ballyshannon through the new Clar Funding Programme, Ms. B McBrearty informed Members that unfortunately this scheme is not available for these works and that the Clar Funding is largely concentrated around

schools. In response to a further query from Cllr O'Neill if there could be some funding set aside from the Roads Maintenance Allocation for 2017 to carryout the works at the back of Cluain Barron, Mr. M Sweeney informed Members that at present the annual maintenance allocation for the District only covers a small percentage of the mileage for the District and is not adequate to maintain the existing network and in any case the Council could not allocate resources to roads that are not on the Roads Schedule.

MDD/154/16 ROADS / TRANSPORTATION SERVICES REPORT

2016 Roads Programme

Mr. M Sweeney presented the update reports circulated with the Agenda on the 2016 Road Works Programme including,

- Regional Road Surface Dressing,
- Local Road Surface Dressing,
- 2016 Regional and Local Road Improvements,
- Severe Weather Repair Works,
- Severe Weather Preventative Works
- Low Cost Safety Measures
- NRA – HD 15 Works
- Footpath Programme
- OPW Funded Costal & Non-Costal Protection Works

3 Year Restoration Programme 2017 – 2019

Mr. M Sweeney informed Members that the Roads Section is currently working on a Restoration Programme for 2019 which will be the 2017 programme and review programme for the following 2 years. He confirmed he would revert to Members with same for consideration in early 2017.

Clar Funding – Safety Works at Schools(Measure 1) and Access Roads (Measure 2)

Mr. M Sweeney briefed Members in relation to works that will be carried out through Clar Funding to the value of €110,000.00 and confirmed that he would forward a list of the works to Members for information. Members welcomed this funding.

Teelin Pier

In response to a request for Cllr Campbell for power points and lighting at Teelin Pier to be repaired, Mr. M Sweeney informed Members he would follow up on this with the Marine Engineer.

In response to a further request from Cllr Kennedy for action to remedy a pole that off the Road/Pier at Teelin which is damaging water pipes, Mr. M Sweeney undertook to follow up on this matter.

Lining at Leghowney Junction

In response to a request for an update on progress on lining at the Leghowney Junction, Mr. M Sweeney informed Members that these works had been recently completed.

Delegation from the Council to meet Transport Infrastructure Ireland

Cllr T Conaghan briefed Members in relation to the recent meeting Councillors and Officials had with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) in relation to presenting and making the case for funding for roads projects in Co Donegal. He commended the great preparatory work carried out by the Roads Staff and advised that the requests were positively received by TII. He submitted that it is important for the area that Members and Officials continue to work together in a positive manner for the advancing of projects in the District and he advised he is hopeful of progress on funding for the N56.

Flooding on Knather Road to Belleek and outside Lakeside

In response to a request for some drainage works to be carried out on the Knather Road to Belleek and outside the Lakeside Centre to prevent flooding during heavy rain, Mr. M Sweeney undertook to investigate same with a view to addressing any road flooding issues.

Request to erect crash barrier at Creevy Pier, Ballyshannon

In response to a request for a barrier to be erected at the deep drop near Creevy Pier as previously requested, Mr. M Sweeney undertook to follow up on same.

Main St., Killybegs

In response to a request for Irish Water to carry out remedial works to the patching they had carried out on Main St. Killybegs and at the Hospital in Killybegs, Mr. M Sweeney undertook to follow up on same with Irish water.

Winter Maintenance.

In response to a query from Cllr Kennedy if some of the larger gritters for winter maintenance had been relocated from this MD to the Inishowen District, Mr. M Sweeney informed Members he would investigate same and revert to Members.

MDD/155/16 PLANNING CONTROL REPORT

Members noted the update reports circulated with the Agenda and presented by Mr. Killian Smith on the following matters:

- Statistics
- Appeals – 6 in Total – 2 in MD Donegal

- Significant Cases (incl. Transboundary applications)
- Other cases (Part 8's etc.) 1 at Emerald Drive, Killybegs

Mr. K Smith drew Members attention to the refusals report where a holiday home at Rosstown had been refused planning permission by Donegal County Council which was relevant to the earlier discussion with the Deputation from Rosstown.

No queries were raised for the planning service.

MDD/156/16 COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Members noted the Activity Report circulated with the Agenda and presented by Mr. B McLaughlin in relation to the following activities:

1. Donegal Walks and Trails
2. Bundoran Tourism Officer Update
3. Community Tourism Diaspora Initiative 2016
4. Donegal Gathering Website and Facebook
5. Donegal Tourism
6. Marine Tourism Marketing & Development
7. Malin Waters
8. Capital Grant Funding Scheme – Department of Children & Youth Affairs
9. Playgrounds
10. Ballyshannon Town & Village Renewal Scheme
11. EU Unit Update

Mr. McLaughlin also briefed Members in relation to 4 projects out of a total 425 that had been selected for the 2nd Stage of Interreg VB Atlantic Programme.

A number of comments / queries were dealt with as follows:-

Cllr Jordan commended Mr. McLaughlin and his team on the great work being done and also on the increase in tourism activity in the County. In response to a query from Cllr Jordan if there are deals done with Car Rental Companies in relation to tourism, Mr. B McLaughlin informed Members that the Car Rental Companies have sponsored prizes for some competitions and also that Donegal Tourism and the Car Rental Companies share information which is beneficial.

Cllr O'Neill also commended the Community & Enterprise team on the great work and also in particular in relation to the innovative approach to avail of the opportunity of the 'Coolest County' announcement recently in terms of promoting Donegal.

In response to a query from Cllr O'Neill if there are plans for the shelters at the Fairy Bridge in Bundoran to be re-opened, Mr. M

Sweeney informed Members that these works will be undertaken in the New Year through the capital balance left by the Bundoran Town Council.

Cllr O'Neill in referring to Greenways and a recent walk he had done on Creevy to Rossnowlagh submitted that some surfacing works, information boards and assistance with marketing would improve this amenity.

Cllr Kennedy also complimented the section on their ongoing work programme. She also advised the CEDAR Course in Letterkenny IT is finishing shortly and recommended this well run course to all in the Tourism Trade.

MDD/157/16 ENVIRONMENT SERVICES REPORT

Members welcomed Mr. Suzanne Bogan, Waste Awareness Officer to the meeting. She presented the report circulated to Members dealing with the following updates:

- Green Business Seminar
- Smoky Coal
- Beach Equipment Removal
- Coastal Erosion Surveys
- Bundoran Lifeguard Station Upgrade
- Ring Buoy Survey
- Coastal Shipwrecks
- Bundoran Public Convenience
- Bundoran Sea Pools
- Ballyshannon Public Conveniences
- Enforcement Figures

A number of comments / queries were dealt with as follows:

Recycling in Ballyshannon

Cllr O'Neill thanked Ms. S Bogan for her report. In response to a query for an update from Cllr O'Neill regarding a request to a previous meeting of the District for additional recycling banks to be provided in Ballyshannon at the Rock, Ms. S Bogan informed Members she would follow up this matter with the Recycling Officer. She also informed Members that the Council is currently firming up on arrangements with the Recycling Collectors for the holiday period.

Ring Buoy, Ballyshannon

Cllr O'Neill made a lengthy submission in relation to the accessibility of the Life Buoys along the river in Ballyshannon where the ESB had erected the fence and the associated conditions that had been put on the development by An Board Pleanala. He referred to his previous raising of this matter.

He proposed that the Council write to Irish Water Safety and seek clarification on their report to An Board Pleanala on the water safety along the river, which he submitted is at odds with the opinion of Irish Water Safety in Donegal. He submitted that the safety of the public is his concern as they do not have access to reach the life rings due to the fence erected by the ESB. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Campbell.

He also requested that the Planning Section take immediate enforcement action against the ESB for non-compliance with the conditions attached to the Planning Permission granted by An Board Pleanala.

Smokey Coal

In response to a query from Cllr Campbell if there are any plans to extend the ban on smokey coal in areas of the County outside of Letterkenny, Ms. S Bogan informed Members that there had been no further update from the Department and that the ban in Letterkenny had been introduced on a population basis as instructed by the Department.

In response to a further query from Cllr Campbell regarding the improved air quality in Letterkenny since the ban and if it is still being monitored, Ms. S Bogan informed Members that the monitoring equipment in Letterkenny had been de-commissioned since but that she would check if the readings are still available. She also informed Members that the Environmental Protection Agency is proposing to monitor air quality over a 5 year period and any development in this regard would be brought to Members' attention.

Septic Tank Inspections

In response to a request from Cllr Campbell for statistics on Septic Tank Inspections, Ms. S Bogan informed Members she would request this information for a future meeting.

Recycling Bins at Donegal PSC

Cllr Kennedy submitted that there are issues with the recycling banks at the Donegal Town Public Services Centre and that this is a difficulty county wide. She submitted that a lot of rubbish is being left at the banks including boxes, tv's etc. and requested that some action be taken to remedy this. Cllr Campbell queried if the cameras have made a difference to deterring offenders and if there is adequate enforcement in relation to his area and also if naming and shaming or a publicity campaign is an option.

In response to the matter raised, Ms. S Bogan informed Members that cameras are a deterrent to littering and that publicity will be pursued to bring to the attention of users of the recycling banks that littering is not acceptable. She also advised in relation to publicity, the act can be portrayed by using camera footage with the offender

blacked out to adhere to data protection requirements. She also advised that once a person is prosecuted for an offence it becomes a matter of public record.

Ballyshannon/Bundoran Fire Stations

Cllr O'Neill requested time to raise issues that had been brought to his attention by the Fire Crews in Ballyshannon/Bundoran and this was agreed. He read the contents of an e-mail that he had just received on behalf of the Fire Crews.

He advised that remedial works had been carried out on both Fire Stations and that both Fire Crews were happy to work in both stations until such time as money has been allocated to provide two new stations. He queried if there had been any allocations from the Department for Fire Stations and also submitted that the Fire Service Management needed to meet with the Fire Crews to clarify matters.

In response to the issues raised Mr. G Martin, informed Members that it is unexpected that this matter has been raised. He referred to a recent lengthy workshop that had been held with Members where the current status in relation to Fire Stations was outlined and that there had been no material changes since that workshop. He submitted that he is unaware of any allocations and that the review of the Fire Service is ongoing. He advised that it was intended to have the review process completed by year end but it is now likely to be early in the New Year before it is concluded. He informed Members that it is acknowledged what is being sought by Members is two new fire stations as the existing engine bays are no longer suitable for housing the newer larger Fire Tenders.

He also informed Members that the review is being adjudicated on independently and that a business case for two stations would have to stand up for same to be approved by the Department for funding.

He re-iterated that until such time as the information has been gathered, assessed and adjudicated on independently, no decision can be made in relation to the Fire Stations in Ballyshannon and Bundoran. He also wanted to put on record that there is no question of risk, current or future, to the people of south Donegal in terms of the Fire Service as the area is well served by the County Donegal Fire Service along with collaboration from the Northern Ireland Fire Service.

Cllr Campbell advised that according to the Donegal statement of intent under Section 26 of the Fire Services Act 1981, there is a need for two stations in Ballyshannon and Bundoran and submitted that there is no need for the Council to deviate from this statement of intent and if the department wishes to bundle the two stations or more together into one project that this should not be an issue.

In response to Cllr Campbell's comments Mr. G Martin informed Members that the current plan in the statement of intend under Section 26 is historic, and is currently being updated, as there are a range of issues to be considered and that the updated plan would be presented to Members for consideration in the New Year. He also submitted that the plan would be evidence based.

In conclusion it was agreed that the Fire Service Management would meet with the Fire Crews in Ballyshannon and Bundoran shortly to clarify that the position is, as was outlined at the previous workshop, and re-iterated at today's meeting.

MDD/158/16 DISCUSSION ON REQUEST TO RECLASSIFY REGIONAL TO SECONDARY ROAD – FIVE POINT KILLYBEGS TO GLENCOLMCILLE

On the proposal of Cllr Jordan, seconded by Cllr Kennedy the following motion was adopted;-

"That this Municipal District calls on Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to reclassify the regional road which is the R263 from the Five Points Killybegs to Glencolmcille from regional to a national secondary road".

Members were advised;-

"Subject to adoption of this Motion a report will be prepared requesting the reclassification of the R263 from Regional to National Secondary status.

This report when completed will be forwarded to the Roads Office in Lifford for submission to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport for consideration."

Cllr Jordan in speaking to his motion submitted that the motion speaks for itself and in particular with the amount of industry, tourism traffic and poor quality of the existing road that same needs to be upgraded to a proper road network.

Cllr Kennedy in supporting the motion submitted that the matter is important to pursue.

Mr. M Sweeney informed Members he would prepare the report and submit same to the Roads Office in Lifford for submission to the Department.

MDD/159/16 DISCUSSION ON REQUEST TO ENTER NEGOTIATIONS (IRISH WATER AND THE GLEN FOLK TRUST) TO EXTEND SEWERAGE PIPELINE TO THE GLENCOLMCILLE FOLK VILLAGE

On the proposal of Cllr Kennedy, seconded by Cllr Jordan the following motion was adopted;-

"That this Municipal District calls on Donegal County Council, Irish Water and the Glen Folk Village Trust to enter into negotiations with regard to extending the sewerage pipe line to the Glencolmcille Folk Village"

Members were advised;-

"Irish Water assumed role of Water Services Authority in January 2014 from Donegal Co. Co. and other local authorities across the country.

Irish Water's role / authority provides for funding and delivery of major capital water services projects. These projects includes the Glencolmcille Sewerage Scheme.

DCC have been informed by Irish Water, all queries relating to Irish Water projects are to be issued directly to Irish Water. I have included below Irish Water's dedicated contact e-mail and telephone number for Local Elected Members.

e-mail:localrepsupport@water.ie Tel: 1890 178 178

I trust the above enables the Folk Village Trusts' interests to be advanced directly with Irish Water."

Cllr Kennedy in speaking to her motion submitted that the Folk Village is a great asset to the area of Glencolmcille and that the trust would be willing to contribute financially to the extension. She submitted that the relevant parties should sit down together and discuss a way forward noting that the trust is wiling to contribute to the extension of the sewerage pipe line.

Cllr Jordan submitted that he was glad to support the motion and believed previous plans for the sewerage scheme had included the folk village.

Ms. B McBrearty advised Members she would bring the comments back to the Director of Water Services and also send the motion and comments to Irish Water.

MDD/160/16 Date of next meeting

Members agreed the next **Municipal District meeting** would be held on **Tuesday the 10th January, 2017 commencing at 11.30 am** as per Standing Orders.

Members also noted a request for a workshop on the morning of the **January meeting (10/1/2017) to commence at 10.00 am to discuss** the Lough Eske Junction on the N15 which was agreed.

On the proposal of Cllr O'Neill seconded by Cllr Kennedy it was also agreed to seek an update report of the request to abolish parking charges in Ballyshannon to be presented at this workshop on the 10th January 2017.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Area Manager
Municipal District of Donegal**

**Cathaoirleach
Municipal District of Donegal**

**Minutes of Municipal District of Donegal Workshop held 13th December 2016 at
10.00 a. m. in the Peter Kennedy Chamber, Donegal PSC.**

Members present:

Cllr Niamh Kennedy, Cathaoirleach

Cllr John Campbell

Cllr Noel Jordan

Cllr Barry O Neill

Cllr Tom Conaghan

Officials in Attendance:

Mr. Garry Martin, Director Designate, Municipal District of Donegal

Ms. Bridie McBrearty, Area Manager, Housing / Corporate

Mr. Mark Sweeney, A/Area Manager, Roads/Transportation

Ms. Cliodhna Campbell, Senior Engineer, Road Design, Lifford

Mr. Cathal Moss, Senior Executive Engineer, Road Design, Lifford

Mr. James Corry, Assistant Engineer, Road Design, Lifford

Mr. Enda Monaghan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing / Corporate

Apologies:

Cllr Sean McEniff

Minutes

**Draft Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits)(County of Donegal) Bye-laws
2016**

Members welcomed Ms. Cliodhna Campbell SE, Mr. Cathal Moss SEE and Mr. James Corry AE to the workshop who were in attendance to brief on the Draft Road Traffic (Special Speed Limits)(County of Donegal) Bye-laws 2016.

Ms. Cliodhna Campbell briefed Members in detail on the process undertaken in relation to preparing the draft Bye-laws and presented a number of reports including;-

- Assessment of Public Consultation Submission
- Draft Bye-laws
- Circulated Maps and Submissions received for viewing of Members.

A number of comments/queries were dealt with at the workshop.

Members also noted the draft Bye-laws would come before the Plenary Council in January 2017 for consideration and that all the relevant documentation would be circulated to Members electronically due to the volume of same and this was acceptable to Members.

Memorial in honour of the late Mr. James White former TD and Hotelier

Ms. B McBrearty referred to previous discussion in relation to a request for a Memorial to be erected in honour of the late Mr. James White former TD and Hotelier. Following a short discussion it was agreed that Ms. B McBrearty would investigate if it is possible via the Place Names Committee to name the park in Ballyshannon, "The James White Park" as this Park has not yet been formally named. Members are to be advised in due course.

Tirconnell Bridge

Mr. M Sweeney informed Members that a lot of heavy vehicles are breaching the 3.5 tonne weight restriction on the Tirconnell Bridge in Donegal Town. Due to the structural condition of the bridge, he informed Members he is engaging with Road Design in Lifford to put more visible measures in place to prevent heavy vehicles from crossing the bridge, which may include a height restriction barrier, so as to prevent a bridge collapse. Members confirmed their acceptance of the need for same.

This concluded the business of the Workshop.

**Area Manager,
Municipal District of Donegal**

**Cathaoirleach,
Municipal District of Donegal**

Municipal District of Donegal

Housing/Corporate Update as at 30th December 2016

1. Casual Vacancies
2. Housing Grants
3. Housing Loans
4. TP Applications
5. Social Housing Support Programme
6. HAP Tenancies
7. Private Rented Inspections

Casual Vacancies at 29th December 2016

Location of Vacancy	Area	BED	Dwelling Vacated	Repairs Completed
SI Cottage at Ballinacarrick	BALLINTRA	3	24th March, 2013 (Tenant Deceased)	Possession Order Granted 25/6/15
60 St Benildus Avenue	BALLYSHANNON	2	Repossessed on 28/04/2010	For Sale in New Year
30 Cluain Barron	BALLYSHANNON	3	11 October 2013	Out to tender
6 Erne Street	BALLYSHANNON	2	16 January 2016	For Sale in New Year
33 Lawne Park	BALLYSHANNON	3	10th August 2016	Works ongoing
66 Lawne Park	Ballyshannon	2	19th December 2016	referred for inspection
21 Bunholvil	Bundoran	3	01 December 2016	Acquired property
5 Clos Naomh Columba	Carrick	3	10th November 2016	referred for inspection
21 O'Cleirigh Avenue	DONEGAL	3	22-Sep-2015	Tenders in - works in New Year
444 O'Duignan Avenue	DONEGAL	3	14th November 2016	referred for inspection
201 Castleview	DUNKINEELY	3	27-Jun-2014	Works Tendered
224 Castleview	DUNKINEELY	1	30-Dec-2015	LTV Fund
226 Castleview	DUNKINEELY	1	14/12/2015 (Tenant Deceased)	No need
SI Legnawley Glebe, Croagh	Inver	2	4th October 2016 (tenant deceased)	Awaiting keys
16 Coughlan Avenue	Frosses	2	17-Dec-2016	referred for inspection
SI Cottage at Stragar North	KILLYBEGS	2	17th Aug 2012	Tender shortly
SI Lough Head	Killybegs	3	10 August 2016	Tenders in - works in New Year
2 Bircog Cottages	Pettigo	1	4th March 2016	Offered and refused

Position at 29th December 2016

HOUSING GRANTS

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVE D	REFUSED \ CANCELLE D	FURTHER INFO	PENDING
HO	2015	12	6	4	0	2
HO	2016	39	28	7	0	4

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVE D	REFUSED \ CANCELLE D	FURTHER INFO.	REFERRED TO OT	REFERRED TO ENGINEER	PENDING
HD	2015	36	11	15	0	0	0	10
HD	2016	44	6	22	0	0	0	16

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVE D	REFUSED \ CANCELLE D	FURTHER INFO	PENDING
HM	2015	1	0	1	0	0
HM	2016	5	2	2	0	1

HOUSING LOANS

	YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVE D	REFUSED \ CANCELLE D	Undecided	
Housing Loans	2016	2	1	1		

Tenant Purchase Applications 2016

No. of Applications Received	Incomplete Returned	Open Applications	Refused/ Not Eligible	Offer letters Issued	Completed	
13	0	2	5	6	0	

SOCIAL HOUSING SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Position at 29th December 2016

Scheme	2 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed	5 bed	Total	Status				
	apts (own door)	2 storey	2 storey	2 storey	bungalow		Design	Planning	Tender	Under Con	Completed
Building Programme 2015 - 2017								Planning Approved	being		
Donegal Town	8	8	6	2		24	24	01/07/2016	prepared		
Purchases 2016											
Killybegs*			2			2					
Carrick*				1		1					
Donegal Town*			2			2					
Bundoran		2	4			6					
CAS 2015/2016											
2 Com Group Homes*					2	2	2				Being built in conjunction with Donegal Town
1 Com Group Home*										Donegal Town	
CALF Approved											
Ballyshannon						22					
Ernedale Heights Ballyshannon						11					
HAP Tenancies											
Municipal District	Number										
Donegal	158										
Letterkenny	547										
Glenties	122										
Stranorlar	195										
Inishowen	293										
Sub Total	1315										
Tenancies Closed	187										
Overall Total	1502										

Private Rented Dwellings Inspected at 29th December 2016	
Total	620

<p>Community, Enterprise & Planning Services</p> <p>Planning Services Report</p>
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Donegal Municipal District Meeting – 10th January 2017

Content:

- 1. Summary of planning applications for each District**
- 2. Appeals (Received & Decisions Notified).**
- 3. Significant Cases (incl. Transboundary applications)**
- 4. Other case types [Part 8's etc]**

1. Summary of Planning Applications For Each Municipal District

	Period	Apps Recd	Granted	Refused	Deferred	Decisions < 2 months	Invalid
Donegal	01/01/16-31/10/16	335	231	42	84	174	61
Glenties	01/01/16-31/10/16	293	193	63	96	138	52
Inishowen	01/01/16-31/10/16	395	243	41	107	197	66
Letterkenny	01/01/16-31/10/16	350	219	29	80	178	61
Stranorlar	01/01/16-31/10/16	210	144	21	52	103	34
County Totals		1583	1020	196	419	790	274

Appeals Received (01/12/2016 - 31/12/2016) – 2 in total – None in Donegal Municipal District

Decision Notified (01/12/2016 – 31/12/2016) – 5 in total – None in Donegal Municipal District

Appeals Received (01/12/2016 – 31/12/2016)

REF NO	APPLICANTS NAME	APP. TYPE	DECISION DATE	L.A. DECISION	DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION	BORD PLEANALA RECD DATE
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Decision Notified (01/12/2016 – 31/12/2016)

REF NO	APPLICANTS NAME	APP. TYPE	DECISION DATE	L.A. DECISION	DEVELOPMENT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION	BORD PLEANALA DEC. DATE	DECISION
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Transboundary Applications

Ref.No:	N.I. Ref.No:	Date Rec'd	App./Contact	Type	Description / Location	Case Officer	Status
TB 12/03	J/2011/0082/F	08/10/2013	D.O.E. N.I.	Further Environmental Information and Revised Plans	Amendment to Windfarm at Crighshane & Crighdenis, Killeter, Castledearg.	P Kelly	Active
TB 13/04	C/2013/0248/F	08/11/2013	D.O.E. N.I.-	Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure	Windfarm at Windy Hill	P Kelly	Active
TB 14/01	J/2013/0287/F	07/01/2014	D.O.E. N.I.	Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure	Windfarm at Meenamullan near Killeter	P Kelly	Active
TB14/03	J/2014/0124/LCB	28/04/2014	D.O.E. N.I.	Consultation	Installation of Street Lighting ballards at Clady Bridge (Listed Building), Urney Road, Clady	P Kelly	Active
TB14/04	J/2011/0433/0	17/04/2014	D.O.E. N.I.	Addendum to Environmental Statement & Information	Major mixed use cross border development	P Kelly	Active
TB15/01	J/2014/0624/F	10/02/2015	D.O.E. N.I.	Initial Consultation	Wind Turbine at 290m S.W. of 30 Creevagh Road, Co. Derry	P Kelly	Active
TB15/02	A/2015/0049/F	10/202/2015	D.O.E. N.I.	Initial Consultation	Wind Turbine with a hub height on lands 108m N.W. of 18 Killea Road, Derry.	P Kelly	Active
TB15/03	LA11/2015/0066/F49/F	05/05/2015	Derry City & Strabane District Council	Initial Consultation	erection of a single wind turbine - 30m hub height with 17.3m blades, associated access and 2 no. electricity cabinets on lands 250m N.W. of 9 Elagh Road, Derry	P Kelly	

TB15/04	J/2013/0187/F Appeal Ref.No: 2014/A0180	08/09/2015	P.A.C.	Appeal Procedures	Extension to of consented Seagronan Windfarm Ltd	P Kelly	Active
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Part 8- Donegal Municipal District - 1 Active at 31/12/2016

M.D.	Ref.No:	Location	Section	Received	Status
Donegal	PG16.07	Emerald Drive, Cashelcummin, Killybegs	Housing	03/11/2016	Active



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

Municipal District: Donegal

Activity / Project Update: January 2017

Activity / Project Title	THE GABLES, BALLYSHANNON
Project Description/Activity	<p><u>(REDZ (RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONE) 2016 INITIATIVE</u></p> <p><u>The Gables</u></p> <p>The proposed project will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase capacity for catering for visitors • Ensure ongoing safety of visitors/tourists/residents • Add greatly to the visual impact of the town <p><u>The project will consist of:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhancement of the Gables Areas of Ballyshannon which includes the lifting of existing brick paving and kerbing / replacement of paving brick, surfacing etc. 2. Area to be regraded to the correct levels, iron work adjusted and the paving re-laid.
Budget (if applicable)	<p>€48,000 – Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs</p> <p>€12,000 – Own Resources</p>
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<p><u>Current Status:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval obtained from Department on 29/11/2016
<i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formalise details of works to be carried out • Seek Quotations • Assess Tenders / Commence Works
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	<p>Eamon Boyle Executive Engineer Three Rivers Centre Tel: 087 1788623 eamonb@donegalcoco.ie</p>



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

Municipal District: Inishowen/ Glenties & Donegal

Activity / Project Update: January 2017

Activity / Project Title	Capital Grant Funding Scheme – Department of Children & Youth Affairs
Project Description/Activity	<p>Provision of all inclusive Equipment in one playground in each of the Municipal Districts of Inishowen; Glenties and Donegal.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shore Front, Buncrana 2. St. John Bosco, Donegal Town 3. St. Mary's, Derrybeg
Budget (if applicable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • €10,000 - Grant from Department of Children & Youth Affairs 2015 • €16,300 own resources
<p>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</p> <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Works consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of all inclusive piece of equipment in three playgrounds <p><u>Current Status:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of Playground regarding type of equipment/exact location within playground • Quotations were sought on 12/10/16 with receipt of quotations on or before Thursday, 27th October, 2016. • Quotations assessed and Contract awarded to Hawthorn Heights, 38a Vale Road, Greysteel, Eglinton BT47 3BL on 24/11/2016.
<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"> • Installation of equipment to be completed by end of January 2017.
<p>Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)</p>	<p>Eamon Boyle Executive Engineer Three Rivers Centre Tel: 087 1788623 eamonb@donegalcoco.ie</p>



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

Municipal District: Donegal

Activity / Project Update: January 2017

Activity / Project Title	Ballyshannon Town & Village Renewal Scheme
Project Description/Activity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhancement of Bridgend Roundabout 2. Provision of Guidance document for Traditional Shopfronts and Colour Scheme for Ballyshannon Streets.
Budget (if applicable)	<p>€76,000 – Department of Arts, Heritage & Gaeltacht Affairs €13,110 – Own Resources</p>
<p>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</p> <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ballyshannon works consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Paving ➤ Kerbing ➤ Street furniture, litter bins, interpretative panels ➤ Pedestrian crossing points – lining and bollards, tactile paving ➤ Landscaping of roundabout and surrounding area ➤ Enhancement of roundabout and approach islands <p><u>Current Status:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval obtained from Department • Meetings / discussions taking place with Ballyshannon Town & Village Renewal Committee
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formalise details of works to be carried out • Seek Quotations • Appoint Contractor / Consultant • Carry out works
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	<p>Eamon Boyle Executive Engineer Three Rivers Centre Tel: 087 1788623 eamonb@donegalcoco.ie</p>



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

Municipal District: Countywide

Activity / Project Update – January 2017

Activity / Project Title	Community Tourism Diaspora Initiative 2016
Project Description/Activity	<p>The key objective of the Fund is to provide support to local and community event organisers and activities / projects that will harness diaspora links for the benefit of local and community tourism. This is a three-way project partnership between IPB, Fáilte Ireland and DCC. The Fund is being administered by Donegal County Council.</p> <p>2016 was the third and final year of this Initiative.</p>
Budget (if applicable)	€34,561.50
Progress to date within the last two months-inclusive of current status	<p>Funding claims are nearly completed.</p> <p>Claim status (as per January 3rd) – all funded events have taken place.</p> <p>53 no. groups have submitted their claims and payments have been processed. 1 no. group is yet to submit their Post-Event documentation.</p> <p>Final report to be submitted to IPB in the next 2 weeks.</p>
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly-reporting period	Final project report.
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Iga Lawne, Tourism Community Support Officer, Donegal Tourism Ltd E: iga@countydonegaltourism.com / T: 074-972 4475

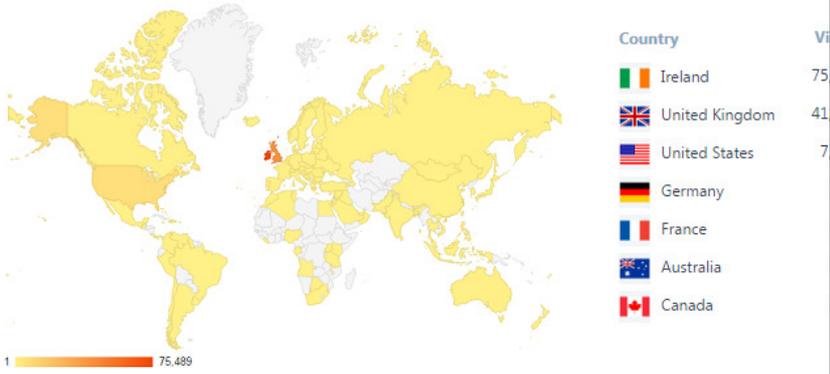


**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

Municipal District: Countywide

Activity / Project Update – January 2017

Activity / Project Title	Donegal Gathering website and Facebook www.donegalgathering.com																		
Project Description/Activity	Donegal Gathering is a key initiative of the Donegal Diaspora project bringing together young and old, from near and far, for a truly unique experience. The Donegal Gathering calendar is packed with amazing exhibitions, fun festivals, cracking concerts and sporting events taking place in Donegal.																		
Budget (if applicable)	€30 Facebook advertising in support of Christmas Spirit LK video fundraising campaign #LetterkennyCares (2 nd – 25 th December 2016)																		
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<p>Donegal Gathering website</p> <p>Donegal Gathering statistics show continuous increase of visits to the website.</p> <p>All-time website views (since 2012) : 488,687 / visitors: 217,039 2016 website views: 130,213 / visitors: 62,053</p> <p>Website Stats for Q4 of 2016</p> <p><u>Website Views / Website Visitors Q4 2016:</u> Oct 2016: 12,830 (+36% on 2015) / Oct 2016: 4,856 (+8.6%) Nov 2016: 6,822 (+15%) / Nov 2016: 3,309 (+16.6%) Dec 2016: 4,942 (+47%) / Dec 2016: 2,652 (+49.7%)</p> <p>Website views in Q4 2016: 24,594 (+31.5%) Website visitors in Q4 2016: 10,817 (+19%)</p> <p>End of Year 2016 Report</p> <p>Website views / Website Visitors 2016:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="520 1834 1246 2033"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Website Views</th> <th>Website Visitors</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Q1</td> <td>18,267</td> <td>9,451</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q2</td> <td>33,526</td> <td>17,803</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q3</td> <td>53,826</td> <td>23,982</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q4</td> <td>24,594</td> <td>10,817</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>130,213</td> <td>62,053</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Website Views	Website Visitors	Q1	18,267	9,451	Q2	33,526	17,803	Q3	53,826	23,982	Q4	24,594	10,817	Total	130,213	62,053
	Website Views	Website Visitors																	
Q1	18,267	9,451																	
Q2	33,526	17,803																	
Q3	53,826	23,982																	
Q4	24,594	10,817																	
Total	130,213	62,053																	

	<p>Most visited events profiles in 2016:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donegal International Rally • Rathmullan Community Festival • Clonmany Festival • Donegal Town Summer Festival • St. Patrick’s Day Parades • Burtonport Summer Festival • Ramelton’s Annual Lennon Festival • All-Ireland Coastal Rowing Championships • Mary from Dungloe International Festival • A Taste of Donegal Food Festival • Killybegs Summer Festival • Heritage Week in Co. Donegal • Greencastle Regatta <p>Top 7 views by country:</p>  <p>212 Listed Events / Traffic to the website from 122 countries</p> <p>Donegal Gathering Facebook Page</p> <p>Facebook advertising in support of Christmas Spirit LK video fundraising campaign #LetterkennyCares ran from 2nd – 25th December 2016.</p> <p>Campaign Results: 264 Post Engagements / 7,752 People Reached</p> <p>Current Status:</p> <p>3,640 Facebook Likes 2,370 Twitter Followers</p>
<p>Project Targets for the next quarter reporting period</p>	<p>Website stats update for Q1 2017</p>
<p>Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i></p>	<p>Iga Lawne, Tourism Community Support Officer E: iga@countydonegaltourism.com / T: 074-9724475</p>



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

Municipal District: Donegal

Activity / Project Update

Activity / Project Title	Bundoran Tourism Officer Update
Project Description	Promotional Activities – December 2016
Current Activities	<p><u>Information Panels at Fairy Bridges/Wishing Chair Bundoran</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive feedback about the new information panels installed at the Fairy Bridges <p><u>Recruitment of new members of Discover Bundoran Tourism Partnership</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five new members have joined Discover Bundoran as a direct result of the mailout sent to all businesses in November/December. <p><u>Discover Bundoran brochure distribution</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Discover Bundoran brochure to be launched on Monday 9th January in Bundoran Community Centre. 15,000 copies to be printed and distributed locally and nationally. First outing will be Holiday World Belfast and Dublin later in January. <p><u>Marketing of Bundoran</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final draft of new brochure ready for pre-print. • Marketing and promotional plan in place for 2017. Social media strategy in place for each of the channels that we use. <p><u>Events for 2017</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usual annual events planned for the year. Organising An Post Ras Stage Finish for Bundoran in May. Liaising with other event organisers in town to ensure equal spread and promotion of events throughout the year. <p><u>Discover Bundoran website and social media</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing management of www.discoverbundoran.com and social media channels • Ongoing updating of website with news blogs, photo galleries and event/gig guide listings. • Website stats for 2016 – 65,882 users (2015 - 55,984) & 165,910 page views (2015 – 144,563)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8405 followers on the Discover Bundoran facebook page which is steadily growing by the week. (as of 03/01/17) <p><u>Marketing of Bundoran Waterworld</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2017 Marketing Plan being finalised. • Waterworld remains #1 Thing to Do in Bundoran on TripAdvisor. <p><u>Management and Staffing of Bundoran Tourist Office</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan to remain open Monday to Saturday throughout 2017. • Visitor numbers to office increased year on year. • Currently looking at staffing options for 2017.
<p>Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i></p>	<p>Shane Smyth – shane@discoverbundoran.com 087 3737817</p>



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

Donegal

Marine Tourism
www.govisitdonegal.com

Electoral Area: Donegal

Marine Tourism Marketing & Development Activity

Activity / Project Title	Marine Tourism Marketing & Development
Project Description/Activity	The Marine Tourism Marketing & Development Plan covers a range of locations, activities and projects.
Budget (if applicable)	N/A - Various
Progress to date within the last two months/quarter 4 - inclusive of current status	<p>WILDSEA Europe WILDSEA Europe is a project with partners in Spain, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Croatia and Italy. The lead partner is Travelecoology based in Spain and the project is of 18 months duration ending in December 2016. The Project is a European, public-private cooperation effort that is supported by the COSME programme of the European Union through the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME).</p> <p>A WILDSEA Europe online training webinar for tourism providers in Donegal and Northern Ireland took place on 24th November 2016 and was very well received. A recording of the webinar is now available for those who could not take part on the day.</p> <p>While EU funding ended December 2016 it has been agreed that Donegal County Council will continue to work on the development of this project into 2017 with the project partners. Further marketing campaigns are underway to continue to promote the website and technical support will be provided to tourism experience providers who wish to get listed on the Wildsea.eu website and use the online booking engine.</p> <p>MalinWaters Partner Meeting A meeting of the MalinWaters partnership took place on 5th December 2016 to discuss plans for 2017. The overall</p>

consensus from partner was that they would like to continue to support the MalinWaters partnership into 2017. At this meeting the partnership agreement and arrangements for 2017 were discussed in terms of payment of contributions. The marketing activities for 2016 were also presented and partners were very pleased with the results. The Marketing Plan for 2017 has now been circulated to partners for approval.

Marine Sector Newsletter

Several newsletters aimed at the marine tourism sector have been sent out to over 200 contacts on the marine tourism sector database. This e-newsletter contains digital tips, funding information and other useful news relevant to the sector.

Donegal Tourism Ltd – Trade Website

On the Donegal Tourism Ltd a new blog on the top tips for promoting a tourism business online has been published. This website has been developed to assist tourism providers in Donegal to make the most of their business and also to inform them of the work of Donegal Tourism Ltd. This website is available at www.countydonegaltourism.com and features sections such as news, events (tourism conferences etc), useful downloads, resources, digital tips and much more. There is also a Facebook page where the trade can keep up to date with latest news from the tourism sector at www.facebook.com/donegaltourism

Cruise Tourism

Donegal County Council in association with Donegal Tourism Ltd are working towards the development of the cruise tourism sector in Donegal with both Killybegs and Greencastle promoted as cruise ports of excellence on the Wild Atlantic Way. Donegal County Council and Donegal Tourism Ltd are working closely with Visit Inishowen and the Killybegs Information Centre to continue to develop this sector. New flags and promotional materials for Greencastle are currently in development and will be available for use in Q1 of 2017.

CEDRA – Donegal’s Atlantic Coastal Trail

Funding has been obtained in Q4 of 2016 following a new application to continue work on the CEDRA project to develop ‘Donegal Atlantic Coastal Trail’. This funding comes from the Department of Food, Agriculture and

Marine and seeks to develop a tourism trail focused on seafood and marine leisure activities along the coast of Donegal including the islands to compliment the Wild Atlantic Way and the work done on Go Visit Donegal. This project is a continued partnership between Donegal County Council and Údarás na Gaeltachta, who have both provided additional match funding.

The Tourism College LYIT developed a bespoke training course for those in the food and marine leisure sector, which will run again in 2017 following the latest installation of funding. This course is being delivered by LYIT in Killybegs and covers areas such as marketing your business on the WAW, digital and offline, seafood preparation, creating packages, selling online and much more.

Joy Harron of Donegal Tourism Ltd also had the opportunity to lecture the students on marine tourism marketing and development activities in Donegal at the college in Killybegs on 9th November 2016. Practical assignments were set to give students the experience of marketing Donegal in a real world environment.

Tides of Time Project

This is one of two marine related projects that have been submitted to the Atlantic Area Programme and the application process is ongoing. This project has been successful at the stage one application process and will now move on to stage two. This project proposal incorporates both education and tourism in the development of a marine touring route of locations where marine events of historic significance took place such as the Spanish Armada, World Wars etc. Donegal has a huge amount of shipwrecks. This project seeks to educate, to conserve and enhance locations of historic importance, to record historic events and stories in coastal areas and to promote the coast a location of marine heritage and history.

CAPITEN

Donegal County Council is working with the council in Brittany on the CAPITEN project and this project has been successful at stage one of the Atlantic Area Programme application process. Donegal County Council has specified the areas of interest to them as part of this project that would provide the best benefits for Donegal.

The project is based on the development of three centres of excellence including tourism, waste and seaside sports, industry & trade services and pleasure boating, ports development. The project seeks to develop a 'Destination Atlantic' to promote marine tourism activities on the Atlantic coastlines.

Should this project be successful, Donegal County Council would take the lead on developing a 'Destination Atlantic' maritime event incorporating all countries in the project and would seek to enhance and further develop existing maritime events in Donegal.

Fanad Lighthouse

Donegal Tourism Ltd has delivered a new online booking engine and website for Fanad Lighthouse and this has been delivering bookings since the lighthouse opened so that online accommodation bookings can be facilitated. The Fanad Lighthouse website is performing very well. Facebook.com/fanadlighthouse and has over 3872 likes. @fanadlighthouse on Twitter has 682 followers.

Sliabh Liag

Donegal Tourism Ltd set up and is managing the Sliabh Liag online profile until such time as a manager has been appointed to the Visitor Centre and this will be handed over with training provided. The Sliabh Liag Experience Facebook page is growing from strength to strength with over 5047 likes on the page. The Facebook page is www.facebook.com/sliabhliagexperience. The website www.sliabhliag.com is also performing well. Sliabh Liag has been awarded a Certificate of Excellence on TripAdvisor. @visitsliabhliag on Twitter has 198 followers.

BIM FLAG Programme

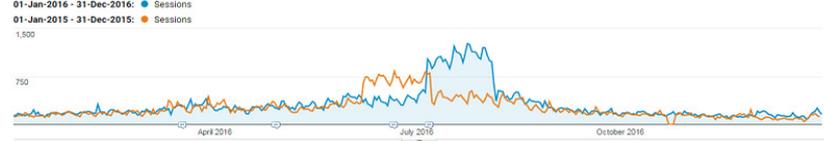
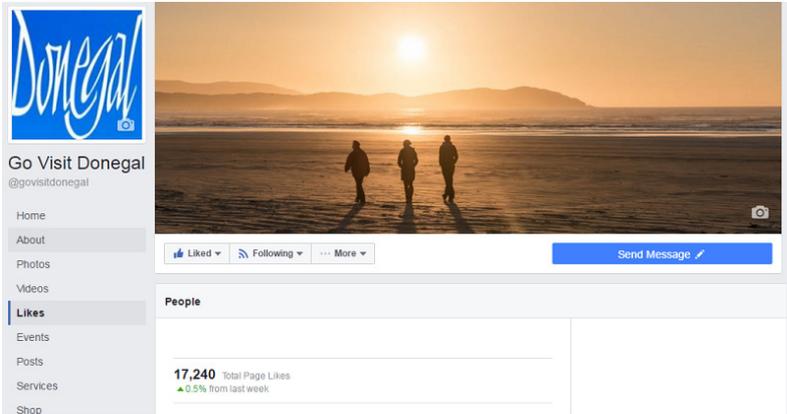
Donegal Tourism Ltd is now represented on the Committee responsible for the Bord Iascaigh Mhara FLAG (Fisheries Local Action Group) funding programme. Currently the strategy for the delivery of this 3 year programme is in the final stages of development. This programme provides funding for coastal communities and covers a wide range of activities such as economic development, infrastructure, training, events and festivals, tourism projects and much more. Donegal Tourism Ltd has been able to feed into this strategy to ensure that tourism is well represented throughout the

	programme.
<p>Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarter 1 reporting period</p>	<p>WILDSEA Europe Project Work will commence on the continued recruitment of experience providers in Donegal to get listed on Wildsea.eu. Webinars and online one to one training sessions will assist them in making the most of their listings and the online booking engine. Promotional materials produced as part of the project will be distributed to experience providers in Donegal.</p> <p>Promotional Events 2017 Planning for attendance at promotional events in 2017 will commence in Q1 including for example attendance at SeaFest in Galway 2017, TBEX 2017, the Northern England Boat Show/Merseyside River Festival etc.</p> <p>MalinWaters Marketing Activity On approval of the Marketing Plan for 2017 by partners work will commence in January 2017 on the various marketing activities to promote the MalinWaters brand across a range of marketing platforms including e-mail, display, PPC, content, SEO and more.</p> <p>Support of Marine Festivals and Events On an annual basis, MalinWaters provides marketing support and funding for marine themed festivals and events across the MalinWaters regions. Guidelines for submissions of applications will be sent out to MalinWaters partners for circulation to festivals and events organisers and also sent out in the marine tourism newsletter.</p> <p>FLAG BIM Funding The first call for applications is due to open in January 2017.</p> <p>Sliabh Liag Project Work will continue on updating the content on the Sliabh Liag website. The TripAdvisor, Facebook and Twitter pages will continue to be maintained by Donegal Tourism Ltd.</p> <p>Fanad Lighthouse Developments Donegal Tourism Ltd continues to provide support and maintenance for the www.fanadlighthouse.com website.</p>

	<p>Marine Tourism Newsletter Further updates will be sent out to over 200 marine tourism contacts via the e-mail newsletter.</p> <p>CEDRA Marketing activity in relation to Donegal's Atlantic Coastal Trail will be prepared for promotion of the region as part of the 2017 marketing campaigns from Donegal Tourism Ltd.</p> <p>Cruise Tourism Collaboration on cruise tourism as part of the MalinWaters consortium will be explored including potential membership of Cruise Europe, Cruise Scotland.</p> <p>Work on the Greencastle Cruise Tourism supports including production of new flags and presentation folders will be completed in Q1.</p> <p>Marine Tourism Seminar Following the success of the 2016 Marine Tourism Seminar, another will be planned for 2017 and will be likely to take place in Q3.</p> <p>Gaeltacht and the Islands Work is underway to develop a plan for the promotion of the Gaeltacht and islands as part of the overall marine tourism strategy.</p>
<p>Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i></p>	<p>Joy Harron Marine Marketing Development Officer Donegal Tourism Ltd Donegal Public Service Centre Drumlonagher Donegal Town Co. Donegal</p>  <p>Tel: + 353 (74) 9724431 Mobile: +353 (87) 0619360 E-mail: info@malinwaters.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/malinwaters Twitter: www.twitter.com/sailmalinwaters LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/joyharron</p>



Activity / Project Update – January 2017

Activity / Project Title	Donegal Tourism																								
Project Description/Activity	The Marketing aspects of Donegal Tourism / Go Visit Donegal																								
Budget (if applicable)	N/A																								
Progress to date within the last 2 months- inclusive of current status	<p>Go Visit Donegal – End of Year 2016 Report</p> <p>2016 Stats:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="534 864 1374 1066"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Website Visits</th> <th>Unique Visitors</th> <th>Page Views</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Q1</td> <td>19,333</td> <td>16,218</td> <td>64,487</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q2</td> <td>29,020</td> <td>24,495</td> <td>94,692</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q3</td> <td>51,347</td> <td>44,852</td> <td>129,506</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Q4</td> <td>14,264</td> <td>12,223</td> <td>42,462</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>113,964</td> <td>97,788</td> <td>331,147</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>2016 vs 2015</p>  <p>Sessions: 18.63% (113,964 vs 96,070) Users: 23.45% (96,300 vs 78,008) Page Views: 7.77% (331,147 vs 307,281)</p> <p>Facebook – over 17K Likes</p> 		Website Visits	Unique Visitors	Page Views	Q1	19,333	16,218	64,487	Q2	29,020	24,495	94,692	Q3	51,347	44,852	129,506	Q4	14,264	12,223	42,462	Total	113,964	97,788	331,147
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Twitter – 5.4K Followers



Belfast advertising to the Chinese Markets

Donegal will be featured in a map guide in Belfast that will be published in January 2017, to coincide with the Chinese New Year, when inbound Chinese visitor levels increase significantly across Belfast.

This bi-lingual, English/Mandarin Chinese Guide will be an essential aid to the ever-increasing number of Chinese visitors arriving into Belfast with Donegal heavily featured within the map.

Initially 10,000 Copies Will Be Printed And Distributed Via:

Visit Belfast Welcome Centre, Donegal Square North

Visit Belfast Visitor Information Centre

Visit Belfast Visitor Information Centre – Belfast International Airport

Titanic Belfast

Hotels in Belfast and the surrounding

Donegal Promotion in Dundrum

In December Donegal Tourism teamed up with the tourism trade and carried out a two day promotional event in Dundrum Shopping Centre in Dublin.

Dundrum Town Centre is Ireland's premier retail destination boasting the highest footfall in the country with over 365,000 customers weekly.

This promotion was a huge success; the centre was packed with Christmas shoppers so it was the ideal time to target the domestic market.

In conjunction with this promotion Donegal Tourism ran a competition offering a four night break in Donegal, this offer was carried out online to highlight that Donegal had recently won the National Geographic Cool list for 2017.

We had an overwhelming response with over 600 entrants. These

	<p>names have been added to our growing database who we target with our blogs and information on all things Donegal.</p>
<p>Project Targets for the next bi-monthly reporting period</p>	<p>Holiday World Show</p> <p>Donegal will be extensively promoted in the last two weekends in January at the Holiday World Shows in Belfast and Dublin reaching an audience of an estimated 60k potential visitors.</p> <p>The Holiday World Shows are two of the most significant tourism travel shows in Europe that take place annually with visitors attending from around the world including Europe (UK and ROI), the Middle East, Asia and America.</p> <p>Donegal Tourism Ltd in association with Donegal County Council invited representatives from across the tourism sector to participate at the 2017 Holiday World Shows in Belfast and Dublin as part of a collaborative cost effective approach to promoting the county as a joint initiative. Various tourism sector representatives will attend the shows to promote their respective areas.</p> <p>Tourism Seminar</p> <p>Donegal Tourism will host their first Tourism Seminar in Late February, early March.</p> <p>The objective of the tourism Seminar is to provide those who are operating in the tourism sector in Donegal, hotels, B&B, rural tourism SME's, product providers managers and staff, with the necessary skills to enhance the competitiveness of tourist management.</p> <p>Keynote speakers are currently being sought to present at this seminar and the themes will include marketing, business supports for small business and capitalising on the Wild Atlantic Way Initiative.</p> <p>Donegal Tourism Facebook Page for the Trade</p> <p>Donegal Tourism has set up a facebook which is specifically for the trade. This exciting new addition to our online presence, features daily information and news with particular relevance to the tourism trade in Donegal</p>
	<p>Sarah Meehan Marketing Officer Donegal Tourism Ltd Donegal Public Service Centre Drumlonagher Donegal Town Co. Donegal</p> 

	<p>Tel: + 353 (74) 9724431 Mobile: +353 (87) 2691977 E-mail: sarahmeehan@outlook.ie Facebook: www.facebook.com/govisitdonegal Twitter: www.twitter.com/govisitdonegal</p>
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DCC Municipal District Meeting, December 2016

1. Christmas and New Year Recycling Campaign

- The Greenpiece - 2 full colour pages in 4 local papers, focus on recycling, bring banks, recycling centres, know you bins (comprehensive list of what goes into each bin), composting etc
- Radio Advertising - Ocean fm, Highland Radio & RnG focusing on recycling
- Online Advertising - Donegal Daily focusing on recycling
- Social Media - 2 week lead in to Christmas with tip and tricks on food waste prevention, linking with national Stop Food Waste campaign and battery recycling campaign.

2. Christmas Tree Recycling 5th - 21st January 2017



NATURAL CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING **Thursday 5th – Saturday 21st January, 2017**

DOMESTIC TREES ONLY

LOCATION	SITE
CARNDONAGH	Carndonagh Recycling Centre
BUNCRANA	Nailors Row Car Park, Bunrana
MOVILLE	Council Chip Depot
NEWTOWNCUNNINGHAM	Council Chip Depot
LETTERKENNY	Letterkenny Recycling Centre
LIFFORD	Council Machinery Yard
MILFORD	Milford Recycling Centre
GLENTIES	Council Yard, Gortnamucklagh
DUNGLOE	Dungloe Recycling Centre

BUNBEG	Council Chip Yard, Coshclady
FALCARRAGH	Kilult Quarry
STRANORLAR	Stranorlar Recycling Centre
KILLYBEGS	Council Yard, Bridge Street
LAGHEY	Laghey Recycling Centre
BALLYSHANNON	Council Yard, The Rock
BUNDORAN	Sea Front Car Park

OPENING TIMES

Council Chip Yards

Open: Monday - Thursday 9.00am - 4.00pm, Friday 9.00am - 3.00pm

Carndonagh Recycling Centre

Monday, Wednesday, Saturday 8.30am - 4.30pm

Dungloe & Laghey Recycling Centres

Thursday 10.30am - 5pm, Friday & Saturday 8.30am - 2.30pm

Letterkenny Recycling Centre

Tuesday & Wednesday 10.30am - 2pm, Thursday 10.30am - 7pm, Friday 8.30am - 5pm, Saturday 8.30am - 2pm

Milford Recycling Centre

Wednesday 10.30am - 7pm, Friday 8.30am - 5pm, Saturday 8.30am - 2pm

Stranorlar Recycling Centre

Tuesday 8.30am - 5pm, Thursday 10.30am - 7pm, Saturday 8.30am - 2pm.

*PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE TREES OUTSIDE COUNCIL PREMISES AFTER THE SPECIFIED TIMES!
TREES LEFT AT SITES NOT LISTED ABOVE WILL BE CONSIDERED ILLEGAL DUMPING.*

3. Bring Banks

Litter Prevention Audio Devices

This Christmas, DCC have adopted an innovative approach to reduce littering and illegal dumping at bring bank sites by installing motion activated litter prevention audio devices at two of the busiest Bring Banks sites in the County - Dunnes Stores, Oldtown and the Donegal Town Bring Bank site.

When activated bring bank users hear a pre-recorded message thanking members of the public for recycling and reminding recyclers to avoid a €150 litter fine by taking home all bags and empty boxes from the sites. The audio devices are the latest tool being employed by Donegal County Council to maintain the recycling bring banks to a high standard over the Christmas which is traditionally the busiest time of year for bottle and can bank collections.

A spokesperson for the Council said 'The Litter Prevention Audio Devices are one of a number of methods Donegal County Council are employing to ensure bring banks are monitored and maintained over the festive season. The Audio Devices are a preventative measure that aim to reduce the number of illegal dumping incidents at Bring Bank sites. In addition to the audio devices, CCTV cameras also record images at bring bank sites and Litter Wardens patrol sites countywide to ensure sites are kept litter free.

In the event that your local bring site is full due to heavy demand, please call Donegal County Council at 074-9153900 and to find your nearest bring-bank log onto www.donegalcoco.ie.

In relation to the Recycling Facilities in Ballyshannon, Donegal County Council has listed this Bring Bank site as a priority site in the County which means that this site is emptied with increased regularity.

The additional site at the Rock, Ballyshannon is to be assessed under Health & Safety for consideration of its suitability as a Bring Bank site. This will be conducted in the coming weeks.

Donegal Town is also as listed as a priority site for the servicing of the bring banks. The Mobile Litter Unit for South Donegal cleans the Donegal Town site three to four times a week.

Enforcement Figures 2016

Total number of environment complaints for the year to date 1,134. 1006 complaints were for waste and litter.

Total number of Fixed Penalty Notices served under the Litter Pollution Act 1997 is 137 of which 44% collection rate

DWWTS - INSPECTIONS By WSA REPORT

From Date: 05/01/2016 To Date: 05/01/2017

Water Service Authority Donegal County Council

Inspection Type Full

WATER SERVICE AUTHORITY	TOTAL Inspection	COMPLIANT	NON-COMPLIANT	TOTAL Properties	REGISTERED	UNREGISTERED
Donegal County Council	100	52	48	101	71	30
TOTAL	100	52	48	101	71	30

2016 Plan	95	EA
Malinhead	6	Inishowen
Aghlehard/Knockbrack	11	Letterkenny
Tonduff/Dunree	11	Inishowen
Calhame	1	Letterkenny
Castlefin/Killygordon	9	Stranorlar
Drumleene	1	Stranorlar
Gweebarra (Dirlaught)	15	Glenties
Ballaghdoe/Kilcar	10	Donegal
Killybegs	9	Donegal
Raphoe	6	Stranorlar
Glen	10	Letterkenny
Loughanure	11	Glenties
Done 2016	100	