



Chief Executive's Management Report

13th of September, 2021
Item 20

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MANAGEMENT REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2021

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Chief Executive's Foreword

I hope everyone had the opportunity to enjoy a break over the Summer as we move into a very busy period of the year.

It was welcome news when the Government announced it had agreed Ireland's plan for the next and final phase of our response to the COVID-19 pandemic COVID-19: Reframing the Challenge, Continuing Our Recovery and Reconnecting.

Over the next number of weeks we will see the majority of restrictions lifted and replaced by guidance and advice to enable us to work together to protect ourselves and to live our lives to the fullest extent possible. We continuously review our business continuity plans to ensure we are providing services to the fullest extent possible.

I was so pleased in July when we were in a position to announce that the Swords Cultural Quarter had taken a major step forward with the appointment of the integrated design team which will be led by award-winning architects O'Donnell and Tuomey. I am confident the project will now proceed at pace with a Part 8 planning public consultation process to be initiated in May 2022. With its location in the civic heart of our County Town it will be a major new public and civic space and is such an exciting project.

I was delighted to be invited to the inaugural meeting of Fingal County Council's Women's Caucus which took place in July and I look forward to seeing what can be achieved by this group led by Councillor Power who was elected as Chairperson. The executive supports the aims of the Caucus to develop and advocate for policy and other initiatives that address issues affecting women and their families and to promote and support women's participation in politics, nationally and locally.

There has been good news regarding funding with Rush, Lusk, Donabate, Skerries and Oldtown set to benefit from €260,000 of funding which was awarded

by the Department of Rural and Community Development under the new Town and Village Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2021. This funding is greatly welcomed to help local communities in enhancing the attractiveness and vibrancy of our towns and villages.

We have also just secured €600,000 in Fáilte Ireland funding for the provision of a permanent Outdoor Dining facility in Howth under the Outdoor Dining Enhancement Scheme. I am delighted that our application has been successful and I look forward to seeing this exciting project move forward over the next few months as it goes through the planning process and public consultation.

I will be participating in a Climate Action Panel Discussion with the Chief Executives of the four Dublin local authorities, taking place online on Tuesday 14th September 2021 at 10am as part of Dublin's first Climate Action Week (DCAW21), taking place from Monday 13th to Sunday 19th September 2021. A range of online and in-person climate action events are now open for registration at www.dublinclimateactionweek.ie addressing the theme areas of Energy & Buildings, Transport, Flood Resilience, Nature Based Solutions, Resource Management and Citizen Engagement. The recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Climate Change 2021 Report, categorically underlines the need for urgent action on climate change by all sectors of society. It is most important to highlight Dublin's climate action progress to our citizens and demonstrate the leadership role of the four local authorities in conjunction with other partners.

Fingal Bike Week 2021 will begin this Sunday, 12th of September, and end on Saturday, 18th of September. The Environment, Climate Action and Active Travel Department have announced an exciting programme of events taking place across Fingal with something for all age groups and I would encourage as many people as possible to avail of this wonderful opportunity.

'Housing for All - a New Housing Plan for Ireland' is the government's housing policy to 2030 which was launched last week. It is a multi-annual, multi-billion euro plan which will improve Ireland's housing system and deliver more homes of all types for people with different housing needs. This is an ambitious plan which contains actions to be taken by government departments, local authorities, State agencies and others. My teams will work cross departmentally to ensure that we are in a position to meet the targets set out in the plan.

I am looking forward to staff returning to the offices in larger numbers over the coming weeks and the opportunity to hold physical meetings once again.

AnnMarie Farrelly
Chief Executive

HR, CORPORATE AND GOVERNANCE

Contents	
Major Emergency Management Election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor Human Resources Health & Safety Unit Customer Services	CRM Information Technology Communications

Major Emergency Management



The Major Emergency Management structures in place within the Council have proven to be very effective and have served us well over the last 18 months.

As the vaccination programme continues to make good progress and we move towards the next and final phase of the Government's response to the pandemic the necessity for the MEM Eastern Region Steering Group, chaired by the Chief Executive, to meet is no longer required. The Group will reconvene if and when required.

Locally, Fingal County Council's Management Team continues to meet regularly to ensure continuity of services and put measures in place to align with the Government's plan for the next and final phase of their response to the COVID-19 pandemic COVID-19: Reframing the Challenge, Continuing Our Recovery and Reconnecting.

Human Resources

The Human Resource Department continues to plan for and respond to the challenges brought by Covid19. In line with the Government's **COVID-19** Reframing the Challenge, Continuing Our Recovery and Reconnecting plan, staff continue to be kept up to date on relevant Government directives and are provided with useful information through text alerts and a dedicated staff information webpage.

Training and development of our staff, including statutory Health & Safety training, continues throughout the pandemic ensuring that critical services are not adversely affected. As part of the Local Authority Climate Action Training Programme, Council staff are currently undertaking "Climate Action - Raising Awareness" training, delivered through the Climate Ireland Learning Platform. The HR Department is continuing the roll out of Diversity, Interculturalism Training which will assist the Council in meeting its obligations under the Public Sector Equality & Human Rights Duty.

The HR Department is currently engaging in large scale recruitment campaigns for a range of roles

Health & Safety Unit (HSU)

The HSU has reviewed, consulted with staff and finalized a number of safety statements. The 2021 corporate safety statement has been published on Share point along with some of the 2021 ancillary safety statements. The remaining ancillary safety statements are at consultation and finalization stages. Site safety inspections and accident investigation continue with site safety audits coming back on line as the effects of the pandemic are waning due to effective HSE vaccination programmes.

Customer Services

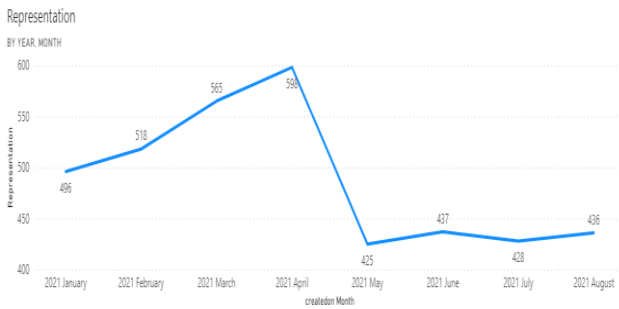
The Council's Customer Care Agents dealt with a total of

- 15,383 phone calls in July and 15,438 phone calls in August
- 987 emails in July and 737 emails in August

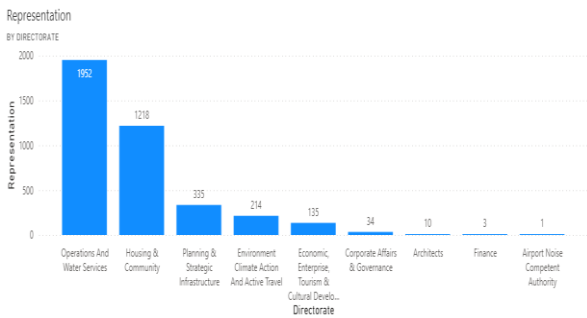
CRM

Staff continue to work on the Customer Relationship Management System (CRM) and issue responses to Councillors representations and complaints submitted by the public.

The months of July and August had a total of 864 Councillor's representations.



The table below shows the number of Councillor's representations assigned to each Department for the year to date.

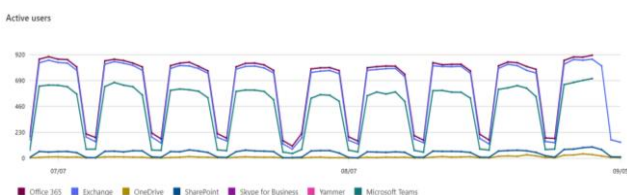


Information Technology

- Digital Working
- IT Infrastructure & Support
- Document Management System
- Libraries IT Upgrades
- Public Wi-Fi

Digital Working

In July and August staff took part in 17,522 Teams meetings, 61,574 Calls took place, and 1,454,124 emails were received or sent by the Council.



IT Infrastructure & Support

1,504 support calls were logged by Council staff with the IT Service Desk in the past two months and 24 calls were logged by Councillors with Sord. 100% server availability and 99.99% network availability was achieved in the months of July and August.

Document Management System

The implementation of the FinDocs Document Management System is continuing on schedule. There are now six Departments up and running on the new system. Planning and Strategic Infrastructure and the Aircraft Noise Competent Authority went live over the summer period.

Libraries IT Upgrades

Work is nearing completion on the project to upgrade public WiFi and install new technologies in each of the branch libraries. Balbriggan, Baldoyle, Donabate, Howth, Malahide, Rush and Swords libraries have been completed. Blanchardstown library will be completed within the next month.



The Eduroam service, which enables third-level students to login Fingal libraries WiFi using their college credentials, is now available in Balbriggan, Baldoyle, Blanchardstown, Donabate, Howth, Malahide, Rush and Swords libraries.

Public Wi-Fi

Fingal's Public WiFi scheme will be launched at the start of September in each of the four WiFi4EU funding areas. 46 WiFi hotspots are now live in 17 locations with 1 further location to be added in the coming weeks –

Location	Hotspots	Area
Skerries	5	A
Lusk	2	A
Rush	4	A
Garristown	1	A
Naul	2	A
Swords	7	B
Donabate	3	B
Portrane	1	B
Malahide	5	C
Howth	5	C
Portmarnock	1	C
Blanchardstown Village	3	D
Blanchardstown Civic Centre	2	D
St. Catherine's Park	2	D
Clonsilla	1	D
Castleknock	1	D
Mulhuddart	1	D
Ongar	TBC	D

COMMUNICATIONS

Podcast

To coincide with National Heritage Week, Episode 12 of the Inside Fingal podcast featured Heritage Officer Christine Baker who spoke about National Heritage Week, the role of the Heritage Officer and the importance of knowing about our Heritage and also gave an insight into some of the heritage projects that have been undertaken in Fingal.

The Inside Fingal podcast attracted 4,783 listeners to the end of August with 2,597 downloads and 2,186 internet listens. This is a 50% increase in listenership since June.

All podcasts in the series are available at www.fingal.ie/podcast.

Website

Our website, fingal.ie, attracted 103,800 visitors in July and 102,400 visitors in August with 301,300 page views in July and 292,100 in August.

Over the two months, the most popular pages were planning applications, jobs, recycling and libraries with our visitor page also performing strongly.

The website has attracted 804,600 visitors in the first eight months of 2021 with 2,335,500 page views.

Social Media



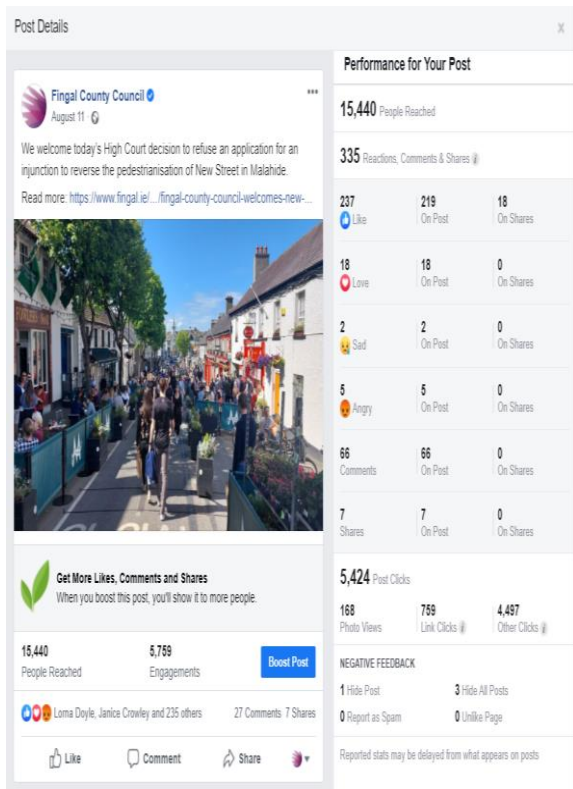
A major milestone was achieved in July when our Twitter account, @fingalcoco, reached 20,000 followers and, by the end of August, a further 200 had been added. Over 1million impressions have been achieved on Twitter in each of the last four months with 1.1m being recorded in July and 1.2m in August. Engagement rates were 1.2% for July and 1.0% for August.

Tweet activity

	Impressions 205,965 Total engagements 7,430 Media engagements 2,971 Detail expands 2,464 Link clicks 973 Likes 792 Profile clicks 115 Retweets 88 Replies 27
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The best performing tweet over the last two months was a post welcoming the High Court decision to refuse an application for an injunction to reverse the pedestrianisation of New Street in Malahide. It had 205,965 impressions and 7,430 engagements and has become the most popular tweet ever posted by the Council.

The same post also performed well on Facebook, reaching 15,440 people and generating 335 engagements of which the vast majority were overwhelmingly positive.



At the end of August we had 23,658 followers on Facebook while on Instagram we had 4,640 and there were 4,580 on LinkedIn. All three platforms have seen significant increases in followers since the start of the year with Facebook recording a 12.74% increase, Instagram seeing a 44% increase and LinkedIn having a 21.87% increase.

Projects and Campaigns

The Communications Unit worked with various departments on communications and engagement strategies for a number of projects and campaigns in July and August

These included Heritage Week, Swords Cultural Quarter, Castleknock Playground, Royal Canal Urban Greenway, Fingal Women’s Caucus, Momentum Public Arts Community Festival, Dublin Plein Art Festival and Write Time Festival,

Press Releases

A total of 50 press releases, statements and media invitations were issued by the Communications Unit during July and August. We also dealt with 59 media queries and interview requests.

Work Placements

The Communications Unit has partnered with the School of Communications in Dublin City University to give two students from the MSc in Public Relations and Strategic Communications course a 12 week work placement during July, August and September. The placements are part of DCU’s INTRA programme.

ECONOMIC, ENTERPRISE, TOURISM & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Contents	
Tourism Development Events Tourism Heritage Properties	Economic Development Balbriggan Socio-Economic Strategy LEADER Programme Local Community Development Committee Enterprise Centres
Cultural Development Arts Libraries	Local Enterprise Development

EVENTS

FINGAL CELEBRATES



This September Newbridge House, on the 4th & 5th, and St. Catherine's Park, on 11th & 12th, will be transformed into a bustling summer festival site for all ages. 'Fingal Celebrates' is free-to-attend to people who are residents of Fingal. All tickets for these events are now sold out.

Over the 4 festival days, 'Fingal Celebrates' will present four dazzling show sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon each day. Each display will be a celebration, showcasing the fruitful arts community of Fingal.

Fingal Celebrates is funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media and aimed at supporting the local live entertainments industry.

HALLOWEEN



HALLOWEEN AT SWORDS CASTLE



A scary castle creepy crawl will also take place from 29th – 31st October at Swords Castle as part of the Halloween celebrations.

This will be a ticketed event – further details to follow.

TOURISM

Tourism & Hospitality Working Group

The Fingal Tourism Hospitality Group, which comprises representatives of the EETCD and members of the Fingal Dublin Chamber, met on September 1st to discuss the very positive outcomes of the Fingal tourism summer campaign and to discuss main objectives and actions moving forward for Q4 2021.

Headline results following increased spend on social media advertising, Google advertising, display & search and YouTube:

- 354,052 people reached and 462 new followers on Facebook last month
- 37,227 video views on social ads and 29,281 views on YouTube ads for the three videos released so far
- An engagement rate of 47% on the YouTube ads is extremely high compared to the 20 – 25% industry average

Tourism Development Groups

The tourism development groups continue to adapt to the evolving tourism circumstances. The groups all work with Fáilte Ireland on the Dublin Coastal Trail, finalising stories and sourcing additional photography for FI's content pool. These stories will form part the marketing and promotional campaign in Q4 onwards.

Meetings were facilitated with Skerries and Dublin 15 tourism development groups to discuss potential leader tourism projects going forward.

National Environmental Monitoring Scheme

Fáilte Ireland has chosen to include Malahide in the National Environmental Monitoring Scheme which will identify and characterise tourism movements and behaviours to understand tourism interactions with environment sensitivities across the Republic of Ireland from 2021-2025.

The aim of the monitoring scheme is to gather comparable data on visitor movement patterns, visitor behaviours, activities and impacts, while also recording environmental sensitivities, site condition and facilities management.

HERITAGE PROPERTIES



RECENT HERITAGE PROPERTIES CONSERVATION WORKS INCLUDE:

Ardgillan Castle – Tenders for Conservation Management Plan will be evaluated this month.

Malahide Castle – Contract has been awarded in respect of the works required for the Great Hall and Library conservation works. Works to commence this month with substantive completion by February 2022.

Skerries Mills – Consultation has commenced with the Council’s Planning Department on the redevelopment for the Red Barn with a view to bringing it to Council next month and initiating the public consultation process.

Work has also commenced on new branding for Skerries Mills to incorporate it into the Council’s brand suite for heritage properties.

Swords Castle – all public realm works to the front of the castle will be completed this month. A new information sign at the entrance to the castle is also now in place, complimenting both the new street furniture and planters in situ.

MARKETING/PROMOTION OF HERITAGE PROPERTIES

Visitor numbers have been encouraging during July and August following the re-opening of all services across the properties and an extensive digital and radio advertising campaign.

Malahide Castle has seen the return of a number of small tour groups for the first time in 18 months. These included American, Italian and Romanian.

Newbridge House - An interview showcasing Newbridge House with Cathal Dowd Smith, Curator on Newstalk for the Pat Kenny Show received a very positive response.

Casino Model Railway Museum – increase in visitor numbers due to extensive advertising and it being combined with the Fairy Trail experience in the castle.

A combined student ticket for Malahide Castle and Casino Model Railway Museum has also been shared to over 35 Dublin language schools for the shoulder season trade.

Ardgillan Castle – To promote the new craft studios that is proving very popular with visitors alongside the new craft shop, a photography competition was held on social media, the theme of which was ‘arts and crafts’. The Manager of Ardgillan Castle also did an interview on Dublin City FM, which aired during August about the “ghosts” that visit the castle.

AWARDS



Swords Castle Conservation Project has been nominated in the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards 2021 in the Heritage and Built Environment Category. The awards ceremony will take place on Thursday 18th November.

CREATIVE FINGAL PROGRAMME 2021

WHO SHOT SERGEANT KIRWAN? FILM LAUNCH



On Friday 27th August 2021 the Mayor of Fingal, Seána Ó Rodaigh, launched the first public showing of the Fingal Old IRA Commemorative Societies production, **Who Shot Sergeant Kirwan?** to an invited audience of 100 guests.

The film commemorates the centenary of the unplanned altercation that took place in the village of Ballyboughal on the 18th April 2021 in which a RIC Sergeant and an IRA volunteer lost their lives.

The production was funded by the Commemorations Unit of the Department of Tourism, Cultures Arts Gaeltacht Sports and Media as part of the Decade of Centenaries and marks the second of five commemoration projects that will be launched as part

of the Fingal County Council's Commemorative programme for 2021.

The launch and six public showings was managed by the Events Unit and the 518 people that attended over Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th August 2021 was safely enjoyed by all.

MOMENTUM 2021 FESTIVAL



Photographs courtesy of Rory O'Byrne

The Momentum Festival 2021 took place on Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th August with over 100 community performers and offstage volunteers from age 8 to 68+ taking part in this unique and bespoke public art event.

Momentum 21 was funded and supported by Fingal County Council through the Arts Office, Creative Ireland and the Events Unit's programmes and is one of 17 community projects that will be funded through the Creative Fingal Programme 2021.

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE SCHEME FOR COVID

The Small Business Assistance scheme for Covid Grant scheme gave direct grant aid to micro and small businesses to assist with the cost of re-opening, keeping a business operational and re-connecting with employees and customers. Fingal County Council paid out €572,000 to 143 businesses in the Fingal area under the first phase of the scheme (Q1 SBASC) and a further €537,000 to 147 businesses under the second phase (Q2 SBASC) of the scheme. The scheme closed to all new applications on the 21st July 2021.

Public Art Programme

Guest at Newbridge House



A special open evening took place to celebrate the new contemporary arts programme at Newbridge House titled **Guest**. The artists who have been included in its first curated exhibition, *New Considerations of Familiar Settings*, curated by Marysia Wieckiewicz Carroll, joined the mayor Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh and Collections Advisor to the Arts Council Eamonn Maxwell for a celebration as Covid 19

protocol allowed. The exhibition is running daily at the house until the 19th of September and features 11 women and gender minority artists including Ireland's 2022 representative at the Venice Biennale Niamh O'Malley and two Fingal supported artists Ella de Burca (Swords) Emma Wolf Haugh (Blanchardstown). The curator will give a special talk on the exhibition as part of Culture Night.

Irish Writers Centre Commission – The Burning of the Coastguard Cottages Commemorative Commission – A Burning Tide

Writers have been announced and the writing commissions are all underway in preparation for filming on location in Loughshinny for broadcast as part of Culture Night 2021. They include, *Ciara Ni E, Dermot Bolger, Kitt de Waal, Mike McCormack, Ellis Ni Dhuibhne, Enda Coyle Greene and Stephen Walsh.*



Balbriggan TU Blanchardstown Research MA Augmented Reality



Fingal County Council is currently supporting a research masters undertaken by a student of the Creative Digital Technologies Programme at TU Dublin, the focus of the enquiry is on the potential that AR /smart technology has to create empathy and inclusion in diverse communities. The student prepared an online survey and the community department facilitated some focus group sessions.

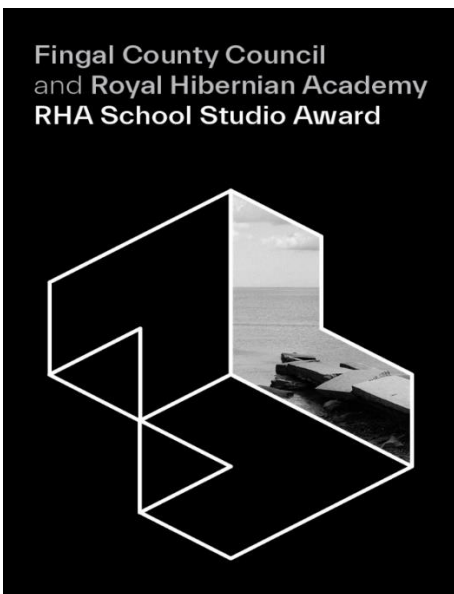
Graphic Studio Dublin – Fine Art Print Residency

Fingal Arts Office has announced its annual residency opportunity at Graphic Studio Dublin. Fingal Artists working in any medium and with no previous print experience can apply for this opportunity where a dedicated team of Master Printers will guide and mentor them in the process of print. Applications for this fantastic award will be assessed by an experienced arts panel.



RHA School - Studio Award

Fingal Arts Office has announced its annual partnership Residency award with the RHA Studio. This prestigious opportunity is open to Fingal artists who work in mainly in visual art where they will be provided with a studio at the RHA for a year with full access to masterclasses and mentoring while they are there. Applications will be assessed by an expert panel comprised of Fingal Arts Office and the Rha director.



Dublin Plein Air Festival



Fingal County Council’s Arts Office was delighted to support the return of the Dublin Plein Air Festival a painting festival where participants from Fingal and beyond were led and inspired to paint some of the most beautiful landscapes Fingal has to offer and guided by professional artists.

Music Generation Fingal for children & young people.

Following a robust application and interview process Fingal Arts Office and Dublin & Dun Laoghaire Education & Training Board are delighted to offer the position of Music Development Officer to the successful candidate. DDLETB are addressing employment details and the candidate will work out the remainder of their contract with their current employer before transitioning to this new post in Fingal. A public announcement will take place in the coming weeks.



Micro Forest - art & ecology project for young people.



Fingal Arts Office, Superprojects, Blakestown Community School have reunited following the summer break to consider the autumn educational programme for students in the DEIS school. The health of the forest is a priority for the artists involved Gareth Kennedy and Eoin Donnelly. An assessment will be implemented, the resulting and recommendations actioned. The plan is to integrate forest maintenance with learning about the forest floor and distinct species through the lens of contemporary art.

LIBRARIES

MAKER IN RESIDENCE

Fingal Libraries has appointed Kate Delaney of Make Create Innovate as the Council's first Maker in Residence. Kate's role will be to develop the new Makerspace area at Blanchardstown Library and to work with Fingal Libraries to encourage extensive community engagement in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths) activities delivered through the library network.

GRANT FUNDING

Fingal Libraries received Dormant Accounts funding of €28,600 in July to provide supports for marginalised, socially excluded and disadvantaged communities, in line with actions under the national strategy 'Our Public Libraries 2022 – Inspiring, Connecting and Empowering Communities'. The grant is subject to the Council meeting a minimum of 10% of total eligible costs and any additional funding required. We propose to spend the funding as follows:

1. The Happy Senses Festival, is a programme aimed at all pupils in 3rd to 5th class, based on the themes of inclusivity, mindfulness and sensory wellbeing. We plan to deliver this festival in October to children in the Dublin 15 area in the library or in the classroom with practical packs for teachers.

2. The Family Literacy project aims to improve early years literacy skills in migrant families in the Fingal area. The proposed programme is targeted at migrant families who traditionally do not use library services and who may have issues around literacy or may not have English as their first language. The project which begins at the end of September will span an eight week period and will include sessions about how to choose books, how to encourage your child to read and also fun interactive reading and craft related activities. The Libraries section is working with the Community Department and the Fingal Integration Officer in order to ensure that the right people are reached.

3. The Tovertafel or magic table is a games console designed for people with cognitive issues. It has applications for those with dementia and for people with developmental and sensory issues. The console contains a high-quality projector, infrared sensors, a loudspeaker and a processor with which interactive games are projected onto a table. Two Tovertafels are already in situ in Rush and Malahide Libraries and two more are being purchased for Blanchardstown and Balbriggan.

The Libraries Department has also recently received funding of €5,250 from the Department of Rural and Community Development under the Healthy Ireland at Your Library programme. The funding will be used for the purchase of outdoor furniture, children's games and a gazebo in order to extend library services and activities to the outdoor area at Rush Library.

CULTURE NIGHT



Now in its sixteenth year, Culture Night, an annual national public event celebrating culture, creativity and the arts, returns on Friday 17th September. For one night only, arts and cultural organisations, castles

and historic houses in Fingal will extend their opening hours to the public, showcasing the wealth of cultural facilities and talented people in the locality.

Fingal Libraries will celebrate Culture Night with online poetry and music events which can be accessed through our YouTube channel and through social media platforms. Three poets, Alison Lyons, Christodoulos Makris and Catherine Walsh, will document the moment in its various forms—public, private, elemental, intellectual, abstract and material, using words, letters and phrases as material objects that can be arranged to surprise the reader with new meanings.

The LR Project (duo) led by two experienced and versatile musicians from Brazil, Launa Matos (Vocal) and Robson Rocha (Guitar), will deliver a beautiful musical experience full of the authentic Bossa Nova swing, singing either in English or Portuguese. Fingal Arts Office is delighted to present two special events: a tour by curator Marysia Wieckiewicz Carroll of 'New Considerations of Familiar Settings', a contemporary art exhibition for the inaugural 'GUEST' programme at Newbridge House and the screening of 'A Burning Tide', at Loughshinny Harbour. This writing commission in association with the Irish Writers Centre features performances of new works by writers commemorating the anniversary of the formation of the Irish State in 1921 and the significant historical related events in Fingal which involved the burning of the county's coastguard stations.

Ardgillan Castle's newly established artists' studios will be open to visitors. This artists' studio initiative by Fingal County Council in partnership with Ardgillan Castle provides supported studio space for artists living and working in Fingal. Malahide Castle, one of Fingal's finest heritage properties will also welcome visitors to explore its beautiful interiors.

Visit Swords Castle website on Culture Night to enjoy a special online video screening performance of Sord Colmcille: A Suite for Irish harp, soprano and reciter by Janet Harbison, marking the 1500th

anniversary of the birth of St. Colmcille. Fingal Arts Office, through its Artists' Support Scheme, funded this new composition, which was performed at Swords Castle by Mary Louise O'Donnell (soprano), Teresa O'Donnell (Irish harp) and Bryan Murray (reciteur) and recorded by Jon Henderson (Red Wall Studios).

Our Balbriggan at Georges Square invites you to drop by and view recently installed artworks from the Fingal County Council Municipal Art Collection, featuring 'Leaving Nineveh', 2016, a beautifully comprised large canvas, by Balbriggan artist Thomas Brezing. There is also a photographic exhibition featuring aspects of Balbriggan's coastline.

The Irish Institute of Music and Song, a superb music facility in Balbriggan, will host a music trail through their campus and DIAS Dunsink Observatory will present a virtual night among the stars including online 'Light-speed' talks.

All Culture Night events are free, however, some venues may have limited capacity due to current COVID-19 restrictions and may require advance booking. Social distancing measures will be adhered to for live events/tours, as per government guidelines on COVID-19. Further details available at: <https://culturenight.ie/events/>

WRITE TIME FESTIVAL 2021



The sixth annual Write Time Festival organised by Fingal Libraries celebrates the written and spoken word in Fingal. Fingal Libraries will host free online talks, events and courses which will be uploaded to our YouTube channel and shared on our various social media platforms for adults and kids throughout the month of September, to spark the imagination and inspire creativity. The Write Time Festival brochure is available at

<https://www.fingal.ie/sites/default/files/2021-08/fingal-write-time-brochure-2021.pdf>

FINGAL FESTIVAL OF HISTORY 2021

This year's Festival will run from 25th of September to 2nd of October and will be entirely online. Talks will be pre-recorded at the chapel in Swords Castle. This year's festival focuses on the War of Independence in Ireland, with the theme of the Truce, Partition & The Treaty. Some of the subjects covered in the wide-ranging talks include the Coastguard at Malahide and Portmarnock, everyday life in Fingal in 1921, the truce in Fingal, the peace process of 1920-1921 and the impact of partition in Ireland. There will also be performances of music and songs relating to the period 1919 – 1921 in Ireland.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

FINGAL IN IT TOGETHER



The Council continues to support business under the Fingal In It Together Charter and has been liaising with businesses in Balbriggan and Skerries on the potential development of a Fingal In It Together App to offer businesses an additional digital platform to

engage with customers. Stakeholder consultation took place in July with a view to piloting the App in the towns of Balbriggan and Skerries in the autumn.

Outdoor Dining Scheme



The Outdoor Dining Scheme is funded by Fáilte Ireland and seeks to assist the hospitality and tourism sector to increase their outdoor dining capacity. The call for applications for grants of up to €4,000 aims to help businesses to upgrade and enhance venues and public space and implement weather-proofing solutions to facilitate outdoor dining all year round. The Scheme provides funding for outdoor tables, chairs, umbrellas, electric heaters, screens and windbreaks etc. and expenditure must be incurred between 1st April 2020 and 30th September 2021. The Economic, Enterprise, Tourism & Cultural Department continues to process completed applications and to the end of August has issued in excess of €128,000 in funding to 38 applicants.

Parklet Partners



The Council's Parklet Partners Initiative has supported local businesses over the summer period with parklets and/or café barriers installed in towns and villages across the county to support outdoor dining space.

Fingal Main Street Shopfronts & Residences Improvement Grant

The Council has completed the evaluation of grant applications under the Shopfront and Main Street Residences Scheme 2021 and notifications have issued to applicants. Grant funding of €61,455 has been awarded to 45 applicants.

Sustainable Fingal



The Council's **Sustainable Fingal** initiative continued over the summer period with further engagement with the business community on the implementation of sustainable business measures.

Urbact Playful Towns



Urbact representatives visited Rush in July as part of the National Practice Transfer Initiative on Playful Towns and met with local representatives to discuss the potential of the Initiative for Rush. The Council is in the process of establishing the Rush Urbact Local Group (ULG) which will co-ordinate a programme of playful actions over the term of the Initiative to December 2022.

Our Balbriggan 2019 – 2025 Rejuvenation Plan – A Socio-Economic Strategy



The Our Balbriggan Programme Office continues to support the Chair of the Leadership Group and its five pillars to progress work across a range of economic and social measures including: Growing the Local Economy, Public Realm & Infrastructure, Education, Skills & Employment, Community Integration, Health & Well Being and Community Safety.

The Safe Balbriggan Pillar met on July 15th and continues to progress the pillar actions of the work-plan, a further meeting of the Pillar Group is scheduled for September 20th.



Paul Keogh Architects have been appointed as the Integrated Design Team (IDT) for the re-imagined Quay Street and Harbour Area with the 'Kick off meeting' held in Balbriggan, outdoors on July 9th. Stage 1 internal and external stakeholder consultations will take place in September to inform design process. Paul Hogarth & Company, appointed Masterplanners will play an advisory role in the development of the scheme.

Active Travel and Transportation Consultants, DBFL Consulting Engineers, have been procured and appointed in September. An Active Travel and

Transport Plan, which will consider the opportunities presented by the town's physical transformation and assist transitioning towards a more sustainable, low carbon modes of transportation.

A Stage 1 Draft Public Realm Strategy was delivered by the Our Balbriggan 'Masterplanner's' Paul Hogarth & Company in August. The strategy 'Make Space' is based on extensive group workshops and a public survey which took place in June (1012 separate responses). The draft will be subject to public engagement in Q4 2021 before the final publication of a Public Realm Strategy and Design Guide.

The Our Balbriggan Office continue to direct communications specific to activities, events and progress in the town. Key highlights from Jan – June this year include:

- 27 print articles
- 357,000 reached on Facebook
- 299,000 Twitter views
- 129,400 Instagram views

10 newsletter updates sent to the Our Balbriggan subscriber mailing list (2,897)

LOCAL & RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Fingal LCDC continues to oversee and administer the key areas of LEADER and SICAP and the various Local Development and Community Development funding programmes under its remit. The LCDC is also supporting the work of the Community Call through the Healthy Ireland Initiative, the Community Resilience Fund and the Keepwell Campaign, and the many projects up and running under those funding streams. The LCDC last met in June 2021.



COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME 2021

The Fingal Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) has approved the allocation of over €152,000 to community and voluntary groups across the region under the 2021 Community Enhancement Programme. The Community Enhancement Programme (CEP) is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and was launched nationally in May by the Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, and the Minister of State with responsibility for Community Development and Charities, Joe O'Brien TD.

A total of 81 grants will be paid to groups across the region under the 2021 Scheme. The scheme aims to:

- support local groups to re-open their facilities post COVID-19
- provide small grants for facilities repairs and renovations, new equipment and safety upgrades
- a focus on providing funding in disadvantaged areas

The CEP provides a flexible and targeted approach to funding those communities most in need and is aimed at addressing disadvantage as identified in the Fingal Local Economic and Community Plan and also at this time supporting local community and voluntary groups with reopening costs as a result of COVID 19

SICAP

The SICAP Annual Plan for 2021 continues to be implemented. The €1.24m 2021 SICAP Plan has ambitious KPIs which take into account the many challenges arising from delivering services in a Covid 19 environment. Indications to date are that the 2021 SICAP Programme is progressing well and within expectations. The mid-year review of the 2021 annual implementation plan is complete and a positive delivery of the programme for 2021 is expected.



LEADER PROGRAMME

The Dublin Rural LEADER Local Action Group and the Fingal LEADER Programme continues to deliver funding and support to eligible projects in the administrative areas of Fingal, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and South Dublin.



**An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail**
Department of Rural and
Community Development

The updated 2021/22 Transitional Funding Arrangements for the LEADER Programme were recently announced with the Dublin Rural LEADER LAG approved for €1,882,175 to cover both projects funding and administration funding for the period April 2021 – December 2022. Of this amount, €1,411,631 is now available for LEADER Project Applications under the categories of Rural Enterprise, Social Inclusion and Rural Environment. Historically, Fingal Projects comprise of 65-70% of the total LEADER Projects Funding, roughly corresponding to Fingal's share of the Dublin Rural LEADER Geographical Area.

The LEADER Programme reverted on the 1st April to EU Transition Rules for the period 2021-22 with a new Dublin Rural LEADER Local Development Strategy to be put in place for 2023. Under the Transitional Arrangements the Dublin Rural LEADER LAG and the LEADER Programme will continue to be funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development under the same eligibility and LEADER implementation rules as before. LEADER will continue to approve and fund new projects as normal.

The most recent meeting of the Dublin Rural LEADER Local Action Group (LAG) took place in August with 4 projects approved with a total value of €114,000.

Going forward there is currently over €3 million in the new LEADER projects pipeline of which over €1 million is for Rural Enterprise.

Fingal County Council continues to deliver the financial and administrative oversight responsibilities for the approval and drawdown of LEADER funded projects following the national transfer of the LEADER Article 48 Administrative Checks from Pobal to the Local Authority Sector.

Town and Village Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2021

Fingal County Council has been awarded €260,000 in funding by the Department of Rural and Community Development under the new Town and Village Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2021. This Scheme is providing €7 million nationally as part of Our Rural Future, a five-year strategy to revitalise rural Ireland and make our rural towns and villages more vibrant and attractive places to live, work and visit.

The funding aims to support the upgrade of shopfronts and building facades and the enhancement of streets and open space through painting, artwork, murals, signage replacement/removal, street furniture, lighting and planting in five towns and villages in Fingal.

Fingal County Council is now seeking applications from businesses and community groups in the towns of Rush, Lusk, Donabate, Skerries and Oldtown to fund enhancement works in designated areas and further details on the Scheme and how to apply online can be accessed at <https://submit.link/mS>

Streetscape Enhancement Initiative - Fingal CoCo

- **Successful towns: Rush, Lusk, Donabate, Skerries, Oldtown**
- **Projects include building facade works, painting, lighting, street furniture & canopies**
- **Businesses and property owners encouraged to contact their local authority to apply**

Riobna na hÉireann
Government of Ireland Tionscail Éireann
Project Ireland
2040 Air Olltacht
Tuaithe
Our Rural
Future

ENTERPRISE CENTRES

Fingal's Enterprise Centres welcome the launch of ConnectedHubs.ie and look forward to participating in the initiative for the benefit of Fingal based Businesses and Remote Workers. ConnectedHubs.ie is your one-stop-shop for hubs throughout Ireland. Launched in May 2021, it is designed to simplify and standardise the process of sourcing and booking spaces, desks, offices and events in hubs for a day, a week, a month, a year or longer. ConnectedHubs.ie is operated by The National Hub Network, a Government of Ireland initiative that provides a vehicle for individual hubs to come together under a shared identity to maximise the economic opportunity of remote working. The National Hub Network has the support of Government, remote working advocacy groups and industry representatives. In this way, ConnectedHubs.ie also encompasses a range of key features that deliver significant benefits to member hubs, hub clients, employers, local communities and the wider economy.



Under the Connected Hubs Funding Scheme, BASE Enterprise Centre secured €75,000 for centre upgrades.

Occupancy rates at the Council's three enterprise centres at the end of June were Drinan 84%, BASE 88% and Beat 88%. The three Enterprise Centres currently support 62 businesses and 320 direct jobs.

All three Enterprise Centres have space available to businesses who wish to avail of remote working options and facilities. Bespoke options or generic office fit-out options can be considered.

The renovation works in the Beat Centre are now complete. Funding for these renovations has been provided by the Dublin Rural LEADER Programme.

The newly fitted out space allows Beat to expand its offering in the areas of remote working hub space and flexible start-up workspace.

LOCAL ENTERPRISE OFFICE FINGAL



LEO Fingal continues to help small businesses and start-ups through the impact of COVID-19 with a broad suite of practical support services. Some of the LEO Fingal highlights for July & August 2021 are as follows:

Look for Local



A new campaign by Fingal Local Enterprise Office, which was launched in July, asked consumers to look local when they were shopping for products, services and experiences this Summer. The Look for Local & Shop Fingal campaigns, supported by Enterprise Ireland and Fingal County Council, aimed to raise awareness of the benefit of spending in your local area.

Student Enterprise Programme Launch

The Fingal Student Enterprise Programme (SEP) will be launched on Wednesday the 15th September at

3pm. The event will be launched by the Mayor of Fingal, Cllr. Seána Ó Rodaigh. The 2021-2022 Student Enterprise Programme will be similar to last year, in that remote workshops will still be an option however this year students will have the opportunity to receive workshops in-person (subject to public health guidelines).

Evaluation and Approvals Committee

The latest Evaluation and Approvals Committee (EVAC) meeting took place on Wednesday the 25th of August. Four applications were approved for €81,130 worth of funding. This brings the total number of companies approved in 2021 to 30, with a combined value of €694,730. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday the 6th of October.

Green for Micro Initiative – Mentoring/Consulting Programme for SMEs



Fingal LEO have approved the first batch of 7 applicants for Green for Micro programme which is a new initiative from the Local Enterprise Offices to help prepare small businesses for the low carbon, more resource efficient economy of the future. This programme is available to companies with up to ten employees.

Trading Online Voucher (TOV) scheme



An initiative under the Government's National Digital Strategy, the TOV scheme supports small businesses to enhance their online offering by providing a grant of up to €2,500 for ecommerce and digital marketing activities. Since January 2021, 295 applications were approved in the amount of €656,654. The next TOV

information online seminar will take place on Friday, 3rd September 2021.

Brexit/Customs Workshops



The next "Prepare your Business for Customs" workshop will take place on Tuesday the 21st of September. The workshop helps businesses to understand what they need to do to trade with the UK and other 'Third Countries', how tariffs work and how to correctly classify your goods. In 2021, 11 workshops were delivered to 282 Fingal businesses.

Digital Business Skills Webinars



In partnership with Google's Digital Garage, LEO Fingal ran a series of digital skills training webinars for small businesses. The Fingal series was rolled out nationally to coincide with the planned re-opening of the economy.

Fingal Business Podcast Season 2

Fingal LEO is continuing the podcast with episode seven of the second series. In the final instalment, James Stewart of the Fingal-based Celtic Candles shares some of his insightful knowledge on developing a successful business.

Fingal Enterprising Women Network (FEWN)



FEWN continues to provide online learning and networking opportunities to provide a platform that encourages and enables networking and peer to peer learning among women in business. The next episode

focuses on "Creating PR Content that Captivates" to help businesses make the most of this all-important marketing tool.

The online event takes place on Tuesday, 14th September, from 11:00 to 12:30.

Business Advice Clinics and Mentoring

Business Advice Clinics and mentoring continue to be offered online. Since January 2021, 73 Business Advice Clinic days were held, offering advice and support to 674 Fingal Businesses. In addition, 267 companies received one to one mentoring.

Start Your Own Business (SYOB)

In 2021, 210 Fingal entrepreneurs have participated in 10 online SYOB Programmes. The SYOB programme continues to be highly popular, the next SYOB programmes will commence on the 7th & 14th of September.

LEAN for Business Programme



The LEAN Business Programme is designed to increase efficiency and drive business growth by enabling the implementation of key LEAN principles. The third LEAN cohort commenced in June, with nine Fingal businesses currently participating in the 2021 LEAN programme. The next Fingal LEAN programme will commence on 16th September. A free information session took place on Wednesday September 1st.

Microfinance Ireland COVID-19 Loans

LEO Fingal provides a loan scheme through its partnership with Microfinance Ireland, with "soft" loans of up to €25,000. LEO Fingal is actively promoting the availability of loans from businesses that have difficulty raising finance from their bank. Sixteen applications have been processed, assessed and submitted to MFI to date this year.

Dublin Food Starter Programme

Fingal LEO will run a Food Starter Programme in October. The Food Starter programme is a 4 x half-day programme designed to help those who wish to start up a food business.

Export Compass Series of Webinars



In collaboration with Enterprise Ireland, a series of webinars entitled Export Compass will take place from the 7th of September until the 5th of October 2021. This series is aimed at businesses seeking to enter the world of exporting. The series will include five highly informative 45-minute webinars taking place each Tuesday at 10am.

ARCHITECTS

Contents	
1.	Stella's Tower, Portrane
2.	St. Catherines Church, Portrane

Stella's Tower or Castle, and St. Catherine's Church nearby, are two medieval monuments in the guardianship of Fingal County Council, located close to one another in Portrane, with views out to Lambay Island. Both foundations are mentioned in this area in historic documents dating back to the 13th century.

A comprehensive schedule of conservation repair and access work began earlier in 2016-17 with the removal of a blanket of vegetation from Stella's Tower in particular; and re-commenced in 2020.



Once the walls had been revealed, consultant conservation engineers, DKP, procured measured building surveys of both structures, the castle and the church, and then agreed a works specification with the Architects Department FCC and the National Monuments Service. JO Hearty, Heritage Building Contractors started the works project on the twin sites in the autumn of 2020 and completed work in May 2021.

One of the most noticeable features of Stella's Tower is the tall brick, Jacobean chimney stack, installed in the 'makeover' of the late 17th, early 18th century – one of the corners had fallen away completely; a sympathetic re-construction secured the fourth corner.

At St Catherine's Church, the vaulted stone roof on the bell tower was cleared of earth humus and a fully intact, four-sided stepped, stone drain was restored to dispose again into the original rainwater shutes.



OPERATIONS & WATER SERVICES

Contents

1. Programme of Works and Work Programmes
2. Public Conveniences
3. Green Flag, Rush South Beach
4. Fingal Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2021
5. Street Furniture Licencing
6. Street Lighting LED Programme
7. Recycling Centres
8. Road Opening Licences
9. Water Services
10. Car Parking Services
11. Burial Grounds Services
12. Fleet Management/Plant Hire Unit

1. Programme of Works and Work Programmes

2021 Programme of Works

A detailed update on the Programme of Works, approved by the Members at the Area Committee Meetings in February, will be provided at each Area Meeting in September. The following are examples of works completed in various areas across the County since the Programme was approved by Members.



Footpath works Convent Lane Rush



Surface dressing works at Kileek



Newly Installed Fence at Lusk Recreational Hub





New pitch Construction and picnic table areas around Playground at Glebe Park Balrothery



Bayside Boulevard after the final phase of resurfacing works



Morton Stadium Santry – New Signalised Pedestrian Crossing



St Lawrence's Road retaining wall has been repaired and restored using a combination of existing stone and matching locally sourced stone. Over 50 meters of wall has, in sections, been rebuilt, repointed and had the capping restored.



Wildflower areas on St Margaret's Road



Brookstone Road outside the entrance to St. Laurence's school after resurfacing works



New section of footpath including new verge strip at Grace O'Malley Park



Pedestrian path resurfacing works as part of the current years works programme



Bayside Boulevard and the Dublin Road - new pedestrian crossings completed with new updated LED signals with control system (MOVA) to be installed soon



Upgrade of Pedestrian Crossings and LED signals at Carrickbrack Road - Offington Park Road junction



Upgraded pedestrian crossing and LED signals completed at Howth Road/Offington Park Junction

Pedestrian Crossings



R127 at Clonrath Estate Lusk – New Signalised Pedestrian Crossing



Portrane Road at Golf Links Donabate – Signalised Pedestrian Crossing is operational



Two new Kerb Build outs with new tactile dishing in Offington – Howth.



The pedestrian crossing at the bottom of Knockmaroon Hill has been relined



Installation of Bollards on Carrs Lane has commenced with the purpose of a 3m wide pedestrian walkway along the cemetery wall.



Double yellow lines added to a 90-degree bend on Barnhill Road in Lucan

Lining Contract Work 2021 (County-wide)

50% of the overall programmed lining works for the Cas-Mul (D11/D15) is complete as of the 26th August.

Signing and Lining examples - Howth



Knockmaroon Hill has been fully relined



Upgraded Signs Balkill road



Remarking of lines Burrow Road, Sutton



A new pedestrian footpath buildout, inclusive of barriers and extension of existing double yellow lines is complete on St. Mochras Green. This will endorse safety for the footpath users and motorists alike, by improving sightlines to the pedestrian crossing.



Yellow box marking to prevent parking by disabled Toilets in Balscadden Car Park

Footpath/Island buildouts in D11/D15 areas



The central island has been extended on the R104, (St Margaret's Road) outside the Charlestown Shopping centre

Traffic Contract Work 2021 (County-wide)

Below is an update on each Programme of Works 2021 traffic item:

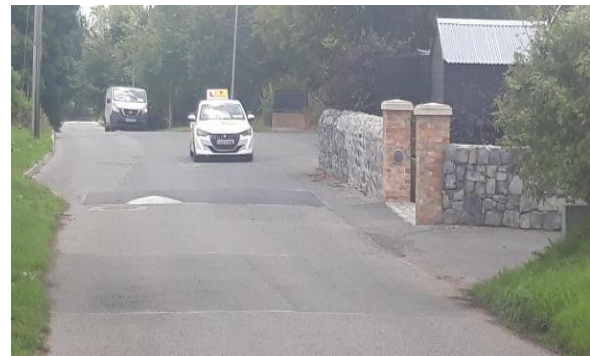
- Ramps Contract (County-wide) - Works in progress
- New Signals Installation (County-wide) - Works in progress
- Vehicle Activated Signs Contract (County-wide) - Works will commence in mid-September
- Traffic Signage Contract (County-wide) - Contractor being appointed

Ramps Contract 2021 (County Wide)

The Ramps Contract 2021 FCC/074/2021 Tender was published on the 25/05/21 with a Clarification date 02/06/22. The closing date for tender receipts 08/06/21.

Following the Public Display as part of the consultation process under Section 38 of the Road traffic Act 1994 for a period of 4 weeks these submissions were brought back to the members for approval in June.

Fingal County Council Ramps Contract 2021 - Ramps Locations	No.
Baldoyle/Sutton/Malahide	
New Ramps	
Carrickbrack Hill - Asphalt Speed cushions x 4 (2 sets)	2
Greenfields Road by St Sabinas School - Bus friendly flat top ramps x 2	2
Repair Ramps	
St Fintan's road -Sutton asphalt speed cushions by 2 (1 set)	1
Castleknock/Mulhuddart	
Replace/Repair Ramps	
Tyrellstown - Replace modular with in-situ asphalt speed cushions by 5 (1 set)	5
Fortlawn Park - Replace with new ramps.	4
Somerton Road	1
Swords/Balbriggan	
New Ramps	
Beaverstown Road, Donabate - Standard round top ramp x 2	2
Forest Road, Swords - Bus friendly flat top ramps x 2	2
Rolestown Village 50kmh - Standard round top ramp x 2	2
Brackenstown Road - Standard round top ramp x 2	2
Carr's Mill Estate - Standard round top ramp x 2	2
Park Road at Kenure Park/Kenure Gate, Rush - Standard round top ramp x 2	2
L-1275-0 at Scoil Moibhí (Milverton National School, Margaretstown, Skerries, Co. Dublin) - Subject to Speed Limit changes - Standard round top ramp x 2	3
Repair Ramps	
Various locations x 2	2
Total Number of Ramps	31



Beaverstown Road Donabate - NewTraffic Calming Ramps

Depot Works Programmes

In addition to the delivery of the Annual Programme of Works depot crews deliver on the depot works programmes.



Road Improvement works



Road drainage works Corrstown

Cross of the Cage, Balbriggan



Footpath works Rivervalley Swords



Drainage works at
Derham Park Balbriggan



Drainage works at Flemington Road



Road Patching Works on the R132 near Ministers Road Junction



Melville Road - Footpath Repairs



St. Margaret's Road – Drainage Works



Footpath Repairs – Woodvale, Blanchardstown



Footpath Repairs - Sycamore, Castleknock.



Before and after photos of a vandalised park bench in Lansborough Park,

The Corduff Community Youth Project

The Operations Department recently supported The Corduff Community Youth Project - Climate Project Justice Project.

The project including tree planting, the creation of a bug hotel and a wildflower patch. Trees were carefully selected by the group to suit the brief of environmentally friendly species with benefits to biodiversity. The youth group will use rainwater collected to water the trees which shows the care and attention to detail shown by the youth involved in the preparation of this Climate action project.



St. Catherine's Park and Playground



The Face in the Tree Roots in Millennium Park



Sculpture of Young Cu Chulainn carved out of Diseased/ Dying Beech tree on the Avenue



Upgrading the planting at the entrance of Keegan's Avenue, with Calamagrostis Karl Foerster, Hakonechloa Macra Aureola. Hosta and Geranium 'Rozanne'



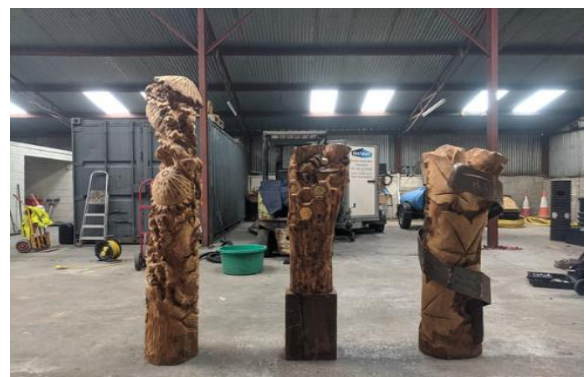
Work has begun on improving access to a short section of the Howth looped walks, beginning from Balscadden carpark.



Wild flowers planted this year near Baldoyle Dart station are still putting on a great show for commuters.



Provision of universal access into Seagrang Park from the R809 road was facilitated by the removal of the kissing gate and installation of a footpath barrier.



Storm damaged trees which were removed from New Street have been repurposed as sculptures & recently returned to Malahide village.



The rusted railings have been removed and new galvanised railings are being fitted at the steps to Velvet Strand from Portmarnock Promenade.

2. Public Conveniences

Santry Demesne

Recently installed public toilets at Santry Demesne Car Park. The installation is almost complete, and it is expected that the toilets will be opened within the next two weeks



Newly installed Public Toilets at Santry Demesne

Ardgillan Demesne Public Toilets

The commencement of the last phase of the 4-part contract for the refurbishment of the regional park toilet improvement contract commenced in Ardgillan during August. The units arrived on Wednesday 25th August and scheduled for completion by end of September 2021.



Ardgillan Playground Toilet Refurbishment - Site preparation and arrival of units.

New toilets facilities have been installed in several coastal locations and wheelchair accessible cubicles were installed where conditions allowed.



Recently installed Eco Toilets at Ardgillan Upper car Park



Portmarnock Beach Carpark, Golf Links Road



Balscadden Carpark



The Summit Carpark

3. Green Flag, Rush South Beach

The Green Flag, representing the Green Coast Award 2021, was raised on Rush South Beach on Tuesday 24th August by Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh. The prestigious Award, representing environmental excellence was won by the Beach for the first time in 2021. An important aspect of the Green Coast awards is Local Authorities working with the community and the Mayor was joined by Rush Tidy Towns, Rush Clean Coasts Group and Rush Tourism, along with Fingal County Council Director of Operations Mary T Daly and her team.

The Green Coast Award is a symbol of environmental excellence and has been established to acknowledge, promote and protect the environment of our beaches. The award is for beaches which have excellent water quality, but which are also prized for their natural, unspoilt environment. Sites must be managed in partnership with the local community to be considered for the Green Coast Award and in the case of Rush Fingal County Council has been working closely with Rush Tidy Towns, Rush Clean Coasts Group and Rush Tourism.

Rush South Beach is a long sandy beach stretching more than 2 kilometres along the coast with stunning views and is backed by a well-established dune system. The prestigious Green Coast Award was announced earlier this year by An Taisce at a virtual ceremony which saw Fingal's Velvet Strand Portmarnock retain its Blue Flag and Green Coast status and the Burrow Beach Sutton retain its Green Coast award.



4. Fingal Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2021

Following a detailed consultation process carried out by the Operations Department, The Draft Casual Trading Bye-Laws were presented to the Full Council on 12th July 2021 for approval by the Elected Members.

Fingal County Council Casual Trading Bye-Laws 1999 made by the Council on the 8th day of November 1999 were revoked and the Draft Casual Trading Bye-Laws 2021 were approved by the Elected Members in accordance with Section 199 of the Local Government Act 2001 and Section 6 of the Casual Trading Act, 1995.

The Operations Department are pleased to announce we intend to advertise for expressions of interest for specific areas across the Fingal Area in the coming weeks and the Elected Members will be notified in advance.

5. Street Furniture Licencing

In line with Government policy The Operations Department continue to work with our colleagues in Active Travel and Economic Development to ensure businesses have support and assistance to create safe outdoor dining areas.

The Licencing Section is responsible for licencing street furniture for the Fingal Area and licencing is currently underway across the County with a total of 71 applications received to date, 53 Licences issued, and the admin team continue to process applications received.

Information on Street Furniture Licencing is available on the Council's website at www.fingal.ie/council/service/street-furniture-licence

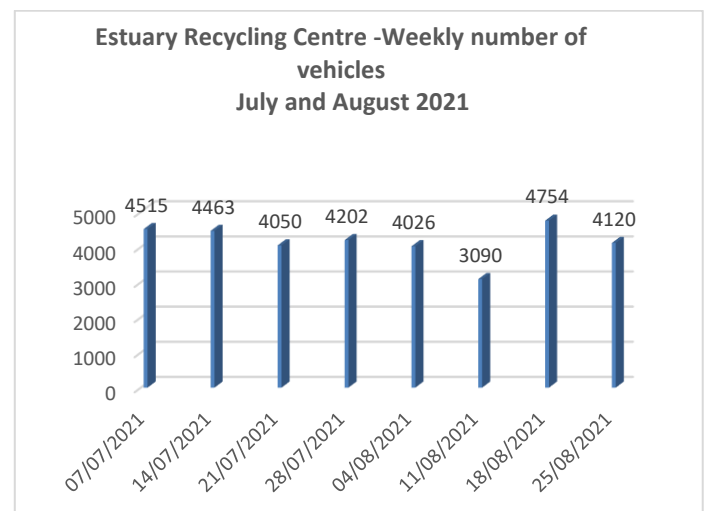


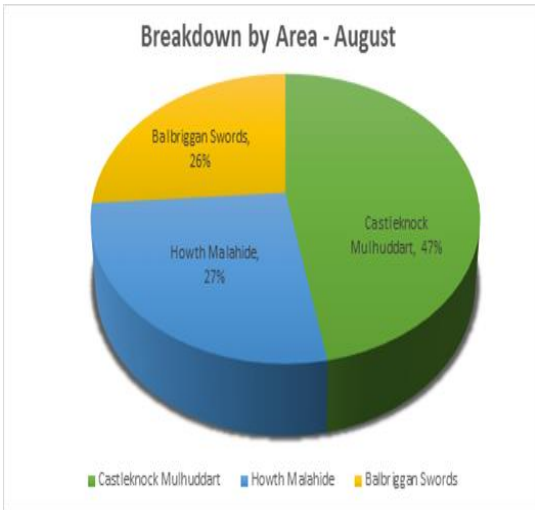
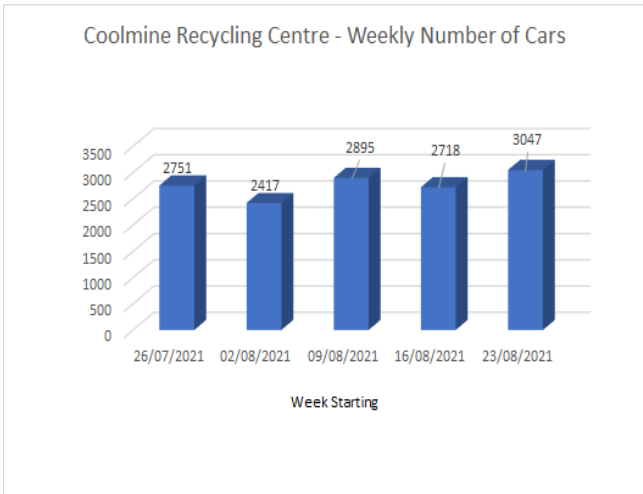
6. Street Lighting LED Programme

In May the LED Upgrade Program saw 531 LED Upgrade works carried out in the following locations:

- Balbriggan
- Baldoyle
- Howth
- Carrickbrack Heath/Hill/Lawn, Offington Avenue/Drive/Park...Sutton
- R132 Airside to Pinnock Hill Swords

7. Recycling Centre's Update

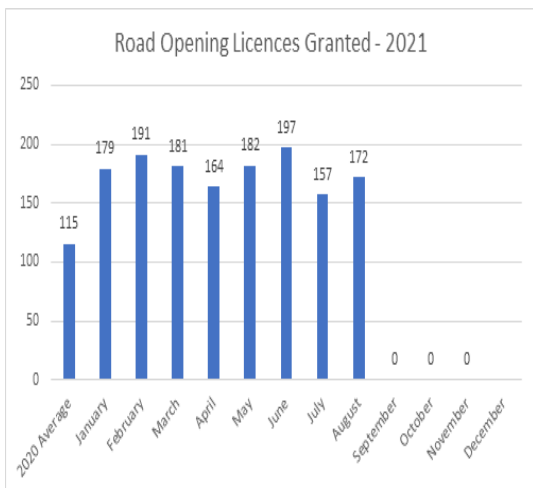
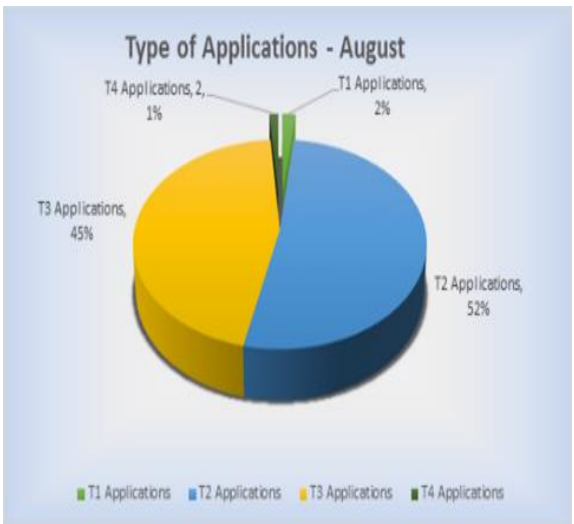




8. Road Opening Licences

The Licensing unit continues to process and manage the licensing system for the County, applications are allocated by area for examination and conditioning which includes reviews of the existing carriageway, footpaths, cycleways, and grass verges. Applicants submit temporary traffic management plans for review to ensure all works are carried out safely within the public domain. Road Opening licences are a cross functional process for the department and is essential for the asset management of Fingal County Council Road network.

270 applications have been received for licences during August 2021 and 172 granted.



T1 Application: The T1 is not a licence. It is notification of intent to perform works of high impact due to extent or complexity.

T2 Applications: An application to carry out works of moderate impact due to the location, extent, amount, or duration of the work.

T3 Applications: An application to carry out works of low impact due to the location, extent, amount, or duration of the work. A T3 licence requires a short application period and does not require a works programme notification.

T4 Applications: A notification of emergency works (as defined under legislation). Notification must occur at the time or as soon as possible after commencement and works must be carried out during a limited time period.

Ongoing Projects

There are currently a number of significant road opening licence projects on going under the supervision of the Engineering Team.

KN Project:

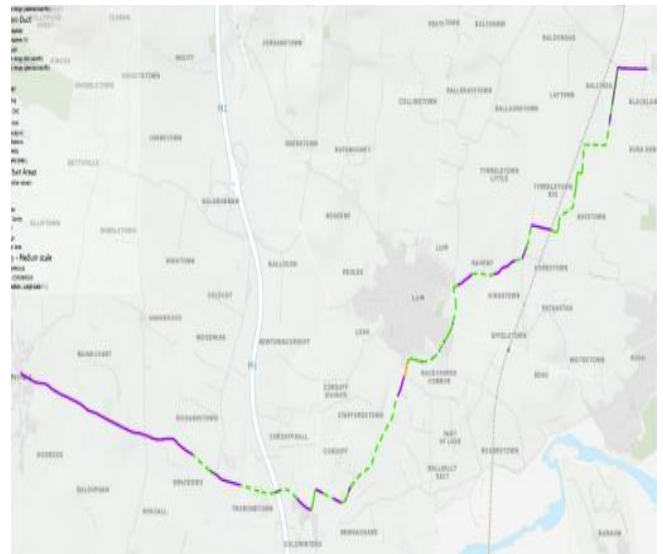
A number of site meetings have taken place in order to agree road reconditioning road works in the Ballymadun Area. KN aim to reinstate a number of these roads in September 2021.

Irish Water R132 Balbriggan:

Irish Water has commenced laying of the twin rising main from Knocknagin to Balbriggan. Works are being delivered by way of open cut excavation and directional drilling. Irish Water are laying approximately 80 metres of rising main per day and to date have carried out temporary reinstatements.



Gas Networks Ireland R127 and R129:



Gas Networks Ireland are making considerable progress in the delivery of a new duct and fibre cable connecting Loughshinny to Ballboughal. Works recently commenced along the busy R127 and are scheduled to be completed in this section in a number of weeks.

NBI Project

NBI recently commenced works on the Skerries Cluster as part of the NBI project. NBI has applied for over 20 excavations within this cluster enabling NBI to upgrade existing ducting infrastructure to facilitate the NBI upgrade.

DA072_Skerries_Ribbon B-part 1



9. Water Services

Water production and distribution, wastewater collection, treatment & disposal continue to be provided as agreed in the Service Level Agreement with Irish Water.

The Council continue to have responsibility for the Storm Water Network

Storm Water (surface water) Network – Operations

Operation and maintenance of the stormwater network is ongoing, in line with Covid-19 restrictions.

Works summary:

- Castleknock Storm water network upgrade is almost completed, with the remaining work comprising of relining of the pipe on Main Street. The appointed Contractor is procuring materials, once procured works can be completed. Current expected completion is the middle of September.
- Phase 1 (Advance works) to install a section of new stormwater (surface water) network in Ballyboughal is completed, in conjunction with FCC's Housing Department. Works completed - 215m of a 300mm diameter storm pipe has been constructed, with 215m of footpaths reinstated following these works. We have temporarily connected the new pipeline to the an old 150mm diameter FCC pipe that is discharging to an open ditch. This has removed the need for housing to tanker storm water off site.

Phase 2 will comprise of the installation of 35m of 450mm diameter pipe. These works are currently on hold pending the agreement of wayleaves.

- The Storm water manhole cover and frame replacement programme for replacing assets at the end of life is ongoing – Covers and frames were replaced at various locations in St Margarets, Baldoyle and Balrothery areas.
- A contractor is being procured to Jet, drag and to carry out a CCTV survey along the Old Bawn in Malahide for both Foul and Storm water networks to identify if improvements can be made to the network to reduce the likelihood of flooding events in the future.

- Other maintenance and minor works programmes are ongoing, including the CCTV, dragging and cleaning of the Storm Water network in Inbhir Ide, Malahide. Issues with the network in this area was identified after a flooding event was recently experienced due to blocked road gullies.

Robotic repairs of damaged pipelines have been conducted in Clonsilla & Howth. Seven Storm water outfalls have been jetted and cleaned along Greenfield Rd in Sutton to reduce the risk of flooding in the future.

Storm Water (surface water) Network – Projects

A number of storm water projects are currently being progressed:

- Burrow Beach Surface Water Outfall Pipeline Repair

Scope: This project is to replace the damaged anchor system for the pipeline
Status: Design stage
- Beaverstown Storm Water Pumping Station Upgrade
Scope: Review options for the existing pumping station

Status: Project planning / scoping
- Howth Surface Water Culvert Replacement
Scope: Prepare a design to replace the existing surface water culvert

Status: Preliminary

Irish Water – Towards a National Publicly-Owned, Regulated, Water Services Utility

The Government's Policy Paper on Water Sector Transformation, entitled *Irish Water – Towards a National, Publicly-Owned, Regulated, Water Services Utility* was published on Tuesday 23rd February 2021.

The paper and accompanying press release are available at www.gov.ie/housing. All new publications appear on the homepage under the Publications heading.

The paper sets out the Government’s approach to water sector transformation including addressing Irish Water as the Single Public Utility.

The Council will continue to work to implement Government policy in regard to water.

Communication with Irish Water for Elected Representatives

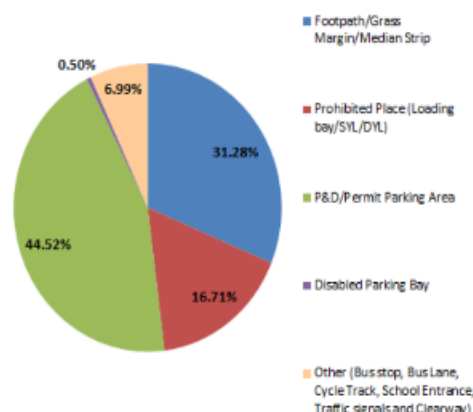
The Local Representative Support Desk

- Make contact at localrepsupport@water.ie or by phone at **0818 178 178 / 0818 578 578**. Staff are available Monday – Friday from 9am to 5.30pm to deal with queries from elected representatives about any topic related to Irish Water.
- Outside these hours, the 24/7 customer care line is available for urgent queries at **1800 278 278 / 1850 278 278**.
- Irish Water Planned Works - Irish Water Regional Communications team provide regular updates concerning upcoming projects in the area and planned works which may cause disruption to customers. Regularly updates on the website at <https://www.water.ie/water-supply/supply-and-service-update/#>

10. Managed Car Parking Services

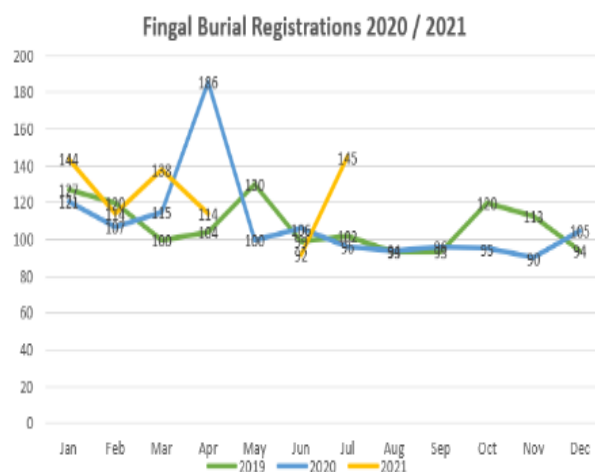
There were a total of 2017 parking tickets issued during July 2021.

Breakdown of Parking Offences:



11. Burial Ground Services

The Operations Department are continuing to administer and monitor delivery to ensure business continuity for Fingal’s Burial Ground Service. Essential maintenance works at the burial grounds continued over the summer months.



12. Fleet Management & Plant Hire Unit and Plant Hire

There were 69 hires put in place from 1st August 2021– 31st August 2021, engaging 13 suppliers.

Hires include:

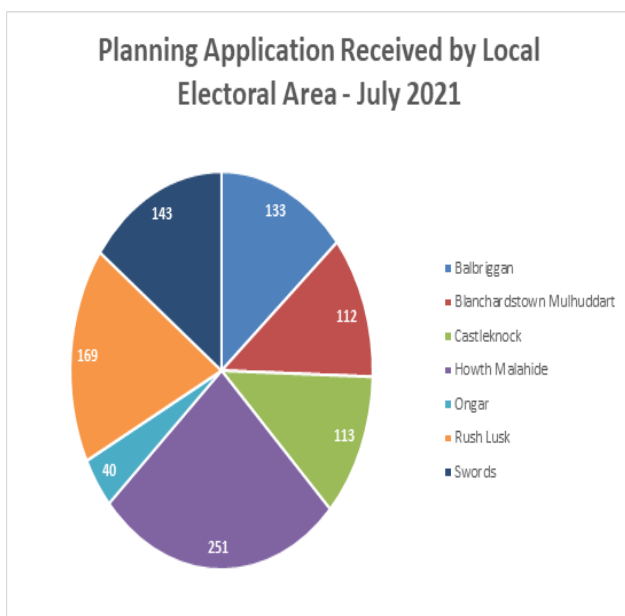
- Pipe Jetter with Recycler
- Crash cushion

PLANNING AND STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE (PSI)

Contents
Planning Applications
Planning Decisions
Building Control Admin
Planning Enforcement
Strategic Policy Unit
Heritage Office
Transportation Planning
Built Environment Division
Parks & Green Infrastructure Division

Planning Applications

There have been 961 planning applications received to the end of July 2021, 58 of these applications were invalid leaving a total of 903 valid applications. The volume of applications received by Local Electoral Area (LEA) is detailed in the table below. Up to end of July 2021, 6 Strategic Housing Development (SHD) applications were made to An Bord Pleanála (1 being for amendments) totalling 1,905 units. 5 decisions were made by the board up to end of July 2021. Of these, 2 were granted, 1 in February and 1 in March (470 units). 3 applications were Refused, 1 in March, 1 in June and 1 in July. There is a total of 4 SHD's (1,707 units) plus 1 for amendments currently in the formal application process.



Planning Decisions

A total of 970 planning decisions have been made to the end of June 2021. There have been 842 decisions to grant permission (87%) and 128 refusals of permission (13%). There have been 60 grants of permissions in respect of single house construction, 548 grants of permission for domestic extensions, 198 commercial/retail grants of permission and 17 grants of permission in respect of housing developments of which 10 relate to development of 2 - 20, 1 relates to development of 20 – 50, 4 relate to 50 -100 and 2 of which relate to development of 100+ housing units.

Building Control Admin

Up to the end of July 2021, there were 103 Disability Access Certificate applications submitted, of these 85 have been granted, 1 was invalidated and 2 are currently on time extension. There were 5 Revised Disability Access Certificate applications submitted, all 5 have been granted. There were also 4 Dispensation/Relaxation applications submitted, all 5 have been granted.

There were 136 Fire Safety Certificate applications submitted, of these 84 have been granted, 1 was refused, 5 were invalidated and 24 are currently on time extension. There were 15 Revised Fire Safety Certificate applications submitted, 12 were granted, 1 was invalidated and 3 are currently on time extension.

There were 12 Regularisation Certificate applications submitted, 2 were invalidated and 10 are currently on time extension.

A total of 802 building control decisions were processed up until the end of July 2021, this includes decisions that were made on applications submitted pre 2021 in addition to applications submitted in the first 7 months of this year. This is made up of 285 decisions to grant, 1 refusal, 10 invalids, 3 amendments and 503 extensions of time.

Building Control Fire Safety, Disability Access, Regularisation and Dispensation/Relaxation Certificate applications can currently be submitted online via the new BCMS applications module and also in hard copy directly into the office.

Planning Enforcement

226 warning Letters and 24 Enforcement Notices issued in 2021. On-going referral of enforcement files for legal action. 11 new cases referred to the Law Department for legal action in 2021 bringing to 23 the number of cases presently with the Law Department to initiate legal action or at varying stages in the Court system.

The Derelict Sites section have issued correspondence to site owners of 12 sites around issues of dereliction in 2021 with on-going engagement arising from this. Statutory Notices have been issued under the Derelict Sites Act with respect to 2 sites in 2021 with both sites placed on the Derelict Sites Register.

Strategic Policy Unit

Fingal Development Plan 2023 – 2029

The first round of consultation on the review of the current Fingal Development Plan and preparing the new Fingal Development Plan 2023-2029 closed on 12th May.

During this 8-week consultation, an Information Booklet, summarising the seven themes contained in the Strategic Issues Paper, has been distributed to households across Fingal. Four online consultation seminars and a number of prescribed bodies workshops took place. These were all well received and attended.

551 Submissions have been received. These have been summarised and responded to and this is

included in the Chief Executive's Report which issued on 2nd July.

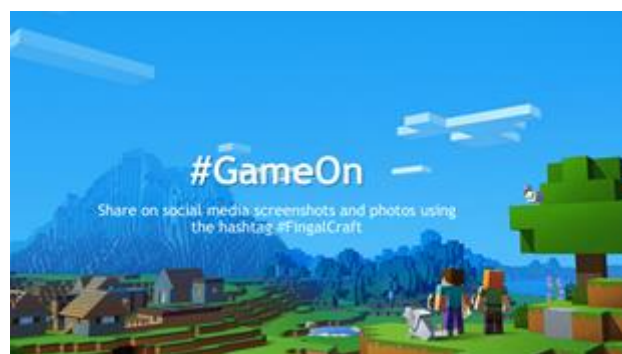
Meetings to discuss the CE Report have been taking place between 30th August and 10th September. This concludes the first stage of the Development Plan process. The Chief Executive's Draft Plan is currently being prepared and will be presented to the Members in early December.



Minecraft Competition

As part of the consultation for the Development Plan, the Planning & Strategic Infrastructure Department held a workshop with some young people and their families with an objective to design and create an alternative and sustainable future for the Rogerstown Estuary area.

A second successful workshop took place on 10th and 11th July 2021.

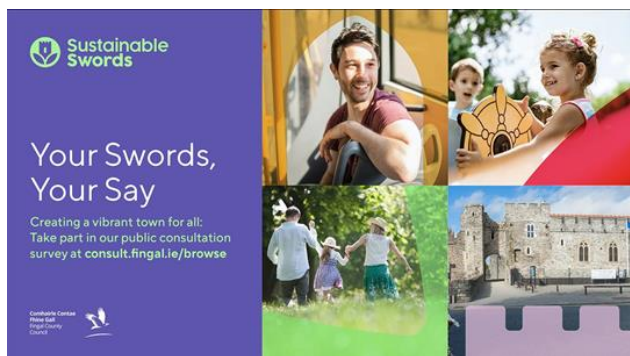


Sustainable Swords

The first consultation element of the Sustainable Swords project closed on 20th June 2021. 325 surveys were completed by members of the public and 10 by local businesses. This information will help inform the

Sustainable Swords placemaking project, which is focused on the regeneration and compact, sustainable development of the town.

The second consultation phase will open to the public at the end of September with a webinar proposed for mid-October. This will present emerging themes and projects.



Vacant Sites Register

There are currently 9 sites on the Vacant Sites Register (VSR). These include 3 residential sites and 6 regeneration sites.

Invoices for the VSR levy have been issued with regard to VS/0016, VS/0117 and VS/0018 for 2019. The demands for payment for these sites had been delayed until recently as each demand was appealed to An Bord Pleanála, who did not make a decision on same until December 2020. The total amount being invoiced for the above sites is €1,344,000. These sites will also be liable for the vacant site levy for 2020 for the same amount. A demand for payment for the VSR levy has been issued for VS/0124 (Weavers Row, Clonsilla, Dublin 15) for €129,500 and for VS/0119 (Lands at Howth Road, Co. Dublin) for €2,310,000. A market valuation has been received (13/04/2021) for VS/0129. The site was valued at €450,000.

The 2 demands for payment, VS/0124 and VS/0119 have been appealed to An Bord Pleanála. There have been notices of intention to place 4 sites on the VSR and these are being assessed at present. A number of sites throughout the county are currently being investigated for compliance with the VSR legislation.

Donabate UFP

Work continues to progress on the preparation of a Draft Urban Framework Plan for Donabate Village Centre.

Sheridan Woods Architects and Urban Planners, who are the consultants appointed to prepare the Public Realm and Traffic Management Strategy (PRTMS) which will form an integral part of the UFP, provided us with a Draft Strategy Document in February 2021 with suggested public realm works for key sites within the village. We have reviewed this Strategy with other Council Departments including Water Services, Transportation, Conservation and Parks and met with SWA to progress to the next stage.

Consultants have also been appointed to prepare AA and SEA screening for the UFP.

Heritage Office

Fingal Mayor, Cllr. Seána Ó Rodaigh launched the *Fingal Cultural Heritage & Climate Change Risk Assessment* report. This GIS based project is the first of its kind in Ireland providing an evidential baseline for the effects of climate change on our heritage assets. Download the report from <https://www.fingal.ie/fingal-cultural-heritage-climate-change-risk-assessment> and use the interactive map <https://luc.maps.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=d3ab54100756429e803104c490f8131e>



A Matterport 3D Virtual Tour of St Doulagh's Church and baptistry, developed as a partnership between community archaeology group Resurrecting Monuments and the Friends of St. Doulagh's and supported by Fingal County Council's Heritage Office was launched. The tour with hotspots highlighting points of interest allows much wider access to a building that is difficult to navigate except for the most physically abled visitors. Go to <https://www.fingal.ie/digital-heritage-projects> to take the tour.



National Heritage Week 2021 took place between Saturday 14th and Sunday 22nd August 2021. National Heritage Week was officially launched by CEO of the Heritage Council, Virginia Teehan and the Minister for Housing, Local Government Darragh O'Brien T.D. in Fingal at St Doulagh's Church.



The week saw a mixture of in person and online events organised and supported by communities across Fingal from Know your Naul; Ballyboughal Bugs & Blooms, Howth Biodiversity walk and the Ward River clean-up to Rambling with Word in Farmleigh; a skiff regatta in Skerries; Rock of Ages in Loughshinny and a musical performance in Swords Castle. Fingal Libraries organised a series of online talks and Fingal County Council staff shared their contribution to heritage with a Fingal *Heritage: Two-Minute-Talks* project. Heritage Week Projects 2021 will remain online at www.heritageweek.ie. Thanks to all who organise, participate, protect, promote and support Heritage in Fingal not only during National Heritage Week but all year round!



Bernie Kelly - Heritage Week
2 minute talk

Duncan Henderson -
Heritage Week 2 minute talk

Transportation Planning

Snugborough Interchange Update



The construction of the interchange continues with the diversion of underground utilities to allow the footprint of the interchange be formed. This included a large diameter sewer and watermains. Some permanent retaining and boundary walls were also constructed on the eastern side of the interchange and temporary works in the vicinity of the Waterville roundabout. Significant heavy engineering works are likely to commence in the autumn which will require temporary traffic management through the scheme. Invites for a project update meeting have been issued to Area Committee members for September. The project web site also contains information at <https://www.snugboroughinterchange.ie/> including footage of a recent drone flyover.



Sustainable Swords

A briefing was presented to Fingal Councillors in July on the transport aspects of the Sustainable Swords project. Work has been ongoing over the summer including an interdepartmental workshop in August and it is intended that public consultation will take place in September/October to further update members and the local community on the direction and progress on this exciting project.

Broadmeadow Way

Ecology surveys were completed over the greenway route in August. A contractor has been appointed for advance fencing and site clearance, with works programmed to commence in October. A Ground Investigation contract has also been successfully procured and will mobilise to site in the autumn also subject to the necessary approvals (e.g., work in SAC, work adjacent to railway, etc.) being put in place. Detailed design on a number of sections of the scheme are nearing completion including the southern causeway and the main estuary bridge. Detailed design on the northern causeway section is dependent on the results of the ground investigation contract. The P&SI project engineers continue to work with the Property Services team with respect to the CPO process and a number of landowner meetings have now taken place. The foreshore license and bridge agreement processes are also underway.



Churchfields

The Churchfields Link Road project is currently out to the second tender stage. Tenders are due back from the six shortlisted tenderers in September with an appointment of the successful contractor in October with a view to commencing site works in November. This project is a key piece of the supporting infrastructure for the Church Fields masterplan development which includes residential, flood management and parkland infrastructure, and this project also includes significant sustainable transport infrastructure to connect the surrounding residential areas to the school's campus on Damastown Avenue.

Portrane Road Enhancement Project

A condition survey of the existing surface water culvert on Portrane Road was carried out in July in order to inform the finalisation of the detailed engineering design of the project. Furthermore, intrusive investigations are required including dye tests and these will take place over the coming weeks. Documents have now been finalised with respect to the CPO process and it is likely that the CPO application will be lodged with An Bord Pleanála in the coming weeks.

Hole in the Wall Road Upgrade



This LIHAF project is due to be substantially completed by end of October and will serve to underpin the ongoing residential development in the area and significantly enhance road safety on the local transportation network, as well as providing a new walkway along the Mayne River corridor. Works that have been ongoing recently include safety barrier installation, new cycleway and footpath construction, new foul sewer and trunk watermains, utilities, public lighting and drainage. Works at the Hole in the Wall Road/Mayne Road Junction have commenced in advance of the junction rearrangement which will take place in September. The P&SI project team arranged two Continuing Professional Development site visits for FCC engineers in July also to discuss the technical and construction challenges of this project.



Fingal Coastal Way

The non-statutory public consultation for the Fingal Coastal Way was well attended during April and May including significant feedback from virtual and site meetings, webinars and through the online surveys and submissions portal. The FCC Comms Team reported wide engagement on social media for the online content that was prepared to publicise the scheme. The Public Consultation Report will summarise the submissions and provide responses from the project team and it will be presented to the local area committee when finalised and published online.



The Stage 2 Route Options Assessment process is now also underway to determine the emerging preferred route, and this process is being informed by the recent consultation phase also. This route will be published for further public consultation and progressed through preliminary design in advance of a planning application. The P&SI engineers have met a number of landowners over the summer also.



Royal Canal Urban Greenway

A non-statutory public consultation finished up in July and over 1,100 submissions were made. These submissions are now being reviewed and amendments to the scheme will be made, where appropriate. The procurement of further environmental surveys, to support those already undertaken, is currently underway and the EIA and AA screening will take place during the course of the autumn also, which will determine the route through the statutory planning process, i.e., either Part 8 or An Bord Pleanála.



Built Environment Division Development Management/Forward Planning (Water Services) Section

Development Management

- Our work as internal consultee on planning applications continues remotely
- 88 no. new planning files have been received which resulted in 130 reports (68 reports on behalf of Irish Water) being prepared.
- 21 no. Additional Information files have been received and 5 clarifications on Additional Information, 30 assessments have been prepared of which 12 are on behalf of Irish Water.
- 16 no. Compliance Submissions have been received, 12 no. have been processed.
- 2 no SHD applications have been received, 1 no. has been assessed.
- 1 no. Part 8/Part XI applications has been received, 0 no. has been processed.
- Pre-planning consultations – During July, staff from Planning (Water Services) have engaged in 18 no pre-planning discussions with developers to discuss issues related to the provision of water services and to ensure the implementation of flood risk management and sustainable drainage systems on site;
- SHD – staff are engaged as internal consultees in discussion on an additional 7 no. SHD applications.
- Part 8 / Part XI – staff are engaged as internal consultees in discussion on an additional 1 no. Part 8 / Part XI applications.

Flood Risk Assessments/ Drainage Strategies

- FCC staff are currently managing the preparation of Surface Water Management Plans to inform Belcamp LAP, Dunsink Masterplan, Rowans Little/ Folkstown/ Flemington and the Balbriggan Masterplan.
- FCC staff continue liaising with the appointed consultants developing the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for the upcoming County Development Plan.
- Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) element of Climate Action week – preparing an on-site SuDS training workshop as part of Climate Action Week. A trial run was very successful with the workshop to be run again on the 16th of Sept.

Irish Water

- Staff continue to liaise with Irish Water regarding existing constraints within the water/wastewater networks and identifying solutions to resolve.
- Connection and Developer Services – staff continue to provide a planning review of water/wastewater connection applications on behalf of Irish Water with 18 no. applications processed requiring Water Services planning during July with an average turnaround of 6 working days.

Built Environment Division

Building Control/Taking in Charge Section

Building Control

- BCMS – 68 CNs for 264 units received in July and 49 Completion Certificates processed. Building Control Site inspection rate for June and July is at 1% of new buildings. Almost all DAC, FSC and Dispensations are now coming through electronically via the BCMS applications module.
- Enforcement – Compliance issues range from Part A Structure, Part C moisture and Part E sound as well as Building Control Reg issues such as requirement for Fire Safety Certificates.

Taking in Charge

- There was 1 estate (Castleway, Kinsealy Lane, Malahide) Taking in Charge in July, with another estate, Beechwood Gate, Castleknock proposed to be Taken in Charge in September.
- We have 47 Developments with formal TIC requests and a further 294 developments on our system, of which 62 are likely to remain private.
- Phase 1 Tender for TIC works on the following estates - Chieftain's way, Martello, New Haven Bay is due to begin at the end of September. Phase 2 Tender for TIC works – Drynam, has been awarded and will begin shortly.

Dangerous Structures

- We currently have 48 active dangerous structures. There were 3 new notifications in June and 2 new notifications in July.

References

- The number of reference requests received for July is 296.



August 2021 – BC inspection of Apartments in Hansfield

Parks & Green Infrastructure Division

Racecourse Park Plan

Park Development proposals for the Racecourse Park have been submitted to An Bord Pleanála. Submissions can be made by the public to An Bord Pleanála by the 26th of October 2021. For more information on the development proposals, please see <http://consult.fingal.ie>



collected, of which 370 were sold to local horse owners, 100 are stored at the goat shed for future sale to the horse owners, 100 are for the goat project and the remaining 200 are going to Newbridge farm this year. It is hoped that it will be possible to sell all bales to local horse owners next year.

Wildflower Management of Howth Head



Hay making took place at Redrock over the weekend of 28/29 August and 770 small bales of hay were

HOUSING

Housing

Supply
Asset Management
Support
Tenancy Services

Housing for All - a New Housing Plan for Ireland

is the government's housing plan to 2030. It is a multi-annual, multi-billion euro plan which will improve Ireland's housing system and deliver more homes of all types for people with different housing needs.

The government's vision for the housing system over the longer term is to achieve a steady supply of housing in the right locations with economic, social and environmental sustainability built into the system.

It is estimated that Ireland will need an average of 33,000 new homes to be provided each year from 2021 to 2030.

The policy has four pathways to achieving housing for all:

- supporting home ownership and increasing affordability
- eradicating homelessness, increasing social housing delivery and supporting social inclusion
- increasing new housing supply
- addressing vacancy and efficient use of existing stock

The pathways contain actions to be taken by government departments, local authorities, State agencies and others. The pathways are supported by actions to enable a sustainable housing system.

Details of the social and affordable targets to be delivered by Fingal under the Plan will be communicated to Members when available.

Construction has started on Affordable Homes in Lusk

The 317 completed applications received in relation to the 39 affordable homes available for purchase at Dun Emer have been assessed and prioritised in accordance with the Scheme of Priority for Affordable

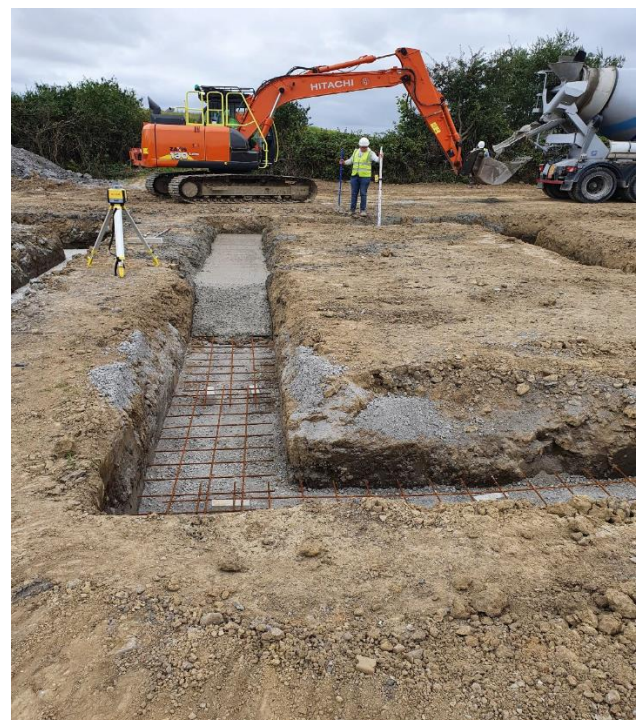
Dwelling Purchase Arrangements adopted by the Council.

Letters have now issued to the first 39 applicants offering the opportunity to purchase an affordable property in the scheme.

As there are only 39 affordable homes available for sale in the scheme, the remaining eligible applicants have been placed on a panel and may be offered a property in the future in the instance where an applicant with a higher position on the panel declines their offer. Letters have issued informing them of their place on the panel.

The construction of the 51 homes is underway on site alongside the upgrade works to the road infrastructure which is funded by the Serviced Sites Fund.

Photos from the construction work currently on site at Dun Emer, Lusk.





Guide prices are set out below;

DWELLING TYPE	NUMBER	
2 Bed Apartment	8	From €166,000
3 Bed Duplex	8	From €206,000
3 Bed Terrace	15	From €250,000
3 Bed Semi	8	From €258,000

MIXED TENURE SITES

The Council is currently at pre-planning design stage on schemes that will deliver mixed tenure housing via affordable purchase, cost rental and social housing.

Church Fields, Dublin 15



- Deliver approximately 1,000 mixed tenure dwellings;
- Initial 300 dwellings at design/pre-planning stage
- Construction of the new link road to commence on site in October
- Design of the linear park is underway

Hayestown Site, Rush



3D Views of the Proposed Development



View of main entrance from Old Road



Street view towards north units



View from main public open space towards north-east units

Comhaltas Contae Fingal - Boinn Nuairí
Fingal County Council - Architects Department

- Deliver a total of 62 dwellings
- Mixed tenure
- Planning approved
- Procurement process being finalised

Hackettstown Lands, Skerries

The Council is working closely with the Land Development Agency (LDA) to bring forward land banks located in Fingal to unlock their potential to deliver mixed tenure housing.



- The LDA propose road infrastructure upgrade which is funded through the Serviced Sites Fund.
- Plan to deliver 344 housing units of mainly affordable/cost rental and dwellings available for affordable purchase. Housing will also be provided for families in need of social housing.

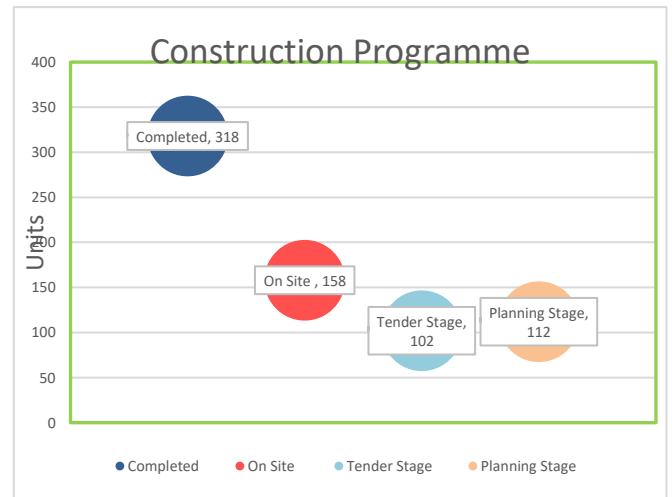
Social Housing Delivery

The delivery of social housing is continuing across the county despite the Covid-19 restrictions that were in place earlier in the year. The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage have set the 2021 social housing delivery targets for Fingal via build and leasing as follows;

2021 Delivery Targets

Delivery Mechanism	Target
Build	431
Leasing	130

Construction Programme



On Site

Church Road, Dublin 15 - Cluid Housing	65
College St. Baldoyle - Cluid Housing	4
Wellview Cul de Sacs, Wellview, D15	20
Cappagh, Dublin 11	69

Tendering Stage

Tucketts Lane, Howth	8
Outlands, Swords, Co Dublin	11
Church Fields Phase 2B, Mulhuddart, D15	67
Church Road, Lusk	5
Former Leonards Garage, Lusk	10
Infill Site adjacent to 169 Clonsilla Road, D15	1

Planning Stage

Garristown – North and East Housing Association	6
Kilhedge Lane - Tuath Housing	31
Mayeston, Dublin 11	74
Infill site at Sheepmoor, Dublin 15	1

Photos from the construction work currently on site at Cappagh, Dublin 11 - 69 units due to be delivered in 2022.



Photo from Ladyswell Square, Dublin 15 – 65 units due to be delivered in 2021 in partnership with Cluid



Photos from Charlestown, Dublin 11 - 138 units due to be delivered in 2021 in partnership with Respond.



Private Rented Inspections

Following the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions, the Council resumed the physical inspection programme of private rented stock in the county on the 26th of July 2021.

Rebuilding Ireland Home Loan

Current Loan Book Value	€ 145,498,757
Loans Drawn Down under RIHL	282
Value of RIHL lending	€60.8m
Covid-19 Agreements to Pay	129

Mortgage holders experiencing difficulties making repayments should contact the Council immediately on loans@fingal.ie and the Council will endeavour to find an individual solution with each borrower.

Rent Payments – Council Tenants

The Rent Assessment Team continue to assess accounts under the annual rent review. Should tenants have any queries regarding their rent charge they should contact the Council immediately at email; rents.assessments@fingal.ie Further details are available on the Council's website www.fingal.ie.

Housing Asset Management Report

Energy Efficiency/Retrofitting Programme (Housing Circular 8/21)



The newly revised 2021 Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme is the first of a ten year programme which is expected to grow to meet the Programme for Government retrofit commitment. This revision will require local authorities to move to a 'deeper retrofit' programme, thus building on what has been completed in previous years. The revised programme provides for significant upscaling in the level of funding available and focuses on ensuring that the fabric of the home is upgraded and an energy efficient heating system is provided.

The approved allocation for Fingal County Council is €1,759,475 with a target of 65 properties to be retrofitted to a B2/Cost Optimal standard.

Works in Fortlawn are nearing completion and following a tender process, contracts will shortly be awarded to carry out works on the remaining 55 properties in Greenridge Court, Windmill, and Inbhir Íde.

Voids Programme 2021 (Circular 17/21)

The 2021 Voids Programme supports the refurbishment of circa 3,000 vacant properties nationally. Two refurbishment options are being funded this year which afford greater flexibility to local authorities, thereby facilitating maximum impact on the level of vacancy. The Standard Refurbishment programme provides for a maximum funding of €11,000 per property and Non-Standard provides for an average of €50,000 per property. The emphasis under the 2021 Voids Programme is on minimum refurbishment works to comply with the Housing (Standards for Rented Houses) Regulations 2019 to ensure quick turnaround and letting.

The 2021 Voids Allocation for Fingal County Council is 157 properties in total comprising of 141 Standard and 16 Non-Standard. Any void properties approved for funding under this programme is on the understanding that work will be completed and the property either tenanted or a tenancy offered and accepted in 2021.

Returning Dwellings to Productive Use

The number of casual voids within social housing stock which are currently in the re-let process set out below:-

Voids for Re-letting	at 31 st August 2021
In letting process	47
Undergoing re-let repairs	9
With County Architect for procurement of pre-let repairs	14
TOTAL	70

Planned Maintenance Programmes

Boiler Servicing

The Council provides an annual boiler servicing facility, including all maintenance and upgrade works, for a nominal fee of €3 per week to participating tenants. The Council releases batches of work to dedicated Contractors throughout the course of the year. To date, the Council has provided Contractors with 16 of 20 batches totaling 3798 properties and servicing is progressing well.

Cyclical Maintenance - Scheme Painting

The programme provides for external painting and joinery repairs to council housing stock which currently operates on a 6/7 year cycle. Works commenced in Lambeecher Estate, Balbriggan on 13th August 2021. The remaining estates will be completed as part of the current programme between now and the end of the Summer 2021. (listed below: Batch F & G).



Some recently painted properties

The programme provides for external painting and joinery repairs to council housing stock which currently operates on a 6/7 year cycle. Works commenced in Lambeecher Estate, Balbriggan on 13th August 2021. The remaining estates will be completed as part of the current programme which is nearing completion and a new programme of works is being prepared for roll out later in the year. (listed below: Batch F & G).

Batch F	
Dromheath	Dublin 15
Castlecurragh Heath/Vale	Dublin 15
St Patricks Park	Donabate
Shamrock Park	Oldtown
Windmill Estate	Skerries
Toberburr Avenue	St Margarets
The Bawn Grove/ The Hill	Malahide
Kirkfield Cottages	Clonsilla
Lambeecher Estate	Balbriggan
Batch G	
Ladyswell Road	Dublin 15
Parslickstown Estate	Dublin 15
Castlegrange Estate	Swords
Wellview Estate	Dublin 15
Cardy Rock Estate	Balbriggan
Barnewall Avenue/Crescent	Donabate
Church Road	Dublin 15
Rockabill	Skerries
Bealing Avenue/Grove	Dubin 15

Housing Tenancy Services Report

Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)

The HAP Team in Fingal County Council continues to deal with a significant level of queries and applications, with citizens making contact through email and phone during **COVID-19** restrictions. Additional resources have been put in place to deal with the volume of applications. Considerable time is spent following up on outstanding documentation from both prospective

Tenants and Landlords in order to progress applications.

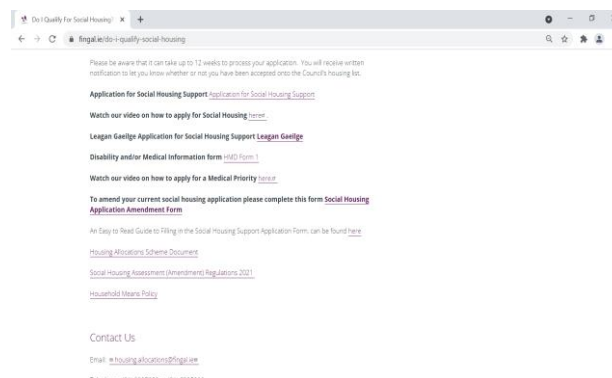
The new online portal has completed the testing stage and it is anticipated to go live with this system within the coming weeks. This should create efficiencies in the application process and reduce turnaround time for applicants as only fully completed applications with all supporting documentation will be accepted. An information session will be scheduled for Councillors prior to the go live date.

Since its inception in Fingal County Council in 2017, the HAP team has set up over 3,000 tenancies. The 577 new tenancies set up to date in 2021 is 2nd highest nationally.

Housing Support

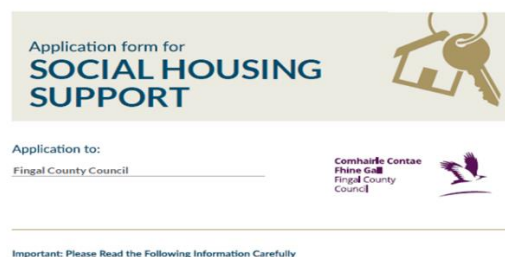
Fingal's website has been updated with new video content outlining important information on how to apply for Social Housing Support and also on the new HMD Form 1 Medical Form.

The Video can be accessed via <https://www.fingal.ie/do-i-qualify-social-housing>



The new **Social Housing Application Form** is available to download from Fingal's website, via

<https://www.fingal.ie/do-i-qualify-social-housing>



The new **HMD-Form 1 Medical Form** is also available to download from Fingal's website, via

<https://www.fingal.ie/do-i-qualify-social-housing>



About this form
 This form is for anyone who is applying for social housing or a social housing transfer due to a disability or medical grounds. The information provided will be used to assess if priority status should be awarded to an application.

Medical/Welfare Update

The Housing Support Team are continuing to progress applicants' requests for medical priority, with the continuance of virtual medical/welfare meetings in collaboration with the HSE, and meetings are scheduled to continue in September.

Contact Details for Tenancy Services Division

Set out below are the Housing Support Team Contact details and the Tenancy Services Division details-

The Housing Support Team Contact Details	
Phone	01 890 5902 /01 890 5000
Email	Housing.allocations@fingal.ie
Website	www.fingal.ie

Tenancy Services Contact Details	
Homeless Services	01 890 5090 homeless@fingal.ie
Estate Management (Maintenance, ASB)	01 890 5588 Estatemanagement@fingal.ie

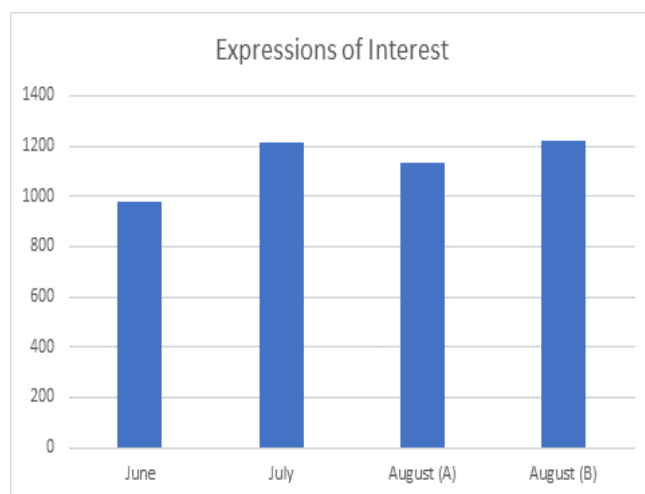
Lettings	01 890 5380 Housing.allocations@fingal.ie
Housing Support	01 890 5902 Housing.allocations@fingal.ie
Customer Care Team	01 890 5000 CustomerCareUnit@fingal.ie

Choice Based Lettings

Choice Based Letting (CBL) is an approach used for allocating dwellings which allows housing applicants to express an interest in being considered for the allocation of designated Social Housing Units. Access to the Choice Based Letting (CBL) system is via the Council website at <https://www.fingal.ie/choicebasedlettingscheme>

Fingal County Council continue to offer dwellings through CBL. Information on new CBL dwellings are made available on our website on a selection of developments and individual units which have been designated for allocation using this approach.

There has been considerable interest in the CBL developments and units and the numbers of expressions of interest is shown in the table below.



Fingal Housing Staff are in the process of contacting all applicants who have expressed interest to update them on their CBL application.

Applicants have been encouraged to follow Fingal County Council on social media to stay informed of new dwellings available through CBL.

OpenSky

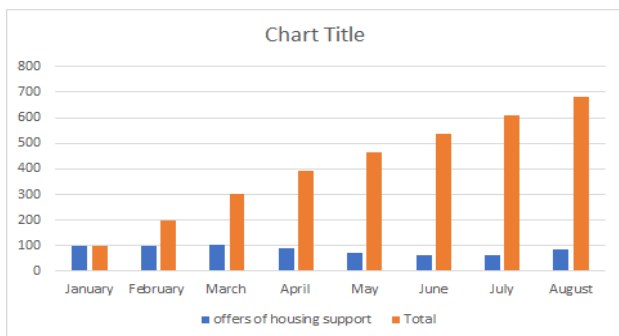
Fingal County Council have engaged OpenSky to implement the online-based CBL system. This system has been successfully delivered to other Councils in Ireland. The system enables a range of self-service functionalities for four specific types of user i.e. the housing applicant, the housing administrator, Local Councillors and the housing staff.

The CBL system will be easily accessible to approved social housing applicants via a web-enabled portal that will protect and secure personal data of applicants. Each approved housing applicant will have a secure log in and password for the system. Access will also be facilitated to Councillors to review availability of CBL properties. A short information session will be scheduled for Councillors prior to the go live date.

The facility for applicants to express interest in a property online has worked well to date and the provision of the OpenSky system is expected to optimise the social housing allocation process and positively enhance the overall experience of the housing applicant with the added outcome of reduced refusal rates of housing allocations.

Offers of Housing Support

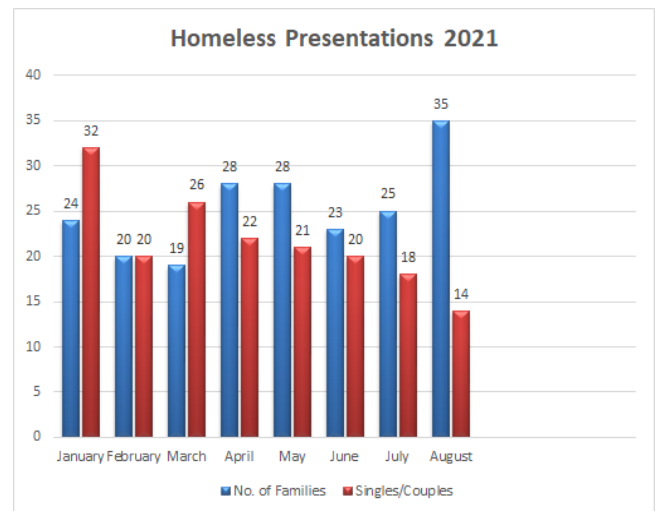
The Housing Allocations Team has continued to provide offers of social housing throughout all levels of **COVID-19 restrictions** and this is demonstrated in the chart below.



Homeless Services

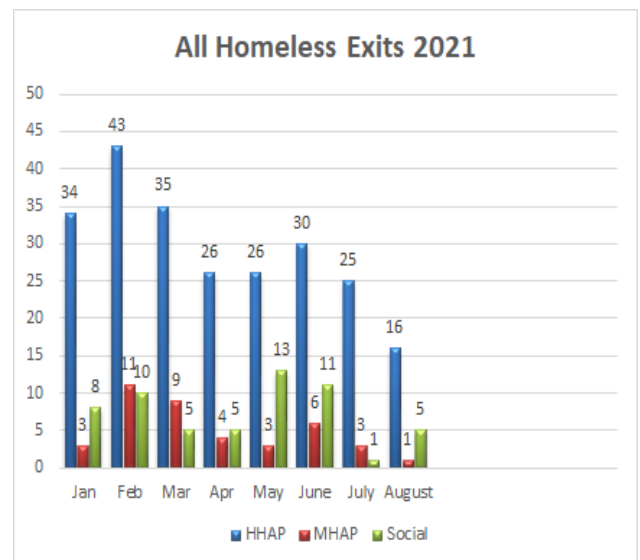
The Council's Homeless Team continue to engage with those experiencing homelessness to offer advice and support.

In August 2021 there were 49 new homeless presentations, comprising 35 families and 14 singles/couples.



During August 2021, 22 households, comprising 10 families and 12 singles/couples, exited homeless circumstances into various forms of social housing support- including into private rented tenancies under Homeless HAP.

Homeless HAP accounts for 16 of these tenancies.



Traveller Specific Supports

Covid-19 Continued Support

Measures have continued within Fingal to ensure that Traveller families receive as much assistance as possible during these unprecedented times, and particularly having regard to relevant and current public health guidelines and restrictions levels.

Daily site visits by Housing Inspectorate are continuing with due care to maintain public health guidelines while checking on vulnerable residents and advising on the continued supports available. In addition, the Council's designated Social Worker Service for Travellers continues to make regular contact with the most vulnerable, in order to assist with additional needs arising from the current circumstances.

Senior Officials are engaged on an ongoing basis with the HSE pertaining to Covid Public Health Guidelines.

Traveller Accommodation

A programme of works in relation to the refurbishment and upgrading of existing accommodation on specific sites is currently in development with the County Architect. Preparation and site-specific works are continuing in order to progress Traveller Specific Accommodation at Stockhole Lane and Cappagh in accordance with the provision of the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019-2024. Site works at Stockhole Lane continues to progress and completion is pending supply of essential services to the dwellings. Preparation work on the allocation of units at this site has commenced.

General site maintenance has continued on all Traveller Specific Sites throughout all level of Covid restrictions.

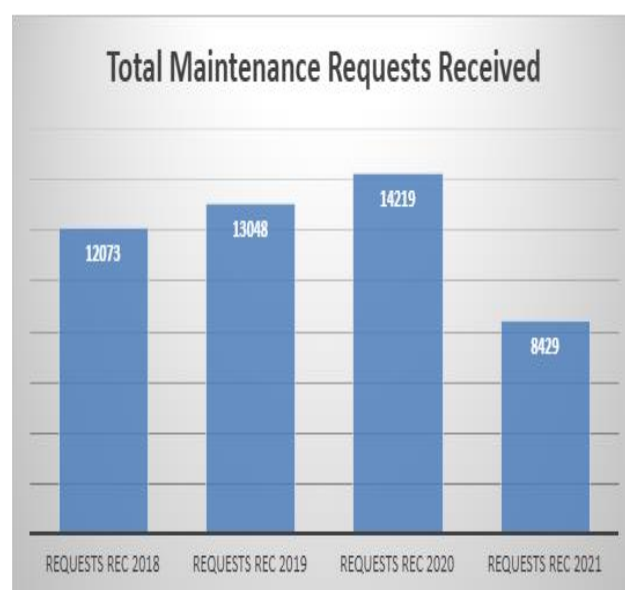
Housing Welfare Service

The Social Workers attached to the Housing Department are available to support vulnerable tenancies and to work with housing applicants who have medical/welfare needs.

In response to **Covid-19**, the Housing Social Workers have been actively engaged with their most

vulnerable cases at this time providing support, information and inter-agency linkages when and where required. The Estate Management Section continues to work with the most vulnerable and complex of our Tenants in collaboration with our Housing Welfare, Tenancy Sustainment Officers and external statutory agencies to protect and assist the most vulnerable of our tenancies.

Maintenance Requests



During Level 5 Restrictions essential maintenance works such as electrical, water and heating continued and 8,429 maintenance requests have been received year to-date.

Anti-Social Behaviour/Inspectorate Unit

The ongoing management and sustainment with regard to social tenancies and good estate management falls within the remit of the ASB/Inspectorate Unit. Alleged breaches pertaining to tenancy agreements are investigated and pursued in accordance with housing legislative guidelines.

There are occasions when the vulnerabilities, complexities and health related issues associated with a tenancy require tenancy sustainment intervention and supports. Ongoing case management and review with a variety of external agencies, including Approved Housing Bodies, An Garda Síochána, TUSLA and the HSE is a necessity to ensure all agencies work collaboratively with a view to achieving best outcomes.

Stock Management

Breach of Ten.	26
Miscellaneous	26
Regularisation	9
Downsizing	22

Surrenders on Estate Management Grounds 2021

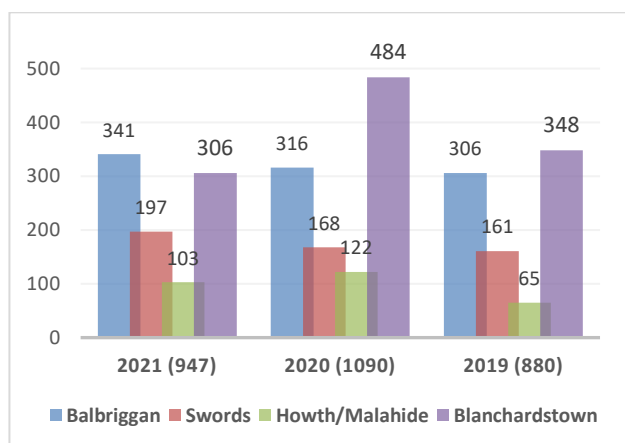
– 0 (Jan), 1 (Feb), 1 (Mar), 0 (April), 1 (May), 1 (June), 1 (July), 2 (Aug)

ASB Caseload Management

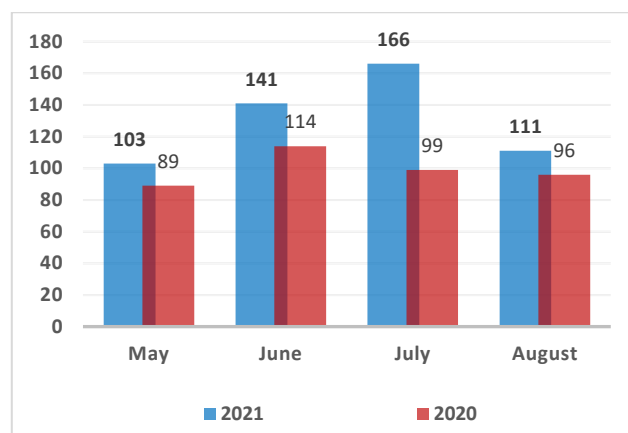
Aug 2021	Active Investigation	Active Monitoring	Closed
Dublin 15	19	8	5
North County	36	9	10
Total	55	17	15

All ASB complaints received are followed up and investigated by a designated team within with ASB Unit and allegations of breaches of Tenancy are pursued accordingly. All complaints are received in confidence.

Area Breakdown 2019-2021



Monthly Breakdown of Complaints Received 2020-21



Anti-Social Interventions

Interviews Held 2021	20
Interviews Held 2020	108
Tenancy Alerts 2021	17
Tenancy Alerts 2020	35
Tenancy Warnings 2021	2
Tenancy Warnings 2020	4

Inspectorate

Traveller Specific Inspections 2021	1166
Traveller Specific Inspections 2020	1735
Estate Inspections 2021	824
Estate Inspections 2020	636
EM/ASB Inspections 2021	2335
EM/ASB Inspections 2020	3610

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Rush Mural Wall
Foroige – Coastal North Dublin
Skerries - SÁMHs
Churchfields Residents Association
St. Catherine's Estate
Bayside Community Association
Bringing the inside outside

FINGAL INTEGRATION OFFICE

Fingal India Day Celebrations
Expert Advisory Group
Communities Integration Funding 2021

STRATEGIC UNIT

PPN National Structural Review
Online Training for Stakeholders of the Public Participation Networks
PPN Linkage Group Meetings Round 4 2021

SPORTS OFFICE

Balbriggan Beach Activity Day
ParkFit
Men on the Move
Walking Well & Exercise Programme
Activity (Equipment Funding)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Rush Mural Wall

On 16th July, the fabulous Ros-Eó Mural Wall Mural Wall was unveiled by our new Mayor of Fingal Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh in the Company of the CE. This project was co-ordinated by The Rush Tidy Towns Committee and involved the hard work of over 100 volunteers from the Rush Community. The 18 murals were painted by 31 local artists and volunteers that came from 29 local groups and residents ranging in age from 10 to 73. The murals are themed to represent aspects of Rush during the past, present and future, this is a legacy project which represents how a community came together to create a positive from Covid. This project was support by Fingal Community Department and the Bio Diversity Officer.





The Mural unveiled represents “Caring”, which took about 40 hours to complete and it epitomises what Rush community is all about. It’s an image of a young child and an elderly person in front of the gates to Kenure Woods.

Foroige – Coastal North Dublin hosted an evening in July to invite parents in Lusk to view their children’s graffiti project art work to mark Integration Week. The event was held in the rear of the Cottage Community Centre in Lusk. This event was attended by many proud parents and the children enjoyed seeing their art work on display on what was the first outdoor art exhibition ever hosted in Lusk! The children were entertained by a card magician Carl Campbell and refreshments were distribution from the new Lusk Community Centre Gazebo which was grant funded by the Fingal Community Department.



Skerries - SÁMHs- Substance Abuse & Mental Health group had their quarterly meeting in June. SAMHs are a really important part of the work of North Dublin Regional Drugs and Alcohol Taskforce because they provide a forum for community members to collaborate in their own area in relation to substance use and/or Mental health at community level. SAMH groups have members from schools, GAA clubs, community groups, residents’ groups, Gardai, Mental health groups and lots more. Each area is different but are all focussed on trying to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities especially young people. All Samhs groups in North Fingal are supported by Fingal Community Division.



Churchfields Residents Association in Skerries recently completed a beautiful raised bed area and created a lovely landscaped feature of plain wall. This was done with Activity Grant funding from Fingal Community Development Office. The group also received great support from our Operations Division with this project.



St. Catherine's Estate in Rush had the first ever Awards Presentation Ceremony on Saturday 21st August 2021. This event was in recognition of resident's dedication and commitment to the estate over the years. Medals were awarded to the children for their help in clean ups. Long standing awards were also presented to a number of residents in special recognition of their help in the Estate for more than 30 years. There was a great turnout despite the rain, and the event was a great success. The Community Department were delighted to be part of this celebration. Congratulations to St. Catherine's Residents Association Committee for organising such a lovely event.



Bayside Community Association

The Community Office continues to support Bayside Community Association in preparation for judging in the upcoming 2021 Pride of place Competition and on various projects over the summer. The Community Office help organise the launch of the group's heritage sign, unveiled by Deputy Mayor cllr Daniel Whooley recently. Ongoing support for a further community arts project, the Standing Stones project took place over the summer. This piece of work will be launched at Alden park in the autumn.

Bringing the inside outside

Fingal County Council Community Development Office in partnership with our Community centres across Fingal support community participation, inclusion, health and wellbeing. During the Covid 19 pandemic in compliance with government guidelines and the hybrid restrictions we have continued working to deliver programmes.

In continuing to support community centres across Fingal to reopen safely as an outdoor space for local groups and organisations the Council provided funding for a number of community centres to purchase outdoor gazebos.

These gazebos have supported the remobilisation of community centres in bringing the inside out. They have enabled community centres and youth groups to deliver over 20 summer projects across the Fingal area, some of which our community officers had the pleasure of meeting and seeing the great work the summer projects bring to young people they engage. Alongside providing an outdoor space, some of our older community groups have had a great opportunity to use the Gazebos to meet up as they emerge from covid restrictions in line with Public Health Guidelines.

The gazebos have also been vital in supporting the community department to roll out the Community Centre rejuvenation programme, which aimed to support the engagement and safe return of both community groups and individuals to local community centres post the lifting of COVID restrictions. The community centre rejuvenation programme offered an opportunity to create an awareness of centre re-opening and safe return

requirements while increasing outdoor activities in community centres.

To date the community offices has supported three community centres in Dublin 15 to host three outdoor reception days - one in Mulhuddart, one in Mountview Fortlawn Community centre and one in Parslickstown House, with another two planned in the coming weeks.

On Wednesday August 4th, 2021, Mulhuddart Community Centre in association with Fingal County Council welcomed the community to an outdoor reception day that was well received by Community groups, service providers and the local Community.

The reception hosted a community photography project exhibition which took place this year in collaboration with Mulhuddart Community Centre, Fingal County Council and Healthy Mulhuddart. Fingal Community Office, Empower, Foroige, Kidzone, The Centre for Independent Living and numerous community groups were in attendance. The showcasing of services and supports for communities and groups at this outdoor reception at Mulhuddart Community Centre was a great success. Discussions over tea and coffee, Healthy Fingal giveaway packs, and Mulhuddart pensioners club first group meeting since the beginning of the COVID pandemic took place during this outdoor reception.

Similarly to this Mountview Fortlawn Youth and Sports Hub hosted a Community engagement expo on the 12th of August 2021 from 5-7pm. This outdoor event showcased a range of community groups, supports and services including Fingal County Council Community Office, Empower, Hope Childcare, Ladies Knitting Club, Savage Martial Arts and the Flying Ducks hockey club. Alongside this Mountview FC were in full swing of their mini leagues which brought a great energy to the event. Champion Taekwondo also gave the audience a wonderful demonstration of their skills while showcasing their trophies and achievements. The event was well received by all in attendance and the community of Mountview look forward to the centre reopening.

In partnership and collaboration with Community Centres we look forward to welcoming you back.





FINGAL INTEGRATION OFFICE

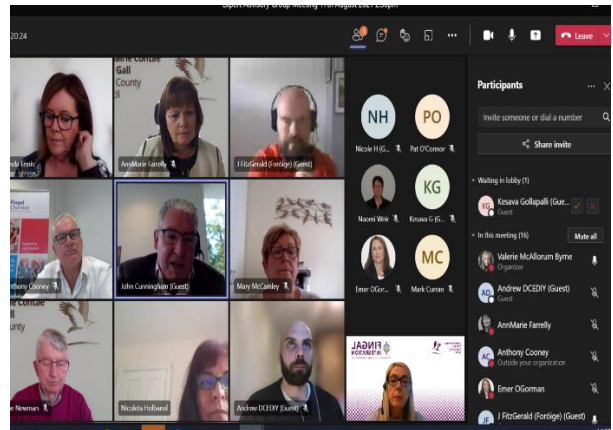
Fingal India Day Celebrations

India day was on the 15th August 2021, celebrating its 75th year of independence, it was the 7th year that this event has been hosted by *The Ireland India Council* who established *India Day in Ireland* in 2015. The event is organised by a collaborative partnership and includes an interesting and thought-provoking line up alongside bright and vibrant cultural displays.



Expert Advisory Group

The Expert Advisory Group was set up in 2018 to oversee the development of the Fingal Migrant Integration and Social Cohesion Strategy 2019 – 2024, 18 months after its development the group came together to evaluate Fingal’s progress on the 17th of August. Welcomed by our Chief Executive and Facilitated by independent Chairperson John Cunningham it began with presentations of the evaluation report and led into the delivery of the Action Plan 2021-2022 by our Integration Officer and the general feedback was very positive. Our Chief Executive summed up by saying “A lot of work has been done and we are hoping to do a lot more” reiterating Fingal County Councils commitment to the ongoing delivery of the strategy.



Communities Integration Funding 2021

Partner / Collaborator:	Project:	Amount:
FEN	Intercultural Project Awareness Programme and Intercultural Event 21 st August.	€5,000
FIF & Area 5 Team	Consultation on Intercultural Hub – Dublin 15 Area pilot for rollout in Fingal	€5,000 (Plus possible match funding)

		from CDO €5,000)
Castleknock Community Centre	Intercultural Day and Information Awareness Evenings	Costing currently being assessed
Mountview CDO Hub	Cambridge English Language for Hard to Reach	Cost Approx. €5,000
FIF & Foroige	Wednesday Night Club Tyrrelstown	Cost €5,000

STRATEGIC UNIT

PPN National Structural Review



**An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail**
Department of Rural and
Community Development

Fingal PPN recently submitted a written submission to the Department of Rural and Community Development in relation to the National Structural Review of the Public Participation Networks. This review will assess the current structure and governance of PPNs in facilitating and supporting the role of the PPNs in relation to civic participation. The written submission process presents an opportunity to provide input into the review under the following thematic areas:

- Governance and Structure
- Resources and Skills
- Participation, Engagement and Inclusion
- Climate Action
- Community Development

We are looking forward to the outcome of this review when the report is published later this year.

Online Training for Stakeholders of the Public Participation Networks



The Department of Rural and Community Development have commissioned Social Justice Ireland with the support of Waterford Institute of Technology to develop a comprehensive training course for PPN Stakeholders. Participants from Fingal PPN have been invited to take part in this training course in September. Six participants from Fingal PPN will join Laois, Kildare, South County Dublin, DLR and Dublin City PPNs in this training programme called 'Creating Capable Communities.'

PPN Linkage Group Meetings Round 4 2021



The PPN is delighted to confirm that round 4 of Linkage Groups commenced on August 10th. Esther Onolememen from Sickie Cell Society Ireland has been appointed facilitator of the Social Inclusion, Rural Development, Youth and Enterprise Linkage Group. John Uwhumiakpor from Nigerian Balbriggan Forum has been appointed to the Housing SPC. Three candidates have come forward for the vacancy on the Sports Partnership Committee. Elections will take place in the coming weeks. Nominees will be sought to fill the PPN vacancy on Planning Strategic Transport & Infrastructure Development SPC. Fingal PPN Linkage Groups have been strengthened this year with the dedicated resource of the support worker. Any community organisation who is a member of the PPN can participate. For more see www.fingalppn.ie.

SPORTS OFFICE

Balbriggan Beach Activity Day

The Balbriggan Beach Activity Day was organised by the Sports Office with the aim of highlighting the potential of the amenity, looking at the possibility of starting up more regular beach/water sports activities in the area and coinciding with the end of the bathing season. The activities included beach cricket and football, orienteering, Kayaking and an open water swim. The event which took place on Aug 29th was well attended with approximately 400 people taking part in the activities across the entire afternoon.



ParkFit

The Parkfit programme will be delivered in 4 locations. These free fitness classes will be available to the public free of charge and will include options for all levels of ability. There will be classes taking place twice/three times a week including Body Mind Movement, Core and Chair Exercise, and general fitness. Each class lasts 30–40-minute and are delivered by qualified instructors. We will be delivering these classes in Balbriggan, Lanesborough, Millennium Park and Tyrrelstown Park.

Men on the Move

Men on the Move is a free, twelve-week community-based beginners physical activity programme for inactive adult men.

The wellness and physical activity programme is delivered by Fingal's Sports Office in conjunction with the HSE. It supports men to begin their journey to (re)connect with themselves via a safe and non-judgemental environment. It creates an environment in which they can connect with their surroundings and other men with whom they can relate. It consists of structured group exercise, experiential workshops, resources, a celebration event and much more. Currently we have expressions of interest from 40 men interested in signing up to the programme, which will take place in Mulhuddart in September.



Walking Well & Exercise Programme

This programme developed by the Sports Office targeting older adults has been extended and will take place in Lusk for a further 4 weeks. The programme is facilitated by Lusk Utd FC and sees the weekly exercise class delivered by a trained coach and as well as providing an outdoor physical activity opportunity for men & women it also provides a social outlet and an opportunity to meet new people in the area.

Activity (Equipment Funding)

The Sports Office have increased the promotion of funding available to sports clubs. We have contacted all sports clubs/groups on our database, put out communication through our Sport Development Officers and formulated a social media plan to reach out to as many sports clubs/groups as possible. We would normally expect approximately 10 clubs to receive this funding, but we have approved funding of €90,000 to 50 clubs with another 9 grant applications in the process of being completed.

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE ACTION & ACTIVE TRAVEL

Contents	
Active Travel	Litter Management
Climate Action	Animal Welfare Services
Environmental Awareness	Water Quality Protection
Circular Economy	Waste Enforcement
Bring Centres	
Bathing Water Quality	
Landfill Aftercare	

Active Travel Section

FCC Active Travel Programme 2021

NTA funding has been secured for several projects, details of progress outlined below.

Hartstown / Huntstown / Mountview Road, Dublin 15

In July and August phase 2 of the Hartstown / Huntstown / Mountview Road kerb protected Cycle Lanes continued. These works include junction build outs which will provide a safer crossing location for pedestrians, roundabout modifications which will provide a safer path for cyclists through roundabouts and finally bus stop build outs which will allow cyclists to pass safely behind bus stops and remove the current conflict with busses.

The first works being carried out are the installation of new uncontrolled crossing points. These works have now progressed along much of the scheme and works are currently ongoing in the Cheerywood and Beechwood areas.



Hartstown/Huntstown Kerb Protected Cycle Lane – New Uncontrolled Crossing Points and Junction Build Outs



**Hartstown/Huntstown Kerb Protected Cycle Lane
– New Uncontrolled Crossing Points and Junction
Build Outs**

Rivervalley Rathingle, Swords

Design works for the Phase 2 of the Kerb protected cycle lanes is almost complete and plans are currently underway to commence the phase two works for Rivervalley/Rathingle in Q 4 of 2021. These works will consist of junction build outs which will provide a safer crossing location for pedestrians, roundabout modifications which will provide a safer path for cyclists through roundabouts and finally bus stop build outs which will allow cyclists to pass safely behind bus stops and remove the current conflict with busses.

St. Cronin’s Road, Swords

St Cronin’s Rd is a Protected Cycle Lane project and Initial Design works had been progressed for this project earlier this year. With resources now available for this project The Active Travel Unit is currently reviewing the potential to combine this project with

other projects in the area. These are the Safer Routes to School (SRTS) for St Cronins Junior National School on the Brackenstown Road, overlay and protected cycle paths to Brackenstown Road and junction improvements to incorporate pedestrian and cyclist safety, as well as footpath repairs. These works are currently under design and are planned to be delivered on a phased basis over the coming months. Further updates and engagement with all stakeholders will progress in advance of the works.

Grange Rd/Warrenhouse Rd/Dublin Rd/Howth Rd

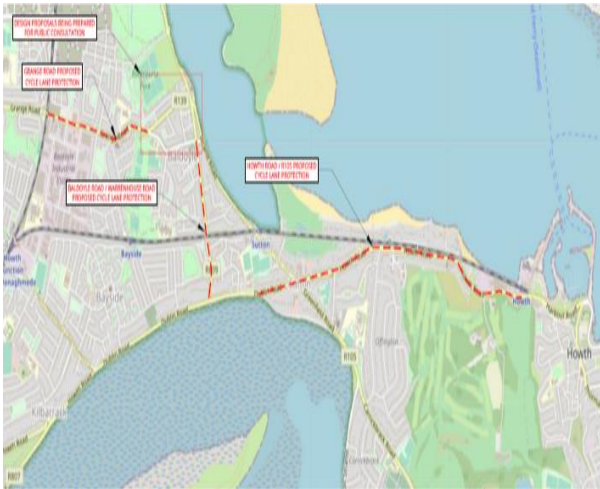
Works commenced on August 9th on Phase 1 of the Baldoyle-Howth protected cycle lane scheme. The scheme consists of the following:

- A – R809 Grange Road
- B – R809 Baldoyle Road / Warrenhouse Road
- C – R105 Dublin Rd / Howth Road

Fingal County Council is upgrading the existing cycle lanes on Grange Road (R809), Howth Road (R105) and Baldoyle Road / Warrenhouse Road (R809) by installing flexible bollards with reflective bands, epoxy resin surfacing and additional road markings to separate cyclists and vehicular traffic. Footpath and carriageway repairs will be carried out in advance of commencing the protected cycle lanes.

Initial focus is on substantial footpath repair works on Grange Road within the area of Baldoyle. Feedback from local residents has been positive. Repair and upgrade works of footpaths and junctions are now progressing onto Warrenhouse Road.

Meetings have been held with local residents' groups in Baldoyle, Sutton & Howth along the route of the scheme. In addition, meetings with local businesses have taken place to discuss the works.



Baldoyle to Howth Phase 1 Route

R132 Ministers Road to Blakes Cross

Works proposed along the R132 include the installation of a protected cycle lane along with junction modifications as well as additional measures around Corduff National School and Killhedge Lane to allow for additional safety for students attending the school. An options appraisal report was produced and that is currently being reviewed by the Consultant and Active Travel to ensure the robustness of the design options. After completion of this element, the Active Travel unit will progress with full design, preparation of tender package. Works are planned to commence late 2021 / early 2022.

Towns & Villages Mobility

Currently the Active Travel Unit is reviewing towns and villages around the county with a view to identifying projects and measures which will allow for people to make meaningful journeys using active travel modes such as walking and cycling. This review will inform our works programme over this and coming years.

The pedestrianisation of New St in Malahide has been reintroduced in June 2021, with amendments this year from last year with the inclusion of cafe barriers to regularise the outdoor dining areas for the businesses. Local access traffic has been retained at the Strand St end of New St. And deliveries are accommodated from 6am-11am each day.

Connectivity Review

We are continuing to receive various requests regarding Permeability and Connectivity pieces from various stakeholders across the county. These are being recorded in detail for further investigation and development.

We have developed a Connectivity Tracker that is recording the details and is being used to evaluate and help to identify the best course of action and mechanism to develop these ideas and progress them to fruition and delivery on the ground.



Footpath repair works with traffic management measures in place on Grange Road

Once evaluation is completed on the list to date, it is planned to look at the first tranch of works and agree a mechanism for developing and delivering these projects on the ground.

Upcoming Projects

The Active Travel Unit will also be commencing design works on the following schemes:

- Bus Gate at Littlepace (NTA partnership) - The NTA have indicated that they intend to commence planning and design work on this bus-only access proposal early next year and that there will be extensive public consultation undertaken when initial designs are developed.
- Protected cycle Lane on Snugborough Road – NAC to Ongar, this will consist initially of a scoping exercise and feasibility report.

Safe Routes to School Programme

The *Safe Routes to School* Programme is designed to encourage as many pupils and students as possible in primary and post-primary schools to walk and cycle. It has three aims:

1. To accelerate the delivery of walking/scooting and cycling infrastructure on key identified access routes to schools;
2. To provide “front of school” treatments which will emphasise the importance of the school-going children accessing the school;
3. To expand the amount of bike parking available at schools.

11 Fingal schools were selected for the first phase of the programme and are due to be rolled out in 2021/2022. The Active Travel team have met with 6 school Principals to date and will meet with the remaining Principals over the coming weeks to discuss the issues/concerns outside their school and to work on a design concept for each individual school. The SRTS Programme will be implemented on a rolling-basis i.e as a school is completed, another

school from the list will be selected in consultation with An Taisce and the NTA.

Schools selected

Bayside Junior School (Scoil Náisiúnta Muire agus Iósef, Sóisear)
Bayside Senior National School (Scoil Mhuire & Iósef, Sinsear)
Castaheany Educate Together National School
Ladyswell National School (Scoil an Cheathrair Álainn)
Pope John Paul II National School Malahide
Rush & Lusk Educate Together National School
Scoil Choilm Community National School
Scoil Ghráinne Community National School
St. Benedict's National School Ongar
St. Luke's National School Tyrrelstown
St. Patrick's National School Diswellstown

The Active Travel section will also continue to work with schools outside of this programme who did not submit an Expression of Interest to An Taisce through our Active Travel Programme.

Presentation will be given to the Councillors on the SRTS Programme at each October Area Committee Meeting

Mobility Projects

Bleeper Bikes

Fingal Bike Share Scheme – June & July Usage – Bleeper Active

Existing Bike Share Scheme – Fingal

June	July
1668 bike journeys started within existing Fingal operating zone in June, up from 1575 in May.	1980 bike journeys started within existing Fingal operating zone in July, up from 1668 in June.
1744 bike journeys ended within existing Fingal operating zone in June (excess bikes are collected by Bleeper and returned to city centre).	2076 bike journeys ended within existing Fingal operating zone in June (excess bikes are collected by Bleeper and returned to city centre).
Highest usage recorded on Sundays with 18.84% followed by Tuesdays with 16.36%.	Highest usage recorded on Saturdays with 19.39% followed by Thursdays with 16.26%.
Howth train station was the most popular location again.	Howth train station was the most popular location again.
Average number of 67 bikes in Fingal (SLA = 50) available for hire each day of the month, 5 more than the month of May	Average number of 71 bikes in Fingal (SLA = 50) available for hire each day of the month, 4 more than the month of June.
	• Increase in vandalism and theft.

Bleeper Bike Expansion Pilot – North County

June	July
New locations in North Fingal for a 3-month pilot include Donabate, Portrane, Rush, Skerries, and Balbriggan with a total of 70 bikes allocated.	New locations in North Fingal for a 3-month pilot include Donabate, Portrane, Rush, Skerries, and Balbriggan with a total of 70 bikes allocated.

1277 bike journeys started within North Fingal pilot zone in June.	1284 bike journeys started within North Fingal pilot zone in July, up from 1277 in June.
1278 bike journeys ended within North Fingal pilot zone in June.	1284 bike journeys ended within North Fingal pilot zone in June
Balbriggan is the most popular location with 617 journeys started followed by Skerries with 443 (Balbriggan has an allocation of 25 bikes with Skerries receiving 15, on an average per bike usage, Skerries would be the most popular location).	Balbriggan is the most popular location with 517 journeys (decrease from June) followed by Skerries with 468 (increase from June).

We will continue to promote usage of Bleeper through our social media platforms.

All Fingal staff and Elected Members can avail of free bleeper bike hire.

#AmberThursday Safety Campaign

On Thursday 29th July, Fingal County Council's Road Safety Section & Active Travel Team launched the first 'Amber Thursday' event which was a joint collaboration between safety bodies, fire services and local authorities to help promote fire, road and water safety over the August Bank Holiday weekend to ensure people are aware of risks and dangers associated with these activities. This campaign will run across future June and August Bank Holiday weekends as these are considered to be the two busiest bank holiday weekends of the year, and on many occasions, we have all learned of many and varied tragedies which have occurred over these weekends.

Fingal County Council's Active Travel and Operations departments joined forces with the RNLi, Dublin Fire Brigade and the Civil Defence in appealing to the

public to stay safe when travelling or relaxing over the August bank holiday weekend.

As thousands of people flock to beaches, rivers and pools, many more take to the roads, go camping or fire up the barbeque either in the garden or away from the home. All these activities bring with them, an important element of safety and awareness. Sadly, many of us have become accustomed to hearing news of accidents and injuries which occur on our roads, at home, at sea and on our waterways.



We will continue to work with all agencies throughout the year to promote road, water and fire safety.

Cycling without Age

We are delighted to announce that our 3 Trio-bikes were delivered in July.

Pilot training took place for 14 volunteers in St. Catherines Park on 7th August. Volunteers have signed up from across the 3 Local Electoral Areas.

Further training will take place in Skerries on 11th September and we continue to welcome any new volunteers who would like to sign up to this initiative.



E-Cargo Bikes

The Active Travel Section sought expressions of Interest from local businesses based in Fingal to trial delivery using e-cargo bikes. Cargo bikes have significant potential to replace vans in urban areas and also reduce traffic congestion and pollution. 11 EOI's were received in total and all interested businesses have now been contacted for further information to determine suitability. It is hoped to select suitable businesses in the coming weeks to participate in the trial.



Gearing Up for Training

Active Travel are delighted that our Gearing up for Training Initiative has been shortlisted for the Excellence in Local Government Awards 2021.

The "Gearing Up for Training" programme aims to encourage young club members and parents to cycle to their club for training / matches. The main objectives are:

- Encouraging cycling from a young age in Fingal and develop a life-long love of cycling
- Reduce carbon emissions around the club promoting a healthy environment
- Reduce traffic congestion at the club during training / match days
- Promote an active and healthy lifestyle

Active Travel recently sought Expressions of Interest from Sports Clubs throughout Fingal for the 2nd Phase of the Programme. A total of 7 EOI's were received by the closing date of 30th July.

1 Club from each Local Electoral Area will be chosen to participate and complete the programme by the end of 2021.



Bike Week 2021

Active Travel are finalising our schedule of events and activities to be held during Bike Week 2021 at various locations across Fingal.

Events include, Family Group Cycles, Pedal for your Medal Challenge, Photo Competitions, Adult Cycle training, Glow in the Dark cycle, a flagship event in St. Catherine's Park and so much more.

Keep an eye on our social media platforms for regular updates on this years Bike Week which promises to be our best yet!

BikeWeek

EVENT	DATE	DESCRIPTION
COMMUNITY CYCLE	Wed 15th Sept: 9.30am to 12pm Baldylee/Portmarnock Greenway	Everyone is welcome to the Greenway for a group cycle to celebrate Bike Week. No bike? No problem! Free Blesper Bikes will be available if you'd like to join in the fun!
ADULT CYCLING WORKSHOPS	Wed 15th Sept: 6pm - RiverValley Thurs 16th Sept: 6pm - Harbstown	Time to get back in the saddle! If it's been a while since you rode a bike, or perhaps you've never tried, we'd like to help you learn to cycle safely. Registration is required.
GLOW IN THE DARK CYCLE	Fri 17th Sept: 7pm - Malahide Castle & Demesne	A family friendly cycling event designed to encourage participants to enjoy cycling safely. Registration is required.
FAMILY FUN DAY	Sat 18th Sept: 10am to 6pm - St Catherine's Park Fingal entrance	People of all ages are invited to enjoy safe cycling activities and learn more about sustainable transport: • Street Velodrome • Bike Safety Checks • Cycling Without Age Triabike Rides • BMX Tracks • Cycling Safety Course For Kids • Blesperbikes • Active Travel Promo Stand Showcasing Ireland's first sustainable (wooden) bike share - coming to Fingal soon.

Register today at: fingal.ie/bikeweek

School Wardens

96 full time School Wardens returned to work this week as schools throughout the County reopened.

Interviews took place for the recruitment of new Temporary Reserve School Wardens on Friday 27th and Monday 30th of August. Of those interviewed, 8 have been placed on a panel and will receive training once the Garda vetting process is completed.



Bike Racks

Active Travel has now surveyed 90% of the county to identify all the existing bike racks in Fingal's boundaries. The intention is to show/ identify clearly on a map which of these bike racks fall into FCC public/ private ownership – railway stations, schools, shopping centres, GAA clubs etc. and the number of racks at each location.

We have recently tendered for the installation of additional Bike Racks and small works on behalf of Active Travel. The next batch of bike racks which have been identified in the public realm as suitable possible locations will accommodate an approximate 25 additional bike parking locations in each local electoral area and this installation is an ongoing/ continuation of the overall program of works for the Active Travel Dept.

The new proposed bike rack locations are a mix of Councillors/ public/ staff suggestions.

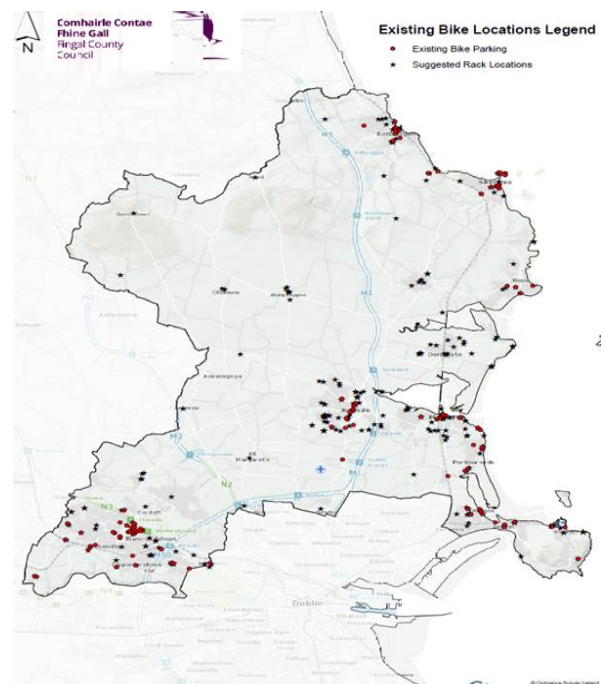
Bike Racks for Sports Clubs

Active Travel Unit has procured additional bike racks and a Programme of Works is currently being prepared for installation of bike racks within the public realm to include additional bike parking in the Bleeper bike expansion areas.

Applications for sports clubs to apply for bike racks ended on the 18th of June. In total, 39 sports clubs

ranging from GAA clubs to martial arts clubs submitted applications with a total of 71 bike racks applied for.

This initiative encourages club members to cycle to and from their clubs which has fantastic long-term health and environmental benefits as well as reducing traffic congestion around clubs on training and match days. Bike racks will be delivered to clubs in the coming weeks.



Kissing Gates

Presently 90% of Fingal has now been surveyed to identify existing kissing gates that may be unnecessary or no longer necessary. There is at present a field application in development that will streamline the process of mapping this asset and other existing assets. The plan is to identify, map, code all existing kissing gates in Fingal which create barriers to public space/ parks, may it be to wheelchairs, push buggy's, push bikes etc. with a view to modifying such barriers to active travel. To begin the process, Seagrang Park in Baldoyle has had the gate element removed from the kissing gate structure.



Climate Action

The Fingal Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024 (CCAP) was launched in Sept 2019, and actions are ongoing.

The CCAP and the One Year Progress Report can be viewed at <https://www.fingal.ie/climate-change-action-plan-2019-2024>

The four Dublin Local Authorities, CARO & Codema are holding Dublin Climate Action Week from 13th September 2021. The overall vision of Dublin Climate Action Week 2021 is – ‘to showcase Dublin’s climate action progress to its citizens and demonstrate the leadership role of the four local authorities in conjunction with other partners’. A full schedule of webinar events and site visits are available to register at www.dublinclimateactionweek.ie. This website will also host resource material for citizens. One of the highlights of the Programme includes a Climate Action Panel Discussion with the Chief Executive’s of the four Dublin local authorities, taking place online on Tuesday 14th September 2021 at 9am.

The latest issue of Fingal News, the ‘Climate Action’ edition, was launched at the end of August. Going forward each edition will include tips as to how we can become more climate aware in our daily lives. This

edition focuses on the topic of household ‘Food Waste’. One tip on how you can reduce your own food waste is to store your bread in the freezer, keeping it fresh, and simply toast or defrost it when needed. For the schedule of Fingal County Council Climate Action Week events, and more tips on food waste visit the link below:

https://issuu.com/fingalnews/docs/fingal_news_issue_20_aug_online_edition/s/13265398



Climate Action “Raising Awareness” training is being rolled out to all grades and feedback is positive. Training for Grade 4/analogous grades will be rolled out from Monday 6th September. A Championing Leadership pillar will be delivered to senior staff and councillors in Q4 2021.

13 - 19 September 2021



Environmental Awareness

Anti Litter Anti Graffiti Competition funding €1,500 awarded to the following 12 groups for projects in their areas

1. Howth Tidy Towns,
2. Baldoyle Tidy Towns
3. Blakestown Mountview Neighbourhood Youth Project
4. Skerries Tidy Towns
5. Castlegrange Estate, Swords
6. St Catherine's Residents Association, Rush
7. Balbriggan Tidy Towns
8. Corduff Community Resource Centre Dublin 15
9. Mountview Fortlawn Community Youth and Sports Hub CLG Dublin 15
10. Castlefield park Residents Dublin 15
11. Lusk Action Group
12. Swords Tidy Towns

Six Community Centres will provide free Litter kit for the Adopt a Patch and the Green Dog Walkers Programs. These six centres litter picking stock will be replenished on an ongoing basis by the Environment Department.

- **Mulhuddart Community Centre**, Church Rd, Buzzardstown, Dublin 15,
- **Mountview Youth and Community Centre**, Lohunda Downs, Coolmine, Dublin 15,

- **Donabate Portrane Community & Leisure Centre**, 3 Portrane Rd, Ballalease North, Donabate, Co. Dublin,
- **Baldoyle Community Hall**, Main St, Baldoyle, Dublin 13
- **Flemington Community Centre**, Hamlet Ln, Balbriggan
- **Our Balbriggan Main Office**, Georges Square, Balbriggan

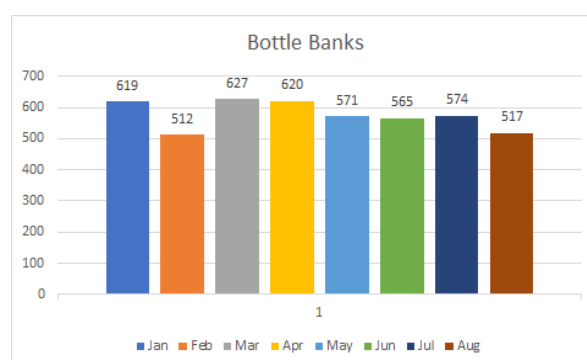
A partnership has been formed between Fingal Environmental Awareness Department and the Oberstown Childrens Campus. The centre will be involved in the new 'Composting for Schools' Dublin pilot due to get underway in September. In their furniture department they will make the wooden composters for over 100 Dublin schools. They will also use other skills to artistically paint the boxes and stencil the logos. This will benefit the young people in their give-back to community and it also benefits the Composting for Schools project hugely.

Work is ongoing with the 32 Fingal Community Centres in the Keen to be Green Initiative

St. Patricks School, Corduff, Dublin 15, were granted €800 towards installing new planters in their new outdoor classroom

The very popular Re-Cycled paint continues to be provided free to communities across Fingal (in association with the Estuary Recycling Centre and the Rediscovery Centre)

Bring Centres



Textile Recycling

A Request for Tender for the provision and maintenance of textile banks and the collection and recycling of collected textile for Fingal is at the final evaluation stage and a successful Tenderer will be identified shortly.

Bring Bank Painting

Further requests have been made to our contractor to have several other sites repainted which will be done in September 2021. Powerwashing of sites continues throughout the County.

Bring Bank Expansion

We are working to expand the network of Glass and Clothes recycling facilities throughout Fingal.



Watery Lane Swords - our busiest location for Glass and Clothes recycling.

Litter Management

To date this year a total of 1968 planned litter patrols have taken place across the Fingal administrative area. The Litter Warden service is now provided on a seven day basis. The focus will now move from areas of high tourist footfall and move to the urban centres and rural road networks in an effort to detect illegal dumping and littering.

A total of 367 litter fines have been issued to the end of August along with 318 warning notices. The BMCO electoral area accounted for 134 fines and 104 warning notices with the Litter Wardens issuing 173 fines and 128 warning notices in the BSRL electoral area, with the remaining 60 litter fines and 86 warning notices being served in the Howth Malahide electoral area. The figures below account for all enforcement action to the end of August.

Month	Fines issued 2020	Warnings Issued 2020	Fines Issued 2021	Warnings Issued 2021
January	83	39	3	16
February	103	12	33	23
March	32	16	36	35
April	0	1	66	27
May	0	3	71	116
June	35	1	45	35
July	99	18	75	21
August	49	7	36	23

*** 7 of the fines listed above in the Litter Enforcement Section were for dog fouling offences.

Dog Warden & Dog Shelter Service

Fingal County Council has appointed Midland Animal Care Limited to provide Dog Shelter services for the next 12 months.

Midland Animal Care will also provide Dog Shelter services at Hollygrove Kennels in Newcastle, Co Dublin, for Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and South Dublin County Council.

Midland Animal Care was established in 2014 and employs 17 staff members. They also provide Dog Shelter services to Carlow County Council, Kilkenny

County Council, Clare County Council, Roscommon County Council and Meath County Council.

All Midland Animal Care staff members working with dogs on behalf of Fingal County Council will be trained to veterinary nurse standard or equivalent and the company currently have working arrangements with four registered veterinary practices for the provision of veterinary and animal welfare services. They also proactively work with 15 rescue organisations across Ireland to rehome dogs.

Month	Fines Issued
Jan	3
Feb	6
Mar	5
Apr	5
May	1
Jun	0
Jul	3
Aug	0

Horse Welfare Programme

The final Equine ID clinic for Dunsink landfill outreach programme for 2021 on 1st October. Following this the outreach programme will enter a phase of monitoring and welfare inspections. All findings from these welfare inspections will be reported to the Regional Horse Welfare Group and any actions required will be dealt with via this Group.

Water Quality Protection

Bathing Water Quality

The bathing water season began on the 1st of June and eight rounds of sampling have taken place by the

end of August. The results of sampling to date are summarised below for the ten identified bathing waters. One final round of scheduled sampling remains before the end of the bathing season on 15th September.

	Individual Classification				
2021 season	Excellent	Good	Sufficient	Poor	Total
Samples					
Scheduled	68	7	1	4	80
Unscheduled	8	1	1	0	10
Total	76	8	2	4	90

The majority of results have achieved 'excellent' water quality status. Six prohibition (Do not swim) notices have been issued for identified bathing areas so far this season. One of these notices was issued as a precaution due to a stormwater overflow at Quay St. Balbriggan on the 5/8/21. The remaining five notices were issued due to elevated microbiological levels which met 'poor' or 'sufficient' results from scheduled sampling. All resampling results following a 'poor' result have shown an immediate return to 'excellent' water quality, indicating no persistent pollution events. None were point source pollution events, suggesting diffuse pollution from increased rainfall in July and August contributing to agricultural and urban runoff effecting the coastal environments or impacts from faecal contamination from animals and birds.

As part of our monitoring programme, an investigative project has been underway with UCD involving qPCR testing of water (to enable identification of microbial sources ie gull, ruminant, human etc). The results will be available at the end of September and will provide a valuable insight into possible contamination sources at some of our bathing areas, particularly where no point source pollution has been identified. This project will focus on Front Strand and the Bracken River Balbriggan, Loughshinny and Portrane.

In relation to other monitored waters in Fingal; Balscadden and Ireland's Eye were tested twice this season with all results meeting 'excellent' status. Malahide beach has seen 6 'excellent' and 2 'poor'

results this season with localised rainfall in August contributing to diffuse urban runoff being a likely cause of the 'poor' results.

	Non Identified Waters Individual Classification				
2021 season	Excellent	Good	Sufficient	Poor	Total
Samples					
Malahide	6			2	8
resamples	3				3
other waters	4				4
Total	13	0	0	2	15

The Green Coast Flag was officially raised at Rush South Beach for the first time in 2021 and if the continuing 'excellent' water quality is maintained by the end of the season, a follow on application for a green coast award next year can be made. Other beach award holders shown here; <https://beachawards.ie/green-coast/>



Waste Enforcement End of Life Vehicle Project

The Waste Enforcement Unit have been concentrating efforts over the past few months to close a large number of illegal End of Life Vehicle sites. When the ELV project started a total of 63 potential illegal ELV sites were identified which increased to 72 sites during 2021 following additional intel. To date a total of 60 illegal ELV sites have been cleared and closed

down with over 110 inspections undertaken by waste enforcement officers. A multi-agency approach has been used with the assistance of local Gardai, the Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority (WERLA), Customs, the National Transfrontier Shipment Office (NTFSO) and Social Protection. The sites in question were identified through local waste enforcement knowledge and information provided by the general public and permitted metal recycling operators. A number of legal files have been prepared to tackle several more difficult ELV sites where the operator/landowner is refusing to remove the ELV's. A typical legal file will take an enforcement officer 4-5 days to complete depending on the site. The cases will be dealt with in the district court where Section 55 Notices issued by FCC will be enforced and operators instructed to remove ELV's from lands and cease all dismantling activities.

The Waste Enforcement Unit have also been focusing on a number of permitted Authorised Treatment Facilities (ATF's) to ensure that only permitted waste collectors and/or registered vehicle owners bring in End of Life Vehicles for disposal and recovery. Several inspections were undertaken at ATF's in Q2 and Q3 to ensure compliance with permit conditions around acceptance of ELV's. The acceptance of ELV's for cash payments is a major issue within the metal sector which acts as an outlet for illegal car dismantling yards. Non-compliance letters have been issued and meetings held with permitted waste operators to ensure that this illegal activity ceases. Legal files will be prepared if further non-compliances are found during subsequent inspections at permitted facilities.





Public Consultation - Review of the Directive on End-of-Life Vehicles

A new End of Life Vehicle Directive is now open for public consultation. The European Commission completed an evaluation of Directive 2000/53/EC on end-of-life vehicles in 2021 which identified a number of shortcomings in the ELV Directive. Following up on the evaluation, the European Commission is now working on an impact assessment in support of a possible revision of the ELV Directive. In view of the links between the ELV Directive and the “3R type-approval” Directive 2005/64/EC, a joint review of both Directives will be carried out. Please see link below to the public consultation on the review of the ELV Directive: https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12633-End-of-life-vehicles-revision-of-EU-rules/public-consultation_en This online questionnaire is open until midnight 26 October 2021.



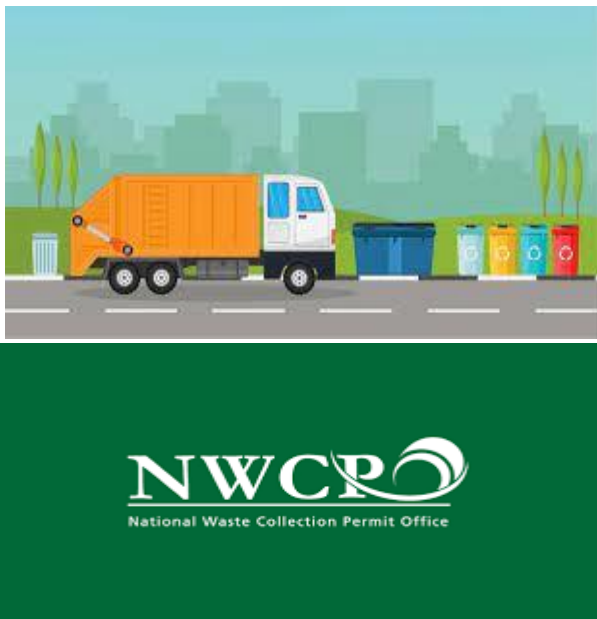
Fixed Payment Notices (FPN's) - End of Life vehicles (ELV's)

Fingal's Waste Enforcement Unit are issuing FPN's in relation to sites illegally storing end of life vehicles (ELVs) on public and private lands. The issue with these site is these old vehicles contain hazardous materials and if not stored and treated properly these contaminants can enter the ground and cause harm to the environment and human health. The Waste Enforcement Unit have been issuing the registered owners of these vehicles with FPN's for not disposing of their vehicles at authorised treatment facilities. A total of 201 FPN's have been issued to date.

Data Validations – Waste Facility Permits and Waste Collection Permits

Data Validations are continuing for the Waste Facility Annual Returns submitted by 22 Waste Facility Permit Holders. Detailed checks are carried out by waste enforcement officer on behalf of the National Waste Collection Permit Office (NWCPO) to ensure that no errors are contained in annual waste data submitted. Following this, additional more in-depth audits will be carried out for a number of waste facilities, selected on the basis of National Priorities. Any issues identified during the data validation process and/or the previous years' returns will be examined in detail and additional clarification sought. On site verification audits will also be undertaken as part of the validation process.

A similar exercise is underway in relation to the validation of annual returns for waste collection permit holders. Waste data for the previous year is examined in detail and clarification sought from operators where discrepancies are found. In Fingal there are a total of 122 waste collection permit holders that require validation and follow on audits which takes up a considerable amount of the waste enforcement officer's time each year.



of households not having a bin collection service in place.



Illegal Dumping Awareness Campaign

An illegal dumping awareness campaign was launched during July using billboards and bus shelter posters to highlight issues regarding illegal waste collectors and the dumping of household and bulky waste. Householders have a legal obligation to dispose of their waste in a responsible and sustainable manner by having a bin collection service with an authorised waste collector or by transferring their waste to an authorised waste facility.

Waste Presentation Bye-Laws were introduced in Fingal to cater for this and to ensure that both household and commercial wastes are managed in a sustainable manner. Failure to comply with the Bye Laws can result in an on the spot fine of €75 or prosecution in the District Court if found to be guilty of an offence. Waste enforcement officers continue to carry out household inspections to ensure compliance with the Bye-Laws. Raising public awareness on the importance of having a bin collection service and how this helps tackle illegal dumping and environmental pollution is vital. We need to continue to highlight the negative aspect of waste build-up in back gardens and associated illegal dumping as a result

Mywaste.ie is Ireland's official guide to managing waste. On the **Mywaste.ie** site you will find everything you need to know about how to manage your waste responsibly and efficiently.

Public Consultation on Ireland's Nitrates Action Programme



The Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien, T.D., has invited submissions, observations and comments on Ireland's Draft Nitrates Action Programme. The objective of this public consultation process is to invite stakeholders to feed into the finalisation of measures for Ireland's fifth Nitrates Action Programme. This follows an initial public consultation which was held in late 2020.

Closing date September 20th

Further details here

<https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/0b39f-public-consultation-on-irelands-nitrates-action-programme/>

Air Quality

The EPA have launched a citizen science project inviting people in Dublin to install short term monitoring tubes to measure NO2 pollution. Fingal Social Media has publicised the project.

Details are here [Clean Air \(cleanairtogether.ie\)](http://cleanairtogether.ie)

Waste Management Planning

The regional waste management office has prepared a report evaluating the Regional Waste Management Plans for the 3 regions and is available here

[T:\EESD\Environment\E08 Waste Management Planning\2021\Evaluation of the Regional Waste Management Plans \(Final\).pdf](T:\EESD\Environment\E08 Waste Management Planning\2021\Evaluation of the Regional Waste Management Plans (Final).pdf)

FINANCE

Contents
Financial Reports

Financial Reports

Refer to Appendix 1 for the following reports:

- Revenue Account Income & expenditure to 31st August, 2021
- Capital Account Income & Expenditure to 31st August, 2021
- Summary of Corporate Debtors to 31st August, 2021

APPENDIX 1

REVENUE ACCOUNT INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION AT 31st AUGUST 2021

	EXPENDITURE			Income €	INCOME		NET €
	Expenditure €	Adopted Full Year Budget €	% Budget Spent to date		Adopted Full year Budget €	% Budget Raised	
Housing & Building	44,396,584	71,062,100	62%	46,496,486	74,321,200	63%	-2,099,902
Road Transport & Safety	16,406,184	24,972,900	66%	5,019,471	7,500,800	67%	11,386,713
Water Services	12,243,219	13,792,400	89%	11,613,994	17,168,500	68%	629,225
Development Management	10,726,526	13,785,400	78%	5,154,745	4,496,500	115%	5,571,781
Environmental Services	28,046,524	42,814,100	66%	4,311,702	6,089,700	71%	23,734,821
Recreation & Amenity	23,627,876	36,628,900	65%	1,111,078	1,921,900	58%	22,516,799
Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare	465,560	1,127,300	41%	191,043	225,100	85%	274,517
Miscellaneous Services	75,104,062	35,878,200	209%	63,266,825	14,325,100	442%	11,837,237
Central Management Charge	27,191,390	46,313,300	59%	2,063,722	3,187,700	65%	25,127,668
Local Property Tax / GPG				5,002,667	7,504,000	67%	-5,002,667
Rates				99,756,067	149,634,100	67%	-99,756,067
	238,207,926	286,374,600	83%	243,987,800	286,374,600	85%	-5,779,875

CAPITAL ACCOUNT						
INCOME & EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY SERVICE DIVISION TO						
31/08/2021						
		Balance at 01/01/2021 €	Expenditur e YTD €		Income YTD €	Balance at 31/08/2021 €
A	Housing &	-33,151,165	32,320,151		-21,128,094	-21,959,108
B	Road Tran	17,501,293	23,511,911		-2,319,387	38,693,817
C	Water Ser	-12,552,750	940,848		-530,043	-12,141,945
D	Developm	-101,477,199	7,055,666		-24,407,145	-118,828,678
E	Environme	-14,681,189	2,088,418		-7,088,137	-19,680,908
F	Recreatio	-12,299,513	9,742,473		-1,195,086	-3,752,126
H	Miscellane	-79,809,475	3,171,241		-20,764,165	-97,402,399
	Total	-236,469,998	78,830,709		-77,432,057	-235,071,346

SUMMARY OF CORPORATE DEBTORS TO 31/08/2021				
	Balance at 01/01/2021 €	Balance at 31/08/21 €	Current debt €	> 1 Year €
RATES	-14,751,274	31,111,223	25,859,736	5,251,487
LOANS	1,701,915	1,897,571	309,016	1,588,555
RENTS	7,082,917	7,901,720	3,737,371	4,164,349

Figures for rents and loans are unadjusted by credits/prepayments