## <u>Ceantar Bardais Inis Eoghain</u>

Oifig Riarthóir na gCruinnithe Aras an Chontae Leifear 02ú Aibreán 2025

### FOGRA CRUINNITHE

Beidh Cruinniú de Ceantar Bardais Inis Eoghain ar siúl Dé Mháirt 8ú Aibreán 2025, **ag 1.00 <u>r.n. in ISP Carn Domhnach</u>** 

#### DO GACH BHALL DEN CEANTAR BARDAS INIS EOGHAIN

## A Chara,

Iarrtar ort bheith i lathair ag an gcruinniú seo Ceantar Bardais Inis Eoghain. Tá Clar an Cruinnithe le seo.

#### Mise, le meas

Ung Chilker

## **Municipal District of Inishowen**

Office of Meetings Administrator County House Lifford 02<sup>nd</sup> April 2025

## NOTICE OF MEETING

A Meeting of the Municipal District of Inishowen will be held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025 **at 1.00p.m. in the Public Services Centre, Carndonagh, Co. Donegal.** 

TO EACH MEMBER OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF INISHOWEN

## **Dear Councillor**

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

Yours sincerely

Une Cheshoel

Una Cresswell Meetings Administrator

## AGENDA

- 1. Consideration of the Minutes of the February Meeting of Inishowen Municipal District held on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2025
- 2. Planning
- 3. Environment
- 4. Community Development
- 5. Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services
- 6. Roads & Transportation
- 7. Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services
- 8. Schedule of Municipal District Works
- 9. Correspondence

# MINUTES OF THE INISHOWEN MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 25<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2025 AT 2.00 PM IN CARNDONAGH PUBLIC SERVICE CENTRE

#### **Councillors Present**

Cllrs Joy Beard, Fionán Bradley, Paul Canning (online), Albert Doherty, Ali Farren, Martin Farren, Martin McDermott and Jack Murray.

#### Apologies

**Cllr Terry Crossan** 

#### **Officials Present**

Bryan Cannon, Director of Service Roads & Transportation, Una Cresswell, Area Manager, Housing & Corporate Services, , Dolores Lafferty, Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services, Michael McFadden, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads and Transportation, Shaun Doherty, Executive Architect, Housing Capital, Ryan Nolan, Executive Planner, Glenn Doherty, Executive Planner (online), Matthew Byrne, Waste Regulation Officer (online), Joy Browne, Tourism Manager, Economic Development, Helen Farren, Development Officer, Community Development.

The meeting was opened by the Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jack Murray who welcomed all to the meeting.

On the proposal of Cllr Martin McDermott, seconded by Cllr Ali Farren, the Inishowen Municipal District Meeting was adjourned to 2.00 pm.

# 25.09 Consideration of the Minutes of the Meeting of Inishowen Municipal District held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025

On the proposal of Cllr Martin Farren, seconded by Cllr Martin McDermott, the minutes of the Inishowen Municipal Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025 were agreed.

#### 25.10 Inishowen Municipal District Meeting

Cllr Jack Murray requested that the sound system for the Inishowen Municipal District Meetings be upgraded as the sound quality can be poor for those attending the meeting online. He suggested that the Owl system be investigated as a possible option. Cllr Joy Beard and Cllr Martin Farren concurred with this request. Una Cresswell advised that she has highlighted concerns with I.S and they are currently reviewing the sound quality.

#### **25.11 PLANNING**

Ryan Nolan, Executive Planner presented the planning report to members, and it was taken as read.

#### 25.11.01 Planning Advice Clinics

Ryan Nolan advised members that the Planning advice appointments are for substantial applications as outlined in the Council website. However, if there is a complex planning application, a meeting may be arranged. This would be considered on a case-by-case basis due to limited resources. Cllr Martin McDermott reiterated his concerns that the pre planning clinics need to be accessible for all planning applications.

#### 25.11.02 Residential Zone Land Tax (RZLT)

Ryan Nolan advised members that RZLT maps were published on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025. The deadline for landowners to request changes is 01<sup>st</sup> April 2025. Cllr Albert Doherty requested that any relevant dates would be published on the Councils social media.

#### 25.11.03 Sperrin Gold Mine Inquiry – Transboundary Public Consultation

Ryan Nolan advised that the Sperrin Gold Mine inquiry is currently suspended. Cllr Joy Beard advised that Sperrin gold mine would have very serious implications for Inishowen and poses a direct threat to health, environment and economy. Cllr Joy Beard requested that the Council is proactive in the research that they are carrying out. Cllr Albert Doherty concurred with Cllr Joy Beard and outlined the need for the consultation and involvement by Donegal County Council with the enquiry when it resumes. Ryan Nolan advised that Senior Management is working on a response which will lead into the transboundary consultation.

#### 25.11.04 Moville Regeneration Strategy and Action Plan

Ryan Nolan advised members that stage two of the Moville Regeneration Strategy and Action Plan is under review and it is anticipated that public consultation will take place on week commencing the 17<sup>th</sup> March.

#### **25.11.05 Derelict Sites Register**

Cllr Albert Doherty referred to the update in the report regarding the Derelict Sites Register. The report outlined that it is intended to present the Derelict Sites Policy and Procedures to the Elected Members for their consideration at MD level in the near future. Cllr Albert Doherty requested that this takes place at the next Municipal District meeting in April.

#### 25.11.06 Tús Nua Project

Cllr Albert Doherty requested an update regarding construction tenders that will be published for Back Lanes as outlined in the report.

#### **25.12 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

Helen Farren, Development Officer, Community Development presented the report and it was taken as read. She highlighted the following items to members –

 Local Enhancement Programme 2025 – closing date for receipt of applications is today 25<sup>th</sup> February 2025

#### 25.12.01 Development Fund Initiative 2025 – Workshop

Helen Farren advised members that the deadline for submitting applications under the Development Fund Initiative was 07<sup>th</sup> February 2025. The members agreed that a workshop would take place on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 11.30 am.

#### 25.12.02 SláinteCare

Following a request from Cllr Albert Doherty at the previous meeting, Helen Farren advised that a workshop will be organised with members and the DCC Sláintecare Healthy Community Local Development Officer.

#### 25.12.03 Moville Shore Path

Cllr Martin Farren acknowledged the support of Donegal County Council regarding the ongoing works in Moville and requested an update regarding the shelter houses. Helen Farren advised the meeting that formal extension to June 2025 has been granted due to the nature of the works to the shelter houses.

#### 25.12.04 Friar Hegarty/Buncrana Coastal Walk Enhancement

Cllr Fionán Bradley referred to the update regarding the Friar Hegarty project which would be fully complete in March 2025 and requested an exact date when works would be finished. Cllr Jack Murray concurred with this query.

#### 25.12.05 Beach Access - Lady's Bay

Cllr Fionán Bradley requested an update following concerns previously raised around accessibility from Buncrana pier to Lady's Bay.

#### 25.12.06 Barrack Hill Town Park

Cllr Albert Doherty advised that the public lighting at Barrack Hill Town Park requires attention following Storm Éowyn. Helen Farren advised that she follow up on this request.

#### 25.12.07 Vacant Building

Cllr Albert Doherty referred to his previous query in relation to a derelict Council building and asked that all avenues be explored in reinstating the building for use by various community groups.

#### 25.12.08 Rural Regeneration and Development

Cllr Joy Beard requested an update following a feasibility study that was commissioned by Carndonagh Traders Association into the development of an Inishowen event centre.

#### 25.12.09 Innovation Hub Buncrana

Cllr Joy Beard queried the ownership of the premises where the Innovation Hub was previously located on Buncrana Main Street.

#### **25.13 ENVIRONMENT**

Matthew Byrne, Waste Regulation Officer presented the report and it was taken as read. He highlighted the following items from the report –

- Water Quality Donegal County Council would like to remind farmers and contractors to follow good agricultural practice for the land spreading of slurry.
- **National Agricultural Inspection Plan** focusing on areas of the county where agriculture has been linked to poor water quality. Farmers will receive advance notice of an inspection.
- Water Framework Monitoring the 2025 Programme will see Donegal County Council sample 748 waterbodies with further characterisation planned. Donegal County Council will recommence the National Inspection Plan.
- **Natural Christmas Tree Recycling** recycled trees will be repurposed to improve riverbank stability, reduce erosion and create habitats for wildlife.
- **Climate Action Plan Implementation** Further information will be provided in the next Municipal District report.
- Flood Relief Scheme

#### 25.13.01 Coastal Erosion

Matthew Byrne updated members on recent correspondence received from OPW regarding coastal erosion. He outlined that in 2023 the OPW was designated as a lead body for coordination and monitoring the coastal change. As part of this role, they are currently developing a national monitoring programme which will set out the location type and frequency on monitoring required nationally.

#### 25.13.02Lifeguards

Cllr Martin Farren requested an update on when lifeguards will be in place at blue flag beaches. Matthew Byrne agreed to circulate details to the members. Cllr Fionán Bradley outlined the need for a lifeguard to be stationed at Lisfannon Beach as it is extremely busy. He also outlined the need that appropriate measures need to be put in place to ensure the Blue Flag status is restored at Lisfannon Beach.

#### 25.13.03 National Agricultural Inspection Plan

Following a query raised by ClIr Fionán Bradely regarding the increased target number of farm inspections that will be carried out in 2025, Matthew Byrne advised that this increase was due to additional funding and staff.

#### 25.13.04 Gransha Dam, Buncrana

Cllr Joy Beard raised concerns about the structural integrity of Gransha dam, Buncrana and outlined the risks for the residential properties that are down stream of the dam. She asked that this issue be dealt with as a priority.

#### 25.13.05 Burnfoot – Flood Relief Scheme

Cllr Jack Murray advised the meeting that he recently met with residents in Burnfoot who are exasperated with the slow progress in addressing the flooding issue in the area. On the proposal of Cllr Jack Murray, seconded my Cllr Albert Doherty, it was requested that the members seek a meeting with Minister Kevin Boxer Moran in relation to the issues raised.

Cllr Jack Murray advised that a number of residents have suggested that in certain cases, where properties are affected with defective concrete blocks, these households should be allowed to relocate elsewhere.

#### 25.13.06 Litter Bin

Cllr Fionán Bradley requested that a litter bin pe placed at the junction at Marian Park and Maginn Avenue.

#### **25.14 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Joy Browne, Tourism Manager, Economic Development presented the report, and it was taken as read. She highlighted the following to the members-

- Local Enterprise Week is taking place between 03<sup>rd</sup> and 07<sup>th</sup> March 2025.
- Tourism Seminar 2025

#### 25.14.01 Tourism Strategy Workshop

It was agreed that a Tourism Strategy workshop will be held online on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 10am.

#### **25.15 ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION**

Michael McFadden, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, and Transportation presented the report to the members, and it was taken as read.

#### 25.15.01

Michael McFadden advised members that the proposed Restoration Improvement, Restoration Maintenance & Drainage programmes which were agreed on the principle that any additional monies would be distributed over the proposed programme or added to the next job on the reserve list. Details of these programmes are outlined in the report. On the proposal of ClIr Ali Farren and seconded by ClIr Fionán Bradley the following budget allocations were agreed.

- 2025 Restoration Maintenance Programme no change from last year's allocation.
- **2025 Restoration Improvement Programme** In consideration of additional funding, the following reserve jobs have been added to the Programme
  - Carndonagh adding R242, Malin Bridge.
  - Moville adding R238, Drumlee Gleneely.
  - Buncrana adding R238, Fahan Lookout replacing L7021-1 BlackFarm.

- Newtowncunningham Area adding Toulett Section No.2 & R247 Carrigans toward Derry Border replacing L2031-3 School Road Bridgend.
- **2025 Drainage Programme -**No change from last year's allocation.
- Safety Improvement works on Regional and Local Roads for Inishowen MD 2025. Inishowen Municipal District received funding of €320,000 for the following projects –
  - € 170,000 Quigleys Point Vehicle Restraint System at Greenbank.
  - € 25,000 Bunnamayne Bridgend Crossroad Junctions.
  - € 25,000 Barrick Hill Buncrana.
  - €25,000 Largybrack, Carndonagh.
  - €25,000 Umricam, Buncrana T Junctions L1691/L7011.
  - €25,000 Coolnasillagh, Greencastle T Junction R241/L1471.
  - €25,000 Cockhill, Buncrana

#### • Specific Improvement Grants 2025

Inishowen MD received an allocation of € 200,000 in total for the completion of Coyle's/Beggars bridge, this allocation includes design and construction costs.

• Bridge Rehabilitation Works on Regional and Local Roads 2025

Inishowen MD received an allocation of € 120,000 in total for.

- €40,000 Carrowmullan Bridge Fahan
- €40,000 P O'Donnell's Bridge, Buncrana
- €40,000 Ballinlough Bridge, Carndonagh.

#### • Climate Adaption Funding for Inishowen MD 2025

Inishowen MD received an allocation of €170,000 for Argony Pipe to Killea R237 rampart road structure rehabilitation.

Roads & Footpaths in Council Housing Estates 2025

At the Roads SPC meeting in February 2021, a policy was agreed around the maintenance of roads, footpaths and public lighting in council housing estates. This was subsequently adopted at plenary level at the March 2021 Council Meeting. The Funding allocation to each municipal district in the 2025 Revenue Budget has yet to be announced. The Road Office in collaboration with the Housing & Corporate recommended a 4-year programme, where year 4 (2025) was identified as Crana View in Buncrana.

• Community Involvement Schemes 2025.

Donegal County Council has received an allocation of €1,089,000 for the 2025 Community Involvement Scheme. This has been distributed to the MDs on a per Km basis. which represents an increase of 22.2% from last year's allocation. At the last Roads Workshop, a priority list of schemes was agreed with the Members, however due to the increased allocation and additional CIS applications received since the workshop, it is proposed present an amended CIS programme at the next available workshop for the Elected Members consideration.

#### 25.15.02 Update from Previous meeting

**Footpath at Burt Chapel** – This request was referred to the safety engineer who advised that a footpath could not be facilitated at this location due to parking.

**Swan Park** – The Area Engineer will contact Cllr Joy Beard directly regarding location of lining at Swan Park.

Gully Cleaning – Gully cleaning has taken place at Lisowen, Buncrana.

#### 25.15.03 Workshop – Community Involvement Scheme 2025

It was agreed that a workshop regarding Community Involvement Scheme 2025 would take place on 08<sup>th</sup> April at 10am.

#### 25.15.04 N13 - Bridgend

On the proposal of ClIr Paul Canning and seconded by ClIr Jack Murray, it was agreed that a meeting be requested with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to discuss concerns that a by-pass of the Bridgend area could lead to any further development being hindered and land could be sterilised for planning purposes in the area.

#### 25.15.05 Storm Éowyn

Cllr Martin Farren acknowledged the responses by the Roads Service during Storm Éowyn.

Cllr Martin McDermott raised concerns regarding the vast number of trees that were damaged following Storm Éowyn and are now likely to cause further power outages if there was another storm. He also requested that any broken trees along the road should be cleared away and made safe.

Michael McFadden advised that under the Roads Act 1993, the landowner is responsible to ensure trees or other vegetation on their land is not a hazard to the public. Bryan Cannon, Director of Service, Roads & Transportation, suggested that if the members were aware of trees in a particular location that are causing concern, this could be reported to the Roads Service. He referred to guidance document 'A Guide for Landowners to Managing Roadside Trees' which outlines the responsibility of landowners.

#### 25.15.06 Clar Corner

Cllr Martin Farren requested that a traffic counter be installed at Clar Corner. He requested that this section would be realigned.

#### 25.15.07 Battery Bray

Cllr Martin Farren advised that the public lights at Battery Bray, Moville are not working.

#### 25.15.08 Casey's Corner

Cllr Martin Farren requested a footpath at Casey's Corner, Moville.

#### 25.15.09 Scoil Treasa Naofa

Cllr Ali Farren requested an update regarding the school crossing at Scoil Teresa Naofa, Malin Town.

#### 25.15.10 Malin Town Bridge

Cllr Ali Farren requested that resurfacing works that are proposed to be carried out at Malin Town Bridge would take place outside the peak tourism period.

#### 25.15.11 Mill Bridge, Buncrana

Cllr Joy Beard asked if a 'give way to oncoming traffic' sign could be erected at Mill Bridge in the interim while a more suitable solution is found for the bridge. Cllr Fionán Bradley reiterated his request for a pedestrian bridge at this location and would consider this a priority for Buncrana. Cllr Jack Murray concurred with these comments.

#### 25.15.12 Road Safety Authority

Cllr Joy Beard requested that the Road Safety Authority bring the Road Safety Interactive Unit (shuttle) to Buncrana on 08<sup>th</sup> April 2025 and requested that this be facilitated at an appropriate location.

#### 25.15.13 Pedestrian Crossing

Cllr Joy Beard asked that the possibility of providing a pedestrian crossing between Lidl and Aldi Supermarkets in Buncrana be investigated.

#### 25.15.14 Seating – Market Square, Buncrana

Cllr Fionán Bradley requested that benches are reinstated at the Market Square, Buncrana.

#### 25.15.15 Ferris Lane, Buncrana

Cllr Fionán Bradley requested that yellow boxes be provided outside a number of properties at Ferris Lane, Buncrana.

#### 25.15.16 Footpath

Cllr Fionán Bradley advised that the footpath at the junction of St Columba's Avenue/St Marys Road Buncrana is accessible. However, there is a parking space in front of this which is causing an issue for pedestrians.

#### 25.15.17 Riverview Estate Gransha

Cllr Fionán Bradely requested that the grids covering the gullies at Riverview Estate be replaced.

#### 25.15.18 Francis Town Junction

Cllr Martin McDermott raised concerns about the Francis Town Junction in Malin. Michael McFadden advised that he request a safety assessment be carried out at the junction.

#### 25.15.19 Ballyloskey Junction

Cllr Albert Doherty asked that solutions be found for the Ballyloskey Junction, Carndonagh.

#### 25.15.20 Carndonagh Town Centre

Cllr Albert Doherty highlighted that need for a crossing point at Gordon's Corner. He also requested that seating be repaired in the town.

#### 25.15.21 Signage

Cllr Albert Doherty requested that signage at Harkins Cottage, Malin and McClean's Corner Malin be reinstated.

#### 25.15.22 Public Lighting

Cllr Albert Doherty requested additional lights and footpath at Shore Road, Ballyliffin.

#### 25.15.23 Traffic Calming Measures

Cllr Jack Murray requested that speed ramps be installed at Maginn Avenue, Buncrana

#### 25.15.24 Vacant Building - Buncrana

Cllr Jack Murray requested that the Council explore the option of purchasing a vacant building in Main Street, Buncrana.

#### 25.15.25 Stragill Beach

Cllr Jack Murray raised concerns about horses on the lane to Stragill Beach which can cause issues for pedestrians.

#### 25.15.26 Accessible Parking - Buncrana

Cllr Jack Murray requested that suitable accessible parking be provided at Church Street, Buncrana.

#### 25.15.27 Minor Tourism Related Works Grant Scheme 2024 – Reallocation of Funding

On the proposal of Cllr Jack Murray and seconded by Cllr Joy Beard it was agreed that €15,000 that was originally allocated to Roads – Knockamany under the Minor Tourism Related Works Grant Scheme 2024 would be reallocated to Tullagh Car Park.

#### **25.16 HOUSING & CORPORATE SERVICES**

Una Cresswell, Area Manager, presented the Housing and Corporate report, and it was taken as read.

#### 25.16.01 Reception – Elite Dance Academy

It was agreed that a reception for Elite Dance Academy will be arranged and will update members when dates are agreed. Cllr Jack Murray requested that the reception would take place in Buncrana.

#### 25.16.02 Crana Crescent, Buncrana

Una Cresswell updated members that the sixteen new dwellings at Crana Crescent, Buncrana have now been offered. She outlined that there were a number of refusals and these properties are now re-offered. Cllr Fionán Bradly requested an update on why properties were refused. Una Cresswell advised of the various reasons on why properties were refused such as location and size of the properties. Cllr Jack Murray commended the Council on their engagement with residents during the construction process.

#### 25.16.03 Tenant Purchase Scheme

Cllr Ali Farren highlighted concerns raised by Council tenants who are unable to avail of the Tenant Purchase Scheme due to the presence of defective concrete blocks in the dwelling. In certain cases, families are willing to purchase their dwellings under the Tenant Purchase Scheme with the full knowledge that the house is affected by defective concrete blocks. He advised that these tenants would be willing to sign a legal waiver accepting full responsibly on the condition of these dwellings. He asked that option be explored further by the Council. Cllr Jack Murray and Cllr Joy Beard concurred with this request. Una Cresswell advised members that under the terms of the Council's Tenant Purchase Policy, which was adopted at Plenary Council, properties affected by defective concrete blocks will not be offered for sale under the Tenant Purchase Scheme. She further outlined that if these properties were sold to tenants, they in turn could not avail of the Defective Concrete Blocks Enhanced Grant Scheme in the future.

#### 25.16.04 Defective Concrete Blocks

Cllr Albert Doherty requested the Council write to Minister James Browne requested that an immediate decision regarding the provision of funding for the remediation of social houses affected by defective concrete blocks. The members concurred with this request. Cllr Albert Doherty also queried if the Council had a plan in place regarding a programme of works when funding is received. Una Cresswell advised that she will request that the Social Housing Remediation Team provide an update.

#### 25.17.05 Provision of Social Housing

Cllr Ali Farren queried if there were any plans for future developments in smaller areas of Inishowen. Una Cresswell advised that Housing Capital explore all options in terms of acquisition of land and this is an ongoing process.

#### 24.58.07 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting to be held on 08<sup>th</sup> April at 1pm.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Certified:

Cathaoirleach

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Area Manager

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



#### Inishowen MD Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025

		<u>8<sup>th</sup> April 2025</u>	
	Item	Update	
1	Development Applications		
	(1) Statistics	Inishowen Totals Year to Er	nd February 2025
		Applications received	79
		Granted	89
		Refused	7
		Deferred	27
		Invalid	12
		applications to End December 20	25
	1 Invalid 12 10 5		
	Deferred	42 27 29 18	Stranorlar Letterkenny
	2 Refused 7 3 3		Glenties Donegal
		32	
	Granted		89
		53 44	
	_		
		47	
	Anna David	60	
	Apps Recd	66	
		43	
	0	20 40 60 80	100



2	Enforcement		
		Inishowen MD	To end Feb 2025
		New Cases	8
		Closed Cases	1
		Outstanding cases on record	324
		since 2012	
3	Notes & Monthly Schedule	Planning advice clinics are of basis. The appointments will be between 9.00am and 12.30pr below and shall be for subs (multiple developments and/ developments). Please conta with the relevant planner and re <b>Planning Clinics 2025</b> 10 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025 24 <sup>th</sup> April, 2025 8 <sup>th</sup> May, 2025 22 <sup>nd</sup> May, 2025 Please see website for further of	facilitated by the planners m on the dates outlined stantial applications only or significant economic ct 074 9153900 to speak equest an appointment.
		Planning Advice Clinics   Donegal	
4	Casual Trading		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
5	Regeneration & Development	See Appendix A	
6	Building Control & Taking in Charge	See Appendix B	
7	Central Planning Unit		
8	Capital Projects Delivery Unit	See Appendix C	
9	Conservation		
10	Further Information Click on web links to access information.	<ul> <li>Weekly List of applications and dec Weekly Lists   Donegal County Co Planning Service email (to be used planning service): <u>planning@doneg</u></li> <li>Planning Webpage: <u>Planning   Do</u></li> <li>Planning Application Online Query <u>Search a Planning Application   Do</u></li> <li>File Retrieval Form – to be used for fil requests: <u>fillable-file-retrieval-pl</u> <u>search-request-form.pdf</u></li> </ul>	in correspondence with the <u>alcoco.ie</u> <u>negal County Council</u> _ <u>onegal County Council</u>



## **APPENDIX A**

**Regeneration & Development Team Community Development and Planning Services** 

## REPORT TO THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETINGS Q1 2025

## **1.0** Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF)

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

## 1.1Summary update of Projects

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

Project	Туре	Value (includes DCC co- funding)	Current Status/Delivery
RRDF Funding Call 4 – Category 2 – Project Development Measure	Catego ry 2		<ul> <li>Preparing to make funding application for projects identified in both Rathmullan and Dungloe by the closing date of the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025.</li> </ul>
Back to Ballyshannon	Catego ry 2 (2020)	€247,500	<ul> <li>Further screening to be arranged.</li> <li>Tender to procure topographical survey and structural survey underway.</li> <li>To be targeted for future Category 1 Funding</li> <li>Workshop held with the Members of the Donegal MD on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025.</li> </ul>
Ramelton Re- imagined/Histori c Town Centre	Category 2	€249,159	Project with CPDU for delivery.
	Category 1 (2022)	€7,949,868	

## **Table 1: Rural Regeneration and Development Fund Projects**



Development	Cat		
Burtonport Phase II	Catego ry 1		<ul> <li>Property with CPDU for delivery.</li> <li>Team support delivery through participation on Project Steering</li> </ul>
Repowering Buncrana	Categor y 2 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Call)		<ul> <li>Group.</li> <li>Property with CPDU for delivery.</li> <li>Team support delivery through participation on Project Steering Group.</li> </ul>
Rathmullan (in partnership with The Way Forward Rathmullan CLG).			<ul> <li>Part 8 approved February 2023.</li> <li>Unsuccessful for funding under Call 5 in May 2024.</li> <li>Project to be submitted for RRDF Category 2 Funding Call that is currently open (closing date 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025).</li> </ul>
Milford Town Centre First Plan		€100,000	<ul> <li>Town Centre First Plan launched November 2023</li> <li>GM Design Associates preparing a statutory planning scheme for the lands at Lower Mount Marian.</li> <li>Engagement with stakeholders ongoing.</li> <li>DCC to progress other priority projects identified in the Plan.</li> <li>Projects to be targeted for future funding calls.</li> </ul>
Glenties Town Centre First Plan		€30,000	<ul> <li>GM Design Associates appointed to assist with preparation of the Plan.</li> <li>Engagement with the Glenties Town Team ongoing.</li> <li>Work ongoing to prepare the Plan.</li> <li>Walkability Audit undertaken in December 2024.</li> </ul>



Village Plan       2024.         and       Part 8 for Community         Regeneration       Project 10         Project (in       Project successfully awarded funding of         ssociation       Funding agreement received and returned to the         Creeslough       Equation Project with CPDU for delivery.         Moville       C24,500         Regeneration       Project with CPDU for delivery.         Moville       C24,500         Regeneration       Graph Associates         appointed to assist to prepare Plan.       First community drop-in event held on September 19, 2024.         Moville       C24,500         Regeneration       First community drop-in event held on September 19, 2024.         Moville       C24,500         Strategy and       First community drop-in event held on September 19, 2024.         Action Plan.       First community drop-in event held on September 19, 2024.         Dungloe       C50,000       Funding allocation under Town and Village Renewal to advance design and planning consent for public realm works at Main Stret, Dungloe.         Creeslough       C50,000       Scope of project and budget availability being identified.         Plan       Scope of project and budget availability being identified.         Plan       Scope of projects and/or funded projects. <t< th=""><th>Creeslough</th><th></th><th>Village Plan launched 21<sup>st</sup> March</th></t<>	Creeslough		Village Plan launched 21 <sup>st</sup> March
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the Glenties Town Centre	Town Team		-
First Plan.			First Plan.



Creeslough Town Team	€10,000	<ul> <li>Creeslough Town Team established and first meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024.</li> <li>Funding of €10,000 allocated from the DRCD to support town team capacity building.</li> <li>External consultancy services procured to</li> <li>deliver team capacity building training to the Town Team, which is nearing completion.</li> </ul>
Buncrana Town Team	€10,000	<ul> <li>Allocation of €10,000 from the DRCD to support the establishment of a Buncrana Town Team.</li> <li>Town Team established in September 2024.</li> <li>External consultancy services procured to deliver team capacity building training to the Town Team, which is nearing completion.</li> </ul>
Ballybofey- Stranorlar Town Team	€10,000	<ul> <li>Discussion ongoing with BASICC with a view to establishing a Town Team to deliver the Ballybofey and Stranorlar Regeneration</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Strategy with support from the Regeneration Team.</li> <li>Funding of €10,000 allocated from the DRCD to support projects identified by the Town Team.</li> </ul>
Moville Town Team		<ul> <li>Initial discussions ongoing to establish a Moville Town Team.</li> </ul>
Milford Town Team		<ul> <li>Work to commence to establish a Town Team to deliver the Milford Town Centre First Plan with support from Donegal County Council.</li> </ul>
Falcarragh Town Team.		<ul> <li>Initial discussions ongoing to establish a Falcarragh Town Team and public consultation event to be held in March/April 2025.</li> </ul>



## 2.0 Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF).

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

## 2.1 Summary update of Projects

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

Call	Value of Project (includes DCC co-funding).	Projects and current Status/Delivery
Call 1 (approved September 2019)	€3m	<ol> <li>Prepare Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy         <ul> <li>Completed 2022.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
3 Sub-Projects		<ul> <li>2 Letterkenny Urban Regeneration site.</li> <li>DCC took possession of the former ESB site and adjacent lands through a CPO in 2023.</li> <li>Site to be developed for the Alpha/Beta Office accommodation, public realm and Housing.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Discussion on land compensation costs ongoing.</li> <li>3 Public Realm/Linear Park Phase 1         <ul> <li>Opened June 2023.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Table 2: Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Projects



	1	
Call 2	€19.3m	1. Reimagine public space at Market
(May 2020	(€4.8m DCC	Square.
and	co-funding)	<ul> <li>Project with CPDU for delivery.</li> </ul>
approved		
March 2021)		2. Cathedral Quarter Park and Church
_		Lane Shared Surface Scheme
6 Sub Projects		<ul> <li>Acquisition of strategic site fronting Church Lane completed and now in possession of Donegal County Council.</li> <li>Avison Young appointed to take forward all previous engagement and act on Council's behalf as regards further offers/acquisitions/CPO.</li> <li>Council to consider further offers and advance any acquisitions/CPOs.</li> <li>Hall Black Douglas appointed as architect-led design team in January 2025.</li> <li>AAB Group Accountants appointed to prepare a Scoping/Feasibility Study and Business Plan in respect of the Creative Enterprise Hub element of the project and these services commenced in January 2025.</li> <li>Workshop held with Members of the LMMD in February 2025.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>3. Renewal at Lower Main Street <ul> <li>Valuations obtained and land acquisition offers made.</li> <li>Avison Young appointed to take forward all previous engagement and act on Council's behalf as regards further offers/acquisitions/CPO.</li> <li>Council to consider further offers and advance any acquisitions/CPOs.</li> <li>Re-engagement with Donegal Youth Services carried out December 2024 and capacity testing exercise at Devlin Hall and adjoining lands commenced January 2025 using in-house architectural resource.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



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	4. Revival of the Courthouse
	Visitor Experience Plan/Product
	identification and Business Plan
	EPIC Heritage Consulting Ltd appointed
	to prepare a Visitor Experience Plan/
	Product Identification Plan and Business
	Plan for the development of a major
	visitor attraction at the Courthouse.
	Interpretation and Business Plan
	presented to Members of the LMMD
	in February 2025.
	Community consultation event held
	on the 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2025.
	Built Heritage Investment Scheme.
	<ul> <li>Funding of €10,000 secured in March</li> </ul>
	2024 from the Built Heritage
	Investment Scheme for minor repair
	works and, with co-funding from
	Donegal County Council, these works
	have been completed.
	THRIVE (EU) Funding.
	<ul> <li>Funding of €199,969 allocated under</li> </ul>
	THRIVE Strand 1 from the Northern
	and Western Regional Assembly for
	the purpose of engaging architect-led
	team to bring the project to Part 8
	stage.
	<ul> <li>Robin Lee, Architects, appointed as</li> </ul>
	architect-led design team in January
	2025.
	<ul> <li>Workshop with Members of the LMMD</li> </ul>
	held in February 2025.
	<ul> <li>Apex Surveys appointed to</li> </ul>
	undertake topographical and
	building surveys.
	<ul> <li>Greentrack consultants appointed to</li> </ul>
	undertake AA and EIA Screening.
	<ul> <li>Preparing to make THRIVE Strand 2</li> </ul>
	funding application by the closing
	date of the 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2025.
	<ul> <li>Targeting to have Part 8 available for</li> </ul>
	consideration at the May 2025 Plenary
	meeting.



<ul> <li>5. Strategic acquisition to enable a Regional Transport Hub <ul> <li>Avison Young appointed to take forward all previous engagement and act on Councils behalf as regards further offers/ acquisitions/ CPO.</li> <li>Consultation with Local Link ongoing in relation to private bus operators and short term solution.</li> <li>Land acquisition offers made in December 2024.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
6. Strategic acquisition to enable LK Green
<ul> <li>Connect <ul> <li>Part 8 in relation to the Cultural Corridor element of the project approved by Donegal County Council at the November 2023 Plenary meeting.</li> <li>In-house team has commenced steps to develop a Part 8 for Phase 2 (from constructed Phase 1 to Pearse Road).</li> <li>Valuation services of Avison Young being engaged in relation to phase 2 (from constructed Phase 1 to Pearse Road) and lands required for the Cultural Corridor element of the Scheme.</li> <li>All landowners engaged.</li> <li>Engagement ongoing with relevant stakeholders.</li> <li>Topographical survey completed.</li> <li>Tenders for AA/EIA screening opened but no response to advertisement – to reopen tender again.</li> <li>External structural/civil engineering consultative services procured for site investigation services and these works completed.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



Call 3 (March 2023 and	€4m	Revolving fund for acquisition costs of long- term vacant property or sites
approved		• 46 properties on the programme and all
July 2023).		<ul><li>owners have been engaged with.</li><li>Several properties already activated or</li></ul>
		being activated through the Croi Conaithe grant scheme and other schemes.
		Several properties currently for sale and
		<ul> <li>these are being monitored.</li> <li>Workshop held on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2024 to</li> </ul>
		brief
		Members on the outputs to-date and next steps.
		<ul> <li>Valuation Services engaged in relation to property valuations.</li> </ul>
		Council to advance 12 properties for
		<ul><li>acquisition/CPO.</li><li>Several properties added to the Derelict</li></ul>
"The Eat		Sites Register.
Out'		<ul><li>Construction completed.</li><li>Please refer to the report from</li></ul>
Outdoor Dining		Community Development who are delivering this project.
Infrastructur		
e Project Letterkenny		Part 8 approved November 2023.
Cultural Corridor		Valuation services of Avison Young being
Corridoi		engaged in relation to lands required for the delivery of the Scheme.
		<ul> <li>Services of Quantity Surveyor engaged to provide cost estimates for the scheme and</li> </ul>
		work completed.
Youth/Commu		<ul> <li>To be targeted for future URDF funding call.</li> <li>Early engagements with Letterkenny</li> </ul>
nity focused		Youth Club and Donegal Youth Services
project at Lower Main		<ul><li>have commenced.</li><li>Avison Young appointed in Q4 2023 to take</li></ul>
Street		forward all previous engagement and act
		on Council's behalf as regards further offers/acquisitions/CPO.
		Capacity testing of potential lands
		available has commenced with engagement ongoing with relevant
		stakeholders.



## **3.0** Croi Conaithe Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant Scheme.

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

## Table 3: Summary of Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant Applications

Applications	1 0 0 0
Applications Received	1,066
Applications Finalised	781
Approved	751
Deemed not eligible (eligibility criteria not met –	30
vacancy/proposed works).	
In progress (first technical inspection/awaiting information from applicant).	128
Withdrawn (by applicant)	157
Grants paid	121
Value of Grants paid to applicants	€6.5m

• To date, 51 drop in events have been held to promote the Scheme.



## 4.0 Addressing Vacancy and Dereliction

## 4.1 **Property Activation Program**

This initiative was launched in April 2023 with targets set for Local Authorities to bring properties back into use. Surveys commenced to identify and verify occupancy status of properties appearing vacant and contact made with some owners. This work will re- commence once staffing resources permit and options will be explored to establish funding source to acquire identified properties. The acquired properties may subsequently be used for social housing, made available for sale on the open market or used for other purposes e.g. community use.

## 2023 Target:

To activate 350 properties and commence CPO in 6 cases. This has been achieved.

## 2024 Target:

To activate 300 properties and commence CPO in 6 cases. This has been achieved.

## 2025 Target:

Awaited from the DHLGH.

## 4.2 Derelict Sites Register

The update and upkeep of the Derelict Sites Register falls within the remit of the Regeneration and Development Team since last year. There are currently 21 properties on the Derelict Sites Register, which includes 18 properties that have been on the register for a number of years and 3 new properties that were added to the Register in the last few weeks. As a first step, all the existing 18 properties are being reviewed to ascertain if each property continues to meet the criteria for inclusion on the Register. In addition, a Derelict Sites Policy and Procedures has been developed which sets out the obligations and legislative procedures to be followed in

respect of derelict sites and compulsory acquisitions and sets out the Council's priority programme for making additions to the Derelict Sites Register. It is intended to present the Derelict Sites Policy and Procedures to the Elected Members for their consideration at MD level soon.

Regeneration and Development Team. February 2025.



## **APPENDIX B**

# Municipal District of Inishowen April 2025

Building Control & Taking in Charge Community Development & Planning Services

# REPORT

- 1. Building Control Activity
  - a. Commencement Notices
  - b. Disability Access Certificates
- 2. Taking in Charge of Private Residential Estates



## **Building Control Activity**

#### a. Commencement Notices

In 2024, 892 valid Commencement Notices were submitted, representing 1,306 new buildings, and 202 building alterations/extensions. Of these there were 28 estate or multi-unit developments with a total of 528 units in these 28 developments.

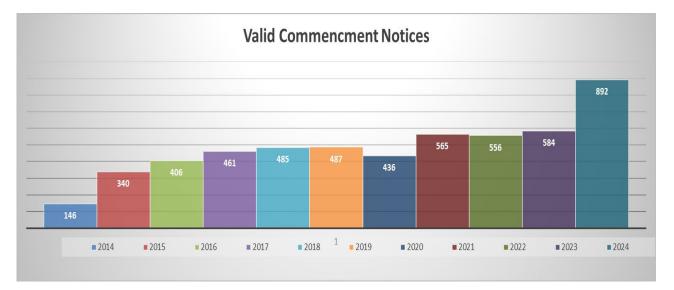
In 2023, 583 Commencement notices were submitted, representing 616 new buildings and 167 building alterations or extensions.

The number of "Opt-out" Commencement Notices submitted in 2024 was 488, 55% of the overall total submitted.

The number of "Opt-out" Commencement Notices submitted in 2023 was 299, 52% of the overall total submitted.

As reported previously, this consistent level of submission of these type of Commencement Notices remains a concern. Where these types of Commencement Notices are being used <u>the</u> <u>owners have declared themselves to be competent</u> to ensure that the works comply with the Building Regulations and are therefore taking on ALL the responsibility for ensuring compliance with the Regulations.

The 2024 notices indicate that there is an increase in the number of multiple developments started so far as compared with previous years.





## Types of Commencement Notices:

- *i)* <u>Commencement Notice with Compliance Documentation</u>: An Assigned Certifier is appointed to oversee the construction and to ensure that there is compliance with the Building Regulations.
- *<u>ii</u>) <u>Commencement Notice with Opt Out:</u> This can be used for single dwellings <u>only</u>. The owner is given the option to "opt out" from the Certification Process. They are still legally obliged to comply with the Building Regulations. For this type of commencement notice, an assigned certifier is not appointed, and the owner must sign a declaration to ensure that the building is constructed in accordance with the relevant Building Regulations.*

It needs to be stressed here that if this option is chosen, then the Owner is declaring that they are "Competent" and will ensure that the works comply with the Building Regulations. These are still subject to spot check inspections and must provide compliance documentation upon request.

- *<u>iii</u>) <u>Commencement Notice without Compliance Documentation</u>: This is referred to as a Short Commencement Notice and requires minimal documentation. It cannot be used for:* 
  - The construction of a new dwelling house.
  - An extension to a dwelling involving a total floor area greater than  $40m^2$ .
  - Any works that require a fire certificate
- *iv)* <u>7 Day Notice</u>: This type of notice is used, where a fire certificate has been applied for but has not yet been granted.

<u>2024- Jan 1st to December 31st</u>				
Туре	No. Of CNs	New Builds	Building Alterations/Extensions	
CN with Documentation	284	846	71	
7-day notice CN without	35	17	18	
Documentation	85	48	38	
CN with Opt Out	488	395	93	
Total	892	1306	220	

## b. Disability Access Certificates (DAC):

A Disability Access Certificate (DAC) is a Certificate issued by the Building Control Authority and states that the works or building to which the application relates will, if constructed in accordance with the plans and specifications submitted, comply with the requirements of Part M of the Second Schedule to the Building Regulations 1997 - 2011.

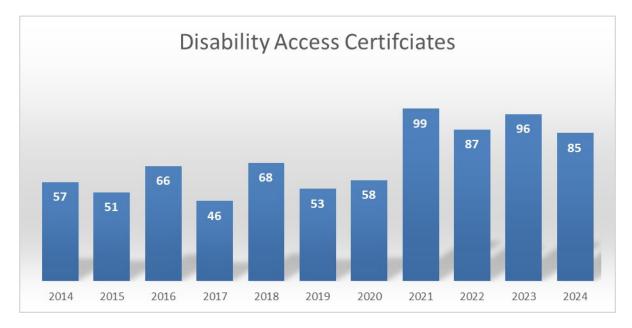
Except for houses and certain agricultural buildings, a DAC is generally required for all new buildings, including apartments and flats. A certificate is also required for material changes of use and certain alterations and extensions to buildings.

A building <u>may not</u> be opened, operated, or occupied or permitted to do so unless a DAC has been granted or pending determination of an appeals process.

The Building Control Authority is obliged to determine all DAC applications within 8 weeks of receipt unless an extension of time is agreed with the applicant.



The Building Control Department received 85 DAC applications in 2024 which compares with 96 applications in 2023, 87 DAC applications in 2022, 99 applications in 2021, 58 applications in 2020 and 53 in 2019.



## Taking in Charge of Private Residential Estates.

The Taking in Charge team is today presenting the following estate in the Municipal District to Members seeking approval to complete the Taking in Charge process:

- Elm Park, Ballymagan, Buncrana
- Ras na Mhuillinn, Carrigans

Where it is proposed to Declare a road to be a Public Road under Section 11 of the Roads Act, Members are obliged, under subsection (1)(b)(ii), to consider the financial implications for the Authority of the proposed declaration.

In this instance however, concerns raised by the Area Roads team, relevant to the planning conditions for the estates, have been addressed by site resolution plans implemented and the financial implications for taking the estates in charge are not significant.



## Planning & Development Act (2000 as amended) – Section 207 Roads Act, 1993 – Section 11 Planning and Development Act, (2000 as amended) – Section 180

The Planning Authority for the Inishowen Municipal District is seeking a resolution for the making of an **ORDER**, in accordance with Section 207 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended), for the creation of a public right of way over the estate roads within the housing estate **Elm Park, Ballymagan**, **Buncrana** as set out in the attached maps, to enable it to proceed with the taking in charge of the estate.

Furthermore, the Planning Authority for the Inishowen Municipal District is seeking a resolution for the making of an **ORDER**, in accordance with Section 11(1) of the Roads Act 1993, that the roads within the housing estate **Elm Park**, **Ballymagan**, **Buncrana** over which a public right-of-way will now exist, as shown on the attached map, are hereby declared to be a public road.

It is **noted** that consequent on the making of this Order, the Council is required to take in charge any sewers, watermains, or service connections and the public open spaces or car park within the attendant grounds of the development in accordance with Section 180(4)(a) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).

When water services infrastructure is taken in charge by a planning authority pursuant to section 180(4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), the water services legislation provides that it will be subsequently transferred to Irish Water by Ministerial Order.

Section 11 of the Roads Act requires that the financial implications of the declaration as a public road be considered. The financial implications are not significant, with no specific issues within this estate being raised by the Area Roads Engineers.

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Paddy Mullen Senior Executive Engineer Community & Planning Services

On the proposal of Councillor \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ seconded by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it is **resolved** that the Council **make an Order** in accordance with Section 207 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) for the creation of a public right of way over the estate roads within the housing estate **Elm Park, Ballymagan, Buncrana** as set out in the attached maps, to enable it to proceed with the taking in charge of the estates.

On the proposal of Councillor \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ seconded by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it is resolved that the Council make an Order in accordance with Section 11 (1) of the Roads Act, 1993 to declare the estate roads within the housing estate Elm Park, Ballymagan, Buncrana to be a public road and note the consequential provisions contained in Section 180(4) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) whereby this Council will also take in charge the water services infrastructure and the public open spaces or car park within the attendant grounds of the development and will subsequently transfer the water services within the estate to Irish Water.



## Planning & Development Act (2000 as amended) – Section 207 Roads Act, 1993 – Section 11 Planning and Development Act, (2000 as amended) – Section 180

The Planning Authority for the Inishowen Municipal District is seeking a resolution for the making of an **ORDER**, in accordance with Section 207 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended), for the creation of a public right of way over the estate roads within the housing estate **Ras na Mhuillinn**, **Carrigans** as set out in the attached maps, to enable it to proceed with the taking in charge of the estate.

Furthermore, the Planning Authority for the Inishowen Municipal District is seeking a resolution for the making of an **ORDER**, in accordance with Section 11(1) of the Roads Act 1993, that the roads within the housing estate **Ras na Mhuillinn, Carrigans** over which a public right-of-way will now exist, as shown on the attached map, are hereby declared to be a public road.

It is **noted** that consequent on the making of this Order, the Council is required to take in charge any sewers, watermains, or service connections and the public open spaces or car park within the attendant grounds of the development in accordance with Section 180(4)(a) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended).

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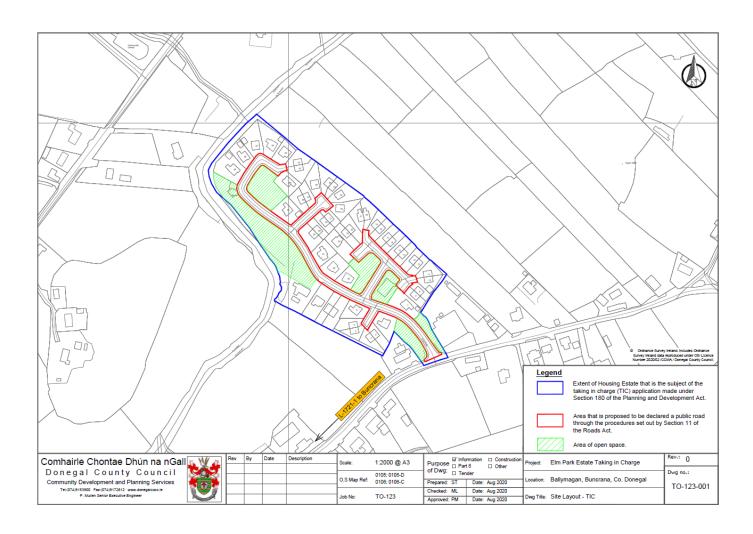
Paddy Mullen Senior Executive Engineer Community & Planning Services

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On the proposal of Councillor \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ seconded by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it is resolved that the Council make an Order in accordance with Section 11 (1) of the Roads Act, 1993 to declare the estate roads within the housing estate Ras na Mhuillinn, Carrigans to be a public road and note the consequential provisions contained in Section 180(4) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) whereby this Council will also take in charge the water services infrastructure and the public open spaces or car park within the attendant grounds of the development and will subsequently transfer the water services within the estate to Irish Water.

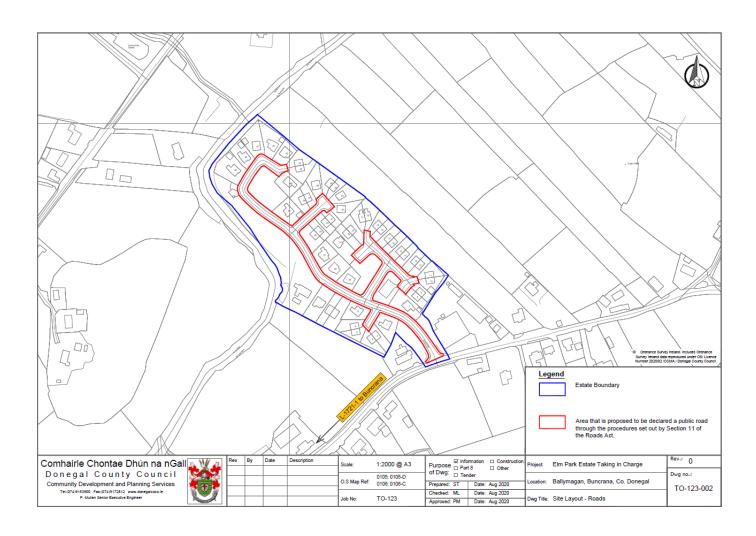
### Community Development, Enterprise & Planning S Planning Services Report



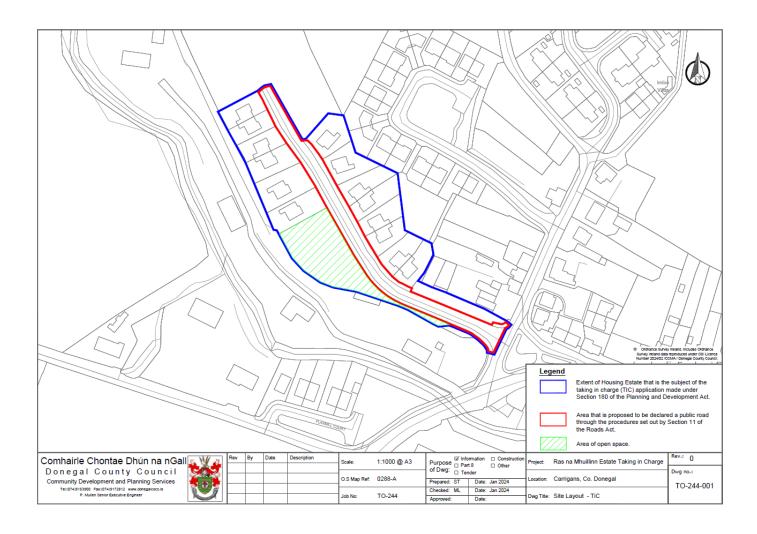


### Community Development, Enterprise & Planning S Planning Services Report

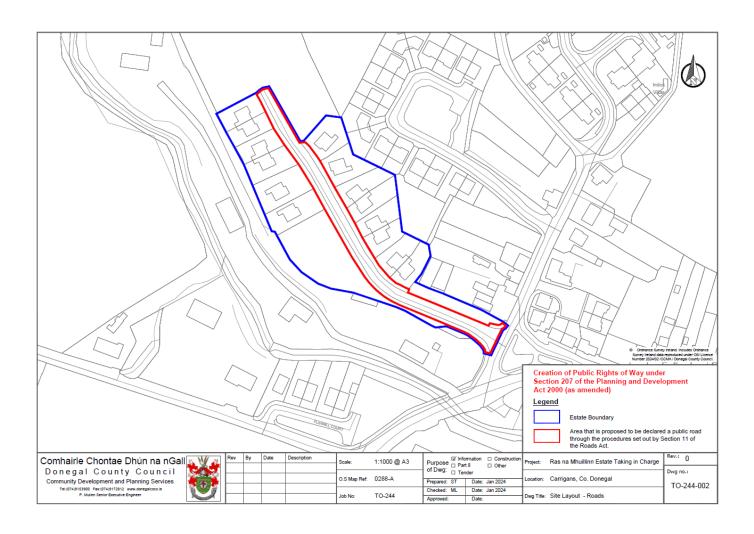














## **APPENDIX C**

## **CAPITAL PROJECTS DELIVERY UNIT**

Community Development and Planning Services Report to Inishowen Municipal District Members: April 2025

Activity / Project Title	Tús Nua Project	
Project Description/Activity	<ul> <li>The Tús Nua Project is a transformative town centre regeneration project in Carndonagh.</li> <li>The project elements are as follows:</li> <li>Alteration of the former Leprechaun Bar to create a new through access and public amenities including a changing places facility,</li> <li>Restoration, alteration and extension of a former Department Store and associated outbuildings to the rear providing for: <ol> <li>a new Digital Fabrication Laboratory (FabLab) and coworking Hub (CoLabora), office space,</li> <li>a community Kitchen,</li> <li>c Communal storage, and</li> <li>Apublic realm courtyard with sensory garden.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Creation of a new Pedestrian Street and public realm park between Pound Street/Bank Place and the Supervalu Retail Complex,</li> <li>The restoration and alteration of a stone outbuilding to a Creative Makers Hub for creative and craft industries;</li> <li>New demountable canopy feature(s) in the existing Diamond area civic space;</li> <li>New public realm improvements on Back Lane connecting the Diamond to the Town Car Park and Bridge Street;</li> <li>Acquisition of a town centre site (The Mart) which will enable separate progression of a town centre housing development by the Councils Housing Capital Team at an estimated value of €5-5.5m.</li> </ul>	
Budget Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<ul> <li>€ 9.6m</li> <li>Detailed design completed and associated tender documents are breviewed.</li> <li>CPO has been approved by An Bord Pleanala and DCC have taken ownership of the lands.</li> </ul>	
Project Targets for the next Bi- monthly / quarterly reporting period Contact Person(s)	Back Lane works are substantially complete.         Construction tenders to be published for main project and Back Lane construction works complete.         Hugh Trearty, Executive Engineer         Ardal McDermott, Senior Executive Engineer	

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Activity / Project Title	Fort Dunree			
Project Description/Activity	Donegal County Council (DCC) has been awarded grant funding of €9,251,000 for Fort Dunree, Co. Donegal under Fáilte Irelands, Capital investment scheme Platform for Growth – A Programme for Tourism Investment, Platform 1: Immersive Heritage and Cultural Attractions.			
	This will be supported by €3.2 million match funding committed by Donegal County Council providing a total Project value of €12.5 million investment.			
	The transformational tourism project at Fort Dunree is informed by a vision to reimagine the visitor experience at this spectacular Fort and Discovery Point along the Wild Atlantic Way.			
	The project will physically link the 3 unique elements of Fort Dunree: Lough Swilly below the Fort; the Promontory Fort and the High Fort (Redoubt). Along the visitor journey, immersive heritage and cultural touch-points will be provided with modern intervention view points and imaginative interpretive installations. The ambition is to reposition this defensive site to allow visitors to imagine its past and experience its beauty.			
	<ul> <li>The proposed Project comprises of the following key components.</li> <li>1. High Fort: Works to improve existing High Fort</li> <li>2. High Guns: Restoration of the High Guns</li> <li>3. Lighthouse: Conservation &amp; refurbishment works</li> <li>4. Northern Walkway: New projecting walkway</li> <li>5. Lower Fort Walkway: construction of new walkway &amp; upgrade of access route and drawbridge.</li> <li>6. The Village: Conservation &amp; upgrade of existing buildings to facilitate, welcome building, toilets, souvenir shop, café etc.</li> <li>7. Car Park: Provision of improved distribution roads &amp; a new car parking facility</li> <li>8. Walkways &amp; Watchtower: Upgraded and new walkways and watchtower conservation works</li> <li>9. Access Routes: Reparatory works to existing pathways and steps.</li> </ul>			
Budget	€12.5m			
Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status	<ul> <li>Following the An Bord Pleanála determination that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is required for the project, the Part 8 planning application has been withdrawn and a new application was submitted on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August 2024 to An Bord Pleanála for assessment.</li> <li>The design team is currently working on Stage 2b (Detailed Design) and the development of the construction tender documentation.</li> <li>The Visitor Experience &amp; Interpretation Consultant is continuing to develop the story of Fort Dunree to fit within the construction project. In addition, they are developing the branding strategy for the site.</li> </ul>			



	An updated cost plan has been received that is significantly higher than the funding award and engagement is ongoing with both Failte Ireland and the IDT to manage costs. The Project Programme has been updated as follows:		
	Stage	Start Date	Finish Date
	Stage 2a Scheme Design	Jun 2024	Dec 2025
	Stage 2b Detailed Design **	Jan 2024	Jun 2026
	Stage 3 Tender Action, Evaluation & Award	Jul 2026	Dec 2026
	Stage 4 Construction	Jan 2027	Sept 2028
	Stage 5 Handover, Client Fit Out, training	Oct 2028	Aug 2029
	<ul><li>** The duration of the ABP planning pro 16 months.</li></ul>	cess unknown an	d estimated at
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	Continue detailed design.		
Contact Person(s)	Patrick Brennan, Project Manager Shane Sweeney, A/ Senior Executive Brendan O'Donnell, Senior Engineer	Engineer	



Activity / Project Title	Repowering Buncrana
Project Description/Activity	<ul> <li>The overall objective of the project is to repower Buncrana by regenerating and connecting the costal edge and historic town centre activating a competitive, attractive, connected, liveable, sustainable and high quality strategic urban gateway to Inishowen and the North West City Region and establishing Buncrana as the Place Standard for the North West region.</li> <li>The project centres on six key interventions: <ol> <li>A new iconic pedestrian bridge over the Mill River connecting the Inishowen Greenway Project and Amazing Grace Park to a transformed harbour/pier environment,</li> <li>The creation of a high performance promenade and Shore Front Green including enhanced walkways, beach access, public realm &amp; festival gathering space and development of a new bespoke public/civic shore green users building,</li> <li>Enhanced connection between the new Shore Front Green environment and the Main Street and commercial core of the town with targeted public realm improvements,</li> <li>Enhanced Shore Front walkway and promenade along the Fishing Green, with dramatic re-imaging of the Amazing Grace viewing point,</li> <li>Onwards connection of the promenade to Swan Park, Buncrana Castle and Cockhill Road</li> <li>The repurposing and extension of the old garda barracks building to create bespoke office accommodation.</li> </ol></li></ul> <li>RRDF Category 2 Funding has been awarded to develop the project ready for a construction tender including securing all necessary statutory consents.</li>
	Robin Lee Architecture has been appointed to provide Integrated Design Team Services necessary for the delivery of the project.
Budget	Total Funding €1,461,746.00 80% Funded by RRDF (€1,169,396) 20% Funded by DCC (€292,349)
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	Engagement with stakeholders and the preliminary design of the project is ongoing.
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	Design process ongoing.
Contact Person(s)	Shane Sweeney, Senior Executive Engineer Brendan O'Donnell, Senior Engineer



### **ENVIRONMENT REPORT APRIL 2025**

### **CLIMATE ACTION**

Activity / Project Title	Climate Action Plan Implementation	
Project Description/ Activity	Reporting on progress made during 2024 in relation to DCC's Climate Action Plan has been reported to the LGMA and CARO in line with national deadlines and Key Performance Indicators.	
	Donegal County Council's first annual Progress Report on the Climate Action Plan will be submitted to Elected Members at end of March 2025.	
	The Council's Climate Action Team had their 2 <sup>nd</sup> meeting on the 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2025. A number of updates were given by the Climate Action Unit and services and positive discussion around mainstreaming climate action took place.	
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	Comhairle Contae Dissigner Causey Counce Dissigner Causey Counce	
Contact Person	Suzanne Bogan, Climate Action Officer sbogan@donegalcoco.ie	

Activity / Project Title	Decarbonising Zones – Falcarragh / Gortahork
Project Description/ Activity	Project/Activity: Launch of EU Pathways 2 Resilience Project
	Research and Consulting Ranking
	Pictured: DCC Climate Action Coordinator and Community Climate Action Officer with the P2R team and stakeholders
	Donegal County Council, in partnership with Cill Ulta, are participating in the EU @Pathways 2 Resilience Programme, supported by the EU Horizon Europe Fund and the EU Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change. We are one of 40 regions across Europe taking part in this new and exciting initiative. By taking part, our aim is to look at how we can build Rural Biobased Resilience in the An Fálcarrach / Gort an Choirce area, supported by a Northwest Bioeconomy Hub (www.nwbioeconomyhub.ie).
	Donegal County Council Climate Action Team are pleased to embark on this exploration of biobased climate resilience as part of our commitment to the An Fálcarrach / Gort an Choirce Decarbonising Zone within our Climate Action Plan 2024 – 2029.
	A sunny Donegal backdrop set the stage for our first @Pathways2Resilience workshop in Gortahork on 14th March. Focussing on the uses and applications of making biochar from green waste and re-using on local farms, the delegates from bio-research and innovation backgrounds provided valuable insights to scaling-up, challenges, and how such techniques can fit into a wider, locally driven circular bioeconomy. We are grateful to @Tipperary County Council (fellow P2R participants) and @Climate-KIC for attending and providing other regional and national perspectives.

	Our next workshops will focus on the wider community in An Fálcarrach / Gort an Choirce including local citizens, farms and businesses to explore possible climate resilience actions and how a strong local bioeconomy can provide resilience against some of the impacts faced due to climate change, such as soil degradation, flood risk, drought and economic losses.
	We are also pleased to welcome Accelerating Change Together (ACT) to the Pathways 2 Resilience team. Experts and likeminded thinkers on Green Transition in the Natural and Built Environment, ACT will be helping us on our Regional Resilience Journey, building a shared vision for the area and designing real, local actions that we can collectively take. For more information see website – <u>www.pathways2resilience.eu</u> . A further update for Elected Members will be arranged in the coming months.
Contact Person	Suzanne Bogan, Climate Action Officer sbogan@donegalcoco.ie

Activity / Project Title	Decarbonising Zones – Carndonagh
Project Description/ Activity	Project/Activity: Intelligent Cities Challenge – Local Green Deal in Carndonagh, Closing Conference, Brussels, 5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2025.
	Pictured: Suzanne Bogan, DCC Climate Action Officer, Kevin Moore KPM Soils, Adam Goodall, Derry City & Strabane District Council, Claire Moore KPM Soils, Cathaoirleach Cllr Niamg Kennedy and Saverio Romeo, ICC Lead Expert.
	Cathaoirleach of Donegal County Council Cllr Niamh Kennedy and Suzanne Bogan, Climate Action Officer represented Donegal County Council as part of the North West City Region's Local Green Deal Team together with local business KPM Soils, and representatives from Derry City & Strabane District Council at the #IntelligentCitiesChallenge Final Conference in Brussels.
	Highlights:
	<ul> <li>Cathaoirleach Cllr Niamh Kennedy's participation in the ICC Mayors Business Forum</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Presenting the 2 local green deals developed in the North West Ireland City Region:         <ul> <li>i. 'Grow Eat Compost Repeat' – A circular economy initiative by Donegal County</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Council & KPM Soils

	<ul> <li>ii. 'Strabane Positive Energy District' – Advancing clean energy solutions in Strabane</li> <li>Engaging with 250+ city leaders, businesses, and EU representatives to showcase our region's commitment to a sustainable future.</li> </ul> This was a fantastic opportunity to put the North West Ireland City Region on the European stage as a leader in green innovation and digital transformation. <b>With Strabane Transform Strabane With Strabane Pictured: Claire Moore from KPM Soils presenting on the Local Green Deal.</b>
Contact Person	Suzanne Bogan, Climate Action Officer sbogan@donegalcoco.ie

Activity / Project Title	Funding of €15,000 for Donegal Community Climate Engagement Projects
Project Description/ Activity	Rialtas na hÉireann         Government of Ireland
	CLIMATE ACTIONS WORK
	For information and resources go to gov.ie/climateactionswork
	Three Donegal organisations have been successful in being awarded a combined €15,000 under the National Climate Actions Work - Engagement Fund.
	<ul> <li>Spraoi agus Sport, Carndonagh received €10,000 for their Biodiversity Action Championships project.</li> <li>Barrack Hill Town Park and Greencastle Community Development were each awarded €2,500 for climate and sustainability awareness campaigns.</li> </ul>
	The funding will support groups or organisations working to bring people together and share information on climate action. The fund is focused on climate engagement, awareness and communications - helping communities to reach new audiences in their locality. It will also provide opportunities for community groups to promote their work and spread the message of community-led climate action.
	The funding is part of a national allocation of half a million euros, shared among 96 projects.
	For further information: Climate Actions Work – Community Climate Engagement Fund
Contact Person	Fiona Kelly, Community Climate Action Officer <u>FionaKelly@Donegalcoco.ie</u>

Activity / Project Title	'Tourism Connect Event' – Climate Action Information Stand
Project Description/ Activity	Fictured:         Fiona Kelly, Community Climate Action Officer and Niamh Monaghan at the Climate Action and Environment Information Stand at the Tourism Connect Event.           The Climate Action Unit hosted an Information Stand at the inaugural 'Tourism Connect Event' held in the Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny on Wednesday 5th March.           Over 100 Donegal tourism businesses attended event that was organised in collaboration with Failte Ireland, Donegal County Council and Donegal Tourism.
	This was a wonderful opportunity to engage with members of the tourism industry to provide information on the DCC Climate Action Plan and resources available to support tourism businesses to reduce costs, improve efficiency and lower their environment impact.
Contact Person	For further information: <u>Fáilte Ireland – Climate Action Programme</u> Fiona Kelly, Community Climate Action Officer <u>FionaKelly@Donegalcoco.ie</u>

Activity / Project Title	Public Service Announcements (PSA's) on local radio in April – Waste	
Description/A ctivity	"Donegal County Council would like to remind residents that each and every one of us is responsible for making sure the waste materials we generate is dealt with in an environmentally friendly way. Dumping waste can contaminate land, pollute watercourses, encourage vermin, spread invasive species and impact on human health. It is also a visual blight on our beautiful countryside. Unauthorised waste activity such as dumping and burning of waste is illegal and can lead to fines, court appearances and in some cases a criminal conviction. We all have a part to play, so let's work together to keep Donegal beautiful".	
Activity /	National Meeting on Solid Fuels	
Project Title		
Description/A ctivity	Donegal County Council hosted a national meeting of the Solid Fuels Implementation Group on Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2025 in Jackson's Hotel, Ballybofey.	
	<ul> <li>This conference focused on</li> <li>Ongoing work in Donegal County Council on airquality monitoring</li> <li>Donegal County Council enforcement work on Solid Fuels including testing of coal products</li> <li>Dublin Region Solid Fuel Compliance Analysis</li> <li>EPA update on the Solid Fuel Register</li> <li>Sulphur Testing in Northern Ireland</li> <li>Update on market surveillance from the Department of Environment &amp; Climate Change</li> </ul>	
Contact	Joe Ferry	
Person	joe.ferry@donegalcoco.ie	



# Community Development & Planning Directorate Community Development Division

# **Municipal District of Inishowen**

on

# 08<sup>th</sup> April 2025

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Donegal Public Participation Network (Donegal PPN)	.6



Activity/Project Title	Community Development Officer Report
Budget (if applicable)	NA
Progress to date within the last two months	• <b>Development Fund Initiative</b> Following the recent DFI workshop, formal approval of the 2025 DFI allocations will be required at the April MD meeting.
	Rural Programme Workshop
	Community Development staff met to update Members on The section will meet in workshop 2/3 times a year to review the work it does, to inform the future development of the MD and wider region, provides an opportunity where the members can feed back what's happening in the community and the unit will share with the members applications they have received, the details of forthcoming calls and feedback from/for the community.
	The next Rural Programme for Inishowen Municipal District is scheduled for 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2025.
Contact Person	Helen Farren,
	Community Development Officer Community & Development E: <u>hfarren@donegalcoco.ie</u> T: 074-9373711 M: 087-1699198



Activity / Project Title	Malin Head Visitor Management Plan	
Activity / Project Description	Malin Head Access & Amenity Improvement Project. Phase 1 of the project includes the delivery of major works at Malin Head to create the 'Must See' visitor attraction. This also includes the provision of additional car parking close to Banba's Crown and the implementation of traffic management arrangements.	
Progress to date within the last two months/quarter* - inclusive of current status * Delete irrelevant reporting period	<ul> <li>Visitor Management Plan for Malin Head Signature Discovery Point Project</li> <li>Donegal County Council following consultation with Failte Ireland has completed the tendering competition for the procurement of multi-disciplinary services for the delivery of a visitor management plan for Malin Head Signatory point.</li> <li>Keys and Monaghan Architects together with Cooney Architects have been appointed to Design the Malin Head Visitor Management Plan and Concept design.</li> <li>Keys and Monaghan Architects together with Cooney Architects, a multi-disciplinary team have been appointed to provide a Visitor Management Plan and concept design for Malin Head.</li> <li>There were four successful Stakeholder Engagement workshops held on the 8<sup>th</sup> May in Malin Head Community Centre, 9<sup>th</sup> May McGrory's Hotel Culdaff, Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May in the Colgan Hall, Carndonagh and Malin Village Hall on the 15<sup>th</sup> May with over 310 people in attendance over the four evenings.</li> <li>Donegal Council remains committed, in partnership with Failte Ireland and with the support of the local community, to deliver on the ambitious objectives within the draft Malin Head Visitor Management Plan.</li> <li>Phase 1 of the project includes the delivery of major works at Malin Head to create the 'Must See' visitor attraction. This also includes the provision of additional car parking close to Banba's Crown and the implementation of traffic management arrangements.</li> <li>To proceed with this, the Council must acquire the necessary lands upon which the development is to proceed.</li> <li>A workshop took place on the 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023</li> <li>The Community Development directorate are working on a roadmap/timeline for the advancement of the Malin Head Visitor Management Plan. This will be circulated to the Elected Members by the end of January. This commitment was</li> </ul>	

Contact Person	James Kelly, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Mobile 087 2236923
Project Targets for the next bi- monthly/quarterly* reporting period	Further updates will be made available in due course.
	<ul> <li>provided by Mr. Liam Ward, Director of Service at the workshop meeting held on the 28<sup>th of</sup> November 2023.</li> <li>Mr. Liam Ward, Director of Service circulated a report on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024 outlining a roadmap with timelines to deliver the Malin Head Visitor Management Plan.</li> <li>Mr. Liam Ward, Director of Service circulated an update to the Elected Members on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August in relation to the Malin Head Visitor Management Plan. James Kelly, Senior Engineer and John Deeney, Executive Engineer will be available in the Carndonagh PSC Chamber on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September from 9am to 4pm to discuss the project with property owners.</li> <li>A workshop meeting is taken place with the Director of Service, Divisional Manager, Senior Executive Engineer, and Executive Engineer on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 11.30 am prior to the Inishowen Municipal District Meeting.</li> <li>Workshop took place 03<sup>rd</sup> December 2024. As discussed, further updates will be made available in due course.</li> </ul>



Activity / Project Title	An Grianán of Aileach Fort	
Project	Development /Improvement of Visitor facilities/Conservation	
Description/Activity	Plan	
Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status	<ul> <li>Historical background</li> <li>A meeting took place on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2017 with Mr. Frank Shalvey and Mr. Eoghan Moyla, senior OPW officials, Failte Ireland, Council Officials and various stakeholders. Mr. Shalvey agreed to initiate the process for a Conservation and Management Plan of the entire site. The timeframe for completion of the plan is early 2018. The Council will work in collaboration with the OPW, Fáilte Ireland and the stakeholders in relation to the development of the site. The Office of Public Works have given a commitment to commission a Conservation and Management Plan. This is on the way to being achieved currently and this will set out the options for the future management of the Grianán an Aileach site.</li> <li>In June 2019, the OPW officially appointed Blackwood Associates Architects to provide a Conservation and Management plan.</li> <li>Alice Bentley of Blackwood Associate Architects, Claire Cotter, Archaeologist, Jackie Hunt, Ecologist and Michelle O' Dea from the Office of Public Works attended a workshop meeting regarding the Conservation and Management report with the Members on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019. Contributions from the Councillors was documented by the consultations and will be addressed in the plan.</li> <li>A copy of the completed Conservation and Management plan was circulated to the Elected Members in January 2021.</li> <li>This plan sets out the implementation strategy and Action Plan for the conservation and protection of the monument.</li> <li>The OPW have indicated that the list of Actions contained in the plan will guide the way forward for servicing the tourism potential of the site achieved collaboratively with the OPW and other partners and official agencies such as Donegal County Council and Fáilte Ireland</li> <li>The OPW hoy fficials will meet with the Elected Members and relevant Council officials at the site later in the Summer when health restrictions permit to discuss any issues associated with the site and the Conservation and Managemen</li></ul>	

٠	A request by the Members to meet with the OPW and Fáilte
	Ireland regarding enhancing the visitor experience at An
	Grianán of Aileach was issued.
•	A positive response was received from OPW to Fáilte Ireland
	with suggested dates for a meeting to follow.
•	The Area Roads Manager and Development Officer met with
	Fáilte Ireland & the OPW with the objective to improve the
	visitor experience at the site.
٠	A Memorandum of Understanding document is been signed
	highlighting the Council, OPW and Fáilte Irelands shared
	ambition to significantly enhance the visitor experience of
	Grianán of Aileach through the successful execution of the
	various site management actions highlighted within the
	Conservation Management Plan for the Grianán of Aileach
	and also contained within the Inishowen Peninsula
	Destination Experience Development Plan (DEDP). The
	document will serve as a basis to establish a workshop
	meeting date with the Elected Members, Fáilte Ireland,
	Council Officials and the OPW.
•	The Office of Public works is responsible for An Grianán of
	Aileach monument. Donegal County Council have agreed in
	principle to agree a Memorandum of Understanding with the
	OPW and Fáilte Ireland.
•	Donegal County Council are committed to working in
	collaboration with all Agencies & Stakeholders to meet the
	objectives of Fáilte Irelands Inishowen Peninsula Destination
	Experience Development Plan (DEDP) with the shared ambition to enhance the visitor experience in line with the
	successful execution of the various site management actions
	highlighted within the OPWs Conservation and Management
	Plan for the site.
•	Fáilte Ireland have appointed the services of a consultant to
	improve the Visitor Experience at An Grianán Of Aileach.
	Engagement with the Elected Members will take place in
	that regard.
•	The Sláintecare Community Development Officer and the
	Area Manager, Roads and Transportation continue to engage
	collaboratively on a Tri-agency approach with Fáilte Ireland
	and the OPW to form a sustainable management and visitor
	experience stakeholder group to meet the objectives of Fáilte
	Irelands Inishowen Peninsula Destination Experience
	Development Plan (DEDP) with the shared ambition to
	enhance the visitor experience, including signage,
	Interpretation and Orientation requirements, in line with the
	successful execution of the various site management actions
	highlighted within the OPWs Conservation and Management
	plan for An Grianán of Aileach.

Project Targets for the next bi- monthly/quarterly* reporting period	<ul> <li>An Grianán of Aileach Monument</li> <li>Fáilte Ireland have appointed the services of Mirador Media consultants to improve the Visitor Experience at An Grianán of Aileach monument.</li> <li>We continue to engage and collaborate with Fáilte Ireland to meet the objectives and shared ambition to enhance the visitor experience including signage, Interpretation and Orientation requirements.</li> <li>Fáilte Ireland will provide more information on a draft Interpretative proposal by the consultants at the meeting with the Elected Members on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February.</li> </ul>
Contact Person	<ul> <li>Fiona Doherty, Sláintecare CDO, Community Development &amp; Planning</li> <li>Michael McFadden, Area Manager, Roads &amp; Transportation, Inishowen MD</li> </ul>



Activity / Project Title	Friar Hegarty/ Buncrana Coastal Walk Enhancement and Artwork Project
Fund:	€ 80,000 Community Recognition fund and funding Contribution from Cultural Services
	2023 Community Recognition fund
Project Description/Activity	<ul> <li>Friar Hegarty Public Artwork</li> <li>Enhancement of the walk/trail</li> <li>Accessible seating</li> <li>Trail Head/Interpretation panels/maps</li> <li>Improved Accessible Access to the 2 no. Archaeological sites and relevant study/plans.</li> <li>Capital/drainage improvements</li> </ul>
Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status	<ul> <li>The work has been scoped out and will be tendered in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2024.</li> <li>Site assessments have taken place along with a few meetings on site with relevant parties and Councillors.</li> <li>The final scope of agreed works will be contained in next month's report.</li> <li>A Two Stage Open Competition through which an artist will be invited to create a suitable public artwork in response to Friar Hegarty's story and deliver the commission.</li> </ul>
Project Targets for the next bi- monthly/quarterly* reporting period	<ul> <li><u>Two Stage Open Artwork Competition</u> <ul> <li>A Two Stage Open Art Competition was advertised on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2024. Artists were invited to create a suitable public artwork in response to Friar Hegarty's story and deliver the commission.</li> <li>There was 13 no applications submitted under the 1<sup>st</sup> Stage Public Commission deadline of Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024. A Selection Panel has been set up and will meet next week to consider and shortlist up to 5 Artists to go forward to Stage Two of the Artwork competition.</li> <li>The shortlisted Artists will present their final design to the selection panel in July 2024. The successful Artist will be chosen thereafter. Engagement with Landowner has taken place. Tender documents are being prepared for the project together with all appropriate studies and reports.</li> <li>Five shortlisted Artists will present their final design.</li> <li>An Artist has been selected and will be officially appointed soon. An Ecologist and Archaeologist has also been appointed. <u>Capital work.</u></li> <li>Tender documents are being prepared for the project together with all appropriate studies and reports.</li> <li>Enhancement of the walk</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<ul> <li>Capital/drainage improvements.</li> </ul>
Accessible seating
Trail Head/Interpretation panels/maps
<ul> <li>Improved access to the 2 no. Archaeological sites, Friar</li> </ul>
Hegarty's Grave and the Porthaw Holy Well and Celtic
Cross
<ul> <li>The Artist has been appointed and the Public Artwork</li> </ul>
will be completed at the end of the year.
An Ecologist and Archaeologist have carried out a
scoping exercise on the project site.
<ul> <li>An Ecologist and Archaeologist have carried out a</li> </ul>
scoping exercise on the project site.
Friar Hegarty/ Buncrana Coastal Walk Enhancement
and Artwork Project
Public Artwork
• The Commissioned Artist Rory Harron is working on the
figurative statue of Fr Hegarty, and it is anticipated
that the artwork will be completed at the end of the
•
year.
<ul> <li>An Ecology and Archaeologist assessment has been</li> </ul>
completed.
<ul> <li>Interpretation of the story of Fr Hegarty</li> </ul>
The local schools in the town are involved in the
history and storytelling of Fr Hegarty.
Capital work.
<ul> <li>A contractor has been appointed to carry out the</li> </ul>
following work.
Capital/drainage improvements.
Accessible seating
<ul> <li>Install Trail Head/Interpretation panels.</li> </ul>
• Improved access to the 2 no. Archaeological sites, Friar
Hegarty's Grave and the Porthaw Holy Well and Celtic
cross
Public Artwork January 2025
The Commissioned Artist Rory Harron is working on the
figurative statue of Fr Hegarty.
<ul> <li>An Ecology and Archaeologist assessment has been</li> </ul>
completed.
<ul> <li>Interpretation of the story of Fr Hegarty</li> </ul>
The local schools in the town are involved in the
history and storytelling of Fr Hegarty.
A visit to the site with the Children, teachers,
Archaeologist and Development Officer took place on
the 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2024.
<u>Capital work. – January 2025</u>
<ul> <li>A contractor has been appointed to carry out the</li> </ul>
following work.
<ul> <li>Enhancement of the walk</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Capital/drainage improvements.</li> </ul>
Accessible seating
Install Trail Head/Interpretation panels.
<ul> <li>Improved access to the 2 no. Archaeological sites, Friar</li> </ul>
Hegarty's Grave and the Porthaw Holy Well and Celtic
cross. Working within the requirements of the National
Monuments guided by our appointed Archaeologist

	Echruser 2025 undato
	<ul> <li>February 2025 update Public Artwork</li> <li>The figurative Artwork of Fr Hegarty by the Artist Rory Harron will be completed at the end of the month.</li> <li>An Ecology and archaeologist assessment has been completed</li> <li>Interpretation information telling the story of Fr Hegarty is being prepared. The local schools are involved. <u>Capital work.</u></li> <li>A contractor is to commence works in the coming weeks on the civil works</li> <li>Ecology Report is ongoing.</li> <li>The Archaeologist report is ongoing.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>April 2025 update</li> <li>The Contractor is to commence works in the coming weeks on the civils works.</li> <li>The Artwork has started and due to be completed by the end of January.</li> <li>The Ecology Report is ongoing.</li> <li>The Archaeologist Report is ongoing.</li> <li>The Civil works is now completed.</li> <li>The statue of Friar Hegarty is being installed before the end of March prior to official unveiling on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> of April.</li> </ul>
Contact Details	<ul> <li>Works to be fully complete in March 2025</li> <li>Fiona Doherty, Sláintecare Development Officer, 087 367895, <u>fdoherty@donegalcoco.ie</u></li> <li>Brian Keogh, Executive Engineer, 087 6202947, <u>bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie</u></li> </ul>



Activity / Project Title	Playground Maintenance
Project Description/Activity	List of Playgrounds <ul> <li>Culdaff Playground</li> <li>Moville Playground</li> <li>Buncrana Festival Park Playground</li> <li>Clós Phádraig Playground</li> <li>Barrack Hill Playground</li> <li>Cill Bhríde MUGA</li> <li>Ballyliffin Playground</li> <li>Manorcunningham Playground</li> <li>Killea Playground</li> </ul>
Budget <i>(if applicable)</i> Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<ul> <li>The Annual safety inspections for the maintenance of all DCC playgrounds will take place in January 2025 with the maintenance works tender to follow from this.</li> <li>The Annual safety inspections for the maintenance of all DCC playgrounds currently underway, with the maintenance works tender to follow from this.</li> </ul>
Project Targets for the next bi- monthly/quarterly* reporting period	PLAYGROUNDS April 2025 Playground maintenance tender assessment underway to appoint a contractor for 2025 repairs.
Contact Person	John Deeney, Executive Engineer, 087 7197619



Activity / Project Title	Buncrana School Campus
Project Description/Activity	Assisting the Department of Education & Skills in identifying a suitable site in the Buncrana Environs to accommodate a three-school campus ideally measuring between 15 – 20 acres.
Budget (if applicable)	As per Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Education & Skills and CCMA.
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<ul> <li>Work has been on-going over the past few years and Donegal County Council are currently reviewing additional sites in Buncrana environs on behalf of the Department of Education and skills. Given the sensitive nature of such discussions, in relation to land acquisition, it has been agreed with the Department of Education and Skills that any further requests for updates or progress reports would be handled directly by the Department.</li> <li>Donegal County Council are working on behalf of the Department of Education and Skills in securing the preferred identified site for the Buncrana School Campus.</li> <li>The Compulsory Purchase Order process was instigated on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020. Public notices were published in the local newspapers.</li> <li>Copies of the Public Notice and maps relating to the CPO was available for inspection at the Public Services Centre in Carndonagh, the Buncrana office and DCC headquarters in Lifford.</li> <li>The 'Notice to Treat' was issued in December 2021 to the parties with an interest in the site proposed for the Buncrana School Campus.</li> <li>It is intended that the 'Notice to Enter' will be issued at the end of January. This will allow the Department of Education &amp; Skills access to the land to carry out surveys, site investigations, etc.</li> </ul>
	Work is ongoing to progress the acquisition of the land     Donegal County Council continue to assist The
	<ul> <li>Department of Education and Skills with the technical elements of the project and this work is on-going.</li> <li>The CPO is concluded.</li> <li>An Arbitrator has been appointed to determine the compensation due to the parties with an interest in the land.</li> <li>DCC and the Department of Education are currently preparing for the arbitration hearing and are awaiting a date for same.</li> <li>The Department of Education have commenced works on progressing the delivery of the school Campus design.</li> </ul>
Contact person	Eamon Boyle, Executive Engineer, Tel: 087 1788623 Email: <u>eamonb@donegalcoco.ie</u>



Activity / Project Title	2021 Town & Village Renewal Scheme – Moville
File:	
Project Description/Activity	Enhancement of Moville Putting Green and Regeneration Plan
Budget (if applicable)	€111,110
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<ul> <li>The Capital Works for this Project is complete, and the Health Check and master plan are ongoing and to be completed in draft and the final document is being finalised</li> </ul>
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	Works to be fully complete in April 2025
<b>Contact Person</b> (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	Brian Keogh Tel: 087 620 2947 Email: <u>bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie</u>



### Jetty – Bunagee, Culdaff (ORIS)

Activity / Project Title File: Project Description/Activity Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<ul> <li>Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) project Development Measure for a pontoon at the existing jetty in Bunagee, Culdaff</li> <li>€55,555 for Project Development</li> <li>Preparation work for Jetty at Bunagee, Culdaff</li> <li>A meeting took place with the Culdaff Development Association and Donegal County Council's Executive Engineer and Development Officer.</li> <li>The next steps were discussed and the way forward to deliver the project agreed.</li> <li>Tenders are being prepared for Appropriate Assessment and all relevant documentation and reports necessary to deliver the capital works.</li> <li>A Consultant is to be appointed to carry out an Appropriate Assessment.</li> <li>The relevant documentation to deliver the capital design of the project element has been prepared.</li> <li>The Tender documents for a design are completed and will issue this week for a consultant to design the project.</li> <li>The consultant is now appointed and has commenced the design process.</li> <li>The consultant is currently working on the design of the structure and completed at the end of this year.</li> <li>The Engineers recently meet with the consultants</li> </ul>
	'Greentrack' on site regarding the design.
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<ul> <li><u>April 2025 Update</u></li> <li>The Initial meeting with the Community Group</li> <li>Consultant Appointed</li> <li>The consultant is currently working on the design of the structure.</li> <li>The initial draft design report has been issued to the DCC.</li> <li>The Ecology report is being finalised Works to be fully complete in Q1 2025</li> </ul>
Contact Person	Brian Keogh, Executive Engineer Tel 087 620 2947 Email bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



···· <b>j</b> ···	Moville Shore Path Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure
	Scheme €222,000
Project L Description/Activity	<ul> <li>Jpgrade and Enhancement of a portion of Moville shore walk.</li> <li>Capital Works</li> <li>Interpretation work /seating</li> </ul>
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<ul> <li>Progress to date <ul> <li>The Project is at Design Stage establishing the scope.</li> <li>The work will be tendered in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2024.</li> <li>A site meeting took place with the Tidy Towns Committee and Community Development staff,</li> <li>The tendering work has been finalised and the work will be tendered after consultation with other internal directorates.</li> <li>It is anticipated that the capital work will commence in April 2024. The Tender documents are currently being assessed for all works associated with the project. A contractor will be appointed next month.</li> <li>A Contractor has commenced work on the site. The project work will be completed in Q4 of 2024.</li> <li>The initial phase of construction, installing the concrete footpaths Steps and handrails is now complete.</li> <li>The conservation Report on the Liam McCormack Shelter Houses is complete (image below)</li> </ul> </li> <li>The tender documents for the remaining works are being prepared.</li> <li>The Interpretation content and design has been agreed and finalised.</li> <li>The Interpretation content and design has been agreed and finalised.</li> <li>The history and heritage Interpretation content is agreed and to be completed.</li> <li>Formal extension to June 2025 has been granted due to the nature of the works to the shelter houses.</li> </ul>

	<u>April 2025 update</u>
	<ul> <li>The initial phase of construction, installing the concrete footpaths, steps and handrails is now complete.</li> <li>The conservation report on the Liam McCormack Shelter Houses is complete</li> <li>The remaining works tender is currently on the etenders platform.</li> <li>The Tender process is completed, and contractor will be appointed in the coming weeks</li> </ul>
Project Targets for the next bi- monthly/quarterly reporting period	Formal extension to June 2025 has been granted due to the nature of the works to the shelter houses
Contact Person	Brian Keogh, Executive Engineer & Fiona Doherty, Development Officer



#### CLAR 2023

Activity / Project Title Disabled Toilet and	Malin GAA CLAR Measure 1 2023
kitchen upgrade	<ul> <li>Initial meetings with the Group</li> <li>Provisional letter of offer issued.</li> <li>Project currently out for tender</li> <li>The construction works are ongoing.</li> </ul>
	The project is now completed
	Contact: Brian Keogh, Executive Engineer

<ul> <li>Initial meetings with the Group</li> <li>Provisional letter of offer issued.</li> <li>The project is currently out for tender.</li> <li>The construction works are ongoing.</li> </ul>

Project Title	GLENEELY COLTS FC CLÁR PROJECT 2023
CARPARK SURFACING	<ul> <li>Initial meetings with the Group</li> <li>Provisional letter of offer issued.</li> <li>The project is currently out for tender.</li> <li>The construction works are ongoing.</li> </ul> The project is now completed
	Contact: Brian Keogh, Executive Engineer



# CLAR 2024

Activity / Project Title	Culdaff FC CLAR Measure 1 2024
CARPARK SURFACING	<ul> <li>Initial meetings with the Group</li> <li>Provisional letter of offer to be issued in February 2025.</li> </ul>
	The project is due to be completed in 2025
	Contact: Brian Keogh, Executive Engineer

Project Title	<b>GLENGAD FC CLÁR PROJECT 2024</b>
CARPARK SURFACING	<ul> <li>Initial meetings with the Group</li> <li>Provisional letter of offer to be issued in February 2025.</li> </ul>
	The project is due to be completed in 2025
	Contact: Brian Keogh, Executive Engineer



### Countywide update

Activity /	Social Inclusion Unit
Project Title	
Progress to	
date and	One Donegal – Social Inclusion Week 2025
current status	<ul> <li>Planning is progressing for One Donegal – Social Inclusion Week 2025, which will run from 28 March to 5 April 2025. This annual initiative continues to serve as an important platform for highlighting and promoting the many efforts taking place across Donegal to build a more inclusive and welcoming community.</li> <li>The week provides an opportunity to celebrate diversity, raise awareness of social inclusion issues, and showcase the work being done by community groups, statutory agencies, and local organisations. The next steps in the lead-up to Social Inclusion Week include promoting the initiative across a range of platforms, supporting participating groups in their planning.</li> <li>One Donegal – Social Inclusion Week 2025 will officially launch on 28 March at 7.00pm in An Grianán Theatre. All are welcome to attend and support the start of what promises to be a vibrant and</li> </ul>
	inspiring week of community events and engagement. <u>https://www.donegalcoco.ie/media/qfrn4afc/one-donegal-social-inclusion-week-2025-programme-of-events.pdf</u>
	<b>EU Belong</b> As part of Donegal County Council's ongoing engagement with EU Belong project, a delegation will attend the final conference in Strasbourg. This project has supported local approaches to integration and intercultural belonging, and the final event will provide an opportunity to share Donegal's progress, learn from other participating regions, and strengthen future collaboration across Europe.
Contact Person	Christina O'Donnell Tel: 087-9192272 <u>codonnell@donegalcoco.ie</u>



### Municipal District: Countywide

Activity / Project Title	Rural Development Programme/LEADER 2023-2027
Project Description/Activity	Donegal LCDC are the Local Action Group (LAG) for County Donegal, with responsibility for the LEADER programme 2023-2027.
Budget (if applicable)	€10.4m for RDP/LEADER 2023-2027 for projects and administration.
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status * Delete irrelevant reporting period	<ul> <li>Implementing Partners within the county; Donegal Local Development CLG (DLDC), Inishowen Development Partnership (IDP), Údarás Na Gaeltachta and Comhar na nOileán are delivering the New LEADER Programme 2023-2027. The programme is open for Expressions of Interest across the 4 Implementing Partners and respective areas. Donegal has been awarded approximately €10.4m in allocation for the delivery of programme to cover the period.</li> <li>As of end of March 2025, a total of 19 LEADER projects have been approved by the LAG totalling €570,399.07.</li> </ul>
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	LDCs will continue to work with promoters on the ground to animate and develop new projects for submission to internal evaluation committees and then to the Local Action Group for consideration.
	Members can access further information on the overall programme and get contact details for interested groups or individuals at <a href="https://www.donegalcoco.ie/en/services/community/community-development/leader/">https://www.donegalcoco.ie/en/services/community/community-development/leader/</a>
Contact Person	Ciaran Martin <u>cmartin@donegalcoco.ie</u> Administrative Officer, Community Development Division, Donegal County Council





# **Donegal Youth Council**

	Countywide Update
Activity / Project Title File:	Donegal Youth Council
Project Description/Activity	Donegal Youth Council
Budget (if applicable)	
Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status	CYPSC Needs Assessment Launch: A member of the Donegal Youth Council attended the CYPSC Needs Assessment Launch on March 5th. The Donegal Youth Council looks forward to supporting the CYPSC plan as it progresses based on the findings of this needs assessment.
	Child and Youth Participation Showcase:         Young people from across the five Tusla Donegal Child and         Family Support Networks presented and showcased their         community projects. While some Donegal Youth Council         members participated through their representative bodies,         others attended to support and highlight the importance of         youth participation in local initiatives. Members also had the         opportunity to meet and speak with the Ombudsman for         Children during the event.         View         View         View         View         Youth Participation in local initiatives. Members also had the         opportunity to meet and speak with the Ombudsman for         Children during the event.         View         View         Youth Participation in local initiatives.         Youth participation in local initiatives.         Members also had the         opportunity to meet and speak with the Ombudsman for         Children during the event.         View         Youth Council         Youth Council <t< td=""></t<>

Five members of the Donegal Youth Council attended the What's the Panic About Vaping? short film premiere in Sligo. Two videos were showcased: one focused on the recently introduced vaping laws, while the other explored different perspectives on vaping—including a young person starting to vape, someone addicted to vaping, a non-vaper, an environmental expert, and a therapist helping people quit. These videos were commissioned and created by CYPSC Sligo, the Drugs and Alcohol Forum, Foróige, and Youth Work Ireland North Connaught.



#### National Assemblies:

There have been two callouts for young people to participate in national assemblies: the National Youth Assembly and the National Youth Assembly on Climate. The Donegal Youth Council was successful in securing a representative for each assembly.

#### **Topic Discussions:**

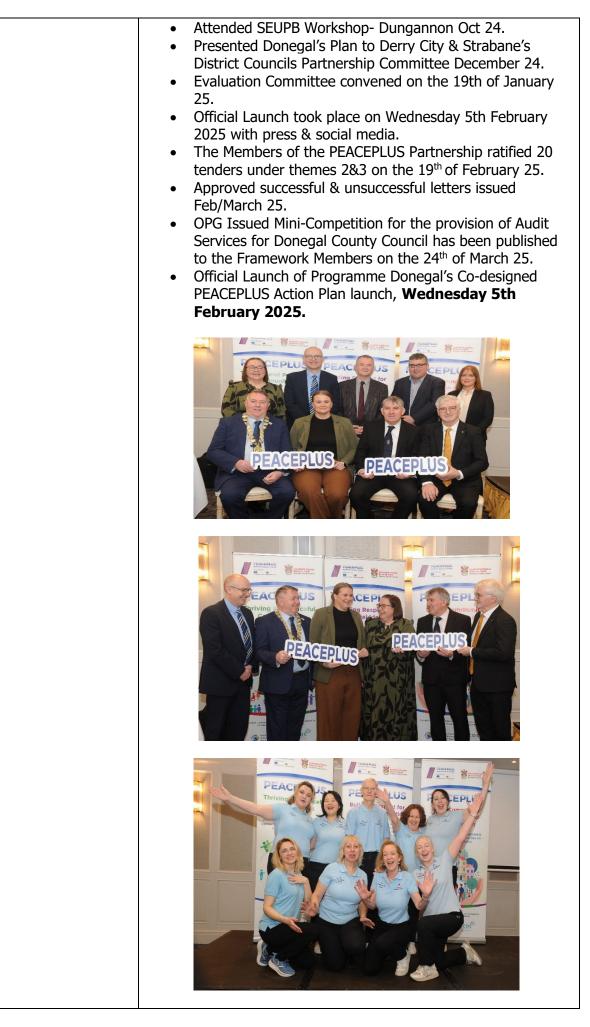
Members met three times in the first quarter as a full council to discuss the key topics of their term: vaping, bullying, and school/exam stress. At next month's meeting, members will explore potential projects and initiatives to address these issues.



Project Targets for the	National Showcase:
next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	11 members of the Donegal Youth Council will travel to Dublin on the 15 <sup>th</sup> of April to the National Showcase. Members will discuss with other Youth Councils their work and the work of the National Executive. Currently, the National Executive are working on the issue of School Stress.
Contact Person	Co-ordinator <u>Michael McDevitt</u> @michael.mcdevitt@foroige.ie



Activity / Project Title	PEACEPLUS Programme 2022-2027 Investment Area 1.1 – Co-designed Local PEACEPLUS Action Plans
Project Description/Activi ty	The financial allocation awarded to Donegal County Council is €7,635,396.00 which will be allocated across the three core themes as follows:
	<ol> <li>Local community regeneration and transformation (Six infrastructure investments countywide)</li> <li>Thriving and peaceful communities (Eight countywide programmes and five MD focused)</li> <li>Building respect for all cultural identities (Eight countywide programmes and five MD focused)</li> <li>PEACEPLUS Call The SEUPB opened for submission of PEACEPLUS Plans on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023, with a closing period of June 2024.</li> </ol>
Partnership	Partnership Meetings to date: 1. 23rd Sept 2022 Introductory Meeting 2. 30th Nov 2022 3. 31st Jan 2023 4. 21st February 2023 5. 22nd March 2023 6. 25th April 2023 7. 28th June 2023 8. 6th Sept 2023 9. 23rd October 2023 10. 22nd November 2023 11. 1st Oct 2024 12. 19th Feb 2025
Progress to date	<ul> <li>Co-design Process (Stage1-3) Carried out throughout each Electoral Area during 2023 detailed in the application.</li> <li>Application Submitted to the SEUPB on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024.</li> <li>Plan approved at SEUPB Steering Committee on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024.</li> <li>Funding Application for PEACEPLUS Programme – 1.1 Local Area Action Plan for Donegal application Letter received 20<sup>th</sup> June 2024. Outlining pre-commencement &amp; project implementation conditions.</li> <li>Press &amp; social media: 24<sup>th</sup> June 2024, Funding Announcement &amp; Overview of program released.</li> <li>Pre-tendering Workshops &amp; Final Co Design Information Session held September 24.</li> <li>Received Letter of offer from the SEUPB, October 24.</li> <li>Commencement of Procurement Process for Programmes under themes 2 &amp; 3 Oct 24 with sign posting to EtendersNI.</li> </ul>



Project Targets for the next Bi- monthly / quarterly reporting period	<ul> <li>Q2 2025</li> <li>Evaluation Committee to convened beginning of April 25</li> <li>Host Pre-Contract meetings &amp; sign contracts Mid-April 25</li> <li>Complete tender Process of 24 out of 26 Programmes under Themes 2&amp; 3 Q2 2025</li> <li>Commencement of 6 Capital Project Under Theme 1 Q2 2025</li> <li>Commence Delivery of 24 Programmes under Themes 2&amp;3 Q2 2025</li> <li>Issue Donegal's Spring 25 Newsletter -April 25</li> </ul>
Contact Person	<b>Pauline Smyth:</b> <u>peace@donegalcoco.ie</u> Programme details can be found on our PEACEPLUS Council Web Pg: <u>https://www.donegalcoco.ie/community/peaceplus/co-</u> <u>designedlocalactionplanoverview/</u>





Activity / Project Title	Donegal Public Participation Network (Donegal PPN)
Project Description/Activity	Link through which organisations from the Community & Voluntary, Social Inclusion & Environment Sectors have a voice on Council decision making bodies and other structures. Networking, Information & Capacity Building for Community Groups.
Budget (if applicable)	€120,700 per annum
Progress to date within the last two months inclusive of current status	PPN membership now stands at 772 registered organisations. Donegal MD 155, Glenties MD 174, Inishowen MD 139, Letterkenny MD 213, Stranorlar MD 91. Donegal PPN have 62 Representatives on 24 different Committees and Boards.
	<b>PPN Representatives</b> All the PPN Secretariat & SPC positions have now been filled. A Training Workshop will be held all representatives in the Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny on Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> March at 10.00am.
	<b>National Tree Week</b> National Tree Week takes place from 10 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> March. Donegal PPN & Donegal County Council Biodiversity Section will avail of 500 Saplings. 15 PPN Groups (3 per MD) will get approx. 30 saplings. An expression of interest has gone out to groups with a closing date of 6 <sup>th</sup> March.
	<b>Donegal Social Inclusion Week</b> Donegal PPN are running 20 events during Social Inclusion Week. A list of events and registration details will be available in the Donegal Social Inclusion Week brochure or email <u>donegalppn@donegalcoco.ie</u> for further information.
	Donegal PPN Training
	<b>Funding Workshops.</b> Donegal PPN are running Workshops in the 5 Municipal Districts in March/April. The themes are 1. Documentation needed for Funding Applications. 2. Writing Funding Applications. 3.Evaluation & Reporting Venues TBD

	<b>Disability Equality Workshop</b> Donegal PPN in partnership with the Independent Living Movement Ireland are hosting a Disability Equality Workshop in Donegal Centre of Independent Living, Ballymacool, Letterkenny on Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April at 10.30am
	<b>Donegal PPN Plenary Event</b> Donegal PPN's first Plenary event in 2025 will take place on 29 <sup>th</sup> April. Venue & Details TBD
Project Targets for the next bi- monthly/quarterly* reporting period	Secretariat Meeting – 20 <sup>th</sup> March, Letterkenny National PPN Meeting – 27 <sup>th</sup> March in Trinity House, Dublin Regional PPN Meeting – 14 <sup>th</sup> April, Sligo PPN Linkage Group Meetings - TBD after Representative Training Workshop
<b>Contact Person</b> (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	Mary Clyde / Annette McGrenra 074 9153900 <u>donegalppn@donegalcoco.ie</u>



## Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services Directorate

Master Municipal District Report April 2025

#### Content

- 1. Economic Development
- 2. Local Enterprise Office
- 3. Information Systems
- 4. Emergency Services

## **<u>1. Economic Development</u>**

## 1.1. Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location / Further Info	Point of Contact
2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed of each month	Innovation Campfire	Hosted by Alpha Innovation - Our 15-minute sessions 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; and allow participants to shape future sessions by volunteering to tell a story they are passionate about. You can watch back by visiting <u>ALPHA</u> <u>Innovation   Innovation Campfire —</u> <u>ALPHAInnovation.eu</u>	Kevin Sexton - <u>kevinsexton@alphain</u> <u>novation.eu</u>
1 <sup>st</sup> May 2025	Donegal Tech Advocates Event	The next Donegal Tech Advocates event, which will be held on May 1st <sup>th</sup> at Letterkenny PSC from 8:30am – 10:30am. This event is an excellent opportunity for businesses across Donegal within the tech sector to knowledge- share, collaborate, and network with others in the industry and key individuals who can assist with business development supports and advice.	Elaine Whoriskey - Economic Development Officer <u>Ewhoriskey@donegal</u> <u>coco.ie</u> 087 1603942
14 <sup>th</sup> to 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2025		The 156th Balmoral Show will take place from Wednesday 14th May to Saturday 17th May 2025 at the Eikon Exhibition Centre, Lisburn. Donegal Tourism will be promoting the tourism offering of the county and distributing brochures at the show along with representatives from the tourism sector from each Municipal District.	Joy Browne Tourism Manager 0870619360 <u>Joybrowne@donegalc</u> <u>oco.ie</u>

#### **1.2 Economic Development Unit**

#### Marketing & Campaigns Updates

#### Invest Donegal Communications Update

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

Impressions	(last 28 days)	Total Followers 3,373 Followers
Linked In	13,419	5,594
Twitter	4,087	3,373
Instagram	2066	5,489
Facebook	8,884	2,239
Donegal.ie	4.3K Web Users	

10 News Items Published. February 19<sup>th</sup> – March 18<sup>th</sup> 2025.

**Inward Investment Brochure:** The Economic Development team are currently progressing work to develop a new brochure promoting the value proposition for inward investment in County Donegal and highlighting County Donegal as a great place to live, work, study and do business. This brochure will be available in print and digital format.

**Inward Investment/Relocation Marketing Campaign:** Donegal County Council is working with marketing agency BigO on a new marketing campaign promoting Donegal as a great place to live, work, study, invest and do business. The campaign will include a new hero video, short videos/reels, social media and website promotion of County Donegal. This campaign will be a follow-on campaign building upon the success of the previous #MovetoDonegal relocation campaign.

**Donegal Tech Advocates:** Donegal County Council, in collaboration with regional stakeholders, developed and launched the Donegal Tech Advocates group in April 2024. The focus of this group is to promote, grow and empower the dynamic and innovative tech sector across the county. The next Donegal Tech Advocates event of 2025 will take place in Letterkenny PSC on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Green Hydra:** Donegal County Council will attend the second international study visit and Green Hydra Conference of the Interreg Europe Green Hydra project held in Sofia, Bulgaria on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of March. The aim of this visit is to continue to explore the potential of developing green hydrogen projects in Donegal and the wider region as part of the INterreg Europe project. Participating in these learning visits with international partners allows for learning of best practice and development of relationships to better advance projects in Donegal.

Donegal County Council will host the third International Study Visit and Green Hydra conference in Donegal Town on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2025.

On 24<sup>th</sup> of March the Economic Development team launched its first Green Hydra project newsletter, designed to keep members informed and engaged with the latest developments in Green Hydrogen and renewable energies as well as sharing key resources, developments and insights for the Sector

**Blue Economy Working Group:** The Blue Economy Working Group is a dedicated group made up of several regional and national stakeholders who are focused on the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth and prosperity within this growing and dynamic sector for County Donegal. The members and representatives came together on the morning of February 25th, 2025, at the picturesque location of Harvey's Point Hotel in Donegal Town for their first workshop to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing this sector, and what initiatives can be implemented and put in place to mitigate risks.

Over 30 delegates from 17 organisations including Donegal ETB, Donegal County Council, Bord Iascaigh Mara (BIM), Killybegs Marine Cluster, Cillulta, Donegal LEO, The Inishowen Innovation Hub, North West Regional Skills Forum, Údarás na Gaeltachta and the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine, as well as representatives of the business community, Killybegs Marine Cluster including MMG Ocean attended this event with interactive and engaging discussions and ideas coming from each group including several key themes such as fish utilisation, talent retention and attraction, driving innovation and how agencies can continue to support business development and research & development to empower the blue economy for future sustainable growth.

On the 18th of March the Economic Development Team launched their first Blue Economy Newsletter Unit designed to keep members informed and engaged with the latest developments in the blue economy, sharing key resources and insights for the Sector

**Business Concierge Service:** The Councils Economic Development Division provides a Business Concierge Service for businesses looking at access Council Services and supports. This service can be accessed by emailing <u>economicdevelopment@donegalcoco.ie</u>

## Donegal 2040 DAC

**Board and Corporate Governance:** The Board of Donegal 2040 DAC is continuing to meet on a regular basis to progress a range of areas including the below.

## Update on Projects:

**ALPHA Innovation** is an initiative of Donegal 2040 DAC, supported by Donegal County Council's Economic Development Unit and Enterprise Ireland. It was set up to accelerate and enable ambitious individuals, SME businesses, startups & scaleups to innovate and build globally ambitious ventures across the county.

**ALPHA Host Skillnet Innovation Exchange Preview in Advance of Donegal Launch:** ALPHA Innovation, in collaboration with Inishowen Innovation, Platform 94 held a lunchtime briefing showcasing the opportunities and benefits of the Skillnet Innovation Exchange for North West businesses as part of Local Enterprise Week.

The briefing took place in-person at the Inishowen Innovation Centre, Buncrana and demonstrated how the opportunity connects large corporations with smaller companies. This aims to remove the barriers for smaller providers who often find it difficult to get in front of large organisations. Thanks to this

innovation marketplace, local businesses are invited to speak directly with key decision-makers within these large corporations and win contracts at the end of the process.

Challenges have been published by companies such as Ryanair, Elvery Sports & AXA Insurance, with 25 deals done to date. The event was a preview for a Donegal launch which will take place in the coming months.

**Startup Bootcamp Kicking off in Letterkenny from March to June:** ALPHA Innovation's Bootcamp 2025 Programme kicks off in CoLab, Letterkenny on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> of March and will bring a cohort of founders, co-founders and volunteers through 8 in-person workshops, where they test the commercial viability of their business ideas.

The third edition will run until June and take place on Saturday mornings, to accommodate those working full-time. The programme is FREE for applicants aiming to set up and grow their venture from Donegal.

Throughout the 8 workshops, mentors and coaches cover areas designed to get new businesses in front of customers quickly including: problem framing; customer development techniques; crafting a compelling value proposition; developing a customer deck; and pitch practice. They will also receive expert advice, feedback and support through online check-ins along the way. The programme culminates in a public showcase day (week beginning 9 June), where participants present their propositions to target customers, peers, champions and advocates.

If you would like to join our showcase of businesses, email community@alphainnovation.eu

## Alpha Innovation Centre and Beta Business Centre

Current Status: Enabling works / Demolition works on site completed. Main construction contract to be tendered. Estimated project completion date: Q4 2026, subject to funding.

## Remote Working Hub Carrigart:

Status: In operation. Annual management agreement in place. Details: One storey building with 18 Hot Desks in an open space floor plan. Meeting room, private phone booths, kitchen facilities and bicycle parking.

**Operation & Management of Island House, Killybegs (Post Construction)** Current Status: Under Construction. Estimated Completion Date: Q2 2025. Marketing Campaign: to commence Q2 2025.

**Operation & Management of Burtonport Enterprise Centre (Post Construction)** Current Status: Under Construction. Current Estimated Completion date: Q4 2025.

**Operation & Management of The Ritz, Ballybofey (Post Construction)** Current Status: Detailed design. Current Estimated Completion date: Q3 2027.

Olivia Gallen, General Manager, Donegal 2040 info@donegal2040.ie 087 2589071 March 2025

#### Inward Investment Activity

#### North West City Region

**Promoting the NWCR:** A new brochure and video highlighting the value proposition of the NWCR were produced for the 2024 NWCR US Trade Mission and promoted throughout the week. Link to <u>video on</u> <u>YouTube</u>

The North West City Region is promoted online via the website <u>www.irelandnw.com</u> and social media on LinkedIn and X on a regular basis and in collaboration with Derry City and Strabane District Council. NWCR on LinkedIn has 798 followers.

NWCR on X (formerly Twitter @NwIreland) has 248 followers.

Website: www.irelandnw.com

## Service Land Initiative at The Commons, Lifford

Enabling infrastructure works began in November 2024 and it is expected that the enabling infrastructure will be complete by Q3/Q4 2025. The EDU is engaging with various potential site users including Social Housing, Community Health, Recreation and Businesses.

**Disposal of Council owned Land to support Economic Development:** The team is dealing with several requests for disposal of lands for economic development throughout Donegal

## **Contact Persons**

Daniel Mc Chrystal – Senior Economic Development Officer <u>dmcchrystal@doneglcoco.ie</u>087 614 7496

## 1.2: Tourism Marketing Unit

## **Project Activity**

**TBEX:** Donegal Tourism will host TBEX - Europe (Travel Blog Exchange) in September 2025. 3 representatives from TBEX visited Donegal in January 2025 and were delighted with all aspects of the planning process. This conference is the largest gathering for the travel blogging, influencer, and content creator community. This event will bring approximately 500 content creators to our destination, where they will take part in four days of intense meetings, conferences, workshops, and networking activities. The conference will be preceded by tours all over Donegal and followed by post-tours across Ireland's regions. Donegal Tourism aims to take full advantage of this exceptional opportunity to showcase Donegal's distinctive assets on the international stage. Many partnership and sponsorship opportunities now exist, any potential partner can contact Mary Daly, Donegal Tourism directly.

**Balmoral Show 2025:** The 156th Balmoral Show will take place from Wednesday 14th May to Saturday 17th May 2025 at the Eikon Exhibition Centre, Lisburn. Donegal Tourism will be promoting the tourism offering of the county and distributing brochures at the show along with representatives from the tourism sector from each Municipal District. To date 15 businesses from across County Donegal have expressed an interest in attending. Over 110k people attend Balmoral Show and this provides an excellent opportunity to promote Donegal to the domestic and Northern Ireland markets.

**Meitheal 2025:** The Tourism Manager will be attending Meitheal 2025 from 31<sup>st</sup> March to 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025. 19 businesses from Donegal are also expected to attend. Meitheal is Fáilte Ireland's flagship trade event, which is organised in conjunction with Tourism Ireland to enable Irish tourism businesses to sell the best of Ireland to top international tourism buyers.

**GAA Congress:** The National GAA Congress was held in February 2025 in Donegal Town with delegates attending from all over the country. Donegal Tourism assisted the local organising committee with provision of brochures and and information at stand at the event all weekend.

**Donegal Town Diamond - New ESB Transformer Wraps:** Donegal County Council Tourism Unit worked collaboratively with ESB networks to create new wraps for the ESB transformers on the Diamond depicting illustrations of Donegal Town and surrounds along with the tourism offering in the wider county. The wraps feature a QR code which links to the Govisitdonegal.com website.

**Caravan and Camping Sector:** Donegal County Council Tourism Unit convened both internal and external Caravan and Camping sector working group meetings in January and discussed issues for the forthcoming year. The next meetings will take place in April 2025 and will include further discussion around continued implementation of the recommendations set out in the KPMG study on the sector and plans for marketing activities to drive the messaging around the campers 'code of conduct' and responsible campervanning.

**Age Friendly/Disability Strategy/Caravan and Camping Committees:** Donegal Tourism continues to participate in these groups to see where the Tourism Industry in the county can learn from consultation and collaboration.

**Paths and Trails Promotion:** Donegal County Council Tourism Unit is working collaboratively with the Outdoor Recreation team on production of new videos that will be used to promote various paths and trails in the county. Filming is scheduled for late April with final videos due June.

**Donegal Golf Brochure:** The brochure has now been printed and will be distributed to golf courses and tourist offices around the county. Launch date to be confirmed.

**Best of the Northwest Golf Collaboration:** Work continues with our colleagues in Derry City/Strabane District Council as the project comes to an end – 9 media from Ireland, UK and Spain came for a three-day familiarisation trip organised as part of the initiative spending a night in Derry (playing City of Derry Golf Club, Strabane Golf Club and Portstewart Golf Club) and also a night in Donegal (playing Greencastle Golf Club, Dunfanaghy Golf Club and Portsalon Golf Club). The FAM trip took place from Monday 10<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March. Pictured below some of the media with members of Greencastle Golf Club.



**St Patrick's Festival Event, Glasgow:** Shane Smyth from the tourism team attended the Tourism Ireland event as part of Glasgow's St Patrick's Day celebrations on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March in Merchant Square in the city. This event gave the opportunity to spread the word about Donegal, distribute the new brochure and talk with many of the Donegal diaspora living in Glasgow. Pictured below with the Lord Provost of Glasgow Jacqueline McLaren, Caroline Mulligan (Tourism Ireland) and Jerry O'Donovan Consul General (Consulate General of Ireland, Edinburgh)



**Tourism Connect Seminar 2025:** The event took place as part of Local Enterprise Week on Wednesday March 5th in the Mount Errigal Hotel in Letterkenny and was a joint organisation of Donegal Tourism CLG (DCC) and Fáilte Ireland. Over 200 people attended the event with 88 businesses setting up over 300 Business to Business meetings. Broadcaster Richard Curran hosted the event and was also the keynote speaker. Feedback has been positive from tourism businesses across the county. Pictured below the Donegal Tourism team with the Fáilte Ireland team, broadcaster Richard Curran and Chief Executive Donegal County Council John G McLaughlin.



**Go Visit Donegal Website:** Development of the new Go Visit Donegal website is continuing and is currently at the design stage. Content creation is also being worked on concurrently.

**Trade Newsletter:** A monthly newsletter continues to be distributed by email to tourism and hospitality trade members in the county outlining various updates and news relevant to them.

**Donegal Tourism Associate Members Network:** Expressions of interest are currently being sought for representatives from across the tourism sector to join the Donegal Tourism Associate Members Network. Upon joining, members will have access to a range of benefits including opportunities to take part in

trade shows, training and funding supports information, networking events and much more. Elections for the Donegal Tourism Associate Members Committee will be commencing in April.

**Donegal Tourism/Fáilte Ireland Business Clinics 2025:** Donegal County Council Tourism Unit and Fáilte Ireland plan to collaborate on hosting tourism business clinics in Q4 of 2025. There will be one business clinic held in each Municipal District. This will provide the tourism sector with an opportunity to meet both teams and learn more about supports available. More details will be provided soon.

**Donegal Tourism Strategy 2025 – 2030:** Donegal County Council Tourism Unit is currently progressing further stakeholder engagement on the Donegal Tourism Strategy 2025 – 2030. Workshops are ongoing with elected members in each Muncipal District. After the workshops and engagement with other stakeholders, the strategy will be updated to reflect further feedback received with a view to having the strategy adopted at a future Plenary Council meeting.

**Consumer Newsletter:** Newsletter in progress to be distributed to a consumer audience.

**Night-Time Economy (NTE) Buncrana:** NTE development ongoing, preparations are underway to release a second phase Night-Time Economy Grant Scheme for Buncrana. Expression of Interest Forms will be sent out this month to people invite applications to be on the NTE Steering Group. NTE Action Plan is currently under review.

**TOURBO:** Tourism Staff, alongside Donegal Airport's Managing Director Eilís Docherty attended the 4th Interregional TOURBO meeting in Lesvos, Greece from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> February. This proved a great opportunity for the TOURBO Partner Consortium to share updates on Policy Improvements and project finance management. A number of Project Partners have chosen to adopt Fáilte Ireland's Carbon Calculator, and LEO's Green for Business initiative. It is proposed that Donegal will host our TOURBO Partner meeting at the end of September 2025.

Sustainable Arctic & Peripheral Biking Tourism Project (SUB): Two Donegal businesses involved in the biking Tourism sector travelled to the Finland Peer-to-Peer programme, with a view to fostering collaboration with international biking tourism businesses. The next Peer-to-Peer programme will be hosted by Donegal at the end of March and will see eleven Finnish, Swedish, Icelandic and Faroese businesses explore the Road Biking offering of Donegal. Now halfway through the workshop series, a SUB workshop took place on Tuesday, 4th February in Harvey's Point, Lough Eske. Donegal will host the SUB Partner Consortium from the 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> April. Planning has also begun on the projects voucher scheme which will see a number of local businesses awarded funds to address the operational efficiency of their respective businesses.

**EDIN:** The EDIN project, funded in partnership with INTERREG Europe, focuses on the improvement of the relevant policies to attract Digital Nomads to Donegal. The program is now in Semester 2 with Donegal County Council taking the Communications and Marketing lead on this. Joy Browne and Elaine Whoriskey will attend the 4<sup>th</sup> partner trip to Florence, Italy on the 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> March with the key focus of this trip being "Community cooperatives and technologies on collaborative economy with a focus on digital nomads". On the 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025 Donegal County Council will host a study visit of other project partners to the county, this 2 day visit will be based around the Dungloe area, with site visits planned to gteic @ Gaoth Dobhair & gteic @ Árainn Mhór – MODAM.

## GoVisitDonegal.com Website & Social Stats Update

Online & Social Media Updates – Go Visit Donegal Feb 2025 Since March 1<sup>st</sup> socials are managed internally. Website- Users 19,179 - Page Views 55,908 Facebook: Reach: 34,059 Views: 40,238 Instagram: Reach: 1,318, Views: 2,702 LinkedIn: Reach: 4,867 Imps, 162 Reactions, 2,075 Followers TikTok: Followers: 1,456

**Donegal Tourism CLG:** The Donegal Tourism CLG Board and Associate Committee meetings took place on the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025 in The Central Hotel, Donegal Town. The next meetings of the and Board and Associate Committee will take place on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025 in the Inishowen MD. Elections for the Associates committee are due to take place in April/May 2025.

## Grant Schemes

**Minor Tourism Related Works Grant Scheme:** This funding call is now open. The 2025 application process is now online and opened on 13th March and will be closing on 3rd April. Elected members received an email with details on 13th March. This funding is for Council or Community led projects with an allocation of 100,000 per Municipal District.

**Fáilte Ireland Regional Festival & Events Grant Scheme:** €49,750 has been awarded to Donegal County Council under the 2025 Fáilte Ireland Regional Festival Funding Scheme. The application process for this scheme was completed online and is now closed. Applications will be scored and applicants notified of the results in due course. All festivals and events will be listed and promoted on Govisitdonegal.com

## Contact Person

Joy Browne – Tourism Manager E-mail: joybrowne@donegalcoco.ie Tel: 087 061 9360

## 1.4: Strategic Funding Unit

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

**ICC** – **Intelligent Cities Challenge:** Donegal County Council is a partner along with Derry City and Strabane District Council on the EU funded Intelligent Cities Challenge project led by ERNACT. As one of 64 cities and city regions across Europe, Ireland's North-West City Region is actively participating in the European Commission's Intelligent Cities Challenge 2.0 initiative (ICC). This project requires a Local Green Deal (LGD), aimed at creating tangible actions for change through strategic public-private partnerships. These partnerships bring together businesses, local authorities, and communities to drive sustainable initiatives

## forward.

**Networks:** The SFU continues to participate in key networks such as the CPMR (Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions) and the AER (Assembly of European Regions), alongside ongoing engagement with the IREO (Irish Regions European Office). As our new team progresses, we are actively researching and highlighting funding opportunities across various sectors within DCC. Our approach involves identifying funding, partnerships, and collaborative projects that align with our objectives and the corporate plan of DCC.

**Dedicated Intranet Page:** The Strategic Funding Unit has launched a dedicated intranet page within the Staff Hub to enhance our capacity to secure external funding opportunities. This resource-rich page includes:

- A Funding Needs Analysis form designed to identify relevant opportunities for projects.
- An option to request a meeting with the Strategic Funding Unit team for personalized guidance.
- Up-to-date information on active funding calls that align with our strategic goals.
- Details about upcoming webinars and events that may be of interest to staff.

## **Contact Person**

Marion Callaghan – Staff Officer Marioncallaghan@donegalcoco.ie

## 2. Local Enterprise Office

## April 2025 (figures provided @ 28th February 2025)

**Grant Aid (M1)** – The first EVAC meeting of 2025 took place on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2025. 6 Donegal businesses were approved grants totaling €139,742.50.

**Trading Online Vouchers**: 10 approvals to the value of €25,000.00

Mentoring: 36 business applicants approved up to 12 hours expert mentoring.

Training: 221 Attendees on 7 Courses held.

**Digital For Business**: 5 application approved for this support to a value of €16,605.

**Green For Micro/Green for Business/Green Start**: 6 applicants approved for these supports to a value of €13,284

**Energy Efficiency Grants**: 1 applicant approved for this support to a value of €10,000.

Lean For Business: 3 applicant approved for this support to a value of €13,500

Start Your Own Business Programmes: 47 attendees on January SYOB.

**Local Enterprise Week 2025:** Local Enterprise Week took place this year between 3<sup>rd</sup> March – 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025. The theme for the week was "Believe". 21 events were held by a range of affiliate agencies and bodies covering numerous topics of interest to businesses including leadership, building networks, artificial intelligence, innovation and much more!

The Local Enterprise Office hosted three events this year including the opening event, a visit to engineering business, Welditz Ltd, and the inaugural "Made in Donegal" Business Summit and Showcase held on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March. A total of 314 attended these 3 events. The "Made In Donegal" event was MC'd by Donegal native and TV broadcaster, Ciara Doherty, and featured local business and sports leaders. Following the Summit, the Showcase highlighted Donegal's top artisan food and craft producers. The general public were able to attend in the evening and had the chance to sample, explore, and support local entrepreneurs.



**Export Development Programme:** 5 LEO clients have undertaken an export readiness exercise with Full Circle Consultancy and are now engaging in a programme to identify suitable markets for export. Three of the five clients have completed their mentoring with Full Circle Consultancy and will decide on their export plans for 2025, with market visits and buyer meetings being planned.

**Get Exporting Programme:** 2 Donegal businesses are due to attend the final workshops of Stage 2 of the *Get Exporting* Accelerator Programme. This stage, which consists of four half-day workshops, started on January 29<sup>th</sup> 2025. The programme is designed for LEO clients with limited export sales who wish to develop strategies for entering international markets.

**Enterprise Europe Network (EEN):** The first of the final two EEN missions planned for the first half of 2025 took place from 11th to 13th March in Manchester in conjunction with the Local Enterprise Office Carlow and Innovate UK where a delegation of Irish companies went on a sector wide market visit. The mission was organised for companies to further explore collaborations and develop business ties with businesses and organisations from the United Kingdom. Plans are now underway for the second mission in May 2025 to Vienna for the International B2B Software Days 2025. The event primarily targets companies and R&D institutions looking for technological, research and business cooperations.

**Scála Business Accelerator Programme:** An 11-week Accelerator Programme aimed at scale-up entrepreneurs, with the potential for fast growth is due to commence on April 30<sup>th</sup>, subject to recruitment of suitable candidates. An information session is taking place on Wednesday March 26<sup>th</sup> in advance and members are requested to inform any entrepreneurs interest in scaling their business, to apply for this programme. For more info visit - <u>https://www.localenterprise.ie/Donegal/Training-Events/Scala/</u>

**Start Your Own Business Programmes:** The Start Your Own Business courses commenced in January and so far 3 SYOB courses have been held, all of which were fully booked. Following a break for Easter, the next course is starting on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2025, and places are currently available.

**LEO Business Supports Clinic:** The Clinics take place twice per month – on-line and in-person at locations throughout the county. As well as learning about LEO supports, all attendees will get the opportunity for one-to-one business advice. The next clinic will take place in-person on Friday March 28<sup>th</sup> in Stranorlar.

**Student Enterprise Programme:** The county final took place in the Silver Tassie Hotel on 12<sup>th</sup> March with schools from all over the county represented and 47 students showcasing their business ideas. There were 14 prizes in total with Loretto Convent Letterkenny coming out on top, winning the senior category with Deborah Diaz's business idea, Deborah's Customised Gifts. The standard this year was excellent, and all entrants should be commended for their work. The winners will now go on to represent Donegal in the national competition on 8th May.

To book a place at any of the aforementioned events go to <u>Online Bookings - Donegal</u> (localenterprise.ie)

## **Contact Person**

Brenda Hegarty, Head of Enterprise, Local Enterprise Office

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## 3. Information Services

## Information Services (IS)

#### Online submission tool

A highly reputable online submission tool was procured late 2023 to allow for the development of online form processes for the organisation. Most recent grant campaigns published are as follows:

- Minor Tourism Related Works Grant Scheme 2025 Community Led Projects
- Minor Tourism Related Works Grant Scheme 2025 Council Service Led Projects
- Donegal Regional Festivals & Participative Events Funding 2025
- Donegal Culture & Creativity Project Awards Scheme 2025
- Local Enhancement Programme 2025: Current Funding
- Local Enhancement Programme 2025: Capital Funding (Small and Large grants)
- Development Fund Initiative 2025

**Defective Concrete Blocks:** Ancillary rate changes announced last quarter 2024 have been implemented along with the facility to apply for advanced ancillary payments. Development is now focused on a review of the extension of time functionality.

**Network, infrastructure & Security:** Network upgrades ongoing this month to some of the key outlying offices to improve connectivity - Letterkenny Fire Station, Rosemount Library, Buncrana Outreach office.

The second phase of a security solution which was implemented last year is midway, which will further enhance our existing stringent security perimeter.

Cybersecurity – monitoring, prevention and mitigation measures ongoing, almost 300 alerts and incidents recorded and mitigated against in the 30-day period up to 20 March.

**EU projects:** Daragh McDonough, IS Project Leader presented on EU funding opportunities in the ICT themes for the LGMA Smart Communities conference in the LGMA on 12<sup>th</sup> March Our Local Government Election hub has been shortlisted for an award with ESRI Ireland in the community engagement theme.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Partner meeting of the Civitech project took place in Viimsi, Estonia on Feb10-14 exploring the Estonian digital journey and civic engagement tools.

National Broadband Plan: The NBI Broadband Rollout continues apace with:

- 52% premises available to order
- 23% Premises Network build in progress
- 24% Premises Survey complete (Network Design)

## **Contact Person**

Siobhán Foy, Head of Information Systems 074 9153900 e-mail: <u>sfoy@donegalcoco.ie</u>

## 4. Emergency Services

## 4.1 – Fire Service

## Fire Service Monthly MD Report (April)

Activity		per of: uary) <sup>1</sup>	Total for year		
Fire Service Operations					
Fire Brigade incidents within County Donegal**:	4	8	13	36	
Mobilisations (by Donegal Fire Service Brigades)**:	5	9	1	56	
Mobilisations into Donegal (by NI Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS))**:	9	9	2	1	
Operational Activity Breakdown February 2025	Turr	nouts		ents in Inty	
	Fires	Special Service s	Fires	Special Service s	
Donegal Fire Service	26	33	20	20	
Northern Ireland Fire Service	1	8	1	7	
Sub Total	27	41	21	27	
Total	6	58	48		
Fire Prevention					
Fire Safety Certificate applications received:	1	.6	25		
Fire Safety Certificates waiting to be assessed:	3	1	N,	/A	
Fire Safety Certificate applications assessed by the Fire Officer and waiting for Further Information from the Applicant / Agent:	6	52	N/A		
Fire Safety Certificate decisions made:	1	.1	16		
Applications for Dangerous Substance Licences received:	:	1	:	1	

Dangerous Substance Licences issued:	2	2
Form of notice received under the Explosives Act, 1875:	2	2
Inspections and Auditing carried out (Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003, Annual Licensing, DSA 1972, Explosive Stores, Pyrotechnics, BCA 1992 & 2007):	6	13
Fire Safety Complaints received:	1	2
Fire Safety Complaints dealt with:	2	3
During Performance Inspections carried out:	0	0
Fire Safety awareness presentations delivered:	4	7

- 1. Current data is only available up to the end of February 2025.
- 2. As part of its community fire safety programme, Letterkenny Fire Brigade & Donegal Town Fire Brigade delivered 3 no. fire safety presentations and Letterkenny Fire Brigade also completed 1 no. home fire safety visit.

# ROADS & TRANSPORTATION UPDATE



# **Inishowen Municipal District**

8th of April 2025

## Adopted Restoration Improvement Programme 2025

RSS	Engineer	Road Class	Road Name	Works Type	Length or work (m)	Start	Finish	Notes
Moville	Inish North	LP	Upper rd Stroove	SR	2,800	2025	2025	
Moville	Inish North	LP	Crockanonion # 2	RR	1,300	2025	2025	
Moville	Inish North	R	Carrowmore to Gleneely	SR	1,100	2025	2025	
Moville	Inish North	LP	Terryone #2	SR	1,500	2025	2025	
Moville	Inish North	LS	Bootagh / Drumagasson	RR	876	2025	2025	
Moville	Inish North	LP	Drung Hill	SR	1,000	2025	2025	
Moville	Inish North	LP	Kinnego Rd	SR	1,600	2025	2025	
Moville	Inish North	LS	Crawford Sq Moville	SR	250	2025	2025	
Moville	Inish North	R	Drumlee Gleneely*	SR	600	2025	2025	
Moville Total 2024					11,226			
Carn	Inish North	LP	Ulbelreagh Phase 2	RR	1,600	2025	2025	
Carn	Inish North	R	Glentogher Section 1	RR	508	2025	2025	
Carn	Inish North	R	Glentogher Section 2	RR	368	2025	2025	
Carn	Inish North	LP	Crossconnell/Dunaff	SR	1,500	2025	2025	
Carn	Inish North	LP	Leenan to Mamore	SR	1,390	2025	2025	
Carn	Inish North	R	Lagg Road	SR	1,315	2025	2025	
Carn	Inish North	LS	Coolcross	RR	1,000	2025	2025	
Carn	Inish North	R	Rasheeney	SR	1,300	2025	2025	
Carn	Inish North	R	Malin Bridge*	SR	100	2025	2025	
Carn Total 2024					0.504			
Carn Total 2024					9,581			
	Inish South	R	Lisfannon Duffys	RR	400	2025	2025	
Buncrana	Inish South Inish South	R R	Lisfannon Duffys Cockhill Road	RR RR	-	2025 2025	2025 2025	
Buncrana Buncrana					400			
Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana	Inish South	R	Cockhill Road	RR	400 900	2025	2025	
Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana	Inish South Inish South	R LP	Cockhill Road Dunree Road Section No.1	RR RR	400 900 1,100	2025 2025	2025 2025	
Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana	Inish South Inish South Inish South	R LP LP	Cockhill Road Dunree Road Section No.1 Green Road Tullydish	RR RR SR	400 900 1,100 1,200	2025 2025 2025	2025 2025 2025	
Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana	Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South	R LP LP LP	Cockhill Road Dunree Road Section No.1 Green Road Tullydish Griana's Gap Section No.1	RR RR SR SR	400 900 1,100 1,200 1,700	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	
Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana	Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South	R LP LP LP LS	Cockhill Road Dunree Road Section No.1 Green Road Tullydish Griana's Gap Section No.1 Beylett	RR RR SR SR SR	400 900 1,100 1,200 1,700 800	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	
Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana	Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South	R LP LP LS LP	Cockhill Road Dunree Road Section No.1 Green Road Tullydish Griana's Gap Section No.1 Beylett Cahir O' Doherty	RR RR SR SR SR SR	400 900 1,100 1,200 1,700 800 354	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	
Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana	Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South	R LP LP LS LP	Cockhill Road Dunree Road Section No.1 Green Road Tullydish Griana's Gap Section No.1 Beylett Cahir O' Doherty	RR RR SR SR SR SR	400 900 1,100 1,200 1,700 800 354 600	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	
Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana	Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South	R LP LP LS LP R	Cockhill Road Dunree Road Section No.1 Green Road Tullydish Griana's Gap Section No.1 Beylett Cahir O' Doherty Fahan Lookout*	RR RR SR SR SR SR SR	400 900 1,100 1,200 1,700 800 354 600 <b>7,054</b>	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	
Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Newtown Newtown	Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South	R LP LP LS LS LP R R	Cockhill Road Dunree Road Section No.1 Green Road Tullydish Griana's Gap Section No.1 Beylett Cahir O' Doherty Fahan Lookout* Killea Reg	RR RR SR SR SR SR RR RR SR	400 900 1,100 1,200 1,700 800 354 600 <b>7,054</b> 1,350	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	
Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Newtown Newtown Newtown	Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South	R LP LP LS LP R R R LP	Cockhill Road Dunree Road Section No.1 Green Road Tullydish Griana's Gap Section No.1 Beylett Cahir O' Doherty Fahan Lookout* Killea Reg Toulett Section No.1	RR RR SR SR SR SR RR RR	400 900 1,100 1,200 1,700 800 354 600 <b>7,054</b> 1,350 800	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	
Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown	Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South Inish South	R LP LP LS LP R R LP R R	Cockhill Road Dunree Road Section No.1 Green Road Tullydish Griana's Gap Section No.1 Beylett Cahir O' Doherty Fahan Lookout* Killea Reg Toulett Section No.1 Carrigans to Derry Border*	RR RR SR SR SR SR RR RR SR	400 900 1,100 1,200 1,700 800 354 600 <b>7,054</b> 1,350 800 750	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	
Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown	Inish South Inish South	R LP LP LS LP R R LP R LP LS	Cockhill Road Dunree Road Section No.1 Green Road Tullydish Griana's Gap Section No.1 Beylett Cahir O' Doherty Fahan Lookout* Killea Reg Toulett Section No.1 Carrigans to Derry Border* Sallybrooke	RR RR SR SR SR SR RR RR RR SR SR	400 900 1,100 1,200 1,700 800 354 600 <b>7,054</b> 1,350 800 750 705	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	
Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown	Inish South Inish South	R LP LP LS LP R R LP R LS LS	Cockhill Road Dunree Road Section No.1 Green Road Tullydish Griana's Gap Section No.1 Beylett Cahir O' Doherty Fahan Lookout* Killea Reg Toulett Section No.1 Carrigans to Derry Border* Sallybrooke Ballymoney	RR RR SR SR SR SR RR RR RR SR SR SR	400 900 1,100 1,200 1,700 800 354 600 <b>7,054</b> 1,350 800 750 705 1,100	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	
Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown	Inish South Inish South	R LP LP LS LP R R LP R LP R LS LS LS	Cockhill Road Dunree Road Section No.1 Green Road Tullydish Griana's Gap Section No.1 Beylett Cahir O' Doherty Fahan Lookout* Killea Reg Toulett Section No.1 Carrigans to Derry Border* Sallybrooke Ballymoney Green Road Burt	RR RR SR SR SR SR RR RR RR SR SR SR SR S	400 900 1,100 1,200 1,700 800 354 600 <b>7,054</b> 1,350 800 750 705 1,100 818	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	
Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown	Inish South Inish South	R LP LP LS LP R R LP R LS LS LS LS	Cockhill Road Dunree Road Section No.1 Green Road Tullydish Griana's Gap Section No.1 Beylett Cahir O' Doherty Fahan Lookout* Killea Reg Toulett Section No.1 Carrigans to Derry Border* Sallybrooke Ballymoney Green Road Burt Ardee Road Newtown	RR RR SR SR SR SR RR RR RR SR SR SR SR S	400 900 1,100 1,200 1,700 800 354 600 <b>7,054</b> 1,350 800 750 705 1,100 818 1,381	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	
Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Buncrana Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown Newtown	Inish South Inish South	R LP LP LS LP R R LP R LS LS LS LS LS	Cockhill Road Dunree Road Section No.1 Green Road Tullydish Griana's Gap Section No.1 Beylett Cahir O' Doherty Fahan Lookout* Killea Reg Toulett Section No.1 Carrigans to Derry Border* Sallybrooke Ballymoney Green Road Burt Ardee Road Newtown Aileach Valley	RR SR SR SR SR SR SR RR SR SR SR SR SR S	400 900 1,100 1,200 1,700 800 354 600 <b>7,054</b> 1,350 800 750 705 1,100 818 1,381 1,381 1,25	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025 2025	

## Adopted Restoration Maintenance Programme 2025

RSS	Engineer	Road Class	Road Number	Road Name	Works Type	Length or work (m)	Start	Finish	Notes
Moville	Inish North	L	L-1371	Ballybrack Upper	SD	1,500	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Moville	Inish North	L	L-6431	Carnagarve Hill Road	SD	1,510	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Moville	Inish North	L	L-1131	Culdaff Glebe	SD	2,310	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Moville	Inish North	L	L-11111	Carthage	SD	1,550	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Moville	Inish North	L	L-5931	Glackadrummon	SD	1,600	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Moville	Inish North	L	L-5921	Redford Glebe	SD	600	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Moville	Inish North	L	L-12615	Freehold	SD	2,150	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Moville	Inish North	L	L-6271	Ballyargus	SD	1,400	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Moville	Inish North	R	R-241	Lower Road Greencastle	SD	1530	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Moville Total						14,150			
Carndonagh	Inish North	LP	L1272-1	Magherard/Hillhead	SD	1,500	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Carndonagh	Inish North	LS	L-5171-1	Meeting House to Ballagh	SD	2,400	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Carndonagh	Inish North	LS	L-5171-1	Clorney to Quarry Road	SD	350	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Carndonagh	Inish North	LS	L-5761-1	Hollymount	SD	2,165	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Carndonagh	Inish North	LS	L-5031-1	Moss Road Malin Head	SD	986	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Carndonagh	Inish North	LS	L-10113-0	Ardmalin	SD	1,300	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Carndonagh	Inish North	LS	L-10414-0	Tully	SD	1,100	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Carndonagh	Inish North	LS	L-10711/L-5141-1	Ballanahona	SD	1,480	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Carndonagh	Inish North	LP	L-1511-1	Tullagh Road	SD	2,500	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Carndonagh	Inish North	LT	L-6841-1	Roosky	SD	900	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Carndonagh	Inish North	LT	L-52311-0	Magheranaul	SD	647	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Carndonagh	Inish North	LP	L-1091-3	Isle road	SD	1,000	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Carndonagh	Inish North	LP	L-1171-2	Altashane	SD	1,240	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Carndonagh Total						16,328			
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	R	238-18	Minduff Section No.1	SD	1,038	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	LP	L1731-1 to LL1731- 6	Meena Hanish	SD	3,400	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	LP	1841-2	Moss Cottages Inch	SD	1,600	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	LP	1841-4	Watery Road Inch	SD	1,000	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	LS	L6211-1	White Castle School Road	SD	1,252	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	LT	16911-3	Meenaward	SD	2,300	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	LT	68712-2	Owenark	SD	1,374	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	LT	68712-3	Glassmullan	SD	1,100	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Buncrana Rural Total						13,064			
Newtown	Inish South	R	265-8	Redbridge	SD	750	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Newtown	Inish South	R	265-7	Monreagh	SD	680	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Newtown	Inish South	LP	1811-1	Glackmore	SD	920	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Newtown	Inish South	LP	1911-2	Drunskellan	SD	1,160	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Newtown	Inish South	LP	2021-2	Adee to polock	SD	1,620	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Newtown	Inish South	LS	5014-2	Dunduff	SD	1,400	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Newtown	Inish South	LS	8241-1	Bohuillion	SD	946	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Newtown	Inish South	LS	8421-1	Garshooey	SD	1,400	2025	2025	Preparatory works underway
Newtown Total						8,876		1	
Newlown Tolai									

## Adopted Drainage Provision Programme 2024

Overseer	Engineer	Location	Description of Works	Start	Finish	Notes
Moville	Inish North	Carnagarve	Pipe approx 100m of 450 mm pipe along road side ditch to provide passing areas	2025	2025	
Moville	Inish North	Corthage	Pipe approx 50m of road side ditch to provide passing areas	2025	2025	
Moville	Inish North	Culineen	Road side slippage -pipe 1200 dia required and embankment strengthening	2025	2025	
Moville	Inish North	Cashel Main Road	200m of 450mm pipe including gullies	2025	2025	
Moville	Inish North	Upper Road Stroove	90m of 450 mm pipe	2025	2025	
Moville	Inish North	Oort	120m of 300mm pipe	2025	2025	
Moville	Inish North	Tryirone	150m of 450mm pipe	2025	2025	
Moville Total						
Carndonagh	Inish North	Black Mountain	200mm of roadside drainage	2025	2025	
Carndonagh	Inish North	Cloontagh	150m of 450mm pipe	2025	2025	
Carndonagh	Inish North	Leenan Road	120m of 300mm pipe	2025	2025	
Carndonagh	Inish North	Ballinhona	110m of 300mm pipe	2025	2025	
Carndonagh	Inish North	Craigtown	80m of 450mm pipe	2025	2025	
Carndonagh Total						
Buncrana	Inish South	Barmoor /Trillick	100 metre of 300 mm pipper and 3 Gullies	2025	2025	
Buncrana	Inish South	Grannia's Gap	110 metre of 300 mm pipe, No 3 Gullies and No1 Manhole	2025	2025	
Buncrana	Inish South	Meenam Brae Road	60 metre of 300mm pipe No 2 Gullies and No1 Manhole ,20 mtr of 900 mm pipe	2025	2025	
Buncrana	Inish South	Carvagh Dunree	100 metre of 300 mm pipe and 4 Gullies	2025	2025	
Buncrana	Inish South	Linsfort Old Post office	60 metre of 225 mm pipe and 3 Gullies	2025	2025	
Buncrana	Inish South	Green road	140 metre of 300 mm pipe	2025	2025	
Buncrana	Inish South	Roadcrossing at Ross Inch	50 metre No 5 Roadsrossing 300mm pipe and 3 Gullies	2025	2025	
Buncrana	Inish South	Leamacrossan	60 metre of 300mm pipe and 2 Gullies	2025	2025	
Buncrana Total						
Newtown	Inish South	Deerpark	80m of 300mm pipe with 1 manhole and 3 gullies	2025	2025	
Newtown	Inish South	Whitehill Road	130m of 375mm pipe with manholes and gullies	2025	2025	
Newtown	Inish South	Monfad Cottages	120m of 300mm pipe with manholes and gullies	2025	2025	
Newtown	Inish South	Bunnamayne to Killea L2031	100m of 300mm pipie with gullies	2025	2025	
Newtown	Inish South	Longlane	7m Road Crossing 225mm pipe	2025	2025	
Newtown	Inish South	Dundrean	Road Crossing 450mm pipe	2025	2025	
Newtown Total						
Grand Total						

## Low Cost Safety Programme 2025

Overseer	-	Road Class	Road Number	Location		Length of work (m)	Start	Finish	Notes
Edward Ruddy	Kevin Lake	R	R238	Three Trees Tromaty, Quigleys Point	VRS installation contract	1000	2025	2025	Completion of the VRS contract along the R238 at Greenbank Q/Point
Edward Ruddy	Kevin Lake	R	R241 / L7011 & L1681	Coolnasillagh, Greencastle	Signs and lines	30	2025	2025	
Moville Total						1,030			
Paddy Mc Laughlin	Kevin Lake	R	R244	Largabrack	Signs and lines	30	2025	2025	
Candonagh Total						30			
James Gill	Stephen Glackin	R/L	R238	Barrickhill Buncrana.	Signs and lines & Lighting	30	2025	2025	
James Gill	Stephen Glackin	R/L	R238/L1691/L7011.	Umrycam, Buncrana	Signs and lines	30	2025	2025	
James Gill	Stephen Glackin	R/L	R238	Cockhill, Buncrana.	Signs and lines	30	2025	2025	
Buncrana Total						90			
Ciaran Dowds	Stephen Glackin	L	L2031/L2021	Bunnamayne Bridgend	Signs and lines	30	2025	2025	
Buncrana Total						30			
						1,180			
						180			

## Bridge Strengthening Programme 2025

Area	Engineer	Road Class	Bridge Number	Location	Description of Works	Length of work (m)	Start	Finish	Notes
2025 Bridge Stro	025 Bridge Strengthening Programme (Discretionary)								
Quigleys Point	Road Design	L7131	1925	Strath Bridge Quigleys Point	Strengthening	6	2025	2025	
Bridge End	Road Design	L7621	1934	Skeoge Bridge End	Strengthening	6	2025	2025	
2025 DOT Fundi	ng Application								
Buncrana	Road Design	L1831	1650	Carrowmullan Bridge Fahan DL/BR/25/006	Strengthening	6	2025	2025	
Buncrana	Road Design	R238	1697	P O'Donnell's Bridge, Buncrana DL/BR/25/012	Strengthening	6	2025	2025	
Carndonagh	Road Design	R244	1727	Ballinlough Bridge, Carndonagh. DL/BR/25/016	Strengthening	6	2025	2025	
2025 Specific In	2025 Specific Improvement Grants								
Moville	Area Roads	R240	DLR240-011	Coyles/Beggars Bridge	Widening/realignment	20	2025	2025	Ongoing



## **HOUSING & CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT**

## **Municipal District of Inishowen**

## 08<sup>th</sup> April 2025

## **Corporate Services**

• Consider Date for Minor Tourism Grant Workshop

## **Housing Service**

• Progress Reports

Summary of Casual Vacancies Inishowen MD as 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	
Properties Refurbished and at Offer Stage	1
Properties being refurbished	0
Properties to be refurbished	8

## Summary of DCC Housing Offers and Tenancies

Offers issued from 01/01/2025	Offers refused from 01/01/2025	Tenancies created from 01/01/2025
35	12	23

## Summary of DCC Nominations to AHBs

Area	AHB	Nominated	Vacancy	Allocated
Buncrana	SVP		1	
Muff	Trinity Court	3	1	1

Inishowen MD Housing Waiting List				
January 2024				
Gross Number of Approved Applicants on				
Social Housing Waiting List	674			
Applicants currently accommodated with HAP				
assistance but who have remained on the Council				
Social Housing list	396			
Tenants currently accommodated in Council Social				
Housing and who are approved for a Transfer	50			
Net Social Housing Waiting List	228			

## **Gross Need - by approved bedrooms – April 2025**

Muncipal Dis	strict	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Inishowen	Ballyliffin	0	4	4	2	0	0	10
	Bridgend	1	17	5	1	0	0	24
	Buncrana	18	170	66	14	0	0	268
	Burnfoot	1	6	5	0	0	0	12
	Burt	1	4	3	0	0	0	8
	Carndonagh	15	71	47	5	0	0	138
	Carrigans	2	9	5	0	0	0	16
	Clonmany	0	9	11	1	0	0	21
	Culdaff	0	7	5	0	0	0	12
	Fahan	1	2	0	0	0	0	3
	Gleneely	0	5	4	0	0	0	9
	Glengad	0	3	1	0	0	0	4
	Greencastle	2	9	5	0	0	0	16
	Inch	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Killea	0	3	2	1	0	0	6
	Malin	1	3	9	0	0	0	13
	Malin Head	0	2	1	0	0	0	3
	Moville	6	17	12	1	0	0	36
	Muff	2	19	9	1	0	0	31
	Newtowncunningham	5	25	7	1	1	0	39
	Redcastle	1	1	2	0	0	0	4
Total		56	386	204	27	1	0	674

## Housing Grants Report at 31<sup>st</sup> Match 2025

## Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability

YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED	WITHDRAWN /CANCELLED/ INVALID	FURTHER INFO.	PENDING
2023	79	56	3	13	7	0
2024	79	69	1	4	2	3
2025	20	4	0	0	6	10

## **Mobility Aids Grant**

YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED	WITHDRAWN /CANCELLED/ INVALID	FURTHER INFO.	PENDING
2023	41	30	0	10	1	0
2024	23	15	0	5	1	2
2025	1	0	0	0	1	0

## Housing Aid for Older People Grant

YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED	WITHDRAWN /CANCELLED/ INVALID	FURTHER INFO.	PENDING
2023	175	159	7	9	0	0
2024	222	176	5	11	5	25
2025	67	17	1	5	10	34

## Housing Capital Update Report Inishowen Municipal District Meeting

## 08<sup>th</sup> April 2025

## 1. Social Housing Developments – Construction Schemes

Donegal County Council is currently progressing the following social housing developments in the Inishowen Municipal District:

Location	Status	No. of Units
	Construction Stage	
Rockytown,	Contractor formally appointed by Donegal County Council in December 2024. Construction Period 24months.	
Phase 2	Site establishment completed.	54
	Site formation ongoing and excavation of foundations has commenced.	
	Detailed Design / Tender Stage	
Barrack Hill, Carndonagh	The contractor has commenced on-site work, and the foundation works commenced on 14th March. Timber Frame kits scheduled to be delivered at the end of April. Utility applications made.	21
Carn Road, Gleneely	Contractor commenced on-site in February with timber frame kits scheduled for delivery in May 5th. Utility applications made.	10
Malin, Radharc na Tra Breige, (Ph 4)	Contractor commenced on-site in early March 2025. Utility applications made. Timber Frame kits are planned for the end of May.	9
Former Garda Station & Residence Malin (SHIP Renewal)	The Contractor commenced on-site works at the end of March 2025. The works programme is estimated at 7 months, with completion expected in October 2025.	2
Ballyhaskey, Newtowncunningham	A Part 8 application for Ballyhaskey, Newtowncunningham, was lodged with the Planning Authority and advertised for public consultation on 20th February 2025. Confirmation of Feasibility has been received for the proposed development from Uisce Eireann. External Quantity Surveyors, Mechanical and Electrical Consulting Engineers, and Civil and Structural Engineers have been appointed for the next phase of this design-and-build project. Tenders for Architects, Employer's Reps, and Assigned Certifiers are to be returned in mid-April 2025.	40
Total		152

## 2. House Acquisitions

- 1. The Council has completed on the acquisition of the former Garda Station at Malin (see table on page 1 for detail on works to be undertaken).
- 2. A further 2 tenant-in-situ house acquisitions are at contract stage in Moville.

## 3. SI Dwellings

The Council is progressing with the delivery of 3 no. SI dwellings in Inishowen Municipal District:

- a) Dunaff, Clonmany
- b) Kinnea, Clonmany
- c) Ballyliffin

Tenders were returned to the Council on 7 February 2025. The Council has evaluated these tenders, and supplementary funding requests have been submitted for all three SI Dwellings to the Department in March 2025. Contractor appointments are expected in April 2025. The Council's solicitors have also commenced the conveyancing process of transferring the SI sites into the Council's name.

## 4. Social Housing through Turnkey Acquisition

The Council has a current county-wide turnkey acquisition process open, which will remain open until the 30th of September 2026. ETenders reference RFT 2461070 refers, where all documentation and information can be obtained. Submissions are currently being accepted and must be made in accordance with the requirements of the procurement documentation.

The process has been opened to help address social housing needs across the county. Proposals are being accepted for 1, 2, 3 & 4 bedroom housing units in towns or villages throughout the county, on lands suitable for housing purposes.

Council staff continue to engage with developers in Inishowen MD in relation to this turnkey process with significant interest received. Preliminary departmental approval has been received for two no. proposals and these developers have progressed to the planning stage and are liaising with Uisce Eireann regarding utility connections to serve the proposals. Proposals can only progress to the next stage of departmental approval once the developer receives (a) a favourable planning decision and (b) a Letter of Offer from Uisce Eireann.

Council officials are continuing to dialogue with Developers regarding the additional valid proposal for Moville. Members will be fully informed of this proposal upon receipt of a Final Tender and departmental approval.

## 5. Lands / Property for Social Housing Purposes

The Council is planning to develop further projects on existing landbank in various locations throughout the MD. Preliminary designs are underway for a number of these sites and are informed by the pertaining approved social housing need at local level.

In parallel with the programmes outlined above, the Council is actively pursuing the acquisition of lands suitable for housing purposes, in towns and villages where there is currently not a social housing solution available / shortfall. In addition to the current expression of interest advertisement on the Councils' website for parcels of land, derelict sites / buildings with the potential to deliver social housing, the Council is also separately identifying parcels of land with social housing potential in areas of need.

A number of suitable land parcels have been identified in towns and villages across the Inishowen MD and engagement / negotiations are ongoing directly with multiple landowners / agents, to acquire these lands.

Acquisition of a site at Newtowncunningham has been completed with potential for 40 housing units. A further offer to acquire lands at Moville has been accepted (subject to contract) with the potential for 30 housing units.

Going forward, the land team will continue to identify further land parcels across the MD and work with the Council's local service team to assess their suitability for new social housing.

1<sup>st</sup> April 2025

## **To: Each Elected Member**

## Re: Schedule of Municipal District Works 2025

Please find attached documentation in respect of the Schedule of Municipal District Works for 2025.

I also attach the Development Fund details in respect of 2025. This is for information purposes only, as the Development Funds do not form part of the Schedule of Municipal District Works.

The Schedule of Municipal District Works has been included on the agenda for the next Municipal District Meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Ung Creshell

Area Manager

## Schedule of Municipal District Works (SMDW)

#### 1.0 Background

- 1.1 Section 58 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 amends Section 103 of the Local Government Act 2001, inserting Section 103A (extract attached) prescribing the preparation of a Schedule of Municipal District Works in respect of maintenance and repair for each Municipal District.
- 1.2 Circular LG27/2014/Fin/21/2014 dated 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014, (copy attached) provides further detail in relation to the operational application of this function within the Municipal District.

#### 2.0 Primary Issues of Consideration

- 2.1 The Schedule of Municipal District Works sets out a plan of repair and maintenance work in each of the respective Municipal Districts, in respect of a number of local service areas. The requirement to prepare a Schedule of Municipal District Works first arose for the financial year 2015.
- 2.2 The preparation and adoption of the Schedule of Municipal District Works is mandatory. It is required to be prepared under the direction of the Chief Executive and requires consideration by the Municipal District and adoption by resolution, with or without amendment, by the members of each Municipal District.
- 2.3 In previous years, the Schedule of Municipal District Works was tabled at the March MD Meetings. However, this was not possible in 2025 owing to the timing of certain allocations under the Roads Programme for 2025.
- 2.4 It was anticipated that further direction would be provided in the years following the introduction of the process, in relation to the form and content of the Schedule of Municipal District Works. However, the process remains the same as it was when it was first introduced.
- 2.5 The members must have due consideration to the adopted revenue budget (essentially requiring that the schedule as adopted, and the expenditure associated with that, must be within the parameters of the adopted Revenue budget for the County as a whole).
- 2.6 Should the Schedule not be adopted by the members, the Schedule of Municipal District Works reverts to the full council for the elected members' consideration and adoption with or without amendment, but in line with subsection 4 of Section 103A of the Act.

## 3.0 Rationale

- 3.1 The principle of the SMDW is in line with stated objectives incorporated in various government policy documents associated with Local Government Reform.
- 3.2 It is expected that, as the concept matures, that the prospect of additional and wider ranges of activities may be considered for incorporation into the overall schedule.

#### 4.0 Practical Applications - 2025

- 4.1 An approach has been taken to apply a certain number of works areas and to include areas of strategic importance at Municipal District level in the Schedule of Municipal District Works. In this context, various aspects of housing maintenance and repair; road maintenance and repair; beach management and maintenance; and litter management have been incorporated.
- 4.2 The schedule as presented to the Municipal District members does not report on, or represent, all aspects of local expenditure and as such it is expected that as the principle of the SMDW matures over subsequent years that further areas can be incorporated as required. It is proposed that this matter be kept under review by the Corporate Policy Group of the Council and their advice and direction be sought in relation to same.
- 4.3 It should be noted that in certain instances budgets are held locally e.g., roads maintenance areas, whilst others are held centrally e.g., beach management. The rationale and logic for same is specific to individual expenditure headings, but considerations relating to value for money, efficiency, synergies, and contingency capacity are all areas that are reflected in instances where budgets may be held centrally for the provision of services locally.

#### 5.0 Further Information

- 5.1 Also included for your information is a schedule of the discretionary development funds that are available to members through the Development Fund Initiative (monies which were allocated as part of the budget 2025 allocation process). For 2025, the Development Fund Initiative has been maintained at a total of €925,000. This provision allows for a total allocation equivalent to €25,000 per Elected Member for 2025.
- 5.2 Furthermore, a schedule is attached of available monies per electoral area in respect of the Members Development Funds. An amount of €10,000 is available for allocation by each individual elected member. This represents an increase of €2,000 per Elected Member for 2025.
- 5.3 The 'Public Lights & Minor Infrastructure Fund' was first adopted by the elected members as part of the 2020 Revenue Budget process. A sum of €203,500, equivalent to €5,500 per elected member, was adopted in 2020. This was increased to €259,000, equivalent to €7,000 per elected member, in the adopted Revenue Budget for 2021 and has been repeated in the Adopted Budgets for 2023, 2024, and 2025. This is included for information purposes in the Schedule of Municipal District Works for 2025. This provision will facilitate the allocation of funding to public lights and minor public infrastructure improvements, primarily on public roads and in housing estates, in accordance with the scheme agreed with the elected members.
- 5.4 Unspent capacity within Public Lights & Minor Infrastructure Scheme budgets for previous years has been reserved and retained for future use.
- 5.5 In 2021, a specific additional budget in the sum of €500,000 (€100,000 per MD) was provided for a Minor Tourism Works Scheme. This provision was repeated for 2022, 2023, and 2024 and is included in the adopted budget for 2025 also. This is included in Appendix 4, alongside the Development Funds allocations, for the information of elected members.

5.6 The Adopted Budget for 2022 included a provision in the sum of €350,000 to undertake upgrading and repair works to access infrastructure in housing estates (including back lanes). This allocation was repeated in 2023. It is repeated in 2024 and 2025 under the title 'Housing Estate Maintenance'. €70,000 has been set aside per MD. This is included in Appendix 4 for the information of elected members.

#### 6.0 Required

- 6.1 In line with section 103A of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) that the members consider the Schedule of Municipal District Works as presented.
- 6.2 That the members resolve to adopt, with or without amendment (but within the parameters of the adopted Revenue budget), the schedule as presented and in line with the text of the draft resolution provided.

Richard Gibson FCCA, Director of Finance

#### Extract from Local Government Act 2001 (as amended)

Schedule of Municipal District Works 103A

- (1) As soon as may be following the adoption of the local authority budget, a schedule of proposed works of maintenance and repair to be carried out during the financial year in each municipal district shall be prepared under the direction of the chief executive, having regard to the availability of resources, in the manner, format and within the timescale that may be prescribed by regulations made by the Minister.
- (2) A schedule prepared for the purposes of subsection (1) shall be considered by the municipal district members concerned and be adopted by resolution, with or without amendment by it, within such time limit and in accordance with such conditions and requirements as may be prescribed by the regulations made by the Minister.
- (3) In making an amendment under subsection (2) the municipal district members shall have due regard to the local authority budget adopted in accordance with section 103(9).
- (4) If the schedule prepared for the purpose of subsection (1) is not adopted by the municipal district members in accordance with subsection (2) and any regulations made under that subsection, then the local authority concerned shall consider that schedule and by resolution adopt it with or without amendment (having due regard to the local authority budget adopted in accordance with section 103(9)) within such time limit as may be prescribed by the regulations made by the Minister.





Comhshaol, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil Environment, Community and Local Government

LG 27/2014 FIN 21/2014

31 December 2014

Dear Chief Executive,

### Schedule of Municipal District Works (SMDW)

### Legislative provisions

- 1. Section 58 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 inserts a new section 103A in the Local Government Act 2001 providing that, following the adoption of the annual budget, a schedule of proposed works of maintenance and repair to be carried out during the financial year in each municipal district shall be prepared, for adoption by the municipal district<sup>1</sup> members. The SMDW is, in effect, a plan of works that prioritises and apportions the use, within each municipal district, of funding provided in the overall local authority revenue budget for particular purposes. In the case of local authority areas which do not have municipal districts, while the requirements in this circular relating to the SMDW *per se* do not apply, it is considered that it would be good practice to prepare a schedule of works in any event to identify where works will be prioritised in the local authority area during the year.
- 2. The relevant extract from the 2001 Act is attached in the Appendix to this circular. The main elements of this provision are as follows: -
  - Preparation and adoption of the SMDW is a mandatory requirement.
  - The SMDW must be prepared under the direction of the Chief Executive.
  - The SMDW is to be prepared as soon as may be following the adoption of the annual budget, for consideration and adoption by resolution, with or without amendment, by the municipal district members.
  - If not adopted by the municipal district members, the SMDW reverts to the full council for the elected members consideration and adoption, with or without amendment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The term municipal district should be taken to include metropolitan districts and borough districts.

#### **Policy Context**

- 3. By virtue of being adopted at district level, the SMDW represents an important enhancement of subsidiarity in local government. The provision is fundamentally important to the new system of governance at sub-county level, giving effect to measures set out in the *Government's Action Programme for Effective Local Government, Putting People First*, which indicated, in particular, that: -
  - matters to be decided at municipal district level would include decisions in relation to local facilities and amenities and determination of priorities and programmes of works or services in the area, within global funding allocations decided by the overall county council /city and county council or the use of locally generated revenue (paragraph 6.5.2);
  - provision would be made for the adoption by members at municipal district level of programmes/plans setting out priorities for works, services or activities within their functional remit that are contained within, or specific to, the district and expenditure in respect of matters that are appropriate for decision locally, within the overall budgetary and policy framework (paragraph 6.5.9); and
  - wide discretion would be given to members at municipal district level insofar as priorities in matters decided at that level are concerned (paragraph 6.7.1).

The scope for widening the extent of reserved functions of elected members would be pursued fully and a number of new measures set out in the programme would add important new functions to the range of powers of elected members (paragraph 11.5.2); to this end, the adoption of the SMDW is among the most important new reserved functions introduced by the Reform Act 2014.

#### Guidance on preparation and adoption of SMDW

- 4. The legislation provides that the Minister may make regulations outlining the manner, format, conditions, requirements and timescale for the preparation, consideration and adoption of the SMDW. Further consideration will be given to the possible need for regulations under section 103A of the 2001 Act. Pending the possible making of regulations, interim guidelines are being provided on the preparation, amendment and adoption of the SMDW for the year 2015, as follows: -
  - (a) While the legislation provides that the SMDW be prepared as soon as may be following the adoption of the annual budget, it is considered reasonable, in the first year of its operation, to allow adoption of the SMDW by 31 March 2015, in order to allow for appropriate arrangements to be made and to afford members adequate time to familiarise themselves with this important new function. This will also enable account to be taken of more definitive details of Government maintenance grants for roads, housing, etc.
  - (b) The SMDW in respect of each municipal district should be formulated on the basis of the amount of funding provided for maintenance and repair in the annual budget of the local authority in respect of each relevant service division (e.g. housing, roads,

amenities, street cleaning, drainage work, burial ground maintenance, etc.), subject to any variations arising subsequent to adoption of the budget, for example, in relation to funding levels from State grants. Classification of items in the budget should largely determine what works and related expenditure are included in the SMDW but insofar as it may be necessary to make judgments in particular instances, it is considered that the term "maintenance" can include not only maintenance of the physical condition or fabric of items, but also more operational type matters such as grass cutting or tree pruning.

- (c) Within the level of funding available, details of the SMDW should be prepared on the basis of identified needs (taking account of relevant factors, for example, in the case of housing, age profile of stock) and priorities throughout the local authority area and taking due account of requirements in relation to standards and frequency of maintenance work. This should be informed by details of relevant requirements which were considered in the formulation of the overall local authority budget. It will also be relevant to have regard to the pattern of works and expenditure in previous years. It is emphasised that adoption of the SMDW *per se* cannot involve revision of the adopted budget.
- (d) It is essential to maximise return on investment by avoiding dilution of expenditure which could result from spreading allocations too thinly across the local authority and the constituent municipal districts each year. This could be minimised by taking a multi-annual approach where possible in the preparation of the SMDW.
- (e) Maximising value for money, overall effectiveness, and return from investment should also be a key objective in prioritising works and allocating available funding within each municipal district, along with the need to ensure appropriate balance in the allocation of resources as between urban and rural areas in the district. Apportionment of funding on a thematic basis within the district over the life of the council could help to this end. For example, specific housing estate(s) in one location could be prioritised for refurbishment in year one, with a commitment to undertake works in another area in subsequent years. Similarly, where an overall local authority maintenance programme is drawn up for a particular purpose (say windows and doors in local authority dwellings) which might need to extend over a number of years, the required works would be reflected in relevant annual SMDWs.
- (f) Any maintenance type functions, for example, grass cutting, planting or other maintenance of open spaces, that are carried out by means of specific purpose grants for such purposes to community groups such as tidy towns committees can be provided for, as appropriate, through the SMDW.
- (g) The GMA, which is a budgetary element providing funding for discretionary expenditure at municipal district level to be decided by the elected members in respect of each municipal district, is separate from the "strategic" budgetary funding for maintenance and repair, the utilisation of which is to be determined in the SMDW. However, it is open to the municipal district members to apply GMA funding to supplement maintenance and repair funding otherwise available in the overall budget.

- (h) It is suggested that the resolution for adoption of the SMDW be worded so as to be flexible enough to allow for possible emergencies or reallocation of funding from scheduled works that cannot, for some reason, proceed. Any such re-allocation of funding should, as always, be within the overall budgetary framework and could be notified to the members as part of the Monthly Management Report. Account should be taken of any such changes in the preparation of the following year's SMDW.
- (i) Section 134A of the 2001 Act provides that, in preparing the Service Delivery Plan, account shall be taken of any local authority plan, statement, strategy or any other document. Accordingly, the SMDW should, ideally, be prepared and adopted in advance of the annual Service Delivery Plan. If this is not feasible in the context of the time frame allowed for 2015, the preparation of the annual Service Delivery Plan should, at least, be informed by proposals for the SMDW.
- 5. The following conditions and requirements shall apply in relation to any amendments to the SMDW, as prepared under the direction of the chief executive, being considered by the municipal district members under section 103A (2) and (3) of the 2001 Act: -
  - (a) Any proposed amendments to the SMDW must take account of
    - the need to confine overall expenditure on works of maintenance within the total amount provided in the adopted local authority budget for such purposes;
    - actual requirements and priorities for relevant works within the district and prioritisation of the use of funding available to the district for particular purposes having regard to such requirements and priorities;
    - the most effective use of available resources;
    - requirements and priorities for funding in respect of works to which the SMDW relates during the entire term of office of the council so as to prevent dilution and ineffective use of funding by spreading it too thinly across the local authority/district each year;
    - other factors/criteria set out in these guidelines;
    - compliance with the regulations and guidelines regarding the performance of functions by municipal district members as provided in S.I. 231 of 2014 and circular LG10/2014, including the need for consistency with overall local authority policy and avoidance of duplication;
    - any views in relation to proposed amendments provided by the chief executive.
  - (b) If the municipal district members decide not to adopt the SMDW or propose to make an amendment to the SMDW which would result in the total expenditure in respect of works included in the schedule in respect of a particular service division exceeding that envisaged in the schedule as prepared by the chief executive, the latter shall submit a report to the local authority indicating that the SMDW has not

been adopted in accordance with subsection (2) of section 103A and the local authority shall adopt the SMDW in accordance with subsection (4) of section 103A.

- (c) Pending a decision on the adoption of the SMDW by the municipal district members or the local authority, as the case may be, works or services may be undertaken in accordance with the schedule as prepared by the chief executive. Failure to adopt, or delay in adoption of, the SMDW in respect of a particular district by the municipal district members or the local authority, as the case may be, will not affect the validity of the SMDW adopted by the municipal district or the local authority, as the case may be, in respect of another district in the local authority area. Accordingly, where the SMDW has been adopted by the members for a particular municipal district, it cannot be revisited by the plenary Council even in the event that the SMDW for another district is referred back to it because of failure of the members for that district to adopt.
- (d) In the event of a decision by the municipal district members or the local authority, as the case may be, not to adopt the SMDW or to make an amendment to the SMDW which would result in the total expenditure in respect of works included in the schedule exceeding that envisaged in the schedule as prepared by the chief executive, only such works or services to which the SMDW relates as are considered by the chief executive to be essential shall be undertaken pending the adoption of the SMDW within the level of expenditure envisaged in the schedule as prepared by the chief executive.
- 6. Specific procedures (beyond the requirements in the legislation) or a definitive format for the SMDW, are not being prescribed at this time. The procedures and structures already applied by most authorities for non-statutory agreement of annual road works programmes at area committee level should provide a relevant analogy and a template that can be adapted for the statutory SMDW process. It is understood that some authorities intend to have non-statutory consultations with the municipal district members on the SMDW early in 2015, which could be helpful in advance of formal adoption. It should also be noted that it is a matter for the executive to determine the most appropriate and effective operational and organisational arrangements to implement the measures decided by the municipal district members in the adoption of the SMDW.
- 7. A copy of this circular, which is available on the SharePoint system, should be given to each elected member. In view of its importance to their role at municipal district level, all necessary support should be provided to the members in the performance of their functions in relation to the schedule of municipal district works.

Any queries on this matter relating to finance aspects can be made to Emma.Reeves@environ.ie, or relating to municipal district functions generally to Brendan Buggy or Michael Murphy at 01-8882826 or 01-8882162, respectively or, by e-mail at Brendan.buggy@environ.ie or Michael.murphy@environ.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Fiona Quinn

Denis Conlan

Local Government Finance Section

Local Government Policy Section

To each local authority Chief Executive

#### APPENDIX

### Extract from Part 12, Chapter 1 (Financial Procedures) of the Local Government Act 2001

#### Schedule of municipal district works

103A.— (1) As soon as may be following the adoption of the local authority budget, a schedule of proposed works of maintenance and repair to be carried out during the financial year in each municipal district shall be prepared under the direction of the chief executive, having regard to the availability of resources, in the manner, format and within the timescale that may be prescribed by regulations made by the Minister.

(2) A schedule prepared for the purposes of subsection (1) shall be considered by the municipal district members concerned and be adopted by resolution, with or without amendment by it, within such time limit and in accordance with such conditions and requirements as may be prescribed by the regulations made by the Minister.

(3) In making an amendment under subsection (2) the municipal district members shall have due regard to the local authority budget adopted in accordance with section 103(9).

(4) If the schedule prepared for the purpose of subsection (1) is not adopted by the municipal district members in accordance with subsection (2) and any regulations made under that subsection, then the local authority concerned shall consider that schedule and by resolution adopt it with or without amendment (having due regard to the local authority budget adopted in accordance with section 103(9)) within such time limit as may be prescribed by the regulations made by the Minister.

	Overall Revised Budget	Non Discretionary Payroll / Overheads	Discretionary	
	€	€	€	
Housing Maintenance – Inishowen MD	688,375	140,038	548,337	
Housing Maintenance – Donegal MD	516,384	84,394	431,990	
Housing Maintenance – Glenties MD	527,951	68,040	459,911	
Housing Maintenance – Letterkenny-Milford MD	1,032,918	344,520	688,398	
Housing Maintenance – Lifford-Stranorlar MD	612,558	70,374	542,184	
Subtotal for Area Maintenance:	3,378,185	707,366	2,670,819	
HQ Maintenance	1,550,108			
Total Maintenance	4,928,293			
Additional Allocation for Salaries to support Housing Liaison Officer in each MD	258,163			
Insurance	442,224			
Local Property Tax Payments	529,420			

Contingency for Capital Balances

(Housing Programme)

Subtotal Other

Overall Total

Housing Estate Management – Glenties MD	9,921		
Housing Estate Management – Letterkenny-Milford MD	17,091		
Housing Estate Management – Lifford-Stranorlar MD	11,150		
Total Estate Management	60,000	As per Budget	Book (A0401)

Routine Maintenance Budget allocated on a per house basis equally across all areas.

<u>66,000</u>

As per Budget Book (A0101)

1,295,807

6,224,100

### **Appendix 2 – Environmental Services 2025**

Description	Adopted Budget 2025	Inishowen	Donegal	Glenties	Letterkenny- Milford	Lifford- Stranorlar	County/ Centre	Total
Litter Control - Clean Up Campaign	140,100	25,400	20,550	26,900	46,700	20,550	0	140,100
Tidy Towns Fund	155,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	5,000	155,000
Maintenance of Beaches	280,200	36,700	93,700	46,200	24,500	0	79,100	280,200
Totals	575,300	92,100	144,250	103,100	101,200	50,550	84,100	575,300

#### **Background**

It is proposed that Clean-Ups and Beach Maintenance will be centrally managed to give maximum flexibility to respond to priorities in a countywide context. Examples where this is relevant include instances of large-scale dumping potentially being more prevalent in one area than another, and similarly with unexpected maintenance/repair work at individual beaches. As a consequence, it is difficult to suggest that an MD has discretion for the expenditure. However, indicative expenditure is clearly provided on an area-by-area basis as set out in the schedule circulated. The basis of allocation will be kept under review.

A specific and discretionary allocation of €30,000 per Municipal District has been included in the adopted budget 2025 to assist tidy towns groups (as shown above). In addition to this, an amount of €5,000 has been set aside centrally for the purpose of running a countywide tidy-towns competition.

# **Roads Areas Division**

# **Budget Distribution 2025**

	Totals	Non-Roads Areas Controlled	Roads Areas Centrally Controlled	Donegal MD	Glenties MD	Inishowen MD	Letterkenny/ Milford MD	Stranorlar MD
	€	Funding €	Funding €	€	€	€	€	€
		nfrastructur	-		ť	e	Ľ	C
ND Ordinany Maintonanco	•	ווומכנו עכנעו	e ireialiu (1			£21.060	£E0.1E2	£100 011
NP Ordinary Maintenance NP Route Lighting	€293,292 €37,406	€37,406		€102,359		€31,969	€50,153	€108,811
NP Winter Maintenance	€222,789	637,100	€222,789					
National Primary Total =	€553,487	€37,406	€222,789	€102,359	€0	€31,969	€50,153	€108,811
NS Ordinary Maintenance	€201,895			€35,130	€138,500		€28,265	
NS Route Lighting	€37,406	€37,406						
NS Winter Maintenance	€141,657		€141,657		0100 500		600 0 cc	
National Secondary Total =	€380,958 €CC C00	€37,406	€141,657		€138,500 €	€0	€28,265	€l
LA Support (Maintenance) 2025 LA Support (Winter Maintenance) 2025	€66,600 €10,000	€10,000	€66,600					
National Secondary Total =	€10,000 €76,600	€10,000 €10,000		€0	€0	€0	€0	€(
Total TII Roads Areas Funding =	€1,011,045	€84,812		-	€138,500			€108,81
	National T	ransport Au	thority (NT	A)(Note 2)	· · · · ·		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Astive Trevel Dusisets		-		-,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	i			
Active Travel Projects Bus Stop Enhancement Programme (Note 3)	€4,000,000 €500,000	€4,000,000 €500,000						
Total NTA Funding =	€4,500,000			€0	€0	€0	€0	€(
		ent of Trans						
···· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		ent of frans						
Winter Maintenance (Note 5)	€1,000,000	£250.000	€1,000,000					
Bridge Refurbishment Regional & Local Roads Disc Maintenance	€250,000 €3,886,000	€250,000		€803,646	€741,516	€962,670	€832,474	€545,694
Discretionary Grant (DG) Total =	€3,886,000 €5,136,000	€250,000	€1,000,000	€803,646 €803,646	€741,516 €741,516	€962,670 €962,670		€545,694 €545,694
Regional Roads Restoration Maintenance	€1,410,220	0200,000	21,000,000	€803,040 €234,439	€366,833	€324,448		€143,210
Local Roads Restoration Maintenance	€3,626,280			€771,497	€655,113	€907,718		€529,888
Restoration Maintenance (RM) Total =	€5,036,500			€1,005,936	€1,021,946	€1,232,165	€1,103,354	€673 <i>,</i> 098
Materials Testing	€48,000		€48,000					
Restoration Improvement	€21,345,000			€4,414,260	€4,072,995	€5,287,749		€2,997,386
Restoration Improvement (RI) Total =	€21,393,000		€48,000	€4,414,260	€4,072,995	€5,287,749		€2,997,386
Community Involvement Schemes Specific Improvement Grants	€1,089,000 €1,080,000			€225,211 €800,000	€207,800 €50,000	€269,776 €200,000		€152,924
Strategic Regional & Local Roads	€1,080,000			€3,500,000	£30,000	£200,000	€300,000	
Speed Limit Review Signs -(Note 6)	€948,000		€488,266		€85,894	€122,463	1	€50,299
PSCI: Survey Report	€50,000		€50,000			,		
Former National Roads	€250,000			€250,000				
Drainage Works	€1,188,000			€245,685	€226,691	€294,301	€254,498	€166,826
Climate Adaptation	€935,000			€200,000	€200,000	€170,000	-	€145,000
Other Grants (SI) Total =	€9,340,000		€538,266	€5,313,454	€770,385	€1,056,539	€1,146,308	€515,048
Bridge Rehabilitation Low Cost Safety Improvements	€755,500 €649,500	€755,500 €649,500						
Training Grant (Note 7)	€04 <i>9,</i> 500 €114,500	€04 <i>3,</i> 500						
DOT Non-Roads Areas Total =	€1,519,500 €1,519,500	€1,519,500						
Total DOT Roads Areas Funding =	€42,425,000	€1,769,500	€1,586,266	€11,537,296	€6,606,841	€8,539,123	€7,654,747	€4,731,22
Training	€100,000	€100,000						
Materials Tests	€50,000		€50,000					
Lining & Road Studs (Note 8)	€150,000			€31,021	€28,623	€37,159	i i	€21,064
Depots & Health & Safety	€150,000	6220.000		€30,000	€30,000	€30,000	€30,000	€30,00
Bridges (Preventative Maintenance) Minor Non Structural Repair (Bridge) (Note 9)	€220,000 €50,000	€220,000		€10,000	€10,000	€10,000	€10,000	€10,00
Site Safety IS (Note10)	€50,000		€50,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000
Co-finance Capital	€50,000		€50,000					
Invasive Species Management	€70,000		€70,000					
Staffing Budget	€400,000		€400,000					
Contingency Reserve	€300,000		€300,000					
Former Town Councils Roads (Note 11)	€981,948			€292,621		€296,548		
Former Town Council Street Sweeping (Note 12)	€365,003			€65,003		€76,000	i i	
MD Works Overheads	€2,200,000			€492,537 €214,120	€394,030 €401 534	€503,483	i i	€317,41
Regional Roads Own Resources Local Roads Own Resources	€1,889,575 €3,217,384			€314,129 €684,504	€491,524 €581,243	€434,732 €805,364		€191,889 €470,139
DOT RM Programme Support	€3,217,384 €120,876			€084,504 €24,142	€381,243 €24,527	€805,504 €29,572	1	€470,15
DOT RI Programme Support	€213,450			€44,143	€40,730	€52,877		€29,97
DOT Drainage Programme Support	€11,880			€2,457	€2,267	€2,943	i i	€1,668
Own Resources Roads Areas Total =	€10,590,116	€320,000	€920,000	€1,990,556	€1,602,944	€2,278,679		<b>€1,088,30</b> 2
Parks & Open Spaces (Note 13)	€1,169,975			€85,372	€6,714	€174,291		€1,540
Moville Green & Barrack Hill (Note 14)	€106,875	C1 00C 000				€106,875		
Car Parking School Wardens	€1,006,928 €80 594	€1,006,928 €80 594						
School Wardens Burial Grounds	€80,594 €42,450	€80,594	€2,150	€7,800	€5,200	€9,100	€13,000	€5,20
Biodiversity	€42,450		£2,130	€7,800 €18,000	€5,200 €18,000	€9,100 €18,000	i i	€5,20 €18,00
Official Languages Act Signage Programme (Note 15)	€30,000		€20,000		210,000	010,000	210,000	210,000
DCC Specific Funding Total =	€2,516,822	€1,087,522	€22,150	€111,172	€29,914	€308,266	€933,058	€24,74
								€1,113,04
Total DCC Funding =	€13,106,938	€1,407,522	€942,150	22,101,720	€1,632,858	€2,586,945	€3,322,694	£1,113,04

# **Roads Areas Division**

# Budget Distribution 2025 - Municipal Districts (Area Offices) Summary

	Totals			Donegal MD	Glenties MD	Inishowen MD	Letterkenny/ Milford MD	Stranorlar MD
				NID	WID	N		ND
	€			€	€	€	€	€
		Nationa	l Roads					
NP Ordinary Maintenance	€293,292			€102,359		€31,969	€50,153	€108,811
NS Ordinary Maintenance	€201,895			€35,130	€138,500	-	€28,265	
Total National Roads Funding =	€495,187			€137,489	€138,500	€31,969	€78,418	€108,811
		Non-Natio	nal Roads					
Regional & Local Roads Disc Maintenance	€3,886,000			€803,646	€741,516	€962,670	€832,474	€545,694
Regional Roads Own Resources	€1,889,575			€314,129	€491,524	€434,732		€191,889
Local Roads Own Resources	€3,217,384			€684,504	€581,243	€805,364	€676,134	€470,139
MD Works Overheads	€2,200,000			€492,537	€394,030	€503,483		€317,413
Lining & Road Studs (Note 8)	€150,000			€31,021	€28,623	€37,159		€21,064
Depots & Health & Safety	€150,000			€30,000	€30,000			€30,000
Minor Non Structural Repair (Bridge) (Note 9)	€50,000			€10,000	€10,000	€10,000		€10,000
Former Town Councils Roads (Note 11)	€981,948			€292,621		€296,548	€392,779	
Former Town Council Street Sweeping (Note 12)	€365,003			€65,003		€76,000		
Discretionary Road Maintenance Funding Total =	€12,889,910			€2,723,460	€2,276,936	€3,155,957		€1,586,199
Regional Roads Restoration Maintenance	€1,410,220			€234,439	€366,833	€324,448		€143,210
Local Roads Restoration Maintenance	€3,626,280			€771,497	€655,113	€907,718	€762,064	€529,888
DOT RM Programme Support	€120,876			€24,142	€24,527	€29,572		€16,154
Restoration Maintenance (RM) Total = €5,157,376 €1,030,079 €1,046,473 €1,261,								€689,253
Reg & Loc Roads Restoration Improvement	€21,345,000			€4,414,260	€4,072,995	€5,287,749		€2,997,386
DOT RI Programme Support	€213,450			€44,143	€40,730			€29,974
Restoration Improvement (RI) Total = €21,558,450 €4,458,403 €4,113,724 €5,340								€3,027,360
NTA Active Travel	€4,000,000							
Bus Stop Enhancement Programme (Note 3)	€500,000							
Community Involvement Schemes	€1,089,000			€225,211	€207,800	€269,776	€233,290	€152,924
Specific Improvement Grants	€1,080,000			€800,000	€50,000	€200,000	€30,000	
Strategic Regional & Local Roads	€3,800,000			€3,500,000			€300,000	
Speed Limit Review Signs -(Note 6)	€459,734			€92,558	€85,894	€122,463	€108,520	€50,299
Former National Roads	€250,000			€250,000				
Drainage Works	€1,188,000			€245,685	€226,691	€294,301	€254,498	€166,826
DOT Drainage Programme Support	€11,880			€2,457	€2,267	€2,943	€2,545	€1,668
Climate Adaptation	€935,000			€200,000	€200,000	€170,000	€220,000	€145,000
Specific Grants Total =	€13,313,614		€0	€5,315,911	€772,652	€1,059,482	€1,148,853	€516,717
Total Roads Areas Non-National Roads Funding =	€52,919,350		€0	€13,527,852	€8,209,785	€10,817,803	€10,044,383	€5,819,528
	Specific F	unding for F	Roads Relat	ed items				
Parks & Open Spaces (Note 13)	€1,169,975	-		€85,372	€6,714	€174,291	€902,058	€1,540
Moville Green & Barrack Hill (Note 14)	€106,875			200,072	50,721	€106,875		01,010
Burial Grounds	€40,300			€7,800	€5,200	€9,100		€5,200
Biodiversity	€90,000			€18,000	€18,000	€18,000	1	€18,000
Roads Related Items Total =	€1,407,150			€10,000 €111,172	€10,000 €29,914	€18,000 €308,266		€18,000 €24,740
Total Roads Related Iterms Funding =	€1,407,150 €1,407,150			€111,172	€29,914			€24,740 €24,740
TOTAL AREA OFFICE 2025 FUNDING =	€54,821,687	€0	€0	€13,776,512	€8,378,199	€11,158,037	€11,055,859	€5,953,079

2025 Roads Budget Distribution

# Roads Areas Division Budget Distribution 2025

#### Notes:

- 1 TII maintenance allocations must be spent in accordance with the TII Memorandum on Road Grants.
- 2 Active Travel (NTA) must be spent in accordance with the latest NTA Guidance Circulars
- 3 Programme continuation from 2024, with details to be finalised and agreed with NTA for bus stops in each MD
- 4 DOT allocations must be spent in compliance with DOT Circular RW 02/2024 and the latest Memorandum on Grants For Regional and Local Roads.
- 5 Winter maintenance budget is weather dependent and will be supplemented as necessary from the OR Contingency Reserve. The budget has been set at €1,000,000 for 2025 to reflect the likely expenditure.
- 6 Allocation indicated is for erection of 60kph Rural Speed Limits completed by 7th Febuary. Further allocation will issue for remainder of changes (Urban and National Secondary) when known.
- 7 DOT have funded €114,500 for training, and remaining training costs over and above this have to come from OR.
- 8 An MD specific budget has been allocated in 2025 for the refreshing of existing road markings.
- 9 It was identified that there was a need for a Minor Bridge Non Structural Repair programme, and €50,000 has been allocated to fund this work.
- 10 Implementation of Safety Information Systems programme in the MD's
- 11 €981,948 has been allocated to those MDs now incorporating former Town Councils (FTC) to replace the FTC OR allocations made previously.
- 12 Specific provision has again been made in the Council's Budget 2025 for Street Sweeping. In previous years street sweeping was funded from roads general maintenance monies and only the former Town Councils made specific allocation. As such Donegal, Inishowen & Letterkeny MDs have received a specific amount for street sweeping and the remainder has been included in Roads OR. MDs may provide for street sweeping from their Roads OR as normal in accordance with MD preferences.
- 13 Parks and Open Spaces budget provision for 2025 has been distributed in the same manner as recent years which was based on split following disbandment of Town Councils.
- 14 Moville Green has been separately budgeted as per historic commitments (€47,500) and a separate allocation has again been made in the 2025 Budget towards the management of Barrack Hill, Carndonagh. (€59,375)
- 15 A County wide allocation of €20,000 is provided to further progress the inclusion of Irish on signs under the Official Languages Act Signage Programme

2025 Roads Budget Distribution

### **Development Fund Allocations and Other Relevant Provisions 2025**

Municipal District	Development Fund Initiative <sup>*1</sup> €	Members Development Fund <sup>*2</sup> €	Public Lights & Minor Infrastructure Fund <sup>*3</sup> €	Minor Tourism Works Scheme*4 €	Housing Estate Maintenance*₅ €	Totals €
Letterkenny- Milford	250,000	100,000	70,000	100,000	70,000	590,000
Inishowen	225,000	90,000	63,000	100,000	70,000	548,000
Donegal	150,000	60,000	42,000	100,000	70,000	422,000
Glenties	150,000	60,000	42,000	100,000	70,000	422,000
Lifford- Stranorlar	150,000	60,000	42,000	100,000	70,000	422,000
Totals	925,000	370,000	259,000	500,000	350,000	2,404,000

\*1 Equivalent to €25,000 per Elected Member

\*2 Equivalent to €10,000 per Elected Member

\*<sup>3</sup> Equivalent to €7,000 per Elected Member

\*4 Repeated for 2025 - €100,000 per Municipal District

\*5 Repeated for 2025 - €70,000 per Municipal District

### FORMAL RESOLUTION FOR SMDW ADOPTION

### ADOPTION OF THE SCHEDULE OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WORKS 2025

Proposed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconded by: \_\_\_\_\_

and resolved "that the \_\_\_\_\_\_ Municipal District hereby adopts for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025, the Schedule of Municipal District Works as set out in the schedules presented at the Municipal District meeting of the \_\_\_\_\_\_ (insert date) as required by Section 103A of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) and in line with requirements of Circular LG27/2014/Fin21/2014."