

Ceantar Bardais Inis Eoghain

Oifig Riarthóir na
gCruinnithe
Aras an Chontae
Leifear
07ú Eanáir 2025

FOGRA CRUINNITHE

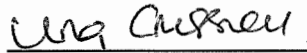
Beidh Cruinniú de Ceantar Bardais Inis Eoghain ar siúl Dé Mháirt 14ú Eanáir 2025, **ag 1.00 r.n. in ISP Carn Domhnach**

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



**Una Cresswell
Riarthóir Cruinnithe**

Municipal District of Inishowen

Office of Meetings Administrator
County House
Lifford
07th January 2025

NOTICE OF MEETING

A Meeting of the Municipal District of Inishowen will be held on Tuesday 14th January 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



**Una Cresswell
Meetings Administrator**

AGENDA

1. Consideration of the Minutes of the December Meeting of Inishowen Municipal District held on 03rd December 2024
2. Planning
3. Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services
4. Community Development
5. Environment
6. Roads & Transportation
7. Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services
8. Correspondence

**MINUTES OF THE INISHOWEN MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 3rd
December 2024 AT 1.00 PM IN CARNDONAGH PUBLIC SERVICE CENTRE**

Councillors Present:

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

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, Eamon Mahon, Senior Executive Engineer, Housing, Ryan Nolan, Executive Planner, Matthew Byrne, Waste Regulation Officer (online), Deirdre Harte, Project Officer, Economic Development, Fiona Doherty, Development Officer, Community Development, Helen Farren, Development Officer, Community Development.

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

24.59 Consideration of the Minutes of the Inishowen Municipal District Budget 2025 Meeting held on 24th October 2024

On the proposal of Cllr Martin McDermott, seconded by Cllr Fionán Bradly, the minutes of the Inishowen Municipal District Budget 2025 Meeting held on 24th October 2024 were agreed.

24.60 Consideration of the Minutes of the Meeting of Inishowen Municipal District held on 15th October 2024

On the proposal of Cllr Martin McDermott, seconded by Cllr Terry Crossan, the minutes of the Inishowen Municipal Meeting held on 15th October 2024 were agreed.

On the proposal of Cllr Jack Murray, seconded by Cllr Terry Crossan, the meeting was adjourned for a period of 15 minutes.

24.61 Deputation from Angela Tourish

Angela Tourish was welcomed to the meeting by the Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jack Murray. Angela Tourish thanked the members for agreeing to the deputation. Angela advised members that she is the primary carer for her adult daughter and highlighted the struggles that she faces in caring for her daughter as her own mobility decreases. She outlined in detail the urgent need for the provision of appropriate residential housing for people with disabilities in the Buncrana area and requested that group care homes be built within existing housing developments. She stated that she wished her daughter to remain in the Buncrana area as she is very much a part of the community and would like her to have a room for life in a group home. She asked that the National Disability Strategy be implemented in Donegal.

The members collectively thanked Angela Tourish for her presentation and supported the need to have Angela's daughter housed and cared for within her own community. Cllr Fionán Bradley stated that more efforts were required to plan for the future needs for supported

accommodation in the area. Cllr Joy Beard suggested that plans should be put in place to provide suitable accommodation in the upcoming development at Rockytown, Buncrana. Members also highlighted the lack of respite care in the area.

Cllr Martin McDermott proposed that a meeting should be arranged with the HSE and Cllr Martin Farren and Cllr Terry Crossan seconded this proposal. Cllr Jack Murray suggested that all nine members of the Inishowen Municipal District should collectively take a motion to the full Plenary Council. He stated that he has also highlighted the issue with the HSE. Cllr Paul Canning stated that architects employed by the Council could collaborate with Angela Tourish to design a building that would suit the particular needs in the area. He suggested that a meeting be arranged with both the Director of Housing and Senior Engineer. Angela Tourish agreed with these comments and advised that if the appropriate infrastructure was put in place by the Council, the HSE would then be in a position to assist.

Una Cresswell, Area Manager, Housing and Corporate Services, advised that Donegal County Council is the lead agency of Donegal's Housing Disability Steering Group (HDSG) and works closely with the HSE and sectoral groups to ensure the housing needs of people with disabilities are captured and met through the housing delivery programme. She agreed to relay the issues raised to the chairperson of the Housing Disability Steering group.

Angela Tourish advised members that her circumstances had gone beyond the issue of respite and outlined the obligation of the Council to provide adequate housing.

The members collectively agreed to raise the matter at the next Plenary Council meeting and would keep Angela Tourish updated.

24.62 PLANNING

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

24.62.01 Foyle View Manor, Carrigans

Ryan Nolan updated members regarding the Taking in Charge of Foyle View Manor, Carrigans following a request by Cllr Terry Crossan at the previous meeting.

24.62.02 Seven Strategic Towns Local Area Plan

Ryan Nolan advised Cllr Ali Farren that the Development Plan team are currently working on the Seven Strategic Towns Local Area Plan and is unable to provide a timeline regarding the implementation of the plan at this stage.

24.62.03 Planning Advice Clinics

Ryan Nolan advised members that planning advice clinics will take place every second Thursday in the Public Service Centre, Carndonagh from 9am to 12.30pm. This service will be by appointment only. Cllr Martin McDermott welcomed the reintroduction of this service. Cllr Martin Farren concurred with these comments and expressed his disappointment that a full planning service was no longer available in the Public Service Centre, Carndonagh. Cllr Albert Doherty also welcomed the reinstatement of the planning advice clinics.

24.62.04 Moville Regeneration Strategy and Action Plan

Cllr Martin Farren outlined that a committee would be set up regarding Moville Regeneration Strategy and Action Plan and it hoped this would be done in January 2025.

24.62.05 Defective Concrete Blocks Grant Scheme.

Cllr Paul Canning requested clarification on the rebuilding of houses through the Defective Concrete Blocks Grant Scheme. In order for these dwellings to meet the new building regulations and energy ratings, a heat recovery system will be installed which will add 150-200mm per floor. This will mean that the ridge height will be higher in certain cases. This may cause an issue within housing estates where the heights of the properties may differ. He requested clarity on the issue and asked that all agents be advised of the answer to ensure continuity.

24.62.06 Court House Building - Carndonagh

Cllr Albert Doherty expressed his dissatisfaction on the response from the Court Service where they advised that it is intended that a decision on the future of Carndonagh as a venue will be considered as part of a long-term accommodation strategy.

24.62.07 Croi Conaithe Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant Scheme

Cllr Albert Doherty referred to the summary of the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant Applications as outlined in the planning report. He welcomed the 661 applications that were finalised and queried why 50 applications were withdrawn and if there was a pattern as to why these were withdrawn. He queried if a system could be put in place to ensure payments could be made to applicants in a timely manner. Cllr Fionán Bradley concurred with these comments and requested that further clinics be held to assure the public that the process was worthwhile.

24.63 ENVIRONMENT

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

- Multi Agency Work – During September, checkpoints were set up in a number of locations in the County to track the movement of waste.
- Anti-Dumping Initiative – Cinema Advert Campaign. The post analysis report from the cinema advert campaign showed that the video was played before 5 of the top 10 most popular movies of 2024 and the advert was viewed over 150,000 times.
- Anti-Dumping Initiative – Environment team secured funding to provide paddle boards to be used for clean ups along the coastline, riverbanks and islands by schools and community groups.
- Household Hazardous Waste Project.
- #LoveDonegalday – This provided the perfect opportunity to thank all volunteers throughout the County who work to keep the County beautiful.
- Farm Plastic recycling Days – Recycling centres were operated at three locations in Inishowen for farmers to dispose of silage wrap, fertiliser and feed bags etc.
- Flood Relief Scheme Report.

24.63.01 Tidy Town Awards

Matthew Byrne congratulated all the towns that participated in the Tidy Towns awards. All the towns in Inishowen improved on their points. Cllr Martin Farren acknowledged the increase in points for the Moville and acknowledged the ongoing work of the Tidy Town Committee in Moville and paid tribute to Marian McDonald. Cllr Paul Canning acknowledged the support that Pearse McCrory, Litter Warden with Donegal County Council gave to the Tidy Towns throughout the year. Cllr Joy Beard congratulated the towns on their success.

24.63.02 Illegal Dumping

Cllr Terry Crossan thanked the Environment Section and Pearse McCrory, Litter Warden for their prompt action in addressing the recent illegal dumping incidents in the Inishowen Area.

24.63.03 Ard na Guala Duibhe, Moville

Cllr Martin Farren requested an update regarding the ongoing issues with sewage at Ard na Guala Duibhe, Moville.

24.63.04 Bottle Bank – Moville

Cllr Martin Farren thanked the Environment Section for the works that was carried out at the Bottle Bank in Moville.

24.63.05 Dog Fouling

Cllr Martin Farren acknowledged that the dog fouling bags were restocked in the dispenser at Moville Green. He outlined that over 800 bags were being used at this location every week and the service was being abused. He stated that dog owners should ensure that they provide their own dog fouling bags and the dispenser should only be used in an emergency.

24.63.06 Coastal Erosion

Cllr Ali Farren requested that coastal erosion / beach access be made a priority. He outlined that the threat of coastal erosion and lack of preventative measures are real issues and needs to be addressed. The lack of proper access to our beaches also needs to be addressed as the County depend on our coast for tourism. He referred to a letter from Minister O'Donovan in April 2022 which recommended action from the coastal team with Donegal County Council.

Cllr Joy Beard concurred with these comments and asked how the council was monitoring coastal erosion and asked that preventative measures be put in place.

Cllr Jack Murray advised members that he has received interest from a university in Netherlands who are looking for an Irish partner regarding the protection of sand dunes in Donegal and he has referred this request to the Director of Service for consideration.

Matthew Byrne agreed to follow up with the coastal team.

24.63.07 Defective Concrete Blocks

Cllr Paul Canning queried if waste materials from demolished homes affected by defective concrete blocks are considered waste if it remains on site and what was the timeframe to dispose of such materials. He queried where slates can be recycled. Cllr Joy Beard concurred

with these comments and requested a leaflet be made available to inform the public on what items and where people can recycle material from their property.

Matthew Byrne advised members that at present concrete has to go to a waste collector and cannot be recycled. The Council are currently funding its own study to try to give assurance to EPA that materials can be used/crushed for roads etc.

Cllr Paul Canning queried if waste material can be stored on site until clarification is sought and will this affect grant payment?

24.63.08 Mill River Conservation Group

Cllr Joy Beard raised concerns about the erosion of the dam at the Mill River Buncrana. She outlined the risk to nearby residential properties.

Cllr Terry Crossan concurred with these comments and outlined serious impediment to the migration of salmonids and action needs to be taken.

24.63.09 Ned's Point

Cllr Jack Murray referred to his previous request to have handrails installed at Ned's Point, Buncrana as there are a number of sea swimmers using the area. Matthew Byrne agreed to follow up.

24.64 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Fiona Doherty, Development Officer, Community & Enterprise presented the report, and it was taken as read. She updated the members on recently completed projects as outlined in the report.

The members were advised that Fiona Doherty was moving to a different role and introduced Helen Farren, Development Officer, Community Development as her replacement.

The members collectively thanked Fiona Doherty for her help and support and welcomed Helen Farren into the role.

24.64.01 An Grianán of Aileach Fort

Fiona Doherty updated members that it is hoped that a draft plan will be available for discussion in the first quarter of 2025 regarding An Grianán of Aileach Fort.

24.64.02 Donegal Walks and Trails

Following a query raised by Cllr Albert Doherty at a previous Inishowen Municipal District meeting, Fiona Doherty advised that the Outdoor Recreational Development Officer engage with all stakeholders and landowners regarding the Craigtown/Glenagannon walk in the first quarter of 2025.

24.64.03 Moville Town and Village Renewal Project

Cllr Martin Farren thanked Fiona Doherty and the team for the tremendous work that was carried out in Moville.

24.64.04 Vacant Building - Carndonagh

Cllr Albert Doherty thanked Fiona Doherty for her ongoing engagement with all stakeholders in relation to the derelict Council building in Carndonagh.

24.64.05 Town & Village Renewal Scheme

Cllr Albert Doherty acknowledged the work that was carried out at Barrack Hill Town Park where an accessible sheltered outdoor unit is almost complete.

24.64.06 Community Recognition Fund 2024

Following a query from Cllr Ali Farren regarding the Community Recognition Fund, Fiona Doherty advised members that the closing date for applications was 14th November 2024 and applications are currently being assessed.

24.64.07 Friar Hegarty Walk Project

Following a query from Cllr Jack Murray, Fiona Doherty advised that it envisaged that the Friar Hegarty Walk Project will be completed in first quarter of 2025.

24.64.08 Golf Club, Buncrana

Cllr Jack Murray thanked Fiona Doherty for her engagement with the secretary of the Buncrana Golf Club.

24.64.09 Rural Regeneration and Development

Cllr Ali Farren referred to a Feasibility study that was submitted to the council in 2023 relating to carrying out large scale events in the Inishowen area. Cllr Ali Farren advised the meeting that due to lack of support from members, the project was not progressed and asked that a meeting be arranged with all stakeholders. Fiona Doherty agreed to follow up with the relevant service.

24.65 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Deirdre Harte, Project Officer, Economic Development presented the report and it was taken as read. She highlighted the following items from the report –

- #BuyDonegal Campaign will commence on 25th November for four weeks.
- Donegal Tech Advocates Event was held on 28th November which was extremely successful.
- Holiday World Show event will take place in the RDS, Dublin on 24th – 26th January 2025.
- Donegal Golf Brochure will be launched in January 2025.
- Night-Time Economy Buncrana is part of the national anti-social campaign ‘Safe & Sound.’
- Energy Efficiency Grants closing date 20th December 2024.
- Donegal Enterprise Awards will take place on 6th December where six businesses have been shortlisted for the awards.

24.65.01 Tourism - Fáilte Ireland

Cllr Martin Farren proposed that a meeting be arranged with Fáilte Ireland and Cllr Jack Murray seconded this request. Cllr Martin Farren also requested that adequate brochures are available for the upcoming tourist season.

24.65.02 Northwest City Region

Cllr Albert Doherty requested that a letter be sent to the appropriate minister to ensure that Northwest City Region is included in the Project Ireland 2040 – The National Planning Framework. Cllr Terry Crossan concurred with this request. Deirdre Harte advised Cllr Albert Doherty that Northwest City Region and Donegal County Council both put forward submissions to The National Planning Framework but none of the issues or recommendations were addressed. It is planned to raise the issue at plenary level to decide on the next step.

24.65.03 Public Lighting – Swan Park

Cllr Jack Murray queried if there was any funding available for the provision of public lighting at Swan Park when the Christmas markets were taking place.

24.66 ROADS AND TRANSPORTATION

Michael McFadden, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, and Transportation presented the report to the members, and it was taken as read. The members were provided with an update on the following -

- Restoration Improvement Programme 2024
- Restoration Maintenance Programme 2024
- Drainage Provision Programme 2024
- Low-Cost Safety Programme 2024
- Bridge Strengthening Programme 2024

The members collectively thanked the members for all the work carried out by the Roads Service throughout the year.

24.66.01 Updates from Previous Meeting

- Traffic Counter at Clar Corner Merville – Counter will not be put in place over the Christmas period as this will give a false reading.
- Crossroads, Greencastle – liaising with An Garda Síochána.
- Road Crossing at Centra, Merville – Area engineer is in discussions with NTA engineer.
- Mountain Road, Carndonagh – liaising with An Garda Síochána.
- Extra signage was erected at Cedar Grove, Cherry Avenue and Donagh Park, Carndonagh.
- Scoil Treasa Naofa, Malin – lights are reported to Roads Central Office for repair.
- Cockhill Road, Buncrana – This will be included in the Restoration Improvement Programme 2025.
- Community Involvement Scheme – works are complete at Drung Chapel.

24.66.02 Buncrana Parking Charges

It was proposed by Cllr Jack Murray and seconded by Cllr Terry Crossan that revenue from Buncrana parking charges would be used for the purchase of a lawn mower and the refurbishment of Council building at Nailors Row for Buncrana Tidy Town Committee.

24.66.03 Traffic Calming Measures

Cllr Martin Farren acknowledged the update regarding Crossroads, Greencastle and requested additional calming measures to be put in place.

Cllr Albert Doherty requested that appropriate measure be put in place for traffic emerging from Ballyloskey Road onto the main road Carndonagh.

24.66.04 Public Lighting

Cllr Martin Farren advised that a number of lights require attention at Battery Brae, Greencastle and requested that this matter be followed up.

Cllr Fionán Bradley acknowledged the ongoing work carried out by Electric skyline ESL.

24.66.05 Road Markings

Cllr Joy Beard requested that that road markings on the approach to Swan Park require attention.

24.66.06 Winter Maintenance Programme

The following routes were requested to be included for gritting/salting –

Cllr Martin Farren - Upper Road, Shroove, Greencastle

Cllr Martin McDermott – Urris to Clonmany road

Cllrs Ali Farren and Fionán Bradley, Cllr Martin Farren – Cloontagh National School.

Cllr Fionán Bradley and Cllr Jack Murray – Illies National School

Cllr Paul Canning – Monreah National School

Cllr Martin McDermott – Craigtown National School

Cllr Jack Murray – Drumfires, National School

Cllr Joy Beard sought clarification on how often salt bins are replenished.

Michael McFadden advised that girt piles are provided on untreated roads. Bryan Cannon advised that any review in extending or changing the current routes would be decided at Plenary Council.

24.66.07 Harbour Master, Greencastle

Cllr Martin Farren requested an update on the position of Harbour Master, Greencastle. Bryan Cannon advised that it is envisaged that this position will be filled in the near future and will have responsibility for all piers in the Inishowen area.

24.66.08 Muff

Cllr Terry Crossan advised that the traffic lights in Muff are currently not in operation and asked that this be investigated.

Cllr Terry Crossan also requested that maintenance work be carried out on the road opposite the playpark in Muff.

24.66.09 Local Improvement Scheme

Following a query from Cllr Terry Crossan, Michael McFadden clarified that one herd number is required when applying for a Local Improvement Scheme.

Following a query raised by Cllr Ali Farren, Michael McFadden advised that applications should be submitted as soon as possible for consideration.

24.66.10 Resurfacing Work – Lagg Road, Malin

Cllr Ali Farren acknowledged the resurfacing works that recently took place at Lagg Road, Malin and stated that signage along this stretch of road needs to be reinstated.

24.66.11 Mountain Road, Carndonagh

Cllr Ali Farren highlighted the need for realignment of the Mountain Road, Carndonagh to Drumfires. He outlined that there is a lot of hidden dips and crests and outlined the need for a crash barrier and additional signage. Michael McFadden advised that this was regional route and would require significant strategic funding and design.

24.66.12 Knockamany

Cllr Ali Farren requested that passing bays be installed at Knockamany, Malin Head on the approach to Wild Alpaca Way. Cllr Albert Doherty concurred with these comments.

24.66.13 Mill Bridge

Cllr Joy Beard, Cllr Fionán Bradley and Cllr Jack Murray requested an update regarding the Mill Bridge, Buncrana and asked that a solution be found as soon as possible.

24.66.14 Tooban Junction

Cllr Joy Beard and Cllr Jack Murray requested an update regarding the Tooban Junction as previously highlighted. Michael McFadden agreed to follow up.

24.66.15 Swan Park, Buncrana

Following concerns raised Cllr Joy Beard regarding the surface at O'Doherty's Bridge in Swan Park, she was advised that this was in private ownership and not maintained by the Council.

Cllr Jack Murray queried if there was any funding available for the provision of public lighting at Swan Park when the Christmas markets were taking place.

24.66.16 Drainage / Gully Cleaning

Cllr Fionán Bradley requested gully cleaning and jetting within estates affected by recent storms and flooding.

Cllr Albert Doherty requested that drains be cleared along the Black Mountain Road, Malin Head.

24.66.17 Flags/Bunting

Cllr Fionán Bradley queried what the policy was in relation to flags in the County. Bryan Cannon advised that a policy needs to be developed at Plenary Level.

24.66.18 Road Signage

Cllr Albert Doherty requested the replacement of signage in Malin and at the Brachán House, Carndonagh.

24.66.19 Crash Barrier

Cllr Paul Canning requested a crash barrier be installed along the M13 at Killyberry, Newtowncunningham.

24.66.20 Birdstown Junction

Cllr Paul Canning requested the realignment of the Birdstown Junction.

24.66.21 Footpath – Malin Town

Cllr Martin McDermott requested that a footpath between Malin and Scoil Teresa Naofa be progressed.

24.66.22 Gleneely Junction

Cllr Martin Farren requested that the junction at Gleneely be revisited as recent works carried out were causing difficulty for Heavy Goods Vehicles.

24.67 HOUSING & CORPORATE SERVICES

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

The members collectively thanked the Housing and Corporate Service for all their work throughout the year.

24.67.02 Naomh Padraig Uisce Chaoín

it was proposed by Cllr Terry Crossan, seconded by Cllr Fionán Bradley and agreed by all the Inishowen Members that the outstanding achievement of Naomh Padraig Uisce Chaoín winning the Ulster Junior Championship, be recognised by way of a Civic Reception.

24.67.03 Schedule of Inishowen Municipal District Meetings 2025

On the proposal of Jack Murray and agreed by Cllr Fionán Bradley, the Schedule of Inishowen Municipal District Meetings for 2025 as outlined in the Housing and Corporate report were agreed.

24.67.04 Consider Date for Workshops

It was agreed that a workshop on Casual Trading Bye Laws would take place on Tuesday 14th January 2025 at 11am.

24.67.05 Social Housing Development

Eamon Mahon, Senior Executive Engineer, Housing updated members that the contractors are appointed for the proposed Social Housing developments at Carndonagh, Gleneely and Malin and works are due to commence shortly.

Eamon Mahon updated members that a contractor will be appointed to carry out works to the former Garda Station and residence in Malin Town subject to Departmental approval.

24.67.05 Single Rural Dwellings

Eamon Mahon advised members that there are currently two SI dwellings progressing in the Inishowen Municipal District as outlined in the report.

24.67.07 Defective Concrete Blocks

Cllr Fionán Bradley referred to a number of Council properties that are currently vacant due to defective concrete blocks. He requested that the outside of these houses is tidied up and rubbish cleared as there are tenants living in the housing estates.

Cllr Martin Farren & Cllr Albert Doherty raised concerns regarding defective concrete blocks in Ard Na Guala Duibhe, Moville.

Cllr Albert Doherty, Cllr Jack Murray and Cllr Joy Beard advised that it is unacceptable that there is currently no scheme in place for the remediation of social houses. Cllr Joy Beard outlined the difficulties for families living in social houses affected with defective concrete blocks and asked that every effort be made to remediate these houses as soon as possible.

Cllr Martin McDermott outlined the ongoing engagement with the Council and Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and advised that a further meeting will take place this week. Cllr Martin McDermott requested that the Council continue to carry out temporary remedial works while an appropriate scheme is in place to address social houses.

Cllr Terry Crossan requested that members concerns are conveyed at the meeting.

24.67.08 Emergency Accommodation

Cllr Albert Doherty referred to a family that recently lost their home in a fire and asked that every assistance be provided. Una Cresswell advised of the process in relation to emergency accommodation.

24.67.09 Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability

Cllr Paul Canning stated that an applicant applying for a Housing Adaption Grant can employ their own Occupational Therapist and this should be highlighted to applicants as an option.

Cllr Terry Crossan acknowledged the work carried out in the delivery of Housing Adaptation Grants.

24.67.10 St Charles-Inishowen Sister Cities Partnership

At the Inishowen Municipal District Meeting held on 03rd September 2024, it was agreed that Cllr Jack Murray Cathaoirleach would visit St Charles for the Missouri River Irish Festival which will take place on 23rd to 25th May 2025. A discussion took place regarding sending additional representatives to this event and it was agreed that if additional members wished to attend, they could do so from their own resources.

24.67.11 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting to be held on 14th January 2025 at 1pm.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Certified:

Cathaoirleach

Date: _____

Area Manager

Date: _____



Inishowen MD Meeting
14th January 2025

	Item	Update	
1	Development Applications		
	(1) Statistics	Inishowen MD Totals Year to End December 2024	
		Applications received	675
		Granted	463
		Refused	37
		Deferred	163
		Invalid	123

Applications to End December 2024

Category	Stranorlar	Letterkenny	Inishowen	Glenties	Donegal
Invalid	38	92	123	70	69
Deferred	77	159	163	159	97
Refused	10	27	37	25	31
Granted	189	459	463	310	254
Apps Recd	261	642	675	467	403



2	Enforcement		
		Inishowen MD	To end Dec 2024
		New Cases	59
		Closed Cases	47
		Outstanding cases on record since 2012	317
3	Notes & Monthly Schedule	<p>Pre planning clinics are on a telephone call only basis (ring 074 9153900) between 9.00am and 12.30pm on the dates outlined below.</p> <p>The pre planning clinic calls will be taken by the Executive Planners and shall be for substantial applications only.</p> <p><u>Planning Clinics 2025</u> 16th January 2025 30th January, 2025 13th February 2025 27th February 2025</p> <p>Please see website for further dates. Planning Advice Clinics Donegal County Council</p>	
4	Casual Trading		
5	Regeneration & Development		
6	Building Control & Taking in Charge		
7	Central Planning Unit		
8	Capital Projects Delivery Unit	See Appendix A	
9	Conservation		
10	Further Information <i>Click on web links to access information.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weekly List of applications and decisions: Weekly Lists Donegal County Council Planning Service email (to be used in correspondence with the planning service): planning@donegalcoco.ie Planning Webpage: Planning Donegal County Council Planning Application Online Query – Search a Planning Application Donegal County Council <p>File Retrieval Form – to be used for file retrieval and planning search requests: fillable-file-retrieval-planning-application-number-search-request-form.pdf</p>	



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

CAPITAL PROJECTS DELIVERY UNIT

Community Development and Planning Services
Report to Inishowen Municipal District Members: Nov 2024

Activity / Project Title	Tús Nua Project
Project Description/Activity	<p>The Tús Nua Project is a transformative town centre regeneration project in Carndonagh.</p> <p>The project elements are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alteration of the former Leprechaun Bar to create a new through access and public amenities including a changing places facility, • Restoration, alteration and extension of a former Department Store and associated outbuildings to the rear providing for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. a new Digital Fabrication Laboratory (FabLab) and co-working Hub (CoLabora), office space, ii. a Social Space for Young People and Teenagers iii. a community Kitchen, iv. Communal storage, and v. A public realm courtyard with sensory garden. • Creation of a new Pedestrian Street and public realm park between Pound Street/Bank Place and the Supervalu Retail Complex, • The restoration and alteration of a stone outbuilding to a Creative Makers Hub for creative and craft industries; • New demountable canopy feature(s) in the existing Diamond area civic space; • New public realm improvements on Back Lane connecting the Diamond to the Town Car Park and Bridge Street; • 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.
Budget	€ 9.6m
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<p>Detailed design completed and associated tender documents are being reviewed.</p> <p>CPO has been approved by An Bord Pleanála.</p> <p>Back Lane contractor has been appointed with construction to commence in January.</p>

Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	Construction tenders to be published for main project and Back Lane construction works should be ongoing.
Contact Person(s)	Hugh Trearty, Executive Engineer Ardal McDermott, Senior Executive Engineer

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Activity / Project Title	Fort Dunree
Project Description/Activity	<p>Donegal County Council (DCC) has been awarded grant funding of €9,251,000 for Fort Dunree, Co. Donegal under Fáilte Ireland's, Capital investment scheme Platform for Growth – A Programme for Tourism Investment, Platform 1: Immersive Heritage and Cultural Attractions.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The proposed Project comprises of the following key components.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. High Fort: Works to improve existing High Fort 2. High Guns: Restoration of the High Guns 3. Lighthouse: Conservation & refurbishment works 4. Northern Walkway: New projecting walkway 5. Lower Fort Walkway: construction of new walkway & upgrade of access route and drawbridge. 6. The Village: Conservation & upgrade of existing buildings to facilitate, welcome building, toilets, souvenir shop, café etc. 7. Car Park: Provision of improved distribution roads & a new car parking facility 8. Walkways & Watchtower: Upgraded and new walkways and watchtower conservation works 9. Access Routes: Reparatory works to existing pathways and steps.
Budget	€12.5m
Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status	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 issued on the 1 st of August 2024 to An Bord Pleanála for assessment.



	<p>The design team is currently working on Stage 2b (Detailed Design) and the development of the construction tender documentation.</p> <p>The Visitor Experience & 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The Project Programme has been updated as follows:</p> <table><tr><th>Stage</th><th>Start Date</th><th>Finish Date</th></tr><tr><td>Stage 2a Scheme Design</td><td>Jun 2024</td><td>Dec 2025</td></tr><tr><td>Stage 2b Detailed Design **</td><td>Jan 2024</td><td>Jun 2026</td></tr><tr><td>Stage 3 Tender Action, Evaluation & Award</td><td>Jul 2026</td><td>Dec 2026</td></tr><tr><td>Stage 4 Construction</td><td>Jan 2027</td><td>Sept 2028</td></tr><tr><td>Stage 5 Handover, Client Fit Out, training</td><td>Oct 2028</td><td>Aug 2029</td></tr></table> <p>** The duration of the ABP planning process unknown and estimated at 16 months.</p>	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
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Stage 4 Construction	Jan 2027	Sept 2028																	
Stage 5 Handover, Client Fit Out, training	Oct 2028	Aug 2029																	
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 Engineer Brendan O'Donnell, Senior Engineer																		

Activity / Project Title	Repowering Buncrana
Project Description/Activity	<p>The overall objective of the project is to repower Buncrana by regenerating and connecting the coastal 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.</p> <p>The project centres on six key interventions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A new iconic pedestrian bridge over the Mill River connecting the Inishowen Greenway Project and Amazing Grace Park to a transformed harbour/pier environment,



	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The creation of a high performance promenade and Shore Front Green including enhanced walkways, beach access, public realm & festival gathering space and development of a new bespoke public/civic shore green users building, 3. Enhanced connection between the new Shore Front Green environment and the Main Street and commercial core of the town with targeted public realm improvements, 4. Enhanced Shore Front walkway and promenade along the Fishing Green, with dramatic re-imaging of the Amazing Grace viewing point, 5. Onwards connection of the promenade to Swan Park, Buncrana Castle and Cockhill Road 6. The repurposing and extension of the old garda barracks building to create bespoke office accommodation. <p>RRDF Category 2 Funding has been awarded to develop the project ready for a construction tender including securing all necessary statutory consents.</p>
Budget	<p>Total Funding €1,461,746.00 80% Funded by RRDF (€1,169,396) 20% Funded by DCC (€292,349)</p>
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<p>The Tender process to appoint an Integrated Design Team to develop the project has been complete. Robin Lee Architecture have been appointed to deliver the project. The design process has commenced.</p>
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<p>Design process ongoing.</p>
Contact Person(s)	<p>Shane Sweeney, Senior Executive Engineer Brendan O'Donnell, Senior Engineer</p>



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

Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services Directorate

Master Municipal District Report January 2025

Content

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

1. Economic Development

1.1. Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location / Further Info	Point of Contact
2nd Wed of each month	Innovation Campfire	<p>Next Innovation Campfire Series is on Wed Jan 15th at 13:30</p> <p>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.</p> <p>You can watch back by visiting ALPHA Innovation Innovation Campfire — ALPHAInnovation.eu</p>	Kevin Sexton - kevinsexton@alphainnovation.eu
23rd January 2025	Green hydra Multistakeholder Engagement Meeting	<p>The first Regional Multistakeholder meeting for the Interreg Europe Green Hydra project will be held in Colab, ATU Letterkenny on Thursday January 23rd at 1030 to discuss the Hydrogen Landscape in Ireland and areas for collaboration in Donegal.</p> <p>Representatives from the ESB, Hydrogen Ireland and Department of Environment, Climate and Communications will be in Attendance.</p>	Daniel McChrystal – dmcchrystal@donegalcoco.ie

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

Linked In	13,169	5,515 (+17)
Twitter	3.9k	3,434 (+41)
Instagram	13k	5,134 (+82)
Facebook	8k	2,220 (+20)

Donegal.ie 5.4K Web Users

8 News Items Published.

25th Nov 2024 – 15th Dec 2024

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. The campaign will start to roll out in early December, with a launch event to take place in advance. Details to be confirmed soon. This campaign will be a follow-on campaign building upon the success of the previous #MovetoDonegal relocation campaign.

Donegal Emigrants Working Lives in Scotland: The Economic Development Team alongside DCC Culture Division hosted events in Edinburgh and Glasgow to explore the stories of Donegal Emigrants who worked in Scotland and commemorating the ordinary people from the Irish community who contributed to Scottish communities and industry that has often been overlooked or considered too ordinary to be recorded. The series of events was very successful with a high turn out from the Irish community in both cities capturing a variety of important and unique stories of our cultural heritage. Plans are ongoing to expand this project further to mark the 850th birthday of Glasgow with support from the Irish Consulate Service.

#BuyDonegal: The #BuyDonegal / #CeannaighDúnnanGall campaign ran for four weeks, from November 25th to December 20th. During this time, we hosted two live radio broadcasts with Highland and Ocean FM, highlighting the diverse array of exceptional businesses throughout the county. Additionally, we shared weekly features on social media to amplify these businesses online.

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 third Donegal Tech Advocates event took place in Donegal ETB Letterkenny with the theme “The Opportunities and Challenges for Tech in Donegal” which saw three companies present on their experiences and resources utilised for upskilling their staff. The final event takes place on the 28th of November hosted by Optum.

Business Concierge Service

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

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.

Donegal businesses take part in Go-To-Market Lab in Boston

Entrepreneurs from the North West City Region, will prepare for scaling their start-ups and refine their Go-To-Market export strategy. This program is tailored for high-growth enterprises poised to expand internationally. While in the US, founders will be based in the renowned *Cambridge Innovation Centre (CIC)*, where they will have the opportunity to stress-test their business models with US experts and sharpen their value propositions.

Participation is fully funded, and qualifying companies can claim up to 50% off flights and accommodation subject to meeting the conditions of Donegal LEO.

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: Q1 2025.

Marketing Campaign: to commence Q1 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: Q4 2027.

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

Inward Investment Activity

North West City Region

US Trade Mission 2024 & Golden Bridges

The US Trade Mission took place from 11th to 15th November 2024 and was a very successful trade mission that incorporated both meetings and events showcasing the North West City Region.

This year's North West City Region delegation included representatives from both Donegal County Council and Derry City and Strabane District Council, with both the Mayor of Derry City and Strabane District Council, Cllr. Lillian Seeno Barr and Cathaoirleach of Donegal County Council, Cllr. Niamh Kennedy attending along with Chief Executives, John G. McLaughlin and John Kelpie, Directors of Service and Heads of Departments and Kevin Sexton of Alpha Innovation. Representatives from the North West Tertiary Education Cluster along with representatives from Udarás na Gaeltachta also attended.

The objective is to raise the profile of the North West City Region in the US and promote the region's value proposition for inward investment and deliver the Pathfinder II programme supporting businesses who wish to scale into the US market.

US Trade Mission Activities 2024:

- On 11th November, the delegation attended a welcome reception at the Donegal Philadelphia Association Diaspora Centre where there was an opportunity to build relationships with the Diaspora and raise awareness of the value proposition of the NWCR from an economic development perspective.
- Organised through our membership of the IABCN (Irish American Business Chamber and Network) in Philadelphia the delegation attended a reception at Philadelphia City Hall hosted by Mayor Parker's Chief of Staff, Pierre-Olivier on 12th November. This was an opportunity to strengthen the economic relations between Philadelphia and the NWCR.
- A visit to Project HOME, an initiative of Sister Mary Scullion took place on 12th November. This project looks at housing, employment, medical care and education for those who are homeless.
- The delegation travelled to Villanova University on 12th November, where the Mayor and Cathaoirleach took part in a panel discussion on 'women in leadership' moderated by Professor

of Politics, Cera Murtagh. This was followed by a meeting with Dr. Anthony Green, MedTech/Innovation expert at Benjamin Franklin Technology Centre.

- On Wednesday 13th November, the delegation travelled to Boston and attended a State House reception hosted by Senator Nick Collins where they discussed opportunities to collaborate with the NWCR. A visit to JFK library followed.
- On Thursday 14th November, the delegation participated in a NWCR business breakfast discussion moderated by Invest NI Chair, John Healy and co-hosted by the Irish Consulate and British Consulate offices in Boston. This was followed by a 'Speaker Series' event hosted by the Irish Consul General, Sighle Fitzgerald. This included a discussion with the Mayor and Cathaoirleach moderated by Mary Murphy, Irish Institute, Boston College covering a range of topics highlighting the benefits of investing in the NWCR.
- On the afternoon of 14th November, the Mayor/Cathaoirleach, Chief Executives and Directors of Service met with Governor Maura Healey at the State House to discuss the NWCR in terms of FDI, Diaspora, key sectors and to discuss collaboration opportunities between the US and the NWCR.
- The NWCR Irish Consulate evening reception and presentation of the Golden Bridges Awards took place on 14th November.
- The annual Golden Bridges Conference took place on 15th November 2024, and this included several panel discussions on the economic opportunities in the NWCR.
- Pathfinder II is a programme designed to support businesses who wish to enter the US market. It is as a result of collaborative partnership between Donegal County Council and Derry City & Strabane District Council under the North West Strategic Trade and Investment Programme 2024. 6 businesses participated in Pathfinder II in 2024.

Promoting the NWCR

A new brochure and video highlighting the value proposition of the NWCR were produced for this year's NWCR US Trade Mission and promoted throughout the week. Link to [video on YouTube](#)

The North West City Region is promoted online via the website www.irelandnw.com 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

Construction of enabling infrastructure began in December and it is expected that enabling infrastructure will be complete by Q2/Q3 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 in Ballyshannon, Letterkenny and Buncrana.

Contact Persons

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

1.2: Tourism Marketing Unit

Project Activity

TBEX

Donegal Tourism is thrilled to host TBEX - Europe (Travel Blog Exchange) in September 2025, a major 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.

Holiday World Show 2024

This event is taking place in the RDS, Dublin from Fri 24th – Sun 26th January 2025. It is anticipated that the show will attract over 550 exhibitors, and 40,000 attendees over the weekend. Seventeen providers from across the county have confirmed their intentions to attend the show under the umbrella of Donegal Tourism. The Tourism Unit are liaising with the show organisers in relation to PR in advance of the show and securing prizes for the show competition.

Details are available on the Show website: <https://www.holidayworldshow.com/>

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.

Donegal Tourism Brochure 2025

Finalising an A4 and A5 brochure including new categories such as Distilleries. A provision to print 15,000 has been made to distribute to key partners and trade.

Walking Trails Promotion

Procuring video production and promotion for walking trails in 2025 partnering with the Outdoor Recreation team.

Donegal Golf Brochure

Donegal Golf Brochure New Donegal Golf Brochure almost at completion following consultation with all 17 golf clubs in the county. It is planned to launch this brochure in February 2025. The brochure will be printed in January and be available for trade shows. It is proposed to print 5,000 copies of the brochure.

Golf Promotion Plan for 2025

Finalising promotion plan for golf promotion in 2025.

Best of the Northwest Golf Collaboration

Work continues with our colleagues in Derry City/Strabane District Council as the project comes to an end – a digital campaign will go live in January to promote the Best of the North West. A PR campaign to include fam trips and media features will also get underway in the early new year. A representative from

Donegal Tourism and Visit Derry will attend the annual PGA Golf Show in Orlando in January under the collaboration project.

Tourism Seminar 2025

Planning continues for the annual Tourism Seminar which will be jointly hosted by Donegal County Council and Failte Ireland on Wednesday 5th March during Local Enterprise Week. The event will also act as a networking event for the tourism trade in the county and will take place during Enterprise Week 2025.

Night-Time Economy (NTE) Buncrana

NTE Buncrana as part of the national NTE anti-social behaviour campaign 'Safe & Sound' has launched and will feature in bars and venues in Buncrana and beyond, on local radio, social media and newspapers. We also launched a promotional Christmas video that encouraged people to visit Buncrana for the Buncrana Christmas Markets.

The NTE Action Plan is in the process of being drafted and it will be ready in the New Year. The NTE Steering Group will be established in January.

TOURBO

As TOURBO Semester 4 progresses, the new Tourism Strategy (2025-2030) is being forwarded as Donegal County Council's 'Policy Instrument.' The 'Good Practices' of TOURBO's Project Partners are being reviewed by DCC's TOURBO Team with a view to identifying potential frameworks that may be of benefit in the Tourism Strategy, in line with TOURBO's overarching objectives. It is agreed that Donegal will host our TOURBO Partner meeting in Autumn 2025.

Sustainable Arctic & Peripheral Biking Tourism Project (SUB)

Now half way through the workshop series, the 2nd SUB Workshop, which centred around Entrepreneurial Skills, took place in Sweeney's Hotel, An Clochán Liath, on the 3rd of December. Our speakers included Ireland on Bike, Udaras na Gaelteachta and Electric Bike Downings. Everyone who attended shared insights and contributed to entrepreneurial skills within the biking tourism sector in Donegal. The next workshop, which will focus on Sustainability & Responsibility will take place on Tuesday 4th February in Harvey's Point, Lough Eske. Registration is now open.

Planning also continues for the SUB Peer-to-Peer programme and Partner Meeting which Donegal will host next March and April respectively.

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. Donegal County Councils "Working Holiday Campaign 2022 & 2023" has been highlighted and accepted as the first good practice on the program. In semester 3 Donegal County Council will host a study visit of other project partners to the county.

GoVisitDonegal.com Website
<p>Go Visit Donegal Website</p> <p>Kick Off meeting has taken place with web developers to outline requirements and expectations for the new version of the go visit Donegal website which will be launched in 2025. Registration on the website by all trade will be encouraged.</p> <p>2024 (Nov) - Users 15,439- Page Views 36K</p> <p>Festival and Events is the most viewed page – views 3,160</p> <p>Your Wild Atlantic Way is the second most viewed page – views 1,903</p> <p>Online & Social Media Updates – Go Visit Donegal Nov 2024</p> <p>Facebook: Reach: 34.3k, Views: 34k</p> <p>Instagram: Reach: 3.3k, Views: 5.5k</p> <p>LinkedIn: Reach: 6,690 Imps,136 Reactions, 2030 Followers</p> <p>TikTok: Followers: 1,456</p>
<p>Donegal Tourism CLG</p> <p>The next associates committee meeting is scheduled for January 21st in the Donegal MD.</p> <p>The board met in Dungloe on December 17th.</p>
Grant Schemes
<p>Minor Tourism Related Works Grant Scheme</p> <p>Successful projects under the 2024 scheme have been notified. Funding for this scheme must be drawn down by June 30th, 2025.</p> <p>The 2023 projects are nearing completion, and the tourism team are following up with each of the groups in relation to drawing down the grant.</p> <p>Regional Festival & Events Grant Scheme</p> <p>€49,750 has was awarded to Donegal County Council under the 2025 Fáilte Ireland Regional Festival Funding Scheme. The tourism team are following up with each of the festival groups in relation to drawing down the 2024 scheme.</p>
<p>Contact Person</p> <p>Sarah Nolan, Acting Head of Tourism Unit sarahnolan@donegalcoco.ie 074 91 94241</p>

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
<p>INTERREG Europe Project</p> <p>Green Hydra</p> <p>The Green Hydra project focusing on the barriers and opportunities around innovation in hydrogen as a renewable energy source kicked off in April 2024. The scope of this project is to improve national, regional or local policies for involving SME's across the whole hydrogen value chain. The first in person partner Steering Committee meeting took place in Ravenna, Italy on 18th and 19th September and this included a capacity building workshop focused on 'Understanding the green hydrogen value chain', a study visit to Marina di Ravenna Energy and Sea Research Centre and SAPIR port terminal to see how other regions are working with green hydrogen as a renewable energy source.</p> <p>The first Regional Multistakeholder meeting will be held in Colab Letterkenny on Thursday January 23rd at 1030 to look at the Hydrogen Landscape in Ireland and areas for collaboration in Donegal. Representatives from the ESB, Hydrogen Ireland and Department of Environment, Climate and Communications will be in Attendance.</p> <p>ICC – Intelligent Cities Challenge</p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Contact Person</p> <p>Marion Callaghan – Staff Officer Marioncallaghan@donegalcoco.ie</p>

2. Local Enterprise Office

November 2024 (Year to Date Supports)

Grant Aid (M1) – Six Evaluation Committee meetings have taken place for 2024 with the following approvals:

- 50 Businesses have been approved Grant Aid
- The total value of Grant Aid Approvals is €1,057,387.97.
- The next EVAC meeting is taking place on 25th February, 2025.

Trading Online Vouchers: 59 TOVs approved this year totalling €125,353.05.

Mentoring: 389 business applicants approved up to 12 hours expert mentoring.

Training: 1495 Attendees on 71 Courses held.

Digital Start: 10 applications approved for this support to a value of €40,284.

Green for Business/Green For Micro: 39 applicants approved for these supports to a value of €86,346.

Energy Efficiency Grants: 7 applicants approved for this support to a value of €50,000.

Lean For Business: 22 applicants approved for this support to a value of €100,000.

Trading Online Voucher (TOV) scheme will close permanently on the 13th December 2024.

Applications submitted on or before this date will be processed as normal. The final TOV workshop for LEO Donegal will take place on Wednesday 4th December via Zoom. Moving forward, businesses looking for digital supports will be directed to the [Digital For Business](#) and [Grow Digital](#) schemes.

Donegal Enterprise Awards: The annual Enterprise Awards will take place on Friday December 6th at Rockhill House from 11.30am to celebrate the best in Donegal business during 2024. Six businesses have been shortlisted for the awards. Invites have been issued to all Elected Members.

Energy Efficiency Grant: The current closing date for the Energy Efficiency Grant is 20th December 2024. Businesses who have completed a Green for Business programme or SEAI Energy Audit, with less than 50 employees, can avail of the grant.

Export Development Programme: 4 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. This will be followed by market visits and buyer meetings in these markets.

Get Exporting Programme: At least three Donegal businesses have been selected to progress to Stage 2 of the *Get Exporting* Accelerator Programme. This stage, which consists of four half-day workshops, will run from October 2024 to January 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): Representatives from LEO Donegal recently attended The Enterprise Europe Network Annual Conference 2024 which was held in Budapest, Hungary from the 6th-8th November. This year's event, titled "Boosting the potential of European SMEs", saw over 750 Network members and partners from 55 countries, gather for three days of expert insights and collaboration, involving 160 speakers, in what was a highly successful event.

Start Your Own Business Training Programme: The next Start Your Own Business Programme will commence on Tuesday 7th January, 2025.

LEO Business Supports Clinic take place twice per month – on-line and in-person at locations throughout the county. As well as learning of LEO supports, all attendees will get the opportunity for one-to-one business advice. The next clinic is an in-person event and is taking place on Friday 22nd November, 2024 in the Inishowen Innovation centre in Buncrana.

To book a place at any of the aforementioned events go to [Online Bookings - Donegal \(localenterprise.ie\)](#)

Contact Person

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

3. Information Services

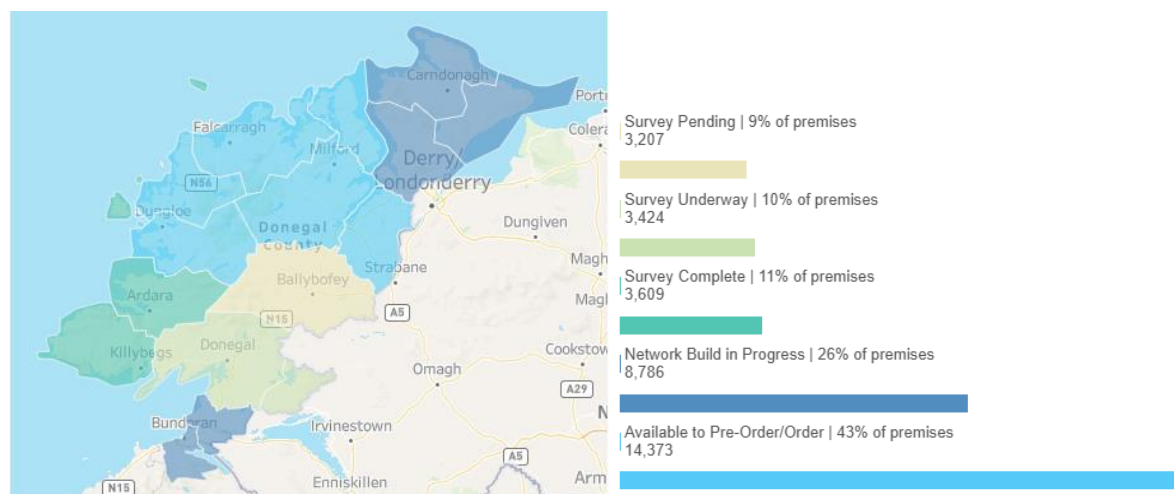
Information Services (IS)

National Broadband Plan

The rollout of the NBP continues in County Donegal. This is a government investment of €128m into the telecommunications infrastructure in the county, bringing fibre broadband to every premises in the Intervention Area.

The Letterkenny, Creeslough, Termon, St. Johnston, Bunbeg, Fintown and small Island deployment areas are complete and actively connecting customers.

These deployment areas cover 14,373 premises or 43% of the Intervention Area. Network build is in progress in the 5 deployment areas of Carndonagh, Buncrana, Moville, Bundoran, Ballyshannon, totalling 8,786 premises or 26% of the IA. Surveying is complete in the Ardara, Killybegs, Arranmore & Tory Island deployment areas covering 3,609 premises or 11% of the IA. Surveying is now underway in the Donegal and Pettigo Deployment areas of 3,424 premises, or 10% of the IA. 3,207 premises, or 9% of the IA, in the deployment area of Ballybofey/Stranorlar are at survey pending stage. NBI are currently planning Active Equipment Module builds on the islands to connect to the mainland. To keep informed of the rollout plan in Donegal we encourage people to register their interest with; <https://www.nbi.ie>



Winter Maintenance Programme

As the winter maintenance programme has started and the first frosts and snows of the season have fallen, our winter dashboard highlights the roads to be gritted every evening. Register with www.mapalarter.ie/donegal to receive weather related alerts.

<https://donegal.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/989516ab92554f10ae6b3b7338e80063>

EU Projects:

The Interreg funded **CIVITEC** project met in Jaén, Spain for its 2nd project meeting on 6th – 7th November. Civitec is about making the democratic process more participatory, inclusive and responsive by enhancing citizen involvement through new digital tools and processes. Donegal County Council presented 2 case studies on using GIS tool to encourage online participation.



The Interreg funded **ENAIBLER** project met in San Sebastian Spain on 13th – 14th November

The study visit gave an opportunity to delve into the latest advancements in AI technology and it's impact on various sectors by bringing together experts, researchers, and industry leaders to explore the transformative power of artificial intelligence and advocate for responsible AI practices.



T&S V7 Pilot

Donegal County Council participated as pilot site for the recent T&S (travel and subsistence) V7 upgrade with LGMA. Key elements of the T&S V7 is the additional categorisation of vehicle types and receipts to facilitate SEAI reporting along with enhanced processing features.

Contact Person

Siobhán Foy, Head of Information Systems
074 9172404 e-mail: sfoy@donegalcoco.ie

4. Emergency Services

4.1 – Fire Service

Fire Service Monthly MD Report (January)

Activity	Number of: (November) ¹		Total for year	
<u>Fire Service Operations</u>				
Fire Brigade incidents within County Donegal**:	62		745	
Mobilisations (by Donegal Fire Service Brigades)**:	71		868	
Mobilisations into Donegal (by NI Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS))**:	7		107	
<u>Operational Activity Breakdown November 2024</u>	Turnouts		Incidents in County	
	Fires	Special Services	Fires	Special Services
Donegal Fire Service	20	51	18	37
Northern Ireland Fire Service	2	5	2	5
Sub Total	22	56	20	42
Total	78		62	
<u>Fire Prevention</u>				
Fire Safety Certificate applications received:	8		174	
Fire Safety Certificates waiting to be assessed:	29		N/A	
Fire Safety Certificate applications assessed by the Fire Officer and waiting for Further Information from the Applicant / Agent:	56		N/A	
Fire Safety Certificate decisions made:	9		145	
Applications for Dangerous Substance Licences received:	0		10	
Dangerous Substance Licences issued:	1		6	
Form of notice received under the Explosives Act, 1875:	8		47	
Inspections and Auditing carried out (Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003, Annual Licensing, DSA 1972, Explosive Stores, Pyrotechnics, BCA 1992 & 2007):	10		204	
Fire Safety Complaints received:	1		21	

Fire Safety Complaints dealt with:	1	21
During Performance Inspections carried out:	0	0
Fire Safety awareness presentations delivered:	18 ²	120

1. **Current data is only available up to the end of November 2024.**
2. **As part of its community fire safety programme, Donegal Fire Service facilitated fire station open days in Moville & Carndonagh Fire Stations. Carndonagh, Buncrana, Milford, Moville & Letterkenny Fire Brigades provided fire safety presentations/station visits/talks at various events throughout the County whilst 10 No. home fire safety visits were also completed.**

Community Development and Planning Directorate
Community Development Division



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

Municipal District of Inishowen
Meeting 1 pm on Tuesday 14th January 2025

1. Malin Head Visitor Management Plan
2. An Grianán of Aileach Fort
3. Friar Hegarty Walk project.
4. Playground Maintenance
5. Donegal Walks and Trails
6. Buncrana School Campus
7. 2021 Town and Village Renewal funding – Moville – Completed
8. 2021 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) project Development Measure for a pontoon at the existing jetty in Bunagee
9. 2022 Town and Village Renewal funding – Barrack Hill Town Park
10. Moville Shore Path Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme
11. 2023 Clár funding for Malin GAA, Carrowmenagh and Gleneely Colts.
12. 2024 Clár funding for Culdaff Football Grounds & Glengad Football Grounds
13. Rural Development Programme/LEADER
14. Local Enhancement Programme 2025
15. Healthy Donegal update
16. Social Inclusion Unit



Municipal District: Inishowen Activity / Project Update: January 2025

Activity / Project Title	Malin Head Visitor Management Plan
Activity / Project Description	<p><u>Malin Head Access & Amenity Improvement Project.</u></p> <p>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.</p>
<p>Progress to date within the last two months/quarter* - inclusive of current status</p> <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p>	<p><u>Visitor Management Plan for Malin Head Signature Discovery Point Project</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Keys and Monaghan Architects together with Cooney Architects have been appointed to Design the Malin Head Visitor Management Plan and Concept design. • 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. • There were four successful Stakeholder Engagement workshops held on the 8th May in Malin Head Community Centre, 9th May McGrory's Hotel Culdaff, Tuesday 14th May in the Colgan Hall, Carndonagh and Malin Village Hall on the 15th May with over 310 people in attendance over the four evenings. • 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. • 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. • To proceed with this, the Council must acquire the necessary lands upon which the development is to proceed. • A workshop took place on the 28th November 2023 • 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 provided by Mr. Liam Ward, Director of Service at the workshop meeting held on the 28th of November 2023. • Mr. Liam Ward, Director of Service circulated a report on Wednesday 31st January 2024 outlining a roadmap with timelines to deliver the Malin Head Visitor Management Plan. • Mr. Liam Ward, Director of Service circulated an update to the Elected Members on Friday 9th August in relation to the Malin Head Visitor Management Plan. James Kelly, Senior Engineer and John Deeney, Executive Engineer will be available in the

	<p>Carndonagh PSC Chamber on Friday 6th September from 9am to 4pm to discuss the project with property owners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A workshop meeting is taken place with the Director of Service, Divisional Manager, Senior Executive Engineer, and Executive Engineer on Tuesday 3rd December at 11.30 am prior to the Inishowen Municipal District Meeting.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period	<p><u>January 2025 update</u></p> <p>Workshop took place 03rd December 2024. As discussed, further updates will be made available in due course.</p>
Contact Person	James Kelly, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Mobile 087 2236923



Activity / Project Update:

January 2025

Activity / Project Title	An Grianán of Aileach Fort
Project Description/ Activity	Development /Improvement of Visitor facilities/Conservation Plan
<p>Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status</p> <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p>	<p>Historical background</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A meeting took place on Tuesday 7th February 2017 with Mr. Frank Shalvey and Mr. Eoghan Moyla, senior OPW officials, Fáilte 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. • In June 2019, the OPW officially appointed Blackwood Associates Architects to provide a Conservation and Management plan. • 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 18th November 2019. Contributions from the Councillors was documented by the consultations and will be addressed in the plan. • A copy of the completed Conservation and Management plan was circulated to the Elected Members in January 2021. • This plan sets out the implementation strategy and Action Plan for the conservation and protection of the monument. • 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 • The Elected Members have sought a virtual meeting with the OPW regarding the report and this request has been made to the body. • The OPW officials 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 Management plan. • A meeting with the Office of Public works and the Elected Members has again been requested regarding the Conservation and Management plan. A response has not yet been received. • A request by the Members to meet with the OPW and Fáilte Ireland regarding enhancing the visitor experience at An Grianan of Aileach was issued. • A positive response was received from OPW to Fáilte Ireland with suggested dates for a meeting to follow.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Area Roads Manager and Development Officer met with Fáilte Ireland & the OPW with the objective to improve the visitor experience at the site. • 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 Grianan 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. • The 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 Grianan of Aileach
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period	<p>An Grianán of Aileach Monument January 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fáilte Ireland have appointed the services of a consultant to improve the Visitor Experience at An Grianan 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 Grianan of Aileach.
Contact Person	Fiona Doherty, Sláintecare Community Development Officer, Community Development & Planning & Michael McFadden, Area Manager, Roads & Transportation, Inishowen MD



Municipal District: Inishowen

Activity / Project Update

January 2025

Activity / Project Title	<u>2023 Community Recognition Fund Buncrana</u>
File:	Friar Hegarty/ Buncrana Coastal Walk Enhancement and Artwork Project € 80,000 Community Recognition fund and funding Contribution from Cultural Services
Project Description/Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Friar Hegarty Public Artwork• Enhancement of the walk/trail• Accessible seating• Trail Head/Interpretation panels/maps• Improved Accessible Access to the 2 no. Archaeological sites and relevant study/plans.• Capital/drainage improvements
Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The work has been scoped out and will be tendered in the 1st quarter of 2024.• Site assessments have taken place along with a few meetings on site with relevant parties and Councillors.• The final scope of agreed works will be contained in next month's report.• 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.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period	<u>Two Stage Open Artwork Competition</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Two Stage Open Art Competition was advertised on Tuesday 2nd April 2024. Artists were invited to create a suitable public artwork in response to Friar Hegarty's story and deliver the commission.• There was 13 no applications submitted under the 1st Stage Public Commission deadline of Monday 29th 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.• 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.• Five shortlisted Artists will present their final design.• An Artist has been selected and will be officially appointed soon. An Ecologist and Archaeologist has also been appointed. <u>Capital work.</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tender documents are being prepared for the project together with all appropriate studies and reports.• Enhancement of the walk• Capital/drainage improvements.• Accessible seating• Trail Head/Interpretation panels/maps

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved access to the 2 no. Archaeological sites, Friar Hegarty's Grave and the Porthaw Holy Well and Celtic cross • The Artist has been appointed and the Public Artwork will be completed at the end of the year. • An Ecologist and Archaeologist have carried out a scoping exercise on the project site. • An Ecologist and Archaeologist have carried out a scoping exercise on the project site. <p>Friar Hegarty/ Buncrana Coastal Walk Enhancement and Artwork Project</p> <p><u>Public Artwork</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • An Ecology and Archaeologist assessment has been completed. • <u>Interpretation of the story of Fr Hegarty</u> The local schools in the town are involved in the history and storytelling of Fr Hegarty. <p><u>Capital work.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A contractor has been appointed to carry out the following work. • Enhancement of the walk • Capital/drainage improvements. • Accessible seating • Install Trail Head/Interpretation panels. • Improved access to the 2 no. Archaeological sites, Friar Hegarty's Grave and the Porthaw Holy Well and Celtic cross <p style="text-align: center;"><u>January 2025 Update</u></p> <p><u>Public Artwork</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Commissioned Artist Rory Harron is working on the figurative statue of Fr Hegarty. • An Ecology and Archaeologist assessment has been completed. • <u>Interpretation of the story of Fr Hegarty</u> 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 18th December 2024. <p><u>Capital work.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A contractor has been appointed to carry out the following work. • Enhancement of the walk • Capital/drainage improvements. • Accessible seating • Install Trail Head/Interpretation panels. • Improved access to the 2 no. Archaeological sites, Friar Hegarty's Grave and the Porthaw Holy Well and Celtic cross. Working within the requirements of the National Monuments guided by our appointed Archaeologist
Contact Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fiona Doherty, Sláintecare Development Officer, 087 367895, fdoherty@donegalcoco.ie • Brian Keogh, Executive Engineer, 087 6202947, bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



Municipal District: Inishowen – January 2025

Activity / Project Title	PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE
Project Description/Activity	<p>List of Playgrounds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culdaff Playground • Moville Playground • Buncrana Festival Park Playground • Clós Phádraig Playground • Barrack Hill Playground • Cill Bhríde MUGA • Ballyliffin Playground • Manorcunningham Playground • Killea Playground
Budget (if applicable)	€6,444.79 incl. VAT
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The funding works associated with Ballyliffin playpark phase 1 is completed. • Annual maintenance of playgrounds, annual ROSPA inspection reports completed with necessary repairs identified. Proposed successful playground maintenance contractor identified appointed. • Repairs have been identified and a tender competition has been published to secure a playground maintenance contractor for 2024. Tender submissions are due back in February. • 2024 Playground maintenance contractor appointed. <p><u>Ballyliffin Playground Refurbishment Phase 2</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designs have been prepared to replace several items of playground equipment at the Ballyliffin playground which are approaching the end of their serviceable life. Works have been tendered and a contractor has been identified to undertake the works. Pre-contract meeting held with the contractor. • Contractor to confirm proposed works programme. Expected works to be undertaken in Q4 2023/Q1 2024 with the playground closed for 4/5 weeks. • Works are completed and the playground is open. <p><u>Festival Park Playground (Buncrana)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A local community group are working under the guidance of the playground Engineer to install a wheelchair swing and other inclusive equipment. • The Annual ROSPA inspections for the maintenance of all DCC playgrounds was completed in November. • Repairs have been identified and a tender competition has been published to secure a playground maintenance contractor. Tender submissions are due back in February. • Tender assessment complete and contracts to appoint maintenance contractor issued. • Playground maintenance for 2024 underway
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period * Delete irrelevant reporting period	<p><u>PLAYGROUNDS Update January 2025</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
Contact Person	John Deeney, Executive Engineer, 087 7197619



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

Municipal District: Inishowen

Activity / Project Update

January 2025

Activity / Project Title	Donegal Walks and Trails
File:	
Project Description/Activity	Maintenance, Development and Promotion of Walks & Trails in Donegal including Cycle Routes and Greenways.
Budget (if applicable)	
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<p><u>Inishowen Head</u></p> <p>The Sport Ireland inspection was completed back in September with some items to be addresses mainly the surface issue on the upper land part of the trail needs drainage and surfacing works. The report is available on request for this.</p> <p><u>Malin Head/Bamba Pathway/walk</u></p> <p>This trail is also scheduled for inspection although due to issues we cannot advance with any works from the previous report. <i>(Available if requested)</i>.</p> <p>With ongoing landowner issues this will remain listed only as an item until a resolve is agreed.</p> <p>The Officer commenced with the inspection on this trail only to report there are a Number of safety issues and if not rectified within 30 days it will be removed from the register and no longer insured by Sport Ireland.</p> <p><u>Glenevin Waterfall</u></p> <p>Scheduled for inspection in September</p> <p>Inspection has taken place now awaiting the report.</p> <p>There was funding granted for additional works in this area and we need to advance with putting some documents together for a short contract of works.</p> <p><u>Leenan Loop</u></p> <p>Scheduled for inspection in September</p> <p>I accompanied the Officer on the inspection and now await the report to be e-mailed.</p> <p>The report is now also available on request.</p> <p><u>ORIS 2024 applications</u></p> <p>The announcement of successful application was great with all three IDP applications been granted including the application</p>

** Delete irrelevant reporting period*

	<p>via Donegal County Council for the Old Carn Road and the Promotion & Marketing application that is aimed at the County as a whole to improve the knowledge of what is available to walkers and hikers.</p> <p>The Marketing & Promotion has been out to tender and we are now in receipt of submissions they will be assessed for potential award.</p> <p>The three IDP projects one of which is listed below as Butler Glen, I believe the other two have been completed.</p> <p>The Golden mile old Carn Road has now been completed and the final claim has been submitted.</p> <p><u>Butlers Glen Trail:</u></p> <p>A recent site visit with NWCD and the landowner took place with the aim to commencing the documents for tendering later in the year to carry out improvement work on this trail to link with Dorris Russo and Mamore gap trails based on funding that has been allocated for the walk.</p> <p>I need to advance with putting a draft document together for the proposed works so the group can issue out for quotes. This set of documents will be drafted and issued out for quotes in Q1 with works hopefully advancing shortly after.</p> <p><u>ORIS 2025 Applications</u></p> <p>The expressions of interest were launched end of November with closing date of 9th January all submissions shall be reviewed after this date. From the submissions we can only select 6 suitable projects to issue for potential funding under measure 1 applications.</p>
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commence work on tender documents for Butlers Glen. • Sit in on the review panel for the EOI submissions for ORIS funding measure 1's
Contact Person	Darryl Connor (Outdoor Recreation & Maintenance Officer) dconnor@donegalcoco.ie



Activity / Project Update:

January 2025

Municipal District: Inishowen

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 <i>*Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • The Compulsory Purchase Order process was instigated on the 4th December 2020. Public notices were published in the local newspapers. • 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. • The 'Notice to Treat' was issued in December 2021 to the parties with an interest in the site proposed for the Buncrana School Campus. • It is intended that the 'Notice to Enter' will be issued at the end of January. This will allow the Department of Education & Skills access to the land to carry out surveys, site investigations, etc. • Work is ongoing to progress the acquisition of the land
	<p><u>January 2025</u></p> <p>Donegal County Council continue to assist The Department of Education and Skills with the technical elements of the project and this work is on-going.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CPO is concluded. • An Arbitrator has been appointed to determine the compensation due to the parties with an interest in the land. • DCC and the Department of Education are currently preparing for the arbitration hearing and are awaiting a date for same. • The Department of Education have commenced works on progressing the delivery of the school Campus design.
Contact person	Eamon Boyle, Executive Engineer, 087 178 8623 eamonb@donegalcoco.ie



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

Activity / Project Update

January 2025

Activity / Project Title	2021 Town & Village Renewal Scheme – Moville
File:	
Project Description/Activity	Enhancement of Moville Putting Green and Regeneration Plan
Budget <i>(if applicable)</i>	€111,110
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The Capital Works for this Project is complete, and the Health Check and master plan are ongoing and to be completed in January 2025
<i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	Works to be fully complete in January 2025
Contact Person <i>(to include telephone number & e-mail address)</i>	Brian Keogh 087 620 2947 Email bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



Activity / Project Update

Activity / Project Title File:	Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) project Development Measure for a pontoon at the existing jetty in Bunagee, Culdaff €55,555 for Project Development
Project Description/Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation work for Jetty at Bunagee, Culdaff
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A meeting took place with the Culdaff Development Association and Donegal County Council's Executive Engineer and Development Officer. • The next steps were discussed and the way forward to deliver the project agreed. • Tenders are being prepared for Appropriate Assessment and all relevant documentation and reports necessary to deliver the capital works. • A Consultant is to be appointed to carry out an Appropriate Assessment. • The relevant documentation to deliver the capital design of the project element has been prepared. • The Tender documents for a design are completed and will issue this week for a consultant to design the project. • The consultants 'Greentrack' have been appointed to carry out an ecology screening report. • A consultant is now appointed and has commenced the design process. • The consultant is currently working on the design of the structure and completed at the end of this year. • The Engineers recently meet with the consultants 'Greentrack' on site regarding the design. •
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>January 2025 Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Initial meeting with the Community Group • Consultant Appointed • The consultant is currently working on the design of the structure. • The initial draft design report has been issued to the DCC. <p style="text-align: center;">Works to be fully complete in Q1 2025</p>
Contact Person	Brian Keogh, Executive Engineer Tel 087 620 2947 Email bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie





Municipal District: Inishowen

Activity / Project Update:

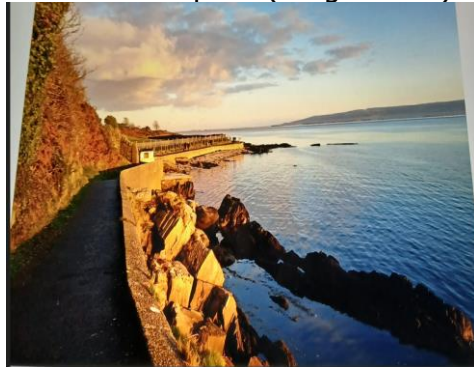
January 2025

Activity / Project Title File 622/P&ED/422 (8)	2022 Town & Village Renewal Scheme, Barrack Hill Town Park, Carndonagh An Accessible sheltered outdoor structure/ space for all the community cited within Barrack Hill Town Park
Project Description/Activity	
Budget (if applicable)	€134,700
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Preliminary meeting has taken place with the group to scope out the deliverables.• The Department issued the 'Letter of Funding Offer' in March.• A recent meeting has now taken place finalising the desired design and details of the project.• The Department issued the letter of funding offer to Donegal County Council in March 2023• The Community Development Officer and Engineers have engaged with the Barrack Hill Town Park Committee and agreed the final design and details with the group.• Tender documents will then be prepared and advertised on e-tenders.• The Barrack Hill Town Park Committee have been issued a letter of offer and work under the guidance of the Engineers to deliver the project.• A recent meeting took place with the group and a design has been agreed for progression.• The tenders have been returned and currently being reviewed.• A contractor will be appointed next month.• A contractor is appointed and will commence work on the site in the next few weeks.• Work commenced on site. Ducts for bringing water and power from Community Gardens centre to the new structure laid and ground made good. Site removal works complete, and foundations shuttered and ready to be poured. Delivery of timber for structure middle of week beginning 7th October with part assemble in contractor yard before delivery to site.• Work to be completed at the end of the year.• The Accessible sheltered outdoor structure/ space for all the community is almost completed, see images below. <p><u>2022 Town & Village Renewal Scheme, Barrack Hill</u> The Multi-functional Accessible sheltered outdoor unit for all the community cited within Barrack Hill Town Park is almost completed, see images below.</p>

	 
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>January 2025</u></p> <p>This project is now fully completed.</p>
Contact Person	<p>Adrian Duffy, Assistant Engineer, & Brian Keogh, Executive Engineer E-mail: aduffy@donegalcoco.ie / bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie</p>



January 2025

Activity / Project Title	Moville Shore Path Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme €222,000
Project Description/Activity	Upgrade and Enhancement of a portion of Moville shore walk. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital Works • Interpretation work /seating
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<u>Progress to date</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project is at Design Stage establishing the scope. • The work will be tendered in the 1st quarter of 2024. • A site meeting took place with the Tidy Towns Committee and Community Development staff, • The tendering work has been finalised and the work will be tendered after consultation with other internal directorates. • 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. • A Contractor has commenced work on the site. The project work will be completed in Q4 of 2024. • The initial phase of construction, installing the concrete footpaths Steps and handrails is now complete. • The conservation Report on the Liam McCormack Shelter Houses is complete (image below)  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tender documents for the remaining works are being prepared. • The Interpretation content and design has been agreed and finalised.
* Delete irrelevant reporting period	
Contact Person	Brian Keogh, Executive Engineer & Fiona Doherty, Development Officer



CLAR 2023

Activity / Project Title Disabled Toilet and kitchen upgrade	<u>Malin GAA CLAR Measure 1 2023</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial meetings with the Group• Provisional letter of offer issued.• Project currently out for tender• The construction works are ongoing. <p>The project is due to be completed in February 2025</p> <p>Contact: Brian Keogh, Executive Engineer</p>
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Project Title External insulation and windows for the Community Centre	<u>CARROWMENAGH CLÁR PROJECT 2023</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial meetings with the Group• Provisional letter of offer issued.• The project is currently out for tender.• The construction works are ongoing. <p>The project is due to be completed January 2025</p> <p>Contact: Brian Keogh, Executive Engineer</p>
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Project Title CARPARK SURFACING	<u>GLENEELY COLTS FC CLÁR PROJECT 2023</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial meetings with the Group• Provisional letter of offer issued.• The project is currently out for tender.• The construction works are ongoing.• <p>The project is due to be completed January 2025</p> <p>Contact: Brian Keogh, Executive Engineer</p>
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CLAR 2024

Activity / Project Title CARPARK SURFACING	<u>Culdaff FC CLAR Measure 1 2024</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial meetings with the Group• Provisional letter of offer to be issued in January 2025. The project is due to be completed in 2025
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Project Title CARPARK SURFACING	<u>GLENGAD FC CLÁR PROJECT 2024</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial meetings with the Group• Provisional letter of offer to be issued in January 2025. The project is due to be completed in 2025
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Activity / Project Update

January 2025

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 <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<p>Implementing Partners within the county; Donegal Local Development CLG (DLDC), Inishowen Development Partnership (IDP), Údarás Na Gaeltachta and Comhar na nOileán, are closing out and completing the LEADER Transitional programme on behalf of the LAG.</p> <p>The New LEADER Programme 2023-2027 is now 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.</p> <p>Currently 9 projects have been approved through the LAG with funding of €334,171.46 allocated.</p>
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<p>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.</p> <p>Members can access further information on the overall programme at https://www.donegalcoco.ie/community/leader/</p>
Contact Person	Ciaran Martin cmartin@donegalcoco.ie Administrative Officer, Community Development Division, Donegal County Council



Activity / Project Update

January 2025

Activity / Project Title	Local Enhancement Programme 2025
Project Description/Activity	The Local Enhancement Programme 2025, provides for capital supports essential for many small community groups and organisations and €1m to aid with energy and running costs.
Budget (if applicable)	€303,465
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<p>The Department of Rural and Community Development launched the Local Enhancement Programme 2025 with a national fund of €7m.</p> <p>The fund is aimed particularly at those who serve disadvantaged communities in rural and urban areas.</p> <p>The scheme is designed to ensure local priorities are identified and met, so as to improve and enhance community facilities for all.</p> <p>The Local Enhancement Programme 2025 will support groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on small capital works/repairs/improvements, and the purchase of equipment for community use such as improved access for persons with a disability; enhancing community participation for disadvantaged and marginalised groups and improving energy efficiency of community facilities to reduce ongoing costs. • Current funding is also available for Community groups to assist with their energy and running costs. <p>All funding will be available to a diverse range of community groups including but not limited to Men's and Women's sheds/groups, community centres, parish halls and local voluntary groups.</p> <p>Donegal LCDC have been allocated €303,465 for award under the Programme. This total amount comprises of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • €260,113 capital funding for the Local Enhancement Programme to use towards carrying out necessary repairs and improvements to facilities, energy efficiency type projects, purchase of equipment etc. • €43,352 current funding. The funding is for day to day running costs such as energy, insurance, heating costs etc. <p>The Local Improvement Grant Scheme has 3 different grants available for groups to apply for:</p>

	<p>Capital Grant – Small – Grants from €500 to €1,000 (for expenditure period 13th January – 28th November 2025)</p> <p>Capital Grant – Large – Grants from €5,000 to €10,000 (for expenditure period 13th January – 28th November 2025)</p> <p>Current Funding - Grants up to a max of €500 for day to day running costs (for expenditure period 1st June 2024 – 30th May 2025)</p>
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<p>The deadline for receipt of applications to the Local Enhancement Programme 2025 for 3.30pm on Tuesday, 25th February 2025.</p> <p>Applications for these grants are through online platform only and opened for receipt application on 13th January.</p>
Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	<p>Ciaran Martin cmartin@donegalcoco.ie Administrative Officer, Community Development Division, Donegal County Council</p>



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



Municipal District: Countywide

Programme	Healthy Ireland Fund
Project Description/Activity	<p>Healthy Ireland</p> <p>The objective of the Healthy Ireland Fund 2023 – 2025 is to improve the health and wellbeing of people of all ages and abilities living in Ireland through the implementation of the Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan 2021-2025.</p>
Budget	€233,122.42 Round 4 Funding
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<p>Healthy Ireland Round 4</p> <p>The Healthy Ireland Round 4 Programme (HIF 2023-2025) represents a more evidenced-based outcomes led approach, with a longer 3-year timeframe. The grant period for Round 4 will run from 1 June 2022 to 31 December 2025, with the outcomes led approach to be delivered from 2023-2025.</p> <p>Donegal Sports Partnership Active Play</p>  <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p> <p>Pictured L-R: Danny Gillespie, Donegal Sports Partnership; Margaret Fitzgerald, Healthy Ireland Programme; Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh, Leas-Chathaoirleach of Donegal County Council; Paddy Doherty, Senior Executive Officer, Community Development, Donegal County Council; Ciaran Martin, Slaintecare Healthy Communities Programme; Kirsty Browne, Donegal Sports Partnership.</p> <p>Donegal County Council in collaboration with Donegal Sports Partnership and funded through the Healthy Ireland Programme and Slaintecare Healthy Communities Programme launched the Active Play Donegal Programme on 7th November 2024.</p> <p>The Active Play Donegal Programme aims to increase participation in physical activity for children through developing the capacity and skills of 'Play Leaders' within communities. Identified Play Leaders will receive training and support in how to encourage children in their domain to become more physically active through the medium of play.</p> <p>Speaking at the launch of the programme in the Craoibhín Community Enterprise Centre, Termon Leas-Chathaoirleach of Donegal County</p>

Council, Cllr Jimmy Kavanagh said "Being active through play helps children not only increase their physical fitness but also builds confidence and resilience while encouraging creativity and problem-solving skills - all of which benefit children's health and happiness as they grow."

Donegal Volunteer Centre Planting Seeds of Support among Rural Farmers



Pictured L-R: On a site visit with members of Ballybofey, Stranorlar & District Historical Society and following a First Aid Training Course.

Ireland is undergoing an epidemic related to loneliness and social isolation within the population as a whole, with some 20% of the general population reporting to be lonely in an EU survey carried out in 2022.

The traditional sense of 'community' prevalent amongst rural farmers for many generations has suffered a significant decline in the past 20 years due to increased machinery use, intensive farming schedules, off-farm employment, health issues, technology, and the changing demographics of the group. This has led to a spike in isolation, loneliness, and hidden mental health challenges. Donegal Volunteer Centre in partnership with Healthy Donegal is aiming to promote personal and community development, upskilling and social network development in farmers aged 55+ who are only working/living on the farm and have no off-farm employment and who lack other social outlets.

Foróige Civic Play Project



Healthy Donegal in partnership with Foróige works to enable young people to involve themselves consciously and actively in their personal development and in the development of society. Using outdoor



	<p>recreational areas - 'Earn Zone' sites identified as part of Healthy Donegal's Civic Dollars Project, this project aims to help participants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build self-esteem and confidence through challenging experiences, • Develop the ability to manage personal and social relationships, <p>Participants recently took part in a one day Be Wild Be Free Forest skills workshop at a specially designated camp at Ards Friary Forest and Beach. The workshop was facilitated by Wild Awake, and activities provided an opportunity for young people to connect with green spaces while using the Civic Dollar App. The group participated in animal tracking, beach games, tree/holly bush care to support a newly developing forest, camp fire safety, how to source kindling, set up a heat/cooking source to allow for the cooking of a curry infused picked nettles for dinner which was consumed by the campfire with hot drinks as members moved onto tool use, forest roaming and quality time with one another which encouraged a natural disconnect from gadgets.</p> <p>Follow Healthy Donegal on http://www.donegalcoco.ie/community/healthydonegal https://www.facebook.com/HealthyDonegal https://www.instagram.com/healthy_donegal/ https://twitter.com/HealthyDonegal https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwcqNcNTWBCaRjEFGqSkOnA</p>
Contact Person	<p>Margaret Fitzgerald, Healthy Donegal Coordinator 074 9172562 mfitzgerald@donegalcoco.ie</p>



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

Activity / Project Update

Municipal District: ALL

Activity / Project Title	Social Inclusion Unit
<p>Progress to date within the last two months/quarter 3-inclusive of current status</p>	<p>Black and Minority Ethnic Inclusion Strategy - EU Belong Cultural Calendar</p> <p>The creation of the Cultural Calendar was initiated as part of the EU BELONG pilot project in response to Action 24 of the Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Inclusion Strategy for Donegal 2021-2026. This action highlights the importance of identifying key cultural events of BME communities and ensuring these events are publicly acknowledged and celebrated. The aim is to enhance inclusivity, foster a sense of belonging among diverse communities, and strengthen community cohesion across Donegal.</p> <p>A Cultural Calendar was developed to highlight significant cultural dates for BME communities over the remaining years of the strategy. This calendar will be circulated to all Councillors, stakeholders which directly supports the goals of Action 24 by promoting recognition and celebration of diversity in Donegal, enhances cultural understanding and awareness among local leaders and the wider community, and fosters a sense of belonging and inclusivity. A printed version of the calendar will be shared early in the new year.</p> <p>The Cultural Calendar is a practical demonstration of Donegal's commitment to implementing the BME Inclusion Strategy and embracing cultural diversity.</p> <div data-bbox="900 869 1369 1704">   </div>
<p>Contact Person</p>	<p>Christina O'Donnell codonnell@donegalcoco.ie 0879192272</p>



ENVIRONMENT MD REPORT – January 2025

CLIMATE ACTION

Activity /
Project Title

Decarbonising Zones – Climate Actions Work Event, 8th November 2024

Project
Description/
Activity


The Council's Climate Action Unit recently collaborated with the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications "Climate Actions Work" team to host a community event in Carndonagh Decarbonizing Zone. The aim was to engage the community and stakeholders in an action plan for the area that works towards a climate friendly shared vision. The event was very well attended with excellent discussion and ideas shared. DECC produced a report of the day which DCC are now reviewing with a view to finalising the DZ vision and actions for Carndonagh. A similar event is being planned for Falcarragh / Gortahork DZ.



Figure 1 – A visual summary of the contributions made by the attendees at the event.

Contact Person	Lorraine Arbuckle, Climate Action Coordinator larbuckle@Donegalcoco.ie
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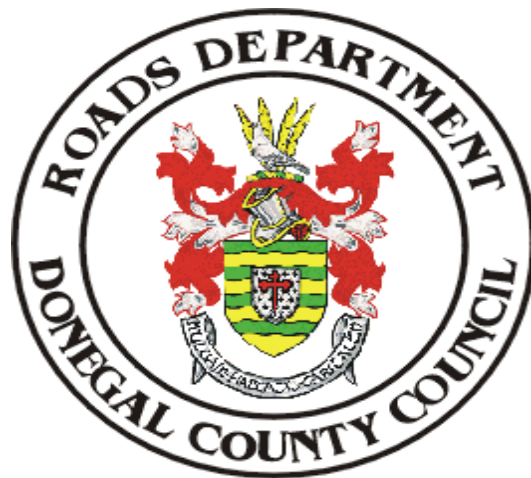
Activity / Project Title	Climate Action Plan Implementation
Project Description/ Activity	<p>The Donegal County Council Climate Action Team held its 2nd cross-directorate meeting on 12th December 2024. Items discussed included monitoring progress on actions, fleet decarbonising, and Sustainable Development Goals. A presentation was given to the Team by Accelerating Action, highlighting the many uses and benefits of the SDG software recently procured by DCC to support the alignment of our services with the SDGs and targets.</p> <div data-bbox="311 665 980 1169" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="959 987 1500 1705" data-label="Image"> </div>
Contact Person	Lorraine Arbuckle, Climate Action Coordinator larbuckle@Donegalcoco.ie

Activity / Project Title	Sustainable Energy Community - Pettigo
Project Description/ Activity	<p>AdOPT, a community group in Pettigo have registered to become a Sustainable Energy Community (SEC) with the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI). Benefits of being a SEC include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve financial and energy savings • Improve public wellbeing and comfort from energy efficient buildings • Boost local knowledge, skills and employment • Build capacity and leverage funding • Contribute to climate change targets • Support an equitable transition to a low carbon society <p>Through their SEC Mentor, AdOPT Pettigo are now availing of Donegal County Council's Bridging Finance programme to finance the development of their first Energy Master Plan. This programme is delivered through a Memorandum of Understanding between Donegal County Council and SEAI to provide pre-funding to SECs so that they can avail of SEAI grants of up to €25,000 for Energy Master Plan preparation. This important master plan identifies the decarbonising measures that can be taken, and sign posts the various grants available to do so.</p> <p>DCC encourage any SEC that could benefit from bridge financing through this programme, enabling access to further grants, or any community considering becoming an SEC to contact their SEC Mentor. Details can be provided by contact person below.</p> 
Contact Person	<p>Lorraine Arbuckle, Climate Action Coordinator larbuckle@Donegalcoco.ie</p>

Activity / Project Title	Communities Caring for Water Conference 2024 – ‘Our Water, Our Future; Empowering Communities to Improve and Protect’ and Launch of the LAWPRO Catchment Support Fund 2025
Project Description/ Activity	<p>Community Climate Action Officer, Fiona Kelly attended the Communities Caring for Water Conference on Saturday 9th November 2024.</p> <p>The event, hosted by LAWPRO and The Rivers Trust, took place in Athlone, Co. Westmeath from 10am to 4pm. There was a series of talks by community groups, experts and water quality advocates over the course of the day covering the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change and working with Nature • Hydromorphology Pressures and Solutions • Capacity Building in Community Groups • The Importance of Public Participation <div data-bbox="548 886 1289 1442" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Pictured at the 'Communities Caring for Water Conference: (Pictured L-R) Fiona Kelly, DCC - Community Climate Action Officer, Jimmy McVeigh, LAWPRO - Border Region Management, Dr. Trish Murphy, Inishowen Rivers Trust.</p> <p>Malcolm Noonan TD, the Minister for Nature, Heritage and Electoral Reform gave his support to the Conference and launched the LAWPRO Catchment Support Fund for 2025. The fund aims to build the capacity of non-governmental organisations working in the area of water quality in Ireland by providing funding towards their core costs. This funding provides support to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop and strengthen the skills, processes, and resources that catchment organisations need to survive, adapt, and thrive.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• water quality focused organisations who play a key role in the protection and restoration of water bodies and help in achieving the objectives of national policy and plans. <p>The deadline for applications is 14th January 2025. Contact below for more information.</p>
Contact Person	Fiona Kelly, Community Climate Action Officer fionakelly@donegalcoco.ie

ROADS & TRANSPORTATION UPDATE



Inishowen Municipal District

14th January 2025

2025 Roads Programme(s)

The Roads Area Team are currently in the process of preparing a draft priority list for the 2025 programmes which will be based on the allocation received in 2024. The announcement for the 2025 allocation is expected in late February - early March.

The Councillors are asked to agree several dates for roads workshops to discuss the 2025 Roads Programme(s) in order for same to be agreed and adopted at the next Inishowen MD

The following dates are proposed for the member consideration.

1. 05th or 06st February 2025
2. 12th or 13th February 2025
3. 19th or 20th February 2025

Programmes to be presented and considered are.

- Validation of Restoration Improvement Programme 2025 (Year 1)
- Restoration Maintenance Programme 2025
- Drainage programme 2025
- Community Involvement schemes 2025
- Local Improvement Scheme 2025 (eligible schemes)

Councillors are requested to ensure that potential applications for Local Improvement Schemes and Community Involvement Schemes are submitted to Donegal County Council as soon as possible, in order that they can be included for consideration in the 2025 programmes.

Draft Restoration Improvement Programme 2024

[illegible]

Draft Restoration Maintenance Programme 2024

RSS	Engineer	Road Class	Road Number	Road Name	Works Type	Length or work (m)	Start	Finish	Notes
Moville	Inish North	LT	L72811	Spinks Glackmore	SD	1,600	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	LS	L7721-1	Lisnagra	SD	1,500	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	LT	L18913	Kilderry Lane	SD	600	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	LP	L1341-3	Tiryrone Ph1	SD	1,000	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	LP	L1361-1	Glenagivney	SD	2,000	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	LS	L13916	Mc Coles Drung	SD	400	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	R	R238-38	Noones Br/Mt Scurge	SD	1,000	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	LS	L7731-1	Mullanaghy	SD	800	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	LP	L1371-3	Drumaweer	SD	1,300	Complete	Complete	?
Moville	Inish North	LP	L1411-1/2	Crucknanonia	SD	1,500	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	L	No Number	Grove Cottages	SD	390	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	LT	L13211	Drumley Lough Rd	SD	850	Complete	Complete	
Moville Total						12,940			
Carndonagh	Inish North	R	R242-2	Lagg Rd Malin	SD	2,000	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LP	L1011-1	X Rds MH/Port Ronan X Rds	SD	1,000	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LP	L1211-1/2	Tirernaleague/Corvish	SD	1,500	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LP	L1081-2	Urbelreagh	SD	2,200	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LT	L51611	Killen Mast Rd done	SD	690	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LS	L5051-1	Culort/Ballygorman	SD	1,700	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LT	L10311-0	Cahirs Hill Rd	SD	600	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LS	L5811-1	Gortyarn/Hill Hd	SD	1,100	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LP	L1391-4	Lough Inn	SD	1,900	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LP	L1081-3	Urbelreagh 2	SD	1,000	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LT	L57811 and 12	Foxhole/Buildings Rd	SD	1,900	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LP	L1301-2	Drumagessan	SD	2,000	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh Total						17,590			
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	L	L 17214	Big Hill	SD	1,475	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	L	L 7061	Upper Kinngeo	SD	1,700	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	L	L 6981	Upper Liafin	SD	1300	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	L	L 6921	Upper Sharagore	SD	760	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	L	L 6941	Blackland	SD	780	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	L	L 1831	Church Brae	SD	1,200	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	L	L1831	Boosom	SD	1,200	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	L	L7321 /L7331	Roskey	SD	3,500	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	L	L 5441	Culcross coal yard to Annagh	SD	1,150	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	L	L1161	Upper Annagh to Culcross road	SD	2,200	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	L	L16112	Adderville	SD	2,400	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural Total						17,665			
Newtown	Inish South	L	L 7491-2	Brigg to Strachack	SD	1750	Complete	Complete	
Newtown	Inish South	L	L2041-2	Moyle Road	SD	1720	Complete	Complete	
Newtown	Inish South	L	L8271-2	Creve road Upper	SD	1000	Complete	Complete	
Newtown	Inish South	L	L8261-2	Jack Porters road	SD	1450	Complete	Complete	
Newtown	Inish South	L	L 8111-1	Hardys to Millbay Inch Island	SD	1300	Complete	Complete	
Newtown	Inish South	L	L1881-1	Bray Roads Phase 2	SD	1650	Complete	Complete	
Newtown	Inish South	L	L7961-1	Glebe Road Burt	SD	850	Complete	Complete	
Newtown Total						9,720			
IMD TOTAL						57,915			

Drainage Provision Programme 2024

Overseer	Engineer	Location	Description of Works	Start	Finish	Notes
Moville	Inish North	R238 at Nooness Bridge	200m of road edge protection & signage	Complete	Complete	Road edge collapsing into sheuch
Moville	Inish North	R238 at Bayview	100m of 300 dia pipes & road crossings	Complete	Complete	Ongoing water on road and flooding
Moville	Inish North	Illies Road LP1731	2no 600m diam crossings & head walls	Complete	Complete	600 dia crossings required at 2 locations
Moville	Inish North	Whitehill Rd LS7721	50m of 375 dia pipe & replace road crossings	Complete	Complete	Ongoing flooding problems
Moville	Inish North	Clanilly School Rd LP1821	180m of 450 dia pipes & road crossing	Complete	Complete	Ongoing flooding problems
Moville	Inish North	New Road Shroove LS6541	70mm of 375 dia pipes & road crossing	Complete	Complete	Flooding problem
Moville	Inish North	LP1451 Post Denis Barrs	Rockbreaking & 80 m of 300 dia pipes	Complete	Complete	Flooding problem
Moville Total						
Carndonagh	Inish North	Drumcarbit Road LS5261	150m of 300 dia pipes and road crossing, gullies & manholes	Complete	Complete	Ongoing drainage problem
Carndonagh	Inish North	R238 Drumville (at Henry John Henry's)	70m of 300 dia pipes, manhole & gabions	Complete	Complete	road collapsing into sheuch
Carndonagh	Inish North	LP1071 at Ballynahona, Glengad	20m of deep gabions & 300 dia pipes	Complete	Complete	road side collapse
Carndonagh	Inish North	R240 at The Mullins (at Charlie Devlins)	80m of 600 dia pipes, manholes & Headwalls	Complete	Complete	ongoing flooding problem
Carndonagh	Inish North	Carrowreagh Rd LP 1391 to River (at Bussies)	250m of 600 dia pipe, road crossing & manholes	Complete	Complete	ongoing flooding problem
Carndonagh	Inish North	LP1071 Culkeeney (at Anthony McColgan)	20m of deep gabions & 300 dia pipe	Complete	Complete	roadside collapse
Carndonagh Total						
Buncrana	Inish South	Sharagore Praish	122 metre of 450mm pipe@ €112.00 per metre No2 gullies	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana	Inish South	Tullydish	120 metre of 300 mm pipe, No 3 Gullies and No1 Manhole @ €104.73 per m	Complete	Complete	complete drainage works from 2023
Buncrana	Inish South	Annaslee	144 metre of 300mm pipe No 4 Gullies and No1 Manhole @ €110 per metre	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana	Inish South	Crislamore	120metre of 450mm pipe @ € 115.23per metre and Manhole	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana	Inish South	Monreagh Burnfoot	72 metre of 300 mm pipe, No 3 Gullies and No1 Manhole @ €104.73 per metre	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana	Inish South	Coolcross	60 metre of 300mm pipe and No1 Manhole @ €102.35 per metre	Complete	Complete	blocked drains
Buncrana	Inish South	Green road	120metre of 300mm pipe @ € 86.75 per metre	Complete	Complete	protect side of narrow road road
Buncrana	Inish South	Umrycam	12m road crossing 600mm pipe	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana	Inish South	Hill Head Road Buncrana	50m of 450mm pipe, filled and surface dressed	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Total						
Newtown	Inish South	Bellstown L-20201	Extend Bridge at junction to Grainan of Aileach	Complete	Complete	to improve access for larger vehicles and prevent flooding
Newtown	Inish South	Bray Road L- 881-1	120m of 300mm pipe 3 gullies and 1 Manhloe	Complete	Complete	to protect side of public road
Newtown	Inish South	Birdstown to Muff Reg	4 no. gullies required with associated works	Complete	Complete	surface water on carriage way
Newtown	Inish South	Inch island L-7531-4	110m of 300mm pipe to preserve side of public road	Complete	Complete	to protect side of public road
Newtown	Inish South	Watery Road L-1841-4	180m of 300mm pipe, 4 gullies and 2 Manholes	Complete	Complete	to protect side of public road
Newtown Total						
Grand Total						

[illegible]

Low Cost Safety Programme 2024

Overseer	Engineer	Road Class	Road Number	Location	Description of Works	Length of work (m)	Start	Finish	Notes
B Moyne	Jim McLaughlin	R	R238	Three Trees Tromaty, Quigleys Point	VRS installation contract	1400	Complete	2025	VRS contractor completed on site pending 2025 funding.
Moville Total						1,400			
James Gill	Kevin Lake	R	R238	Lisfannon	Junction realignment	150	Complete	Complete	Junction realignment, Signs delivered and ready for insallation
Buncrana Total						150			
Paddy Mc Laughlin	Jim McLaughlin	R/L	LP1411/R224/R238/	Gleneely	Junction realignment	30	Complete	Complete	ongoing
Candonagh Total						0			

Bridge Strengthening Programme 2024

Area	Engineer	Road Class	Bridge Number	Location	Description of Works	Length of work (m)	Start	Finish	Notes
2023 Bridge Strengthening Programme (Discretionary)									
Newtown	Road Design	LS-8261-2	2570	Corncamble	Strengthening	6	Complete	Complete	contract
Buncrana	Road Design	LP1641/2	175	Old Mountain	Strengthening	6	Complete	Complete	contract started
2023 DOT Funding Application									
Buncrana	Road Design	R-244-5	2069	Magheraboy	Strengthening	2	Complete	Complete	
	Road Design	LP1111/1	117	Portaleen	Strengthening	2	Complete	Complete	
2023 Specific Improvement Grants									
Moville	Area Roads	R240	DLR240-011	Coyles/Beggars Bridge	Widening/realignment	20	Complete	2025	Ongoing



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

HOUSING & CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

Municipal District of Inishowen

14th January 2025

Corporate Services

- Consider Date for Workshop with Fáilte Ireland

Housing Service

- Progress Reports

Summary of Casual Vacancies Inishowen MD as 14 th January 2025	
Properties Refurbished and at Offer Stage	4
Properties being refurbished	4
Properties to be refurbished	6

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
0	0	0

Summary of DCC Nominations to AHBs

Area	AHB	Nominated	Vacancy	Allocated
Carndonagh	SVP			
Buncrana	SVP			
Moville	Apex	0	1	0

Inishowen MD Housing Waiting List January 2024	
Gross Number of Approved Applicants on Social Housing Waiting List	678
Applicants currently accommodated with HAP assistance but who have remained on the Council Social Housing list	407
Tenants currently accommodated in Council Social Housing and who are approved for a Transfer	47
Net Social Housing Waiting List	224

Gross Need - by approved bedrooms January 2025

Municipal District		1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Inishowen	Ballyliffin	0	4	4	2	0	0	10
	Bridgend	1	15	5	1	0	0	22
	Buncrana	16	173	74	14	0	0	277
	Burnfoot	1	8	4	0	0	0	13
	Burt	1	4	3	0	0	0	8
	Carndonagh	14	72	49	5	0	0	140
	Carrigans	2	8	5	0	0	0	15
	Clonmany	1	10	12	1	0	0	24
	Culdaff	0	7	5	0	0	0	12
	Fahan	1	2	0	0	0	0	3
	Gleneely	0	4	4	0	0	0	8
	Glengad	0	3	1	0	0	0	4
	Greencastle	1	9	5	0	0	0	15
	Inch	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Killea	0	4	1	1	0	0	6
	Malin	1	3	9	0	0	0	13
	Malin Head	0	2	1	0	0	0	3
	Moville	6	16	9	1	0	0	32
	Muff	2	19	9	1	0	0	31
	Newtowncunningham	5	25	6	0	1	0	37
	Redcastle	1	1	2	0	0	0	4
Total		53	389	209	26	1	0	678

Housing Grants Report at 7th January 2025

Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability

YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED	WITHDRAWN /CANCELLED/ INVALID	FURTHER INFO.	PENDING
2023	79	55	3	13	8	0
2024	79	58	1	6	2	12
2025	1	0	0	0	1	0

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	0	0	0	0	0	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	167	5	15	8	27
2025	0	0	0	0	0	0

Housing Capital Update Report Inishowen Municipal District Meeting

14th January 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		
Crana Crescent, Buncrana	Construction works substantially completed in December 2024. Housing Area to progress allocation of units commencing January 2025.	16
Rockytown, Phase 2	Department approval to appoint contractor received in December 2024. Contractor formally appointed by Donegal County Council in December 2024. Construction Period 24months.	54
Detailed Design / Tender Stage		
Barrack Hill, Carndonagh	Stage 4 approval to award the contract was received from the Department on 23 rd October. The contractor, Lowry Construction Ltd, was appointed on the 9th of December 2024. Final Design works have commenced, while works on site are proposed to commence in February 2025.	21
Carn Road, Gleneely	Stage 4 approval to award the contract was received from the Department on 24 th October. The contractor, Lowry Construction Ltd, was appointed on the 9th of December 2024. Final Design works have commenced while works on site are proposed to commence in February 2025.	10
Malin, Radharc na Tra Breige, (Ph 4)	Stage 4 approval to award the contract was received from the Department on 23 rd October. The contractor appointment will take place in January 2025. Works on site are proposed to commence in March 2025.	9
Former Garda Station & Residence Malin (SHIP Renewal)	Part 8 was approved at the September 2024 plenary meeting. The tender evaluation was completed, and departmental approval was sought in November 2024. The contractor is to be appointed following receipt of departmental approval.	2
Total		112

2. 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 are liaising with Uisce Eireann regarding utility connections to serve the proposals. Proposals can only progress to the next stage of departmental approval once a Letter of Offer has been received by the developer from Uisce Eireann.

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

3. SI Dwellings

The Council is progressing with the delivery of 4 no. SI dwellings in Inishowen Municipal District:

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

Department approval was individually sought for all three dwellings in November 2024. The Part 8 reports for these three dwellings were approved on November 25th (Dunaff & Kinnea) at a plenary Council meeting, and the Ballyliffin Part 8 was approved at a special Council meeting on December 9th, 2024. These projects progressed to the tender stage at the end of December 2024.

4. House Acquisitions

- a) 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).
- b) A further 2 tenant-in-situ house acquisitions are at contract stage in Movice.

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 20+ housing units. A further offer to acquire lands at Movice 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.