

Ceantar Bardais Inis Eoghain

Oifig Riarthóir na
gCruinnithe
Aras an Chontae
Leifear
07ú Eanáir 2026

FOGRA CRUINNITHE

Beidh Cruinniú de Ceantar Bardais Inis Eoghain ar siúl Dé Mháirt 13ú Eanáir 2026, **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 2026

NOTICE OF MEETING

A Meeting of the Municipal District of Inishowen will be held on Tuesday 13th January 2026 **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 02nd December 2025
2. Planning
3. Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services
4. Environment
5. Community Development
6. Roads & Transportation
7. Housing, Corporate & Cultural Services
8. Correspondence

**MINUTES OF THE INISHOWEN MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 02ND
DECEMBER 2025 AT 1:00 PM IN CARNDONAGH PUBLIC SERVICE CENTRE**

Councillors Present

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

Officials Present

Una Cresswell, Area Manager, Housing & Corporate Services, Dolores Lafferty, Senior Staff Officer, Housing & Corporate Services, Michael McFadden, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads and Transportation, Donal Walker, A/Senior Engineer, Housing Capital, Eamon Mahon, Senior Executive Engineer, Housing Capital, Helen Farren, Development Officer, Community Development, Ryan Nolan, Executive Planner (online), Matthew Byrne, Waste Regulation Officer, Environment (online), Mairead Carlin, Senior Economic Development Officer.

Apologies

Bryan Cannon, Director of Service, Roads & Transportation

25.56 Consideration of the Minutes of the Inishowen Municipal District Budget 2026 Meeting held on 21st October 2025

On the proposal of Cllr Martin Farren, seconded by Cllr Fionán Bradley, the minutes of the Inishowen Municipal District Budget 2026 meeting held on 21st October 2025 were agreed.

25.57 Consideration of the Minutes of the Meeting of Inishowen Municipal District held on 21st October 2025

On the proposal of Cllr Terry Crossan, seconded by Cllr Ali Farren, the minutes of the Inishowen Municipal meeting held on 21st October 2025 were agreed.

25.58 Deputation from Greencastle Harbours Users Group

Seamus Bovaird, Charlie Cavanagh and John D. O’Kane, representing the Greencastle Harbours Users Group, addressed the members regarding ongoing operational issues at Greencastle Harbour. The group requested that dredging works be undertaken and that debris, including tyres, be removed from the seabed. They highlighted that such debris is causing significant damage to sea vessels when it becomes entangled in propellers, leading to costly repairs and extended periods during which vessels are out of service. This downtime results in substantial loss of income for vessel owners, alongside the financial burden associated with the repair work. The group further noted that the process for obtaining a dredging licence is excessively slow and requested that this process be expedited. They also asked that appropriate personnel be assigned to manage the growing demands within the Marine Section of the Council. In addition, they recommended that the forthcoming harbour byelaws incorporate more modern terminology, as the current wording is outdated and no longer reflective of contemporary operational requirements. The group also requested funding for a crane to facilitate the landing of smaller boats within the harbour.

A discussion followed regarding Greencastle Harbour, during which members collectively expressed their support for the issues raised by the group. The members emphasised the need for a workshop with the Marine Section to further progress these matters.

25.59 PLANNING

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

25.59.01 Moville Shore Walk

Cllr Ali Farren raised concern regarding a wall constructed along the Moville Shore Walk and queried whether planning permission was required in this case and asked that this be investigated.

25.59.02 Taking in Charge of Private Residential Estates

The Taking in Charge team, as detailed in the Planning Report for the Inishowen Municipal District meeting, presented one estate, as listed below in the Inishowen Municipal District to Members and sought approval to complete the Taking in Charge process.

Ashgrove Manor, Killea

The Planning Authority is satisfied that there is a need for a Public Right of Way over the estate roads and sought approval from Members to make an order to create these Rights of Way in accordance with Section 207 of the Planning & Development Act.

Approval was sought from Members, in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act to initiate the procedures under Section 11 of the Roads Act to declare the roads within this estate to be public roads and thereby complete the Taking in Charge of the estate.

Ashgrove Manor, Killea

On the proposal of Cllr Terry Crossan seconded by Cllr Ali Farren, it was resolved that the Council make an order in accordance with Section 207 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) for the creation of a public right of way over the estate roads within the housing estate Ashgrove Manor, Killea as set out in the maps in the report, to enable it to proceed with the taking in charge of the estates.

On the proposal of Cllr Terry Crossan seconded by Cllr Ali Farren, it was resolved that the Council make an order in accordance with Section 11 (1) of the Roads Act, 1993 to declare the estate roads within the housing estate Ashgrove Manor, Killea to be a public road and note the consequential provisions contained in Section 180(4) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) whereby this Council will also take in charge the water services infrastructure and the public open spaces or car park within the attendant grounds of the development and will subsequently transfer the water services within the estate to Irish Water.

25.60 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Helen Farren, Development Officer, Community Development presented the report, and it was taken as read.

25.60.01 Malin Head Visitor Management Plan

Helen Farren advised members that an update would be provided to members next week in relation to the Main Head Visitor Management Plan.

25.60.02 Barrack Hill Town Park

Cllr Albert Doherty highlighted the success of Barrack Hill Town Park at the recent IPB Pride of Place Awards held in Limerick on 7 November 2025 and expressed his thanks to all members of the team involved.

Cllr Albert Doherty also highlighted the park's achievement in retaining the Green Flag Award, as well as its success in the Pollinator Award.

Cllr Martin McDermott concurred with these comments and requested that a letter of congratulations be issued to the group, on behalf of the elected members, in recognition of their success.

25.60.03 Merville Shore Path

Cllr Martin Farren acknowledged the work completed to date on the Merville Shore Path and asked that works be completed as soon as possible.

25.60.04 Clár Programme

Cllr Martin Farren expressed concern that no projects in Inishowen were included under the CLÁR programme in the most recent announcement. He noted that a number of local groups were very dissatisfied with this outcome and stated that the funding had not been distributed evenly across the County. Cllr Martin McDermott concurred with these comments and advised that he had been in contact with Minister Dara Calleary, who confirmed that the ten successful applications in the County were the first ten on the list submitted to the Department, as compiled by the Council. He requested that this be highlighted to the relevant personnel, noting that seven of the ten approved projects were located within a single Municipal District. Cllr McDermott further expressed his concern that community groups were falling by the wayside, with only Donegal County Council-led project likely to be developed in the future, which he felt could diminish community spirit. He requested greater engagement and involvement with the elected members when prioritising projects going forward.

Helen Farren acknowledged that it was very disappointing that no projects were successful for the Inishowen area and confirmed that she would relay the comments raised to the relevant personnel. The members collectively thanked Helen Farren for her ongoing support with the various groups.

25.60.05 Minor Tourism Related Works – Malin Head Walk

Cllr Ali Farren referred to the application submitted by Malin Head Community Association earlier this year under the Minor Tourism Related Works scheme to restore the Shore Walk to Sandport, Malin Head. He noted that the application had been unsuccessful due to the requirement for a safety audit and requested that this matter be followed up to enable resubmission next year.

25.60.06 Lisfannon Beach

Cllr Joy Beard acknowledged the newly installed accessible boardwalk at Lisfannon Beach and thanked all those involved in its delivery. Cllr Fionán Bradley concurred with these comments. Cllr. Bradley further requested that similar provision be considered from Bunrana Pier to Lady's Bay, as previously requested at earlier meetings.

25.60.07 Buncrana – Main Street

Cllr Joy Beard expressed concern regarding the hoarding outside premises on Main Street, Buncrana. She noted that litter was now accumulating behind the hoarding, which could lead to vermin issues in the area, and requested that the Council engage with the property owner to resolve the matter.

25.60.08 Public Transport

Cllr Joy Beard highlighted concerns raised by students/workers regarding the lack of public transport between Derry and Buncrana on weekdays. She asked that the option of providing later return services on this route be explored. She also highlighted the need for public transport services to include Fort Dunree and other tourist attractions in the peninsula.

25.60.09 Buncrana Court House

Following recent media reports concerning Buncrana Courthouse and the uncertainty surrounding its future due to the condition of the building, Cllr Fionán Bradley requested that correspondence be issued to the Courts Service seeking clarification in this regard, including what plans are in place to ensure that court services remain in the area. Cllr Albert Doherty concurred with this request and asked that the correspondence also seek clarification on the plans for the upkeep and future use of the Courthouse building in Carndonagh.

25.60.10 School Campus – Buncrana

Cllr Fionán Bradley requested the need to be kept informed of any further requirements for this project. He referred in particular to the need for an Active Travel Plan, which must now be put in place, and observed that had this requirement been raised sooner, it could have been completed at this stage. He noted that, going forward, any such requirements should be identified earlier in the process.

25.60.11 Play Park, Malin

Cllr Ali Farren requested an update on the provision of a play park in Malin. Helen Farren advised that discussions are ongoing in this regard.

25.61 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mairead Carlin, Senior Economic Development Officer presented the report, and it was taken as read. She highlighted the following to the members –

- **Night-Time Economy Buncrana** – Buncrana's 'Samhain By The Swilly' programme was a great success with eight funded events delivered. As part of the programme the NTE Halloween 'Parade of the Púca' was well attended with an estimated one thousand spectators and 160 parade participants in the parade. The Economic Development Section are in the process of drafting a contribution to NTA for the hackney licence process review, with other departments on behalf of Donegal County Council.
- **Holiday World Shows 2026** - Donegal Tourism CLG are preparing to attend the Holiday World Show's in both Belfast and Dublin to take place in January 2026. Businesses interested in attending the event should contact the tourism team.
- **#BuyDonegal Campaign** – #BuyDonegal will take place from 24 November to 19 December. Glendowen Craft Studio will host an event on 4 December showcasing local crafts and featuring a live weaving demonstration. Highland Radio will also broadcast from the event.

25.61.01 Night-Time Economy Buncrana

Cllr Jack Murray acknowledged the success of the ‘Samhain By the Swilly’ event, as outlined in the report. He noted that the Night-Time Economy operates with a relatively small budget and commended all those involved in delivering the event. He expressed the hope that the budget would be increased in future to support the continuation and development of such events. Cllr Fionán Bradley concurred with these comments and highlighted that the project is currently at pilot stage. He requested information on the future plans for the initiative and whether the pilot period would be extended.

25.61.02 TBEX

Cllr Joy Beard welcomed the positive impact of the TBEX Donegal 2025 event and queried how local businesses had been affected by the event. She also asked how businesses could be supported to capitalise on its success.

25.61.03 Auditorium and Conference Centre

Cllr Joy Beard referred to the deputation received at the previous Inishowen Municipal District meeting from Mr John Farren regarding the potential development of a 3,000-seater auditorium and conference centre in the peninsula. She asked what the next steps would be to determine whether the project is realistic and viable for the area.

25.62 ENVIRONMENT

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

- **Tidy Towns Competition 2025** – In 2025 the environment team helped thousands of volunteers by providing resources and support to individuals, tidy towns groups and community groups throughout the County. This partnership ensures Donegal retains its reputation as an attractive location to live, work, visit and do business. The Environment Section expressed gratitude to all involved and a special congratulations to the groups who were successful in this year’s Tidy Towns competition. The Tidy Towns competition has been running since 1958 and this year had the highest number of entries ever received in the competition’s history. The Tidy Towns competition is an annual, nationwide competition that encourages communities to enhance the appearance and sustainability of their local areas. It promotes civic pride, environmental awareness and community involvement across Ireland.
- **Successful Enforcement Outcomes** - In November 2025 the environment team secured four prosecutions in the district court. In terms of three litter pollution cases €750 was issued in fines as well as legal and clean-up costs awarded to the Local authority.
- **Anti-Dumping Initiatives** - In 2025 more than €116,000 was secured and projects included; - A cinema advert campaign highlighting the importance of using a permitted waste collector, - A translation project which will see the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle pocket guides translated into the top 10 languages in Donegal, - Clean ups throughout the County and - Reduced price Bulky waste days delivered at the recycling centers in each MD.
- **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Translation** - In an effort to expand on the successful “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle” Information campaign, Donegal County Council applied for ADI funding in 2025 with a goal of increasing inclusivity and accessibility to household waste awareness. Using 2022 CSO census data environment staff were able to identify the top 10 principle foreign languages used in Donegal including Bengali, Arabic and Pashto. A

certified translation company was then tasked with reproducing the original “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle” booklet in these languages.

- **Farm Plastic** - The IFFPG farm plastics bring-day programme delivered strong results for Donegal this year, with eight bring centers operating over nine days in November. These well-distributed collection points gave farmers across the county convenient access to safe, compliant disposal options for their bale wrap, pit covers, and other agricultural plastics. In total, the Donegal bring days collected approximately 1,400 tonnes of waste farm plastic, 1000 half ton bags of netting and twine and 455 half ton bags of fertiliser/feedbags and chemical drums.
- **Climate Action** - A series of festive Waste and Energy awareness campaigns will be run during the month of December and January to encourage everyone to celebrate sustainably throughout Christmas Environmental Awareness Campaign. The campaign will include the following to protect the environment during the festive season.

25.62.01 Tidy Towns Competition

Cllr Martin Farren acknowledged the success of Moville in the 2025 Tidy Towns Competition and their achievement in securing a gold medal. He commended the community effort involved and thanked the Council for its continued support. Cllr Albert Doherty concurred with these remarks and extended his congratulations to all the successful towns outlined in the report. Cllrs Jack Murray, Joy Beard and Fionán Bradley also acknowledged the efforts of everyone involved.

Michael McFadden, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, and Transportation also congratulated all involved on the success in the Tidy Towns Competition.

25.62.02 Septic Tank

Cllr Terry Crossan thanked the team for their ongoing work throughout the year. He raised concerns regarding issues around septic tanks at Aileach View, Bridgend and Westbrook Manor, Quigley’s Point. He requested that both matters be addressed as a matter of urgency.

25.62.03 Lady’s Bay, Buncrana

At the previous Municipal District meeting, Cllr Fionán Bradley expressed concerns regarding the water quality at Lady’s Bay, Buncrana, noting that the beach is one of only two in the country with poor water quality. He asked if there is a long-term plan for the area and asked for clarification on the next steps.

25.62.04 Lisfannon Heights

At the previous Municipal District meeting, Cllr Fionán Bradley sought an update on Uisce Éireann’s commitment to establish a working group with Donegal County Council to address the sewerage issue at Lisfannon Heights. He asked if there had been any progress on the formation of this working group, noting that he had been unable to obtain further clarification from Uisce Éireann directly.

25.62.05 Uisce Éireann

Cllr Fionán Bradley raised concerns about the number of water outages in the County and formally requested that correspondence be issued to Uisce Éireann, on behalf of the elected members, requesting a meeting to discuss the issue.

Cllr Fionán Bradley noted that a number of staff employed by Donegal County Council are carrying out duties on behalf of Uisce Éireann. He queried what arrangements are in place to

ensure cover when such staff are absent. Cllr Jack Murray concurred with this request and outlined the difficulty in trying to get appropriate answers when contacting Uisce Éireann noting that he found the system frustrating.

Cllr Albert Doherty highlighted issues affecting various group water schemes and noted that the promoters of these schemes should not be subject to criticism at weekends when Uisce Éireann is unavailable.

Matthew Byrne agreed to follow up with Michael McGarvey, Director of Service, Water and Environment.

25.62.06 Waste Collection

Cllr Fionán Bradley highlighted an issue he experienced when reporting a dead animal in the Buncrana area over a weekend. He noted that the animal could not be collected until Monday and requested that measures be put in place to facilitate immediate collection in such cases. Matthew Byrne advised that there are several service providers operating within the County and confirmed that the comments would be noted.

25.62 .07 'Think Before You Skip It' Campaign

Cllr Albert Doherty referred to the 'Think Before You Skip It' campaign, as outlined in the report, noting that construction and demolition waste is the largest waste stream in Ireland, accounting for over 8 million tonnes annually. He requested that clear advice and guidance be made available to homeowners who are demolishing homes affected by defective concrete blocks.

25.62.08 Community Climate Action Fund

Cllr Albert Doherty referred to the second phase of the Community Climate Action Fund which is open from 28th October 2025 to 22nd December 2025 and asked that this be highlighted to relevant community groups. Matthew Byrne agreed to follow up.

25.62.09 Litter

Cllr Fionán Bradley raised concerns regarding an ongoing litter issue at Amazing Grace Park, Buncrana. He requested that the Council engage with the relevant stakeholders and suggested collaborating with Transition Year students from the local community school as part of efforts to address the problem. Matthew Byrne advised that Environment Awareness Officer plans to engage with the local schools in this regard.

25.63 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 and Improvement Works Programme
- Restoration Maintenance Programme
- Drainage Provision Programme
- Low-Cost Safety Programme
- Bridge Strengthening Programme
- CIS Programme

25.63.01 Roads Service

Michael McFadden acknowledged the work carried out by the Roads Service throughout the year, noting their effective response following Storm Eowyn and Storm Amy. The members collectively expressed their appreciation to the Roads Team for their continued efforts and dedication over the year. Cllr. Martin McDermott requested that staff be allocated time to undertake smaller maintenance tasks, noting that current prioritisation of larger workloads can sometimes result in these smaller jobs being delayed.

25.63.02 Winter Gritting Programme

Cllr Ali Farren stated that a substantial area of Inishowen is currently not included in the Winter Gritting Programme and requested that the programme be extended. He specifically highlighted the Shrove area as requiring attention. Cllr Jack Murray requested that Hilltop Academy Preschool be provided with a substantial amount of sand or grit for use during icy conditions to ensure the safety of road users in the vicinity.

Cllr Albert Doherty noted that a number of schools had submitted a petition seeking inclusion in the Winter Gritting Programme and requested an update on the matter.

Michael McFadden advised that the Winter Gritting Programme is developed based on the availability of resources, including salt/grit supplies, vehicles, and staffing levels. He confirmed that the Council will continue to honour the routes currently adopted and noted that any changes to these routes would require approval at plenary level.

25.63.03 Traffic Calming Measures

Cllr Jack Murray requested that traffic-calming measures be introduced at the Muff/Burnfoot junction. He further requested that measures be implemented at the Cassy Road junction, noting that any works should take account of future plans for the proposed school campus in the area.

Cllr Martin McDermott requested that traffic-calming measures be put in place in Clonmany and Ballyliffin.

25.63.04 Drainage Issue

Cllr Jack Murray requested that the drains located near E&I Engineering, close to Grianán Park, be inspected, noting that a strong odour is emanating from them.

25.63.05 Lisfannon Industrial Estate

Cllr. Jack Murray raised concerns regarding ongoing flooding at Lisfannon Industrial Estate, noting that the situation appears to be worsening each year

25.63.06 Glentogher Road

Cllr Ali Farren queried when works along the Glentogher road would be complete.

25.63.07 Muff

Cllr. Ali Farren reiterated previous concerns regarding the lay-by at St. Mary's Community Hall, Muff being used for the sale/advertisement of used cars.

25.63.08 Public Lighting

Cllr Ali Farren highlighted that public lighting in Clonmany still requires attention, despite having previously reported the issue to Electric Skyline.

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 requested that public lighting at Nailor's Row, Buncrana be repaired. He noted that although Electric Skyline had previously attended to the issue on several occasions, the problems persist. He asked that a temporary measure be put in place as soon as possible due to a wake taking place in the area.

Cllr Martin McDermott requested an update on public lighting at Culdaff bridge.

25.63.09 Shrove Beach

Cllr Martin Farren requested that works be carried out at Shrove Beach to help address the ongoing issues of illegal parking on the access road leading to the beach as soon as possible.

25.63.10 Clar Corner

Cllr Martin Farren reiterated his request that appropriate funding be sourced as a matter of urgency to realign the road at Clar Corner. He further asked that interim measures be put in place to address the issue until the realignment works can be progressed.

25.63.11 Culkeeny, Glengad

Cllr. Martin McDermott requested that additional signage be provided at the road corner in Glengad, known as "the Forge," to improve safety in the area.

25.63.12 Buncrana Inner Relief Road

Cllr Fionán Bradley referred to a fund recently announced by the Government to support infrastructure for various building projects. He stated that this fund would be particularly suitable for progressing the Buncrana Inner Relief Road and requested that the Council explore this opportunity and submit an application.

25.63.13 Pedestrian Crossing

Cllr Fionán Bradley requested that a pedestrian crossing be provided at Straboe, Buncrana, below Elm Park housing estate.

25.63.14 Traffic Islands

Cllr Fionán Bradley requested that some of the traffic islands along the Cockhill Road be repainted.

25.63.15 Westbrook Junction

Cllr Fionán Bradley requested that the junction at Westbrook be reviewed. He noted that, since the recent realignment, there appears to be reduced visibility of traffic approaching from the town side towards Cockhill.

25.63.16 Tidy Towns/Street Sweeping

Cllr Fionán Bradley noted that, following the judging for the Tidy Towns Awards, the adjudicators highlighted that a number of signs within Buncrana town require maintenance or replacement. He requested that this matter be followed up accordingly.

Cllr Joy Beard queried whether there was any further update regarding the 'Billy Goat Sweeper' specifically in relation to user feedback on the machine's performance in clearing rubbish.

25.63.17 Flagpoles - Buncrana

Cllr Fionán Bradley reiterated his request that the poles currently on the Buncrana roundabout be replaced with proper flagpoles and that appropriate controls be introduced.

25.63.18 Ferris Lane Car Park

Cllr Joy Beard asked whether there were any plans to carry out drainage improvements or general upgrade works at Ferris Lane Car Park in Buncrana. She further requested that appropriate signage be installed to clearly indicate to the public that the area is a designated car park.

25.63.19 St Mary's Road, Buncrana

Cllr Joy Beard requested that maintenance works be carried out at the entrance to St. Mary's Road, Buncrana, noting that there is a dip in the road surface requiring attention.

25.63.20 Fort Dunree

Cllr Joy Beard requested that the road lining at Fort Dunree be reviewed and addressed as necessary.

25.63.21 Road Markings

Cllr Albert Doherty requested that the company responsible for white-lining works be engaged to carry out white-lining at various locations throughout the Inishowen area.

25.63.22 Directional Signage

Cllr Albert Doherty requested that the directional signage be reinstated at Brochan House, Carndonagh.

25.63.23 Footpaths

Cllr Albert Doherty advised that residents of Gerard's Way, Carndonagh, have raised concerns regarding the absence of footpaths linking their estate to Carndonagh town. He requested that this matter be addressed as a priority.

25.63.24 Malin Town

Cllr Martin McDermott acknowledged the efforts of the Roads Staff in engaging with representatives from Malin Town regarding the ongoing works being carried out by the Council to alleviate traffic issues in the area.

25.64 HOUSING & CORPORATE SERVICES

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

25.64.01 Disposal of Land at Ture, Muff

Members considered the report circulated with the agenda regarding the proposed disposal of land at Ture, Muff. On the proposal of Cllr Albert Doherty, seconded by Cllr Terry Crossan, it was recommended that the disposal, under Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 and Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, be presented to the next Plenary Council Meeting.

25.64.02 Lease of Office Accommodation at Carndonagh Public Service Centre to Teagasc

Members considered the report circulated with the agenda regarding the proposal to renew lease of office accommodation at Carndonagh Public Service Centre to Teagasc. On the proposal of Cllr Ali Farren, seconded by Cllr Martin McDermott, it was recommended to renew lease, under Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 and section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001, be presented to the next Plenary Council Meeting.

25.64.03 Schedule of Inishowen Municipal District Meetings 2026

On the proposal of Cllr Martin McDermott, seconded by Cllr Ali Farren, the Schedule of Meetings for 2026 as outlined in the Housing and Corporate report were agreed.

25.64.04 Meeting with An Garda Síochána

Una Cresswell informed members that the workshop scheduled to take place on 9th December 2025 with An Garda Síochána has been cancelled. She advised, however, that she would circulate updates received from Inspector Seán McDaid in relation to matters concerning the Inishowen area.

25.64.05 Consider Dates for Workshop

The Following dates were agreed form Workshops –

- 09th December 2025 - ACT Consultations - Buncrana Regeneration Plan.
- 13th January 2026 – LIS Workshop
- 06th February 2026 – Roads Programme
- 27th February 2026 – Roads Programme

25.64.06 Housing Capital Update

Donal Walker, A/Senior Engineer, Housing Capital provided an update on the various stages of social housing developments as outlined in the Housing Capital Report.

25.64.07 Carndonagh Community Hospital

Cllr Ali Farren raised concerns regarding the lack of available bed spaces at Carndonagh Community Hospital and queried whether there was any action the members of the Inishowen Municipal District could take to help address the issue. Cllr Martin McDermott emphasised the need for a Primary Care Centre to support healthcare provision in the area.

25.64.08 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting to be held on 13th January 2026 at 1pm.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Certified:

Cathaoirleach

Date: _____

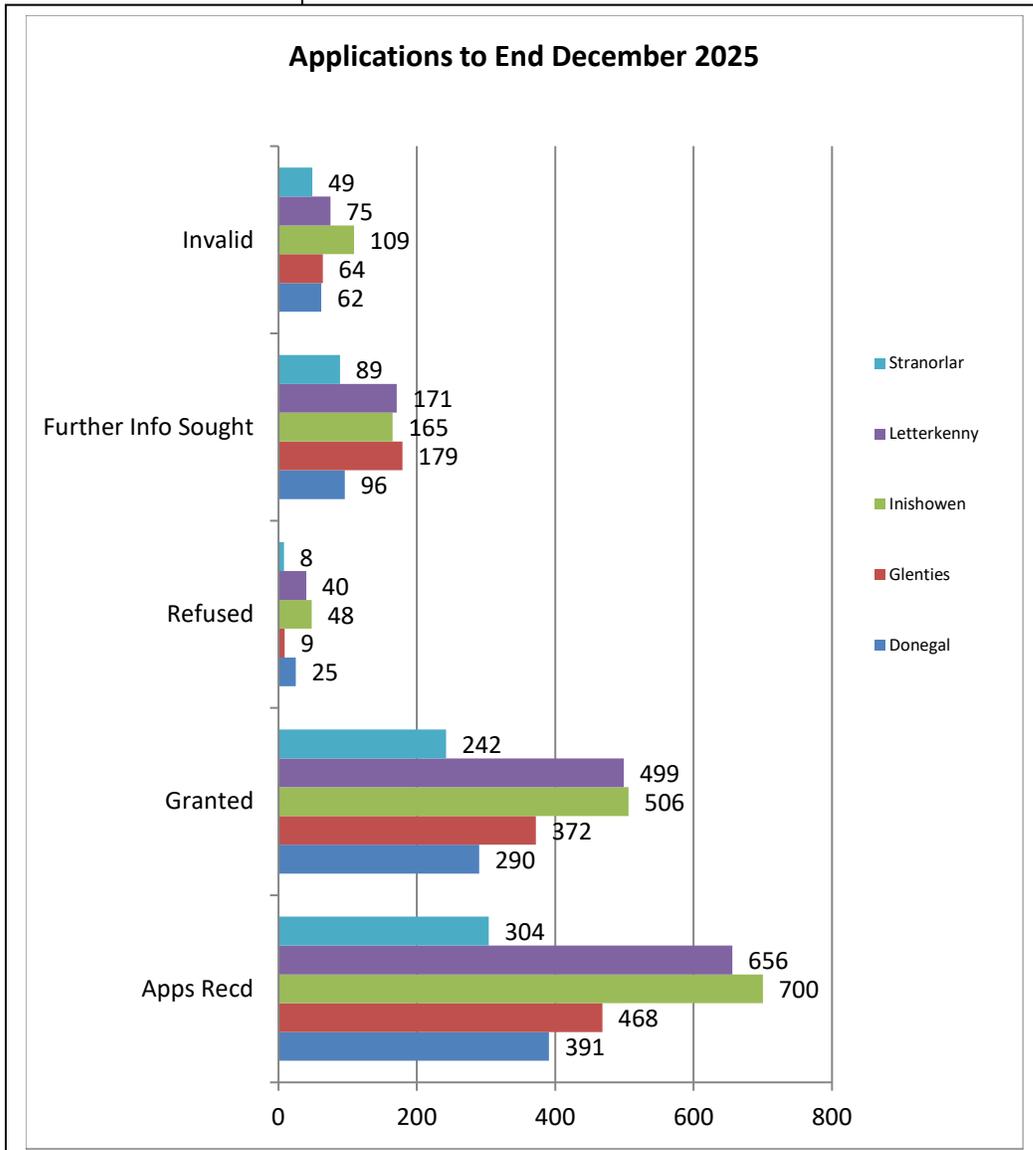
Area Manager

Date: _____

Inishowen MD Meeting 13th January, 2026

PLANNING REPORT

	Item	Update	
1	Development Applications		
	(1) Statistics	Inishowen MD - Totals Year to End December, 2025	
		Applications received	700
		Granted	506
		Refused	48
		Further Information Sought	165
		Invalid	109



2	Enforcement									
		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Inishowen MD</th> <th>To end Nov 2025</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>New Cases</td> <td>59</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Closed Cases</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Outstanding cases on record since 2012</td> <td>354</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Inishowen MD	To end Nov 2025	New Cases	59	Closed Cases	22	Outstanding cases on record since 2012	354
Inishowen MD	To end Nov 2025									
New Cases	59									
Closed Cases	22									
Outstanding cases on record since 2012	354									
3	Notes & Monthly Schedule	<p>Planning advice clinics are on an appointment only basis. The appointments will be facilitated by the planners between 9.00am and 12.30pm on the dates outlined below and shall be for substantial applications only (multiple developments and/or significant economic developments). Please contact 074 9153900 to speak with the relevant planner and request an appointment.</p> <p><u>Planning Clinics 2026</u> 15th January, 2026 29th January, 2026 12th February, 2026 26th February, 2026</p> <p>Please see website for further dates. Planning Advice Clinics Donegal County Council</p>								
4	Casual Trading									
5	Regeneration & Development	See Appendix A								
6	Building Control & Taking in Charge									
7	Central Planning Unit	See Appendix B								
8	Capital Projects Delivery Unit	See Appendix C								
9	Conservation									
10	Further Information <i>Click on web links to access information.</i>	<p>Weekly List of applications and decisions: Weekly Lists Donegal County Council</p> <p>Planning Service email (to be used in correspondence with the planning service): planning@donegalcoco.ie</p> <p>Planning Webpage: Planning Donegal County Council</p> <p>Planning Application Online Query – Search a Planning Application Donegal County Council</p> <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>								

APPENDIX A



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



Rialtas na
hÉireann
Government
of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

Regeneration & Development Team Community Development and Planning Services Q1 2026

1.0 Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF)

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

1.1 Summary update of Projects

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

Table 1: Rural Regeneration and Development Fund Projects

Project	Type	Value (includes DCC co- funding)	Current Status/Delivery
RRDF Funding Call 4 – Category 2 – Project Development Measure	Category 2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding application for projects identified in both Rathmullan and Dungloe submitted by the closing date of the 14th March 2025. Unsuccessful for funding call and feedback received and reviewed. Options will continue to be explored on how best to advance the project.
Back to Ballyshannon	Category 2 (2020)	€247,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further screening to be arranged. Scope of the site has been extended to include properties on College Street, Ballyshannon. To be targeted for future Category 1 Funding. Work progressing to prepare project for planning consent. Brief being finalized to tender for an Integrated Design Team.
Ramelton Re-imagined/Historic Town Centre	Category 2 Category 1 (2022)	€249,159 €7,949,868	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project with CPDU for delivery.
Burtonport Phase II	Category 1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Property with CPDU for delivery. Team supporting delivery through participation on Project Steering Group.

Repowering Buncrana	Category 2 (3 rd Call)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property with CPDU for delivery. • Team supporting delivery through participation on Project Steering Group.
Rathmullan (in partnership with The Way Forward Rathmullan CLG).			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 8 approved February 2023. • Unsuccessful for funding under Call 5 in May 2024. • Project submitted for RRDF Category 2 Funding Call that closed on the 14th March 2025. • Unsuccessful for funding call and feedback received and reviewed. • Options will continue to be explored on how best to advance the project.
Milford Town Centre First Plan		€100,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Centre First Plan launched November 2023 • GM Design Associates preparing a statutory planning scheme for the lands at Lower Mount Marian. • Part 8 published with closing date for submission the 31st October 2025. • Part 8 to be presented for consideration by the Members at the Plenary Council meeting in January 2026. • Application made in April 2025 under Town and Village Renewal for funding to acquire former Milford Hotel which was unsuccessful. • Application made in May 2025 for project development funding for the former Milford Hotel site, and this application was successful in December 2025.
Glenties Town Centre First Plan		€30,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GM Design Associates appointed to assist with preparation of the Plan. • Engagement with the Glenties Town Team ongoing. • Walkability Audit undertaken in December 2024. • Workshop with Members of the Glenties MD held on the 13th May 2025. • Public consultation event held on the 22nd May 2025. • Draft Plan presented for public consultation on the 12th September 2025. • Plan currently being finalized.
Creelough Village Plan and Community Regeneration			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village Plan launched 21st March 2024. • Part 8 for Community Regeneration Project approved in September 2023. • Project successfully awarded funding of

Project (in association with the Creeslough Working Group, Creeslough Community Association and Arup).			<p>€12.1m under Call 5 in May 2024 (total project value is €13.5m).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GM Designs appointed in March 2025 to prepare detailed designs. • Project with CPDU for delivery. • Team supporting delivery through participation on Project Steering Group.
Moville Regeneration Strategy and Action Plan.		€24,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GM Design Associates appointed to assist to prepare Plan. • Further public consultation event held on the 20th March 2025 to present the draft Plan. • Workshop held with the Members of the Inishowen MD on the 26th June 2025 to agree the final Plan. • Launch of the Plan took place on the 18th September 2025.
Dungloe		€50,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding allocation under Town and Village Renewal to advance design and planning consent for public realm works at Main Stret, Dungloe. • Tender issued to procure external design team. • Tender appointment made and works commenced to prepare the project for planning consent.
Ardara		€50,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding allocation under Town and Village Renewal to advance design and planning consent for buildings in Ardara. • External design team procured and work underway to prepare draft concept plans. • Workshop to be arranged with the Glenties MD within the next few weeks.
Creeslough Minor Tourism Works		€50,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to facilitate drawdown of funding for works now to be arranged through the CCA.
Bundoran Regeneration Plan		€15,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External support services appointed and initial inception meeting with Elected Members to be arranged.
Buncrana Regeneration Plan		€40,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External support services appointed and initial inception meeting with Elected Members and the Buncrana Town Team held on the 9th December 2025. • External consultants A.C.T. working to prepare draft Plan.
Lifford Regeneration Plan		€40,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project tendered and external support services appointed, but required information not subsequently submitted.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project to be re-tendered in the coming weeks.
Raphoe Heritage Led Plan		€60,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding secured from the Build Heritage Investment Fund in March 2025. • Paul Doherty Architects appointed to undertake the plan following a tender process. • Work progressing to prepare draft plan. • Workshop to be arranged with the Members of the Lifford-Stranorlar MD to review the draft Plan.
Downings Action Plan/Project Plan		Inhouse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community consultation event held on the 10th July 2025. • Workshop arranged with the Members of the LMMD on the 13th January 2026 to discuss next steps.
Glenties Town Team			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town team established in August 2024 to represent the community in the preparation and delivery of the Glenties Town Centre First Plan.
Creelough Town Team		€10,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creelough Town Team established and first meeting held on the 25th October 2024. • Funding of €10,000 allocated from the DRCD to support town team capacity building. • External consultancy services procured to deliver team capacity building training to the Town Team, which is now completed. • Team meeting monthly to deliver on the actions identified in the Creelough Village Plan.
Buncrana Town Team		€10,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocation of €10,000 from the DRCD to support the establishment of a Buncrana Town Team. • Town Team established in September 2024. • External consultancy services procured to deliver team capacity building training to the Town Team, which is now completed. • Team meeting monthly to identify and deliver on the priority projects for the town. • Town Team Plan prepared and due to be launched in early 2026.
Ballybofey-Stranorlar Town Team		€10,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Town Team established to deliver the Ballybofey and Stranorlar Regeneration Strategy with support from the Regeneration Team.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding of €10,000 allocated from the DRCD to support projects identified by the Town Team. • Team meeting monthly to deliver on the actions identified in the Regeneration Strategy.
Moville Town Team			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inaugural Town Team meeting held on the 17th November 2025. • Team to meet monthly to deliver on the actions identified in the Regeneration Strategy.
Milford Town Team			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to commence to establish a Town Team to deliver the Milford Town Centre First Plan with support from Donegal County Council.
Fál Carrach Town Team.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A number of public consultation event held in April, May and June to gauge interest in establishing a Town Team. • First meeting of the Fál Carrach Town Team held on the 10th July 2025. • Town Team working to prepare a Town Team Plan through public consultation and engagement.

2.0 Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF).

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

2.1 Summary update of Projects

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

Table 2: Urban Regeneration and Development Fund Projects

Call	Value of Project (includes DCC co-funding).	Projects and current Status/Delivery
<p>Call 1 (approved September 2019)</p> <p>3 Sub-Projects</p>	€3m	<p>1 Prepare Letterkenny 2040 Regeneration Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed 2022. <p>2 Letterkenny Urban Regeneration site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCC took possession of the former ESB site and adjacent lands through a CPO in 2023. • Site to be developed for the Alpha/Beta Office accommodation, public realm and Housing. • Completed 2025.

		<p>3 Public Realm/Linear Park Phase 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opened June 2023.
<p>Call 2 (May 2020 and approved March 2021)</p> <p>6 Sub Projects</p>	<p>€19.3m (€4.8m DCC co-funding)</p>	<p>1. Reimagine public space at Market Square.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project with CPDU for delivery. <p>2. Cathedral Quarter Park and Church Lane Shared Surface Scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition of a number of parcels of land in Council ownership or sale agreed. • Avison Young appointed to act on Council’s behalf as regards offers/acquisitions/CPO. • Hall Black Douglas appointed as architect-led design team in January 2025. • AAB Group Accountants appointed to prepare a Scoping/Feasibility Study and Business Plan in respect of the Creative Enterprise Hub element of the project and these services commenced in January 2025. • Current design stage: data/information gather via tender for survey (topo, Ground penetration survey, elevational survey, ground investigations) completed. • Design team working on overall designs. • Public consultation events, including workshop with the Members, held on the 16th October 2025. • Further workshop with the Members planned in January 2026.0 <p>3. Renewal at Lower Main Street</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Valuations obtained and land acquisition offers made. • Avison Young appointed to take forward all previous engagement and act on Council’s behalf as regards further offers/acquisitions/CPO. • Council to consider further offers and advance any acquisitions/CPOs. • Re-engagement with Donegal Youth Services carried out December 2025 and some capacity testing exercise at Devlin Hall and adjoining lands undertaken in 2025 using in-house architectural resource but this work has now paused due to other priority work. • Council to explore other options to re-commence this work. <p>4. Revival of the Courthouse</p>

Visitor Experience Plan/Product identification and Business Plan

- EPIC Heritage Consulting Ltd appointed to prepare a Visitor Experience Plan/ Product Identification Plan and Business Plan for the development of a major visitor attraction at the Courthouse.
- Interpretation and Business Plan presented to Members of the LMMD in February 2025.
- Community consultation event held on the 18th February 2025.

Built Heritage Investment Scheme.

- Funding of €10,000 secured in March 2024 from the Built Heritage Investment Scheme for minor repair works and, with co-funding from Donegal County Council, these works have been completed.

THRIVE (EU) Funding.

- Funding of €199,969 allocated under THRIVE Strand 1 from the Northern and Western Regional Assembly for the purpose of engaging architect-led team to bring the project to Part 8 stage.
- Robin Lee, Architects, appointed as architect-led design team in January 2025.
- Workshop with Members of the LMMD held in February 2025.
- Apex Surveys appointed to undertake topographical and building surveys.
- Greentrack consultants appointed to undertake AA and EIA Screening.
- Public drop in event held on the 10th April 2025.
- Workshop held with the Members of the LMMD on the 13th May 2025.
- Part 8 published and approved at the May 2025 Plenary meeting.
- THRIVE Strand 2 funding application submitted by the closing date of the 30th May 2025 including:
 - Energy Audit complete
 - Do No Significant Harm Assessment and Report complete
 - Climate Proofing Assessment and report complete
 - Business Plan completing out at present
 - Bat Roosting and Activity Survey.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding of €7m allocated under THRIVE 2 in September 2025. • Project being handed over to CPDU for delivery. <p>5. Strategic acquisition to enable a Regional Transport Hub</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avison Young appointed to take forward all previous engagement and act on Councils behalf as regards further offers/ acquisitions/ CPO. • Consultation with Local Link ongoing in relation to private bus operators and short term solution. • Land acquisition offers made in December 2024 leading to collaborative approach with key landowner. Agreement to undertake masterplan for the lands to determine potential for public/private collaboration. Tender being drafted at present. • Options for temporary bus hub being advanced in-house. <p>6. Strategic acquisition to enable LK Green Connect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part 8 in relation to the Cultural Corridor element of the project approved by Donegal County Council at the November 2023 Plenary meeting. • In-house team has commenced steps to develop a Part 8 for Phase 2 (from constructed Phase 1 to Pearse Road). • Valuation services of Avison Young being engaged in relation to phase 2 (from constructed Phase 1 to Pearse Road) and lands required for the Cultural Corridor element of the Scheme. • All landowners engaged. • Engagement ongoing with relevant stakeholders. • Topographical survey completed. • External structural/civil engineering consultative services procured for site investigation services access sought to 3rd party lands.
Call 3 (March 2023 and approved July 2023).	€4m	<p>Revolving fund for acquisition costs of long-term vacant property or sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 46 properties on the programme and all owners have been engaged with. • Several properties already activated or being activated through the Croi Conaithe grant scheme and other schemes. • Several properties currently for sale and these are being monitored.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Valuation Services engaged in relation to property valuations. Legal Services engaged in relation to property acquisitions. Council to advance 10 properties for acquisition/CPO. 4 properties added to the Derelict Sites Register.
“The Eat Out’ Outdoor Dining Infrastructure Project		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction completed.
Letterkenny Cultural Corridor		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part 8 approved November 2023. Valuation services of Avison Young being engaged in relation to lands required for the delivery of the Scheme. Services of Quantity Surveyor engaged to provide cost estimates for the scheme and work completed. To be targeted for future URDF funding call.
Youth/Community focused project at Lower Main Street		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early engagements with Letterkenny Youth Club and Donegal Youth Services have commenced. Avison Young appointed in Q4 2023 to take forward all previous engagement and act on Council’s behalf as regards further offers/acquisitions/CPO. Capacity testing of potential lands available commenced in January 2025 with engagement with relevant stakeholders. Exercise paused due to resource requirements across RRDF programme.

3.0 Croi Conaithe Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant Scheme.

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

Table 3: Summary of Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant Applications

Applications Received	1,493
Applications Approved	1087
Applications Deemed not eligible (eligibility criteria not met)	41
Application in progress (first technical inspection/awaiting information from applicant)	120
Applications withdrawn by applicant	176
Applications resubmitted by applicant	69
Applications Paid	392
Value of Applications Paid	€22.1m

3.1 Scheme expansion and amendments

A specific **Vacant Above the Shop Grant**, with stepped funding of up to €140,000 where commercial use continues on the ground floor is being introduced. Where one residential unit is being created above a commercial unit, a grant of up to €95,000 will be available, where 2 units are created an additional top-up of €20,000 will be available and where 3 or more units are created a top-up of €40,000 on the grant of ~~€95,000~~ will be available.

In tandem with the Vacant Above the Shop Grant a new Expert Advice Grant of up to €5,000 will be made available to owners of such buildings who may be considering conversions / refurbishments. This will bring the total package available for such properties to €140,000.

The existing VPRG grant is also being extended for vacant / derelict commercial properties that are being converted in their entirety into more than one home. In addition to the current grant of up to €50,000 /€70,000, an additional €20,000 will be available for a second residential unit and a further €20,000 where three or more units are created. This brings the total package available, where such buildings are being converted into three or more residential units, up to €115,000 (as owners may also receive the Expert Advice Grant).

It is intended that the Vacant Above the Shop Grant and the extended grant for conversion of an entire former commercial building will be in **operation by the end of Q1 2026**.

4.0 Addressing Vacancy and Dereliction

4.1 Property Activation Program

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

2023 Target:

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

2024 Target:

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

2025 Target:

To activate 300 properties and commence CPO in 6 cases.

4.2 Derelict Sites Register

The update and upkeep of the Derelict Sites Register falls within the remit of the Regeneration and Development Team since last year. There have been 4 new additions to the Register this year so far. A review of the 18 properties that were on the Register for several years is completing and as a result, to date 6 properties have been removed from the Register as they do not meet the criteria for inclusion on the Registrar.

In addition, a Derelict Sites Policy and Procedures has been developed which sets out the obligations and legislative procedures to be followed in respect of derelict sites and compulsory acquisitions and sets out the Council's priority programme for making additions to the Derelict Sites Register. The Derelict Sites Policy and Procedures document was approved in 2025 by the Elected Members at each MD level and by the Planning SPC.

APPENDIX B



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Donegal County Council

APPENDIX B

Proposed Variation No. 1 to the County Development Plan 2024-2030

Members are advised that Proposed Variation No. 1 will go on public display for a period of 4 weeks in January (precise details will be confirmed to Members once arrangements have been finalised with the local press).

A series of public 'drop-in' events will be held in each town subject of a new Area Plan (i.e. An Clochán Liath, Ballyshannon, Bridgend, Carndonagh, Donegal Town and Killybegs) and details of those events will also be communicated to Members asap.

Publication of final RZLT map for 2026 and Draft RZLT map for 2027

The final RZLT map for 2026 will be published on 31st January 2026. The draft RZLT map for 2027 will be published on 1st February 2026. Submissions in relation to the maps can be made between 1st February and 1st April 2026.

Section 653I of the Taxes Consolidation Act allowed for rezoning submissions to be made in respect of land included on the final maps for 2025, and it is understood following consultation with Department officials that this opportunity will be extended to land included on the revised maps for 2026.

Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2025-2030

Public consultation in respect of the draft scheme is due to close on 12th January 2026. Following close of consultation, a Chief Executive's Report summarising the issues raised and giving the response of the Chief Executive shall be provided to Members no later than 9th February 2026.

A plenary workshop to discuss the contents of the report shall be organised to allow Members raise any queries or issues they may have.

APPENDIX C



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

CAPITAL PROJECTS DELIVERY UNIT

Community Development and Planning Services

Report to Inishowen Municipal District Members: **January 2026**

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>CPO has been approved by An Bord Pleanála and DCC have taken ownership of the lands.</p> <p>Back Lane works are substantially complete.</p> <p>Detailed design and associated tender documents are complete. Decision Gate 2 approval to proceed to tender has been granted from DRCD.</p>
14 Page	Construction tenders have been published.

Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	Construction tenders to be returned for the main project and assessment commenced. Back Lane construction works to be complete.
Contact Person(s)	Ardal McDermott, Senior Executive Engineer

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 Irelands, 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	An Coimisiún Pleanála refused permission for the development on 25 th July 2025. The Project Team are reviewing options to determine the best way to proceed with the project. It is expect that a decision will be made in January 2026.

Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	Review of implications of ACP refusal and engage with project funders to determine next steps.
Contact Person(s)	Patrick Brennan, Project Manager Shane Sweeney, 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 costal edge and historic town centre activating a competitive, attractive, connected, liveable, sustainable and high quality strategic urban gateway to Inishowen and the Northwest 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, 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> <p>Robin Lee Architecture has been appointed to provide Integrated Design Team Services necessary for the delivery of the project.</p>
Budget	Total Funding €1,461,746.00 80% Funded by RRDF (€1,169,396)
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	20% Funded by DCC (€292,349)
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status	<p>Developed design has been completed for the old garda barracks and Part 8 planning consent has been received. Detailed design is ongoing and will completed by the end of January 2026.</p> <p>Design is progressing for all other elements. A Maritime Area Consent is needed for this work (12 months) followed by an application to An Coimisiún Pleanála (12 -18 months).</p>
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	<p>The design process will continue for all elements of the project.</p> <p>Develop detailed design and tender documents for the Garda Barracks.</p>
Contact Person(s)	<p>Shane Sweeney, Senior Executive Engineer Brendan O'Donnell, Senior Engineer</p>



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Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

Economic Development, Information Systems & Emergency Services Directorate

Municipal District Report **January 2026**

- 1. Economic Development**
- 2. Local Enterprise Office**
- 3. Emergency Services**

1. Economic Development

1.1. Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location / Further Info	Point of Contact
9th to 11th January 2026 Belfast ***** 23rd to 25th January 2026 Dublin	Holiday World Show Belfast/Dublin	<p>Donegal County Council Tourism Unit will be promoting Donegal at the Holiday World Show's in both Belfast and Dublin in January 2026 along with 16 tourism providers from across County Donegal. The newly revamped Donegal Tourism brochure will be available for distribution at both events.</p> 	Joy Browne Tourism Manager Joybrowne@donegalcoco.ie
4th March 2026	Donegal Tourism Connect Seminar	<p>The annual Tourism Seminar is scheduled for 4 March 2026. Donegal County Council Tourism Unit will collaborate again this year with Fáilte Ireland to host the annual tourism networking seminar. Andrea Gilligan has been confirmed as MC and tourism expert, Doug Lansky as keynote speaker. The event will include networking sessions for tourism businesses. The event will take place in Jackson's Hotel, Ballybofey.</p>	Joy Browne Tourism Manager Joybrowne@donegalcoco.ie
24th Nov – 19th Dec	#buydonegal	<p>#BuyDonegal is an annual initiative designed to support and promote local Donegal businesses. The campaign encourages locals, the diaspora, and visitors to shop Donegal-made products and services, bolstering the county's economy while showcasing the creativity and quality of its enterprises</p>	Mairead Carlin Senior Economic Development Officer mcarlin@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	11,660	5,886
Twitter	2,050	3,308
Instagram	11,700	6,539
Facebook	4,600	2,300
Donegal.ie	6K Web Users	

7 News Items Published.

Nov 19th 22nd – Dec 15th, 2025

Green Hydra: Members of the EDU and ETB attended the 5th international study meeting in Lublin, Poland on the 16th and 17th of December. Team members also represented Donegal County Council at the Northwest Future of Energies Conference in the white Horse Hotel Derry on 19th November 2025

Donegal Prospectus: The Economic Development team continue to work to finalise a brochure to promote the value proposition for inward investment to County Donegal highlighting County Donegal as a great place to live, work, study and do business. This brochure will be available in print and digital format.

Donegal Tech Advocates: Donegal County Council, in collaboration with regional stakeholders, continues to promote Tech in Donegal both within the region and in the wider context. The focus of this initiative is to promote, grow, and empower the dynamic and innovative tech sector across the county.

Blue Economy Working Group Update: The final meeting of the Blue Economy Working Group took place on December 10th. BIM in collaboration with Donegal County Council, have commissioned a Blue Bio Economy scoping study with an interim presentation given by Dominic Mullan, Consultant at the meeting. The final report will be available for circulation in early 2026.

From Donegal to Glasgow: Shared Stories, Shared Futures: The Economic Development Team along with Glasgow City Chambers and the Irish consulate in Scotland hosted a successful event on 10th December as part of the Glasgow 850 celebrations, highlighting cultural and historical ties between Glasgow and Donegal. The evening featured music by Bronagh and Nuala Maria McKnight, an engaging panel with Packie Bonner, Owen Coyle, Lorraine McIntosh, and Ricky Ross, and addresses from key representatives. Guests enjoyed lively discussions, performances, and a strong sense of community, reinforcing the importance of collaboration and shared heritage. The event was aimed at developing Diaspora ties and opportunities within the Glasgow area.

North West City Region Trade Mission 10th-14th November. A high-level, cross-border delegation from the North West of Ireland undertook a significant trade and investment mission to Philadelphia, Boston, and New York, as part of a concerted effort to promote the region and strengthen transatlantic ties. The

week culminated with the prestigious Golden Bridges Conference, which, for seventeen years, has strengthened and accelerated transatlantic connections between Boston and the North West .



#Buy Donegal Campaign

The #Buy Donegal campaign took place from the 24th of November and finished on the 19th of December. The annual initiative is designed to support and promote local Donegal businesses. The campaign encourages locals, the diaspora, and visitors to shop for Donegal-made products and services, bolstering the county's economy while showcasing the creativity and quality of its enterprises. Gledowen Craft shop in Inishowen hosted a Highland Radio outside broadcast promoting the #Buy Donegal campaign with John Heena giving Donegal Tweed weaving demonstrations. The day was a great success.



Business Concierge Service: Businesses looking at access Council Services and supports can do so by emailing economicdevelopment@donegalcoco.ie .

Donegal 2040 DAC

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

Remote Working Hub Carrigart

Current Status: In operation. Annual management agreement in place.

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

Current Status: Ground occupied by Killybegs Tourist Information Centre. Lease docs being prepared to handover to Donegal 2040 for operation & management going forward.

Operation & Management of Burtonport Enterprise Centre (Post Construction)

Current Status: Under Construction. Current Estimated Completion date: Q2 2026.

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

Current Status: Tender Construction stage. Current Estimated Completion date: Q3 2027.

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: 2028, subject to funding.

Alpha Innovation Programme delivery update

Alpha Innovation Hub (temporary premises) Market View House, Letterkenny to open early 2026.

Donegal's performance highlights its growing reputation as an innovation hub, actively shaping Ireland's AI future.

Lead2Grow: Lead2Grow – Empowering Business Leaders to lead better, grow faster, and think bigger. Local SMEs from *Donegal, Derry/Londonderry* and *Strabane* have just returned from *New York* where they took part in an intensive leadership programme at *IESE Business School* — one of the world's top-ranked institutions.

What happens now?

ALPHA will deliver in-person follow-up workshops in *Donegal* and *Derry/Londonderry* across Dec 2025 and Jan–Mar 2026, helping each company embed what they learned and turn plans into action. *Lead2Grow* is designed to reduce founder overload, build stronger teams, and help *North-West* businesses grow with confidence at home and internationally.

To express an interest email: Community@alphainnovation.eu

Olivia Gallen, General Manager, Donegal 2040: info@donegal2040.ie 087 2589071: 15th December 2025

Service Land Initiative at The Commons, Lifford

Construction of enabling infrastructure works for the Multi Use Park located at the Common Lands Lifford is scheduled for completion by Q1 2026. Two industrial use sites are available at a size of approximately six acres each. Anyone interested in the purchase of a site please contact Daniel McChrystal, Senior Economic Development Officer.

Disposal of Council owned Land to support Economic Development: The EDU continues to deal with several requests for disposal of lands for economic development throughout Donegal.

Contact Persons

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

Mairead Carlin – Senior Economic Development Officer
mcarlin@donegal.coco.ie

1.3 Tourism Unit

Tourism Marketing, Promotion and Project Activity

Walking Campaign 2025: Together with the Donegal County Council Trails Office, a walking campaign was undertaken for the month of November, which saw 10 Donegal walking ambassadors host a short video of their favourite place in the county to walk. An overall “Hero” video was also used to promote the campaign on social media and on the Go Visit Donegal website homepage. The campaign drew great results with almost 1.4 million impressions across Google (YouTube) and Meta (Facebook/Instagram) with just under 1,500 spent.



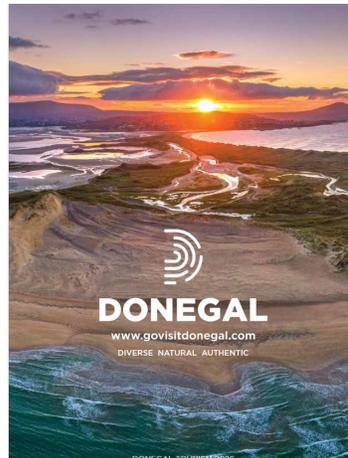
Source : DashThis (data aggregator)

Engagement with Tour Operators – Abbey Tours: Donegal County Council representatives along with 4 tourism providers (Doagh Famine Village, Crolly Distillery, the Gallen Group and Fort Dunree) presented County Donegal to the team at Abbey Tours in Dublin in November 2025. This was an opportunity to highlight our tourism offering and work collaboratively to increase the volume of tours coming to Donegal. The Tourism Unit will be creating a new newsletter aimed at tour operators in 2026 and a tour operator fam trip is also in the pipeline to bring them to Donegal to experience the county in person and incorporate more into tour itineraries.



Take Off Magazine 2026: The Tourism Unit delivered a two-page bi-lingual advertisement in the Donegal Airport Take Off Magazine 2026 promoting the county and linking to Govisitdonegal.com

Donegal Tourism Brochure 2026: The revamped tourism brochure for 2026 has been finalised and will be printed and ready for the Holiday World Shows taking place in January 2026. Additional pages have been included to enhance content, and the brochure will be used across key markets throughout 2026. A new tourism stand has been designed to showcase the very best of Donegal. The stand will form a core element of promotional activity during 2026.



Night-Time Economy Buncrana: NTE Buncrana contributed to a Donegal County Council Submission to the NTA on a consultation on the hackney licencing process. 'Buncrana By Night' Christmas variety show took place in Buncrana Cinema on Tuesday 16 December 2025 at 6:30pm, featuring a showcase of talent in the North-West and celebrates the Buncrana Cinema as a local venue. NTE Highland Radio ad encouraging everyone to be 'safe & sound' after dark across Donegal this Christmas, was also launched.

Ireland’s Association for Adventure Tourism Conference: Representatives from the Tourism Unit attended the IAAT conference in Mayo on 26th and 27th November. This was an excellent opportunity to hear from keynote speakers in relation to the future of adventure travel and the opportunities for Donegal. They took part in a networking session and met with adventure travel tour operators and agents from Italy, the UK and Germany among other countries outlining that Donegal is ideal for adventure travel, gathering contact information and making valuable connections.



GoVisitDonegal.com Website, Social Media and E-mail Marketing Update

Go Visit Donegal Website Redevelopment: The development of the new website continues with a test version of the website now live for the team to add content to. Content addition is underway as well as other testing to ensure that the website is fully operational when it goes live in the new year.

Online & Social Media Updates – Go Visit Donegal November 2025

	USERS	REACH	VIEWS	FOLLOWERS
Website	38,569	N/A	49,614	N/A
Facebook	N/A	147,666	1,089,236	62,025
Instagram	N/A	48,642	335,264	32,842
LinkedIn	N/A	9,923	N/A	2,349

Consumer Newsletter: The consumer newsletter continues to be published monthly around the 1st of the month. It highlights things happening in the county that will be of interest to the visitor and directs traffic to our website. The consumer newsletter is sent to approximately 6,000 recipients.

Strategy Implementation

Donegal County Council Tourism Strategy: The Donegal County Council Tourism Strategy was launched on 31 October 2025. The Tourism Unit is also in the process of setting up a Donegal County Council Tourism Strategy Implementation Group who will work collaboratively on a cross-directorate basis to implement the actions set out in the strategy.

Tourism Industry Engagement

Tourism Industry Newsletter: The monthly tourism industry newsletter continues to be published around the middle of the month with information and updates relevant to the trade. It is sent to approximately 600 registered businesses per month.

Tourism Concierge Service: The Tourism Unit continues to provide the Tourism Concierge Service to guide and offer information to those seeking information on tourism in Donegal e.g. tour operators and travel agencies.

Donegal Tourism Board and Associate Members Network: The Donegal Tourism CLG Board of Directors and Associate Members Committee met in November 2025. The Associate Members Committee deliver updates from the nine allocated sectors and avail of presentations given by various sectoral bodies on projects of interest. Most recently, presentations were given on Donegal Food Coast and Greenway development in Donegal.

EU Projects – Tourism

TOURBO: TOURBO funded under Interreg Europe presents an innovative response to a key EU priority: empowering public authorities and MSMEs to develop twin transition strategies—advancing both digital and green transformation—to drive regional economic development. The program is now in Semester 5 with Donegal County Council taking the Communications and Marketing lead on this project.

Sustainable Arctic & Peripheral Biking Tourism Project (SUB): Funded under the Atlantic Area Programme, the SUB project has now entered its 6th and final semester. Through the project a Toolkit for startups and small to medium Biking businesses will be available to tackle the main issues facing the industry including Digital Marketing, Climate Change, Customer Engagement and Expanding.

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 4 with Donegal County Council taking the Communications and Marketing lead on this project.

Tourism Grant Schemes

Fáilte Ireland Regional Festival & Events Grant Scheme:

Fáilte Ireland have confirmed that Donegal County Council will receive €49,750 under the Fáilte Ireland Regional Festivals and Participative Events Funding Scheme for 2026. This is the same amount as in 2025. The application process will be online and the call will open in January 2026.

Contact Person

Joy Browne – Tourism Manager

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**

Networks: The SFU continues to participate in key networks such as the CPMR (Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions) and the AER (Assembly of European Regions), alongside ongoing engagement with the IREO (Irish Regions European Office), NWRA (Northern and Western Regional Assembly) and Ernact. As our new team progresses, we are actively researching and highlighting funding opportunities across various sectors within DCC. This includes close collaboration with council services to identify, share, and promote relevant funding supports available throughout the County. Our approach involves identifying funding, partnerships, and collaborative projects that align with our objectives and the corporate plan of DCC and also ensuring that this information is effectively communicated and accessible to relevant stakeholders across the organisation.

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

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

We continue to regularly update our dedicated Strategic Funding Unit webpage with the latest information on new funding opportunities, upcoming events, and webinars that may be of interest to the council ([Strategic Funding Unit](#)). Additionally, we offer a dedicated newsletter that provides timely updates and highlights relevant funding calls, events, and webinars ensuring our staff stay informed and connected with the latest developments.

Contact Person

Marion Callaghan – Staff Officer
Marioncallaghan@donegalcoco.ie

2. Local Enterprise Office

January 2026			
Performance			
The performance to end of November is outlined below.			
Donegal	Metric 2025	Outturn YTD (end Nov)	% Of Annual Target achieved 2025
Financial Support Packages	42	43	102%
Training	1050	1056	101%
SYOB	105	181	172%
MDP	105	138	131%
General	840	821	98%
Mentoring	345	345	100%
RD&I	1	0	0%
Lean	15	18	120%
Green	18	31	172%
Energy Efficiency Grant	18	27	150%
Digital for Business	15	47	313%
TOV		38	
Grow Digital Voucher	6	15	250%
MFI	13	15	115%
Client Transfers	5	2	40%
Jobs	105		0%
Export	3	3	100%
Quarterly Grant Payment Performance Metric			
Donegal			Target
	Cumulative	87%	80%

Grant Aid – A total of 43 businesses have received approval for grant aid to support Start Up, Business Expansion and Market Explorer totaling €797.686.14. Grant Aid towards capital machinery, staff and professional support is available to businesses who are Manufacturing/Adding Value or Services trading internationally. The next EVAC is to be held on 24th February 2026.

Trading Online Voucher: 38 approvals to the value of €81,235.33 have been approved this year to support businesses to trade online. The Scheme is now closed.

Mentoring: 345 business applicants have been approved up to 12 hours expert mentoring in 2025.

Training: 1,056 business attendees have participated in over 44 courses held year to date.

Digital For Business: 47 applications were approved to a value of €127,808.50 for a free expert digital consultant to assist in analysing the existing digital systems in the business.

Grow Digital Voucher: 15 applications were approved to value of €39,323.36. A grant of up to €5,000 to invest in software and training/IT configuration is available.

Green For Micro/Green for Business/Green Start: 31 applicants approved for these sustainability supports to a value of €63,634.

Energy Efficiency Grants: 27 applicants approved for this support to a value of €223,387.37. The Energy Efficiency Grant supports the investment in technologies and equipment with 75% of eligible costs from a minimum grant of €750 to a maximum of €10,000.

Lean For Business: 18 applicants approved to a value of €81,000. This is a free support and businesses can avail of up to 4.4 days of expert advice to improve the operational efficiency of their businesses.

Start Your Own Business Programme: 2025 was a record year for the Start Your Own Business Programme with 10 courses taking place with 181 participants.

The next Start Your Own Business online course is commencing on 6th January 2026 and is already fully booked. A further online course is commencing on February 3rd 2026

Get Exporting Programme: A new Get Exporting Programme is launching in Q1 2026. Get Exporting is for Irish manufacturing and internationally traded services companies looking to succeed in international markets. Companies must have less than €10,000 in export sales per annum in Northern Ireland or any other international market to apply. <https://www.enterprise-ireland.com/en/supports/get-exporting>

Donegal Profit Net Engineering Network The last Network meeting of 2025 took place on December 17th with 14 companies taking part. The network will continue in 2025 with a focus on shared learning and support, innovation as well as business and operational improvements.

The Food Starter Programme Plans are underway for the next Food Starter Programme starting on February 2nd. Donegal LEO will take the lead this year for Donegal, Leitrim and Sligo. The programme is one day per week over 4 weeks.

Ambition – Women Entrepreneurs Management Development Programme The Ambition Programme 2025 started on September 2nd. and the finale, The Ambition Showcase, was held on December 9th. 15 companies with 17 entrepreneurs completed the programme and feedback was excellent.

LEO Business Supports Clinic: The Clinics take place twice per month – on-line and in-person at locations throughout the county. As well as learning about LEO supports, all attendees will get the opportunity for one-to-one business advice. In December a virtual clinic was held on December 12th. In January a virtual session will take place on Friday 16th with an in-person session taking place on January 30th in the Local Enterprise Office, Letterkenny.

Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) LEO Donegal, working with Enterprise Ireland, Dublin Chamber and Cork Chamber delivers EEN services to Irish businesses. As part of a new 2025-2028 programme, LEO Donegal is planning international missions, brokerage events, regional activities and enhanced business-partnership supports through EEN’s global network of 450+ organisations.

The 2025 EEN Annual Conference “Driving innovation, decarbonisation and security for SMEs: a stronger Network in action” brought Network members and partners to Aalborg, Denmark in November 2025 for three days of learning, networking and collaboration.



GIFT project: On December 1st 2025 the EU opened registration for craft and industrial products to gain Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) status. The Donegal Tweed Association has requested access to the fast-track application process for this programme.

The Local Enterprise Office Donegal is acting as a project partner in the GIFT project, an Interreg NPA project funded by the EU. The GIFT project promotes the use of EU Geographical Indications (GIs) for food, non-food and tourism sectors in Northern areas. The Donegal Tweed Association is due to be a pilot group for the GIFT project, where they will receive support on the application process for PGI status. Other suitable producer groups in Donegal and Ireland (specifically the NPA region) may also take part in the pilot project.

Donegal Enterprise Awards: The annual Donegal Enterprise Awards took place on Friday December 5th at Rockhill House. Niche Specialist Staffing Partners Ltd was the winner of the best established business, and will now go on to represent Donegal at the 2026 National Enterprise Awards.



Owner director, Ciara McGlynn of Niche SSP accepting the Overall Winner & Best Established Enterprise award at the Donegal Enterprise Awards 2025

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**:	75			905	
Mobilisations (by Donegal Fire Service Brigades)**:	93			1213	
Mobilisations into Donegal (by NI Fire & Rescue Service (NIFRS))**:	_2			_2	
<u>Operational Activity Breakdown November 2025</u>					
	Turnouts			Incidents in County	
	Fires	Special Services	Standby	Fires	Special Services
Donegal Fire Service	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Ireland Fire Service	-	-	-	-	-
Sub Total	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-			-	
<u>Fire Prevention</u>					
Fire Safety Certificate applications received:	18			179	

Fire Safety Certificates waiting to be assessed:	56	N/A
Fire Safety Certificate applications assessed by the Fire Officer and waiting for Further Information from the Applicant / Agent:	57	N/A
Fire Safety Certificate decisions made:	29	141
Applications for Dangerous Substance Licences received:	2	16
Dangerous Substance Licences issued:	2	12
Form of notice received under the Explosives Act, 1875:	6	25
Inspections and Auditing carried out (Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003, Annual Licensing, DSA 1972, Explosive Stores, Pyrotechnics, BCA 1992 & 2007):	8	154
Fire Safety Complaints received:	0	17
Fire Safety Complaints dealt with:	0	16
During Performance Inspections carried out:	0	0
Fire Safety awareness presentations delivered:	27 ²	201

1. **Provisional data provided due to the West Region Communication Centres' transition to the National Mobilisation and Communications System.**
2. **Information not available due to the West Region Communication Centres' transition to the National Mobilisation and Communications System.**

3. **As part of its community fire safety programme, Donegal Fire Authority delivered a total of 20 No. fire safety talks/presentations and completed 7 No. Home Fire Safety Visits.**



ENVIRONMENT REPORT – JANUARY 2026

CLIMATE ACTION

Activity / Project Title	Christmas Environmental Awareness Campaign
<p>Project Description/ Activity</p>	<p>The Christmas Climate Action Campaign is currently running to the end of January to encourage everyone to adopt sustainable practices throughout. Guidance and advice have been prepared to help householders manage waste during the festive season, when excess packaging and food waste are higher than usual. The campaign includes the following:</p> <p>Website: https://www.donegalcoco.ie/en/services/environment/climate-action/christmas-campaign/</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stop Food Waste – use recyclable materials and plan meals to reduce food waste 2. Recycling – awareness of using brown bin for food waste and reminding residents to ensure all packaging is clean, dry and loose in recycling bins 3. Donegal Recycling Centres – Christmas and New Year opening times, closures and services 4. Electrical Waste - promote free recycling of electrical and electronic goods 5. Glass Bottles & Jars – location of 70 bring banks 6. Deposit Return – location of participating retailers <p>To support this campaign social media posts, imagery and video, were scheduled for release across Council platforms during the festive period. A series of radio adverts were developed for local radio</p> <div data-bbox="300 1451 751 1899" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="762 1451 1358 1899" data-label="Image"> </div>



Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall Donegal County Council

Comhairle Contae Dhún na nGall GNÍOMHÚ AR SON NA HAERÁIDE CLIMATE ACTION Donegal County Council

Loughs Agency An tAonúisíneoir na n-Lochanna Loughs

RECYCLE YOUR "NATURAL" Christmas Tree

FOR FREE THIS JANUARY
(Sat 3rd January 2026 – Sat 24th January 2026)

31st - 24th January 2026

DOMESTIC TREES ONLY

LOCATION	SITE
CARNDONAGH	Carndonagh Recycling Centre
BUNCRANA	Nailors Row Car Park, Bunrana
MOVILLE	Council Chip Depot
NEWTOWNCUNNINGHAM	Council Chip Depot
LETTERKENNY	Letterkenny Recycling Centre
LIFFORD	Council Machinery Yard
MILFORD	Milford Recycling Centre
GLENTIES	Council Yard, Gortnamucklagh
DUNGLOE	Dungloe Recycling Centre
BUNBEG	Council Chip Yard, Coshclady
FALCARRAGH	Killult Quarry
STRANORLAR	Stranorlar Recycling Centre
KILLYBEGS	Council Yard, Bridge Street
LAGHEY	Laghey Recycling Centre
BALLYSHANNON	Car Park Mundy's field (GAA) Pitch
BUNDORAN	Sea Front Car Park

OPENING TIMES

Council Yards Monday – Thursday 9.00am – 4.00pm Friday 9.00am – 3.00pm	Laghey Recycling Centre Thursday 10.30am – 5pm (Lunch 12.30pm – 1.15pm) Friday 8.30am – 5pm (Lunch 12.30pm – 1.15pm) Saturday 8.30am – 2.30pm	Milford Recycling Centre Wednesday & Friday 8.30am – 5pm Saturday 8.30am – 2.30pm
Carndonagh Recycling Centre Monday, Wednesday Saturday 8.30am – 4.30pm	Letterkenny Recycling Centre Tuesday – Friday 8.30am – 5pm Saturday 8.30am – 2.30pm	Stranorlar Recycling Centre Tuesday 8.30am – 5pm (Lunch 12.30pm – 1.15pm) Thursday 8.30am – 5pm (Lunch 12.30pm – 1.15pm) Saturday 8.30am – 2.30pm
Dungloe Recycling Centre Tuesday 10.30am – 5pm Thursday 10.30am – 5pm Friday 8.30am – 5pm Saturday 8.30am – 2.30pm		

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

Donegal County Council, in partnership with the Loughs Agency, will use your natural Christmas tree to protect rivers, boost biodiversity and support climate resilience in Donegal.

www.donegalcoco.ie

Christmas Tree Recycling

Partnering with the Loughs Agency, the Christmas Tree Recycling Scheme has been relaunched. Details of 16 drop off points for natural Christmas trees, available from 3rd to 24th January, have been published in local newspapers throughout the county. This innovative scheme repurposes natural Christmas trees to stabilise riverbanks, reduce erosion, and create wildlife habitats. Trees from last year's pilot scheme are currently being used for green engineering along the banks of the River Cummirk in Donegal.

	
Contact Person	Rosita Mahony, Environment Awareness Officer RMAHONY@Donegalcoco.ie

Activity / Project Title	<p style="text-align: center;">Donegal County Council sign's up to Reduce Your Use Energy Campaign for 2025 / 2026 Winter Season</p>
Project Description/ Activity	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Donegal County Council is taking part in the Government's Reduce Your Use energy efficiency campaign throughout the organisation.</p> <p>The Public Sector has been challenged to take a leading role in reducing our nation's energy demand, and it is expected that this campaign can deliver 5-10% energy savings overall across the sector, and up to 15% in buildings.</p> <p>The Reduce Your Use energy efficiency campaign is an effective way to assist with increasing our energy security, lowering energy bills and meeting our targets relating to climate change.</p>

	<p>Our Energy Team and Climate Action Unit is taking the lead in this campaign and will be promoting a regular energy saving action for colleagues to take at work. Information will also be signposted on energy saving ideas for you to try at home.</p> <p>DCC colleagues are encouraged to take part in the energy saving actions and any planned activities over the winter months ahead. The campaign will cover a number of key themes; Theme 1 Heating & Hot Water, Theme 2 Office Equipment, Theme 3 Transport.</p> <p>Now, more than ever, we need to be mindful of how we use energy in our daily lives - from the moment we wake up to the moment we switch off the lights at night. Together, we can make a difference by taking these small but effective energy saving actions.</p>
Contact Person	<p>Suzanne Bogan, Climate Action Officer</p> <p>sbogan@donegalcoco.ie</p>

Flood Relief Schemes

Buncrana Flood Relief Scheme–Briefing Note No.15

[1] Progress Summary

Ayesa is continuing to work on the hydraulic model build to ensure it accurately replicates flood conditions. The outputs of the model results will be used to identify and assess flood relief measures. The hydraulic model will be used to predict future flood events, how they would impact properties and to assess the effectiveness of flood relief measures.

[1.1] Engineering Surveys and Site Investigations

The ground investigation contract was published to e-tenders on the 2nd of October 2025 with a return date of the 6th of November 2025. Assessment of tenders is ongoing, and the contract is expected to commence in January 2026.

[1.2] Hydrology and Hydraulics

The Hydrology Report is drafted and is being updated to take account of comments.

The hydraulic model has been built. The hydraulic report is being updated in tandem with model run results.

[1.3] Environmental Assessments

Once an Option is confirmed specialist environmental surveys such as noise & vibration, air quality and landscape & visual will progress.

Treatment of invasive species, including Japanese Knotweed were completed in Autumn 2025. Treatment of invasive alien species for 2026 is under consideration.

Environmental surveys are planned for spring 2026.

An Appropriate Assessment Screening and Archaeological Impact Assessment report have been developed for the ground investigation contract.

[1.4] Optioneering

Initial screening of flood relief measures is complete. These will be developed into options for detailed assessment following completion of the hydraulics report.

[1.5] Natural Water Retention Measures (NWRM)

Natural Water Retention Measures have been assessed, and these will be kept under review during the hydraulic modelling and options assessment stages.

[1.6] Stakeholder and Third-Party Communications

[1.6.1] Project Website

The project website is regularly updated. The August 2025 Newsletter is available on the project website. A further newsletter will be uploaded in January 2026.

[2] Next Steps

- **Site Investigations:** Appoint the contractor and commencement of GI works on-site.
- **Hydraulic Modelling:** Progress with model runs and complete the hydraulics report
- **Environmental Assessment:** Continue with specialist surveys required by option development.
- **Natural Water Retention Measures:** Finalise the report.



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

**Community Development & Planning Directorate
Community Development Division**

Municipal District of Inishowen

on

13th January 2026

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

Activity/Project Title	Community Development Officer Report
<p>Progress to date within the last two months</p>	<p>Local Enhancement Programme 2026 – Application process will open in late January 2026. Local Enhancement Programme 2026 The Local Enhancement Programme 2026 (LEP) will provide capital funding to support the many small community groups and organisations in the county - particularly those who serve disadvantaged areas in rural and urban areas. The Local Enhancement Programme 2026 is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht</p> <p>The online application process will open in late January.</p> <p>Development Fund Initiative 2026</p> <p>Donegal County Council invite applications in respect of the Development Fund Initiative 2026 This Fund is available to support initiatives in various forms of development including economic, social, cultural, heritage and related initiatives which will benefit local communities, areas and groups throughout the county.</p> <p>Applications submitted by commercial entities or private individuals are not eligible for consideration. Please note the 2026 applications can only be accepted online.</p> <p>Details of the fund and how to apply can be found at: Development Fund Initiative (DFI) Grant Donegal County Council</p> <p>Completed applications must be submitted via the online portal system by 4 p.m. on Friday, 30th January 2026.</p>
<p>Contact Person</p>	<p>Helen Farren, Community Development E: hfarren@donegalcoco.ie T: 074-9373711 M: 087-1699198</p>



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

Activity / Project Title	Malin Head Visitor Management Plan
Activity / Project Description	<p><u>Malin Head Access & Amenity Improvement Project.</u> 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 Carndonagh

Inishowen Municipal District – January 2026

	<p>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.• Workshop took place 03rd December 2024. As discussed, further updates will be made available in due course.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period	The Community Development Division of the Council are engaging with the Council’s solicitor and are awaiting his feedback before issuing a further update to Members, it is hoped to have an update in early January 2026.
Contact Person	James Kelly, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Mobile 087 2236923



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

Activity / Project Title	An Grianán of Aileach Fort
Project Description/ Activity	Development /Improvement of Visitor facilities/Conservation Plan
Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status	<p style="text-align: center;">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 Grianán of Aileach was issued.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A positive response was received from OPW to Fáilte Ireland with suggested dates for a meeting to follow. • The Area Roads Manager and Development Officer met with Fáilte Ireland & the OPW with the objective to improve the visitor experience at the site. • A Memorandum of Understanding document is been signed highlighting the Council, OPW and Fáilte Irelands shared ambition to significantly enhance the visitor experience of Grianán of Aileach through the successful execution of the various site management actions highlighted within the Conservation Management Plan for the Grianán of Aileach and also contained within the Inishowen Peninsula Destination Experience Development Plan (DEDP).The document will serve as a basis to establish a workshop meeting date with the Elected Members, Fáilte Ireland, Council Officials and the OPW. • The Office of Public works is responsible for An Grianán of Aileach monument. Donegal County Council have agreed in principle to agree a Memorandum of Understanding with the OPW and Fáilte Ireland. • Donegal County Council are committed to working in collaboration with all Agencies & Stakeholders to meet the objectives of Fáilte Irelands Inishowen Peninsula Destination Experience Development Plan (DEDP) with the shared ambition to enhance the visitor experience in line with the successful execution of the various site management actions highlighted within the OPWs Conservation and Management Plan for the site. • Fáilte Ireland have appointed the services of a consultant to improve the Visitor Experience at An Grianán Of Aileach. Engagement with the Elected Members will take place in that regard. • The Sláintecare Community Development Officer and the Area Manager, Roads and Transportation continue to engage collaboratively on a Tri-agency approach with Fáilte Ireland and the OPW to form a sustainable management and visitor experience stakeholder group to meet the objectives of Fáilte Irelands Inishowen Peninsula Destination Experience Development Plan (DEDP) with the shared ambition to enhance the visitor experience, including signage, Interpretation and Orientation requirements, in line with the successful execution of the various site management actions highlighted within the OPWs Conservation and Management plan for An Grianán of Aileach. • Fáilte Ireland have appointed the services of Mirador Media consultants to improve the Visitor Experience at An Grianán of Aileach monument. • We continue to engage and collaborate with Fáilte Ireland to meet the objectives and shared ambition to enhance the visitor experience including signage, Interpretation and Orientation requirements. • Fáilte Ireland will provide more information on a draft Interpretative proposal by the consultants at the meeting with the Elected Members on Tuesday 25th February. • Fáilte Ireland recently presented a draft Interpretative proposal for An Grianán of Aileach to the Elected Members.
<p>Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly*</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">An Grianán of Aileach Monument</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Grianan of Aileach is identified as an Action to be developed as a ‘Hero Experience’ within Fáilte Irelands ‘Inishowen Destination and Visitor Experience Development Plan’ to Review elements of the visitor

Inishowen Municipal District – January 2026

reporting period	<p>experience, including signage and Interpretative requirements https://www.failteireland.ie/FailteIreland/media/WebsiteStructure/Documents/Wild%20Atlantic%20Way/inishowen-experience-development-plan-summary.pdf</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fáilte Ireland presented an update and a draft Interpretation proposal conducted by the Consultant Mirador to the Elected Members on the 25th February 2025.• Donegal County Council will continue to work collaboratively lead out by Fáilte Ireland and the OPW to form a sustainable management and visitor experience stakeholder group. https://www.failteireland.ie/Regional-experience-brands/Wild-Atlantic-Way/Wild-Atlantic-Way-experience-development/Inishowen-Destination-and-Experience-Develop/New-News.aspx
Contact Person	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fiona Doherty, Slaintecare, Community Development & Planning• Michael McFadden, Roads & Transportation



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

Activity / Project Title	Playground Maintenance
Project Description/Activity	<p>List of Playgrounds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culdaff Playground • Merville Playground • Buncrana Festival Park Playground • Clós Phádraig Playground • Barrack Hill Playground • Cill Bhríde MUGA • Ballyliffin Playground • Manorcunningham Playground • Killea Playground
Budget (if applicable)	
Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground maintenance repairs carried out as required Q4 2025.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2026 Playground maintenance repairs tender documents being prepared for issue in January 2026
Contact Person	John Deeney, Executive Engineer, 087 7197619

	<u>Newtowncunningham PEACE Plus</u>
Description	Development of a new community playground, Multi-use games Area (MUGA), sensory garden and shelter in Newtowncunningham.
Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site survey complete. • Draft designs in progress.
Project Targets for the next bi-monthly/quarterly* reporting period <i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress designs and consult with community group.
Contact Person	John Deeney, Executive Engineer, 087 7197619



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

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	<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 • 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.
	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.
Contact person	Eamon Boyle, Executive Engineer, Tel: 087 1788623 Email: eamonb@donegalcoco.ie



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

Jetty – Bunagee, Culdaff (ORIS)

<p>Activity / Project Title</p> <p>File:</p>	<p>Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) project Development Measure for a pontoon at the existing jetty in Bunagee, Culdaff</p> <p>€55,555 for Project Development</p>
<p>Project Description/Activity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation work for Jetty at Bunagee, Culdaff
<p>Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status</p>	<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. • 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. • The Ecology report is being finalised • Site Investigation boreholes have been done.
<p>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</p>	<p>Works to be fully complete in Q1 2026</p>
<p>Contact Person</p>	<p>Brian Keogh, Executive Engineer Tel 087 620 2947 Email bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie</p>



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

Moville Shore Path – ORIS

Activity / Project Title	2022 ORIS Measure 2 – Moville Shore Path
Project Description/Activity	Upgrade of the coastal walk in Moville
Budget (if applicable)	€222,000
Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status * Delete irrelevant reporting period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • The Second construction phase is now substantially completed • There are information panels and snagging to be finished. • Installation of Information panels are now installed
Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period	This project is now complete
Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)	Brian Keogh 087 620 2947 Email bkeogh@donegalcoco.ie



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

CLAR 2024

<p>Activity / Project Title</p> <p>CARPARK SURFACING</p>	<p><u>Culdaff FC CLAR Measure 1 2024</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial meetings with the Group• Provisional letter of offer to be issued in February 2025.• Project currently out for tender• Tenders have been returned and are currently being evaluated.• Tender process complete, formal letter of offer issued. <p>The project is due start in January and be completed in May 2026</p> <p>Contact: Brian Keogh, Executive Engineer</p>
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<p>Project Title</p> <p>CARPARK SURFACING</p>	<p><u>GLENGAD FC CLÁR PROJECT 2024</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial meetings with the Group• Provisional letter of offer to be issued in February 2025.• Project currently out for tender• Tenders have been returned and are currently being evaluated.• The project tenders have been returned• Work has commenced on site. <p>The project is due to be completed – March 2026</p> <p>Contact: Brian Keogh, Executive Engineer</p>
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**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

Municipal District: Inishowen

Activity / Project Title	Donegal Walks and Trails
Project Description/Activity	Maintenance, Development and Promotion of Walks & Trails in Donegal including Cycle Routes and Greenways.
Budget (if applicable)	
<p>Progress to date within the last quarter - inclusive of current status</p> <p><i>* Delete irrelevant reporting period</i></p>	<p><u>ORIS 2023 – Measure 1</u> Marketing of Trails Working with colleagues in the Tourism Office of the Economic Development Division, video footage has been developed to market and promote trails and paths across the county. The footage is all now available on the link below. https://www.govisitdonegal.com/things-to-do/activities/walking/walking-ambassadors</p> <p><u>Butlers Glen Trail:</u> This project has been successfully completed in partnership With NWCD IDP and DCC Community & Development and is open to the public connecting up with Dorris Russo and Mamore Gap.</p>
<p>Project Targets for the next Bi-monthly / quarterly reporting period</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with Development officer for possible site visits.
<p>Contact Person (to include telephone number & e-mail address)</p>	<p>Darryl Connor (Outdoor Recreation & Maintenance Officer) dconnor@donegalcoco.ie</p>



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



Municipal District: Countywide

<p>Activity / Project Title File:</p>	<p align="center">Social Inclusion Unit</p>
<p>Project Description/Activity</p>	<p>The role of the Social Inclusion Unit is to raise awareness about inclusion and poverty and to deliver inclusive services and resources, achieved through the involvement of Council in multi-agency structures, projects and initiatives.</p>
<p>Progress to date within the last quarter -inclusive of current status</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ireland and Integration - The EU as a Catalyst for Change & Local Authorities as drivers of Civic Engagement, organised and hosted by the DCC Local Authority Integration Team (LAIT), held on Friday 14th November 2025 in the Radisson Blu Hotel, Letterkenny. The event examined the transformation that has occurred from when Ireland was a place that people emigrated from to one that people now immigrate to. The conference explored what inward migration has contributed to Ireland and how Local Authorities can be drivers of Civic Engagement for all refugees and migrants. • Diwali celebrations organized by the Indian Community Centre, Letterkenny. The event took place at An Grianán Theatre, Letterkenny on Saturday 15th November. An occasion to celebrate with the Indian community in Donegal, Indian culture and traditions through art, music, dance and food. • Social Analysis & Community Work Practice Workshops, held in Inishowen Development Partnership, Buncrana on Tuesday 18th November. Workshop covered an understanding of community work values & principles, issues of inequality & social justice; who is most affected; into to key concepts of power, prejudice, racism, globalisation; challenges of misinformation. • Donegal Travellers Project – Decision-Maker Dialogue, held In the Regional Cultural Centre (RCC), Letterkenny on Friday 28 November, Discussing diversity and decision-making spaces. A live panel discussion with Senator Eileen Flynn, Shane O’Curry, Director of Irish Network Against Racism (INAR) & Dr. Jennifer Okeke, Chairperson National Women’s Council of Ireland & Anti-Trafficking coordinator with Immigrant Council of Ireland. • DCC Social Inclusion Unit funded and supported Palestine Culture Night, held in the Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny on Saturday 29 November. A cultural night to recognise the United National International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People and celebrate Palestinian culture, traditions & heritage and contribution of the community in Donegal, through music, arts, spoken word, and food.

Inishowen Municipal District – January 2026



- DCC Social Inclusion Unit funded and supported the Northwest Ukrainian Group Christmas event in Ionad Naomh Fionnán, Falcarragh on Tuesday 16th Decemer. An inclusive occasion for the Ukrainian community to Celebrate Christmas with the wider communities. Live Music, Art Activities for Children & Entertainment.



Inishowen Municipal District – January 2026



- Confirmation of the Launch of One Donegal Social Inclusion Week 2026 on Thursday 9th April 2026, preparations have begun.

Contact Persons

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087 067 1393

ROADS & TRANSPORTATION UPDATE



Inishowen Municipal District

13th of January 2026

2026 Roads Programme(s)

The Roads Area Team are currently in the process of preparing a draft priority list for the 2026 programmes which will be based on the allocation received in 2025. The announcement for the 2026 allocation is expected in late February - early March.

Councillor's will recall that several dates have been agreed for roads workshops to discuss the 2026 Roads Programme(s) for same to be agreed and adopted at the March Inishowen MD

1. 13th January 2026 (Wed) – Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) eligibility assessment list.
2. 06th February 2026, (Friday)
3. 27th February 2026, (Friday)

The February workshops will focus on.

- Restoration Improvement Programme 2026 (Year 2)
- Restoration Maintenance Programme 2026
- Drainage programme 2026
- Community Involvement schemes 2026

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 2026 programmes.

Local Improvement Scheme (LIS) grants are announced later, and once a list of eligible schemes have been provided by Roads Central, a separate date for a LIS workshop can be agreed and organised.

Hoping this is to your satisfaction

Regards

Michael Mc Fadden

Area Manager, Inishowen Roads

Donegal County Council

Adopted Restoration Maintenance Programme 2025

RSS	Engineer	Road Class	Road Number	Road Name	Works Type	Length or work (m)	Start	Finish	Notes
Moville	Inish North	L	L-1371	Ballybrack Upper	SD	1,500	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	L	L-6431	Carnagarve Hill Road	SD	1,510	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	L	L-1131	Culdaff Glebe	SD	2,310	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	L	L-11111	Carthage	SD	1,550	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	L	L-5931	Glackadrummon	SD	1,600	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	L	L-5921	Redford Glebe	SD	600	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	L	L-12615	Freehold	SD	2,150	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	L	L-6271	Ballyargus	SD	1,400	Complete	Complete	
Moville	Inish North	R	R-241	Lower Road Greencastle	SD	1530	Complete	Complete	
Moville Total						14,150			
Carndonagh	Inish North	LP	L1272-1	Magherard/Hillhead	SD	1,500	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LS	L-5171-1	Meeting House to Ballagh	SD	2,400	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LS	L-5171-1	Clorney to Quarry Road	SD	350	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LS	L-5761-1	Hollymount	SD	2,165	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LS	L-5031-1	Moss Road Malin Head	SD	986	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LS	L-10113-0	Ardmalin	SD	1,300	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LS	L-10414-0	Tully	SD	1,100	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LS	L-10711/L-5141-1	Ballanahona	SD	1,480	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LP	L-1511-1	Tullagh Road	SD	2,500	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LT	L-6841-1	Roosky	SD	900	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LT	L-52311-0	Magheranaul	SD	647	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LP	L-1091-3	Isle road	SD	1,000	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh	Inish North	LP	L-1171-2	Altashane	SD	1,240	Complete	Complete	
Carndonagh Total						16,328			
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	LP	L1731-1 to LL1731-6	Meena Hanish	SD	3,400	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	LP	1841-2	Moss Cottages Inch	SD	1,600	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	LP	1841-4	Watery Road Inch	SD	1,000	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	LS	L6211-1	White Castle School Road	SD	1,252	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	LT	16911-3	Meenaward	SD	2,300	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	LT	68712-2	Owenark	SD	1,374	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural	Inish South	LT	68712-3	Glassmullan	SD	1,100	Complete	Complete	
Buncrana Rural Total						13,064			
Newtown	Inish South	R	265-8	Redbridge	SD	750	Complete	Complete	
Newtown	Inish South	R	265-7	Monreagh	SD	680	Complete	Complete	
Newtown	Inish South	LP	1811-1	Glackmore	SD	920	Complete	Complete	
Newtown	Inish South	LP	1911-2	Drunskellan	SD	1,160	Complete	Complete	
Newtown	Inish South	LP	2021-2	Adee to polock	SD	1,620	Complete	Complete	
Newtown	Inish South	LS	5014-2	Dunduff	SD	1,400	Complete	Complete	
Newtown	Inish South	LS	8241-1	Bohuillion	SD	946	Complete	Complete	
Newtown	Inish South	LS	8421-1	Garshoey	SD	1,400	Complete	Complete	
Newtown Total						8,876			
IMD TOTAL						52,418			

Adopted Drainage Provision Programme 2024

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

Low Cost Safety Programme 2025

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

Bridge Strengthening Programme 2025

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

Adopted CIS Programme 2025

RSS	Engineer	Road Class	Road Number	Road Name	Works Type	Length or work (m)	Budget 2025	Start	Finish
Carndonagh	Kevin Lake	LP	L-1081	Ref 503 Barrack Street Malin	G P	200	€80,000	Subs Complete	Subs Complete
Moville	Kevin Lake	LP	L-1411	Ref 436 Viewing Area at Crockanonion	G P	1,400	€26,888	Complete	Complete
Moville	Kevin Lake	LP	L-5771-1	Ref 455 Hollymount link	G	950	€28,000	Complete	Complete
North Inishowen							€134,888		
Buncrana	Stephen Glackin	LS	L-7641-1	Ref 537 Barrs Pit Road	P	517	€84,000	Complete	Complete
Newtown	Stephen Glackin	LS	L-8381-1	Ref 522 Jamie Rankin	P	217	€25,387	Complete	Complete
Newtown	Stephen Glackin	LS	L-8381-1	Ref 524 John Rankin	P	128	€14,976	Complete	Complete
Newtown	Stephen Glackin	LS	L-2161-1	Ref 541 Kildrum Killea	G P	40	€10,525	Complete	Complete
South Inishowen							€134,888		
IMD TOTAL							€269,776		



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

HOUSING & CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

Municipal District of Inishowen

13th January 2026

Housing Service

- Progress Reports

**Summary of Casual Vacancies
Inishowen MD as 13th January 2026**

Properties Refurbished and at Offer Stage	1
Properties being refurbished	4
Properties to be refurbished	1

Summary of DCC Housing Offers and Tenancies

Offers issued from 01/01/2026	Offers refused from 01/01/2026	Tenancies created from 01/01/2026
0	1	1

Summary of DCC Nominations to AHBs

Area	AHB	Nominated	Vacancy	Allocated
Carndonagh	SVP	0	0	0
Buncrana	SVP	0	0	0
Moville	Apex	2	2	0

Inishowen MD Housing Waiting List

Gross Number of Approved Applicants on Social Housing Waiting List	693
Applicants currently accommodated with HAP assistance but who have remained on the Council Social Housing list	397
Tenants currently accommodated in Council Social Housing and who are approved for a Transfer	49
Net Social Housing Waiting List	247

Gross Need - by approved bedrooms - January 2026

Municipal District		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Inishowen	Ballyliffin	0	8	4	2	0	14
	Bridgend	3	14	5	1	0	23
	Buncrana	17	173	72	13	0	275
	Burnfoot	1	5	4	0	0	10
	Burt	1	4	2	0	0	7
	Carndonagh	14	70	47	4	0	135
	Carrigans	2	10	5	0	0	17
	Clonmany	0	12	13	1	0	26
	Culdaff	0	8	5	0	0	13
	Fahan	1	2	0	0	0	3
	Gleneely	0	6	5	0	0	11
	Glengad	0	3	1	0	0	4
	Greencastle	3	11	6	0	0	20
	Inch	0	0	1	0	0	1
	Killea	0	3	3	1	0	7
	Malin	1	4	10	0	0	15
	Malin Head	0	1	1	0	0	2
	Moville	8	18	13	1	0	40
	Muff	4	16	9	1	0	30
	Newtowncunningham	3	25	7	1	1	37
Redcastle	0	1	2	0	0	3	
Total		58	394	215	25	1	693

Housing Grants Report at 2nd January 2026

Housing Adaptation Grant for People with a Disability

YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED	WITHDRAWN /CANCELLED/ INVALID	FURTHER INFO.	PENDING
2024	79	74	1	2	2	0
2025	96	40	3	13	18	22
2026	0	0	0	0	0	0

Mobility Aids Grant

YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED	WITHDRAWN /CANCELLED/ INVALID	FURTHER INFO.	PENDING
2024	23	16	0	6	1	0
2025	9	5	0	2	0	2
2026	0	0	0	0	0	0

Housing Aid for Older People Grant

YEAR	TOTAL RECEIVED	APPROVED	REFUSED	WITHDRAWN /CANCELLED/ INVALID	FURTHER INFO.	PENDING
2024	222	200	5	13	4	0
2025	243	162	6	15	14	46
2026	0	0	0	0	0	0

Housing Capital Update Report Inishowen Municipal District Meeting

13th January 2026

1. Social Housing Developments – Construction Schemes

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

Location	Status	No. of Units
Construction Stage		
Rockytown, Phase 2	<p>Contractor appointed in December 2024 with a construction period of 24months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site establishment works completed. • Eastern and western boundary retaining wall complete. Internal retaining wall structures are complete. Stone cladding to western boundary wall complete. • Foundation completed to 54 no units (includes piling for foundations to 20 no units). • RC substructures complete to 47 units. • Ring beam to 20 no units complete. • Radon barriers and ground floor slabs complete to 31 no units. • Super structure commenced to 14 no units. • Trunk sewer and storm 80% complete • Installation of utilities water,esb/Eir services ongoing. 	54
Barrack Hill, Carndonagh	Roofing works are complete for all 21 units. External render to 13 units is complete, while mechanical and electrical 1 st and 2 nd fix have started on 18 units. Mainline drainage and watermains are 90% complete.	21
Carn Road, Gleneely	Retaining walls, mainline drainage, and road construction are 90% complete. Roofing works are complete for all 10 units. Blockwork is complete on six units. 1 st fix plumbing and electrical have commenced on six units.	10
Malin, Radharc na Tra Breige, (Ph 4)	Roofing works are complete for all nine units. Blockwork is complete for all units. External render complete to 5 units. Mechanical and electrical 1 st fix commenced on six units. Mainline drainage is complete while construction of the estate road is underway.	9
SI at Kinnea, Clonmany	The roof is complete. 1 st fix plumbing and electrical have commenced; groundworks 80% complete.	1
SI at Ballyliffin	The roof is complete. 1 st fix plumbing and electrical have commenced; groundworks 80% complete.	1
SI at Dunaff, Clonmany	Foundations installed, blockwork at the wall plate level. Roof trusses to commence in January.	1
Detailed Design / Tender Stage		
Ballyhaskey, Newtowncunningham	Contractor appointment being considered, awaiting final stage Departmental approval.	40
Total		137

Rockytown Phase 2 Progress



2. House Acquisitions & SHIP Renewal

- 2.1 The Council has completed the works to the Garda Station at Malin. This project now comprises 2 no. 3-bedroom semi-detached units.
- 2.2 The Council is also progressing the acquisitions of 2 properties at Movice. The properties will require significant improvement works, following completion of the contract stage. Departmental funding approval has been received for this project. The properties are at conveyancing stage.

3. Social Housing through Turnkey Acquisition

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

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

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

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

4. 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.

A further offer to acquire lands at Movice has been accepted (subject to contract and Uisce Eireann Connection Agreement and requirements) 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.