

LCDC Annual Report

2024

Background

Putting People First – An Action Programme for Effective Local Government envisaged a range of reforms including an enhanced role for Local Government in community development. This enhanced role was provided for in the Local Government Reform Act 2014, which included a requirement to establish Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs) in each local authority area. Donegal LCDC was established in June 2014 in accordance with guidelines outlined by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government. LCDC's replaced the County Development Board structure and aim to enhance the strategic planning and coordination of local and community development activity.

Key Responsibilities for 2024 for Donegal LCDC

- Finalisation of the community element of the 6 year Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) and adoption of same.
- Co-ordinate all community development programmes in the local authority area such as the management and overseeing of the Rural Development Programme (LEADER) and the Social Inclusion, Community Activation Programme (SICAP).
- Ensure effectiveness, consistency, co-ordination and avoid duplication of public funded programmes.
- Administration of Local Enhancement Programme 2024
- Administration of the Community Recognition Scheme 2023 and 2024
- Administration of Healthy Ireland Programme
- Administration of Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme
- Prepare an annual report on the performance of the LCDC functions.
- Administration of DRCD supported funding schemes such as the Community Development Programme and the Empowering communities Programme.

Composition

LCDC's are required to comprise both public and private sector members, including local authority members and officials, State agencies and private sector local and community development representatives to work in partnership to achieve its objectives. Donegal County Council provide administrative support to the LCDC and Paddy Doherty is the Chief Officer of

the Committee. Donegal LCDC is made up of 19 representatives, with one position being vacant at the end of 2024.

Donegal LCDC Membership at the end of 2024

Name	Sector	Organisation
Cllr. Martin McDermott Chairperson	Local Authority, Councillor	Donegal County Council
Cllr. Niamh Kennedy, Vice Chairperson	Local Authority, Councillor	Donegal County Council
Cllr. Brian Carr	Local Authority, Councillor	Donegal County Council
John McLaughlin	Local Authority Official, Chief Executive	Donegal County Council
Brenda Hegarty	Local Authority Official, Local Enterprise Office	Donegal County Council
EveAnne McCarron	State Agencies	ATU
Anne McAteer	State Agencies	Health Service Executive
Michael Mac Giolla Easbuig	State Agencies	Udárás na Gaeltachta
Anne McHugh	State Agencies	Education Training Board
Andrew Ward	Local Development Company	Inishowen Development Partnership Ltd
Padraic Fingleton	Local Development Company	Donegal Local Development CLG
Joe Boland	Social Inclusion Interest	PPN
Charlene Logue	Community Voluntary Interest	PPN
Vacant	Community Voluntary Interest	PPN
Aengus Kennedy	Environmental Interest	PPN
Siobhan McLaughlin	Social Inclusion Interest	PPN
Liam McElhinney	Trade Union	ICTU
James O'Donnell	Farming & Agriculture	Famers Rep
Maire Ui Mhaoilain	Islands interest	Comhar na nOilean

Meetings

Donegal LCDC comprises both public and private sector members and members met nine times in 2024 and also hosted a Special joint meeting with the Economic, Enterprise and Emergency Services SPC at which the final draft of the Donegal Integrated Framework LECP 2023-2029 was approved for progression and consideration at a plenary meeting of Donegal County Council.

Key Achievements

Donegal LCDC has had a very busy and productive year continued deal with the challenges faced by addressing the issues arising from New Arrivals. To date, the Committee has in accordance with requirements overseen the following:

1. Review of the Local Economic & Community Plan

Development of the Donegal Integrated Framework LECP 2023-2029

One of the roles of the LCDC is the preparation of a six year Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP). The LECP's are a part of the overarching policy framework of Project Ireland 2040, which includes the National Planning Framework (NPF), the National Development Plan (NDP), the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies (RSES) and County and City Development Plans.

Within this policy framework, the specific purpose of the LECPs is to set out, for a six-year period, the objectives and actions needed to promote and support economic and community development within the relevant Local Authority area, both by itself directly and in partnership with other economic and development stakeholders. In doing so, the LECPs are one of the primary mechanisms – at local level – to bring forward relevant actions arising from national and regional strategies and policies that have a local remit, and support collaboration to increase the quality of life in our communities.

Following a comprehensive programme of engagement across communities, cross, directorate, cross sectoral and across agencies, the Donegal Integrated Framework LECP was adopted by Full Plenary Council in March 2024.

The Donegal Integrated Framework LECP is a key document for County Donegal, providing a framework for advancing economic, community, social and cultural development in the county. It sets out a Shared Vision, informed by extensive consultations with community, statutory, and sectoral stakeholders, with Goals, Objectives and Actions to sustainably develop the county's natural, human, and capital resources, recognising the challenges facing the county in a volatile, uncertain and everchanging global environment, and seeking to address these challenges.

Even more importantly, the LECP recognises the advantages and the potential for sustainable development that County Donegal has to offer, and it seeks to capitalise on this potential for the benefit of the community. This Plan seeks to make the county an innovative, creative, accessible, and inclusive county, with opportunity and a good quality of life for all sections of the community.

2. LEADER Programme 2014 – 2022

Donegal LCDC delivers the LEADER Programme within Donegal with our four implementing partners, Donegal Local Development CLG, Inishowen Development Partnership, Údarás na Gaeltachta and Comhar na nOileán. The LCDC also acts as the Local Action Group (LAG) working in partnership with Donegal County Council as Lead Financial Partner.

Donegal LCDC, in its role as the LAG approved the full allocation of LEADER funding awarded to the county for the 2014-2022 programme to projects recommended by the Evaluation Committees of the local Implementing Partners. The LAG also delivered the follow-on Transitional LEADER Programme and EURI (European Union Recovery Instrument) Programmes.

Transitional LEADER Programme and EURI (European Union Recovery Instrument) Programmes.

Both the Transitional & EURI Programmes were extended into 2024 which allowed the LAG to approve additional projects because of de-committed funds from projects previously approved and for partners to work with funded groups to complete local projects.



Pictured: LEADER funded Scioból na bhfear project on Tory Island

LEADER Programme 2023 - 2027

In its capacity as the LAG, the LCDC are again administering the new LEADER Programme through the LEADER Local Development Strategy 2023-2027. Donegal was awarded a €10.4m allocation for the delivery of the new programme to cover the period.

The new LEADER Programme opened for expressions of interest and applications in April 2024 following approval of the final Local Development Strategy developed via consultation events across the county in partnership with Implementing Partners and combined with the new LECP and PEACEPLUS programme consultations.

Following the opening of the programme, 13 projects were approved in 2024, with a total allocation of €454,656.58 approved by the LAG.

3. Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2024-2028

Donegal LCDC manage and oversee the implementation of the Social Inclusion, Community Activation Programme (SICAP) with 2024 the first year of the new four-year SICAP programme running from 2024-2028.

The SICAP Programme had a budget of €2,491,313.53 per year across the lifetime of the programme.

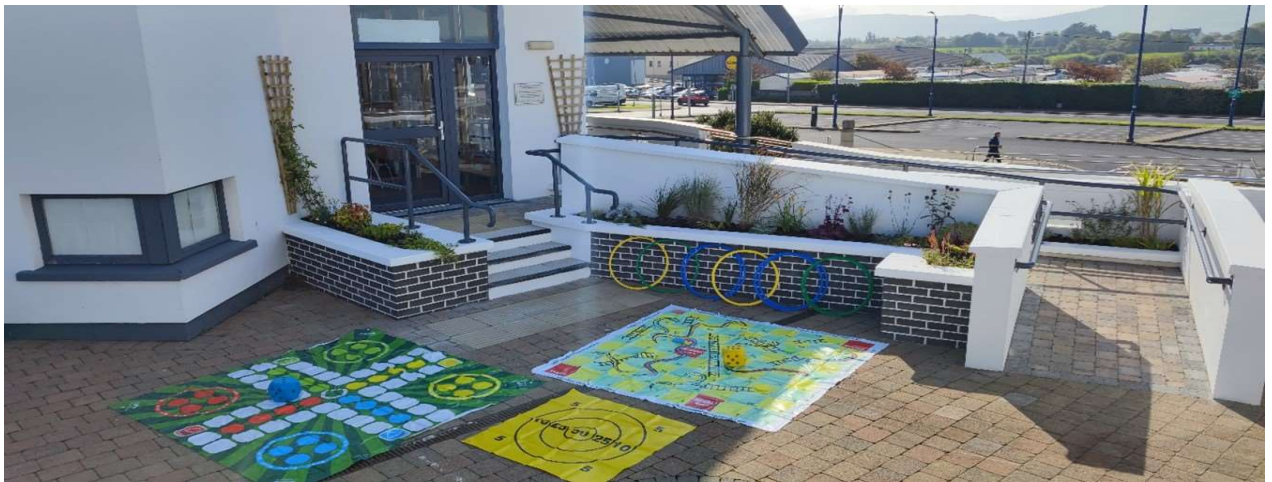
Two Local Community Development Companies deliver the SICAP Programme on behalf of the Donegal LCDC across the three Lots in County Donegal as follows:

Lot 33-1 Donegal Inishowen	Inishowen Development Partnership
Lot 33-2 Donegal Gaeltacht	Donegal Local Development CLG
Lot 33-3 Donegal	Donegal Local Development CLG

Donegal LCDC worked to ensure the implementation of these plans and programmes at a local level ensuring the effective co-ordination of funding programmes for the benefit of local communities in the county.

In 2024 the core SICAP Programme again extended to include delivery of supports to New Arrivals with an additional budget allocation of €714,385.15 to the Programme Implementers for provision of supports.

4. The Community Recognition Fund 2023



***Pictured:** Sensory Garden Bundoran Library which was funded by Community Recognition Fund 2023*

The Community Recognition Fund aimed to support the development of community infrastructure and facilities in recognition of the contribution being made by communities

across the country in welcoming and hosting significant numbers of arrivals from Ukraine and other countries. The funding was specifically targeted at projects that are located in communities, towns and villages that are hosting the Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection and/or International Protection Applicants ('new arrivals') across Donegal.

The Fund aims to support the development of facilities that will be used in the future by all members of the community. It is separate in its objectives and scope to any other public funding streams which aim to support the development of public service needs arising from the significant number of arrivals from Ukraine and is administered by Donegal County Council on behalf of Donegal LCDc. Applications from 51 Community Groups seeking funding were successful, receiving award of funding totalling €3,014,395 in late 2023. At the end of 2024 the total amount drawn down from the Department was €2,439,588.46. This Programme will run into early 2025 with the remaining 9 projects due to complete at the end of Q1.



***Pictured:** Playground at Ionad Cois Locha which was funded by Community Recognition Fund 2023*

The Community Recognition Fund 2024

The Community Recognition Fund 2024 will again be administered by Donegal County Council on behalf of Donegal LCDc. This fund aims to build on the work completed in CRF 2023 and has a budget of €3,291,917 with all projects to be completed by November 2026. This fund was available to communities to apply across two windows in 2024, to allow for increased project development. The scheme will provide large capital grants ranging from €50,000 to a maximum of €500,000 and has the potential to impact communities greatly and the allocation to the County will result in the delivery of developments and projects in towns

and villages which will benefit the entire Community in recognition of the support they have shown to New Arrivals. Applications from 28 Community Groups seeking funding were recommended to the Department of Rural and Community Development under Window 2 of the Programme for funding and decision on these applications is expected in early 2025. This programme will run into 2026 with additional recommendations under Window 3 of the Programme due to be submitted to the Department in February 2025. The total value of awards under the Community Recognition Fund 2024 will be €3,291,917.

5. The Local Enhancement Programme

The Local Enhancement Programme 2024 totalling €258,776.87 was allocated for award across 2024 including €105,000 in large grants and €105,000 in small grants and €43,129.48 for Women's Groups, supporting critical community infrastructure and groups, with a small amount retained for administration. The Local Enhancement Programme 2024 supported groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas to focus on small capital works/repairs/improvements, and the purchase of equipment for community use such as improved access for persons with a disability; enhancing community participation for disadvantaged and marginalised groups and improving energy efficiency of community facilities to reduce ongoing costs.

129 grants were awarded and administered by Donegal County Council on behalf of Donegal LCDC.



***Pictured:** Equipment purchased under Local Enhancement Programme 2024*

6. Community Development Programme and Empowering Communities Programme.

2024 also saw the LCDC continue to work with the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) on the roll out of a number of schemes initially developed in 2022 on behalf of the Department.

- In 2021, the DRCD awarded seven applicant organisations funding under a €1 million, three-year pilot **Community Development Programme** to trial community led interventions that address poverty, social exclusion and inequality and promote human rights. The Donegal Intercultural Platform was approved funding under the theme “Migrants” to tackle racism and promote inter-culturalism, human rights, equality and inclusion across County Donegal. The LCDC has financial oversight of the development of the project locally and issued funding of €125,000 to Donegal Intercultural Platform in 2024.
- The **Empowering Communities Programme** targets a number of smaller areas experiencing challenges affecting the quality of life for those people living in them. Arranmore Island is a pilot location for the Programme and in 2024 Donegal LCDC administered the annual funding of €120,000 for the programme and continues to work closely with DLDC who are delivering a programme of activities to the community on the island.
- The DRCD has developed the **Dormant Accounts Action Plan 2023** to address measures to ensure that existing community infrastructure is inclusive and welcoming to LGBTI+ people. DRCD allocated funding of €13,366.70 to Donegal LCDC to transfer to the Donegal Youth Service to support the LGBTI+ across 2024 and to ensure that the funding would be used in the course of their work to implement the actions included in the National LGBTI+ Strategy.

7. Creeslough Together Initiative

The LCDC, on behalf of Donegal County Council, continued to support the Creeslough Community Association to deliver the Creeslough Together Initiative which was funded through the DRCD. 2024 saw the delivery of the second year of the three year funding programme which delivered on the group's Annual Plan for the year which included the continued development of a local Community Hub for the group and the employment of staff to manage and oversee Pastoral care of the Community, Community Activation (development, support and funding of small community activities) and Support future infrastructural development needs under the Creeslough Plan 2024-2027.



Pictured: Smiles, laughter, and festive cheer filled the air as friends and families reunited at the Christmas Craft Fair in Creeslough Together Community Hub

8. Healthy Ireland – Healthy Donegal

The objective of the Healthy Ireland Fund 2023 – 2025 is to improve the health and wellbeing of people of all ages and abilities living in Ireland through the implementation of the Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan 2021-2025. Donegal Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) with an approved budget of €233,000 is delivering a more evidenced-based outcomes led approach, within the 3-year timeframe.

In 2024, Donegal LCDC supported key priority target groups through local activities delivered under the Healthy Ireland Programme.

Civic Dollars Pilot Project

The Chair of Donegal Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), Cllr. Niamh Kennedy announced the extension of the Civic Dollars project for a further two-year period following on from the resounding success of its pilot launch in 2023.

The Civic Dollars Project uses a smartphone app, to encourage increased time spent in local outdoor resources; give people an incentive and support to create behavioural change; improve health, encourage increased physical activity, and help users to engage with their communities.



Pictured: Cllr. Niamh Kennedy, Chair of Donegal LCDC pictured launching the Civic Dollars Project with (L-R) Stephen McPeake, CEO Civic Dollars; Margaret Fitzgerald, Healthy Ireland Coordinator and Paddy Doherty, Senior Executive Officer, Community Development, Donegal County Council at the Shore Front Walk, Killybegs.

Balor Theatre Summer Academy Programme



Pictured: Paddy Doherty, Chief Officer, Donegal LCDC and Margaret Fitzgerald, Healthy Ireland Coordinator, pictured with participants of the Balor Theatre Summer Academy Programme.

Healthy Donegal in conjunction with Balor Developmental Community Arts and through the Healthy Ireland Fund first invited adolescents and young people to join the Balor Theatre Summer Academy Programme in 2023. In August 2024, the programme concluded for its second year with a musical production which ran for nine nights. The purpose of this programme is to bring young people, artists and educators together through drama, art, dance and music to promote positive mental health, decrease the sense of isolation and provide positive role models.

In promoting participation-focused activities, like the Balor Theatre Summer Academy Programme, Donegal LCDC is helping empower adolescents and young people to develop interpersonal skills to communicate, build confidence and self-esteem while improving social skills, nurturing self-expression and whole-person growth.

Step Up Staff Walking Challenge

Donegal County Council Chief Executive, Mr. John G McLaughlin announced the winners of the annual Step Up Walking Challenge in September 2024. The campaign was rolled out over a four-week period, through the Staff Health and Wellbeing Office in conjunction with Healthy Donegal, to encourage staff to get more physically active and promote healthy habits.

Over the four-week challenge, teams collectively walked over 6,000km - the equivalent of walking around Ireland six times. Donegal County Council is committed to supporting and encouraging staff to make exercise a part of their everyday lives; as there is significant evidence that physical activity of moderate intensity promotes wellbeing, physical and mental health, prevents disease, improves quality of life, and has economic, social and cultural benefits.



***Pictured:** Donegal County Council Chief Executive, Mr. John G McLaughlin and Mr. Patsy Lafferty, Director of Service, Housing and Corporate Services pictured with the winners and participants of the Donegal County Council Staff Walking Challenge 2024.*

Alcohol Forum – Building Recovery Together

Donegal County Council through Healthy Donegal was delighted to support the Alcohol Forum at their 'Building Recovery Together: Recovery, Diversity and Inclusion in Donegal' Seminar on 27th September in Letterkenny. The seminar included an inspiring line up of speakers including Senator Eileen Flynn, Jackie McBrearty – a recovery voice from the Blind Community, Tolulope Babatunde (MindEase), Fadl Mustapha and Barbara Ozga (Polish Alcohol Service, Dublin) and Mena McGinlay (Donegal Travellers Project).

The event highlighted and explored the disproportionate impact of alcohol harm on diverse communities, including ethnic minorities, LGBTQ+ communities and those with physical and sensory disabilities.



September was Addiction Recovery month, an all-important reminder that addiction can happen to anyone at any point in life.

Active Play

Donegal County Council in collaboration with Donegal Sports Partnership and funded through the Healthy Ireland Programme and Slaintecare Healthy Communities Programme launched the Active Play Donegal Programme on 7th November 2024.

The Active Play Donegal Programme aims to increase participation in physical activity for children through developing the capacity and skills of 'Play Leaders' within communities. Identified Play Leaders will receive training and support in how to encourage children in their domain to become more physically active through the medium of play. Being active through play helps children not only increase their physical fitness but also builds confidence and resilience while encouraging creativity and problem-solving skills - all of which benefit children's health and happiness as they grow.



Pictured L-R: Danny Gillespie, Donegal Sports Partnership; Margaret Fitzgerald, Healthy Ireland Programme; Cllr. Jimmy Kavanagh, Leas-Chathaoirleach of Donegal County Council; Paddy Doherty, Senior Executive Officer, Community Development, Donegal County Council; Ciaran Martin, Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme; Kirsty Browne, Donegal Sports Partnership.

Planting Seeds of Support among Rural Farmers



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

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

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

Civic Play Project



Healthy Donegal in partnership with Foróige works to enable young people to involve themselves consciously and actively in their personal development and in the development of society. Using outdoor recreational areas - 'Earn Zone' sites identified as part of Healthy Donegal's Civic Dollars Project, this project aims to help participants

- Build self-esteem and confidence through challenging experiences,
- Develop the ability to manage personal and social relationships,

Participants recently took part in a one day Be Wild Be Free Forest skills workshop at a specially designated camp at Ards Friary Forest and Beach. The workshop was facilitated by Wild Awake and activities provided an opportunity for young people to connect with green

spaces while using the Civic Dollar App. The group participated in animal tracking, beach games, tree/holly bush care to support a newly developing forest, camp fire safety, how to source kindling, set up a heat/cooking source to allow for the cooking of a curry infused picked nettles for dinner which was consumed by the campfire with hot drinks as members moved onto tool use, forest roaming and quality time with one another which encouraged a natural disconnect from gadgets.

9. Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme

The Sláintecare Healthy Communities Initiative is an interagency plan to improve the health and wellbeing of the most disadvantaged areas of society. The 3-year programme, which was administered by the LCDC and initiated in 2022 covers two areas in Donegal: Inishowen and Gaeltacht North West. Two Community Development Officers deliver the programme in the pilot areas, with respective Seed funding of €75,000 per area annually as well as funding to cover staff costs. A new 5-year SLA has also been signed with the Department of Health, starting in 2025 that will build on the work to date. Projects delivered in 2024 included a mobility bus, Health and Wellbeing programmes for men, Mens Sheds, Grow Your Own initiatives in National Schools and the development of raised beds in 8 community-led day centres.



***Pictured:** Slaintecare funded raised bed project at Fanad Day Centre*

10. Donegal County Council PEACEPLUS Programme 2022 -2027 - Investment Area 1.1 1 Co-designed Local Community PEACEPLUS Action Plan

PEACEPLUS is a new, ambitious cross-border funding Programme totaling €1.1bn and is a partnership between the European Union, the Governments of the United Kingdom and Ireland, and the Northern Ireland Executive and will be administered by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB). Match-funding for this element of the PEACEPLUS Programme has been provided by the Executive Office in Northern Ireland and the Department of Rural & Community Development in Ireland.

PEACEPLUS will continue to provide investment to Northern Ireland and the border counties. It comprises six themes, which encompass 22 individual investment areas.

Under Theme 1, Investment Area 1.1, a total of €110 million has been designated for the co-designed Local Community PEACEPLUS Action Plans as part of the 2022-2027 Programme.

The specific allocation for Donegal amounts to **€7,635,395**.

Donegal Co-designed Local Community Peace Action Plan is centered around three established themes:

- Community regeneration and transformation.
- Thriving and peaceful communities
- Building respect for all cultural identities.

The action plan for Donegal was formulated through a three-stage local co-design engagement and consultation process that began in 2023. This process involved consultations with essential community stakeholders, engagement sessions, thematic workshops, an online survey, project development, and a comprehensive application and assessment procedure. These collective efforts led to the final approval from the SEUPB in June 2024.



***Pictured:** PEACEPLUS launch with Donegal PEACEPLUS Partnership*

Peace plus Consultation Launch

Donegal PEACPLUS Action Plan aims to foster positive relationships within local communities that will affect meaningful attitudinal change across the County through enhanced diversity awareness, increased levels of social inclusion, and cross community and border interaction.

The Plan will see the creation of six countywide transformative, sustainable and accessible community shared spaces, and deliver 26 local social impact programmes that will stimulate and support peacebuilding and relational work, strengthen the capacity and skill sets of community-based organisations, and deliver initiatives and activities on a cross community, intercultural and cross border basis, helping to elevate and address social and economic challenges which have, and continue to, impact Donegal's communities.

This plan will directly benefit **7,635 participants**, providing them with opportunities to engage in a more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable community ecosystem. It is focused on building peace and prosperity for all citizens, and its impact will be felt across all our communities.

The tables below contains summary information regarding projects included in the application to the SEUPB. Most of the projects will be advertised by open, competitive tender. Relevant organisations and local community groups are encouraged to submit tender bids, to win the various contracts once the process goes live later this year.

Theme 1: Local Community Regeneration & Transformation

Designed to empower local people to transform and regenerate communities through infrastructure investment on a cross-community basis.

Donegal's specific objective, to create six co-designed accessible, transformative, and sustainable community shared spaces, that facilitate communication, connection, co-operation, and interaction among users & stakeholders. The spaces are catalysts for bringing communities together and drive intercultural, cross-community & cross-border interaction to build lasting relationships and contribute to peacebuilding.

The new, multi-purpose, environmentally positive community developments include:

- Newtowncunningham Playpark, Sensory Garden & Multi Use Games Area.
- The Boat Yard Project Ballyshannon
- Loughanure Community Playpark
- Fintown Community Playpark
- Glencar Outdoor Community Recreation Facility
- Drumboe Community Park Development.

The Community Regeneration and Transformation Theme makes up 40% of the programmes and includes six countywide projects. It will target 2500 participants.

Theme 1 Community Regeneration and Transformation (CR&T)				
Project	Project Description	Area	Budget	Participants
Newtowncunningham Playpark, MUGA, Sensory Garden and Canopy Space.	The proposal provides for a dedicated outdoor Intergenerational recreational shared space, centrally located, and consolidating the village core as a place for all people, providing a vibrant hub for community/border enjoyment.	Inishowen	€500,000.00	500
The Mall Redevelopment Ballyshannon; The Boat Yard Project.	The proposal provides for a dedicated multipurpose outdoor shared space, that will expand and improve one of the town's most historical landmarks, providing a vibrant hub for cross community/border enjoyment.	Donegal	€500,000.00	500
Loughanure Community Playpark .	The proposal provides for an all-Ability Playpark, centrally	Glenties	€250,000.00	250

	located next to the local national school. This new facility will enhance this rural village, provide a vibrant hub for cross community/border enjoyment.			
Fintown Community Playpark.	Donegal County Council in conjunction with Fintown Parents Association proposal provides for an all-Ability Playpark, centrally located next to the Scoil Naisiunta Colmcille'. This new facility will enhance this rural village, provide a vibrant hub for cross community/border enjoyment.	Glenties	€250,000.00	250
Glencar Outdoor Community Recreation Facility.	The proposal, provides for a multiuse outdoor shared space, located at Glencar Letterkenny, with the provision of a Multi Sports Playing Pitch and Community Garden & Allotments providing a vibrant hub for cross community/border enjoyment.	Letterkenny-Milford	€500,000.00	500
Drumboe Community Park Development.	The proposal provides for an all-Ability Playpark & Walking Trails located in the picturesque forest area of Drumboe Woods, peripheral to the Twins Towns of Ballybofey-Stranorlar. This much needed facility will provide a vibrant hub for cross community/border enjoyment.	Lifford-Stranorlar	€500,000.00	500
Total	Target Participants No :2500 80/20 Cross Community split		€2,500,000.00	2500

Thriving & Peaceful Communities:

Programmes will focus on wellbeing, connectedness and empowerment which brings about positive change.

Donegal's co-designed Action Plan will deliver thirteen co-designed transformative programmes, which will facilitate communication, social connection, co-operation and interaction among participants and stakeholders. The Programmes and activities are a catalyst for bringing communities together and will drive intercultural, cross-community/border interactions, building lasting relationships contributing to community wellbeing and peacebuilding.

Donegal specific objective is to raise the profile and acknowledge issues that still need to be addressed from the peace process, that impact on building cohesion and an intercultural future; and support good practice projects improving community relations, inclusion, leadership, relationship building, cultural commonalities, and the lives of young people at seminal moments.

The Thriving & Peaceful Communities theme makes up 30% of the programmes and includes thirteen Countywide Peace Programme . It will target 2575 participants.

Theme 2 Thriving and Peaceful Communities (TPC)				
Project	Project Description	Area	Budget	Participants
Social participation and combating exclusion (SPACE) Donegal County Council Programme.	The programme will undertake events and activities to explore the issue of accessibility and connectedness and increase social participation especially on an intergenerational basis.	Countywide	€250,000.00	335-375
Turn Up the Volume for Equality Donegal County Council Programme.	Using music and production skills to engage more young people (18-24yrs) in arts and culture.	Countywide	€75,250.00	100-125
Peace building through sport	Sports Programme centred approach to relationship building.	Countywide	€200,000.00	265-300
Crossroads	Youth intervention Programme (16-24yrs) at seminal moment.	Countywide	€200,000.00	265-300
Connection and Citizenship	Youth intervention Programme (10-18yrs) connecting early with others. The Programme will be a co designed with a focus on the empowerment, motivation, and skills acquisition of a new generation of active citizens.	Countywide	€200,000.00	265-300

Power of Visibility	Civic participation and Social Inclusion Programme. The aim of the project is to identify and work with groups and individuals that are traditionally less included in activities and in leadership positions, develop role models and help target groups become more involved in decision-making at community and more public levels across all sectors.	Countywide	€200,000.00	265-300
Peace building through the environment	The Community Climate Action & Mitigation programme will have a number of strands addressing the need for individualised and community-based climate actions within the County, this programme will aim to have long-term impact with regard to climate adaption across Donegal.	Countywide	€200,000.00	265-300
Respectful Relations	Youth intervention Programme that engages with public agencies schools and community organisations in promoting respectful youth behaviours toward others.	Countywide	€200,000.00	265-300
Inclusion Not Isolation	Mental, physical, social health and wellbeing Programme, targeting equality groups that are isolated due to variety of factors.	Inishowen	€80,000.00	110-130
Good Neighbours	Capacity Building Programme that strengthens Cross community /border Relationships .The project will develop relationships through the medium of sport, arts, drama, culture, health & wellbeing activities and initiatives .	Donegal	€80,000.00	110-130
Cultural Connections	Use of traditional music, linguistic and heritage to explore cross community / border relationships.	Glenties	€80,000.00	110-130
Ethical & Shared Remembering	A process of dialogue and discussion between key actors and communities about the past and development of a civic voice for the future.	Letterkenny-Milford	€80,000.00	110-130

Champions of the Environment	Using natural features such as the river to support environment champions, promote environmental and ecology awareness, and undertake mitigations to improve the environment.	Lifford-Stranorlar	€80,000.00	110-130
	Target Participants No : 2575-2950 80/20 Cross Community split		€1,925,250.00	2575-2950

Building Respect for all Cultural Identities

Programmes focus upon providing support to those most marginalized and underrepresented groups within our communities.

Donegal's Co-designed Action Plan will deliver thirteen transformative programmes, which facilitate communication, connection, co-operation and interaction among participants and stakeholders. The programme activities are a catalyst for bringing communities together and will drive intercultural, cross-community interactions that increase levels of mutual understanding, trust, and respect, and builds lasting relationships that contribute to peacebuilding.

Donegal's specific objective is to foster a greater sense of belonging by recognising cultural and religious differences as positive, and by embracing diversity generally; and to increase skills, change behaviours and attitudes, which will reduce sectarianism and racism, reduce poverty and exclusion, and promote a positive intercultural future for all.

The Building Respect for all Cultural Identities Theme makes up 30% of the programmes and includes thirteen Countywide Peace Programme . It will target 2575 participants

Theme 3 Building Respect for all Cultural Identities (BRCI)				
Project	Project Description	Area	Budget	Participants
Our Voices Together. Donegal County Council Programme.	Exploring immigration through lens of newcomers to the county and the Irish experience as emigrants – finding commonalities and finding a home for the stories and experiences.	Countywide	€125,250.00	170-200
Diversity and Decision-Making in an Intercultural Future	Cultural competency and systemic change – training in inter-culturalism for communities and for decision-makers across the public and community sectors.	Countywide	€200,000.00	265-300
Creative Minorities	Events and activities that highlight, promote, and	Countywide	€200,000.00	265-300

	enjoin cultural expression from majority and minority traditions.			
New Horizons	Understanding the changing demographics and developing responses to prejudice and racism/sectarianism.	Countywide	€200,000.00	265-300
SHARED Heritage	Programme using intergenerational and intercultural learning to explore shared past and identify commonalities.	Countywide	€200,000.00	265-300
STEAM Training	Focus on skills development on a cross community and intercultural basis for young people post-primary level to learn about Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM) subjects, especially from a rural and less engaged background.	Countywide	€200,000.00	265-300
Food Equality Initiative	The programme will help to better understand food inequality in the County and undertake activities to alleviate food poverty support existing initiatives across the community.	Countywide	€200,000.00	265-300
The Viewing Project	A programme to using art and drama as the basis for engaging people from all backgrounds in challenging topics relevant to the PEACEPLUS Programme	County Wide	€200,000.00	265-300
Inishowen Is Ours	To support environmental regeneration of the peninsula by working with communities, and previously excluded groups, to tackle climate change, with nature-based solutions and developing bio-diversity action plans.	Inishowen	€80,000.00	110-130
Believe We Can	Sports utilising the Donegal coast and ocean	Donegal	€80,000.00	110-130

	to provide Personal Development and well-being opportunity for young people from marginalised backgrounds and equality groups.			
Belonging Across Boundaries, Stories to Connect	Festival and story-telling that may cross borders and use the medium to connect people and communities	Glenties	€80,000.00	110-130
Pride Not Prejudice	Training in recognising and countering discrimination, racism and prejudice while creating a cross border collaboration to share learning.	Letterkenny-Milford	€80,000.00	110-130
New Friends, New Relationships	A programme to organise interventions for young people (9-12yrs) at a time when they are ending their primary education and progressing to post-primary education. A series of interventions will enhance cultural understanding and learning; as well as make new friends from different backgrounds through the medium of theatre, arts, music and dance etc.	Lifford-Stranorlar	€80,000.00	110-130
	Target Participants No : 2575-2950 80/20 Cross Community split		€1,925,250.00	2575-2950

Paddy Doherty
Chief Officer
Donegal Local Community Development Committee