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Comhairle Contae  
Fhine Gall  
Fingal County  
Council



**October 2021**

**Chief Executive's  
Report on Activities**

A doorway to another world - The Shackleton Garden, Clonsilla, Dublin 15



## A Message from AnnMarie Farrelly, Chief Executive, Fingal County Council

We are now in Q4 of 2021 and I am anticipating a busy end to the year. The 3 year capital programme 2022 – 2024 is listed for consideration by the Elected Members at this October Council meeting. This programme represents significant investment in the county and will support the progress of both small and large scale projects.

We are tasked with delivering a significant housing programme in accordance with Government Housing policy and Housing for All, a new Housing Plan for Ireland. Over the period of this plan the funding will enable the Council to realise and deliver a significant number of social housing dwellings via all available housing support mechanisms. Staff across the organisation are working closely to consider all aspects of the plan.

Key projects will gain momentum over the course of this programme including public realm improvement projects for Our Balbriggan, the Swords Cultural Quarter project, sustainable transport projects, redevelopment and improvement works on our heritage properties and a full range of active travel projects.

I am certain we are all positively looking forward to the 22nd of October where this phase 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 will need to continue to monitor the ongoing risk from the disease and take steps individually

and collectively in our everyday lives to keep this risk under control. Staff will continue the transition of returning to the office on the basis of a phased and cautious return and in the context that services must continue to be delivered. A review of our buildings is underway and will include upgrades to ensure that the benefits of remote meetings are maintained by implementing technological and meeting space solutions.

I was delighted to see The Shackleton Garden open officially in September. The Garden will provide a fantastic tourist attraction for Dublin 15 and will be an excellent addition to the Liffey Valley Trail in Fingal. This significant investment from Fingal County Council and Fáilte Ireland opens the Garden up to the public as an important local amenity, visitor attraction and tourism asset in the Dublin 15 area.

The 1st of October marked a special commemoration for the lives of those lost to Covid-19 where I joined our Mayor, Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh, in planting a memorial tree in Townpark Swords. This tree planting was one of several taking place across the country to mark International Day for Older Persons. The Commemorations Committee is considering other ways in which we can pay tribute to and remember loved ones and all those who have passed away throughout the pandemic.

AnnMarie Farrelly, Chief Executive.



## WE'RE POSITIVELY BLOOMING!

The stunning Shackleton Garden has reopened to the public following major restoration works

Full details on Page 8

## GET CONNECTED!

Free Public Wi-Fi Hotspots in towns and villages in Fingal

See Page 5



## Features

### OUR AMENITIES

Public Play Space at Garristown  
Full details on Page 10



### POSITIVE AGEING WEEK

See photos from the events  
Page 13



### A ROUND UP...

What's been happening in Fingal  
See Page 17



# Inside Fingal Episode 13

Episode 13 of the Inside Fingal Podcast features an interview with Denis Hyland, who is a Football Development Officer with Fingal County Council and Course Coordinator of the Football and Fitness Transition Year Course which is run by the Council in partnership with the Football Association of Ireland in Corduff Sports Centre.

All podcasts in the series are available at [www.fingal.ie/podcast](http://www.fingal.ie/podcast).

The Inside Fingal Podcast has been nominated in the Best Local Authority Innovation category for an Excellence in Local Government Award.

# Join the Smart Balbriggan Community Hackathon



The Changing Face of Balbriggan Community Hackathon is a free, day-long event which will be held on Saturday, 16th October from 9am-6pm. The hybrid event is open to everyone over the age of 18 in either the Bracken Court Hotel or on-line for those who cannot make it in person.

The hackathon will examine a number of challenges facing the town such as the question of how to make Balbriggan an investment destination, how to develop a thriving creative arts and culture sector and how to build a stronger, cohesive and vibrant community. There is a competitive element to the event and winners, who will be announced just before

6pm on Saturday evening, will get an opportunity to further develop their ideas, including possible seed funding!

The event is being run by facilitators What The Hack in conjunction with the Smart Balbriggan project, an initiative of Fingal County Council, which was launched last year to explore how technology and innovation can improve the town.

For more information and to register, visit <https://balbriggan.ie/the-changing-face-of-balbriggan-community-hackathon-october-16th-2021/>

## Welcome Back!

County Hall and the Civic Offices re-opened to the public on Monday 6th September. During the month a total of 1,124 people called to the office to conduct business in person broken down as follows -

County Hall - 504  
Civic Offices - 620

# Public Wi-Fi

On the 9th September, The Mayor of Fingal, Councillor Seána Ó Rodaigh, the Minister of State at the Department of Rural and Community Development, Minister Joe O'Brien and the Chairs of the three Area Committees officially launched free outdoor Public Wi-Fi hotspots in towns and villages across Fingal. The initiative is supported by the WIFI4EU voucher scheme which aims to provide high-quality internet access across the EU to citizens and visitors via free of charge WiFi hotspots in public spaces such as town and village centres, parks and civic spaces.



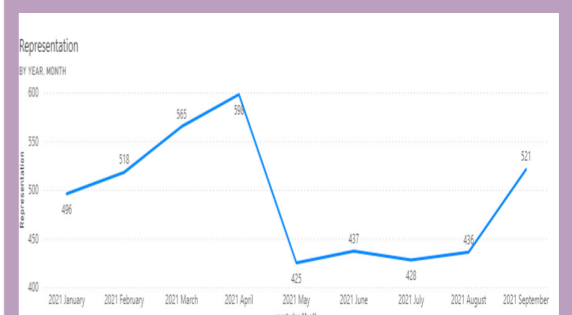
# Top Tweet of The Month!

**Fingal County Council @Fingalcoco**  
In 2018 Andrew Omobamidele graduated from the Football and Fitness Transition Year course run by @FingalSports & @FAIreland. Last night he made his Ireland debut against Portugal. He is the first graduate to play senior international football. Congratulations Andrew 🏆🇮🇪🏆🇮🇪🏆🇮🇪🏆  
[pic.twitter.com/7XPYvYZDWY](https://pic.twitter.com/7XPYvYZDWY)

Our Twitter account, @fingalcoco, had 771,600 impressions during September and an average engagement rate of 1.5% for 442 tweets. 184 new followers were added to bring the total number of followers to 20,363.

The best performing tweet, with 51,301 impressions and 2,274 engagements, was about Andrew Omobamidele being the first graduate from the Football and Fitness Transition Year course run by Fingal County Council and the Football Association of Ireland to play at senior level for Ireland

# Staff Process 521 Councillors Reps in September



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

During the month of September, a total of 521 Councillor's Representations were received. Operations and Water Services Department has received 2,212 Councillors Representations this year to date followed by the Housing and Community Department with 1,403.

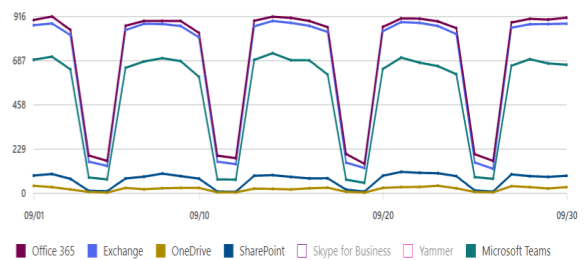
# Customers Calling!

For the month of September 2021, the Council's Customer Care Agents dealt with a total of:

- 15,931 telephone calls
- 955 emails

# Digital Working

In September staff took part in 9,282 Teams meetings, 39,052 Calls took place, and 807,077 emails were received or sent by the Council.



# Exciting Events Coming Soon!



This month-long event will illuminate a 600 metre area of the Millennium Park and will consist of 20 plus different light/animated and audio installations.

The event will run from 5th -28th November.

# Musician in Residence Programme



Musician Eamonn Galldubh and students from St. Molaga's NS Balbriggan making music in class (Pictured in Feb 2020)

Fingal's Musician-in-residence programme enables over 2,000 primary school children to advance their music education. 25 primary schools' benefit from this programme which brings professional musicians to work with teachers and children in schools during the school day.

The programme began in 2019 but was disrupted by public health concerns during 2020/2021.

Now the Arts Office is encouraging all participating schools to reactivate their projects with financial and advisory support. 13 schools have completed the necessary assessment and are set to begin their projects this month.

The arts office is continuing to work with the remaining schools to see them successfully reinstate their projects in line with new approaches to working in the classroom.

# "Balbriggan is Class!"



The Our Balbriggan Programme Office continues to support the Chair of the Leadership Group and its five pillars, who meet regularly, 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 five pillar chairs and memberships will share progress, cross cutting issues and emerging priorities at a planned event in advance of the next Balbriggan Leadership Group meeting scheduled on 27th October.

DBFL Consulting Engineers have been appointed as Active Travel and

Transport Consultants to advise on the town's transportation and active travel system and make recommendations for improvements. DBFL are liaising closely with The Paul Hogarth Company, the Masterplanning Consultants and with the Integrated Design Team for Quay Street.

Paul Keogh Architects have been appointed as the Integrated Design Team (IDT) for the re-imagined Quay Street and Harbour Area. Stage 1 Internal and external stakeholder engagement workshops have been taking place during the month of September. The workshops, which have been well attended, will inform early stage design, and form part of ongoing engagement up to Part 8 planning application which is anticipated in Mid-2022.

The Council has recently acquired 14 Bridge Street, which will be integrated into the Bridge Street/Millpond Park re-development. Minor works will be carried out shortly to secure and help reveal the future potential of the site.

The Our Balbriggan Hub opened its doors to celebrate Culture Night 2021 and marked the occasion with a special photographic exhibition featuring 13 images captured by local photographers. Musical performances took place by musicians from the locally based Irish Institute of Music and Song. Local Artist Alison O'Grady did a live illustration on the night of her specially commissioned piece titled "Balbriggan is class" inspired by Balbriggan local Olympian Andrew Coscoran

# National Women's Enterprise Day



This year's National Women's Enterprise Day will take place on the 7th of October as an online event.

Fingal's Derya Sousa of Kianda Technologies will participate in an intriguing spotlight session as part of the event and Ciara Garvan of Work Juggle will feature as the leading light for Fingal. The day's programme will cover a whole host of areas such internationalisation, finding new markets, trading online, sustainability and innovation.



# Libraries Plan for Code Week

The aim of EU Code Week is to make coding and digital literacy accessible in a fun and engaging way.

Fingal Libraries has organised coding workshops for children both for first-time and for more experienced coders.

Details of all our events are at: <https://www.fingal.ie/council/service/fingal-library-events>

## Shackleton Garden Officially Opened!

Following an extensive 3 year restoration project managed by the Parks & Green Infrastructure Division, The Shackleton Garden was officially opened on the 17th September 2021 by Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh, in the presence of the Tánaiste, Leo Varadkar, TD, Chief Executive, AnnMarie Farrelly, Fingal County Councillors, Oireachtas members, Garden Volunteers and members of the Shackleton Family.

The works were part funded by a Fáilte Ireland tourism grant and specialist contractors were engaged carry out the main restoration and reconstruction works. Additional work was undertaken directly by the Operations Department crews who worked tirelessly over the last few months preparing the garden for the official opening to the general public



## Howth's New Public Facilities

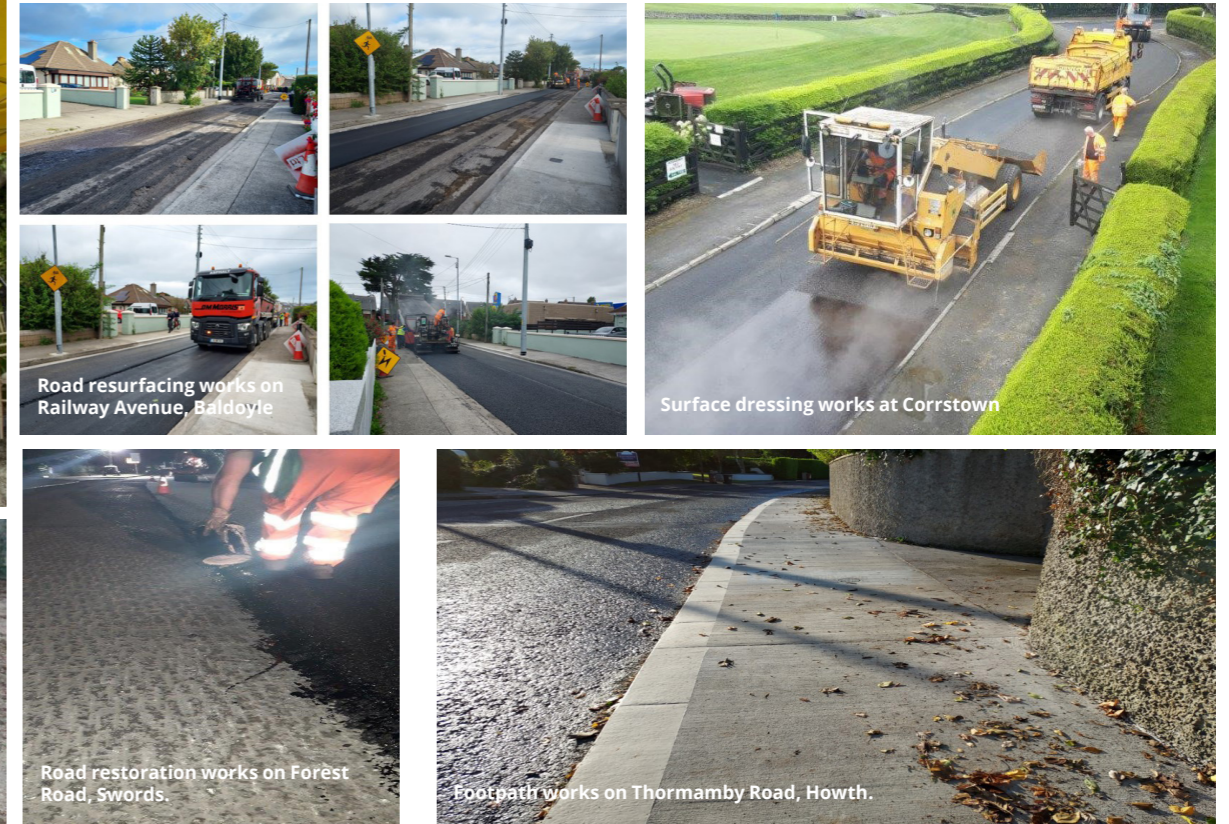


Work is ongoing on the installation of the new public toilets in the area. The eco toilets have all been installed. The toilets at the Summit and Claremont, Harbour in Howth are awaiting their ESB connections. Left: The newly install facilities at The Summit, Howth

Above: The eco toilets at Balscadden.

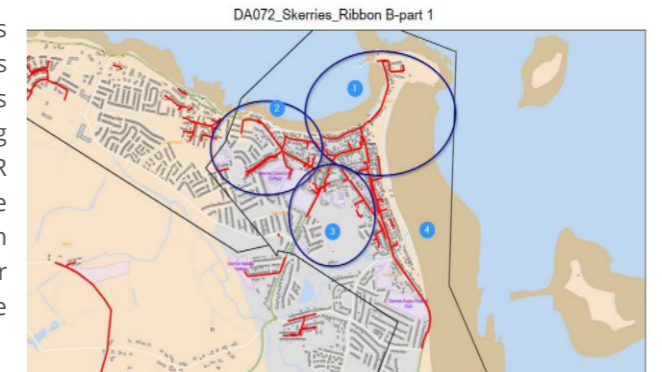
## Programme of Works Continues

The delivery of the 2021 Programme of Works continues into Q3. The following are examples of works completed in various areas across the County since the Programme was approved by Members.



## National Broadband Works at Skerries

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. EIR working on the EMR aspect of the project are also working with a number of licences also in Skerries. NBI has recently been granted a further 4 licences in order to try and expediate the delivery of the project.



## Burial Ground Services

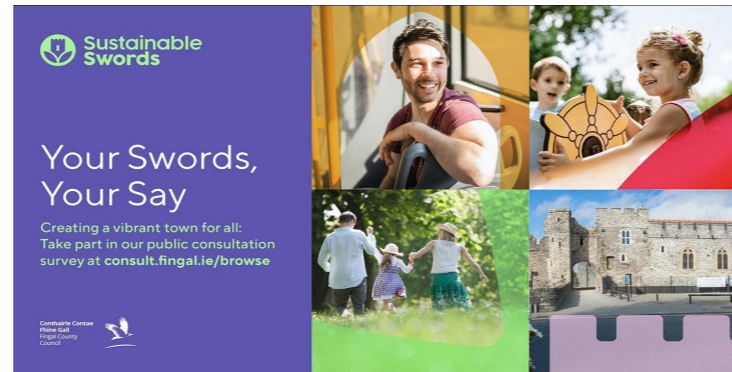
The Operations Department are continuing to administer and monitor delivery to ensure business continuity for Fingal's Burial Ground Service. Essential maintenance works at the burial grounds continued over the summer months.

## Sustainable Swords

The next stage of public consultation for the Sustainable Swords project was launched on 28th September. This follows the 'Your Swords, Your Say' survey which was carried out in May and the briefing session with Elected Members in July.

The ambition of Sustainable Swords is to create a multi-faceted approach to the planning, design and management of the town, in order to achieve better quality places as the physical setting for life in Swords. Sustainable Swords plans to consolidate and strengthen the historic town centre of Swords. The project will also set specific objectives for the town centre with the goal of increasing the resilience of the local economy and fostering an enhanced, accessible, inclusive, child friendly and healthy urban environment. A vibrant town for all.

The public are invited to explore these themes and share their comments and observations. Feedback from local residents and businesses in this strategic development phase is essential to the success of Sustainable Swords. The document can be accessed



here: <https://www.fingal.ie/sustainableswords>  
 The closing date for receipt of submissions is 26th October 2021 with postal and online submissions to be received before 11:59pm. Submissions can be made at <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/consultation/sustainable-swords-public-consultation>

An online webinar, open to everyone, will take place on 12th October 2021 at 7pm. The public will hear from the project team and have the opportunity to ask questions. Registration for this event is via the Fingal website: <https://www.fingal.ie/sustainableswords>

## Naul Village Park Project Progressing



The part 8 planning process for the Naul Village Park Development. The project aims to deliver a vision for the sustainable development of a Village Park, a multifunctional community outdoor space which is sensitive to and reflective of the cultural, historical and natural heritage of the site. Elements within the park include an arrival space, village green, playground, recreation & fitness area, reflection garden and parking.

Building on the successful community consultations held to date, the council encourages feedback and comment on the proposed Naul Village Park Development during the submission period of 14th September to 27th October as detailed in the part 8 planning application available at: <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/consultation/part-8-naul-village-park-development-project-naul-co-dublin>



## Public Play Space at Garristown Library

The part 8 planning process for the proposed Public Play Space at Garristown Library has commenced. The project led by the Council's Parks & Green Infrastructure Division, aims to reach consensus with stakeholders to deliver a vision for the sustainable development of a public play space at Garristown Library which is sensitive to and reflective of the cultural heritage of the site. The proposals comprise three distinct and linked areas within the Library garden: an architecturally sensitive upgrade of the area to the front of the library building will create a welcoming Entrance Plaza space which respects the relationship between the library and the Church of the Assumption; a multifunctional picnic and sculptured lawn space at the library's southern façade will offer outdoor classroom facilities along with a natural play and casual recreation space; a Woodland Themed Play Garden to the east of the site will optimise the play potential of the garden. The Woodland Themed Play Garden will cater for a wide age range with opportunities for adventurous, challenging, and social play within a natural setting.

## Lanesborough Park - Part VIII Planning Stage Commences



The Part 8 Planning Process for the Lanesborough Park Development project has commenced. Proposals were presented to elected members at the September meeting of the Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart/Castleknock/Ongar Area committee.

The project, led by the Council's Parks & Green Infrastructure Division, aims to deliver an inclusive and multifaceted amenity for the community of Meakstown. Key elements of the proposals for the park include the provision of a toddler play area, a sand play area, an adventure playground and a zipline all of which will contribute to a vibrant and engaging play space for children of a wide age range. The biodiversity of the surrounding parkland will be further enhanced through tree planting and meadow

creation. A trim trail will encourage and facilitate exercise in the community in combination with a widened high-quality perimeter path suitable for active exercise. The Community and Sensory Gardens is envisaged as a place that park users will want to explore and one which can be a productive resource for the community.

Consultation has been central to the development of the proposals and the Council now seeks the continued participation of the community as part of the statutory consultation process during the submission period of 9th September to 21st October as detailed in the part 8 planning application available at <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/consultation/part-8-lanesborough-park-development-project-meakstown-dublin-11>



The contract for the construction of the new all-weather sports pitch at Ward River Valley Regional Park in Swords works has been awarded following the conclusion of the competitive tender process. The new third generation synthetic all-weather pitch will be a full sized GAA & Soccer pitch, similar to the facility at Brehone Regional Park in Balbriggan. The new floodlight facility will be accompanied by car, coach and bicycle parking to service the needs of the pitch users and to improve access to the park.

The project led by the Council's Parks & Green Infrastructure Division is scheduled to start on site this Autumn. Significant progress has been made to date with the critical project milestones which have included:

- Statutory Part 8 planning approval

## All Weather Pitch Facility at Ward River Valley Park

- Archaeological investigation reporting and test trenching
- Procurement of sports surface consultant to prepare performance specification
- Procurement of Quantity surveying consultancy services to support the phases of the project lifecycle
- Tender Stage 1: Procurement and shortlisting of 5 specialist project teams capable of constructing the facilities
- Enabling works to facilitate targeted tree removals on site
- Pre connection inquiries and legal agreement with utility providers including ESB networks and Irish Water.
- Tender Stage 2: Design & Build Tender & evaluation

It is anticipated that facility will be complete in Spring next year and will become a valuable sporting amenity for the people of Swords and wider area.

# Housing for All

A new Housing Plan for Ireland



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.

The social housing delivery targets for Fingal covering the years 2022 - 2026 have now been received from the Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage. They are in line with the objectives set out in the Housing for All plan with Long Term Leasing being phased out over the lifetime of the plan and emphasis placed on new build delivery.

The targets are listed in the table below;

Year	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	Total
Build	360	690	705	758	773	3286
Leasing	44	160	120	30	-	354
<b>Total</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>825</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>773</b>	<b>3640</b>

## Energy Efficiency Retrofit Programme



The 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 have commenced on 55 properties in Greenridge Court, Windmill and Inbhir Íde and are expected to be complete in November. Works include external wall & attic insulation, Windows & Doors, heat pumps and solar PV panels as deemed necessary to bring properties to a B2/Cost Optimal standard.

## New Online Portal for HAP

The new HAP (Housing Assistance Payment) Application online portal went live on 4th October. A briefing for the members and a publicity campaign took place in the week prior to this. The portal will create efficiencies in the application process and reduce turnaround time for applicants as only fully completed applications with all supporting documentation will be accepted.

The HAP Team in Fingal County Council continues to deal with a significant level of queries and applications as a result of the COVID pandemic.

Since its inception in Fingal County Council in 2017, the HAP team has set up over 3,000 tenancies. The 614 new tenancies set up to date in 2021 is 2nd highest nationally.



## Positive Ageing Week

The Age Friendly Programme Manager continues the implementation of the Age Friendly Strategy 2018-2023, with monthly virtual meetings with Age Friendly Fingal Alliance and Older People's Council, engaging with many stakeholders, HSE, DCU Age Friendly University, DDLEETB etc.

'Positive Ageing Week' commenced 27th September - 1st October 2021 and was celebrated with the theme 'Re-Connecting Communities' in particular for community

groups, social clubs, day centres to re-connect in a safe way.

Events took place all week in the outdoors, in Swords Castle, Hartstown Park, Blanchardstown and Irish Institute of Music and Song, Balbriggan which brought many happy, smiling faces that was thoroughly enjoyed by all, that included Chair Yoga, Song and Dancing.

There is definitely a great swing in the step of the ageing population in Fingal areas!



## Fingal Halloween Community Project

The Dublin 15 Community Development team continue to contribute towards the costs of Community Halloween Projects for 2021.

Invitations will be issued to Community Centres and organisations with a track record in delivering both Halloween and general community events, in collaboration with FCC Community Office support in the past.

Participating groups will host recreational type events on the lead up to Halloween. Events, in addition to being fun, will deliver an educational

'Staying Safe and Awareness' message to young people along with promoting the many complimentary services that other Fingal County Council Departments provide during Halloween i.e. recycling amnesty, bulb planting etc.



### 200 Attend Balbriggan Be Active Night Velodrome



The Balbriggan Be Active Night took place on September 25th and with over 200 young people in attendance the cycling velodrome on the grounds of Flemington Community Centre.

The event, organised by the Sports Office and funded by Sport Ireland, was promoting participation in sport while encouraging kids to get on their bikes and get active.



# Climate Action Week in Fingal

The Fingal Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2024 (CCAP) was launched in September 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 hosted Dublin Climate Action Week (#DCAW21) from 13th September 2021 with the vision of showcasing Dublin's climate action progress to its citizens and demonstrate the leadership role of the four local authorities in conjunction with other partners'. The week was aligned with Bike week, and both were a great success with good public attendances and engagement.

Fingal hosted a number of site visits and webinars and recordings of many of the webinars are available to view at [www.dublinclimateactionweek.ie](http://www.dublinclimateactionweek.ie).

## Safe Routes to Schools Update



Consultants have been appointed to prepare a long list of potential Safe Routes to School measures for each of the selected schools and to identify the most suitable option. 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.

A Presentation will be given to the Councillors on the Safe Routes to School Programme at each October Area Committee Meeting.

Safe Routes to School Programme Update below:

Engagement:	Future Engagement:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meetings held with 7 Principals to date</li> <li>Road Safety Concerns discussed</li> <li>Potential front of school treatments explained</li> <li>Permeability/Connectivity measures identified</li> <li>Hands Up Surveys Completed (staff + pupils)</li> <li>List of estates children travelling to/from school</li> <li>Meeting requests issued to remaining 4 Principals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentations to Councillors</li> <li>Leaflet drop to stakeholders eg: residents/businesses as applicable</li> <li>Engagement with Parents/Parents Association</li> <li>Public Meeting</li> <li>Non-statutory public consultation</li> <li>School gate engagement</li> <li>Notification of temporary road closure where applicable in local newspapers/social media</li> </ul>



## Cycling Without Age Initiative - We Want You!

We continue to recruit pilot volunteers for the Cycling without Age initiative.

To date, there are 36 volunteers fully trained in operating the Trishaws. In total, 74 Volunteers have signed up from across the 3 Local Electoral Areas.

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



Donabate - Main Street



Skerries - Strand Street

## Brand New Bike Racks Installed Across Fingal

The Active Travel Team is busy managing the installation of Bike Rack Stands throughout Fingal.

A Contractor is now in place on the ground to install these Bike Racks in public areas such as parks, playgrounds, beaches, town and village centres and other recreational areas.

We are continuing to receive requests from various stakeholders for Bike Racks with approximately 300



Balrothery - Glebe Park Playground

suggested locations being assessed by the team for their suitability. These are then included in work packages for inclusion on the Contractors works programme for installation.

A tracker system was developed to ensure all suggested locations are captured, recorded, managed and distributed in a fair and unbiased manner in each local electoral area.

## Landfill Aftercare



Sowing Grass seed on topsoil imported to Dunsink Landfill in August

The Landfill Licence monthly compliance monitoring programme continued in August with 30 No. samples taken - four surface water, nine groundwater locations and seventeen for landfill gas. Monitoring will continue in September. At the end of the month the third quarter monitoring reports for surface water, groundwater, landfill gas and leachate will be finalised and submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency.

Approximately 5000 tonnes of topsoil were imported onto the Landfill between the months of June and August. This area has now been seeded with grass and post/wire fencing of this area is due to start in September. The Council plans to commence a tree planting programme in this area in 2022.



# The Month in Numbers

**€600,000**

The Fáilte Ireland funding secured by Fingal County Council for the provision of a permanent Outdoor Dining facility in Howth under the Outdoor Dining Enhancement Scheme.



**9,282**

The number of Teams meetings that took place in September. 39,052 Calls took place, and 807,077 emails were received or sent by the Council.



**320**

The number of direct jobs supported by the Council's three Enterprise Centres.

Occupancy rates at the Council's three enterprise centres at the end of September were Drinan 84%, BASE 88% and Beat 88%.

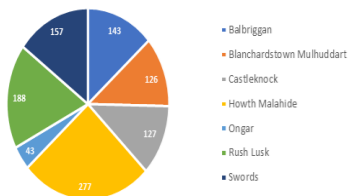
The three Enterprise Centres currently support 62 businesses

**1,061**

The number of planning decisions which have been made to the end of August 2021.

There have been 926 decisions to grant permission (86%) and 145 refusals of permission (14%).

Planning Application Received by Local Electoral Area - August 2021



**1,000**

The number of mixed tenure dwellings which will be delivered via affordable purchase, cost rental and social housing at Churchfields, Dublin 15.

An initial 300 dwellings are at design/pre-planning stage with construction of the new link road to commence on site shortly



**200**

The number of young people who attended the cycling velodrome on the grounds of Flemington Community Centre.

The event organised by the Sports Office and funded by Sport Ireland was promoting participation in sport while encouraging kids to get on their bikes and get active.



**20**

The number of Fingal Schools registered to take part in this year's Fingal Student Enterprise Programme (SEP)

The 2021-22 SEP 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).

**531**

The number of LED Upgrade works carried out in the following locations in September

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

**280**

The number of planned route inspections which were carried out by the Litter Wardens in September.

The Litter Wardens will shortly begin their targeted inspections in addition to the planned route inspections aimed at ensuring business owners take every step to prevent any material generated by their business is not accessible for burning on Halloween bonfires.

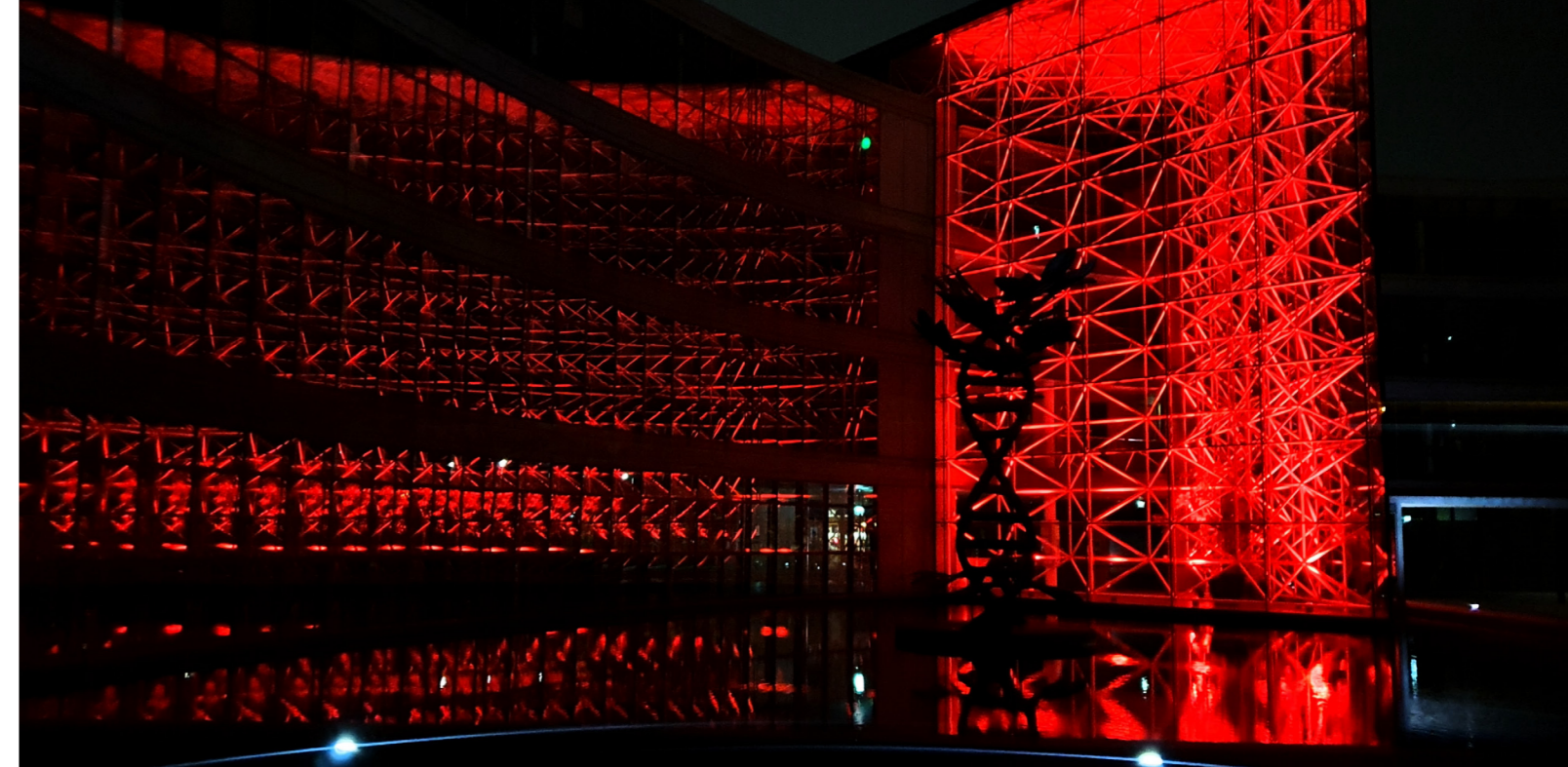


**47**

The number of WiFi access points which are being installed at 18 locations across Fingal.

There are seven live access points in Swords, with five in Malahide, Howth and Skerries and four in Rush. Donabate and Blanchardstown Village will have three live access points with two in Lusk, Naul, Blanchardstown Civic Centre and St. Catherine's Park.

Garristown, Portrane, Portmarnock, Clonsilla, Castleknock, Mudhuddart and Ongar will have one live access point each.



The Civic Offices, Grove Road were illuminated in red to highlight and promote National Fire Safety Week 2021 which took place from 4th - 11th October. The event is jointly run with the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service and aims to promote and enhance fire safety, particularly in the home. This year's National Fire Safety Week theme is: "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives – Test Yours Weekly". Photo by Willie Grogan, FCC.

## A Round up from Fingal

### Tree Planting Ceremony held



A special commemoration took place on Friday, October 1, 2021 for the lives of those lost to Covid-19, when Mayor of Fingal Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh, along with Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly, planted a memorial tree in Townpark Swords.

This tree planting is one of several taking place across the country to mark International Day for Older Persons, and is the culmination of Positive Ageing Week in Fingal.

The planting of this commemorative tree took place adjacent to the rock garden within the Townpark and this setting was chosen for its tranquil location within Swords, the county town of Fingal. It offers a place for quiet contemplation to visitors who may also wish to remember their own loved ones and all those who have passed away throughout the pandemic. Pictured are Mayor of Fingal Cllr Seána Ó Rodaigh, Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly and Martina O'Connor Operations and Water Services Department.



Irish Road Safety Week (IRSW) took place from Monday 04 October to Sunday, 10 October 2021. Irish Road Safety Week is an initiative of the Road Safety Authority (RSA). Fingal County Council's Road Safety Officer and Active Travel team joined forces with the RSA to assist them in promoting important messages throughout the week.



Right: The special outdoor screening of 'A Burning Tide' on Culture Night, September 17 at Loughshinny.

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# OUR MISSION

**To be a vibrant, outward looking,  
well run Council that  
shows leadership and  
embraces diversity  
and opportunity**

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**Comhairle Contae  
Fhine Gall**  
Fingal County  
Council

